

Knapton News



Issue 6

April/May 2008

Knapton : Your Village - Your Plan

Back in November 2006, you probably remember completing a Knapton Village Plan Questionnaire. You shared with us your views on life in our village, what you wanted to change and, most importantly, what you did not want to change.

It was very clear from the questionnaire results that we all value the peace and quiet of village life, and we enjoy the beautiful countryside. However, there are some changes that we do want to make. For example, we would like to reduce the speed at which traffic moves through the village, we want to walk safely to Mundesley, and many of you would like an increase in social and community activities.

Some of your ideas have already been actioned. A large majority of village residents requested a newsletter - and here we are on Issue 6! A feasibility study is currently being carried out on the proposed footpath to Mundesley, and grant funding will be sought within the next few months. Knapton now has a Book Club and in this issue a recent suggestion has been made that we also have a Local and Family History Group.

The Village Plan Steering Group are now well on the way towards the printing and circulation of the Knapton Village Plan. It is anticipated that a copy will be circulated to every household during August. However, if we are to complete this task, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

With this letter, you will have received a short questionnaire. There are just a few simple questions we still need you to answer before we complete the Village Plan.

FOOTPATH:

We have put a great deal of time and effort into the initial stages of this project for our new footpath to Mundesley, and possibly also a footpath to North Walsham. If we are to be successful in obtaining grant funding, we now need feedback from each household in the village about how often you will use the footpath(s) and for what. It is absolutely vital that we have this information if the project is to come to fruition, so PLEASE will you all complete the questionnaire?

SOCIAL & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

In the first questionnaire, many of you asked the Steering Group to look at the various village buildings (some of you even suggested a new village hall) and also suggested ideas for clubs and other activities. However, we are not clear about what activities you would be willing to support and therefore need to ask you a few more questions. We have also included with the questionnaire a Volunteer/Support sheet. Volunteers will be required to help and support any of the activities you would like to see in the village, so please do complete this form.

MADRA

Many of you suggested MADRA as one of the aspects of the village that should be further developed. When the club first opened, it was viewed as an important communal building, and was used for many village based social events. However, over the years, it has devolved into being a football club. The views you shared with us strongly indicated that you would like MADRA to once

(continued on page 2)

To receive the newsletter via email, please contact pbd49@btinternet.com

Copy deadline for the June/July edition is strictly Saturday, May 24th.

again become an important social part of Knapton, operated for the primary benefit of the villagers.

However, MADRA is a private members' club and the majority of village residents are not members. If we wish to resurrect the club as somewhere WE would enjoy visiting once again, there is only one way to achieve this – we must ALL become members! Once we have the majority membership, we shall be in a position to incorporate MADRA into our Village Plan, and we will look at both improving the facilities and using the clubhouse for the enjoyment of our residents.

Membership is very reasonable - £3 per annum for an individual, or £5 per household. To join, you simply have to complete the MADRA application slip included with the questionnaire, and return it with your completed questionnaire. A MADRA committee member will contact you to provide your membership card and collect your membership fee.

AGE GROUPS

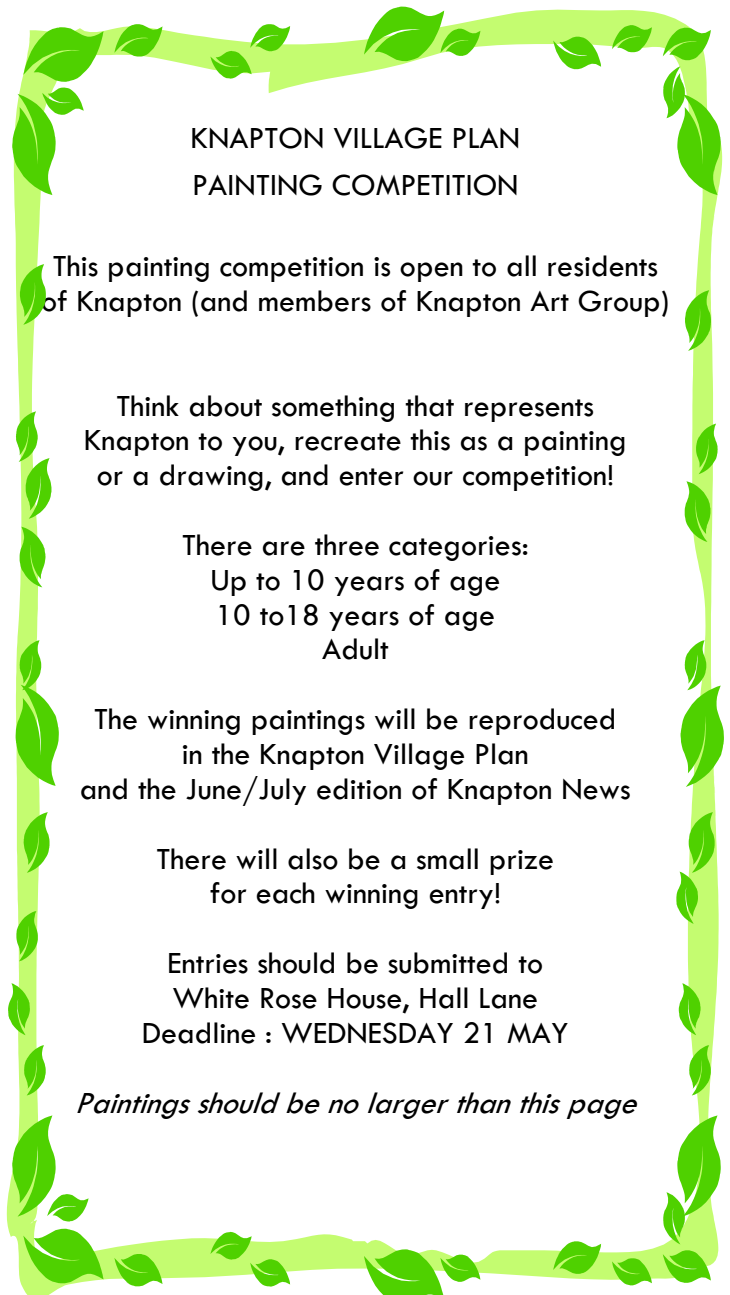
The last question we have asked is about age groups within the village. This information is extremely helpful, not only when interpreting the second questionnaire, but also so we have a more accurate record about the age groups of residents within the village at the time the Village Plan goes to print. However, if you would prefer not to supply this information, please do not be put off completing the remainder of the questionnaire.

Once you have completed the questionnaire, the volunteer/support sheet (hopefully!) and possibly the MADRA application form, please leave these in the envelope provided outside your door on TUESDAY 9 APRIL. We have lots to collect so some may not be picked up until the morning of the 10th.

After we have collated the information from the second questionnaire, and considered your comments/requests, we will create a draft Village Plan. This will be presented to the village, hopefully during June, so you can view it and decide whether we have accurately reflected the views of our residents. If you feel we have not, this will be your opportunity to tell us so! The date of this event will be published in the next newsletter.

WITH GRATEFUL THANKS FOR YOUR HELP

Knapton Village Plan Steering Group



KNAPTON VILLAGE PLAN PAINTING COMPETITION

This painting competition is open to all residents of Knapton (and members of Knapton Art Group)

Think about something that represents Knapton to you, recreate this as a painting or a drawing, and enter our competition!

There are three categories:
Up to 10 years of age
10 to 18 years of age
Adult

The winning paintings will be reproduced in the Knapton Village Plan and the June/July edition of Knapton News

There will also be a small prize for each winning entry!

Entries should be submitted to
White Rose House, Hall Lane
Deadline : WEDNESDAY 21 MAY

Paintings should be no larger than this page

DO YOU HAVE ANY OLD PHOTOGRAPHS OF KNAPTON?

We would like the Knapton Village Plan to include some old black and white photos of the village. Do you have any interesting old photos we could borrow please? We promise not to damage them and will return them promptly.

Please contact Richard Elliott-Smith on 720622 if you can help.

Obituary - Jean Watmuff

Knapton Church saw an almost 'full house' on 27 February, as family and friends gathered together to say "goodbye" to Jean Watmuff and to celebrate the life of a very special woman. Roger MacPhee and Tim Watmuff (Jean's younger son) paid moving tributes, which made us both laugh and cry.

A few days after the funeral, I had the privilege of spending some time with Jean's husband Dennis, her daughter-in-law Barbara, and two of her close friends – Ann Digby and Jean Kemp. They shared with me – and through me, you – memories of their very dear wife, mother-in-law and friend. I learned about her love of her family, her friends, her dogs, her garden and of a life full of wonderful experiences.

Jean's life was an adventure! Although she and Dennis finally settled in Knapton, some 30 years ago, they had travelled the world and lived in some fascinating places during their 62 years of married life. In 1949, Dennis's work took them from the austerity of post wartime Britain to New York, with its incredible 'American' excesses. In later years, they made homes in Colombia, Argentina, Venezuela and Nigeria (the one place she did not enjoy). She loved the glamour and excitement of her ex-pat lifestyle, but she and Dennis also became involved in many charitable projects, including fund raising to build a church in Bogotá.

Jean wasn't fond of flying, but she loved travelling by sea. Whenever she and Dennis relocated to their next 'posting', they always cruised in style! When Jean and John Kemp were about

to embark on their first cruising holiday 13 years ago, Jean and Dennis held a surprise bon voyage party for them, and Jean turned their bungalow into a cruise ship for the evening, complete with portholes!

Jean was enthusiastic about life – she loved good food, lovely clothes (we will all remember the 'big' earrings!), musical theatre and a challenging game of bridge. She was always beautifully dressed and had a lovely, slim figure despite being a wonderful cook, having a good appetite and enjoying dining out. I am told her speciality was superb chocolate fondues into which she dipped strawberries! Jean and Ann had regular shopping jaunts and trips to the theatre – Jean was very fond of musicals and loved the old songs. She was a brilliant bridge player, and Roger brought both smiles and tears to the eyes of her bridge playing friends at her funeral when he quoted her favourite bid "three no trumps"!

Jean adapted to village life in Knapton in her own inimitable style – she joined everything! When she first arrived in the village, she and Ann joined the Women's Institute together and, when that ended, Knapton Ladies. She also joined Knapton Women's Own (and was on the committees of both). She made the teas and coffees and arranged the flowers in the Church (she had no previous experience, but with her usual determination she joined Bradfield Flower Club, so she could learn how to tackle the job properly!). For 30 years she helped to organise the Christian Aid Suppers and she instructed the Knapton Keep Fit Class (even when she had to do so using a stick!).

Jean spent her whole life doing things for other people. She was generous to a fault, a wonderful leader, facilitator and coordinator, who was always willing to volunteer, but she wanted things doing properly and was not afraid of sharing her opinion!

Jean will be greatly missed – not only by Dennis, Paul, Tim, Barbara and her grandson, Ben, but also by her very many friends in the village and the organisations to which she contributed so much.

Tricia Doidge (Editor)



Remember to visit the Knapton website

www.northnorfolk.org/knapton

If you have items for the newsletter, please contact Tricia on (01263) 721855, email pbd49@btinternet.com, or drop them in to 'White Rose House' Hall Lane

What's on in and around Knapton?

April:

- 1 Knapton Women's Own 2:15 p.m. (The Chapel)
Rev. R. Webb - Holiday in Canada
- 1 Mundesley Library 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Animal Storytime and Activities
(see page 4 for details)
- 21 Knapton Ladies Club 7:30 p.m. (Village Hall)
Sue Arnold - The Work of a Magistrate
- 17 Knapton Book Club
- 26 Barn Dance 7:30 p.m. Northrepps Village Hall
(see page 5 for details)

May:

- 6 Knapton Women's Own 2:15 p.m. (The Chapel)
- 7 Mr & Mrs Scott - Law and Order
- 9 Mundesley Library 4:00 p.m. *(and every Friday)*
Story Reading with Bea Gatfield
(see page 7 for details)
- 19 Knapton Ladies Club 7:30 p.m. (Village Hall)
Bev Woolner - My life in bookbinding: a light-hearted look
- 15 Knapton Book Club
- 27 Mundesley Library - Children's Drama Workshop
(please contact Library for further information)

June:

- 6 to 8 Zinc Alloy 6th Meltdown Rally (MADRA)
(see page 6 for details)

Weekly events:

Mondays	Pilates	1:45 p.m. (Village Hall)
Wednesdays	Keep Fit	7:00 p.m. (Village Hall)
Thursdays:	Art Class	7:00 p.m. (Village Hall)

APOLOGY!

Sorry, Knapton Art Class. I missed you from the 'What's On' in the last edition of Knapton News!

Tricia (Editor)

KNAPTON BOOK CLUB

Several readers have asked where the Book Club meets and what we do. We do not currently have a permanent venue, but meet at the homes of members in rotation. We read and discuss one book per month (this month we have been reading 'On Chesil Beach' by Ian McEwan, and next month we have chosen 'The Memory Keeper's Daughter' by Kim Edwards).

To join us, please contact Tricia Doidge (721855) or Anne Hammond (722617).

Mundesley Library is actively encouraging Book Clubs. They are offering lots of support to existing clubs and are also looking to form their own club. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Mundesley Library. Their opening times are:

Monday	10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday	2:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	Closed
Friday	10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

CHURCH SERVICES

Church of St Peter & St Paul, Knapton
9:30 a.m. each Sunday (service varies; see details in the Church porch)

Knapton Methodist Church
10:00 a.m. Service and Sunday School



**Knapton Ladies
Keep Fit Class**

The Knapton Ladies Keep Fit Class, which takes place every Wednesday in the Village Hall, has now resumed its spring/summer start time of 7:00 p.m.

New members are very welcome - please contact Vi Haynes on 01 263 720040



**Invitation
to a
Barn
Dance**

**Saturday 26 April
7:30 p.m.**

Northrepps Village Hall

Tickets £6.00
(to include Ploughman's Supper
and tea/coffee/squash)
available from Jane Alexander
01692 500151

Feel free to bring your own beer, wine etc.!

Good News!!

**We now have the funds to
produce a further six editions
of Knapton News**

We are very grateful to the Bacton Gas Terminal complex (Interconnector, National Grid, Perenco, Shell and Tullow Oil) for their kind sponsorship of this publication in its second year.

Remember to visit the
Knapton website
www.northnorfolk.org/knapton

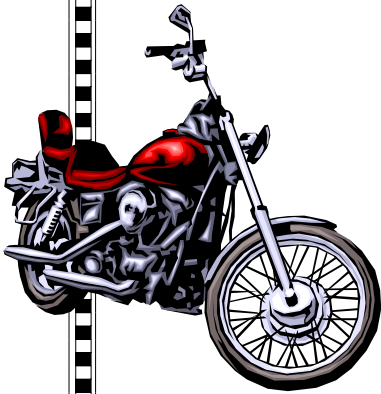
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LOCAL/FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

In October 2007, 'Knapton Remembered' was published. This book is a collection of memories of some of the people who attended Knapton School, and was edited by Gillian Shepherd. It has been highly successful, and has caused quite a number of its readers to recall their own memories of schooldays and past family life in Knapton and elsewhere.

This has prompted the idea of Knapton forming a Local and Family History Group. What do you think?? Would you be interested in tracing your family tree or discovering more about your village's past? Or perhaps both!!

**If you would be interested to join this group, please contact:
Alan Tofield, 16 Lawn Close, Tel : 01263 722390**



**ZINC ALLOY
6TH MELTDOWN RALLY
6 TO 8 JUNE 2008
MADRA**



LIVE BANDS INCLUDING

Red Soxx Strange Fashion Q Tones
Roxy and the Tinmen Cerberus

Tickets (available on the gate)
£10 for the weekend
or £6 per day

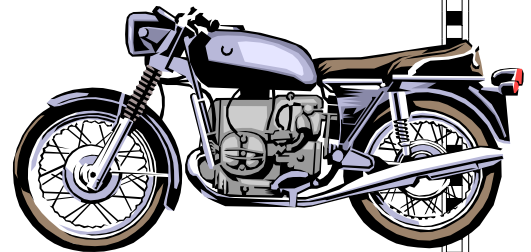
Free entry for under 14s with an adult
Parking £5

#

Would you like to see the bikes, but are not interested in the music? We have arranged a special offer for Knapton residents to visit the display of bikes on Saturday afternoon (7 June) between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. (NB a condition of purchasing this reduced price ticket is that you leave by 3:00 p.m.)

This special offer is a ticket only event. Tickets cost £3.00 (see below where the money goes!).

To obtain tickets, telephone Tricia on 01263 721855, or call at White Rose House, Hall Lane between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on Saturday 7 June.



**All profits donated to
The East Anglian Air Ambulance**

Knapton Young People's Page

VILLAGE PLAN UPDATE FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

It must seem like a very long time since we had the two discussion groups for young people, to discover what you would like to happen in our village. Don't worry, we have not forgotten you! You suggested a new bus shelter; Knapton Parish Council are working towards this. You suggested a footpath to Mundesley (as did many of our adults residents); a feasibility study is underway. You suggested a dedicated play and meeting area; we are trying to gain access to a suitable site and are working with North Norfolk County Council to find funding. You suggested a Youth Club; the only way this can happen is if we have volunteers to run it, so if you are still keen, you need to canvass family and friends to fill in the volunteer form they received with this newsletter!

The Knapton Village Plan Steering Group



THE 'SID THE SLOTH' PUZZLE

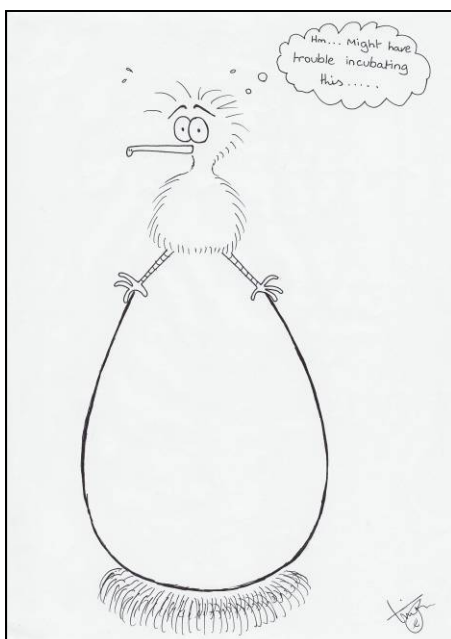
Sid the sloth climbs 1.2 metres every day up a tree but falls back 0.3 metres every night. How long does it take him to reach the fruit at the top of a 9.0 metre tall tree?

Events for Young People at Mundesley Library:

Tuesday 1 April 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. - Animal Storytime and Activities
An afternoon of springtime stories and crafts

Friday 9 May 4:00 p.m. - Story Reading with Bea Gatfield
Bea has kindly volunteered to host a story reading session every Friday at 4:00 p.m. This is suitable for children up to eight years of age.

Tuesday 27 May - Children's Drama Workshop
The details of this event are not yet finalised, so please contact the Library for further information



ORNITHOLOGY ILLUSTRATED!

Hi! I'm Izzi Gatfield and I'm doing a course in Ornithology at the UEA in Norwich. For those of you who don't know, Ornithology is the study of birds!

Occasionally images will pop into my head when I learn a new bird fact and I would like to share them with you.

This fact

The kiwi lays the largest egg of any bird in relation to it's size. Usually the egg will be a quarter of the parent bird's body size!

Next - Dancing Cranes?

Conclusion of the Pigneys Wood Planting Project Funded by the BBC 'Breathing Spaces' Lottery Grant

Pigneys Wood was purchased in October 1993 for £85,000 and is currently owned and managed by The North Norfolk Community Woodland Trust. The objectives of the Trust are to develop Pigneys Wood, a 58 acre site, with local ownership and involvement in order to provide new opportunities for public access in areas where there is little public access to woodland and to improve the landscape and create new wildlife habitats.

In furtherance of these objectives, a great deal of work has been carried out by volunteers with the creation of easy access footpaths, a 'scrape' (a shallow lagoon) created to attract feeding and migratory birds to the site and the extensive planting of trees including hazels, oaks, apple and Christmas trees. Additionally a large number of milk parsley plants were planted on the canal bank to attract butterflies.

A further, large scale, planting programme was undertaken during the months of September, October and November 2007 and completed in March 2008, when some 7000 plants were planted around the 'scrape'. This programme was funded by a £14,000 lottery grant and supported by BBC 'Breathing Places'. It involved the participation of local schools involving about 400 children along with many other volunteer groups and provided the younger generation with a valuable and enjoyable introduction to nature.



To mark the successful completion of this project, North Norfolk MP Norman Lamb, accompanied by a large group of children and representatives of community groups, visited the site on Monday 17th March to officially open the new picnic area in the wood. This was followed by a reception at the Beechwood Hotel, North Walsham.

Peter Kaye

KNAPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Knapton Parish Council meets on the first Tuesday of every month, with a holiday in August. Everybody is welcome and if you have an opinion on any village matter you can air it publicly here. It is always better if you let the Parish Council know first, to ensure time is allowed if discussion is required on any topic (to add an item to the agenda, contact Peter Holtam, Parish Clerk, Tel: 01263 722238). The minutes are published in the North Norfolk News and will usually on the village website if you are interested.

Thanks to all the voluntary work by many parishioners. There is a lot happening and much more to come. This newsletter, organized and printed by Tricia Doidge, is a wonderful way of keeping the village in touch. Many thanks to Tricia and all her helpers.

We try to keep politics out of village life, but with this new application for unitary authorities, the role of North Norfolk District Council could disappear, along with local planning! Watch this space!

Have a good Spring and walk our wonderful village footpaths.

Alan Young

Chairman, Knapton Parish Council

Our Missing Village Hall Lights!

Knapton Village Hall Committee recently responded to a request by residents to supply lighting from the Village Hall to the car park. Two solar lights were purchased and fitted - mission accomplished, or so the Committee thought. Very sadly, only four nights later, the lights 'disappeared'.

The Committee regret to inform you that torches will once more be required when crossing from the Village Hall to the car park.