

# Southrepps mardler

Issue 17  
December 2016



**“ROBIN ERITHACUS RUBECULA IN SNOW”**

*Our wonderful front cover is by Ernie Janes*

## CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Check the Social Calendar section for all the Christmas events happening in the village

## US AIRMAN STORY CONTINUES

Read the continuing story of the US Airman



## www.southrepps.info

Full of village information and details of all the clubs and societies. Do go and have a look. You will also find a copy of the latest Mardler on there too.

The Mardler is produced by the Southrepps Support Scheme. We are grateful for all the contributions and those who deliver to all the residents.

We're on the lookout for other contributions, so if you have a story to tell or know of someone with a compelling story, compile a puzzle, or perhaps you write poetry, then please contact us.



## front cover

Are you a keen photographer and have lots of photos of Southrepps? We are seeking the next front cover of the Mardler - if you have something you want to share then please email [micheledickinson@btinternet.com](mailto:micheledickinson@btinternet.com)

Group	Name	Telephone
Support Scheme	Malcolm Hilson - Chairman	833327
	Warwick Slater - Treasurer	721756
St James Church	Rev'd Canon David Roper	834436
	Anne Daniels - Church Warden	833320
	Steve Richards	834411
Parish Council	Elaine Pugh	01692 402998
Heating Oil Syndicate	Gloria & Steve Briggs	834831
Southrepps Chorale	Steve Richards	834411
Bowls Club	David Harding - Chairman	721060
Football Club	Roger Swift - Secretary	833118
Village Hall	Debbie Briggs	833355
Lower Southrepps Social Club	Val Roche	720090
	Ruby Risebrow	833481
Horticultural Show	Carol Needham	834242
Tree Society	Colin Browne - Chairman	833028
	Jackie Ferguson - Secretary	833260
Bells	Andrew Lubbock	07818 113221
Commons Trust	John Houlgate	833001
200 Club	Helen Hewitt	834178
Southrepps Society	Marion Hilson - President	833327
	Carol Needham - Secretary	834242
British Legion	Malcolm Hilson - Secretary	833327

# social calendar

Month	Date	Event	Time	Location
December	Fri 2nd	Christmas Fayre	2:30pm	Antingham & Southrepps School
	Wed 14th	Christmas Lunch - Support Scheme	12:30pm	Village Hall
	Thu 15th	Carol Singing	7pm	Social Club
	Sat 17th	Santa round the Xmas Trees	6:15pm	Lower Street
			7:15pm	Upper Street
	Sun 18th	Southrepps Chorale Concert	4pm	St James Church
	Tue 20th	Christmas Carol's	8pm	Vernon Arms
	Sat 24th	Christingle Service	4pm	St James Church
Sun 25th	Carols and Communion	10am	St James Church	
January	Wed 25th	Come for a Cuppa	2:30pm	Ruggs Hall at St James Church
March	Sat 4th	Defibrillator Training	10am	Village Hall





# Support scheme

## Chairmans Corner - Support Scheme

I wonder how many of us have seen, or had experience of, a near miss, at the Thorpe Market cross-roads en route to Roughton?

I mentioned it to Norman Lamb MP when he made his annual summer visit to Southrepps as part of his tour of North Norfolk villages. In response to his enquiry to the Norfolk County Council, they replied "that (their) personal injury accident records show only one personal injury incident at this site in 2015, which was classified as slight. This indicates that the junction is performing well. This junction is within the 30 mph speed limit with a vehicle activated sign in place adjacent to the junction, which further improves the level of road safety benefit"

This doesn't address my concern. It is not the speed limit that is the problem. It's the question of who (if anyone) has the right of way to go straight over, or to turn right?

I rang the Council for clarification. I learned that for economic reasons accident injuries are the criteria. I was helpfully directed to the roads website, but could find no category there which allowed me to put my enquiry. I wanted to ask if there was any more helpful signage than the present "Give Way" that could be put up. For example, in France, there are signs which say "You do not have priority".

I checked the Highway Code on line. Their video suggests that at cross roads oncoming traffic has priority over traffic turning right. As for traffic turning right there is no priority. It suggests that you take it in turn, but stresses that not all would comply and advises caution.

My experience suggests that those coming from Roughton and turning right to North Walsham mostly assume right of way, often aggressively. It can be frustrating to sit and allow a stream of drivers to proceed, but I continue to conclude that to be patient is the only real way to be safe at these tricky cross roads. Southrepps Support Scheme, and Maurice Fox a skilled and enthusiastic bowler.

Malcolm Hilson

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### Southrepps Support Scheme

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We were lucky to have a fine day for the Tea party at Chestnuts on Sunday 31 July. At least 50 people enjoyed a variety of sandwiches, scrummy cakes and strawberries and cream, with lashings of tea! A very social occasion raised £265. Many thanks to our helpers and supporters. We also had a generous donation of £50 for loan of one of our bits of medical equipment, and were delighted to win £40 in the 200 Club draw!

The Lunch Club continues to be another valuable social venue. We could manage a few more customers each month, so please pass the word. It is really good value at £4 a head for a roast, dessert and tea/coffee.

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***Sadly we have lost two of our regulars recently. Gertie Howes and Ted Bird, both of whom will be much missed.***

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The free Christmas lunch this year will be in the Village Hall on Wednesday 14 December at 12.30 pm. Whilst on festive activity there will be carols in the Vernon Arms at 8 pm on Tuesday 20 December, when we hope a collection will add to our fund raising.

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***Do please remember that we have a range of medical equipment for loan, including a wheelchair, various walking frames, crutches, and a newly donated 4 wheel walking frame with seat. (01263 833327).***

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Next, a date for your 2017 diary is another session of defibrillator training at 10 am on Saturday 4 March in the Village Hall.

Finally, we hope you like the new format of "The Mardler", for which we are much indebted to Shelley Dickinson for her skills and enthusiasm in pulling it together!

Malcolm Hilson





## Southrepps Village Hall Committee

As you know our village hall has had some essential renovations completed on it and has made a great improvement on the events that have been there. We have had a number of wedding receptions and parties this year, so please think of us for when you are planning a large event and support your local village hall.

We shall be looking forward to some essential repairs to the car park, hopefully, next year and with the recreation ground work going ahead (please see the Parish Council section for more information) we shall have a great facility for all.

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

For more information on how to book your event please contact Debbie on 833355 or visit the village website.

*Mick Waudby - Chairman*

## Southrepps Bells

On Saturday, 5 November 2016 in St Jame's we rang, half-muffled, in memory of Edward (Ted) Bird a "True Southreppian". Ted was a lifelong resident of this village and supported the re-hanging of these bells and the construction of the ringing gallery in 1984. Ted passed away, aged 88, and is now at rest here in the churchyard. Lifelong friend and tower captain Derick Grey would like to be associated with this quarter.

Tenor: 12-2-12  
1260 Grandsire Doubles

1 Michael Hollis ~ 2 Tricia Francis ~ 3 Andrew Lubbock (C) ~ 4 Richard Johns ~ 5 Guy Morton  
~ 6 Matthew Armstrong

*Andrew Lubbock*

## Southrepps Tree Society

Formed in 1985 after the first tree was planted in Rhodesia Avenue. Since then more than 30,000 trees have been planted in the surrounding area.

Read of our recent tree naming in memory of US Sgt. Mire in Local Heroes.

Apply to name a tree contact Colin Brown on 833260

*Colin Brown*

## Horticultural Show

Our 10th show took place on 30th July. We had more entrants and entries than 2015. The entries were of a high standard and the overall appearance of the show was colourful.

Sadly we did not attract many visitors to view the entries or buy the produce from our Grower's Market, Plant stall and Craft stalls.

Thanks to the generosity of the Vernon Arms who sponsor the prize money, we made enough profit to enable us to plan for next year.

For any further information or queries, please call me on 01263 834242

*Carol Needham - Show Secretary*

## Southrepps Social Club

The Social club continues to flourish mainly due the loyal support of its members. Some people have been members since the club was formed many years ago. We have been lucky enough to gain new members but would like to see more. Our activities this year have included Ten Pin Bowling in North Walsham, a very popular quiz which we hold each year in aid of the local branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

In June we had a Strawberry Fair which was very well attended and in August we had our annual members barbecue.

October saw Keith Skipper coming to entertain us as part of our Harvest Supper celebration.

***Coming up to Christmas we have a Carol Service at the club on December 15 that 7pm, all are welcome even you cannot sing as there will be help in the form of a small choir!***

To round off the year for members we go out to dinner. Our Bingo every month continues to be popular, it is the first Saturday of every month (except January).

The club has a successful carpet bowls team who play in the Broadland League as well as travelling around to take part in other tournaments.

The club is open on Tuesday afternoon from 2pm until 4pm and Thursday evening from 7.30pm to play carpet bowls and socialise. We would welcome new members please contact Ruby on 833481 or Val on 722090 if more details are required.

*Val Rouche*



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## Southrepps Society

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Since my last report in the spring Mardler, members have enjoyed two walks. In May, on a fine evening, we walked in Sheringham Park. In July, on a rather damp evening, we did a circuit of some of the local footpaths and green lanes pausing for drinks and nibbles at the Old Chapel Yard which is owned by the Society.

In June, 47 members attended the Annual Barbecue at the Village Hall. It was a dry evening but not warm enough to eat outdoors.

For our first autumn meeting in September, we welcomed Sylvia Barrett who gave an amusing and interesting talk on "Architectural Follies." In October we had a return visit from local broadcaster and garden designer Charlotte Philcox, who gave us some useful tips about "Managing garden pests and diseases the natural way." In November James Begley from Community Heartbeat Trust will be talking about his work as a First Responder.

Our meetings are on the last Thursday of the month at Southrepps Village Hall.

Visitors are always welcome.

Copies of our publication "Southrepps remembered" are still available from Southrepps PO and the Showcase Gallery in North Walsham.

*Carol Needham*

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## Come for a Cuppa

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This is a new event at Ruggs Hall at St James Church on the last Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm. Anyone is welcome. Come for a chat and enjoy a cup of tea and slice of homemade cake for £1.50.

Ladies can bring their knitting or sewing. Gentlemen can play cards or read a paper.

The first event in 2017 will be on 25th January.

For any information, please phone 834242

*Carol Needham*

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## Antingham and Southrepps Primary School PTA.

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The Xmas fair will be on Friday 2nd December from 2:30pm onwards. Everyone is welcome so please come and join us we will have stalls and refreshments and Santa is making a special appearance

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## Help needed

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On Saturday 3rd December we put the Christmas Trees up in the village, we are desperate for any assistance in getting these trees up. So if you have some spare time, please meet at the 10am near the shop. You can contact me on 833434.

Collectors needed Thursday 15th Dec for house to house collections along with Santa on his sleigh, and Saturday 17th evening for the Carol singing around the trees.

*Mick Waudby*

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## Everyone Hates Speeding in their Village - Don't They?

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Several years ago friends complained to me that they were very concerned about the number of cars speeding into, and through, Southrepps village. This kind of antisocial behaviour is, of course, a national issue - but the impact is always very local. Speeding affects us all - from the less injurious anti-social aspects to the tragic impact of road traffic accidents on both families, friends and communities. But what can we, the community, do about it?

Discussions with Norfolk Constabulary quickly resolved at least one question: can residents do anything about speeding offenders that is legal and effective? The answer is; Yes! Norfolk Constabulary encourage local volunteers to take part in a scheme called "Community Speed Watch" and so a group of us got together to see if we could start this up in our village.

Oddly, perhaps, the scheme is not designed to catch as many speeders as possible but to reduce speeds in areas of concern (like the road outside our shop and Post Office) and to make drivers aware that excessive speed is utterly unacceptable and wholly irresponsible. By the way, did you know that travelling at 35 mph instead of the legal limit of 30 mph means that you need an extra 27 feet to stop. That's an extra 27 feet you won't have when that small and utterly innocent child steps off the pavement and into the road to retrieve their ball. Can you - anyone - imagine life after you have injured or killed someone through reckless driving? Well, anyone with an imagination can work that out for themselves.

So - we all need to support this scheme in the village and we really need your help to keep it going. If you'd like to join the Southrepps Community Speed Watch Team please contact Louise Marriner on 01263 833529 or email: themarriners@hotmail.com.

*Louise & Max Marriner*

# Parish council

## Allotments

The Council has allotments which are situated on the recreation ground. We currently have at least one available to rent - please contact the Clerk if you are interested in leasing one.

## Recreation Ground and Car Park

Finally we can confirm that work to the recreation ground should commence shortly. This will enable FA level Football to be played on the area.

UNFORTUNATELY this may mean that the field will be closed to everyone for approximately 12 months. This is to facilitate the ground settling and will allow the grass to grow. The area will be enclosed via orange fencing to deter people and their animals compromising the work that has had to be undertaken. We realise that this will be a great loss to many during this period however, this is unfortunately the only way forward to ensure a satisfactory outcome.

The Council were also mindful that residents did sign a petition requesting that this upgrade took place.

The resurfacing of the car park will then be the second stage and the pot holes will be levelled out.

Just a reminder that the Village Hall car park is for the users of the Hall.

## Planters at the Green

We would like to thank the three volunteers who came forward to help with this project. It is greatly appreciated.

## Speedwatch

Speed watch needs more volunteers - if you have concerns about speeding in your village, please come forward to help. It took over 18 months to get

this project off the ground and without your help the system will not operate. If you can only give 3 hours every few weeks that would be a fantastic contribution and welcomed.

## Southrepps Commons Trust

SCT now have their secure storage container in place and we hope that this will help with their tremendous workload. The Council are continuing to work on a plan for the longer term management of the area.

We would like to say a big thank you and wish Robin Dawes our volunteer, success in his future house move. Thankfully Rodger Neal has come forward to undertake the mowing and we look forward to working with him.

## Website

The website is now being regularly updated and gradually we are uploading more information. If there is anything you would like to place on the site please let the Clerk know or follow the link on the website.

## Future meeting dates - 2017

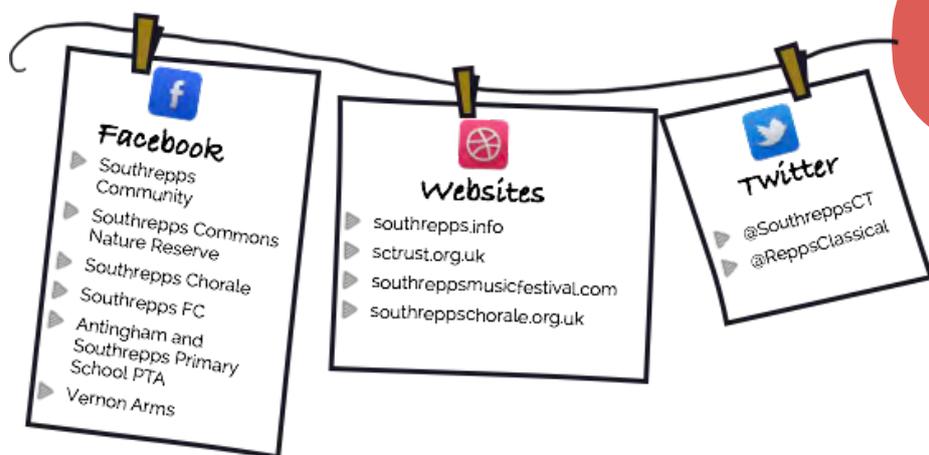
Due to the success of the table tennis club future Parish Council meeting dates as yet have not been agreed prior to the deadline of this publication. Dates will be placed onto the website and notice boards as soon as possible.

**Don't forget to use the Southrepps Village Website - [www.southrepps.info](http://www.southrepps.info) - and ask to add your events.**

CONTACT: Clerk to Council - Elaine Pugh

Tel: 01692 402998

Email: [elainepugh15@hotmail.com](mailto:elainepugh15@hotmail.com)



# Royal British Legion

**At its meeting in June, Branch members spent a minute remembering Reg Green, John Marlton, Vic Kersey, Maurice Fox and Jack Earl, all former members or friends of the Legion who had passed away since the previous meeting. They will also miss Ted Bird, a long time member and keen supporter.**



The Chairman congratulated Derick Grey on his work on behalf of the family of the late Sgt Edward J Mire, the US airman who died when a US WW2 Liberator was forced to land in a field at the end of Long Lane. The British Legion magazine has expressed interest in this 'remarkable piece of remembrance'. There is a separate report on the tree dedication in Remembrance Avenue to Sgt Mire.

At the same meeting Branch members voted to send £200 from Branch funds to Halsey House for their recreational fund. Halsey House much appreciated the gesture, which they said would help provide social outings for residents.

In support of Legion activity in remembering the Somme, annotated poppies have been sent to Westminster Abbey and Thiepval remembrance gardens on behalf of "The Southrepps Boys". A small exhibition of Somme material was prepared for the back of St James' Church to coincide with Remembrance tide. This highlighted the cemeteries of the 5 men from Southrepps who died during the six months of the Somme campaign.

The Branch are again grateful to Graham McCabe and Tony Wilkinson for their help with organising the local Poppy Appeal. Thanks also to collectors and generous contributors. We hope to at least match last year's total of some £1400.

Meeting its remembrance obligations the Branch helped with the arrangements for services on Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday at St James' Church.

The Branch AGM was held at the Vernon Arms courtesy of the landlord, on Monday 21 November 2016 at 7 pm. We shall update you in the next edition of the Mardler.



Armistice Day Friday 11th at St James Church



The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme

Malcolm Hilson

Many an SCT Volunteer has experienced the sinking feeling that comes from the chance discovery of a particularly soft patch of mud, but Pauline's immersion was in a different league, as total as it was sudden; I was impressed! The Trust is now looking for a sponsor to inaugurate the annual "Pauline Award" for the person considered by the Trustees to have displayed calmness under serious pressure and for resolutely carrying on despite being in an awful state.



*sticky, hairy seeds, well, itch. Such wonderful nuggets are a mouse-click away, on "[www.sctrust.org.uk](http://www.sctrust.org.uk)."*

We were working on the reed bed, which, surprise surprise, is the wettest and muddiest part of all the areas managed by Southrepps Commons Trust. It's not where we want to be, nor indeed where we would usually be, at this time of year, so why change a tried-and-tested routine? Answer: because nature never stands still, and will always try to reclaim that which is taken from her. As our critics (fortunately a small minority in Southrepps) are quick to remind us, the Common is an artificial, man-made environment, to which I reply, so is the whole British Isles.

Bracing myself for the usual inspection last Spring, a charming lady from Natural England arrived, and I showed her round. She was effusive in her praise, and complimented us for the job we do "incomparably well" (her words) ... BUT ... the encroachment of vigorous and unwanted species is unacceptable. Bracken has crossed the boardwalk, there's a huge patch of Michaelmas Daisies alongside Warren Road and, worse still, in the central area reeds are threatening to overwhelm the precious Orchids, Grass of Parnassus, Bogbean and Cotton-grass, i.e. the very things botanists get most excited about. The firm advice was to start the cutting season in August and, with luck, repeating the process for three seasons should do the trick. So it was with an anxious and heavy heart that the unthinkable was done, and surprisingly, to everyone's delight, the Grass of Parnassus flowered again within two weeks! But the reed is back, and the Michaelmas Daisies, so we'll have to run over them again soon.

*I cannot resist mentioning our wonderful website again: "[www.sctrust.org.uk](http://www.sctrust.org.uk)", because it really is so good. The information garnered by our indefatigable plant hunters, 374 species and counting, has been exhaustively refined into definitive cross-referenced lists, all beautifully illustrated, Latinised, and topped off with a "Plant of the Month". November's is the Dog Rose, also known as Itchy-coos because the*

I've given our Ed. a photo to help explain why The Pit hasn't quite received all the attention due. I'm playing the sympathy card with the photo, to help you understand something of the task. Last season the water-level remained stubbornly too high for safety and now the job has taken on a new degree of difficulty. On a more positive note, for much of the summer Leo Robinson did the basic mowing to qualify for the voluntary service component of his DoE Award. SCT is always there for the young people and I am pleased to report a strong link with parents at the school. They organised an enthusiastic Halloween on School Common, whilst in the new year, the N Norfolk Schools Sports Partnership has booked the orienteering course as a venue for an event involving 100+ children from 12 local schools.

*In closing, I extend to you the compliments of the season, and ask for your continued support and appreciation for the SCT Volunteers working for our community, in all weathers and conditions.*

Stop press - I feel compelled to write these few extra words because I've just returned from running a working party on the reed bed on a cold, wet, filthy Sunday morning in November, and cannot allow the exceptional dedication and spirit of the volunteers - more ladies than men - to pass unrecognised. I know I've said it before, but a great many residents and visitors alike gain much pleasure from the little bit of land we call Southrepps Common, and it takes a big sustained effort, often in challenging conditions, to make sure the place delivers for everybody, all the time.



Tending the reeds

*John Houlgate*

**"MISTY REEDS"**

**by Sheila Robinson**

# Southrepps Chorale

***It was a great summer for the Southrepps Chorale! In July we performed to a large audience in stunning and historic Binham Priory. Lots of villagers travelled to support us in a summer evening picnic concert, featuring lighter and jazz-influenced music in a salute to William Shakespeare who died 400 years ago. Songs from West Side Story, from Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkeban and some lovely settings of sonnets by English jazz pianist George Shearing were among the highlights. A month later we repeated much of the programme in 7th Southrepps Music Festival.***

The Chorale has just celebrated its 5th birthday, having been formed in November 2011. It has become a notable feature of village life with a regular membership of 55 singers. We continue our community singing project through exploring a wide variety of music, and performing it in interesting venues, and having some fun along the way.

Our winter season revolves around St. James Church where we appear three times in the weeks leading up to Christmas.



The Chorale pictured outside St. James, about to present our concert at the 7th Southrepps Music Festival in August 2016. (photo: Ernie Janes)



Stephen conducting with Anna Hopkins (flute) in our Shakespeare-themed concert played to a full house.

Before this edition of the Mardler goes to press, the Chorale will have taken its traditional place in the village Remembrance Sunday service, contributing some respectful and evocative singing to this sombre occasion. Our festive Winter Concert is on Sunday afternoon 4th December at 3pm. It is aimed at family audiences and will include some Christmas sing-alongs, for example Frosty the Snowman, Winter Wonderland and Jingle-Bell Rock.

Alongside that the Chorale performs some Andrew Lloyd Webber favourites, Vivaldi's Gloria (1st movement), Hallelujah Chorus and much more. A raffle and seasonal refreshments also feature. The Chorale is putting on this concert with 'Free

Admission' and a retiring collection for our church. Get there early to get a good seat.

***The village Carol Service is in St. James Church on Sunday 18th December at 4pm. Unbelievably this will be our 6th annual carol service and, as in previous years, it will include carols old and new, readings and some prayers for Christmas led by Rector David Roper.***

The Chorale makes its Norwich debut alongside the Broadland Concert Band, supporting Break Charity, in a Snowflake Extravaganza Christmas market and concert in the RC cathedral of St John the Baptist on Monday 19th Dec. at 7pm. Free entry but please book your tickets in advance at [www.break-charity.org](http://www.break-charity.org)

Looking ahead to Summer 2017, we have invited the North Norfolk Concert Band to join us in a performance of the stirring and popular choral work by Karl Jenkins, The Armed Man. Please make a note of the date: Sunday 9th July 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Chapel at Gresham's School, Holt.

Whether you are new to the village, or not, and are interested in joining the Chorale, we rehearse in the Village Hall on Tuesdays at 7.30pm. Contact our Musical Director in the first instance.

*Stephen Richards*

CONTACT: Stephen Richards, Musical Director

Tel: 834411 Email: [info@southreppschorale.org.uk](mailto:info@southreppschorale.org.uk)

# news from St James



Rev'd Canon David Roper

*It was good to see the church packed for the funeral of Ted Bird a few weeks ago. Although Ted had no close family here he had a big impact on the community, living here for his 88 years. During the service, after hearing about some of his life, I commented that as the parson I like to think that the church is the focus for everything that happens in the village, but in reality I might do better to move in to the Vernon Arms! It's amazing to think that there used to be 3 pubs on that corner, and although the church has been here much longer, it is true that the pub is where people gather, as we did, all packed in to celebrate Ted's life.*

However, the church is still a significant feature of Southrepps, both historically and as the spiritual heartbeat of the community. There are times through the year when the church is filled with people, whether for the remarkable Music Festival, Christmas or Remembrance Sunday.

***In October there were a good number of families who came to enjoy a Harvest Festival service, and the children took an active part. But of course there are just a handful of people who choose to meet regularly on Sundays, and it is this same small group who ensure the church and churchyard are kept in good condition on behalf of everyone.***



Steve Richards handing over Harvest gifts to Robert Knight of the Food Bank

I have been faced with some tricky situations recently in relation to the churchyard. One person (who lives in another part of the

county) asked if I would give her an assurance that, when the time comes, she could be buried here near her relatives. Naturally she was upset when I could give no such assurance and explained that the churchyard (which is fairly full for burials) is for the benefit of villagers and not a 'private' family burial plot.

The other difficulty concerns a grave space. One family has added artificial turf and concrete edging and were very upset when I had to ask that they be removed. We are required to follow the churchyard regulations which are designed to protect the rural and semi-natural look of the churchyard as well as protecting those who carry out the maintenance. For obvious reasons, glass or china containers should not be used and I ask that they be removed, please. We are looking at renewing the 'wild flower' areas to improve the frontage, but this will take time.

The old notice board fell down in a storm at the beginning of the year and a new one will be erected very soon and we are also looking, with our architect, at some essential maintenance tasks which may amount to a substantial cost. We are fortunate to have the Judith Bartram Trust to help as well as other grant making bodies, but the church community still has to raise a substantial sum for day to day running costs and some events are being planned to help with this - I hope you will be able to support your church.

***A new 'coffee morning' drop in is now running monthly and we are planning to revisit a parent and toddler group (some of you may remember 'Noah's Own' run by Ruth Bird and Jack & Ann Earl) so watch out for those.***

Winter may be a time when the countryside looks as if it has gone to sleep, but there's much going on out of sight; I hope and pray that you will have a safe, comfortable and active winter.

David Roper



Bell Ringers successfully rang a half muffled quarter peal of Grandesire Doubles on 5th November in memory of Ted Bird



[www.poppylandchurches.org.uk](http://www.poppylandchurches.org.uk)

For information on the churches in the Poppyland Benefice

CONTACT: David Roper - Reverend Canon  
Tel: 834436 Email: [poppyland.rector@gmail.com](mailto:poppyland.rector@gmail.com)

# Report on NNDC from Sue Arnold, District Councillor

## ***So much has happened since May.***

We are all extremely sorry that our excellent chief executive Sheila Oxtoby has left our authority for pastures new in Great Yarmouth. We will miss her and wish her good fortune. She leaves NN in excellent shape, an authority the envy of many. However the world moves on and we have two excellent directors, (our own Southrepps) Steve Blatch and Nick Baker, who will share her role whilst encompassing their current responsibilities. Obviously there will be other staff movements. This will mean significant savings for the authority.

### **Housing**

The work on the new Local Plan is continuing. We are visiting some of the potential sites most of which will be on the outskirts of our major towns. In NN we have to see at least 420 new homes become available each year (government targets). Much depends on developers of course but it is our responsibility to ensure sufficient land is available. We also have to work to something called "the five year land supply". If we are unable to prove we have an up to date local plan and a five year land supply in place developers can apply for and on appeal may well receive planning permission for developments in places that would not be welcome in NN.

### **Digital**

NN is moving towards as much digital use as possible. This will remove the need for so much paper and increase efficiencies. The planning department, which falls under my portfolio, is the first department to undergo the process. The customer service staff at the front desk are now trained to deal with many more enquiries. The validation team recently gave up a whole weekend to reduce the backlog of submitted applications and now each application is dealt with on the day received at NNDC.

The new NN Web site will shortly be launched. This will be user friendly enabling people to access far more information than has been possible in the past.

### **Felbrigg Roundabout**

I am delighted that work on the proposed roundabout at Felbrigg is about to commence early next year. This is after a hard fought campaign by Steps to Safety that I chair, firstly convincing the Highways Dept of NNC that it was necessary and then getting the finances in place. A struggle, believe me. The new Crematorium is nearing completion and it is anticipated that this will be opened early 2017.

### **Council Devolution**

The next four years will see authorities becoming more independent of central government from a financial point of view. NN is therefore working hard exploring ways it can capitalise on its assets, find leaner ways of working whilst maintaining services and keep council tax rises to a minimum. The past year has seen us sharing our premises with Children's Services and the Dept of Work and Pensions, giving us welcome rental income. N Walsham council has relocated enabling the sale of the town council office.. It is hoped that Wetherspoons may soon be occupying these premises.

### **Coastal Museum**

There are ambitious plans for an exciting living museum project, The Deep History Coast. A bid for funding for a very substantial sum has reached the second stage. We are very hopeful we will be successful in our final bid.

### **Sandscaping Scheme**

Protecting the Gas site and adjacent villages. You may have read in the press about the Sandscaping scheme. This has been hugely successful in Holland and subject to the funding being put in place it is anticipated we



will shortly be seeing a similar scheme happening off our coast.

### **Small Businesses**

A main objective of the Council is to encourage new and enhanced jobs. To this end research is being done on a possible Stem site (small units for start up businesses). There are two Enterprise parks in NN and business advice is available at the Council for anyone wishing to set up business or needs business advice.

### **Bittern Line**

It is proposed that the successful Bittern line will increase the timetable with more trains running between North Walsham and Norwich. We would like to see this extended to Sheringham and we are actively exploring to see if this is feasible.

### **Broadband**

Whilst we are continually being told this is available in our area - well 95% - there is a very real difference between receiving an internet connection and having a decent speed. £1m has been added by NNDC to the £8m put in by Norfolk County Council to improve the service provided by BT, but I know there are many in our district who are still very unhappy with the service they receive. We are doing our best to bring about improved services for NN.

And so much more....

Please feel free to contact me on any issues that you think I can help with involving NNDC.

Sue Arnold

# Local heroes

## US Airman Honoured

Many of you will already be familiar with the story of Derick Grey making contact with the family of Sgt Edward J Mire, the US airman who died when bailing out of a WW2 US Air Force Liberator that made a forced landing in the field at the bottom of Long Lane.

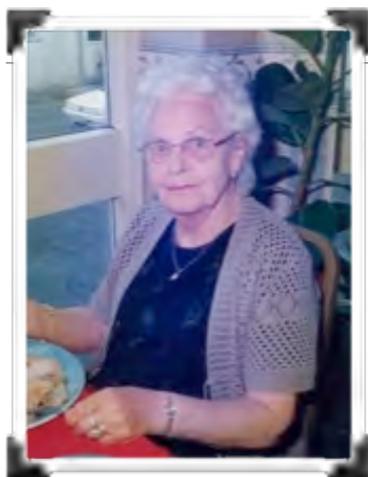
Sgt Mire's family in Louisiana, and his old Bombardment Group, have been most appreciative of the details that Derick has been able to supply from his memory of witnessing the drama. With the help of a young friend, he has even provided them with an aerial film of the area taken by a drone camera!

The final element of this remarkable piece of remembrance, took place on Friday 7 October, the 72nd anniversary of the landing, when a tree in Long Lane Remembrance Avenue was dedicated to Sgt Mire.

Canon David Roper led the prayers, and two US Air Force staff from Lakenheath escorted Derick Grey to lay a Legion wreath on the tree behind the memorial plaque. Standard Bearer Bob Ovenden, chairman of the Mundesley Branch of the British Legion, led the parade before Andrew Mitchell, a member of the Cromer & Sheringham Brass Band played the Last Post. There was a strong representation from the village, many of whom enjoyed meeting the US representatives afterwards at the Vernon Arms, where the landlord kindly provided refreshments! ***Cheers, Derick Grey: another job well done!***



Derick Grey with the US Forces personnel that attended the ceremony & the plaque for Sgt Mire



## Gertrude Elizabeth Howes 1928 - 2016

Gertie, who lived in Long Lane, with son Graham, died suddenly on 10 October. She was one of 5 sisters and 5 brothers. She will be remembered in the village for her cheerful disposition, her saucy asides, and not least more recently for her weekly bus trip to the market in North Walsham! She was a regular at the monthly Lunch Club, and entered enthusiastically into the banter round the village elders table! (They know who they are).

Gertie and her husband George, who died in 2005, came to the village over 25 years ago, from Holme Hale, near Swaffham where Gertie was the landlady of a local pub, the Red Lion. The family came to Southrepps to be nearer the coast, and Graham and his dad regularly fished. Gertie always seemed to have crab and lobster in her freezer!

Our thoughts are with Graham, and daughter Barbara.

## Ted Bird 1927 - 2016

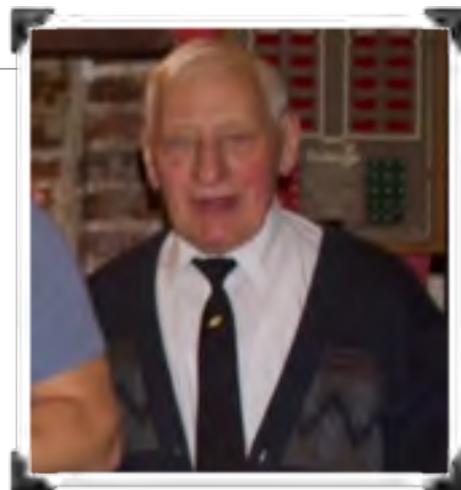
A Southrepps original! Ted lived virtually all his life in the village, in what used to be The Crown public house.

He learned his skills at East Coast Motors, and in the RAF, before running his own business from his home garage. Countless people have spoken of Ted servicing their vehicles, and kind man that he was, he would always help get anyone out of trouble, who had a vehicle breakdown. We loved the story of his off the cuff visit to Le Mans in the Austin.

Soccer was his other passion, both playing for the village and helping the club. He had a bit of a passion too for a half of Guinness, and the occasional tot of rum to follow. A British Legion member for many years, he hardly ever missed a Branch meeting.

A very private person, he was however a shrewd observer, and once he got to know you, often provided a telling comment. He would have appreciated the Quarter Peal rung on Saturday morning in his honour. His great chum Derick offered that he might have said ***'who'd you hev up church this morn? That wont a bad bit a ringin!'***

We shall all miss him!





The next Southrepps Classical Music Festival will be held between

**MONDAY 31ST JULY - SUNDAY 6TH AUGUST, 2017**  
**ST JAMES' CHURCH, SOUTHREPPS.**

This years classical music festival was another huge success. With an amazing array of talented musicians from all over the world there was music for all ages. Our own chorale featured at the event as always and make us very proud

We would like to thank everyone for their support for the festival before, during and after without you, it would be an impossible task.

Keep updated with next years line up on the website.

[southreppsmusicfestival.com](http://southreppsmusicfestival.com)



Here at the Vernon Arms we are now heading into our busy time of year. We have a wonderful Festive Menu running from the 1st to 24th of December from which you can choose individually or a set menu of two courses for £17.95 or three for £21.95. We also

have a special set menu for New Years Eve which is four courses and a drink on arrival for £45 per head. Please be sure to book in advance as we do get extremely busy.

Folk Club happens here second Thursday of every month from 8pm which is great fun for all ages.

We are now planning on some alterations in the pub which will be completed in the New Year. This will include new toilets and additional dining room area.

Don't forget to come down for the Christmas Carol singing on Tuesday 20th December starting at 8pm.

Our "Break" charity Christmas hamper with lots of Norfolk goodies is up for grabs. Tickets are on sale now at £1 per square and selling fast. Don't miss out on the lovely hamper and helping raise money for a great cause.

We would like to wish all the residence of Southrepps a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.

*Paul, Debbie and the team*

Tel: 833355 Email: [info@vernonarms.com](mailto:info@vernonarms.com) Web [vernonarms.com](http://vernonarms.com)

## 200 Club

The Village Hall 200 Club runs from April to April every year - with an annual subscription fee of only £10! The monthly draw consists of £40, £20, £10, and £5 with an additional draw of £100 at Christmas.

### November, 2016

- £40 Southrepps Support Scheme
- £20 No winner - number not used
- £10 Winner (Name With-held)
- £5 No Winner - number not used

### October, 2016

- £40 Winner (Name With-held)
- £20 Winner (Name With-held)
- £10 Mr J Grey
- £5 Winner (Name With-held)

### September, 2016

- £40 Southrepps Support Scheme

- £20 Mr & Mrs I Carey
- £10 Mr J Harrison
- £5 Winner (Name With-held)

### August, 2016

- £40 Mr R Trabucchi
- £20 No Winner - number not used
- £10 Winner (Name With-held)
- £5 Mr J Harrison

Congratulations to those that have won and good luck to the rest of us who are still waiting! As a reminder, December has an extra drawer of £100!!

If you would like to join the 200 Club, it's very easy - please contact me on 834178 / 07713 063302 Email: [aitch045@icloud.com](mailto:aitch045@icloud.com).

You can also find the joining form on [southrepps.info](http://southrepps.info) website.

*Helen Hewitt*

# village Sports

## Football Club

**Another successful season for our teams. The first team have now played 7 league games, and we have won five matches and lost two. We're currently 3rd in the league. Our most recent game was a 4-0 win against a youthful Holt reserves, and this win was dedicated to Ted Bird.**

Southrepps Football Club is mourning the loss of Ted Bird "Teddy" who was a keen football player and supporter of the sport. Teddy was part of the football committee and was very much liked by all our players throughout the year.

The team currently play at Madra football ground but we are hopeful that if all the works goes to plan we shall be back on home ground at Southrepps pitch, behind the village hall.

If you are interested in joining please contact us to find out more.

Roger Swift



First team honouring Ted with a minutes silence

CONTACT: Roger Swift - Secretary / Treasurer Tel: 833118

## Bowls Club

**Last season two of our teams won promotion to league 1 and so we anticipated a tough year ahead, but an enjoyable one. We were right on both counts!**

Our two promoted teams maintained their first division status whilst our two "non-selected" or "allocated" teams, see below, each improved their league positions by a couple of places.

We are always looking for new members with; lots of bowls experience, some bowls experience, or no bowls experience whatsoever!

**WE ARE CONTINUING TO OFFER FREE MEMBERSHIP TO ANY FIRST TIME NEW MEMBERS. NORMALLY YOU WOULD HAVE TO PAY £25 TO JOIN, BUT NOT THIS YEAR.**

Our League 1 teams are selected from available members and so the very best players have a chance to test their skills at the highest levels.

Our other two teams are made up mostly from members who have not been selected for the Division 1 games and this is done by allocating places to these members

We have many "in-house" club competitions and join in events held at other clubs including friendlies and tournaments. So, whatever your level of experience you will get some games.

David Harding - Chairman

Our highly qualified coach runs many group and individual coaching sessions to help all members improve their game and the club only charges £1 for these sessions.

**We have a wide range of optional social activities with summer B.B.Q.'s at the club. In December we are holding an in house Xmas & Prize Giving dinner.**

We have enjoyed; river trips, horse racing, walks and dog racing this year as well as a number of committee luncheons in the marvellous Vernon Arms. You can spot the Committee members who opted for the Vernon Black & Tan pie by the size of their girth!

We are about to start our winter season of indoor carpet bowls at only £2 per two hour session in our warm clubhouse with free tea and biscuits. A good way to spend your time on those dreary winter afternoons. These are informal sessions and no experience is needed, so just pitch up at our club house any **Thursday at 2:00 p.m. starting Thursday 10th November.**

If you would like more information please ring; David on 01263 721060 or Chris' on 01263 838551 or Phil' on 01692 500447. We will be very happy to hear from you and hope you join us, but you will not be pressurised to do so.

# More paws from Charlie

Back in May I went to church – some of you will be saying ‘so’ you go with either Mum or Dad to lock up St James every evening. This was different it was a special pet service at Trimingham especially for me and my other pet friends who came along. You should have come too as there were treats when we went up for our blessing from the Vicar and at the end. I managed to behave myself – almost! Look out for the next one and come and join me. All pets are welcome and I would love to see more mates there.



There are lots of new dogs in the village and I have met some of them and we have enjoyed a game of tennis on the rec.



Had fun on the Southrepps Society walk leading the way through the footpaths, which I know very well as do my mates Snoop and Bear. OK so I wasn't allowed any prosecco when we stopped at the old burial ground but I did get some nibbles!



However, all these lovely times with my friends and new friends are nothing to me, as I lost my best mate Max who is now a bright star in the sky. We had such larks together and I really miss him. Thank you for being my mate.



So on a happier note I am looking forward to more fun times on the beach, in the woods and on the rec, making new friends and loving life.

Charley  xxx

## HEATING OIL SYNDICATE

***The syndicate has been in operation since August 2001 and now has over 130 members from the parishes of Southrepps, Antingham, Bradfield, Gimingham, Knapton, Northrepps, Roughton, Thorpe Market, Trimingham, and Trunch. The syndicate order for January 2016 took the total quantity of oil ordered since the formation of the syndicate in August 2001 to 1,002,845 litres.***

The syndicate doesn't have any fees and works very simply. Heating oil is ordered five times a

year, January, March, May, August and November. You are not obliged to order each time and you can order how ever much you need (there is usually a min of 500 Litres per house). To find out more information simply contact us and we shall guide you through the procedure and then supply the relevant forms etc.

Make the most of this syndicate and save money on your heating oil orders.

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Thorpe Market, Norfolk, NR11 8UA

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The  
Snowflake  
Extravaganza

Monday 19<sup>th</sup>  
December 2016

6-9pm



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