

Cottingham Times

Issue 85 - December 2008

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THE COTTINGHAM TIMES

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Tuesdays and Fridays 10.00 to 4.30 pm. Adults, Children and Young People Welcome. Call in at any time for a drink and a chat. Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Biscuits, Crisps and Sweets.

St. Mary's Church, Cottingham

St. Mary's Coffee Shop is open daily Monday to Saturday 10.00 am to 12 noon, in the Mark Kirby Hall (behind the Church) Tea, Coffee and Hot Chocolate all 50p (including biscuits). A warm welcome ensured.

Cottingham Catholic Women's League

Monday 8th December, Christmas Social, in the Garden Room, Holy Cross RC Church, Carrington Avenue at 7.30 pm.

West End Cottingham Lights

Tuesday 9th December, Christmas Bingo, at 7.30 pm in the Darby & Joan Hall.

Cottingham Women's Institute

Tuesday 9th December, Shared Memories, Syliva Hookam, at 10.00 am upstairs at Cottingham Civic Hall.

Cottingham Gardening Club

Tuesday 9th December, Social Evening, in the Garden Room, Holy Cross RC Church, Carrington Avenue at 7.30 pm.

Cottingham Evening Townswomen's Guild

Wednesday 10th December, "Charity Speaker and Social, at 7.30 in the Darby & Joan, Finkle Street. Social Evening.

Cottingham Men's de Luda Society

Wednesday 10th December - Christmas Nostalgia, Terry Richards, in St. Mary's Church Hall at 2.00 pm.

The Cottingham Singers

Wednesday 10th December, Annual Christmas Concert at the Bricknell Avenue Methodist Church. Starts 7.30 pm and includes Christmas Music, Carols and Readings. Tickets £3.50 including refreshments. All welcome at the Church. For further information please call 01482 654535 or 506643.

Cottingham Green Women's Institute

Thursday 11th December, Christmas Traditions, Mr. Margaret Brooker, Christmas Party, in The Darby & Joan Small Hall, Finkle Street, at 7.30 pm.

Windmill Walkers Annual Carol Service

Thursday 11th December, at 7.30 pm at the Zion United Reformed Church, Hallgate, Cottingham. Held in conjunction with the local Back Care Association. Donations to charity. Seasonal Refreshments afterwards. All welcome.

U3A

Thursday 11th December, Christmas Cracker, Valerie Billham, 2.00 pm in the Darby & Joan, Finkle Street.

Cottingham Evening Townswomen's Guild

Thursday 11th December, The East Riding of Yorkshire Band is presenting a Musical Evening, in the Civic Hall, Cottingham at 7.3 pm. Admission £4. Refreshments, Raffle. To reserve tickets please ring 876594 or 84546

Wyke Ladies Circle

Friday 12th December, Secret Santa, at Helen's House.

Front Cover Picture: Looking down the railway to Hull from Cottingham Station. The photograph was taken and supplied by John Dewing, who can be contacted at 6A Queens Close, Cottingham. Tel. 847140.

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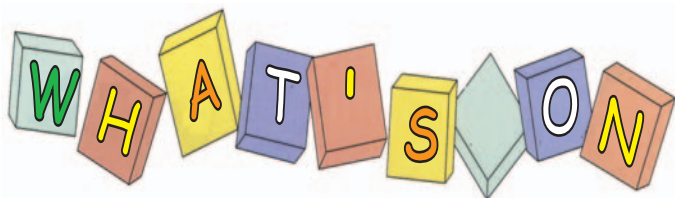
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In Cottingham and District

HERIB - Calling all Crafts Men & Women

Saturday 13th, HERIB are holding a Christmas Craft Fayre at Cottingham Civic Hall. There are still a few last remaining stalls still available so if you would like to sell your craft and meet other crafts men and women give Lisa a call on 01482 342297 or email lisac@herib.co.uk to book your place.

East Yorkshire Embroidery Society

Saturday 13th December, Phillipa Phillips, The Journey So Far, in the Darby & Joan Finkle Street. at 2.15 pm, Members £1.00; Visitors £2.00 includes cup of tea and biscuit. (Membership £6.00 per year).

Cottingham Ladies Circle

Wednesday 17th December, at the Zion United Reformed Church, Hallgate, at 7.30 pm. Social Evening.

Cottingham Men's de Luda Society

Wednesday 17th December - "Men Only" Christmas Lunch, in St. Mary's Church Hall at 2.00 pm.

P.A.G.E.R.

Thursday 1st January, Lunch, Talk "Stanley Holloway" Raffle, Six games of Bingo. £2.00.

Whist Drives - 1st Sunday in Month, in the Small Hall, at the Darby & Joan Hall, Finkle Street, Cottingham, at 2.00 pm. Total cost including refreshments and a raffle £2.00. All welcome.

Branch Meetings - 1st Thursday in each Month, in the Large Hall in the Darby & Joan Hall, Finkle Street, Cottingham.

Cottingham Wildlife Watch

Saturday 3rd January, 10.00 hours to 12.00 pm, Millbeck Wildlife Area, meet in the Pavilion car park. Tree and Wild Flower Planting. Contact Erica 840336, Judy 845440 or Roy and Helen 845665 if you are interested.

Wyke Ladies Circle

Monday 5th January, Meeting (La Zaat) 2 course meal.

Haltemprice Art Group

Tuesday 6th January, Altered Seasons

Tuesday 13th "Head On", collage workshop, Jill Carter

Meetings take place at the Cottingham High School, room T9, Harland Way, Cottingham at 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm

East Yorkshire Embroidery Society
Tuesday 10th January, Nikky Dillerstone, My Life in a Box, in the Darby & Joan Hall, Finkle Street, 2.15 pm.



The Railway, Thwaite Street, Cottingham

Sundays - Country & Western with Barry John

Every other Tuesday - The East Coast Band

Wednesdays - Johnny Pat & The Aces, £2 at the door with a free raffle.

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Computer Gifts, fun and learning, and faster Internet

Still struggling to think of a Christmas pressie for someone? How about these suggestions: USB memory sticks are a great buy and very useful. Or for those with more data than they know what to do with, like music, videos, photos etc, how about an external hard drive? For those who like pink products, we have some keyboard and mouse sets reduced to just £9! We also sell wireless mice, ideal for laptops, and laptop bags. Printer/scanner all-in-ones are all the rage now, so if a person you know is always complaining about their printer, maybe it's time for a change. Epson is the make we supply, and to help reduce running costs, we also stock a range of JetTec compatible inks. As a price guide, a full set of ink for the CX or DX models (4x inks) is just £25, and for the R and RX (6x inks) is £35. See details of this innovative company at www.jettec.com

Send us your 'Christmas computer wish list' by email or post for a no obligation quote, or see our website. Or just pick up the phone or call into our office, you might be surprised at what we can offer.

Remember though, if the credit crunch is starting to hurt and you can't afford a new computer, you can still 'make do and mend'. We offer a full repair and upgrade service. Call us for details.

A really fun way to get into the Christmas spirit is a website called www.elfyourself.com. It was a big hit last year, and this year it's even better. You'll find it is easy to make you and your family or colleagues into dancing elves! All you have to do is choose a photo you want to use (on your own computer) and click to upload it, the site will do everything else, you just have to make final adjustments, choose a dance you want to perform, and off you go! It's hilarious and the best bit is you can email the result to someone else to view your elfin antics. Great fun and it's free!

Antivirus protection is of course a 'must have item' for anyone with a computer/s connecting to the internet. For many years we have been a reseller for AVG products, but as quite a number of customers have experienced problems with the new version 8 since the beginning of this year, we took the decision to offer an alternative since then. Called **ESET Nod32**, it has a strange name but is very good product! It has an excellent threat detection rate and importantly is very light on system resources, i.e. it doesn't slow your computer down. Like AVG there are two offerings, the first is antivirus combined with anti spyware, and the second is Smart Security which includes a firewall etc. Prices are very competitive at £45 and £59.95 respectively, for

a 2 year licence. You can download a 30 day trial at www.eset.co.uk but if you do, ensure you have uninstalled any previous product before installing. As we are an approved reseller, you can purchase licences from us, and we can also offer advice on changing over.

If you like using keyboard shortcuts, or are interested in learning some, we have some cards available with some useful ones to get you started. You can now download the card from our website, www.rdmcomputers.co.uk, See the link on the Help Forum (Lara Show-05 Nov), or you can send us an sae.

Karoo has recently completed its upgrade to ADSL2, providing broadband at faster speeds. To take advantage of this performance increase however you must be signed up to one of the latest packages and be using a compatible router. Speedtouch modems for instance are not on the list, they will still work but at the original speed. Speak to Karoo to get advice on the best way forward in your case; you may even be able to pay less!

Wireless networking is the way forward if you have more than one computer in the house. Instead of everyone taking it in turns to get online, we can share your broadband connection to as many computers or laptops as you wish by installing a wireless router. This lets everyone surf whenever they wish, all at the same time! We also ensure the router is secure so that all your neighbours don't jump onboard too!

The next version of Windows looks likely to be released during the second half of next year. Known at the moment as Windows 7, it is promoted as being able to help people do things with their PC that were difficult, or even impossible to do before. We wait in anticipation for further details, but for the latest go to: <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windows-7>

Finally, many thanks to all the readers of the Cottingham Times who have commented favourably on these articles over the years. I do hope you will continue to find them useful in the future. Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to you all.

Richard D. Mills

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Skidby Village Hall Celebrates its 80th Anniversary

In the early 1920's attendance at village entertainments increased and it became difficult to accommodate everyone in the small village schoolroom. Plans to build a 'Parish Hall' for the residents of Skidby began on 15th January 1924, when a provisional committee was set up to explore ways of raising money. Within a month Mr Benjamin Thompson (Mill owner) had purchased a field behind the existing Reading Room, opposite St. Michael's Church. At a public meeting on 1st February 1924, he announced that we would give this land to the newly formed General Management Committee, which consisted of 36 village residents.

Over the next few years a vigorous fund-raising campaign was planned. This included Whist Drives, Jumble Sales, Dances, Concerts, Fancy Dress Balls and Children's Carnivals. Perhaps the grandest function was a Garden Fete held in the grounds of Browsholme on 21st June 1924, by kind permission of the owner Captain Harry Samman.

The building contract was awarded to A.E. Stephenson of Dunswell for the sum of £1,181. The work involved extensive renovation of the former Reading Room and the construction of the new hall, kitchen, cloakroom, dairy, copper house and ladies lavatory. Building work was completed by June 1928.

Dr Thomas Catherick Jackson LLD, performed the grand opening ceremony on Thursday 25th October 1928, assisted by Sir Harry Samman Bart, Revid. William. Armstrong. Gates (Vicar), Revid. W.L.Hann (Wesleyan Minister) and Mr.

Benjamin Thompson (Chairman). Skidby School children under the supervision of their Headteacher Miss Tate provided entertainment. This was followed by a Public Tea at 5pm (Adults 1 shilling and children six pence). In the evening there was a Whist Drive and dance led by G.Ashton and his Jazz Band.

The present Management Committee organised an 80th Anniversary Coffee Morning to celebrate the contribution made by the Village Hall to the life and community of Skidby.



Pictured above at the Skidby Village Hall 80th Anniversary celebrations are from left to right: Kelvin Young, Stella Northcott (Life President), Mary Young, Janet Smales and Tom Wragg.

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Cottingham Parish Council



Parrots in St Mary's Churchyard

The office have received several calls from members of the parish following stories that appeared in the Yorkshire Post and Hull Daily Mail regarding alleged plans that the Parish Council was to trap these birds and sell them? The Parish Council would like to make it very clear that it has never had any such plans and that in fact it has no involvement in ongoing discussions between the ERYC pest control and the Diocese as to what to do about the birds.

Report from the Planning Committee

Cllr Hardwick reported on planning matters since 16th October 2008.

The next planning meeting will be held on the 16th December 2008 at the Darby and Joan large hall where amongst other applications the proposed Twin acres Nursery development will be discussed.

Finance Committee Report

Cllr Abel reported on finance matters since 16th October 2008, all councillors had received a copy of the budget recommended by the Finance Committee and voted unanimously to approve the budget for the financial year to 31st March 2010 at £193148 with a precept request of £112150.



Pictured above: Angela DeVine, 'Lal' Kirby and Ann Abel at the presentation the cheque for £1,500 to the Cottingham Lights Organisation.

An S137 grant application had been received from the West End Cottingham Christmas Lights Organisation which, if not dealt with at the Parish Council meeting could not be heard by the Finance Committee until January 2009. It was therefore decided that Council would make a decision on the application at this meeting. After a discussion and show of hands it was unanimously resolved that the Council, in accordance with the powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure, which in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area and/or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure. The Council made an award of £1500 which was the same amount previously agreed and granted to the Hallgate Christmas Lights Organisation.

The Parish Council would like to pass on its thanks and appreciation for the efforts of all volunteers who give up their own time to make Cottingham so spectacular at Christmas time. It is their hard work and commitment that means we can all enjoy the magical beauty that is Cottingham Lights at Christmas. Thank you all.

Increased vandalism at Allotment sites

Cllr Hardwick reported on all allotment matters since 16th October 2008.

Sadly yet another lock has been vandalised at the site; the Clerk was asked to report this to the Police. Cllr Cooper will approach the Neighbourhood Action Team at its next meeting with a view to providing funds to replace the lock. Cllr Casson stated there was a dissolving agent available which acts on superglue, he would investigate a source for supply and cost and pass this information to the Clerk.

Cllr Hardwick, Cllr Cooper and allotments representatives had previously met to discuss the installation of a CCTV camera at the entrance to the allotments which would connect to the system at KGV. This proposal is being progressed at the present time and Cllr Cooper has asked for a costing from the CCTV contractor.

Capital Projects

Tree Planting – Cllr Hardwick and the Clerk had identified site for 18 trees and a schedule had been sent to Michael Brown (ERYC Tree Officer) for approval. The Chairman thanked Cllr Hardwick and the Clerk.

Cllr Hardwick asked councillors to look out for ponies tethered to the side of the road on Harland Way. The ponies have eaten the bark from one of the trees planted last year which has killed the tree. Councillors should report any ponies tethered in this area to the Local Policing Team. Cllr Leatham asked if the ERYC will be planting a tree to replace the tree that fell down last year in West Green.

The Deputy Clerk had met with David Linfoot and referred to a document (previously circulated Cottingham leaflet and map) giving details of the costs associated with renewing this very useful and popular publication. After discussion it was unanimously agreed that the leaflet and map be reprinted in accordance with the document presented by the deputy Clerk i.e. maps for the notice boards and 30000 leaflets.

Office Closure Christmas Period

The Parish Council Office will be closed on Christmas day and Boxing Day.

Any Other Business

Mr Atkinson (conservation officer for the ERYC) will be attending the January Parish Council meeting to discuss the re-appraisal of the Cottingham Conservation Area.

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Cottingham Cricket Club - Annual General Meeting held at the Hilltop Club

At the Clubs AGM held recently at Hilltop the following were elected as Officers of the Club for the coming 2009 season. Chairperson – Mike Gibson; Cricket Sec – Mike Best; General Sec – John Ewens; Treasurer – Mark Ransome; Sponsorship – Dean Washington; Equipment – Ken Parker; Youth Development and Child Welfare Officer – Rob Rhodes. On the playing side for the Senior Teams Rob Rhodes was elected as 1st XI Captain with Stu Hilton as his Vice.

The 2nd XI will again be captained by John Ewens with Dean Washington as Vice Captain. With Rob moving back to the First team the Academy side will now be captained by Pete Pearson with Mike Hunt helping as his Vice captain. The Clubs Junior sides will be managed by Graeme Furlong at U17 level; Rob Rhodes will look after the U15's and Ken Parker the U13 squad. The U11 team will be looked after by Pete Pearson with Mike Fish managing the U9 team.

The Clubs Winter training starts on 8th January 2009. They have the indoor nets at St Mary's College, Cranbrook Avenue for 3 hours on a Thursday night 6-9pm. The evening starts with the U13 and U11 teams training 6-7.15pm with the seniors, U17 and U15 teams starting at 7.20pm. For those youngsters in school years 3-6 the Club will again run a coaching course at Cottingham High School's small Gym on Saturday mornings 10am till midday.

If you would like more information or clarification on the Clubs activities then please contact Rob Rhodes (842215).

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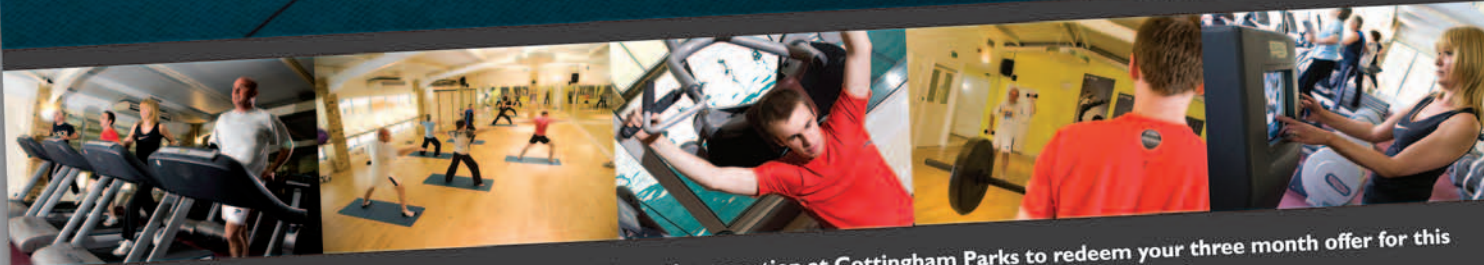


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Wordsearch - A Dog's Life

Can you find the dogs hidden in the puzzle below, they maybe
horizontal, vertical or diagonal, forwards or backwards.

E	N	A	D	T	A	E	R	G	Y	K	S	U	H	U	J	D	D	C
S	R	N	L	U	L	M	M	L	T	O	G	P	A	H	A	N	D	J
D	E	A	A	H	A	A	N	A	E	E	O	I	X	S	C	U	N	E
G	T	I	B	V	N	G	P	N	S	I	S	G	R	N	K	H	U	S
U	T	T	R	Z	D	Y	V	O	N	T	N	S	V	A	R	S	O	E
P	E	A	A	L	S	A	R	T	M	P	I	A	A	S	U	H	H	G
E	S	M	D	R	E	R	E	O	A	E	K	F	P	B	S	C	Y	N
B	O	L	O	E	E	R	D	A	T	I	R	T	F	S	S	A	E	I
E	C	A	R	L	R	C	P	N	D	T	R	A	V	V	E	D	R	K
D	H	D	D	L	T	K	H	G	U	X	W	E	N	T	L	H	G	E
L	I	R	E	E	W	E	D	O	O	O	L	E	D	I	L	V	H	P
I	N	J	Y	Z	H	H	R	C	W	D	H	L	I	A	A	V	I	V
N	O	V	O	N	I	L	B	R	O	C	P	D	O	L	L	N	O	R
G	O	W	M	E	P	V	B	O	I	T	H	E	O	R	E	E	Z	E
T	K	I	A	P	P	B	P	X	G	E	Z	O	E	O	V	R	R	X
O	I	V	S	P	E	A	V	T	G	N	R	W	W	H	L	Q	O	O
N	A	L	S	A	T	I	A	N	E	L	G	A	E	B	S	B	B	B
G	O	D	L	L	U	B	A	U	H	A	U	H	I	H	C	V	U	G
E	I	L	L	O	C	I	G	R	O	C	N	A	M	R	E	B	O	D

Find the words in the letters above:

Airedale, Alsatian, Appenzeller, Basset, Beagle, Bedlington,
Bloodhound, Borzoi, Boxer, Bulldog, Chihuahua, Chinook, Chow
Chow, Collie, Corgi, Dachshund, Dalmation, Doberman, Great
Dane, Greyhound, Husky, Jack Russell, Labrador, Landseer,
Magyar, Masiff, Pekingese, Pointer, Pomeranian, Poodle, Pug,
Rotweiler, Samoyed, Sanshu, Setter, Sheepdog, Spaniel, Terrier,
Whippet.

Wordsearch courtesy of www.puzzlechoice.com

Sudoku No. 24 -

This is an easy challenge this month

	9						4	
4			7			5		
		3			6			7
8			2			7		
	2			4			1	
		5			1			8
1			8			9		
		4			7			5
	7						8	

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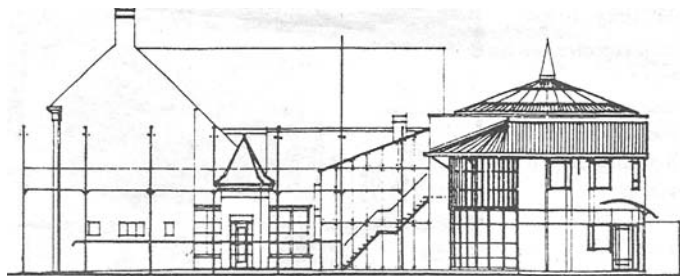


Cottingham Library speaks volumes as it celebrates its 10th Birthday

Cottingham library first opened its doors on 23rd November 1998. It was officially opened on 11th December 1998 by the chairman of the council Mr David Ireland - (dressed up as Father Christmas !!!!). Bouquets were presented to chairman's wife, our oldest library member and Gilly of 'Gilly's Balloons' who donated the balloon octopus

which we mounted on the rafters in the children's library. Other VIPs present were John Ginnive, Alan Moir, Margaret Slattery and a number of other local councillors.

Pictured below is plan of the old library, and the then, proposed new library. The photo is taken from the Haltemprice Leader Issue No. 120 - October 9th 1996.





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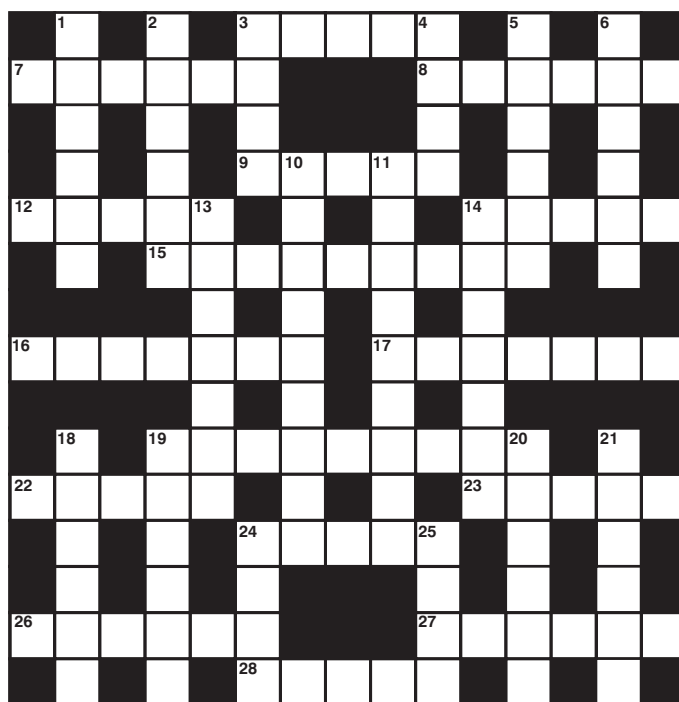
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Crossword - Solution on page 42



Across

3. A fissure ? (5)
7. Cover my back (6)
8. Spain or Portugal (6)
9. Vigour, nerve (5)
12. A bug (5)
14. Begone, go away . . . (5)
15. Low air pressure in an aircraft (9)
16. I'm sorry, please accept my ? (7)
17. Stained (7)
19. A sci-fi way of travelling ? (9)
22. A countermove (5)
23. A pigment from a cuttlefish (5)
24. A wranglers rope (5)
26. Like a camel perhaps? (6)
27. Citizen of this country (6)
28. A word for a friend or mate (5)

Down

1. An old banger (6)
2. An Asian climbing shrub with purplish flowers (6)
3. A dandy or a blackmarketeer? (4)
4. A surge of water (4)
5. Portray? (6)
6. In a car it is a safety device (6)
10. A deadly lung disorder (9)
11. Take the family away (9)
13. I will not do as you say (7)
14. Keep them to yourself (7)
18. In the Bible Paul came from here (6)
19. Walk heavily over a distance (6)
20. Cuts off (6)
21. Show favour to one side (6)
24. A Russian motor (4)
25. Columbus is there (4)

"Crossword provided by www.dowedo.co.uk. Used with permission"

Ooops!!

We would like to apologise for the error on last months crossword by inserting the wrong grid. We hope this did not spoil your enjoyment of the rest of the magazine - Editor

Sail on the Wind with the Windmill Walking Club

The Windmill Walking Club was formed in 1999 to provide for its members rambling opportunities of varying distances in Yorkshire and the surrounding area. A programme of events details the weekend walks that are arranged every three weeks throughout the year. Walks vary in distance from 5 to 15 miles.

Members are expected to make their own transport arrangements. Additional events are also held during holiday periods. A sub-section of the club arranges shorter walks every Wednesday morning. Each year the Club organises a residential Walking Week, usually based in the Yorkshire Dales. A comprehensive illustrated Newsletter is produced three times a year to keep members informed of club activities.


Membership fees are £5.00 per person or £8 for family membership, with an additional 50p payable on each walk. The current membership totals sixty-four, with an age range from mid 30's to late 70's. Further details may be obtained from the Secretary, Kelvin Young, on 01482 843446.

"Taster Rambles" on Boxing Day and New Year's Day

Why not join us over the festive period for "taster ramble". Choose from either the Annual Boxing Day Walk (4.5 miles) from South Cave Clock Tower at 10.30am, or the Annual New Year's Day Hang-over Hike ((6 miles) from Cottingham Green at 1.30pm. You will be made most welcome.

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In the Kitchen



Countdown to Christmas

Although Christmas Day falls on a Thursday this year, you will have plenty of time during Christmas week to get everything you need but don't forget to pay special attention to sell-by dates.

Same old Story?

Fancy a change this year? There are so many wonderful alternatives. How about a traditional roast goose or venison? And what if you're catering for vegetarians? For help in choosing what to have for Christmas Dinner try asking our local butchers Pullans and Tim May they will be more than willing to give advice about how to cook your Christmas Fayre.

Mince Pies

Mince Pies have become a firm tradition at Christmas for many of us, and with vegetarian varieties of mincemeat now available, they can be enjoyed by everyone, as can the numerous other recipes using this old ingredient.

History

Traditionally mince pies contained meat. In the 11th Century, Crusaders returning from the Holy Land brought with them various spices including cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg. These were added to minced meat and other ingredients to symbolise the three gifts given to Jesus by the three kings (the magi). To further celebrate the birth of Christ, the pies were originally made in large oblong shapes which represented his cradle.

Over the years, the pies grew smaller, the shape of the pie was gradually changed from oblong to round possibly to disguise their significance due to the edicts of Oliver Cromwell (Lord Protector of England from 1649 until 1658). Being a puritan, he disapproved of the Christmas celebrations of the time seeing them as a pagan holiday which encouraged drunkenness and gluttony. He actually banned Christmas celebrations and the cooking of Christmas foods including mince pies. Thankfully for us, King Charles II restored Christmas celebrations to their former glory when he ascended the throne in 1660.

Over the years the meat content became smaller and smaller until the pies were eventually made with a filling of dried fruit, nuts, spices and suet.

About Suet

Suet is the dense fat which surrounds beef kidneys. Unprocessed suet is now difficult to obtain, as many butchers no longer get the kidneys in tact but shredded suet is easily purchased in packets and this is the type of suet most recipes call for. It's now even possible to purchase vegetarian suet. Suet is a traditional ingredient used for both sweet and savoury steamed puddings and is used in the making of mincemeat. It is also sometimes used to feed birds!

This is a recipe for basic mince pies but you can make them even more festive by cutting the top pastry crusts into shapes such as Christmas trees, reindeers and snowmen. Don't worry about the filling drying out....it won't.

Ingredients:

225g/8oz Shortcrust Pastry
225g/8oz Mincemeat
3 tbsp Brandy
6 tbsp Milk
2 tbsp Caster Sugar



Instructions

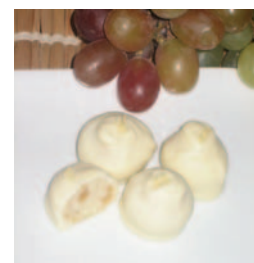
1. Preheat the oven to 200C, 400F, Gas mark 6 and very lightly grease 2-3 bun trays.
2. On a floured surface, roll out 3/4 of the pastry to approximately 6mm/1/4 inch thickness then cut 12 rounds out with a 6cm/2 1/2 inch cutter.
3. Use these rounds to line the bun trays.
4. In a bowl, mix together the mincemeat and brandy until well blended.
5. Divide the mincemeat between the pastry shells, pressing down lightly.
6. Roll out the remaining pastry and using a 5cm/2inch pastry cutter, cut out 12 circles for the tops of the pies.
7. Place the milk in a shallow bowl and dip the smaller pastry circles in the milk and cover each of the filled pies with a top. Use a fork to press the edges of each pie firmly together to seal then sprinkle with a little caster sugar.
8. Bake in the oven for 20 minutes until golden.

Serve hot or cold as a dessert with cream, custard or Brandy Butter.

White Chocolate Truffles

Ingredients - Makes 24

225g/8oz Good Quality White Chocolate
50g/2oz Butter
50g/2oz Icing Sugar
1 teasp Almond Extract
1 Egg Yolk
75g/3oz Chopped Almonds, lightly toasted
Icing Sugar



Instructions

1. Break the chocolate into small pieces and place in a heat proof bowl together with the butter. Place the bowl over a saucepan of very hot water and stir until melted.
2. Remove from heat. Add the sugar, egg yolk and almond extract and beat with an electric mixer until smooth.
3. Transfer to a shallow dish, cover and leave to cool until the mixture has set enough to roll into balls.
4. Dust your hands lightly with icing sugar then shape mixture into 2.5cm/1 inch balls. Roll each ball in the chopped almonds and place on a flat tray which has been dusted with icing sugar. Cover loosely with clingfilm and refrigerate at least 8 hours. Serve at room temperature.

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Illustrated talk held on the History of the Hull and Barnsley Railway at the Cottingham Civic Society

On 20th November Brian Crowther's illustrated talk on the history, route and construction of the Hull and Barnsley Railway was well-attended, particularly by a substantial number of guest railway enthusiasts who found much to refresh their recollection of what was the last substantial railway to be built in this country.

Dubbed the "railway that should never have been built" by its great rival the North Eastern Railway, it was opened in 1885 and ran the 53 miles from Cudworth to the Queen Alexandra Dock in Hull, being later extended to King George Dock in the 20th century when the rivalry between the two companies had abated somewhat.

The railway's initial purpose was to provide a cost-effective coal transport link to Hull docks as an alternative to the NER's network of an earlier date which served Hartlepool. Passenger transport was not neglected however. The Hull and Barnsley had a "main line" character which is evidenced by photographs of the well-staffed and well-built station facilities at Howden and Little Weighton for example.

As a "duplicate railway" it proved expensive to build, having to avoid the rival network by means of several tunnels, large embankments and many bridges. In addition, the engines and rolling stock were all bought in.

However, as Brian was keen to point out, once purchased everything was well cared for and maintained with diligence at the Springhead Coachworks which featured in many of the photographs on view.

While the H&B was late in the day in terms of 19th century railway development it could lay claim to being first in a number of ways. It was the first to maintain a detailed pictorial record of the line's construction. Other "firsts" were the use of steam navvies and pneumatic drills in its building, electric lighting, and joint management/workers consultative committees.

As one would perhaps have expected the engines were the stars of the show, both on the rails and, occasionally, de-railed! We all appreciated Brian's intimate knowledge of the line's history and the stories he could tell.

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Keep Fit and Healthy in Dunswell

East Riding of Yorkshire Council sport and play development service has teamed up with Dunswell Village Hall and Sports Centre to offer indoor short mat social bowling.

Beginners are very welcome as experienced players will be on hand to give guidance, advice and tuition. The first trial session is on Wednesday 17 December 2-3pm and will continue as a weekly event from January 2009.

Regardless of ability it is open to all and the £1 cost includes a cup of tea afterwards.

Ben Franklin, Community Sports Coach, said "It's all designed to keep you fit and healthy and help you to meet new people. We are hoping to attract people who have never played the game before but think that it would be something that they can get into in the long-term and perhaps even join a local club."

Dunswell Village Hall and Sports Centre is located on Beverley Road, Dunswell, Hull, HU6 0AD and there is a car park.

If you would like further information please contact Ben Franklin; Community Sport Coach on 07768796694 or ben.franklin@eastriding.gov.uk

58th Haltemprice Art Exhibition - Wilburn Trophy Winner

The Wilburn Trophy winner this year is Mr P Rollinson for his painting entitled 'Elegance'. The exhibit proved to be the most popular in the adult section. This was done by public ballot during the week of the exhibition to decide upon the winner.

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Paws for Thought
*A new regular column by Vet
 Richard Jones of Kingston
 Veterinary Services, Cottingham*

Merry Christmas But Don't Forget Your Pets

As the excitement of Christmas descends we must not forget our pets and I don't mean buying presents, but remember to them Christmas can be a stressful and confusing time as all routine goes out of the window!

If like me, you enjoy your food around Christmas, and then are very careful what your pets may be eating. I remember as a child my mother would always feed the turkey giblets to Tammy, our cocker spaniel. Without fail as soon as you would be sitting down for Christmas dinner Tammy would start to vomit and explode out the other end as the rich giblets disagreed with her. The strange thing is the selective amnesia of my parents who would do exactly the same thing the next year! So, be very careful with rich foods which your pets will not be used to.

Some foods however do more than just upset your pets stomach and can be very toxic even fatal! Chocolate, especially dark chocolate, contains theophyllines, which affect the heart causing an irregular heart beat and can be fatal to dogs. Every year at Christmas time we end up treating dogs with chocolate toxicity, so please keep all chocolate well out of reach of your pets and remember some of those wrapped up presents under the tree may contain chocolate and the dog will soon sniff out which one.

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Not as commonly known is that grapes, currants and raisins even in small amounts can cause renal (kidney) failure in dogs and cats. It can take as few as four grapes to cause fatal kidney failure! Interestingly no one knows the precise toxin responsible.

My wife is very keen on decorating the house with plants at Christmas, but is she aware of how dangerous these can be to our pets. Poinsettias, mistletoe, holly berries, yew, spider plants and lily pollen are all very toxic animals, so keep them out of reach. I hope the wife reads this!

While I'm writing this my daughter, Alice, pipes up "Don't forget about keeping the Christmas tree baubles well out of the way as they can be very sharp if they shatter and watch out for the needles falling off the tree and getting stuck in the dog's paws."

Every year at work we have a competition as to the most unusual object we have to remove from an animal's bowels as dog are very good at chewing up the Christmas presents, so make sure the kids tidy up.

Christmas is also a time for families to get together and this can often end up being a very noisy and excitable time. Not all our pets appreciate this, so make sure they can go somewhere quiet to chill out.

Fireworks are also now very popular at Christmas and New Year, so don't be caught out if your pet is frightened by them. Ask your veterinary surgeon for advice.

So I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, but don't forget your pets.

Help Feed a Stray at Christmas

Every year at this time we hold a collection of food for Hull Welfare to help feed the increasing number of animals they have over the Christmas period.

All three of our surgeries are collecting, so please show your Christmas spirit and pop in with a donation.

Our head nurse Nicola wrote the following poem to tug at your heart strings and encourage donations.

Christmas Dinner

We may be pedigree, mongrel or hound,
 Patiently waiting for a good home to be found,
 But we really need your help and a little bit of care,
 So please contribute to the Hull Animal Welfare.

Some of our stories are really quite shocking,
 So please give gladly to our
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 We just don't want to be all on our own.

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With all your help, we'll be onto a winner.
 So thanks to you all for a great Christmas dinner.

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by Michael Dunn - Accounting Solution (Hull) Ltd

Changes to VAT

The standard rate of VAT will be reduced by 2.5% from 17.5% to 15% on 1 December 2008. This new rate will apply until 31 December 2009, when it will revert to 17.5%. Only standard-rated sales are affected. There are no changes to sales that are zero-rated or reduced-rated for VAT. Similarly, there are no changes to the VAT exemptions.

Business Payment Support Service

The Chancellor announced that from 24 November 2008, HMRC have introduced a new, dedicated Business Support Service designed to meet the needs of businesses affected by the current economic conditions. This will provide specific help where customers are worried about being able to pay tax, National Insurance or other payments owed to HM Revenue & Customs.

Personal Tax, Child Benefit, Tax Credit and National Insurance changes

The child benefit increases brought forward to 5th January 2009 instead of April.

The personal tax allowance increases to £6475, and the basic rate tax limit to £37,400 from April 2009.

Basic Personal allowance for individuals with income over £100,000 to be reduced from April 2010.

A new tax rate of 45% on income over £150,000 from April 2011 Class1 and Class 4 NICs to be increased by 0.5% from April 2011.

Excise Duty Changes

The duty on alcoholic drinks will be increased by 8% with effect from Monday 1 December 2008.

The duty on tobacco products will be increased by 4% with effect from 6pm on Monday 24 November 2008

The fuel duty rates for 2008 introduced in the Finance Act 2008 will be reinstated with effect from 1 December 2008

Business Tax Changes

The planned increase in the Small Company Rate from 21% to 22% from 1 April 2009 has been deferred until 1 April 2010.

The loss carry back rules are to be extended, for CT accounts ending between 24/11/08 & 23/11/09 and IT accounts ending in 2008/09, by allowing the loss carry back to three years. The amount to be carried back under the new provision is capped at £50,000.

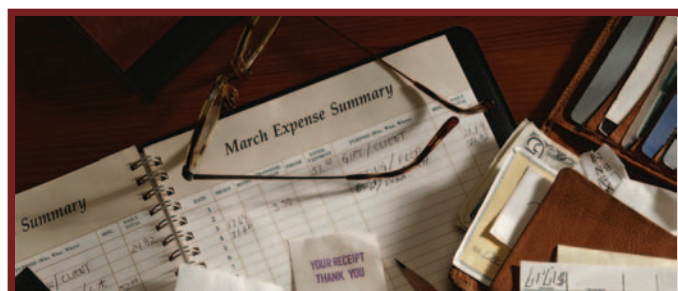
A package of reforms to the taxation of corporate foreign profits, including the introduction of an exemption for foreign dividends will be in Finance Bill 2009.

If you require any help and assistance in particular with the changes in VAT and how it will effect your business and software, please contact us to discuss your needs on **01482 656 148**.

Cottingham Resident Frederick James Lambert bequeaths £360 to Cottingham Lights

Frederick James Lambert of Cottingham, has bequeathed £360 to Cottingham Lights. The bequeath was the donations received in memory of the late Mr. Lambert at his funeral instead of flowers.

The Cottingham Lights Committee are to use the donation to obtain a feature which will be used in future Cottingham Lights displays. An engraved plaque will accompany the feature as a lasting memorial to Mr. Lambert.



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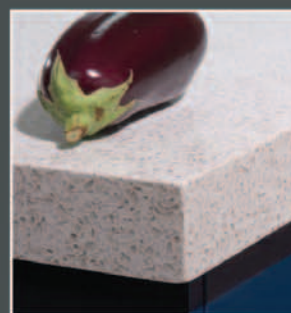


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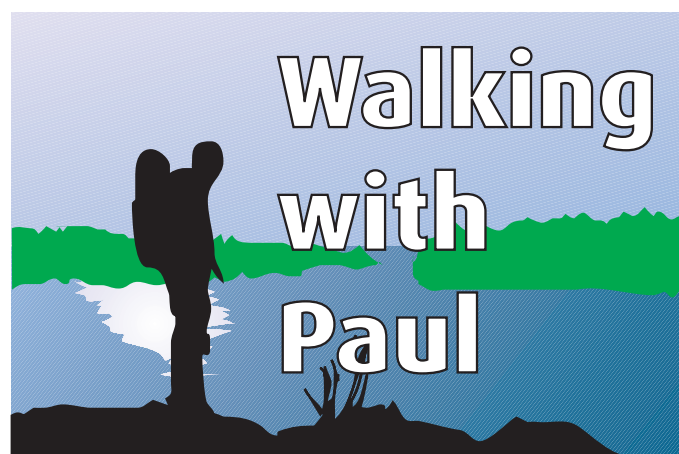
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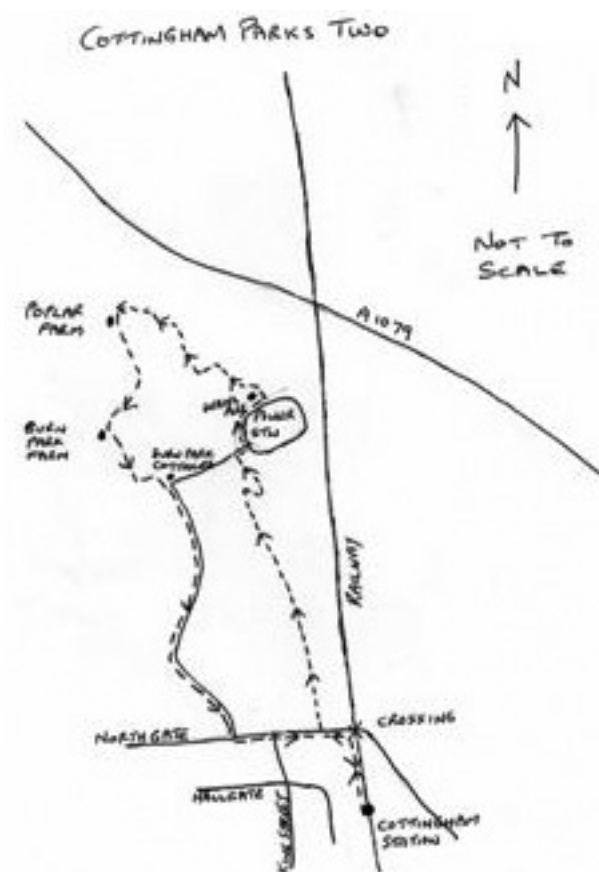
Here is Paul's tenth walk in his monthly column.
This month his destination is Cottingham Parks.

Maps:- EXPLORER 293
Start at GR. 051327 Cottingham Railway Station.
Distance 5.0 Miles.


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Leave the station car park and turn left to walk alongside the track in a northerly direction to reach Northgate. Turn left and then cross the road at a safe point and locate Mill Beck Lane (not to be confused with Mill House Woods Lane) Turn right into Mill Beck Lane to the junction with Lawson Avenue. At this point locate a path alongside the beck and follow this to emerge at playing fields. Walk across this field with the hedge on your right and head for a group of trees, cross a footbridge into a second field and continue in a northerly direction. Eventually this path doubles back to the right to reach a footbridge. Cross this footbridge and immediately turn left to reach a road leading to the power station. Turn right on reaching this road and walk towards the power station. On nearing the perimeter fence, turn left and follow the surfaced road round the power station.

Take the farm road on the left and pass between fields of stored caravans and follow this road as it twists its way to Poplar Farm. On reaching the farm turn left and locate a path on the left and continue on this path heading south with the hedge on your right.

Follow this path to Burn Park Farm. On reaching the farm walk along the farm road heading towards Cottingham passing Burn Park Cottages and several Market Gardens.

This road eventually meets Northgate where turning left leads back to the Railway Station car park.

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In the Garden

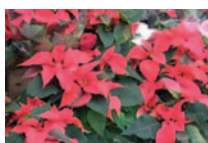


Christmas House Plants

Most flowering houseplants will last longer if kept cool, such as a constant 10-15C (50-60F), but always avoid chills at night (most common if plants are displayed on windowsills) and excessive warmth from central heating. Water plants by standing the pot in a few centimetres of water, remove and allow to drain before replacing the pot in its flowering position.

Cyclamen

With care, cyclamen will bloom for several months and will flower again in future years. Buy a plant with plenty of buds showing under the foliage and avoid any plants with drooping or yellow leaves. Choose a brightly lit situation away from direct sunlight and heat sources. Occasional drying out of the compost is less harmful than overwatering.



Poinsettia

Position plants in bright conditions, water thoroughly once the surface of the compost begins to dry out. Avoid chills and draughts as poinsettias need warmth and are probably the best choice in homes with central heating.

Azalea

Azalea - This half-hardy species will grow to between 20 and 45cm (8-18in) high. They usually flower in spring but are forced into early flower for the Christmas trade and need similar growing conditions to outdoor azaleas - cool, moist and shady. If the compost dries out the plant will almost certainly die. Water by plunging the pot into a deep container of tepid water (preferably rainwater) until bubbles cease to appear, drain and place in the potholder or on a pebble tray to maintain humidity. A sunny windowsill during winter is ideal.



Christmas trees hate the warm, dry atmosphere of our homes so only bring indoors for a maximum of 12-15 days. Position in a cool room or at least away from direct heat. Using anti-transpirant sprays such as Spray 'n' Save will also prolong the display.

History of the Christmas wreath

The hanging of evergreen wreaths at the entrance to our homes is a long-established way of welcoming visitors at Christmas.

Steeped in ancient symbolism, evergreens were believed to possess powers of eternal life. Branches were exchanged as gifts and givers believed they were bestowing health and wellbeing upon the recipient.

To make them more decorative, these evergreen branches were formed into rings or wreaths.

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How to make a Christmas wreath

It's easy and very satisfying to make your own wreath using materials found in the garden or left over tinsel or tree ornaments.

What you'll need

- * 3 to 4 120-150cm lengths of hazel, willow or similarly pliable stems
- * Conifer clippings for padding
- * Garden string
- * Stub wires, available from florists
- * A selection of berries and fruits
- * 1m of wire-edged ribbon to make a bow (optional)



Tips for success

An Ivy ring wreath

Use natural materials for the best look

The best berries to use are those of the tree forms of cotoneaster, such as C. 'Cornubia', or hollies. They last far longer than pyracantha, sorbus or skimmia. A glue gun may be helpful.

Try to use natural materials - they look far better than synthetic ones. Add your own bits and pieces to make it unique.

Top 10 jobs

1. Check your winter protection structures are still securely in place
2. Check that greenhouse heaters are working OK
3. Prevent ponds and stand pipes from freezing
4. Prune open-grown apples and pears (but not those trained against walls)
5. Prune acers, birches and vines before Christmas to avoid bleeding
6. Harvest leeks, parsnips, winter cabbage, sprouts and remaining root crops
7. Deciduous trees and shrubs can still be planted and transplanted
8. Take hardwood cuttings
9. Keep mice away from stored produce
10. Reduce watering of houseplants

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Your Stars for December 2008 -

By Kay Gower

Aries - (Mar. 21- April 20)

Things happen for you this month whether or not you take control. So don't force it. Insisting it go your way could keep you from something that was better than what you originally wanted.

Taurus - (Apr. 21- may 21)

Bonds built in December and January lead to lifelong friendships and love. Something that you've been working toward comes to fruition at the end of this year.

Gemini - (May 22-June 21)

New people will soon start to come into your life. If you are in any doubt over a person's character, just check out his or her friends. Those relationships, in unspoken ways, will tell all.

Cancer - (June 22-July 22)

This month you impress everyone with your originality. You can't help but be unique, and your perspective enlivens every connection you make. Work your plan, and if you don't have one, then creating one this month is lucky.

LEO - (July 23-Aug 22)

It's perfectly acceptable to say "no" to something good because you're looking for something even better! Stand by your original ideas, at least for the following 3 weeks, Leo.

Virgo - (Aug 22 - Sept. 23)

People who care for you want you to experience a slice of their lives. As much as you enjoy seeing the world through the eyes of your family and friends, there will be times this month when you can't wait to get home.

Libra - (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)

You're changing and therefore, will think twice about how you're being perceived. You don't have to perform, Libra! Search your soul to discover what's genuine for you.

Scorpio - (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Don't wait around for the seemingly perfect time for what you want. Get busy and make it happen.

The way out of a current dilemma is not the same way you came into it, Scorpio. Your own "instinct" is the one to follow this month.

Sagittarius - (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)

You've always been clever enough to spot a phony, Sagittarius. Sound the alarms! But do so internally. Avoid confrontation, especially around the 11th December, and move on quickly to company that is more honest.

Capricorn - (Dec 22.- Jan. 20)

Wave farewell to your old self, Capricorn. Maybe blow a few kisses as well, but don't linger too long. Refuse to get bogged down . . . it's time to go!

You've got urgent appointments with the unsettling but fascinating future, so be ready for more change than you think you're capable of.

Aquarius - (Jan. 21.- Feb. 19)

It's dangerous to believe everything you hear, and spending everything you have is also not recommended. Giving all you've got, however, is the one extreme act that will bring happy rewards, especially this month.

Pisces - (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

During the coming weeks, you'll be shedding inhibitions and becoming more forthright about being yourself. Secrets that were inaccessible to you until now will finally reveal themselves. Exciting insights you were too timid to own before will erupt, empowering you to express a creativity that has been dormant.

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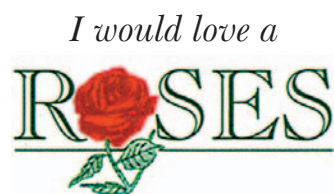
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WE ARE ALL UNIQUE

After all the planning at Unique since August, Christmas is finally here. On behalf of all of us here at Unique I would like to be one of the first to wish all readers a Happy Christmas and a very prosperous New Year.

Hopefully through my suggestions and tips all your hair needs for the festive period are all under control. Due to increasing demand we have brought in extra colourists and support staff. I now have a Personal Assistant Lucy who will join my colourist Diane in ensuring all my personal clients receive the fantastic Unique service they deserve.

As we have extra staff we have been able to work through our cancellation list, so if you have any "hair emergencies" don't hesitate to call us.

As I mentioned last month, we have some beautiful gift sets in stock containing Wella travel sizes, which are perfect for overnight stays. They also contain handbag size hairsprays, which are ideal for "touch-ups" on those special party nights, you know the ones where you have to look the most glamorous person there!

The System Professional gift sets also contain a fantastic in-salon spa treatment, so a perfect gift or a luxurious treat for you in the new year.

Our assistants at Unique have taken part in their college competition and as expected they wiped the floor! Their work was absolutely stunning, Jodi came first and Charlotte's finished look was fabulous, so well done to both of them. We have also attended Sharon's graduation at Manchester last week, where her work was totally inspiring so well done Sharon.

We have planned at least 3/4 of next years calendar already, so I can tell you we will have some fantastic offers available for existing and new clients, so keep looking in the local press for details or call Cate or Danny in January to make sure you don't miss out on your chance to make a great saving.

In next months issue I'll also give you details about our exciting forthcoming event for January/February.

So finally tips for the festivities keep your hair in great condition to give you the ultimate shine. The key is to keep your hair sexy, voluptuous and fierce looking, but however you wear your hair wear it with confidence. Keep your colour fresh to keep heads turning.

Trust me where ever you are hair and shoes are the first things friends and strangers alike notice! So maximum effort needs to be put into it!

Have a great time

Ben



As a leading salon director and stylist Ben has been involved with major events such as the Wella Roadshow and has trained with the British Hairdressing Team. So make sure you don't miss next months edition of the Cottingham Times for the Unique Hair Guide.

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Below: Answer to Sudoku problem No. 23 from the November Issue.

9	1	5	7	8	6	4	2	3
8	6	2	5	3	4	1	7	9
3	4	7	9	2	1	6	8	5
7	9	1	4	6	2	3	5	8
4	8	3	1	5	9	7	6	2
5	2	6	8	7	3	9	4	1
2	3	9	6	4	8	5	1	7
6	7	8	3	1	5	2	9	4
1	5	4	2	9	7	8	3	6

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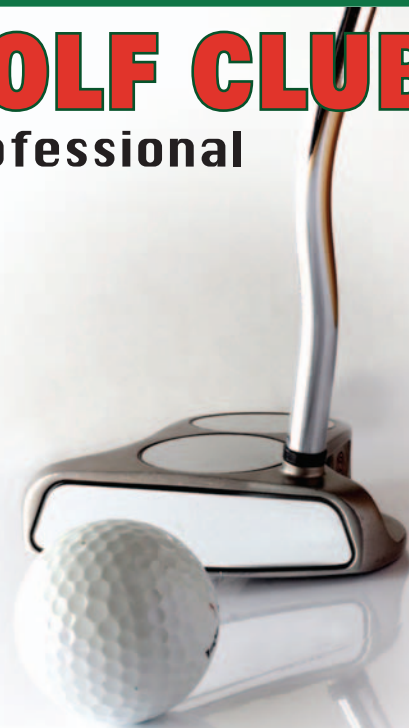
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THE GREEN, COTTINGHAM

“News from Cottingham Little Theatre

And so ends another busy and successful year for all of us at C.L.T. During 2008 we have put on three performances (two plays and one revue) and we hope that all of our audience members have enjoyed our offerings and that our latest, ‘Out of Focus’, has helped to put you in the right mood for the forthcoming festive season.

So all that remains is for us to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you again next year.”



Card Making Day at the Darby & Joan Hall raises £100 for Cystic Fibrosis

A card making day held in the Darby & Joan Hall, Finkle Street, by Ann Moat of Crafty Creations on Hallgate on Saturday 22nd November raised £100 for Cystic Fibrosis. (£50 is for Cystic Fibrosis Trust funding research into a cure and £50 for CHIEF the local support group).

Thank you to all those who participated and a special thanks to Ann for organising a very enjoyable day.



Pictured top: The ladies hard at work making their cards during the card making day; and above pictured left to right: Helen Perring-Dobbs who represented the local support group CHIEF and Ann Moat of Crafty Creations who organised the event.

Ann at Elizabeth of Cottingham
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A Cup of Cocoa on Christmas Eve

by Peter Railton

I left Cottingham Hallgate Boy's School in the October half-term week of 1946 - this was fondly known as 'spud picking' week because a lot of boys went on to local farms and helped with the potato harvest.

An uncle got me a job with an engineering firm in Hull's old town and I became an apprentice at the Vulcan Ship Repairing and Engineering Co. in Blanket Row.

Bottom rung of the ladder

Most young apprentices started at the bottom of the ladder - I seemed to stay there a long time - and were merely 'gophers' go for this or go for that; fibre washers from Bingham's in Queen Street, or valves from Danbys in Dock Street, or nuts and bolts from F. R. Scott in Castle Street over Mytongate Bridge and so on, but very often I sallied forth with the hand cart with its centre pole and iron-rimmed wheels, loaded with tools and various bits of engine to jobs on the docks where the time served fitters would be overhauling or repairing a ship's engines, or with a load of brass and copper piping for a laundry down Southcoates Lane or Wellsted Street, or a large propeller lowered by block and tackle on to the cart.

The weight had to be distributed evenly above the two wheels or either I could not lift the pole off the ground, or I was shot up into the air grasping it, like an ejected jet fighter pilot!. Being a skinny lad did not help matters.

Siberian Blast Hits Hull

It was Christmas Eve, Tuesday December 24th 1946. The atrocious winter had not started yet but there had been two very cold spells that month. On 16th a headline in the Hull Daily Mail read, "Siberian blast hits Hull" with three degrees of frost and an electricity cut at 10.15am "After all, it is December and such temperatures are not exceptional. Colder conditions are on the way." Very prophetic. On the 18th "Britain awoke to a land of white fields and roads caused by widespread frost." Christmas Eve dawned very frosty and very foggy - fog in these days of smokey domestic and industrial chimneys was something to be remembered; it lasted for days, cold, wet, clinging and choking.

Waves of strikes by transport workers and others made life difficult in an already difficult time of shortages just after the war. Rationing was still with us - not only for households but for industry too. "Peter!!!" the Gaffer roared above the noisy clatter of machinery in the workshops. His office was up some iron steps attached to the outside of the building but an opening office window allowed communication with the workshop beneath. I abandoned my sweeping brush and hurried outside and up the steps - a one-time Engineer Commander in the Royal Navy, the Gaffer was not a man to be kept waiting.

"Take the cart and be sharp about it"

"Take the cart and get yourself round to Smiths for some iron and steel - he's just had a delivery, and look sharp about it."

So, away to the top of Blanket Row and turn right on to Princess Dock Side taking care not to get the hand cart wheels stuck in the sunken railway lines along there, left over Monument Bridge past Finleys Tobacconists and the wet fish shop, Ferens Art Gallery and the Punch Hotel and left into Waterhouse Lane with Willis' shop on the opposite corner. A pair of huge wooden gates gave access to that part of the Princes Dock where the engineering firms of Amos and Smith and Charles D. Holmes were always busy refurbishing

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trawlers tied up there bow first, where the incessant sounds of hammering and the drone of the welding machines added to the cacophony of the noise on the dock side, on the various ships loading and unloading, and on the roads outside.

The firm of "Arthur M Smith Iron and Steel Stockholder" was just inside the gates - a low building, its open doors revealed long racks in which were slotted some lengths of iron and steel bars. Young Mr Smith had recently been de-mobbed from the R.A.F., and was back working for his father. I gave him the order form from the Gaffer and he selected the lengths of flat and round iron bars and some very scarce high tensile round steel and we loaded the cart together.

Dickensian Office

"You look cold," he remarked. I certainly felt cold; my tatty gloves were sodden and one boot let water in and the freezing fog clinging to my face and clothes and seemed to penetrate to my bones! "Come on up to the office and Dad will give you an invoice to take back as well."

This office too was up some outside stairs and I stepped into a room which I can only describe as Dickensian, with heavy old desks and filing cabinets. A fire burned in the large old grate and a kettle simmered on a gas ring.

Mr. Smith senior was a tall grey haired man. The winged collar, black tie and dark suit with the watch chain across the waistcoat seemed to belong to another era. "Sit down young man and have a mug of cocoa," Mr Smith invited - nay - ordered. I protested that the Gaffer would be angry if I was too long but Mr Smith replied, "you leave Harry Hall to me, I'll telephone him later. You look all in."

Steaming mug of Cocoa

I did feel faint coming out of the cold and into the warm room. Mr Smith produced a packet of Fry's cocoa from a cupboard, a glass jar with sugar in and a bottle of milk. I watched as he mixed the contents in the mug and added the hot water, stirring it gently as he looked at me. "Here boy, get this down you," and he smiled kindly and passed me the mug of steaming cocoa.

Never, never, before nor since, has a mug of cocoa tasted so good! Feeling gradually returned to my hands and feet and the freezing fog dripped from my coat. Eventually, I stood up and thanked him and said that I must be off. "Merry Christmas," he said and gave me five shillings - two half-crowns actually, twenty five pence in today's money but a lot then, when my weekly wage was one pound seven shillings.

I trundled the hand cart back the same way, dodging lorries, horse rullies, cars, cyclists plus a light railway engine and trucks which had appeared on Princess Dock Side, the iron and steel bars protruding from the front and back of the hand cart rattling away in spite of being roped down, as I pushed along over the stone sets of the dock side and Blanket Row.

A Merry Christmas and a Ten Bob Note!

The Gaffer did not complain when I got back - Mr Smith must have 'phoned him as promised'. Instead, I got a ten shilling note and a hearty "Merry Christmas" - two Father Christmas's in one day!

I was doing some shopping in the City recently and retraced that route; no Waterhouse Lane now, the Princes Quay shopping mall has wrapped itself around that section of the dock but it is possible still to see the berth for the trawlers on the left hand side of the Mall approached from the Punch Hotel, a narrow stretch of water ends at the dock wall and the huge iron bollards remain where the trawlers were secured, though the old buildings are long gone. I remembered how it used to be and the kindly Mr Smith who provided a skinny, frozen young teenager with the best mug of cocoa ever - and five shillings on the Christmas Eve in 1946.

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A sparkling evening ends with a big bang

After missing a year due to massive developments at the home of Cottingham Tiger's RL Hill top home ground, the annual Bonfire and fireworks display was back with a bang (pardon the pun).

With an army of volunteers and a few words from me to the Man who control's the weather, approximately 1500 to 2000 people young and old were treated to an evening of ear splitting bangs and great bursts of colour.

The evening started with the lighting of the giant bonfire topped off with a Guy that must have stood nearly 15ft tall dressed in the guise of a referee. As the fire started to take hold the sparkler enclosure was full of excited children waiting in anticipation for the first loud whoosh and crack of the firework display, the BBQ and bar was doing a brisk trade and a good crowd gathered at the safety fence mesmerised by the enormous flames of the fire when the first of the fireworks was lit.

35 minutes later and with great appreciation from the crowd, the last loud bang and flash faded and people started to drift away as the drizzle came down again. Damp but not disappointed, the crowd slowly dispersed with all the excitement of having had a great time.

Without naming names (there were too many) I'd like to thank everyone who gave up their time in making the event such a success. Ian Thresh (Event organiser)

Old Card Players Never Die They Always Come Up Trumps

Card playing is a vital part of our education and up bringing. Games like Snap and Old Maid help us with colour and counting, shape and number recognition. It helps us with ordering and clockwise rotation, what's more it is a really fun way to learn how to socialise, share and most important of all, how to lose with good grace.

As we grow up, for some of us, the 'games' become more skillful and serious. For a few pounds, in order to pay for the venue, provide the 'prizes', along with a cup of tea and a couple of biscuits, these childhood games develop into wonderful afternoons and evenings spent with friends and acquaintances in order to exercise skills, concentration and fair play.

How sad it is then, that 'Whist Drives' are losing support and are probably considered 'uncool' in today's society.

As the older ones who have enjoyed 60 or 70 years of this wonderful past time 'retire' we need new blood to come along and share the benefits of this challenging game.

So, provided that you understand the basics of how cards work, put on your glad rags, a bit of 'lippy!' - (Ladies only) and come along for an evening that will test your brain power, social skills and sense of fun. Who knows, you might even win a prize, but one thing I know for sure **YOU WILL ENJOY YOURSELVES AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS.** For more information telephone Pager on 01482 841125.

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The Hebridean Princess

By Marion Owen

My feet have been itchy and I was feeling in need of a little break! Dark days are not very stimulating.

Well here I am a mere four hours from Hull in the port of Tilbury enjoying luxurious surroundings and being pampered aboard the charming Hebridean Princess.

If you are looking for a treat, this has to be it, there is no better way to visit the Isles of Scotland than in five star luxury. From the moment you step aboard the everyday stresses disappear. She carries just 49 guests with almost as many staff to take care of your needs.

Opulent furnishings in rich traditional colours are pleasing to any eye as you can see in the photos and believe it or not, on my departure from the ship she is heading to Hull for a complete refit during the winter before heading back to Scotland! So when you are near the docks keep an eye open for her.

Hebridean International cruises have just two ships in their fleet the other takes 78 passengers and cruises around the world – she also offers a fantastic experience.

The restaurant is a delight, excellent food and all drinks are included. Tipping/gratuities are not encouraged, which I know some people are not comfortable with anyway. Private escorted tours are also included everywhere the ships stop and I can assure you there are some very special treats in store.

For 2009 Hebridean has entered into a partnership series, these are with NADFAS, the Royal Horticultural Society and the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

For example on booking to sail on the RHS cruises doors have been opened to gardens not normally available, and lectures are all included to enrich the your lifestyle.

The London Philharmonic are taking just the one cruise next summer and there will be three musicians aboard for your enjoyment with recitals and talks.

The length of Hebridean's cruises vary but you can start with a short sampler of just 3 days please do not hesitate to ask me for more information.

You are most likely aware that Lynne & myself have first hand experience of over 95 ships – this may not be the type of ship you are looking for but we sure have just the one to suit you in our portfolio – if it floats on the water we are your answer.

Well, Christmas just around the corner and 2009 creeping up, I had better get a move on. May I wish you Season's Greetings and a happy healthy New Year.



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Packed house at last night of Cottingham Little Theatre's production of "Out of Focus"

There was a packed house at the Darby & Joan Hall, Finkle Street, Cottingham on Saturday 29th November, for the final performance of Cottingham Little Theatre's production of "Out of Focus".

The Little Theatre group has been presenting "Out of Focus", a comedy by Peter Gordon on Thursday 27th November to Saturday 29th November at the Darby & Joan Hall. All performances have been well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all audiences.

Kay Gower, who produces the "Horoscopes" column in the *Cottingham Times*, was on stage playing Sue Dixon.

We enjoyed our evening immensely and look forward to future productions from the Cottingham Little Theatre Group.

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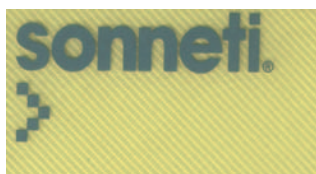
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Gino's is a bright, clean and friendly premises, and there is a small well-lit waiting area. There is an excellent choice of Pizzas, Burgers, Kebabs and Fried Chicken, and the meals are of ample proportion, even for the biggest appetites. There is also a Gino's Kids Club menu.

NEW!!! A superb range of new pasta dishes are now available at Gino's. These dishes consist of variety of pastas including such fillings as King Prawns, minced beef, spinach, garlic, mushrooms, fresh cream. Call in Gino's NOW and enjoy these new superb pastas.

The meals are of excellent size and quality and the Mega Meal at £11.99 is superb value for money.

Gino's is now open from 4pm till midnight every day, and is open till 1.00am Fridays, Saturdays and Bank Holidays to provide his customers with good food for longer.

There is a local delivery charge of £1.00 (subject to change). Visit Gino's soon.

You can now download Gino's Menu from the Cottingham Times website www.cottinghamtimes.co.uk under Takeaways. Download the menu, make your choice and telephone Gino's and order your meal, and enjoy.

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Crossword Solution from page 14



Alternative Health Matters

by Carole Headley

A Revolution in Healthcare

How NES (Nutrienergetics System) complements other therapies.

Although NES therapy is a complete and highly effective well-being system in itself, hundreds of NES practitioners around the world have noted, when used in conjunction with other holistic therapies, that the effect of these are noticeably enhanced.

Some examples are listed below:-

Osteopathy/Chiropractic: Muscle and joint workers have noticed that articulation and muscle correction are easier to perform and tend to be longer lasting for clients, when on the NES programme.

Acupuncture: Therapists often comment on how the body responds better and rebalances more effectively when NES is used in conjunction with acupuncture treatment.

Homeopathy: Homeopaths report that while they may use homeopathic preparations for people with 'classically' presenting symptoms, they prefer to use the NES approach to resolve more complex cases.

Nutrition: The absorption and assimilation of nutrients appear to be significantly enhanced with NES therapy.

Physical Fitness: Personal trainers have noted how body fitness, strength and stamina are enhanced when training is combined with NES therapy.

Counselling: The resolution of emotional conflicts, mental issues and addictions have been noted to be easier for clients, when taking NES infocentials.


NES Therapy is powerful and can bring about profound changes in your well-being. However, it is important to help yourself to maximise this process. Change will involve letting go of something old (e.g. pain, sickness, tiredness, toxins and emotional issues) and take on something new (feeling better, fitter and of clearer mind).

Carole, at The Healing Hut is also a distributor for Forever Living Products - ALOE VERA - call in for a brochure or to place an order.


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4.6 cu ft.
'A' Rated
Larder

Was £160 **SAVE £30**
NOW £130



TZA1
3.6 cu ft.
'A' Rated
Freezer

Was £180 **SAVE £40**
NOW £140



BAN12NF
Frost Free
6.2 cu ft Fridge
3.0 cu ft Freezer
'A' Rated

Was £320 **SAVE £40**
NOW £280

CLEAN UP ON

Hotpoint /



HOME LAUNDRY



HOTPOINT WML520
1200 Spin, 6 kg Load
AAB Rated
Variable Temp
and Spin

Was £270 **SAVE £20**
NOW £250



HOTPOINT WML540
1400 Spin, 6 kg Load
AAB Rated
Variable Temp
and Spin

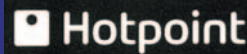
Was £300 **SAVE £30**
NOW £270



INDESIT IS60V
Vented Tumble
Dryer, 6 kg Load
Reverse
'C' Rated

Was £170 **SAVE £20**
NOW £150

FROST FREE REFRIGERATION FROM



55cm wide

FFA52
FROST FREE
5.5 cu ft Fridge
3.0 cu ft Freezer
Anti-Bacterial
Protection
'A' Rated
White **£320**
Silver **£340**



60cm wide

FF175BP
FROST FREE
6.2 cu ft Fridge
3.0 cu ft Freezer
Glass Shelves
3 Drawer Freezer
White only
£300



60cm wide

FZA34
Under Counter
Frost Free
Freezer
White only
£280

OUR PRICES INCLUDE DELIVERY, INSTALLATION TO EXISTING SUPPLIES AND DISPOSAL OF ANY OLD APPLIANCE

We are an independent retailer - with friendly local service and personal attention - but we're also a member of EURONICS - Europe's biggest independent electrical buying group, which means we can offer you the very best deals on the highest quality brand names.

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