

THE HILDERSHAM EXPRESS

November 2005
Issue IX

Including the **HILDERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

TWO OF HILDERSHAM'S MANY YOUNG SUPER STARS



Cross Country Runner - Amy Rouse



Gardener & Fund Raiser - Barnaby Palmer

A Very Busy Few Months

Since the last edition of the Hildersham Express, there has been a whirlwind of activity and events in the village, all with their own unique special moments to remember and cherish. So much so, there was simply not enough hours in the day to produce an issue last month, for which I sincerely apologise.

Old School Wood Gets a New Sign

Back in late August, a beautiful new sign appeared in the "Old School Wood", this was dedicated at a special open air service. During which we learned about all the money the children who regularly attend our Family Service have raised; especially by one in particular, our very own Super Star - **Barnaby Palmer**. All the proceeds from his garden produce and Fair Trade stall have raised a fantastic amount of money for the 'Kids for Kids' charity. This charity helps deprived children in the Sudan; working to provide long term, self-sustainable projects in the remote Northern Darfur region. Our children themselves chose from a selection to provide a donkey, several sets of goats, and even a donkey drawn ambulance. 🐾



VERY WELL DONE TO YOU ALL. YOU ARE A GREAT CREDIT AND AN EXAMPLE TO US ALL.



The beautiful new sign has been made for us by the '**Rowan Foundation**'. This Cambridge based group was set up in 1984 to provide high quality training and work experience for adults with learning disabilities. Right from the original conception they have successfully challenged the mistaken view that a learning disability automatically precludes people contributing work of a high standard and our sign is clearly a beacon of this achievement. The group have established a fine reputation for unique wood and ceramic art. *Can you identify all the 'natural' jigsaw pieces that make up this new Hildersham treasure?* 🐾

Hildersham & Balsham Churches Cross-Country 'Horse' Ride

Halfway through an extremely busy September, it was time for the 25th Anniversary of the Hildersham & Balsham Churches Sponsored Cross-Country '**Horse**' ride. There is a tremendous amount of hard work that goes into this event, with a great deal of it being carried out behind the scenes by both villages. As always, there are far too many people to mention by name, however I would like to highlight just a few Hildersham people who for many years have worked very hard right throughout the year. They are Ride Committee members, **Gerald Franklin**, **Robin Meikle**, **Neil Morton**, **David Price** and **Phil Wise**, (& bear in mind that this year a lot of the course building took place in torrential rain) and not forgetting Gerald's daughter **Rachel Clay** for all her organisational skills.

The day started traditionally at 8am with Holy Communion out on the field. Shortly afterwards, with just a few minutes to spare, with their usual dexterity and skill the Course Management team, rerouted the course. This proved to be necessary as the Ride Marshals carrying out their last minute checks, had stumbled across in full swing, a 500 strong illegal Rave in Borley Woods, near Linton.

However despite this, the ride began on time and was officially started by **Anne** and **Chris Whitworth**, who along with **Diane Arkwright** had come up with the original concept for the charity ride back in 1981.

264 riders were counted through the starting gate and the overcast weather was apparently the perfect riding conditions and all the riders reported that it had been a truly



wonderful day. Interestingly, the rider wearing number one, is another star of our committee; **Joanne Harrison**, who not only managed to successfully complete the course, but at the same time, she also managed to conduct a live radio interview via her mobile phone, with **Ray Clark** on his Sunday morning Radio Cambridgeshire show.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone else who made this day such a resounding success, it would appear that we will finally have approximately **£5600** to distribute evenly between the two churches and our third nominated third charity the **East Anglian Air Ambulance**. 🇺🇰

Hildersham's Harvest Festival Weekender



However, if you thought that the above weekend had been busy, it was just the warm-up event for the marathon weekender that followed. As normal the resilient Hildersham parishioners regrouped and by the following Friday night the church was groaning at the seams, resplendent with all the fruit and garden produce for the Harvest Festival.

Before that though, on a gloriously sunny Saturday afternoon, the church was packed with family, friends and

neighbours for the marriage of **Suzanne Jamieson** and **Darren Andrews**. Not only was this the union of two young hearts, but the bonding of two nations, both with very different cultures and heritage; poignantly seen as the Union Jack and the Canadian Maple Leaf serenely fluttered side by side outside the Pear Tree.

This was followed by a wonderful and now traditional Hildersham evening in the old Red Barn with the **'Blooming Hildersham Barn Dance & Hog Roast'**. Everyone had a great time, with all our colonial cousins joining in, yet, by the end of the night, although the long wedding frocks had survived, the high heels had long gone, to be replaced with trainers or simply bare feet.

Again it is what goes on behind the scenes that always amazes me; because promptly by 10.30am the next morning, the members of the **'Hildersham in Bloom'** team were sitting in their places for the Harvest Festival, most of them desperately trying to catch their breath, having lost count of the number of costume changes that had been necessary so far this weekend, [as they had all had a very early start cleaning up the barn from the night before]. Then to round off a wonderful weekend and very busy, but truly special and memorable September, we quietly gathered together later that Sunday evening for a 'Bring and Share' Harvest Supper. 🇺🇰



October has been a somewhat quieter month from a Hildersham point of view, while elsewhere in the county there has been a gradual build up to the Grande Finale of the 60th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War (see enclosed insert).

Cross Country Runner - Amy Rouse

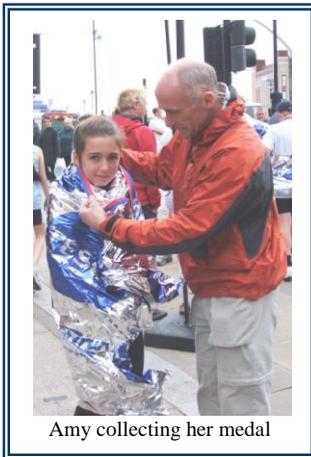
*Our second unsung super star is Cross-Country Runner **Amy Rouse**; she started running when she was only eight & a half years old, after recovering from a spinal injury. She began her training in September 2003 and competed in her first cross-country event at Ryston nr Downham Market*

in October that year, right from the start she began winning her age group events, a distance of 800 metres for U9s, this winning streak carried on through out this 2003 season.

*She was spotted by a National Talent Scout and for the 2004 summer season was snapped up by the **St Edmund Pacers** at Bury. Her first event with them, was at Woodbridge in Suffolk, where despite being still only 9 years old, she competed in the 1 mile U10 road race, which she convincingly won. During the summer of 2004, she took part in the - Friday 5 - series of races, again she won all five races in the U10 & U11 categories. This season was completed with the 5km - Race for Life - event at Nowton Park, Bury St Edmunds; remarkably, she completed this distance in 29 minutes, at the same time raising 150 pounds for Cancer Research.*

During the 2004/2005 winter season, it became obvious that Amy far out shone her tender years and competing in her own age group, would not be any sort of a challenge for her. So still aged 9 she regularly competed against eleven year olds. This meant running twice the normal age group distance, no longer 800 metres, but regularly 2km. Despite this she battled hard, and was always amongst the front-runners, and finished well in all her races.

During this 2005 summer, Amy has had a very busy time, competing in the 4.8 mile Sawston Run, winning the U12 girls category, finishing in a stunning 37 minutes. She also won the U12 - 2.5 mile X-country race at the Magog Downs. Which was also followed by several other road races wins.



Amy collecting her medal

*Amy also helped Abington Primary School win the overall prize in the Fun Run, being the first girl home and amazingly, she has also represented South Cambridgeshire playing **Rugby** at the Heart of East Youth Games in June.*

In September, Amy travelled up to Newcastle to take part in the Great North Run. Despite the strong head wind, she ran the 3.3kms in a remarkable 17 minutes, finishing 354th out of 2000, most of them much older than young Amy.

What a tremendously bright future our brave super-star Amy has - the 2012 Olympic Games in London may just be a little too soon for Amy, but I am sure that one day we will all be cheering for her, as she stands on the winners rostrum, this time wrapped in a Union Jack and clutching a coveted Gold Medal.

If you or your child have a great story to tell your fellow parishioners, please send it to me & I will include it as well 🐾

HILDERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 14TH SEPTEMBER 2005

Sadly in August, after only a very brief period in the job, Julia Alexander, the Parish Clerk that only recently had taken over from Pat Genochio, had to resign for personal reasons. Very kindly, Pat Genochio stepped into the breach and acted as the Minute Secretary at the September meeting. Also there to see how the local administration works in Hildersham, was **PAULA HARPER**. Paula is currently the Parish Clerk for Great Abington and has very kindly agreed to take on Hildersham as well, as part of her portfolio of Parish Councils. This is quite a common practice amongst the smaller Cambridgeshire parishes, with some parish clerks looking after up to three villages.

Whilst on the subject of Hildersham Parish Council membership, May 2006 is once again local election time. So please have a long think over the winter months, as to whether you would like to put your name forward as a Parish Councillor. The normal period of office is for three years, with the option to stand for re-election again if you so desire. Many of your friends and neighbours have served at one time or another and we owe them all a great debt of gratitude. So if you would like to be part of the team that works so hard on your behalf keeping the village looking as pristine and

working as well as possible, please keep a look out for the Nomination Notices in the spring, as it could be your ideas and your input that could make all the difference to Hildersham's future.

As the Parish Council had been without a Parish Clerk for several weeks, the September meeting was very much a stopgap affair. There is therefore very little to report from a Parish Council point of view, except for the ongoing discussions about the grass verges and the continuing car parking dilemma. However, both the District and County Councillors had some very interesting news to report.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT – COUNCILLOR JOHN BATCHELOR:

A1307 HILDERSHAM JUNCTION: Councillor Batchelor reported that since the last meeting, plans had been drawn up for the proposed safety improvements at the A1307 right turn into Hildersham (see enclosed proposed plan). Councillor Batchelor repeated his previous assertions that currently no funding would be forthcoming from the County Council and that the estimated cost of these proposals was £125,000. Councillor Batchelor outlined that the proposals would make it far safer for vehicles to turn right into the village. When vehicles approach from the Cambridge direction, they would use a modified version of the existing feeder lane, whilst when approaching from the Linton direction, there would be a new feeder lane constructed, with all traffic entering the north side entrance and all traffic exiting at the south side exit. In addition to this, two small central reservation islands would be built that would allow pedestrians the opportunity to wait halfway, as they crossed the road.

The Parish Council agreed that the plans should be pursued. Whilst there is no prospect of County Council funding, as part of the Granta Park Phase Two development, the developers have to allocate £350,000 to upgrade the surrounding villages infrastructure; as this new development is bound to increase the traffic density on the A1307, Councillor Batchelor agreed to put in a bid on our behalf for the £125,000 needed to fund this scheme.

Many Thanks John for all your hard work as both a District & County Councillor

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT – COUNCILLOR JOAN SMITH:

A) S.C.D.C. CAPPING: Councillor Smith reported that the government capping will cost SCDC £2.5 million in both staff cuts and loss of vital services, whilst the rate payers will only benefit from a 90p per week reduction. See the SCDC website for a press release issued on 13th October 2005:

www.scams.gov.uk

B) LINTON COMMUNITY SWIMMING POOL: Councillor Smith reported that plans for a Linton Swimming Pool were well advanced and they are now looking for strong local support and outside funding of up to £1 million. [NB: this is a completely separate project to the one proposed and rejected, a few years ago at the Village College]

C) LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE: Councillor Smith reported that Mr Clive Bush was leaving at the end of the term and that a new Warden would be appointed by the end of September.

VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT:

TABLES & CHAIRS: We have so far bought 10 new tables and 20 new chairs. 14 of the chairs have been paid for by sponsorship. This is excellent news and will enable us to buy some more.

So far, no-one has asked to have a plaque on the back detailing their sponsorship, in a way this is also great news, because this opens the door to all sorts of possibilities: - if the £30 is too much for one family to pay, why not get your neighbours on each side of you join together and sponsor a chair between you for just £10 each. Everyone at sometime or other uses the village hall, so it is in every one's interest that we replace all the old chairs as soon as possible. 🐾

OUR VICTORIAN ROAD BRIDGE:

How much did the Hildersham Road Bridge cost when it was originally built in 1886?

This was the question I posed in the last edition, well the answer is actually £500, quite a lot of money in those days. The project was supervised by **SAMUEL CONDER'S BUILDING & CARPENTRY FIRM**, utilising ironwork made by the village blacksmith **AMBROSE ROBERT REDHOUSE**, also using cast iron sections made at the famous **HEADLY IRON FOUNDRY** in Mill Road, Cambridge.

The bridge was paid for by **ELIZABETH HEMINGTON-GOODWIN**, she was the elder sister of the **REVD ROBERT GOODWIN** and by this time she was 80 years old; having been a very wealthy widow for over 50 years, she was very used to getting her own way.

However, just like our own Prime Minister today, in her last remaining years she was desperately trying to cement her legacy and how she would be remembered by historian's. For not only was the bridge being built in 1886, but also the Church Wall paintings were in their final planning stages with Charles Alban Buckler, & Clayton & Bell, all being paid for by Elizabeth's money.

I think Elizabeth would be kind enough to regard me as one of these historian's, and I know she will have a wry smile on her face, as she watches me write this account of her life. For the more I have learned about this incredible lady, the more I have developed a great admiration for her eccentricity, her enduring passion, her limitless enthusiasm and sheer determination, she wasn't one to wait for the painfully slow wheels of local democracy to work, she would often bypass this and go directly to the person that she knew would get the job done. She was though a stickler for detail, if a job was worth doing, it was worth doing well or not at all. Yet at heart she was a true Hildersham girl and she did an amazing amount of good work behind the scenes for the village and provided a great deal of money for the welfare of its residents.

I will leave the story of her connection with the building of the new Cambridge Botanic Garden for another day, however if we stay with the bridge area for the moment and think back – Life was much quieter in the Victorian era, with far less traffic on the roads. So the Goodwin's like most other well-to-do Church Goers would love to linger in their carriages on the road bridge and take in the 'Vista' or view as they looked down the river. However, Elizabeth was never very happy

with the view when the bridge was first built; so when a few years later the opportunity arose during the drawing up of the 'Enclosure Award' for Hildersham, she managed to get the straightening of the river as it passed through the centre of the village, included in the plans [enacted in April 1889]. This photograph is obviously not taken at Hildersham, but is of the right period and shows the great effort and the number of men employed to satisfy an old lady's whim. Although again she provided the



money for the project, it raised all sorts of complicated land ownership issues surrounding the new river course, these are all catered for in the very detailed maps and award documents.

Our road bridge will next year have its 120th anniversary, and while taking some photographs recently for a magazine article, one could not help but notice that it is in need of some tender care and maintenance. Both downstream retaining walls have had their top few layers of bricks and capping stones pushed forward and have ruptured spilling parts of the brickwork into the river. This has been caused by the roots of two separate trees. The County Council have been made aware of this problem by Councillor Batchelor and the remedial work is already planned.

When you take a closer look around it is amazing at the number of trees, many quite immature in years, that in a very bad storm, have the potential to cause quite a lot of chaos in the village. In the Bridge Copses and the Ford approach area in general, the Telephone Cables and Power lines are surrounded by many over hanging branches. With a harsh winter forecasted, perhaps these trees at the Bridge are our warning sign to put our house in order, and get the area around our vital services secured before the main winter storms set in!

THOMAS BUTTELL – NORWICH GOLDSMITH

Archbishop Parker, a Norwich man, issued a general order for the conversion of chalices, but his request was only passed on verbally and it wasn't until 1561, when Bishop Parkhurst of Norwich published an injunction that all '**Profane Cups, Bowls, Dishes or Chalices hitherto used at Mass**' were to be replaced by '**a Decent Communion Cup**'.

The implementation of Bishop Parkhurst's injunction of 1561 provided Norwich Goldsmith's with a great deal of work and explains why there are so many Chalices dated approximately around this time. At the time, there were eight goldsmiths at work in the city. Thomas Buttell, whose mark was a 'Flat-Fish', was one of the group.

Goldsmiths' marks were not used in Norwich until 1565, in that year it was ordered that every goldsmith should stamp his wares with his mark before submitting them for Assay at Goldsmiths' Hall, if the standard of silver reached the required content the City Marks were then added as well.

Thomas Buttell, although not a Warden, was a prolific maker, and a total of forty-two cups and six covers bear his mark in Norfolk churches. The Wardens of the Goldsmiths' Company of London [Searchers'] made periodic visits to provincial centres of the craft in a supervisory capacity, but by what authority is not clear. On one such visit to Norwich in 1568, they "**Took the Oaths**" of six Norwich Goldsmiths and tested plate found in their workshops. On the premises of Thomas Buttell, they found several pieces of plate below standard and confiscated them. He was also fined by the London Goldsmiths' Searchers for '**Miss-Working**'. The exact entry in their minute book reads: -

"Brake vii Communion Cups with iiij Covers, all White, found in the hands of Thomas Buttell of Norwich, then Workynge in Cambridge"

Thomas Buttell's reputation was in tatters, so in 1568 he left Norwich for Cambridge in search of better times. On his arrival in Cambridge, Thomas Buttell set up business making Church Plate servicing churches in Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, and Northamptonshire. Twenty-seven pieces of Church Plate bear his mark in Cambridgeshire Churches; all bearing dates from 1569 to 1570.

As stated before Thomas Buttell's mark was a flat fish in an oval. The fish is a "**But**" and the mark is a rebus on the first syllable of Buttell's name. He was probably descended of an old Ipswich family of Goldsmiths' with that name and he became a freeman presumably by purchase in 1564. This is one of the few occasions that a rebus mark can be linked with certainty to a Goldsmith, as in November 1569, the London Goldsmiths' Searchers reported in the minute book at Goldsmiths' Hall that Thomas Buttell of Norwich was found working at Cambridge and where he was again fined 20s for defective Communion Cups and Covers.



Flatfish Mark on Hildersham Chalice

Thomas sold his wares at the famous Stourbridge Fair, where all the local dignitaries and clergy would come to look at what was on offer. It was here again in 1570, that he had another brush with the law, when the trading standards of the day obviously clued up to his previous convictions, caught him again trying to sell Silver which was not the correct standard or measure; he was charged, and caught red-handed he confessed and his '**Touch**' was confirmed to be **Sight Penny Weights Short**.

One of his 1569 Communion Cups and Covers is held here at Holy Trinity Church, Hildersham. This wonderful example of his work is cherished by the Hildersham Parishioners, and it is has been used lovingly every Sunday for over the last 1436 years, which means that roughly 1415 gallons of wine have passed the lips of roughly 1,292,400 communicant sips - since it was brand new !!!!

HILDERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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If you have any thoughts or comments on any of these issues, you are more than welcome to raise them at the next Parish Council Meeting taking place at

7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2005

**FOR HILDERSHAM EXPRESS
ADVERTISING OR EDITORIAL ISSUES**

Please phone 01223 892430 or e-mail: a.westwoodbate@btinternet.com

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