



Kettlestone & Pensthorpe Parish News February 2024

We welcome articles for the newsletter, including village news and photos, historical articles, welcoming new villagers, details of village organisations, village activities etc. Send to:

kettlestonepc@googlemail.com by 25th of preceding month.

Kettlestone Parish website: <https://kettlestoneparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

Summary of Dates

- Fri 9 Feb 7pm Talk on the *Hillside Animal Sanctuary*
- Wed 14 Feb 2 pm Games and Crafts afternoon
- Fri 23 Feb 7 pm Talk by Adrian Vaughan on the origins of the Lynn and Fakenham railway
- Thurs 7 Mar 7 pm 'Zeppelins Over Norfolk'
- Fri 15 Mar 7pm Musical Evening with John & Mary
- Mon 18 Mar 7:30 pm Parish Council Meeting
- Fri 19 April The Shock of the Old with Terence Blacker

Kettlestone Parish Council

Contact details: **Clerk** Joanna Otte, Little Manor, Thursford Rd, Little Snoring, NR21 0JN

Tel: 01328 822366; kettlestonepc@googlemail.com

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on **Monday 18 March at 7:30 pm**. All welcome to attend.

Parish Councillors:

David Head 878455, Trevor Hoad 822101, Robert Kilbourn (Chair) 316830, James Kilpatrick 878214, Barbara Wyvill (Vice-Chair) 878790. Two vacancies.

Litter Picking

I would like to thank the unsung heroes who have been collecting litter on a regular basis throughout the year, on our roads leading into Kettlestone and the village itself. You all know who you are, so on behalf of the residents, Thank You.

Sadly this is an ongoing situation which requires some action by myself every two to three weeks. The plan for this year is the same format whereby I will be contacting individuals to help out as and when necessary.

Thanks for all your support in 2023.

John Waterston, Litter Warden

All Saints Church

Services: www.achurchnearyou.com

100 CLUB December

1st Martyn Proffit; 2nd Lily Coubrough; 3rd Sandra Rhodes; Christmas Bonus: Tony Little

Many thanks to everybody who has paid their subscriptions so promptly. Much appreciated. There are still a few that haven't renewed their membership. A gentle reminder if you still want to be members please could you pay. I hate asking for money! New members are more than welcome. Just contact me on 01328 822394 and I will sort it. Many thanks, *Angie Waterston*

Ørsted: Abnormal Load Movements

As part of the work to prepare for the installation of the Hornsea Three onshore cable, equipment and materials will be transported between the Port of Boston and Oulton (part of the route is along the A148). It is anticipated that there will be up to six abnormal loads a week between 12 February to December, during core working hours 7am – 6pm (Mon – Fri) and 7am – 1 pm (Sat). Some of the deliveries require large specialised vehicles (abnormal loads) and on smaller roads these require a 15 minute rolling closure to ensure the safety of workforce and public. For more information email community@hornsea3.co.uk or tel: 0800 1582354. *More information from Ørsted can be viewed on the parish council website (see address in heading).*

KETTLESTONE HISTORY GROUP

'ZEPPELINS OVER NORFOLK'

A talk by Norfolk Historian Steve Smith

Thursday 7 March at 7 pm in Kettlestone Village Hall.

FREE ADMISSION

MURDER AT CLIPSTONE

Mary Hardy of Letheringsett (1733–1809) was the wife of a Norfolk farmer, maltster and brewer. From 1773 until her death, she kept a diary detailing the working and social life of the times. Her writing covered a range of topics - family and home, farming, brewing and running public houses.

A brief diary entry by Mary from 1792 reads:-

'Went to see William Anthony that is hung in chains on Kettlestone Common'

Following execution, bodies not given to anatomists were transported back to be suspended in a gibbet cage near the scene of the crime and locals would turn out to view the grim spectacle. 'Hanging in chains' was fairly rare and in Norfolk between 1700 and 1830 only 12 incidents are recorded.

William Anthony, who was born at Croxton in 1759, was executed at Castle Hill Norwich having been found guilty of the murder of **Sarah Cusher**. She was born in Kettlestone to James and Frances Cusher and was baptised in All Saints Church in 1768. In 1792, she was probably working as a servant at Clipstone House when she became pregnant, presumably by William Anthony. In early January 1792 he gave Sarah a herbal poison to induce an abortion. Unfortunately, she died and he was arrested for her murder. Following a brief trial in Norwich on March 16th 1792, he was found guilty and was executed on 24th March 1792. Subsequently his body

was gibbeted and he was transported back to be hung on Kettlestone Common.

HANGING IN CHAINS

Although 'hanging in chains' was practised prior to 1751, a parliamentary act was passed in that year "for better preventing the horrid crime of murder". This ordered that the bodies of those executed for murder could not be buried unless they had first been either given to anatomists for dissection, or "hung in chains." Hanging in chains, also called gibbeting, involved placing the dead body inside a gibbet cage and suspending it from a high post. When a man was sentenced to hang in chains, it was the responsibility of the sheriff to make arrangements for the erection of a gibbet pole at a suitable location, and for the manufacture of a gibbet cage. Gibbets were made for a single criminal and were not normally reused. A gibbeted criminal would be exhibited close to the scene of crime and could remain in his gibbet for many decades, so reuse was not practical. Where possible, the condemned man was measured for his set of irons before execution. Hanging in chains was an expensive business. The cost of gibbeting and transporting William Anthony's body was £10. This is equivalent to about £1800 in today's money. Sarah Cusher was buried in Kettlestone churchyard on 16th January 1792.

Bridget Fielden

Kettlestone Village Hall News

The New Year Quiz proved to be very popular with 6 teams from Kettlestone and Little Snoring competing for the much coveted trophy and a bottle of wine! Jane got us all thinking on a variety of subjects. It was a close run thing in the end and congratulations to the worthy winners.

- 9 Feb 7pm: talk on the Hillside Animal Sanctuary. Mandy Foster will be giving an insight into the incredible work of the West Runton Farm both in rescuing a wide range maltreated or abandoned animals and the undercover investigations into the intensive farming industry. No charge but donations on the night would be appreciated.
- 23 Feb 7pm: talk by Adrian Vaughan on the Origins and Demise of the Lyn and Fakenham Railway. Adrian is a leading expert on railways and, in particular, the history of Norfolk Railways. Free entry with donations at the end to support the talk and the Village Hall.

Other dates for the diary

- 15 March 7pm: A varied musical evening of Country, Blues, Gospel and Folk with Joe and Mary who regularly perform at the Running Horse in Fakenham and come highly recommended. Tickets on sale at the door. £10 members, £12 non-members, £5 for under 16s.
- 19 April The Shock of the Old- 'a hilarious and spirit-lifting new show presented by song writer and author Terence Blacker on the art of ageing in style'. This is a Creative Arts East sponsored event. Tickets £10 members, £12 non members
- The next games and craft afternoon will be on St Valentines Day Wed 14 February 2pm. *Corinne*

Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editor or of Kettlestone Parish Council.

Stop Wailing and Start Valuing!

Since the ban on commercial whaling in 1982, whale populations are slowly recovering. The ban came about mainly for economic reasons, but also because of activism by those who valued whales for other reasons – these charismatic megafauna are admired for their beauty, their majestic size, and for their songs – a 1970 LP, 'The Songs of the Humpback Whale' was a surprising hit. The whales didn't receive royalties, but their plaintive calls were great PR for their cause.

One controversial concept in the economics of climate change is the idea of valuing 'natural capital' and the 'ecosystem services' nature provides for humans. In this way of thinking, nature has value to humans and this value can be quantified, monetarised. Whales' oil use to provide fuel for lighting. Although replaced for this purpose by oil from drilling in the earth, whales were still valuable to hunters for their baleen (used in corsets), and their meat (for food, much of it for pets). In the 20th Century, whaling became increasingly regulated, but numbers continued to decline, threatening the extinction of some species.

But whale tourism is now a valuable industry, bringing jobs and money to many remote coastal areas. It provides whale-watchers with profound experiences, and the awe of seeing such giant creatures in their natural environments can help change

attitudes to nature's creatures, valuing them for what they *are* rather than for what they could become if killed and processed.

But whales are today not just economically and aesthetically valuable to humans, they also play key roles in the oceans' environments, moving nutrients from deep waters to surface waters through 'buoyant faecal plumes' which enables more (carbon-capturing) phytoplankton growth, and, after death, their carcasses sink to the ocean floor, supporting complex ecosystems and capturing carbon, albeit temporarily.

So, what is a whale worth? Some people think this is a stupid, even damaging, question: by thinking only 'what is in it for us?', we devalue its intrinsic worth – nature is not there for our benefit and we are a part of nature, so we cannot speak of the value of a whale, it is literally nonsense.

Others, while recognising these objections, point to the practical benefits, in a market economy, of placing monetary value on nature because it reminds us of how much we depend on it and how much trouble we are in as we degrade it. We should value nature because it is beautiful to our senses, but also because it is useful to us. This will help us to preserve and enhance it. The whales are returning to our oceans and the earth will be a better place.

Climate and Environment Group

