

SOUTHREPPS MARDLER

ISSUE 29 - 2025

Autumn & Winter edition



“THE OWL’S CRY IS
THE VOICE OF THE
FIELDS WHEN ALL
ELSE SLEEPS.”

Tangier

9 June 2025



“3 dollars each for a short tour of the Medina? Festival of Ibrahim & Isaac for 3 days, today day 3, but most places shut. Never mind, I take you to 2 places I know, nice things for you to see, and customary tea and hospitality. I take very slow for Mrs Mariam”.

Having taken the shuttle bus into the centre, we were latched firmly onto by a guide before our feet were off the steps. Taken in hand, we proceeded downhill, through one of the 13 gates, now permanently open, and into the medina warren – past a fruit shop flogging large, and I mean very large, green figs, and even some we were more familiar with. We meandered down further, left, then right, deeper into the maze, totally reliant now on the guide “our friend”. He proudly drew attention to all the modern wooden doors that since Covid the Government had installed, to make the place look better. He dismissed our protest against removing the character of the old doors – “No, much better”!

Finally we were ushered into a large, well stocked ‘emporium’, full of local stuff – ceramics, carvings, carpets, leather goods, jewellery, silver etc. This was clearly where he would pick up some commission if we bought. Intro’s all round, elderly statesman in his 70’s, English & French, usual effusive approach. We looked around, liked the blue & white plates, & the silver bracelets. Then came the mint tea, very hot, very minty, and surprisingly refreshing.

So, we chose a plate & a bracelet, took advantage of the local facilities, which by this time was much needed. Then the bargaining began – he far too high, - we much too low, -he came down, - we go up a bit, -still too low, - we walk away, thanking for the tea!

Friendly guide sees his commission disappearing and hurries over waving hands – proposes a compromise price, which we all accept – they think much too low – that drooped shoulder, head down dejected look – we still think we are being taken for a ride! We all part with friendly handshakes & good wishes for long & prosperous lives.

Friendly guide seemed relieved & we pressed on to his next outlet where, to his obvious relief we were happier to buy, argon oil, this & that, various spices – things that we almost needed. We tipped him for getting us back safely to the bus, but also for the memorable experience we knew from the outset, we were letting ourselves in for!

Malcolm Hilson

Chairman's Corner

Since its inception in 1992 with such familiar names as Hazel Glaister, Sue Arnold and Elizabeth Bailey, and with the backing of the Parochial Church Council, the Southrepps Support Scheme has provided wide ranging benefits to the village community. These have included e.g. welcome leaflets, voluntary car lifts, medical equipment loans, monthly lunches for the elderly, and publication of The Mardler.

32 years on the SSS has now run its course, hit hardest when Covid put a stop to the popular lunches, which had provided most of its income. The trustees and committee recently concluded that it was time to close the charity. As provided for in the Constitution, the balance of funds have been transferred for charitable

purpose, to the Parish Council, to be ring-fenced and put towards the much needed refurbishment of the Village Hall decking, but also to continue the now annual publication of The Mardler. Trustees felt that putting these funds to use like this, would be giving long term benefit back to the community, including to the two charities that use the Village Hall weekly.

A huge vote of thanks is due to all those volunteers who have helped the SSS over the years.

Moving on, I wonder if the 20 mph pinch points have made a difference to speeding through the village? I'm not sure. The busy village shop does provide another restriction mid-way, but there are still some fast moving vehicles rushing through. I have to say that I really have to concentrate to keep to 20 mph. Modern vehicles seem to slip very quickly up to 25 or 30 mph!

Dare I say that it is good to see that the bollards have remained intact for some time. Fingers crossed!

Malcolm Hilson



Autumn colours at RHS, Harlow Carr, near Harrogate during a recent visit, including of course, tea and a Yorkshire 'fat rascal' at Betty's!

Southrepps Parish Council

CAR PARKING AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Work should commence imminently on the cutting back of the vegetation at the Village Hall car park. It is hoped that this will encourage users to park in a more formal manner therefore, allowing additional vehicles to use the space when accessing the Village Hall.

Over the year we have been monitoring vehicles which have been deposited at the location for long periods of time. This has caused additional work for the Council as we need to ensure that this area does not become a graveyard for end of life vehicles. The car park is continually monitored for these type of vehicles and the owners and Police are contacted to ensure that they are removed. Every car that is left in situ for long periods of time deprives others of the use of the facility. It also discourages bookings to the village hall which are vital for its continual survival.

20 MPH ZONE

We have noted the number of accidents at the build out exiting the village towards Thorpe Market. This is being closely monitored and Highways are aware of the various scenarios for the accidents. There is further signage to be installed and we are waiting action from the Highways Department.

SAM2

The Council regularly downloads the speeds for analysis and as required requests the Police to complete speed checks. We have applied for a new SAM3 from NCC via the Parish Partnership Scheme to enhance and reinforce the speed limit within the village.

THE PLAYING FIELD

We would like to thank members of the public for reporting any issues to the Council which they consider a problem at the Playing Field. The Council endeavours to address these matters extremely promptly. The play equipment is inspected every year by a RoSPA qualified assessor and the report forwarded to the Council for consideration and to make financial allowances for future repairs.

DOG BAG DISPENSER

We are pleased that the initial excitement for the provision of dog bags at the playing field has dissipated. We now seem to have a natural pattern of use which allows for better provision for everyone.

PERIMETER FENCE AND ENCLOSURE TO TODDLER AREA

The Council has now replaced the fencing and we hope that you all consider that it has enhanced and upgraded the area.

LOWER SOUTHREPPS

The Council has replaced and installed a new bench located at Lower Southrepps as the incumbent unit had become beyond repair and lifespan.

DEFIBRILLATORS

The Council has adopted the defibrillators within the Village from the Southrepps Support Scheme. Volunteers still manage the units however, the cost and insurance is covered by the community.

SOUTHREPPS IS A CONSERVATION AREA

The Council has installed an additional matching bench at The Green, Long Lane as requested. It is positive to see it is well used especially in the summer months by the community.

We lobbied Highways for a new sign to warn drivers of pedestrians at the junction of RB20 and the Thorpe Road and this has recently been installed.

The Council worked in conjunction with the Bowls Club to upgrade their electric supply. We engaged with Highways to improve the drainage along the footpath to the play area and this is observed on an ongoing basis.

We were proactive in the restoration of the bench outside of the Church as it had decayed over the years. We would like to thank a local resident for re-instating the concrete plinth. The cost for carpentry work was covered by the Council as it is a great place to sit and rest.

The Council agreed a £500 contribution to the Church towards the upkeep and maintenance of the area. Members are considering a yearly contribution of £1,000 towards this continuous cost.

The Council took over the responsibility for the grass cutting of the urban/amenity areas within the village at agreed locations. This has allowed the Parish Council to determine when it considers the grass should be cut by the appointed contractors. We have agreed to refrain cutting of the peninsula area which abuts Sandy Lane into the High Street as this will be left for biodiversity and wildflowers. However, if this area hinders visual splay and access then, it will need to be trimmed down.

GLASS BOTTLE BANK INCOME

£960.69 costs £342.00 – net £618.69

Please put all glass into the bottle banks located at the playing field and opposite the school. We understand it is an extra effort however, every bottle contributes funds to your community. Thank you to all who do.

If you have any other ideas that you consider the Council could develop please do let us know.

The Council now has its separate website: southreppspc.wix.com which is linked to www.southrepps.info.

2026 MEETING DATES – will be published on the website and noticeboards

The next dates are November 5th and December 10th at the Village Hall commencing at 6.30pm

SOUTHREPPS PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Lesley Sparrow – Chair,

Roger Swift – Vice Chair,

Louise Marriner,

Chris Shaw,

Graham McCabe,

Louis de Soissons,

Fiona Hall

Clerk to Council – Elaine Pugh

Raynham House, 10 New Road, North Walsham, Norfolk NR28 9DF

Telephone: 01692 402998

Email:

Clerk.Southrepps@gmail.com

Events at the Church



**Services 2025 in St. James Church,
Southrepps**

Table Top Sale plus tea and cake
Sat 22 Nov 10am - 12.30pm

Chorale Concert -
Sat 6 Dec:- 7.30 pm

Church Services:- Carol Service-
Thu 18 Dec - 6.30 pm

Christingle

Wed 24 Dec:- 4.00 pm

Christmas Day Service:-
Thu 25 Dec:- 9.30 am

The dates for services are displayed on the notice board outside the church and also inside the porch.



Everyone Welcome.

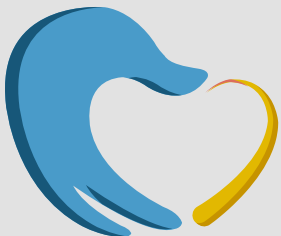


*Come for a
Cuppa*

Why not drop into
Ruggs Hall, St James Church
for Tea & Cake

This is a monthly event held on the last Wednesday of every month from 2:30pm.

Come and chat and enjoy a cup of tea and homemade cake.



NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB

**On 1st Wednesday of the month
between 10-12pm**

**Ruggs Hall - St James Church
Southrepps**

**We look forward to seeing you for a cuppa
and a chat**

We provide all sorts of toiletries for all the family including baby products, various household products and non perishable food items to choose from.

Any donations gratefully received.

Look forward to seeing you

Bet, Jayne, Betty and Pam

St. James Church



This year we have had some very successful fundraising events in church. We began on Saturday January 25th with a Table Top sale with tea and cakes served in Ruggs Hall. We were lucky to have good weather for it and people seemed to enjoy looking around and getting out at a quiet time of the year.

On Saturday May 3rd we opened the tower and served scones, tea and cakes again. This was part of the **V.E. Day Celebrations** so we had the flags and bunting out to decorate the church for the occasion. There was also a display of photographs and memorabilia from the Second World War.

Rose booked the church on Saturday August 16th to raise money for Breast Cancer Charities.

We opened the tower again on Saturday September 13th accompanied by the serving of tea and cakes. It started to rain at the end of the tower opening but we had been lucky to have good weather in May and September for people going up the tower. On both days visitors enjoyed the wonderful views from the top.

Thank you to everyone who baked cakes, served teas or manned the tower on those days. We are very grateful for your help and are always looking for more volunteers.

If you can help with any fundraising please contact

Anna De Soissons on 01263 833718 or

Carol Needham on 01263 579357.

We are pleased that Ruggs Hall is also used on the first Wednesday in every month from 10.00 - 12.00 for **"Neighbourhood Hub"** organised by Bet and Jayne. On the last Wednesday of the month it hosts **"Come for a Cuppa"** at 2.30 pm run by Carol Needham.

The church is a wonderful venue for concerts and this year Southrepps Chorale performed on Friday April 11th and Sunday July 6th. The Classical Music Festival took place between Monday July 28th and Sunday August 3rd. These celebrations of music were greatly enjoyed and we look forward to hosting them in church again.

Next year the Classical Music Festival is from Monday July 27th to Sunday August 2nd.



Southrepps Society

The Southrepps Society is now in it's 47th year!

As usual we have had a varied programme of speakers, walks and outings.

Since the last Mardler report , we have enjoyed a Bring and Share Christmas Supper in December 2024 with a festive quiz.

For the first meeting of 2025, member Michael Giddings told us about the history of Dragon Hall, the mediaeval Merchant's Hall, in Norwich where he helps as a volunteer.

28 members attended the AGM in February with food of course!

At the beginning of March, several members helped to tidy up the old Chapel Yard which belongs to the Society. Later in the month 21 members carried out a litter pick throughout the village followed by delicious refreshments in the Village Hall. Our speaker in March was Debs Chedghey from the village who, with a colleague, told us about the incredible work of Norfolk Lowland Search and Rescue. In April historian and author Helen Murray gave a talk on "Fishermen, Bathers and Beach Folk" – photos of the early development of Cromer into a seaside resort.

At the beginning of May, we staged a small exhibition of photos and items relating to WW2 to commemorate VE Day. At the end of the month we had our first walk of the year at Sheringham Park on a beautiful evening.

In June 14 members made a trip to Dragon Hall with a guided tour by Michael. 32 members attended the annual Barbecue at the Village Hall. Instead of our usual walk in July we had a private visit to Cromer Museum

and a brief historical tour of Cromer on a very stormy evening.

For our first autumn meeting at the end of September, we welcomed Dr. Tim Willey who owns part of Warren Woods in Lower Street. He told us how he was trying to renew the landscape of the woods to make them more sustainable and wildlife friendly. He promised to organise a visit to the woods in the spring. We are looking forward to a talk by artist Jayne Ivimey in October and a talk on the Battle of the Somme in November.

Visitors are always welcome. There is no membership fee but everyone pays a small entry fee each visit. If you would like regular reminders of meetings, please let me have your email address.

We now have our own website – southreppshistory.org.uk.

Carol Needham - secretary
Tel: 834242



Southrepps History Hub



We hold the History Hub on the second Thursday of the month at the village hall between 2pm and 4pm. It is open to everyone and completely free. Here you can access the physical records we hold, join us for a cup of tea and help us piece together the village history.

The website has been running for just over a year and in that time we have had almost three and a half thousand visitors. Were you one of them? If not, please give us a look. If you want to know about the history of the village, its people, buildings, organisations, and groups and its general history, here is a good place to start. You can subscribe for FREE so that each time we post new material you will get an alert. Don't worry, it's only about once a month. You can help too. We have a project to record all the houses in the village with an introduction about the road they are on. Please send us a photograph of your house and anything you know about it no matter how old or new it is. This project is allowing us to fill in many gaps in our knowledge of the village, for instance did you know one of the first recipients of the RNLI bronze medal retired here and that his family still live and work in and around the area? Did you

know that some of our buildings have Tudor remnants?

Pay your respects to the men and women from the village who served during the First World War and learn their stories. Chris Shaw is in the process of charting the village and its people in the Second World War. Can you help?

Our motto is "Today is Tomorrow's History". We are looking for photographs, accounts and reminiscences of village events as they happen today.

If you would like to join us writing content for the website, or helping to digitalise the physical records, you will be very welcome.

Please contact us via the website, by emailing us at **southreppshistory@gmail.com** or come into The Hub.

2nd Thursday of the month @ Village Hall 2pm - 4pm
The History Website <https://southreppshistory.org.uk/>

A Tribute Cross for “The Southrepps Boys” was placed in the memorial garden at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire.

The annual Remembrance Service was held at St James' Church at 1045 on Sunday 9 November. A short Armistice Day service was held at the War Memorial on Tuesday 11 November. Wreaths were laid, including those for US Sgt Edward Mire, and at the Cross at Signal Corner, on Remembrance Avenue.

Branch membership continues to fall, and it is now difficult to raise enough funds to pay for wreaths. The Branch is grateful to those who already chip in, but would welcome more contributions towards wreaths, to keep this going.

Malcolm Hilson, Branch Secretary.



Malcolm Hilson - 01263 833327

Lower Southrepps Social Club



Looking for a friendly place to unwind?

The Lower Southrepps Social Club offers a spacious clubroom, complete with a full-size snooker table for members to enjoy. Every Tuesday, join us for indoor bowls from 2pm to 5pm—perfect for a relaxed afternoon of fun.

Membership is just £5 per year, renewed in January, giving you access to all our facilities.

Please note, parking is limited in

the small car park opposite the club. Come along and see what we're all about!

Location

Lower Southrepps Social club
NR11 8UL

What3words://

episode.recliner.simulates
Rear of The Willows

Contact

Jeff & Maureen Millington
01263 834128
07518 805143
Jeffmo5@btinternet.com



Remembering our Southrepps friends

Losing family, friends, and familiar faces is one of life's tougher chapters. Yet in a village like ours, memories travel far beyond the moment — they linger in conversations, traditions, and the quiet ways people shape our days without us even noticing.

This page is dedicated to celebrating the lives of some of our Southrepps friends we sadly said goodbye to this year. Their stories, kindness, and quirks remain part of our village fabric, and we honour them with gratitude and affection.

Stephen & Liz Richards

The tragic story surrounding these two good people is beyond comprehension. The crowded church at both Lizzy's funeral in February and at Stephen's in September was testament to the wide ranging contributions they had made to village life and beyond. Lizzy had for some years put out the chatty weekly bulletin for the Benefice, and provided a pictorial history of local events; Stephen initiated and directed the Southrepps Chorale, and was a model Church Warden for many years. Their absence is already being widely felt.



Derick Grey

A good old Norfolk boy, died aged 90 in January.

He lived most of his life in Southrepps, had countless amusing local anecdotes, loved the village and the Church. He was a master craftsman, responsible for the fine oak woodwork at the West end of St James' Church. He was also an expert and generous wood turner. His other passions were Shackletons and Bell Ringing. With a long and respected ringing record to be proud of, he even made demanding new bell wheels when the church bells were overhauled and enhanced in the 1980's. A full church saw him off. We miss him, his experience, and his gentle humour.



A vibrant graphic for a bingo night event. At the top center is a blue bingo card with the word 'BINGO' in large white letters. Below it, the numbers 1, 12, 21, 31, 42 are in the first row, and 5, 14, and 14 are in the second row. Surrounding the card are several bingo balls: a black ball with the number 8, a red ball with the number 13, a green ball with the number 14, and a purple ball. There are also yellow stars, a green banknote, and a gold coin. The word 'BINGO' is written in large, bold, yellow capital letters, and 'Night' is written in a white cursive script below it.

BINGO *Night*

**5th December, 2025
7pm start**

 **SOUTHREPPS VILLAGE HALL**

Get ready for an exciting evening of bingo and community spirit! Bring your own nibbles and drinks, and settle in for a night full of fun and prizes for our lucky winners.

**RESERVE
YOUR SEATS**



Point your phone's camera at the QR code to book. Or go to:
www.southrepps.online/svhevents

Doors open at 6pm –
Bingo starts at 7pm



SOUTHREPPS VILLAGE HALL

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 278536

David Pemberton - Chairman

As another year draws to a close, we can reflect on another positive year for the Village Hall.

Once again we have seen the hall being used consistently for a variety of events, as well as our regular bookings. In fact we are in the fortunate position that the hall is used virtually every week day by different support groups, clubs and local charities - thank you to all those who continue to keep the hall bustling. That is not to say we don't have space to host your next event though! Please remember us for your next birthday, anniversary or wedding celebrations!

This year has had a focus on maintenance. Those that have visited the hall recently will notice the main hall has received a freshen up, with a new, more modern colour scheme which is more in keeping with the decoration of the hallway and toilets. Thank you to **Nigel Sims** who has put in a great deal of effort with this decoration and various other jobs around the hall throughout the year.

Moving forward our next major project is the decking area outside the main hall which leads to the recreation ground. This space is attractive to those who have events in the hall, especially in the summer months, so we want this to remain a usable space. In recent months though, we have had to make regular repairs as

the wood has aged. Unfortunately, it is now at the stage of needing a complete replacement. This is a time consuming and costly process, but thanks to recent kind donations it looks like the project can finally launch. Please bear with us during this time and refrain from going on the decking area as it isn't safe.

The Village Hall Committee is a small group that work to keep the hall operational. We are always looking for new members to assist us with this, so please do make contact if you are interested. Thank you to all our members for their help throughout the year, with a special thanks to Ken Walters who looks after the purse strings and Shelley, who looks after everything else!

The Village Hall hopes to hold more events going forward such as quiz nights and bingo. As a charity we rely on hall rental and fundraising to maintain funds, so thank you for your continued support into 2026.

David Pemberton
Chair Southrepps Village Hall
Committee.

Thank you for your continuing support.

CONTACT southreppsvillagehall@gmail.com

07920 583773

southrepps.online/villagehall

www.southrepps.online



@southreppscommunity
@southreppschorale
@southreppsvillagehall



@southreppsvillage

Southrepps Christmas Craft Fayre

Southrepps Village Hall
Sunday Nov 30th
10am to 2pm
Tea & Coffee
Bacon Butties

Craft Stalls
Tombola
Bric-a-brac
Home made cakes



Kids,
meet Santa in his
Grotto.
From 11am till 1pm



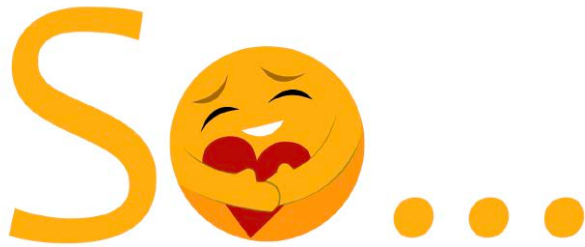
Music
provided by
NNUKES

Raffle with Great prizes
including:
Meal for 2 at the Vernon Arms
Bird Bingo Game
Tesco Gift Voucher

Raising funds for



Supporting younger people
with dementia and their
carer partners



Hello, this has been another busy year for myself and the Charity. We have had more people coming to our support groups, new faces from our local area as well as people from as far as GT Yarmouth.

So... is a Registered Charity No. 1201322

As a Support group we aim to help people with early onset dementia or the early stages of dementia. Having representatives from The Alzheimer's Society and Admiral nurses visit us regularly enriches our discussions with expert knowledge. We also provide in-depth advice about Legal Power of Attorney, Financial advice, Assistive technology and much more. But beyond expert advice, our core mission is to provide a friendly and understanding environment. We recognise that sometimes, it's just as important to have a shoulder to lean on — someone who truly understands what you are going through. At our meetings, people will find a community ready to empathise and support, to share stories, and to cultivate friendships that can last beyond the coffee cups.

Away from the Charity I have been busy working with Dementia UK to try and improve the NHS pathway for people with dementia and to try and bring help more into rural areas and less centralised. This has involved a lot of emails to MP's and time talking to the people who will eventually make a decision. Progress is slow, but the realisation of how many people are affected by dementia is turning the tide in our favour.

Finally, a big thank you to all our If anyone would like any further information about any of the above, please get in touch by either **email dirckgeary@sodotdotdot.org.uk or phone 01263 833397.**



LAMS MS Society

A group that has been running for nearly 20 years needs your help. We meet at Southrepps Village Hall every Monday and 10:00 am until 3pm.

The members attend every week and really enjoy seeing and interacting with each other.

As time has passed, we have lost or are losing a number of our volunteers. Can you offer some time and support on a Monday?

Whatever time you have free, would be much appreciated.

Multiple Sclerosis is a progressive neurological condition, which can make life very hard for them.

Please think about it.

If you are able to offer some support with a little of your time on a Monday, please contact Sue Wright on `mob: 07951 928583.

If you have MS, why not come along and take a look. We are a friendly bunch and would be happy to see you

**WE DESPERATELY
NEED MORE
VOLUNTEERS**

Sue Wright-07951 928583

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Roman Blinds, Bed Covers and More...

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Southrepps Village Hall

Fri 21st Nov 11am - 2pm

Sat 6th Dec 11am - 2pm

Sat 20th Dec 11am - 2pm



www.dottyscakesnorfolk.co.uk



Stephen J Seekings

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Norfolk NR11 8UX

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Mob: 07786 137165
stephenseekings@gmail.com

SOUTHREPPS WEBSITE
WWW.SOUTHREPPS.ONLINE

Southrepps Bowls Club

CONTACT Dave Gollop

01263 833657



We produced a booklet about the history of the club this year to record its story for future generations. Able to date it back as far as 1838 means there are 187 years of village life and families that have enjoyed bowls at Southrepps.

Ladies weren't allowed to join until 1971 and it was a big turning point for the club when they could. Husband's wives joined them and a more sociable calendar followed with cheese and wine and coffee mornings. More matches were played amongst the members rather than just league games, and a few ladies joined on their own to get involved with a sport.

Southrepps Bowls club has always been looked after by its members. We cut the green, and tend to the garden, look after the clubhouse, pavilion and toilets. We have a small committee that oversees the general running of the club. Probably all mucking in to look after it helps us to be such a friendly, enthusiastic group of people. Of course we love to bowl too. Please don't think its just for old people! It is an incredibly clever game with tactics and challenges. There is a skill to delivering a really good bowl.

We currently play in two leagues, and we think we have done quite well in both this year. We

have roll ups during the week amongst ourselves and special matches such as The Presidents Cup and President v Chairman Trophy. Although our outdoor bowls season is April to September, we do use our clubhouse throughout the winter for table tennis, pool, table football and a Dutch game called Sjoelbak. It is good to get together socially throughout the year when the weather isn't so good.

We managed to get our footpath accessing the green and clubhouse replaced, making us more disability friendly and raised money to get a defibrillator fitted. Virtually the whole club turned up for CPR training.

It was so nice to welcome in the Summer the Southrepps dementia 'SO' group for a bowl, we all had a great time together.

We are keen to welcome new members to our bowls club. The game of bowls is becoming more popular again and in 2026 will be in the commonwealth games, we may not be up to their standard, but everyone needs to start somewhere! All ages are welcome. Author Gill Cartwright. Please contact our Chairman Dave Gollop on 01263 833657 or 07850 463387 for further information.

There are only 7 copies of the booklet left at £5 each, if you would like one you can email Gill Cartwright on gill.cartwright1@btopenworld.com.





Christmas SLEIGH TOUR

SANTA TOUR

UPPER SOUTHREPPS

Thursday 18th December
starts tour around 5:30pm

LOWER SOUTHREPPS / LOWER STREET

Friday 19th December
starts tour around 5:30pm

We will be doing a charity collection - all donations greatly received

CAROLS ROUND THE TREE

Sat 20th of December

Lower Street - 5:30pm then The Vernon Arms. 6:15pm

Come and join us for Carols, mince pies,
mulled wine and presents for the children



Southrepps Mini Market

Sells all the essentials you need
and is a busy and friendly shop.

Great deals regularly, any questions
just ask.

Opening Hours

Monday to Saturday 7am to 7pm

Sunday 7am to 1pm

Lorraine Geary
Personal Home Care

My Services

- + Respite Care
- + Dementia Care
- + Elderly Care
- + Companionship
- + Chaperone Service
- + Medication Administration

Promoting Independence
In Your Own Home.

Medically trained and experienced in caring
For a friendly chat phone 07443 955 749
lorraine_hughes@btinternet.com

Nacho – Southrepps' Very Own Superstar

Every village has a character, but Southrepps truly struck gold with Nacho — the friendliest, most well-travelled cat in Norfolk. His daily wanderings take him from home to both pubs (The Vernon Arms and The Suffield Arms— he refuses to pick sides), with regular stop-offs at the shop and any house that happens to have an open door... or a promising-looking lap.

Nacho isn't shy. If you're within patting distance, he'll make sure you know he's available for cuddles. He has personally tested most of the village's pavements, pubs, gardens, and living rooms for comfort — a dedicated professional, really.

And his fame is now officially out of hand. One villager visiting their father in hospital in Leicester discovered that the nurse already knew Nacho from Facebook, local news... and even **BBC Radio 1's Breakfast**, where he featured at 8.45am to the delight of sleepy listeners across the country.

He's been in fans' cars, appeared in countless photos, and receives a steady stream of stories from people he's "visited" (or gently adopted for 20 minutes).

So if you spot him on his rounds, feel free to say hello — chances are **you will** get a cuddle. After all, Southrepps is his playground, and we're all just lucky enough to share it with him.

Laurie Scott - 16 October

"Well, it says they're OPEN but they don't seem to want to let me in!"

— at Southrepps Mini Market.

Chris Posthumus - 26 July

We would like to go in please Nacho

Claire Hawkes - 9 August

Went out to try and take some photos of the beautiful moon and this guy decided to come too. He stayed the whole time in the field with us then walked home with us! (Although still not allowed in.)

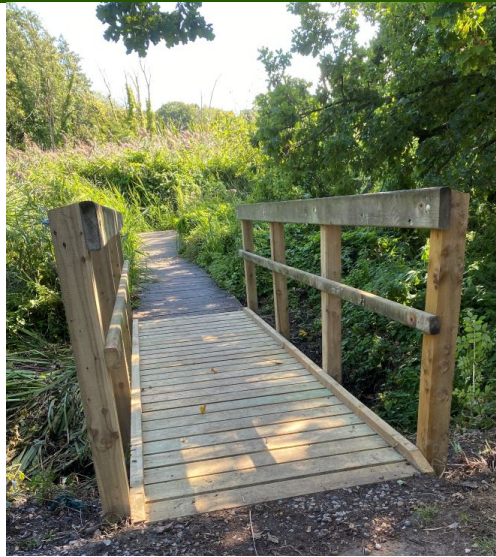


**Follow Nacho on his Facebook page
"The Nacho Appreciation Group"**

Southrepps Commons

It's hardly surprising that after many years of sitting on saturated ground, parts of the main boardwalk across the Common are deteriorating. The Norfolk Wildlife Trust is gradually replacing it, concentrating on the worst sections, including the bridge over the Beck at the Lower Street car park. The main work season for us volunteers starts with the mowing of the central area of the Common – the bit where so many ecologically important wet fen plants grow. It's a major reason for the designation of the place as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and is constantly monitored. Encroaching reeds are a problem, so a combination of mowing and hand pulling is used to prevent them from overwhelming the rarer species. An important plant here is Marsh Lousewort, which parasitises grasses, sedges and rushes, thereby keeping them in check. It is a pink-flowered relative of yellow rattle which parasitises grasses.

Once that section is done, we move on to the Warren Road side of Fox's Beck. This is divided into two sections by the boardwalk, being alternately cut every other year. This year it's been the turn of the half nearest Lower Street, although the top of the other half has also had attention as it too is becoming overrun by reeds.



Once those two areas are done, work on the main reedbeds is scheduled for the New year, so that usually leaves us time before Christmas to work on Pit Common and School Common. (There are of course five Southrepps Commons in total.)

Most of our work is restricted to the autumn and winter, leaving the place undisturbed as much as possible during the all-important breeding and growing season. We do however have to carefully go in after the aggressively invasive Himalayan

Balsam during the summer, to endeavour to prevent it from spreading, if not eliminate it.

It's tempting fate to say it, but we're usually lucky with the weather. However, even if we usually evade the rain, the consequence of it is waterlogged ground, and last December's sole outing was no exception. Wellies are essential: sometimes full diving gear seems preferable! Regardless of the weather we also have lots of sociable fun!

In 2024 we averaged 13 people per work party, and in total we put in 641 volunteer hours on NWT's behalf. We're always looking for new volunteers, especially those who want to learn to use the equipment: you can contact us on email via scommonsvolunteers@gmail.com if you fancy joining us, or simply turn up at one of our sessions, which are advertised at the Information Point at the Lower Street end of the boardwalk. Also there is a whiteboard for people to share their sightings: these are collated and sent to NWT for monitoring purposes. In 2024 we sent in 527 records, representing 128 different species; mostly birds and plants, but with a smattering of other wildlife.

For much more detail on our activities, our blog at <https://southreppscommonsvolunteers.blogspot.com/> provides a light-hearted and profusely illustrated account of each working party. Why not take a look?



A Wonderful Start to the Year at Antingham and Southrepps Primary School and Nursery

It's been an exciting start to the school year at Antingham and Southrepps Primary School and Nursery! We've loved welcoming back our children and staff after the summer break, along with introducing some exciting new topics across the school. With a range of sporting events, trips and activities planned, there's so much for our pupils to look forward to this year.

As always, Christmas promises to be a magical time at Antingham and Southrepps. Our calendar is already full of festive fun, including one very special event — Carols on the Lawn. On Thursday 11th December, our Key Stage 2 children will be performing carols in front of the school, and we warmly invite members of our local community to join us for a festive sing-along. There'll be mince pies and hot chocolate available, so do come along and share in the seasonal spirit! Keep an eye out for further details closer to the date.

We're also delighted to welcome Catherine Ogle, our new Executive Headteacher, and Sian Gowland, our new Executive Deputy Headteacher, who both joined us in September. They bring with them a wealth of experience, energy and enthusiasm to help our school continue to thrive.

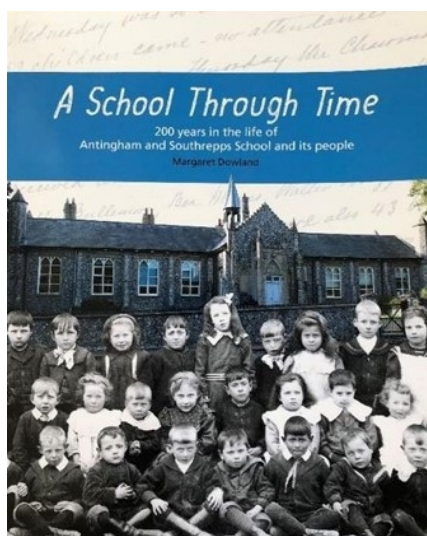
Looking ahead, we're especially excited about celebrating our 200-year anniversary. Plans are already underway for a series of events to mark this incredible milestone — a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our



ANTINGHAM AND
SOUTHREPPS
PRIMARY SCHOOL
AND NURSERY

school's history and the strong community that surrounds it.

At Antingham and Southrepps, we're proud to be at the heart of our village, and we look forward to sharing another joyful and inspiring year together.



History of the school

Margaret Dowland, a retired nurse, who lives a stone's throw from the school in Lower Street, has written a book called "A School Through Time" after becoming fascinated with its history while she was a governor here from 2007-2012.



Contact

Antingham and Southrepps Primary
School & Nursery
Lower Street
Southrepps
Norfolk NR11 8UG

Telephone: [01263 833282](tel:01263833282)

Email:
office@antinghamsouthrepps.org.uk

Executive Headteacher Mrs Catherine
Ogle
Chair of Governors: Mr Tom Robinson

For all enquiries please contact Mrs
Lynne Flatman in the office

Neighbourhood Hub

As many of you know, our next and final Neighbourhood Hub of the year will take place on **3rd December, 10.00–12.00.**

To help support our New Year Hub in January — when a little extra help can make a big difference — we'll be running a Christmas Raffle to raise funds for essential food supplies for anyone who needs them.

We continue to provide food in the porch at St James' Church, Southrepps, and donations are always welcome. As this Hub falls close to Christmas, festive items such as mince pies, Christmas puddings, chocolates, sweets, or any seasonal treats would be greatly appreciated. They will all find a good home within the community.

The raffle already has numerous lovely prizes, including a generous **£30 gift voucher donated by Paul and Debbie at The Vernon Arms**. Raffle tickets will be on sale in The Vernon on selected days.

A huge thank-you to everyone who donates, supports, or simply turns up. Whether you come to meet new friends, enjoy a tea or coffee, have a chat, or take what you need from the food table — you are always welcome. The atmosphere is warm, friendly, and full of laughter, and it's the people who make it special.

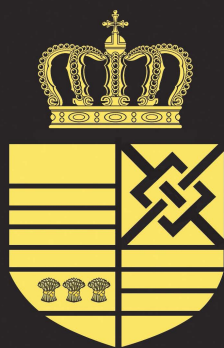
Many thanks,
Jayne, Bet, Pam, Claire & Betty xxx

On 1st Wednesday of the month between 10-12pm

**Ruggs Hall - St James Church
Southrepps**

We look forward to seeing you for a cuppa and a chat





Vernon Arms

The fire will be roaring and local food and ale served as we welcome guests to celebrate Christmas 2025.

Our Festive Menu will be available from Tuesday 2 December through to Tuesday 24 December, offering a selection of traditional seasonal dishes prepared with locally sourced ingredients. Early booking is recommended for those wishing to join us for their Christmas gatherings.

An Evening With Bob will be back playing on Sunday the 14th at 3:30pm.

We will be having carols in the pub on the 16th of December kicking off at 8pm.

NEW YEARS EVE To round off the year, we will be hosting a special New Year's Eve celebration with live music from The Aviators with optional fancy dress. Guests can look forward to an evening of great entertainment, food, and company as we welcome in 2026 together.

For reservations or further information, please call 01263 833355 or visit us at the bar.

Please note that The Vernon Arms will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day to allow our team time to celebrate with their families. Normal service will resume on the 27th.

We would like to thank all for their support in 2025 and wish you all a Merry Christmas from all the team.

01263 833355

info@vernonarms.com



Homemade soup GFA	7.50 Large 8.50
Spiced butternut squash soup served with a crusty roll and butter	
Garlic tiger prawns GFA	9.50 Large 12.95
Served with crusty bread and salad	
Deep fried Brie wedges	8.95
Served with cranberry sauce and mixed salad	
Royal Greenland prawn salad GFA	9.50
Royal Greenland prawns in a Marie Rose sauce with granary bread and butter	
Stilton and walnut pâté GFA	8.95
Stilton, cream cheese and walnut pâté with toast	
Chilli nacho's GFA	8.95
Topped with melted Cheddar cheese	

Homemade Desserts

Ice cream GFA	2.75 a scoop
Chocolate, vanilla, caramel and honeycomb, mint choc chip	
Sorbet GFA	2.95 a scoop
Mango, lemon, raspberry	
Christmas pudding GFA	8.95
With brandy butter and cream	
Cheesecake	8.95
Dark chocolate and Baileys cheesecake	
Sponge pudding GFA	8.95
Apple, syrup and ginger sponge, served with custard	
Black Forest trifle GFA	8.95
Chocolate and cherry trifle	
Bread and Butter pudding	8.95
Chocolate and hazelnut B&B pudding served with cream	
Clementine posset GFA	8.95
Served with cranberry compote and amaretti biscuits	

Drinks and Side orders

Mains

Roast Norfolk Turkey GFA	18.95
Roast Turkey, pigs in blankets, sage and chestnut stuffing, roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables, homemade cranberry sauce and gravy	
Vernon Arms Black and tan pie	20.95
Beef, Guinness and ale pie served with chips and minted mushy peas or fresh vegetables and new potatoes	
Chicken pie	20.95
Chicken, leek and ham pie served with chips and minted mushy peas or fresh vegetables and new potatoes	
Chilli con carne or vegetable chilli GFA VE	17.95
Served with rice and garlic bread	
Wholetail Scampi and chips	17.95
Served with homemade minted mushy peas and tartare sauce	
Pork steak GFA	19.95
Oven roasted pork steak topped red onion marmalade and Stilton served with fresh vegetables and creamy mashed potato	
8oz Aberdeen Angus sirloin GFA	26.95
Served with sautéed mushrooms, griddled tomato and chips	
Local Venison steak GFA	20.95
Served with sautéed mushrooms, griddled tomato and chips	
Garlic butter or peppercorn sauce GFA	3.50
Salmon fillet GFA	21.95
Oven baked fillet of salmon with a lemon and asparagus butter, fresh vegetables and new potatoes	
Seafood platter GFA	20.95
Platter of smoked mackerel and horseradish mousse, smoked salmon, Royal Greenland prawns in Marie Rose sauce and scampi served with salad and granary bread and butter	
Vegan curry GFA VE	17.95
Spinach and chickpea curry with rice, mango chutney and poppadom	
Festive nut roast GFA	17.95
Nut roast served with seasonal vegetables, roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding and vegetable gravy	

Burgers

Our beef and venison burgers are homemade with British beef/local venison and served with salad, chips and coleslaw

Plain Jane GFA	15.95
Vernon arms homemade burger	
The Traditional GFA	17.95
Vernon arms homemade beef burger topped with melted Cheddar or Stilton cheese	
Surf and Turf GFA	18.95
Vernon arms homemade beef burger topped with North Atlantic prawns in Marie Rose sauce	
Venison Burger GFA	18.95
Homemade from local venison and topped with red onion marmalade	

Please inform a member of staff to any allergies or intolerances you have

GFA = Gluten free or adaptable VE = Vegan



OPENING HOURS

Monday - Closed
Tuesday - 12-11pm
Wednesday - 12-11pm
Thursday - 12-11pm
Friday - 12-11pm
Saturday - 12-11pm
Sunday - 12-9pm
Lunch served 12-2 Tuesday-Sunday
Evening meals served 6-9 Tuesday-Saturday



Christmas in Southrepps

Friday 5th Dec: - Bingo Night

Southrepps Village Hall - Doors open 6pm - Starts at 7pm

Sunday 8 Dec: Christmas Craft Fair

Southrepps Village Hall - 10:00am – 4:00pm.

Tuesday 16 Dec: Carols in the Vernon

Vernon Arms - 7:30pm (ish)

Wednesday 17 Dec: Carole Service

St James Church, Southrepps at 6.30pm

Thursday 18 Dec: Santa's Christmas Sleigh Ride

Through Upper Southrepps approx 5pm – 6:30pm.

Thursday 18 Dec: Carol Service

St James Church – 6:30pm.

Friday 19 Dec: Santa's Christmas Sleigh Ride

Through Lower Street, Southrepps approx 5pm – 6:30pm.

Saturday 20 Dec: Santa's Christmas Carols round the Trees

Lower Street - 5:30pm then The Vernon Arms.6:15pm

Tuesday 24 Dec: Christingle

St James Church - 4pm

Thursday 25 Dec: Christmas Day Service

St James Church - 9:30am

