

DAFFODILS WAITING TO SPRING OPEN

SOUTH ELMHAM COMMUNITY NEWS

Issue No. 234

APRIL - MAY 2023

HOMERSFIELD CORONATION LUNCH ST MARGARET S.E CORONATION LUNCH

ST JAMES CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

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SOUTH ELMHAM COMMUNITY NEWS

April - May 2023

Editor:

Phillip Kidner, Red House Farm, St Margaret South Elmham, Harleston, Norfolk, IP20 0PJ, Tel: 01986 782289

Treasurer:

Jess Rawlin, White House, Margaret South Elmham, Harleston, Norfolk, IP20 0PJ, Tel: 01986 783891

Village Representatives:

Homersfield	Sarah Day	01986 788905
		sarahday7@hotmail.com
Flixton	Peter Madder-Smith	01986 896828
St Peter	Tim & Carol Maycock	01986 782296
St Margaret	Phillip Kidner	01986 782289
St James	Lynda Bradley	01986 782582
St Cross	Libby French Mullen	01986 782230
	Ian Noakes	01986 782292

Thank you to those who send contributions, they help keep this magazine going and FREE to over 400 households.

NEXT COPY DEADLINE MAY 7TH

The views and comments printed herein are not necessarily the views of the Editor or this publication

EDITORAL

There's a District and Parish election on May 4th, which for the first time you will need photo identification, this can be passport, photo drivers licence, basically any I.D, that has a photo likeness of you, without this, you will be unable to vote. This is a nasty fact of life, unfortunately trust has gone, you cannot believe anything you see or hear. Scam is the 'BUZZ' word. This sorry situation has come about from Election fraud, no longer is your voting card good enough. On its own or that the teller knows you, you need photo I.D.

GPC www.flixton.onesuffolk.net

The Grouped Parish Council of Flixton, St Cross & St Margaret South Elmham met at St Margaret S.E Village Hall on Monday 9th January. Matters discussed included Flixton Pedestrian crossing and Speed camera signs,

GPC continued...

additional money for these had been provided from the budgets of District Councillor Cloke and District Councillor Richie. This is now in the hands of Suffolk Highways. St Margaret S.E electricity program is finished, Cllr Warne is pursuing the Lake Path reopening. Next Meeting 14th May AGM Flixton Village Hall 7.30pm

ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS - ALL WELCOME

St Margaret S.E 3rd April, 7.30pm, St Margaret Village Hall

St Cross 11th April, 7.30pm, Batemans barn Flixton 18th April, 7.30pm, Flixton Village Hall

MOLE

Well, we didn't get February 'fill dyke' probably one of the driest we've had. Maybe March will make up the water deficit. I gather on a trip to the slopes, a former Rally driver ventured off snow onto road with an unfortunate result, he stopped suddenly and fell over.

Congratulations to St Margaret S.E residents David and Tracey Page who celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary what an occasion, very rare in these times. They didn't keep it to themselves, they invited people from far and wide, to celebrate the occasion, with a big party where David and Tracey gave a dance display, after which I don't think Tracey stopped dancing all night. The Horse Race night, with the going good to hard on the Alfie Day course, 6 races were run, keeping the Tote busy as well as Charlotte who was in charge of the runners. Thank you to our sponsors for their support. The last St Margaret Quiz of the season was won by Greenside. Down at Flixton Rev Leon Collyer was licensed as Rector of the Saints benefice by the Bishop, as well as Lay members.

FROM THE TRACTOR CAB

The weather is being typically British all four seasons in a day. Although it has been dry and cold predominately. The Snowdrops came out, lovely to see, with the false Spring, then the temperatures dropped to below freezing, now the snowdrops have gone but in the wings are the daffodils waiting to open their blooms. Primroses can be seen on the ditch banks, an odd bush has buds out. The cock pheasant has all his finery on display as he herds his collection of hens around.





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From the tractor cab continued...

There are a few geese and ducks paired ready to nest. On a sunny day flies and even an odd butterfly can be seen. Spring is coming.

ST MARGARET S.E DIARY

25th MARCH Litter Pick meet at Village hall at 2pm

3rd APRIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

all welcome village hall, 7.30pm

7th APRIL EASTER TRAIL starts at village hall

11am - 2pm. Teas, cakes

13th APRIL Annual Parish Church meeting, Village Hall, 2pm

8th MAY CORONATION LUNCH 12.00pm-2pm

Bring food to share and your drink, teas etc will be

available, entertainment, raffle and Cake. Come and join in at the VILLAGE HALL

10th June South Elmham & District Flower and produce

show in the hall

17th June Village BBQ on the ALFIE DAY GREEN 6pm

30th June COUNTRYSIDE EVENING

Beck Valley 6pm-8pm

1st July CLASSIC VEHICLE EVENT, Beck Valley

24th September Harvest Lunch, VILLAGE HALL

3/4th December CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL, Church

10th December Christmas Lunch, 12.00-12.30pm, VILLAGE Hall

ST PETER

After being lulled into believing Spring was arriving the overcoats are out again. Hopefully by the time you read this the cold snap will be over and we can start thinking about barbecues again. (To be fair, I'm usually thinking about barbecues)

We can now reveal that the date is now confirmed for the 9th running of our popular fun boules tournament after a 3 year break. It will take place on Sunday 23rd July at Ilketshall St Andrew village hall. It is open to all ages and all abilities are welcome. You don't even need to know the rules! All you need is a team of four to play. The event lasts all day with games played in leagues in the morning and in the afternoon, teams play a knockout competition.



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St Peter continued....

The best teams play for the cup and the not so lucky teams play for the plate, so you will all get plenty of games. There will be food and drink available and the village hall bar will be open.

Details have already been sent out to those who have entered or shown interest before and it seems there is pent up demand for boules as entries have been flooding in, so don't delay if you are thinking of entering, as entries are capped and there are no entries allowed on the day. This really is a fun day out so why not give it a try. Entry forms are available from tim.maycock@btinternet.com or 01986 782296.

Excitement is beginning to mount as we approach the annual bric-a-brac stall outside St Peters Cottage, next to the church. This year's shopping frenzy will be on Saturday 20th May between 10am and 3pm. Early attendance is advised to avoid disappointment. All proceeds for St Peters Church. Pamela is happy to accept donations now so get rummaging.

The litter pick organised by our parish council has been enthusiastically adopted. It is a shame it is necessary to clean up litter, some of it pretty unpleasant, thoughtlessly discarded. I know that some villagers already clean up bits they find when walking but well done to our parish councillor for galvanising the rest of us into action.

The 49 club was won by the church in February as the number is not issued. Catherine won in March. Numbers still available from Pamela

It is now a year since I handed over the reins of the St Peter's News to a guest contributor for an edition as I was away. An international incident was narrowly avoided on that occasion and so if anyone would like to have a guest spot, or indeed take over please don't be shy.

ST MARY'S CHURCH, HOMERSFIELD

Quiz – St Margaret's Village Hall – Saturday 13th May 2023 at 7.30pm Please come and enjoy a quiz in aid of St Mary's Church, Homersfield. The quiz is being held in St Margaret's village hall on Saturday 13th May 2023 at 7.30pm. The cost is £7 a person, which includes a cheese and biscuit snack part way through the evening. Please bring your own drinks. There will be a raffle. Book your table by emailing lucyhammond600@gmail.com or phoning 01986 788600 (teams of up to 6).



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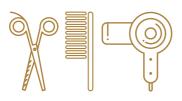


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Homersfield continues...

MONTHLY WALKS

Our monthly walks will be on Wednesday 5th April and Wednesday 3rd May. We meet in the church car park at 10am and everyone is welcome (including friendly dogs). The pace is steady (not too fast) and the length of walk around $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles with a welcome hot beverage in the church afterwards.

Having a clear out?

Please think of us if you are having a clear out of books or other items that can be added to the church stall in the porch and in readiness for our stall at the Black Swan fete in August. Items can be left with Sally at 9 Glebe Cottages, Homersfield, or Lucy at Mill Cottage, Homersfield or Jo at 46 Low Road, Wortwell. If it helps for us to collect, we can do so. Please contact Sally on 01986 788947.

59 Club Winner

Lucky number 7 has just won a prize of £168 on the church 59 club. It would be fantastic if more people could take part (cost £5 a month with half being used for prizes). Please contact Tom Holdridge on 01986 788169 or email tomholdridge.th@gmail.com if you would like to join in. You do not need to live in Homersfield – in fact several of our members don't.

AGM

The annual church parishioners AGM (jointly with St Cross) is on Tuesday 11th April 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Homersfield. Do come along if you are interested in St Mary's or St George's church. You would be most welcome. Thank you

CORONATION BIG LUNCH

Come and celebrate the Coronation with neighbours by joining in with the Coronation Big Lunch on Sunday 7th May 2023.

It will be held in the churchyard (or inside the church if raining) from 12 midday to 2pm. Please bring some food to share. Tea and coffee will be available. We will bring the village chairs, but if you have a table and chairs that are easy to transport, they would be gratefully received (please bring them up that morning). Or indeed, any marquees that are easy to transport and erect. Any offers to help would be gratefully received. Please contact Jo Westgate on 01986 788996.

Monthly Flower Arranging Workshops

First Tuesday of the month 10.00am until 3.00pm

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Homersfield continued...

This is a joint event with Homersfield Parochial Church Council. It would be wonderful if lots of people could join in with celebrating this historic occasion. You are welcome to wear red, white and blue or maybe a crown, or just come as you are. Bring any visiting family or friends – everyone is welcome.

BUS SHELTER

Many of you will have noticed the vandalism of our village bus shelter. Over the next month or so, it will be repaired by two volunteers, with the materials being funded by a grant from Suffolk County Councillor, Judy Cloke's Locality Budget. It goes without saying how sad it is that someone thinks it is OK to damage property belonging to our village and which is needed by local school children.

PHONE BOX DISPLAYS

If anyone would like to do a display in the phone box about something historical, geographical or perhaps nature related, we would be glad to hear from you.

MEETING DATES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Our next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 16th May 2023 at 6pm. Meeting dates/agendas etc can be found on the village notice board and on the website, http://homersfield.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/. If you wish to contact the Parish Council, please phone or email our clerk, Sally Chapman, on 07774 734411 - Email: homersfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com. Please be aware that she is employed part time so you may need to leave a message.

HOMERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Helping Mark Timms, the voluntary tree warden for Church woods, is a small band of volunteers. This winter we partially cleared sycamores, dead and damaged trees on the slope facing SW. This means invertebrates could warm up on that area and have a more suitable habitat for hunting and breeding. It will be interesting to note and record the changes. Six new hazel trees have been planted on the slope to give some cover. We

will check the trees planted over a year ago to see how many succeeded despite the drought and soaring temperatures last summer. The dead ones will be removed and counted to replant next winter. Look out for autumn work party dates in later issues.

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Church Services

Rev Leon Collyer 01986 781345

19/03/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St John
	Evening Prayer	4.00pm	Homersfield
26/03/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St James
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	St Margaret SE
02/04/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St Michael
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	Ilk St Margaret
09/04/23	Easter Sunday Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 4.00pm	Flixton Rumburgh
16/04/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	Homersfield
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	Ilk St John
23/04/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St Margarets SE
30/04/23	Holy Communion	9.30am	St Cross
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	St Lawrence
07/05/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	Ilk St Margaret
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	St Peter
14/05/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	Rumburgh
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	Flixton
21/05/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St John
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	Homersfield
28/05/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St James
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	St Margaret SE

WELCOME SPRING!

It's so nice to see the daffodils again,
Standing up proudly against the wind and the rain,
At last spring is just around the corner,
The days are longer and slightly warmer,
Let's hope The Beast From The East doesn't find his way back
And that Covid 19 doesn't launch another attack.

David and Tracey had a 'right good do',
They really do know how to party those two,
They're still looking good 40 years on,
And Tracey can 'out dance' the youngsters all night long.

We're so lucky to have grown up around here,
And friends made back then will always remain dear,
What a great way to spend our childhoods,
Our playgrounds were the fields, streams and woods,
We had no boundaries out there in the wild,
But each one of us benefited from being a 'part feral' child.

Sally (Homersfields Pam Ayes) Remblance

TIME TO GET WALKING AGAIN!

With Spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks? Walking in Suffolk https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/suffolk has loads of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Suffolk (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'. With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris www.walkinginengland.co.uk john@walkinginengland.co.uk Homersfield continued...

cover other costs.

Can you help Homersfield Community Project? The History

In October 2012 the Parochial Church Council of St Mary's Church, Homersfield announced that it was going to apply for the church to be made redundant. This was because congregations had dwindled to virtually nothing, the bank account was nearly empty and the church was in a poor state of repair including large cracks in the tower. Churches are not supported with any funding from the Church of England and, in fact, need to pay a Parish Share each year to support having a Rector and

Several people in the village were upset by this announcement and called a meeting to talk through any options before we lost this important building and our only public space as we do not have a village hall. Homersfield Community Project was born and registered as a charity with the aim of organising events and raising money to keep the building open, repair it and improve it so that it could be used for both religious and secular purposes. Events were held such as film nights, bingo, quizzes, afternoon teas, scrap metal collections and a car boot sale. With the money raised from these events, plus donations and a couple of small grants received, HCP installed new heating and lighting in the church, repaired the broken windows and replaced the gate (dedicated to David Cobbald). £3000 was granted to the Parochial Church Council to help towards the repairs of the roof and tower. We were so excited when we heard that the Parochial Church Council had raised enough funding to do the repairs last year.

OUR CURRENT SITUATION

In the last few years, two of our trustees have moved away and other trustees have needed to take on other commitments. There is so much more that could be done to make St Mary's a better space for everyone to use (e.g. a toilet and a more useful community space). Without others to help we are considering closing the charity and passing the baton fully back to the Parochial Church Council, of which three of us are also members.

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Homersfield continued...

So, if you have the energy and the time to help organise community events and fundraising events, then please get in touch with our secretary, Lucy Hammond on 01986 788600 or email lucyhammond600@gmail.com and join us as a trustee. We would love to hear from you Tom, Jo, Lynne, Sarah, Lawrie and Lucy

ST JAMES

CHURCH NEWS

As a church committee, we are seriously down on numbers and if anyone would like to join us please contact Bernard or Jane. This situation is made worse by our long-term stalwart Rachel remaining unwell. We wish her a speedy recovery. There is better news regarding the church surroundings (grass, hedges and trees). We have gained new helpers for which we are very grateful. If you would like to help with cleaning the church occasionally your help will be gratefully received.

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on April 25th in the church at 7.30 p.m. Please come to see how things are done.

HALL AND VILLAGE NEWS

Jane Bastow would like to send huge thanks to all who helped make the Snowdrop open day such a success, especially to all her helper friends. Money will be split between the Suffolk Heavy Horse Society, the church and the village hall.

JANE'S ANNUAL MAY OPEN GARDEN

will be on Saturday 13th May from 10 - 5pm. Venue – the Laburnums where there will be the usual plant stall, cakes, books, raffle and all-day BBQ. The Waveney Brass Band will perform between 3 - 4pm. Admission £3.00 adults, 50p supervised children. Supported charities – the Suffolk Horse Society and others.

THE CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

This will take place on the Village Green and Hall Meadow (behind the Hall) on Sunday, 7th May. We are planning for it to be on similar lines to the Jubilee last summer. If you can help in any way, please contact Jane on 782413 or by email. jane.bastow@btinternet.com

Look out for posters and flyers with details shortly.

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Some Main Events for 2023

East Anglia Air Ambulance Day 9th April **MG Heritage Car Run** 1st May

(Possibly 200 Cars visiting)

40s Themed Day7th MayEast Coast Pirates Day14th May

(American Cars, Very Poplar Event)

There will be Flypasts at some events.

All events and Flypasts are subject to weather and operational availability.

Please check our website for full details and many more events.

St James continued...

The sports sessions in the Hall always welcome new members, contact Caroline for details of badminton and Table Tennis on 782545. Contact Jane for private bookings, whether for sports (we have equipment for Pickle Ball and Soft Tennis as well) or for private parties on 782413.

ST JAMES ORCHARD

As trailed in the last edition, we have indeed been busy in the past month with the winter pruning and tidying of the apple and pear collection in the orchard. Some were reshaped to ensure sufficient access for maintaining the meadow and the ditches and hedges. Many thanks to the team – Gideon, Toni, Caroline, Sarah, Jeremy, Alan and Chris - who assembled to get this done.

FLIXTON

WENDY HANCOCK, NURSERY COTTAGE

This is news some of the village may already be aware of, the passing of Wendy. She slipped away peacefully on Christmas Eve, after spending her final years in The Moorings Nursing Home at Earsham.

I can't remember the exact date I first met Wendy and husband Gordon, but it was around 2005/6 in The Buck pub. My first impression was of somebody who was pretty decisive and inquisitive. They were intent on buying Nursery Cottages and were very keen to know how they could become more involved in the community. I learned quickly that they were moving from Amersham in Buckinghamshire and that their professional lives had been interesting to say the least, having spent some years in California with children Martin and Claire, where Gordon worked in aeronautics design.

Wendy's childhood was largely spent without her father, who was killed during the Battle of Britain at Detling aerodrome near Hawkinge in Kent. In education, she was a bright student who chose her final studies in botany, latterly in her career lecturing Biology at Amersham College. Wendy and Gordon lost son Martin tragically in 1987, so Wendy filled her life with challenging career work, then later nursing her own mother. When they moved to Flixton in 2006, they set about developing their garden and following their hobby interests, Wendy particularly enjoying art. Around the time of Wendy being diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, they would come along to a singing club in Beccles with us which I think and hope helped bolster Wendy's feeling of wellbeing at a time when she needed it.



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Still interested?

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Flixton continued...

Whatever challenges and setbacks Wendy had faced during her life, my memory of her will be of someone who always showed a positive and enquiring approach to life.

THE BUCK

Lookout for the St Patrick's Day menu on the 17th March and the Mother's Day Carvery (don't forget the mums!) on the 19th. "Wake Up The Nation" will be the live music on 25th March. The Morgan Car Group will be at the Buck on the 26th. Steven Treadway (clairvoyant) will make a popular return on the 30th. There'll be more live music on the 8th April, then Easter Sunday Carvery on the 9th plus a Family Day on Easter Monday.

A quiz night is being held on the 20th.

Citroen Car Club will be there on 23rd April.

Porsche Club will be at the Buck on 6th May. East Coast Pirates on the 14th. Oh, and the mid-week roast helps fill up a Wednesday (had one today!). So, lots to choose from at your "local". Watch their notice boards or Facebook Page.

Don't forget, if you have any news for the village let me know on 896828. Pete Madder-Smith

100 CLUB

Jan 20)23		Feb 20	023	
1st	Ivan Howard	65	1st	Laura Haylock	33
2nd	Kelly Softley	38	2nd	Isla Rice	56
3rd	David Mann	32	3rd	Sue Maddersmith	66

ST. CROSS

MINSTER COTTAGES FENCING

The fence on the corner between the bus shelter and the hedge has been replaced. The crack fencing team of David Hill, Richard Brown and Co have done a great job and our thanks is extended to them all.

Thanks also to Countryside Supplies who donated the materials. Finally, thanks again to the Minster Cottage residents who cleared the site in readiness for the work and to Dianne Leggett for keeping us all on track!

D Johnson Decorating

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St Cross continued...

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, ST CROSS

Annual St George's Church AGM held jointly with St Mary's, Homersfield is on Tuesday 11th April 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Homersfield. Everyone is welcome. We alternate where the meeting is held each year between Homersfield and St Cross.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The St Cross Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 11th April at 7.30pm at Bateman's Barn, South Elmham Hall. Agenda will be posted nearer the time.

Everyone is welcome.

If you are unable to attend but would like to raise an issue, please talk to one of your Parish Councillors.

HARLESTON & DISTRICT U3A would love you to join us for our monthly talk, on Wednesday 15th March at 2.00 pm in St John's Church, Harleston IP20 9AZ. Our speaker Cathy Shelbourne will be talking about the personal life of Lord Nelson, which she says goes beyond his relationship with Lady Hamilton! Further information about this and all Harleston & District u3a's activities is on our website www.u3asites.org. uk/harleston or by contacting Kim Poulton on 01986 788149.

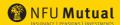
HARLESTON CHORAL SOCIETY, your friendly non-auditioning community choir, would love you to join us as we rehearse Haydn's Stabat Mater and Mozart opera choruses for our Summer Concert on 1 July. We meet in the London Road Church, Harleston IP20 9BH, every Monday from 7.30 – 9.30 pm, under the direction of our Music Director Justin Bindley. We'd also like to invite you to our Quiz Evening on Friday 17 March at 7.00 pm, in St James South Elmham Village Hall IP19 0HP. Price £10.00 pp, which includes a delicious supper, on the door on the night (cash only please), groups of six. Further information about this and all our activities on our website shortly - www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk or from our Chair Stella Brownsea at heidihouse@btinternet.com

ST MICHAEL'S

It is with sadness that St Michael has lost Alan McCay and Keith Watling our sympathy to the family's

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WORTWELL BOWLS CLUB

Our club is situated alongside the Wortwell Community Centre. We play from April to September, on Monday afternoons and Wednesday evenings. We are a friendly, welcoming club. If you would like to come and give bowls a try why not get in touch, no previous experience required, all equipment provided. For more details contact Phil Poulton, 01986 788149 or philpoulton5@gmail.com

MAURICE PHILIPOT (1942-2023)

Maurice came to the rescue of this Benefice a few years ago, when there was no one to organise the church services. He organised and actually took many himself being a familiar figure as he journeyed from parish to parish. However with the arrival of Rev Leon he passed much and then all over to him. During Covid he lived down at Wortwell in the holiday village with Phyllis who kept him on the right track. Later they moved to Worlingworth, although not exactly next door they still came over fairly often. Only last year he led a group of followers on a tour of the Saints with a lunch stop included. He was an enthusiastic reader or these ramblings, emailing to find more news or facts or better still enlighten me. There was a great sense of humour bubbling just under the surface, which was a vital asset to have as I understood he once owned a Citroen DS, a model where the suspension would collapse without warning. Thank you.

REST IN PEACE

PTK

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