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# **SOUTH ELMHAM COMMUNITY NEWS**

ISSUE NO. 238

**OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2023**

**ST MARGARET S E**

**SPITFIRE FLYPAST AT  
GARDEN PARTY**

**ST CROSS**

**CAKE AND ALE PARTY**

**FLIXTON**

**AVIATION MUSEUM PLANS**

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# SOUTH ELMHAM COMMUNITY NEWS

October - November 2023

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NEXT COPY DEADLINE NOVEMBER 7TH

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

## EDITORIAL

Society, seems to be going downhill. Manners cost nothing, an invitation at the very least deserves an acknowledgement of receipt and preferably an answer. Unfortunately in this age of instant communication, that's just not happening. At the very least a text, email or better still a hand written note or card would be nice. Such things as seating, catering and availability, as if you cannot attend someone else can be invited. It's also embarrassing for the host who may have no one attend or too many with no food or seats.

## GPC WWW.ONEFLIXTON.ONESUFFOLK.NET

The grouped parish council of Flixton, St Cross and St Margaret South Elmham met at St Margaret South Elmham Village Hall on 10th July at 7.30pm. Works on the Flixton crossing have not yet started, but we were promised would be.

GPC continued...

More dog fouling signs for Flixton have been purchased. Flixton lake path is ongoing. The Flixton VAS unit is awaiting repair.

Next meeting Tuesday 12th September at Batemans Barn

## **MOLE**

It's been a busy time as the summer generally is, with fetes garden parties and BBQs. We wish Susan Hall from Flixton, all the best in her move back to the West Country. Wishing Brenda Crockford, Sandra Mulhearn and John Thurston well with a speedy recovery. It was a bit hectic for taxi drivers and wedding related business' as there were 3 wedding all within a mile one Saturday in September. Down at Flixton there was a ribbon across Terry and Sandra's new drive and I was awaiting the call to officially cut the ribbon, but someone else must have received the call. At St Cross, Tom Brooke and his churchyard crew are still hacking their way through the graveyard and they are winning.

At St Margaret S.E the garden party at Red House Farm raised over £300, where we were entertained by a planned Spitfire fly-past, not every garden party has one of these. The weather held, just! The church was full for the thanksgiving service for Cordelia Blaxland with many coming from afar. Welcome to Dean and Emily to St Margaret S.E. Countryman Herbert (Shiner) Page passed away, born at St Peter had his first job at Bridge Farm in the village, before going on to be self-employed and working for several local farms. Had a brief television career appearing with Paul Heiney and filmed at Hulver Farm, St Michaels. Not an early raiser but still there at work at midnight. Sympathies to the family.

## **FROM THE TRACTOR CAB**

A sign that the summer is over, is that most of the swallows and swifts have packed their bags and set off to Africa. There are still a few late hatches of them, whether they will brave the winter or try to make the journey is anyone's guess. There are also several late pheasant broods which, as the weather has been mild, should be fine. The deer are gathering for the mating or rutting season. There were two nearly black fallow deer not long ago, probably looking for some hinds to mate with. Fallow deer, unlike the other species, come in an array of shades from white to black. Another sign that summer is coming to a close is the ducks and geese can be seen feeding on the corn stubbles, fattening up for winter.

*Elisabeth*



*Bemment*

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## St MARGARET DIARY

24th September	Harvest Lunch, 12.30pm, Village Hall, tickets £12. 13 and under £6, 07974126902 BRING YOUR OWN DRINK
13th October	Fun Quiz, 7.30pm, Village Hall, Refreshments, Bring your own drinks £6, Booking 07974126902
19th October	Bowls Night, 7.30pm, Village Hall
21st October	Litter pick, 2.00pm meet at the Village Hall
7th November	Fun Quiz, 7.30pm, Refreshments, Bring your own drinks £6 Booking 07974126902
11th November	Curry Night, 7.30pm, Village Hall, bring your own drink. Contact 07879 882017
2/3rd December	Christmas Tree Festival, Church
10th December	Christmas Lunch, 12.00-12.30pm, Village Hall

### **Short Mat Bowls Evening** at St.Margaret South Elmham Village Hall Thursday 19th October, 7.30 pm

Come and have a go at short mat bowls at St.Margaret South Elmham Village Hall. Everything provided, just bring some shoes with no treads, slippers or socks and give it a go. If there is enough interest it could become a regular event. No cost, free to everyone.  
Any questions phone David Baker 01986782377

## FLIXTON

### **“MAC”MILLAN PARTY**

This may appear a bit late but the Garden Party for Macmillan will be at Chris' in Church Road, from 12 noon on Saturday, 16th September. Entrance is £4.50 and that includes endless tea/coffee/soft drinks plus a wonderful buffet, not to be missed. There's always a raffle with great prizes and sometimes even an auction. Chris and Cassie look forward to welcoming you.

## BUCK PUB

It's a while ago now, but the July 29th and 30th Beer Festival went exceedingly well, even though the Sunday weather tried to dampen spirits. Music was great, beer and cider choices were many and varied. Let's hope there'll be more to come.



**J. FELTON**  
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### **Flixton continued...**

Don't forget also that each Thursday from 2pm until 4pm is meet up time for those who are at a loose end, with free coffee and tea.

September 23rd sees "Red Mecca" providing lively music into the evening.

September 24th has the Rolls Royce Club visiting, very posh!

October 27th is a very special night with Wake Up The Nation performing on the second anniversary of the re opening of the Buck.

As the evenings really draw in it's nice to see the re-introduction of Quiz Night, the first being on the 9th November.

The 18th will host a Murder Mystery, so grab your pipes, deerstorkers and magnifying glasses, things could become intriguing.

Once again Stephen Treadaway will be looking into family and friends' histories and maybe making contact with loved ones now passed. That's on the 23rd, but don't ask me how I know.

### **KICK UP A STINK!**

Why is it that the same people are active supporting the village and others just don't care one bit?

This village has enough adverse issues caused by speeding vehicles and litter droppers passing through. It should not have to put up with problems needlessly created within. Dog mess disposal is the responsibility of the dog owner NOT other residents. Now, we clearly have a major problem which needs addressing and the dog owners who are responsible for the problem seem to have no intention of behaving reasonably. One day recently there were 7 separate dog faeces along the short section of Church Road pavement between the top end of St Felix Rise and the turning with Abbey Road. Apparently, the Glebe Meadow is also being contaminated.

East Suffolk Council do have a statutory responsibility for dealing with issues such as this so there are two actions residents can take.

The first is to phone their helpline (listed on their website) to report dog fouling. They say that they normally aim to remove the mess within 24 hours. The response time and intention is good BUT isn't it really bad that taxpayers should have to fund lazy people living amongst them?

The second option (a better one) is to get evidence and provide it to East Suffolk Environmental Protection Team.



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### **Flixton continued...**

Fines can range from £80 to £1,000 in bad cases. From what I can tell, the situation in Flixton constitutes a bad case.

I am aware that the Parish Council is involved in trying to resolve this problem but if anyone can provide clear evidence of the lazy owners ignoring their civic responsibilities you can call me and I will deal "in confidence".

### **ROGER ALLSOPP**

Some of you may remember Roger and Paula Allsopp from Holly Cottages in The Street. They came to the village from London, Roger a fireman at Ealing. He became quickly involved in village activities supporting East Anglian Air Ambulance and for a while Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, running barbecues which became very popular and earned a great deal for the Village Hall Fund. They moved to France in 2007 and spent many happy years in The Limousin, Roger still working with new friends. Sad news is that Roger passed away suddenly, mid August. As a fireman, Roger earned a bravery commendation for saving the lives of a mother and her two children. As a person, we will remember his fun loving spirit.

### **FLIXTON LAKE PATH**

The Parish Council, for several months, in conjunction with our local County Councillor Judy Cloke, have tried to retain this path for the Flixton residents.

There has been correspondence and meetings with Planning and Development SCC, Definitive Map Rights of Way Officers, Managers from CEMEX, the Planning Manager for Breeden and members of the Management Team for the Roma Estate.

Unfortunately because the path was classed as permissive in the original extraction plan neither the Parish Council, County Council or CEMEX can insist that the Roma Estate continue the paths existence once the lake is transferred to them. This is imminent and the Estate are adamant that they do not wish to keep the path open. Unfortunately there is nothing further that can be done. The Parish Council feel as I am sure you do that the Village has been poorly served.

Ken Warnes

## Monthly Flower Arranging Workshops

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July	1st	Sue Warne	73	Aug	1st	Lynda Lee	12
	2nd	Caden Hennesy	53		2nd	Sandra Hunt	71
	3rd	V. Hall	85		3rd	Alex Howard	90

## NORFOLK & SUFFOLK AVIATION MUSEUM

Plans for the museum

During mid 2022 the museum was informed

by executors that we had been selected as a

recipient of a legacy from the estate of the late Peter Hinsley.

Car parking at the museum has long been a problem. Primarily day to day as cars need to travel the length of the museum through visitors on foot exploring the aircraft outside and themed buildings in the grounds. On very busy days, such as East Coast Pirates visits to the museum in May and our own Family Fun Day, both the car park and the field we use, with kind permission from Emma Gilham, have become full. We are aware that cars turned away can, and do, park in the village causing nuisance to residents.

In addition the museum has one, single track, route in and out of the museum causing congestion. Visitors parking on the field must also navigate the busy road in front of The Buck Inn pub. To relieve this the trustees of the museum contacted the owner of Flixton Hall to negotiate the purchase of a section of the woodland adjacent to the museum, plus a section of the field mentioned above from Emma Gilham. Both negotiations were successful with assistance from Nicholas Rudge of Durrants in Beccles, and John Hays of Sprake and Kingsley solicitors. The museum now owns both of these tracts of land. The intention is to use the woodland, much of which has already been cleared due to Ash dieback disease as the “normal” car park and the section of field as an exit route plus overflow car park. This will entail creating a separate exit from the field directly onto the road.

This will roughly double the on-site parking and drastically reduce traffic flow past the Buck Inn as this will be mostly one way, although Coaches and Lorries won't be able to use the woodland route. The intention is to retain a screen of trees between the woodland car park and the road, thus continuing the screening of the museum from the road. The overflow car park will only be used rarely on very busy days.



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# Church Services

Rev Leon Collyer 01986 781345

24/9/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St James
Harvest	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	St Margaret SE
		6.30pm	St James
01/10/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St Michael
Harvest	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	Ilk St Margaret
08/10/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	Flixton
Harvest	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	Rumburgh
15/10/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	Homersfield
Harvest	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	Ilk St John
22/10/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St Margaret SE
Harvest			
29/10/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St Cross
Harvest	Evening Prayer	4.00pm	Ilk St Lawrence
05/11/23	Memorial	10.00am	Ilk St Margaret
	Evening Prayer	4.00pm	St Peter
12/11/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	Rumburgh
Remembrance	Evening Prayer	4.00pm	Flixton
19/11/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	Ilk St Lawrence
	Evening Prayer	4.00pm	Homersfield
26/11/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St James
	Evening Prayer	4.00pm	St Margaret SE
03/12/23	Holy Communion	10.00am	St Peter

## **SOUTH ELMHAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY GROUP**

- Thu 28th Sept “Timesong - searching for Doggerland” by Julia Blackburn  
Thu 26th Oct “The Worlingworth 1810 Golden Jubilee Feast Painting”  
by Geoffrey Robinson  
Thu 30th Nov to be arranged

All meetings are held at St Margaret South Elmham Village Hall, IP20 0PJ on the last Thursday of each month at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated. Entrance fee is £1 members, £3 non members, refreshments included.

Everyone is most welcome, you do not have to be a member to attend.

## **HARLESTON CHORAL SOCIETY**

your friendly non-auditioning community choir – began singing again on 4 September after our summer break and our very successful two-day August workshop. It’s never too late to join us, so do come along to the London Road Church in Harleston IP20 9BH, where we meet for practices on a Monday evening from 7.30 – 9.30 pm. Parking is available in The Original Factory Shop (TOFS) car park opposite. We’re currently rehearsing for our Christmas Concert in St John’s Church, Harleston, on Saturday 9th December, when we’ll be singing Vivaldi Gloria, Christmas music and carols including pieces by Saint Saens, Holst, Whitacre, Rutter, Berlioz and Drake

Further information about this and all our activities is on our website:

[www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk](http://www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk) You might also like to take a look at Harleston & District u3a’s website [www.u3asites.org.uk/harleston](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/harleston) for information about their next talk, on 18 October, about Wingfield Castle.

Harleston & District u3a’s monthly talk, on Wednesday 18th October at 2.00 pm in St John’s Church, Harleston IP20 9AZ, will be given by Baroness Elaine Murphy, who was made a life peer in June 2004, with a specific interest in mental health and ageing issues; she sits as a Crossbencher. Her talk will focus on Wingfield: Suffolk’s Forgotten Castle and the lives of those who have lived there and who were important in shaping England, including the Wingfields and the de la Poles. Further information about this and all Harleston & District u3a’s activities is on our website [www.u3asites.org.uk/harleston](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/harleston) or by contacting Kim Poulton on 01986 788149. You may also like to take a look at Harleston Choral Society’s website [www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk](http://www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk) and what the choir is doing in preparation for its Christmas concert on 9 December.

Flixton continued...

We also have plans to create two new buildings which will allow visitors to access the shop and café directly from the car park without need to access the rest of the museum. It will also improve facilities within the museum. The space no longer needed for car parking on site will facilitate this expansion. Once again it is the intention that none of this will be visible from the road.

There will also be direct access to the Adair Walk nature trail from the car park. All of this will require a large injection of money. The museum has funds to kick start this, plus there is the remainder of the legacy from Peter Hinsley. These funds will be used to seed a grant application to the National Lottery and other grant giving bodies. There is also a requirement for planning permission, doubtless this will take time. Thus exciting times are ahead for the museum, we hope that you approve, we are seeking to reduce our impact on the village. We do note, though, that changes will not be obvious immediately.

We will aim to keep you up to date as things hopefully progress.

The trustees of N&SAM

## **ST PETER**

A warm welcome to Clodagh and Gary at The Wash. We hope you enjoy living in our special corner of Suffolk. A fond farewell to Sonia and Henry with best wishes for the future.

After a break of 4 years we were pleased to hold our boules tournament again at St Andrew village hall. The weather had the potential to be a spoiler, but we just about got away with it, with just 1 brief shower. 26 teams played the games in good spirit and overall winners were Les Quatre Mousquetaires who just pipped Ilketshall Sinners in a local derby finish. In the plate competition final, some stunning late play saw The Incrediboules overcome Goodness Gracious Great Boules of Fire. Many thanks to all who took part and/or helped on the day. We managed to raise over £1400 towards St Peter church funds.

A month later we held our village barbecue. A good time was had by all who could make it. Thanks to all who contributed food and refreshments. The phantom rabbit killer is still hard at work. There is still room for greater productivity as we are still somewhat overrun, but every little helps. Whatever is doing it is leaving no trace of trauma and not consuming them.

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ST Peter continued...

There is no sign of mixy. We do have a weasel at work but I'm not aware they kill for fun. I watched a weasel with a small kill the other day disappear into its burrow, which was a treat.

The fish in the pond are also under the cosh. We have at least 1 heron paying us regular visits, now ably assisted by a kingfisher. We have seen a kingfisher in the garden before but this is the first for many years.

The 49 club was won by the church in August as the number isn't issued. Simon Bonnett won in September. Numbers are still available with proceeds going to church funds. Please speak to Pamela if you would like to take part. Speaking of the church, thanks to those who took a turn at the church to welcome those taking part in the church bike ride.

With our annual chimney sweeping carnival about to get underway autumn must be upon us, although as I type this, we are having the weather that was sadly absent for most of July and August. Make the most of it as in the next edition I will be talking about Christmas.

## **ST CROSS NEWS**

Usually a quiet village with little going on, St Cross in summer saw a number of events that brought the village and the wider community together. Now as we head into autumn I expect we'll be glad of a bit of cool weather.

## **OPEN GARDEN AT SQUIRES BARN**

On Sunday 16th July the gardens at Squires Barn were once again open to the public under the National Garden Scheme thanks to the kindness of Ann and Stephen Mulligan. The land was largely given over to the equestrian world until the couple moved into the property in February 2012 and since then the grounds have been developed with the establishment of large numbers of trees and the creation of beds containing perennial and herbaceous plants. Thanks to the support of a close group of villagers the gardens are opened, plant sales take place and teas and cake are sold to raise money for the many charities supported by the National Garden Scheme, a sum this year that exceeded £1250. Despite taking place in a somewhat windy and wet summer, the day was dry, with visitors being serenaded by the soothing sounds of the Crème Anglaise Brass Band. Visitors attended throughout the day and also had the opportunity to view the work of three local artists whose work was available to buy.

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## NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK AVIATION MUSEUM

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### **Some Main Events for 2023**

The Fenlanders Harley Owners Group Motor Bikes	Sept 9th
Battle of Britain Day      Lancaster flyby	Sept 17th
East Anglian Rolls Royce and Bentley owners Club	Sept 24th

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.

## **GUNS AND BUNS!**

On August 12th the South Elmham and District Local History Group hosted an event at Squires Barn. Robert Tilney, a gunsmith expert from Beccles who many will have seen on The Antiques Roadshow gave an engaging presentation on the history of gunfire with the use of weapons from his own collection. Beginning with the late 16 century, he gave an illuminated talk on the development of hand weapons, firing them with blanks to the delight of those attending. Afterwards all present were able to handle the weapons and engage in discussion with Robert. The proceedings finished with a delightful afternoon tea in the grounds.

## **CAKES AND ALE**

This event on 10th September took place on the green at Minster Cottages. It was proposed following the very successful Jubilee celebrations as an opportunity for the village community to come together. It was the brainchild of Jan North who along with her helpers (Amanda, Lorna, Lou and Libby) organised the event.

Thanks is also due to the Parish Council who provided the ale and ice creams and to all those who donated cakes. Many helpers came together to erect a number of gazebos on what was an extremely hot day. The chestnut trees provided welcome shade and a very pleasant afternoon was spent eating, drinking and chatting. It was a real community event and so many people came together to make it all happen. Thanks to each and every one of you!

## **ST JAMES**

### **CHURCH NEWS**

The Church was decorated with flowers for the Suffolk Historic Churches Ride and Stride on the 9th September and proved a cool haven for the participants on one of the hottest days we can remember in September. Thanks to all volunteers who helped on the day. The annual Harvest Festival service will be on Sunday 24th September at 6.30pm when all will be welcome to sing the traditional harvest hymns and partake of light refreshments afterwards. If anyone would like to help decorate the church for this occasion, please contact Jane on 01986 782413.

### **HALL AND VILLAGE NEWS**

The music evening with Soul Alliance was a great occasion with a hall full of very appreciative punters. We are following this up with a different band



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## **St James continued...**

on the 15th September, the Black Deek Band who will be playing a mix of Country, Blues, Americana and Folk. Hopefully, you will have seen the publicity for this as it will have gone by the time you read this.

## **FUTURE EVENT**

It has been noted that the St James Village Hall is just reaching its 50th Anniversary and we will celebrate this in various ways over the weekend of the 17th of November.

On Friday 17th the Soul Alliance will return for another great music evening, FREE to residents (£5 for non-residents). Book with Jane on 01986 782413 (this helps with refreshments) or turn up at the door. Please BYOA. You can find info on SOUL ALLIANCE on [www.musicglue.com/soul-alliance](http://www.musicglue.com/soul-alliance)

On Saturday 18th November between 3-5pm, there will be an exhibition of memorabilia from the Hall's inception year and a display of the photo competition entries which we hope you will enter.

It is always popular and there will be one class for all, adults and children alike, with an extra art work competition for children only. Maximum 3 entries per person on the theme of "The Best of St James". Entries to be delivered to Grange Barn or the Laburnums by Monday 13th November.

Tea, coffee and cakes will be served during the afternoon. There is plenty of time to take your photos or create an artwork so we hope to see lots of entries!

All our usual sport sessions continue through the summer - Badminton, Table Tennis and Pilates. For details, please contact Caroline on 01986 782545.

Any private bookings, please contact Jane on 01986 782413.

## **HOMERSFIELD**

### **THANK YOU MICK**

After 15 years of cutting the village green, Mick has earned his retirement and a huge thank you from everyone. We are so grateful that Peter has agreed to take over this voluntary role. Bus Shelter repair. Thank you to Ian and Lawrie for your hard work in repairing the bus shelter. It looks really good.



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## **CHURCH WOOD**

If you would like to help keep Church Wood in good order then please come along to one of the volunteer mornings on September 16th, October 14th and November 25th. No skills are required except a willingness to have a go at a task, which will be clearly explained by Mark. Bring some hand tools, if you have some, and wear gloves. We meet at the picnic table in the wood at 10.00am.

## **NEW BENCH IN CHURCH WOOD**

You may well have noticed a beautiful new bench in Church Wood overlooking the valley. This has been kindly donated in memory of Gwendolyn Audrey Bryant by her family. Gwendolyn lived in a neighbouring village and loved to walk in the woods and look at the view.

## **VILLAGE LITTER PICK**

If keeping the village litter free is something you can help with, then please come along to the village litter pick on Saturday 21st October. We meet on the Green at 10am where grabbers, bags and hi-vis tabards are provided. We usually spend one to two hours collecting litter and looking out for any hazardous waste that needs reporting.

## **DAFFODIL PLANTING**

Judy Cloke (our Suffolk County Councillor) is kindly donating some daffodil bulbs to the village using her budget. They will be bulbs suitable for the 'wild' rather than the garden variety and will be planted around the village. If you are able to help on planting day, that would be fantastic. Keep an eye on the noticeboard or the website for the date. Meeting Dates and Contact Information. Our next meetings are on Tuesday 26th September 2023 and Monday 6th November 2023 at 6pm in the Black Swan. Members of the public are welcome to attend and have the opportunity to raise any concerns/suggestions at the beginning of the meeting.

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](mailto:homersfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com). Please be aware that she is employed part time so you may need to leave a message. Homersfield Parish Council SARAH DAY

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Thank you to Sarah for her several years as parish representative of Homersfield for the South Elmham Community News, you can put your feet up now.

EDITOR

The Season of Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness is Here Again  
(Do you think I'm getting ideas above my station?)

How come the summer has gone so fast?  
We look forward to it for ages, then suddenly it's passed,  
We've had a nice summer with lots of events,  
Always with lovely ladies serving food from their tents,  
But Autumn is lovely....the colours and smell,  
Time to gather and pickle, bidding summer 'farewell,  
The trees and bushes are laden with goods,  
Blackberry and apple crumbles we'll be having for our puds.

I've just got a pup, she's as mad as a hatter,  
The garden's a wreck, but what does it matter?  
I keep telling myself that she will calm down,  
When mostly all I see, is a quick flash of brown,  
Holes in the lawn, all over the place,  
But all is forgiven when you see her sweet face,  
So if you see an elderly woman go flying past,  
It's me and I can't stop and speak, we're going too fast!

Sally(HOMERSFIELDS PAM AYES)

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