

October 2020

online edition

The Grapevine

your community news

Colton, Easton
& Marlingford

The Parishes of Easton, Colton, Marlingford & Bawburgh

Benefice Revd Laura Montgomery 01603 744551
Rector eastonbeneficeoffice@gmail.com
172 Fairways, Queen's Hills, Costessey, NR8 5GB

Associate Priest Revd Penny Goodman 01603 279393
garry.goodman@btinternet.com

Reader Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton 01603 880255

St Peter's Church, Easton

Churchwardens Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton 01603 880255

Margaret Seely, 8 Kennedy Close, Easton 01603 880888

PCC Secretary Anthony Perry, 7 Pegg Close, Easton 01603 882265

Treasurer Dave Batchelor, 9 Cleves Way, Old Costessey 01603 322987
davejbatchelor@sky.com

St. Andrew's Church - Colton

Churchwarden Sarah Smith, Bickerston Cottage, Church Lane, Colton 01603 757865

PCC Secretary Liz Plater, Church Cottages, Church Lane, Colton 01603 880556

Treasurer Judy Scrivener, 01603 881540
The Old Post Office, Norwich Rd, Colton, NR9 5BZ

St. Mary's Church - Marlingford

Churchwardens Felicity Maton, West Cottage, Barford Rd, Marlingford 01603 880846

Sally Neale, Heronsbridge, Bawburgh Rd, Marlingford 01603 882110

PCC Secretary Felicity Maton, West Cottage, Barford Rd, Marlingford 01603 880846

Treasurer Carol Chiles, 7 Juniper Close, Cringleford, Norwich 01603 502201
carolachiles@gmail.com

St. Mary & St. Walstan's Church - Bawburgh

Churchwarden Susan Knight 07876 717487

The Grapevine

Editor Clare Howard, clare@ragbagprojects.co.uk

Contributions for inclusion should reach the Editor by the 15th of the previous month.

Magazine is set for printing by Clare Howard and printed by Grapevine's Printing Team.

Treasurer Carol Chiles, 7 Juniper Close, Cringleford, Norwich 01603 502201
carolachiles@gmail.com

To Advertise Sally Neale, 01603 882110
Heronsbridge, Bawburgh Rd, Marlingford NR9 5AG
heronsbridge20@btinternet.com

Rates for a year (950 circulation, 10 times a year): Advertisements are accepted in black/white, in a standard image format (jpeg, png, tif, bmp). Inside pages: 1/8 £35, 1/4 £60, 1/2 £100, Full page £170, Back page 1/4 £120, 1/2 £170.

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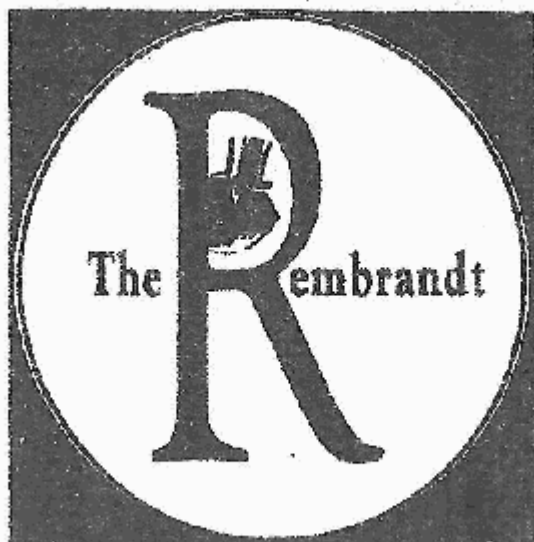
Easton Francis Woodcock, 07879 379181

Flat 2 Kimberley Hall, Barnham Broom Rd, Wymondham
Clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk

Marlingford & Colton Maria Hutson 07759 534885

Marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com

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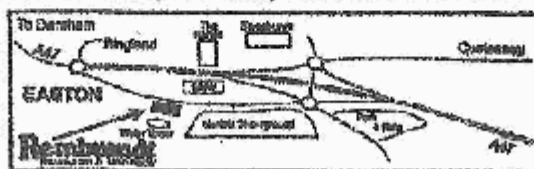


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The Rambling Vine

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

See, I am doing a new thing!

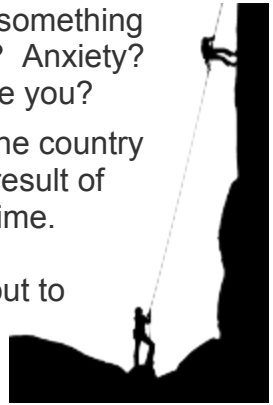
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

*I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.*

Isaiah 43:18-19

I wonder how you feel when you have to do something new? Does it fill you with excitement? Fear? Anxiety? Does it overwhelm you? Or does it challenge you?

Seven months ago Churches up and down the country were told they had to close their doors as a result of the pandemic. It was a scary and worrying time. Vicars up and down the country were being encouraged to find 'creative ways' to reach out to their congregations and communities. Many of us felt overwhelmed. There was no manual for this situation.



Here, I raced round all the members of our electoral rolls and a few others to deliver a pack for Mothering Sunday and telling people how (due to GDPR) they could register to keep in touch with us. Following this every week I started to send out service sheets, reflections and readings to those who had said they would like it.

It got to Easter and we joined the digital age and, in addition, we started having weekly services on Zoom. Getting to grips with the technology has been a learning curve for all of us! Over the weeks we have joined together to worship we have had guests from overseas join us and a real mix of ages: our youngest Zoom attendee was under one years old when he first joined in, and some of our most adept Zoom users are our older congregation members! As well as this, our prayer group continued meeting via Zoom and Rev. Penny continued

to lead a service for Diocesan House and for the Benefice midweek as well.

Through this I think we have learnt the power of connection – if only over a computer screen. We have bonded: there have been times where we have all laughed and shed a tear. We learned that God could meet us both in the everyday, out in the community, and also right in our own front rooms.

Over the summer some light relief was needed so Colin and Tony set up Zoom Quiz Night, for some fun but also to try to raise some funds for the Benefice. This has been hilarious and a great way to socialise together. Again we learned that laughter is healing and our friendships with one another have been deepened.

*Quiz
Night*

Then we found out our Churches could open again and three of our churches were (and remain) opened for private prayer each on a different day per week. And now we are getting to grips with 'in person' worship amidst the restrictions that are designed to keep us safe – face coverings, no sung worship, no socialising, social distancing. Again we find ourselves doing a 'new thing' and trying to work out how we can make the best of it. More importantly we are trying to discover what God is trying to teach us through this next phase.

Just this week a group of us got together to film several 'Open The Book' assemblies for St Peter's School's collective worship times. In 'normal times' we would go into the school to deliver these assemblies in person. Now for a number of reasons this

is just not possible. So armed with costumes and props and a video camera we went to St Peter's Church and videoed some socially distanced assemblies for them to play to their pupils. It is likely to be a long time before the children can



visit the Church as a group again, so we thought we would take the Church to them!

It is easy to think that because the doors have been closed the Church has been doing nothing. But we have been trying to do a 'new thing' and I think we have learned the truth that we were always taught at Sunday school – the Church isn't a place, it is a people. We won't have got it right for everyone, but we have tried our best under the strangest of circumstances and we believe God has worked through it. And we continue to look for where God might lead us as there appears to be no end to the pandemic in sight. We are already thinking towards Christmas as it is clear, even now, that we won't be able to do things 'as normal'. We are also thinking about discipleship – online Bible studies perhaps?

I wonder what new thing you are being led to? I wonder how you might make 'the best' out of situations you find yourself in?



Romans 8:28 tells us: ***'We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose'***. So know this, God will be right there with you as you step out in faith.

Rev Laura Montgomery

Colton Fuel Allotment Charity

In light of the ongoing COVID restrictions, the trustees have made the difficult decision not to run the annual Village Hall Bingo in December this year, and not to distribute funds this year.

The funds (typically £10-£20 per household, per year) will be rolled forward to next year. If we continue to have restrictions, the trustees will consider an alternative way of distributing the funds.

Marlingford & Colton Parish Council

www.marlingfordandcoltonpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Welcome to the Marlingford and Colton Parish Council section of Grapevine.

Coronavirus Support and Information

- **If you are in need of support or cannot access essential items**, or need to speak to someone immediately regarding Covid-19, please call South Norfolk Council on 01508 533933.
- **If you are a South Norfolk resident and need financial support** please call them on 01508 533933, Monday to Friday 08:15 - 17:00.
- **If you are a vulnerable person**, please call Norfolk County Council's dedicated helpline on 0344 8008020, Monday to Friday 09:00 - 17:00.

Your voice in the planning process

The government has published a new planning White Paper with proposals to radically alter the planning system.

Marlingford & Colton Parish Council is concerned about how these changes will impact on local people's ability to participate in the planning process, as they would take powers away from local authorities, so that more policies and decisions would be made centrally.

In designated areas, the proposals will remove the requirement for planning permission. Planning committees won't be able to decide applications in the same way and people will not have the same right to comment on specific proposals.

The council is also concerned that the new system would be even less fit than the existing one to deliver genuinely affordable homes.

While the White Paper is for the most part concerned with local plans, planning applications, and proposed changes to planning obligations, there is likely to be a further weakening of regulations, based on the government's 'project speed' initiative, which will be focused on streamlining the planning process for major infrastructure projects. The White Paper also refers to consulting on proposals to replace Environmental Impact Assessments and Strategic Environmental Assessments.



All of these reforms would have the effect of removing local voices from the decision making process. We would encourage anyone who wants to have any say in the planning procedure and how their neighbourhood is developed to become involved in the debate about the White Paper and respond to the consultation, which is open until the 29th of October

Via the website:

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future

E-mail to: planningforthefuture@communities.gov.uk

By post to: Planning Directorate, 3rd Floor, Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF

Hedgerows

As we move into the autumn months now is the time to cut back hedges if you have not done so already. Please ensure that any hedges that are adjacent to a highway are kept trimmed to ensure the safety of road users.

Next Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th October at 7pm virtually via Zoom. Members of the public who would like to attend can do so using the following link, or meeting ID and passcode:.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79320565241?pwd=Szl3MDR3NFVSTksxVFEwa3dFWEpodz09>

Meeting ID: 793 2056 5241

Passcode: qFjw9P

*Maria Hutson,
Clerk to Marlingford and Colton Parish Council,
telephone: 07759 534885
email: marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com
website: marlingfordandcoltonpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk*



Autumn Fires

In the other gardens
And all up the vale,
From the autumn bonfires
See the smoke trail!
Pleasant summer over
And all the summer flowers,
The red fire blazes,
The grey smoke towers.
Sing a song of seasons!
Something bright in all!
Flowers in the summer,
Fires in the fall!

Robert Louis Stevenson, 1885

Marlingford Village Hall

Sorry that the committee has not been in contact with you for a while, but events have not been taking place at the hall, owing to the Covid-19 pandemic.

However, during the lockdown and subsequent restrictions the committee has not been idle. The opportunity has been taken to carry out Phase 1 of our modernisation and extension plan to improve the hall. The result of this part of the plan will be

- Better lighting of the hall both inside and out.
- Easy access to the hall for wheelchair users.
- Refurbishment of the toilets, making a unisex installation, incorporating disabled and baby changing facilities.

Other improvements include additional central heating radiators and the completion of replacing all the old windows with double glazed units ,making the hall warm and draft free.

More information will be posted when building work has been completed (expected third or fourth week of October) and the Covid-19 rules allow us to reopen the hall.



In the meantime, stay safe and well.

Marlingford Village Hall Committee

Marlingford 50 Club

The result of the Draw for the quarter July to September is:

1st	No 6	Kate Broom	£50
2nd	No 29	Pauline Dye	£35
3rd	No 16	Dougal Broom	£25

*Felicity Maton
Churchwarden Marlingford Church*

Point of View

When did Marlingford become a 'rat run'? I suppose I have a feeling that it has been getting that way for a while.

I was washing the car at 7 am one morning, before the sun got too hot. Although I am aware of how many cars come past early, with double glazing it's not so audible until you are outside. I heard the first car at around 6 am: hard to tell at what speed they were going, but it certainly would be more than 30 mph. The police would say 'how do you know that? Well, living here all these years you know, through being a driver yourself.



In the hour and a half I was out in the driveway I counted thirty cars going out and coming in. Some were going so fast it sounded as though an express train had just gone through. With people jogging, cycling and walking along here, coupled with the bends and inclines, it's a wonder there haven't been fatalities. I suppose it only a matter of time. I'm sure Mill Road and Barford Road have the same problem.

The police say they are concerned about speeding but seem powerless to do anything about it. In my view, we need a machine that takes the number plates of these cars who speed so that the drivers can bet fined, or bumps in the road to make them slow down.

Sally Neale, Bawburgh Road, Marlingford

Spring Forward, Fall Back!

Remember that the clocks change for the end of Daylight Saving Time on 25 Oct 2020. But which way do they go? Remember the useful saying 'Spring Forward, Fall Back': so clocks go BACK one hour, so 2am becomes 1am and there will be more light in the morning (weather permitting!).



Sunday Services

10am Benefice Communion, Colton Church

6pm Zoom Agape Service.

Apart from Sunday 18th October

10am Zoom Agape Service

4pm Confirmation Service: Celebration of St Luke the Evangelist with Communion and Confirmation

Churches Open for Private Prayer

Bawburgh: Thursdays 9am - 5pm

Marlingford: Fridays 9am - 5pm

Easton: Saturdays 9am - 5pm

Beat News: Safety First

Stop Scams

We are always being made aware of scam phone calls, text messages and emails etc. If you receive a fake message, forward the text, including phone number or company name, to 7726. It won't cost you anything and means your phone provider can investigate. If you responded to a scam text and provided your bank details, contact your bank immediately.

Silent Solution

Spread the message about the Silent Solution so that people are aware. This could help to prevent abuse from happening. When dialling 999, if speaking or making an immediate sound would put you in danger, stay on the line and press 55 when prompted and the call will be transferred to the Police who will know it is an emergency call.

PC460 Andy Hudson

South Norfolk Engagement Officer

Tel: 01953 425699 Ext 2377

Easton Parish Council

www.eastonparishcouncil.co.uk

Welcome to news from Easton Parish Council.

If you would like to find more about the work of the Council, then please use the contact details at the end of this article.

We currently have vacancies for two councillors with Mike Bowman leaving us. A big thank you to Mike Bowman for all his hard work, and particularly his involvement in planning matters for the Village.

Covid-19

As we all know the Covid-19 pandemic is here for the long haul. Rule changes seem to be introduced almost week by week, making up-to-date reporting in publications like Grapevine very difficult.

The Parish Council will continue to monitor the situation and the Easton Community Emergency Plan is there ready to be used, operating through South Norfolk Council's Help Hub's contact telephone number **01508 533933**.

Key information will be sent out to all residents directly, as well as being available on the parish website, should help be needed due to further lockdowns.

Persimmon Homes planning application 2020/0962 – 890 dwellings

It is recommended that everyone takes a look at the work the Parish Council is doing to request changes to the scheme for the first 290 houses in phase 1 of the project.

The Council is fighting to make sure the plans properly reflect the requirements of the Easton Neighbourhood Plan and Persimmon builds a quality development.



It is felt that consideration should be given to remove bin and parking blight from the streets by creating bin stores and logical parking arrangements. The Council also wants to see the removal of areas that have been given over to shared road space that excludes the incorporation of pavements into the design. The Parish Council is actively engaged with Persimmon, South Norfolk Council and Norfolk County Council to seek these improvements.

We only get one chance to get these changes made before the plans are set in tarmac for good!

Restoration work on the village sign

The Parish Council has agreed to fund the refurbishment the Village sign and repair the wooden bench on Dereham Road over the coming months. This will involve the sign's removal, repair and replacement and then painting of the wood used on the post, together with detailed painting of the sign.

New waste bin

A new general waste bin has been located on Bawburgh Road just outside the Easton Gym Club car park. The preferred option for those owners with dog waste will still be to dispose of this at one of the designated dog bins situated in and around the Village.

Easton Community Land Trust AGM

The first AGM of Easton CLT will take place by Zoom meeting on 21st October at 7.30pm. The Land Trust currently has 50 members and it is hoped that over the years this number will increase still further.

This meeting will be explaining to everyone how the CLT can support Easton residents to shape their village amenities and services in the future. If you live in the Parish and would like to join for a nominal £1 fee and attend the meeting, then please get in touch via the contact details at the end of this article.

Council meetings

Easton Parish Council will be holding its meetings on the first Monday of every month online via Zoom until otherwise reported via the parish website page. The next meeting will be on Monday October 5th at 7.30pm. For a Zoom meeting, please see the parish council website to obtain details for signing up before 3pm on the meeting day. If you would like to log in to view or participate, a passcode will then be sent out. Please contact the Council if you need any further help with this.

*Francis Woodcock, Easton Parish Clerk
Flat 2 Kimberley Hall, Barnham Broom Road, Wymondham
Email: clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk
Telephone: 07879 379181*

Easton Good Companions

We are all very sorry to have lost Joan Chapman, a long standing and valued member: she was also Chairperson of our club for many years. Quite a few of our members attended Joan's lovely service on a beautiful morning. We will miss her so much. Our thoughts go out to Joan's family at this sad time.

Unfortunately we are still unable to resume our fortnightly meetings and are not expecting to until 14 January 2021. If anyone would like to join Easton Good Companions (our age range is 50+) when we are able to meet again, you will be made very welcome. Please contact our secretary, Pamela, (01603 880867) for information about us. Of course if you already know someone who is a member, you can also speak to them.

Our main fundraising, the Grand Draw usually held in October will not take place this year and the theatre trip to Hunstanton has been re-scheduled for 16 September 2021.

Jean and Dave Ditton have decided to postpone the Community car scheme at the moment but will review it in January. There is a local taxi service, Kingfisher, 07807711276 (see page 7), if a taxi is needed or if desperate contact Jean on 01603 880422.

Jean Ditton

Easton Women's Institute

Easton WI was all set to start meeting again in the Village Hall in either October or November when all of a sudden the rules changed and made it impossible for us to do so. We are closely watching for any sign that meeting in person will be allowed again but somehow it does not seem likely any time soon. We cannot even have a full committee meeting of all eight members anymore.

The WI County Federation have published a list of Zoom meetings that WI members can join to listen to a speaker and these are cheap to join (£2 or £3) and all instructions are available once they have received your money. I did circulate the details to all WI members earlier this month via email but if anyone wants the details again please ask me for them. I will resend them with my next newsletter to members.

One member has suggested we do as other WI's have done and meet on Zoom, even just for a chat. We do have a few members who do not have access to the Internet, but if any of the ones who do would be willing to give it a go please let me know. It is extremely easy and whilst not like being in the same room it is a way of keeping in touch. We talk to our sons in London every Sunday afternoon and it has really been a good experience and far better than not seeing them.

We did make a very brief visit to London to see the house that our eldest son and his wife have just moved into. It was lovely to see them for the first time since February and can see that they have their work cut out to get the house the way they want it. I took my secateurs and attacked the garden, and Paul took his tools and put up a bathroom cabinet. I think I might know why they were so keen to see us!



As for my recent achievements during this very strange year I can't think of many, but Paul and I managed to empty the fluff trap on our washing machine to see what was in it last week-

end. We found 20p, a small screw and a button but the whole operation took two days. One to get the wretched thing open and one to descale it and put it back securely. We only flooded the kitchen once and at least it meant I had to find the washing machine instruction book after the first few hours of struggling with it. Maybe we should have done that before we started, not that it helped much!!

I haven't received any ideas for a way to record our Covid-19 lockdown experiences for future generations to read!! I still think it is a good idea so please give it some thought.

Mary Blathwayt



Autumn



A touch of cold in the Autumn night –
I walked abroad,
And saw the ruddy moon lean over a hedge
Like a red-faced farmer.
I did not stop to speak, but nodded,
And round about were the wistful stars
With white faces like town children.

T E Hulme

Help a Hedgehog

If a hedgehog is out during the day, whatever the time of year, then it is usually a sign it is in trouble. (The exception is weaning mothers from the late May to early September: you will know a weaning mother - she will be on a mission).



The only other times you should intervene is if a hedgehog is:

- Trapped
- Injured
- Drowning
- Hibernating and nest is disturbed
- Babies crying because the mother has not returned to the nest

If you are concerned about a hedgehog, use gloves or a towel to pick it up, bring it indoors and put it in a high sided cardboard box with an old towel or fleece in the bottom for it to hide under. Cover the box with a towel, to stop any flies getting to the hedgehog. Fill a hot water bottle (or any bottle) so that when it is wrapped in a towel there is a gentle heat coming through and put that in the bottom of the box , ensuring the hedgehog has room to get off the bottle if it gets too warm. Make sure the bottle is always kept warm (if allowed to go cold it will chill the hedgehog and do more harm than good). If the hedgehog is bleeding don't add a hot water bottle as this will make it bleed more quickly. Put the box somewhere quiet. Offer meaty cat or dog food (if available) and fresh water **then call a rescue centre for help and advice as soon as possible – time is critical, as hedgehogs can deteriorate very quickly.**

Helpline for Hedgehogs: 07835 498970

Open 8am -8pm.

For more information about helping Norfolk hedgehogs:

<https://hodmedods.org.uk>

This is NEW! (No, it's not.)

How many times have you eagerly switched on the TV to see something billed as NEW, and found it's been on before? Does it annoy you or are you glad to see it again?

It does seem that the media, newspapers and News reports included, are filling their schedules with repeats during Covid. I can sympathise when new projects involving lots of people working physically close have to be put 'on hold'. But I find the use of the word NEW headlining repeats as childish, at worst – untrue.

Now for the benefits I see in all this: It is comforting to watch these old programmes and movies – to relive the moments we enjoyed and criticise those we didn't. And to have the opportunity to view something we missed, maybe years ago, can brighten the day.



I was delighted to see some inventive use of video cameras, in making *new* items for Countryfile and Gardeners' World, for example, where a crowd is not needed.

In fact, this is just what a group of us did recently in Easton Church: Covid restrictions would not allow us to go into Easton School to perform a short playlet of a Bible story, normally done before 'lock-down'. We used the space in the Church to record four of these stories, to be shown to the pupils in allowable groups. We enjoyed ourselves, and we hope the children will enjoy our efforts – we missed their participation, though.

So NEW can be validated with invention and let's recall the OLD, as it is part of us – as said by Mary Beard as she signed off from her series made simply by spacing her guests.

Felicity Maton

Norfolk Wildlife: October

Among birdwatchers, October is a favourite month as it's a great time for finding rare birds. Species seen now may include yellow-browed warblers, Pallas' warblers, Radde's warblers and red-flanked bluetails, all of which are eastern species and occur in Norfolk only as rare vagrants. Of course, where there is one rarity there are countless commoner migrants including willow warblers, chiffchaffs and song thrushes. Many birds arriving now will stay for the winter. These include great flocks of wigeon along the coast and pink-footed geese in wet grazing marshes.



Close to home there is plenty to see too. After a damp summer and autumn, fungi will be abundant in woods, in parks and in gardens. Your local hedgehogs will now be fattening themselves up for hibernation and this is a great time for seeing the last common darter dragonflies of the year, sunbathing in quiet corners of the garden. Other mammals are turning their thoughts to next spring: now is the time for fallow deer to rut. Though restricted in range in the wild in Norfolk, a large captive herd of these beautiful animals may be watched rutting in Holkham Park.

© www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Your News: Your Views

The submission deadline for the November issue of Grapevine is 20th October. This is YOUR newsletter, so please let me know all your news, views, chat and events! Many thanks to everyone who has submitted article for this month.

Clare Howard, Grapevine Editor
email: clare@ragbagprojects.co.uk

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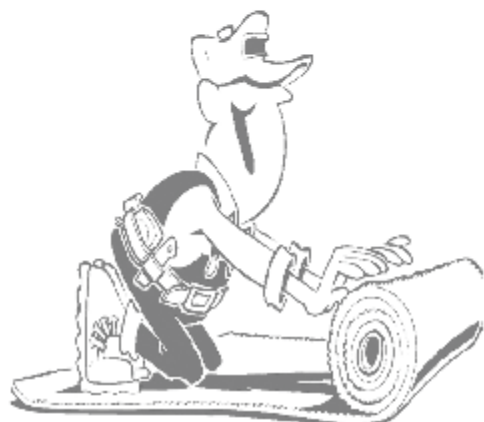
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Norfolk County Councillor	Mrs Margaret Dewsbury (as above)	
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