

# Santon Downham News

The Parish Council Newsletter for Santon Downham Villagers

January 2013 Number 16

**H**appy New Year to you all. The festive season has come and gone, all so rapidly. The related village Hall activities - the Xmas Bazaar and the New Year's Eve Party - were very successful. They are reported on below and on the next page.

There are several events starting this spring, all old favourites, detailed below.

We also have a fascinating contribution from Andrew Kedar on p3, about a 19th century war hero, who is strangely commemorated in our Village Church.

Don't forget, we would welcome any contributions from villagers. Do you have any interesting anecdotes or memories? Do let me know. *Derek Toomer, Editor*

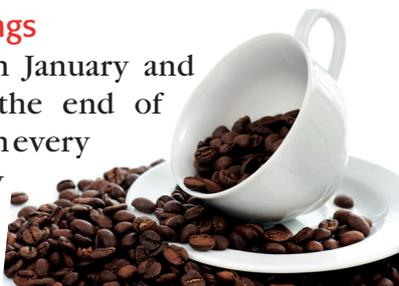


## Forthcoming Events

### Village Coffee Mornings

These commenced in January and will continue until the end of March. They are held on every other Wednesday from 10.30am to 12 noon. (See p4 for the list of dates.) Do come along for a chat or a bit of fun as organised by Maggy.

**Don't forget to bring your own mug.**



Internet image

### Car Boot Sales

These will start again in March, outside the Village Hall and on the nearby green. They are held on the first Sunday of each month through to October, from 8am to 1pm.

The Village Hall café will be in action, serving beverages, home made cakes, and of course, bacon butties.

Do come along and browse the items for sale, or

just for a sit down in our café with friends. The full list of dates is on p4.



**A good variety of sale items will soon attract buyers!**

Internet image

### Spring Village Quiz – Friday 23 April, 7pm

We will be holding our next quiz (no fish and chip supper this time) in the spring. The emphasis is on fun, so do come along even if you don't think you are any good at quizzes.

Cost £2. The village Hall bar will operate as well, so make a note in your diary to come along for a fun evening.

## Village Hall – Recent Activities

### Christmas Bazaar 2012

Our Christmas Bazaar, held at the end of November, was our best and most colourful to date. The quality of the goods for sale was very high and the hall was completely packed.

As well as the gift stalls, young people could have their faces painted, all could indulge themselves in home-made cakes and coffee in the village café. The local riding school appeared, with participants dressed in festive gear - a nice addition to the day.

Father Christmas took time off from the hall to give the riders some sweets. See you at next year's event.



**Xmas Bazaar: the hall was packed with beautiful, high quality gifts.**

## Village Hall – Recent Activities contd.



Face painting at the Xmas Bazaar. Some serious concentration required.



A festive scene as Father Christmas greets some of the riders from a nearby riding school.

### New Year's Eve Party

Tickets were sold out well in advance of the event and getting on for 100 people packed the hall on 31 December. This year's theme, *A Night at the Movies*, brought out some excellent costumes as shown below.

They were all treated to a superb feast – a buffet prepared by volunteers of the Village Hall Group. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it as the New year was welcomed in.

Why not join us again this year – a good time is guaranteed.



Pirates of the Carribean



My Fair Lady



Marilyn Monroe



Bonnie and Clyde



Cruella de Vil and "The Man With No Name"



The Buffet – a veritable feast

## Coffee Mornings

Organised by Maggy Turner, these continued through the autumn. They are pleasant, gentle affairs, with the main 'entertainment' being chatting to friends. Occasionally, Maggy brought



Marion and Ray celebrate their same-day birthday.

along a simple quiz (optional) to amuse participants. At other times, interesting old photos of the village were produced.

Invariably, this would lead to lengthy discussions over people's memories.

If you are free on any of the coffee mornings, do come along.



A busy coffee morning, with lots of helpful literature available.

## An important memorial in St Mary's Church

Andrew Kedar writes: It was only last autumn that I heard the story of *Lieutenant Colonel The Honourable Henry Cadogan*. His memorial is in your church, high on the wall, to the right of the Organ. That of an ancestor, Charles Sloane, Earl Cadogan is to the left of the Organ. The story of Henry is very interesting, and worth knowing about – hence, a "scoop" for *Santon Downham News!*

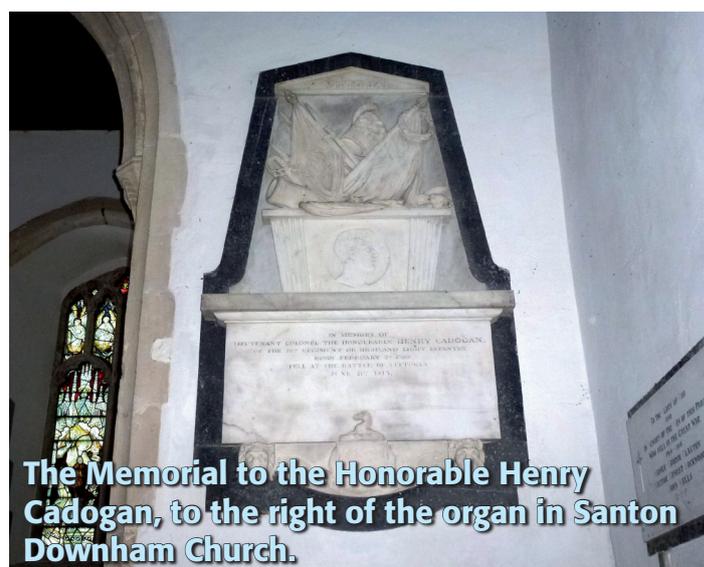
Early in the 19th century, The Honourable Henry Cadogan was a Lieutenant Colonel, commanding the Highland Light Infantry, under General Wellesley (later to become Lord Wellington). The British Army was in Spain fighting Napoleon in the Peninsular War. In 1813, the British Army was successfully pushing the French Army northwards out of Spain. At a place called Vittoria, about 50 miles from the French frontier, Napoleon's Army was in a commanding position on high ground, called the "Heights of Puebla".

### Success, but at a price

On the 21st June, the Highland Light Infantry, under Lieutenant Colonel Cadogan, was ordered to mount an assault on the Heights of Puebla, on the right flank of the British line. The Regiment stormed the French position and captured the Hill. Unfortunately, Colonel Cadogan was mortally wounded, but as he watched the successful assault, his last words were "God bless my brave countrymen".

### Significant battle against Napoleon

Many historians say that the Battle of Vittoria was "the beginning of the end" of Napoleon's Empire. He had been forced to withdraw from Moscow in 1812, and in 1815 he was beaten at Waterloo. It is interesting to note that, long before Tchaikovsky wrote the "1812 Overture", about Napoleon's retreat from Moscow, Beethoven wrote "The Battle Symphony", which commemorates the victory over Napoleon by the British at Vittoria. Listen to that music, and you will be celebrating what Henry



The Memorial to the Honorable Henry Cadogan, to the right of the organ in Santon Downham Church.

Cadogan did for us, in Spain, nearly two centuries ago.

### So why a memorial in Santon Downham?

A final point – why should a small wall memorial, in a tiny village, be the marker for a highly successful Army officer? Our memorial is only one of three, to this man. A very large memorial, to him, was erected in St Paul's Cathedral, and there is yet another in Glasgow Cathedral. But why is there a memorial here? As a boy in the late 18th century, he must have visited his family's shooting estate in Santon Downham and probably attended St Mary's Church during his holidays here. Perhaps that is why we have a memorial to him.

Next time you visit your church, or St Paul's, take a look at one of these famous memorials, to Henry Cadogan a gallant soldier. *Andrew Kedar*

# Dates for Your Diary

(In the Village Hall, unless stated otherwise)

2013

Wednesday 6th February	Coffee morning	10.30am to 12 noon	50p
Wednesday 20th February	Coffee morning	10.30am to 12 noon	50p
Sunday 3rd March	Car Boot Sale	8am to 1pm	
Wednesday 6th March	Coffee morning	10.30am to 12 noon	50p
Wednesday 20th March	Coffee morning	10.30am to 12 noon	50p
Sunday 7th April	Car Boot Sale	8am to 1pm	
Friday 26th April	Spring Village Quiz	7pm	£2
Sunday 5th May	Car Boot Sale	8am to 1pm	

## Village News

### Rural Coffee Caravan Information Project

With shops, pubs and post offices being lost from villages, it can be difficult to obtain information about services available in rural areas. The Rural Coffee Caravan visits villages, carrying a wealth of information about services available in Suffolk, from Age Concern, Pension Service to The Stroke Association.

The Caravan visited Santon Downham in November, having been invited to the Coffee Morning.

If you would like to know more, or you would be interested in volunteering opportunities, please contact Ann Osborn, Project Manager Rural Coffee Caravan Information Project, The Old Shop, Weybread, Diss IP21 5TU, Tel: 01379 670370.



The Coffee Caravan Information Project visits villages in Suffolk, supplying information about available services

### Trouble with trees

Recent rough weather resulted in the breaking of a very large bough of the Norway Maple in Marks Lane. No other damage was caused.

There are a good number of large specimen trees on Parish Council land and in the light of this



The splendid Norway Maple in Marks Lane, that lost a major bough last autumn.

recent tree damage, the Parish Council is going to look into getting all of the trees on Parish land inspected by a professional firm.

If their findings show any trees to be diseased or damaged, and therefore potentially dangerous, work will be undertaken to make them safe. We hope that no trees have to be completely removed.

### Village Websites

Don't forget to look at our two websites relating to the village, maintained by Tim Kaye.

[www.santondownhamcentre.co.uk](http://www.santondownhamcentre.co.uk);  
[www.santondownham.org](http://www.santondownham.org)

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This Newsletter is compiled and produced by Derek Toomer (Ed) and Sylvia East

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