

SMITHDON HIGH  
SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER



Winter 2011 ISSUE

## Smithdon High School Uniform

Our insistence on high standards will do much to strengthen the school's reputation in the community. Parents' support in maintaining these high standards is absolutely essential.

### **The Uniform for Boys consists of:**

Black trousers (not cords/jeans) in a traditional style.

Plain white shirt with a collar

A school tie (from school supply only)

Black blazer with the school badge embroidered onto the breast pocket (from school supply only)

Black jumper with school logo - optional (from school supply only)

Plain black socks

Black school shoes. Shoes with sports logos are not permitted

### **The Uniform for Girls consists of:**

Plain black knee length skirt (short, tight fitting lycra skirts are not permitted) or black trousers in a traditional style (cords, jeans, linens, hipsters, skinny or flared bootleg trousers are not permitted). School skirts can be purchased from school.

Plain white shirt with a collar

A school tie (from school supply only)

Black blazer with the school badge embroidered onto the breast pocket (from school supply only)

Black jumper with school logo - optional (from school supply only)

Plain black socks or plain black tights

Sensible black shoes (no high heels, platforms, sling backs or shoes without backs) a maximum heel height of 5cm is offered as a suggestion. Shoes with sports logos are not permitted.

Blazers must be worn at all times around the school, but may be removed in classrooms at the discretion of the class teacher.

In the colder, wetter weather outdoor coats may be worn over blazers, but need to be removed when in the school buildings.

If belts need to be worn they must go through belt loops. One small pair of plain stud earrings is allowed. No make-up or nail varnish should be worn, and hair may not be dyed bright or 'unnatural colours'.

Thank you for your co-operation with regard to the new uniform; if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me on [cpike79rw@nsix.org.uk](mailto:cpike79rw@nsix.org.uk) or by telephone, thank you.

### **Requests for Holidays - Please help us to help you**

Please ensure that you give at least one week's notice when applying for a holiday during term time for your son or daughter. It really is impossible to reply in time when requests are received only a day or two before the intended absence. Thank you to those parents who do already apply in plenty of time - it really is appreciated.



In the event of severe weather any decision to close the school will be posted on the County Council's website:

[www.schoolclosures.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.schoolclosures.norfolk.gov.uk). A message will also be placed on the school website as soon as this is possible [www.smithdonhighschool.org.uk](http://www.smithdonhighschool.org.uk)

Information is also broadcast by local radio stations once it has been posted on the Norfolk closures site.





### **Term Times:**

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December – School closes for holidays.

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January – INSET DAY.

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Return to school.

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February – School closes for half term.

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February – Return to school.

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March – School closes for Easter.

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April – Return to school.

### **Events:**

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Carol Service.

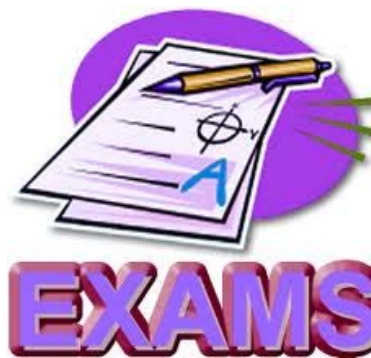
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January – Year 11 Parents Evening.

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February – 14+ Evening.

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Year 9 Parents Evening.

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Year 7 Parents Evening.

Letters will also be sent home with information and dates for future Parent-Partnership meetings.



## Dates of forthcoming exams...

9<sup>th</sup> January – 3 February – Year 10/11 GCSE exams  
& Year 12/13 GCE Exams.

Year 11 Amber Catering Exam 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> March

Year 11 Red Catering Exam 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> March

**Make sure you come prepared for each exam - pens, pencils, calculator etc.**

**Arrive in plenty of time.**

**Make sure you know your seat number and your candidate number.**

### **Carol Service**

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

**Heacham Parish Church**

**Start 7pm.**



This year's campaign was very successful. We collected a total of 2001 vouchers – which is more than double last year's total. We have been able to order lots of 'goodies' – from a water butt and hoe for the CLS garden, to baking trays and chopping boards for cooking!

Thank you to everyone who brought the vouchers in – we couldn't do it without you!

(P.S. Watch out for the Tesco Voucher Campaign which starts Feb/March 2012!)



# ICT Help

Tuesday 3.30-4.30 Rm 34

Please see Mrs Bye for more information.

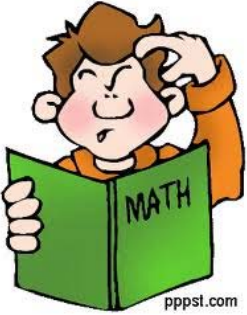


# English Help

After school most days, along with Saturday mornings 9.30am till 12 noon.

There will also be sessions running during school holidays.

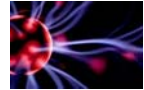
For more information please see Mr Somers.



## Want Help with Maths?

The Maths Department provide help and revision sessions every Wednesday after school in B58 (computer room). If you would like more information please ask your Maths teacher.

# SCIENCE HELP!



Need help with science?



Anything from queries to homework help!



Where: Room B58



When: Every Tuesday 3.30-4.30

Open to all year groups.



## Spanish Club



Hola!

Would you like to start to learn Spanish? It could help you with your holidays and if you meet any more Spanish students in the future! We chat, watch films and play games- handouts are given so you don't need to write a lot!

Over 20 Countries speak Spanish, who knows where you may travel in the future, Mexico, Cuba or Argentina?

Hasta Luego!

Every Monday 12.40 in mobile 54

Bring your lunch!!!



**'Quite easily done' language scheme  
(Norwich school)**

The Quite Easily Done (QED) language scheme is aimed at enthusiastic and motivated Year 9, Year 10 and Year 12 language students. This is an amazing opportunity to experience different hands-on activities related to the French language and culture in a fabulous setting in Norwich. This is also a great way to meet other keen and able language students from different schools in Norfolk over six three-hour sessions, where they can enhance their learning experience and use their language skills in a totally different environment.

The linguists representing Smithdon High School are Jodie Sandle (year 9), Molly Sands (Year 9), Jack Savage (year 10), Tobias Lawrence (Year 10), Laura Rogers (Year 12) and Rebecca Hooks (Year 12).

Bonjour! On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November, we went to Norwich school on a French course that takes place each month until April 2012. During our first course, we made Crème brûlée, c'était délicieux! We also made French onion soup et c'était aussi très délicieux, miam miam ! We played many French games including charades! We all had a really great time learning new vocabulary and we can't wait until the next course.

Merci! Au revoir!"

Par Jodie et Molly

Bravo et merci de partager votre expérience!

Madame Hanique



**MUSIC EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Instrumental Lessons	Vocal	Strings (pm)	Guitar Brass	Guitar Piano Woodwind	Vocal Piano
Lunchtime: 12.55-1.20pm	Glee	Strings		Guitar Wind Band	Karaoke Keyboard
After-school		GCSE Coursework			

Additional rehearsal time and help sessions are available upon request. Please see Mrs Nicholls to book. The activities listed are open to ALL students and are compulsory for those who have instrumental lessons in school.



Please see Mrs Nicholls if you would like to have  
Instrumental lessons in school.



## ICT STAR WINNERS UP TO OCTOBER



Year 7: Cydney Hodgson

Year 8: Harriet Osborne

Year 9: Chelsea Simmons

Year 10: Jordan Waldock

Year 11: Keeley Smith



Everyone received a shopping voucher for their hard work in their ICT lessons. The next draw will be in the last week of term and will be displayed on the screen in the corridor of C Block.

## Year 11 Rotarian Interviews

During this term, all Year 11 students have had the opportunity to participate in a mock interview with a member of the Hunstanton Rotary Club. This event has been successful for several years and will continue to take place every year.

The Hunstanton Rotarians have a close working relationship with the school and look for different ways to support the work we do. They are very happy to be able to offer Year 11 students the chance to experience a mock interview situation in order to prepare them for the real thing which they will all go through as they apply for the next stage of their education.

Interviews took place in the Town Hall in Hunstanton, so students made their own way into town at their correct appointment time, ready to meet with their interview panel. Students wore their own clothes to make the process seem as real as possible and, as you can see from the photographs, they looked very, very smart and grown up in their formal outfits.

After each interview, the Rotarians spend a few minutes giving the students feedback on their performance. Most students were really surprised at how well they had done and were very pleased with the positive comments they received. Many of them were also given good advice on ways to impress their interviewers, which will stand them in very good stead when faced with the real thing.

The Rotarians have asked to me publicly congratulate all the Year 11 students who have taken this opportunity. They were immensely impressed with the calibre of the students they saw and wish them all the best for the future.

Mr S Durrant  
*Head of Year 11*



# Missing school means missing out!

**If you are at school for 190 days out of 190, that's 100% attendance.**

You have a good chance of doing well at school.

**If you are at school for 180 days out of 190, that's 95% attendance.**

You still have a good chance of doing well at school.

**If you are at school for 169 days out of 190, that's 89% attendance.**

You have been off for 21 days, and may find it hard to keep on track.

**If you are at school for 161 days out of 190, that's 85% attendance.**

You have been off for 29 days, nearly 6 school weeks.

**If you are at school for 150 days out of 190, that's 79% attendance.**

You have been off school for 40 days.

- Poor attendance like this will have a serious impact on education and life chances.

**If you are at school for 143 days out of 190, that's 75% attendance.**

You have missed 47 day's lessons.

- Something's seriously wrong.

Are you  
missing out?

Ask Parents to speak to  
Head of Year or Parent  
Support Advisor.

## Mathematics Trip to Paris

A group of 86 Year 8 and 9 students were eagerly fired up about doing practical maths for at least two days of this four day trip.

On the first day we travelled by coach and cross-channel ferry to Paris, sampled the local cuisine and had an exciting trip to the top of the Eiffel Tower in the dark.

Day 2 was filled with interesting places to visit starting with La Villette and the incredible maths exhibition. In the afternoon we saw the Arc de Triomphe, The Champs Elysees, the glass pyramid at the Louvre and les Invalides. We continued to use mathematics to work out the volume of the glass pyramid and the volume of the lake at Les Invalides. This amazing day didn't end until we had sampled the Parisienne cuisine again and took an incredible night cruise along the river Seine from the Eiffel tower to past the Notre Dame cathedral and back. On day 3 we took the group to the Disney Park for ten hours and they thoroughly enjoyed all the rides and characters in the parade.

The final day was the reverse of day one and we arrived safely back at Smithdon High School. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the trip, were a credit to themselves and ambassadors for Smithdon High School.





**A big well done to all who took part in  
and contributed to Children In Need**

**The amounts raised were:**

**Non-uniform £691.00**

**Town Centre £200.04**

**Raffle and Cakes £252.28**

**Waxing £36.61**

**Giving a grand total of £1179.93**

**Well Done Everyone**





## CHARITY SHOP FASHION SHOW!



In aid of  
Tapping  
House



During an absolutely fantastic night on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November Sixth form students had organised a Charity Shop Fashion Show. Well done girls it was brilliant!



They Raised £1000.00 on the night with the £300.00 from non-uniform day, making an incredible total Of £1300.00!!

## Mr Freeman and Mr Moore Complete their Coast to Coast Challenge

It seems a long while ago but it was only August 5th 2011 when we finally completed the 192 mile Wainwright's Coast to Coast walk in twelve days.

We had spent up to two years planning and training for it, spending many Saturday mornings trying to walk 15 miles in a decent time and to get comfortable boots and equipment for the real adventure. The day came when Mr Moore and myself set off from St Bees Head on the west coast of Cumbria, away from cars and most modern technology with the thought that we would have to do about 400,000 steps before we reached the sea on the east coast of Yorkshire. The weather throughout was superb and we carried wet weather gear for no apparent reason. Map reading and navigation skills had to be reasonable and we rarely deviated off the unmarked path. Before we embarked on the mission we had collected over £800 in sponsorship for equal distribution between two local charities: East Anglian Air Ambulance and the Neo-Natal ward at the QEH in King's Lynn. The thought of making a difference to the local charities spurred us on and we had no real problems with injuries or levels of fitness. The walk through the Lake District, the Yorkshire Dales and the Yorkshire Moors was amazing and for me it was a life ambition fulfilled. Before we started the walk some students had an attempt at guessing the time we would spend walking. Josh Twaites was the winner narrowly missing the time of 4242 minutes. I will never forget the experience and intend to do more in the future.



## Gifted and Talented Mathematicians

Pictured are Ben Parr, Henry Loughlin, Josh Twaites and Ollie Little gaining our best team result at Cambridge University.

Senior Maths Challenge results: Gold - Ben Parr.

Silver - Guy France, Josh Twaites and Daniel Warburton,  
Bronze - Joe Peveritt, Laura Thomas, Thomas Baxter and Gregory Rix.

Next term Years 8,9 & 10 will be in action.

D France



## US Penpals

Three Year 7 English groups are participating in a pen pal project with a middle school in America. 7I, 7U and 7J are learning about Syms Middle School in Hampton, Virginia. The pupils who work with Miss Wright, are putting pen to paper and sending their letters across the Atlantic to Miss Wright's 6<sup>th</sup> grade English classes. (No, that's not a mistake!) Miss Wright's sister is an English teacher in the USA.

Both groups of students are excited to "meet" their transatlantic pen pal. Our pupils have participated in a virtual field trip to Syms Middle School and are fascinated by the differences in schooling. Students are amazed to learn that their new American friends have English and Maths lessons every day for 90 minutes! Smithdon students are intrigued by the lack of school uniform, individual desks, and a monitored 30 minute lunch period at Syms Middle School.

While the pupils are desperate for a field trip abroad, they are happy to continue their education at Smithdon especially because of our break and longer lunch!

We are looking forward to receiving letters from our new friends.



## Brancaster Festival Concert and Workshop

On Thursday 13 October we were fortunate to host the annual concert brought to us and sponsored by Brancaster Music Festival. The artists this year were the “Classic Buskers” described as “The Classic Buskers’ programme consists of virtuosic arrangements of a surprisingly large number of classical masterpieces, played at unlikely speeds on unusual instruments, all accompanied by a small but perfectly formed piano accordion, and delivered with dry British humour” – so we really didn’t quite know what to expect. The duo consisted of virtuoso and world renowned flautist Michael Copley, accompanied by Ian Moore on Piano Accordion. The concert lasted an hour, which flew by as the duo performed music from all eras on all kinds of different instruments – from conventional ones like recorders, flute & piccolo, to the more obscure like ocarinas (in all shapes: “duck-arinas”, “bear-arinas” and “clog-arinas”!) pan pipes and bizarre electronic wind instruments from Japan! Year 7 pupils along with students from Docking, Brancaster, Redgate & Heacham Junior schools enjoyed the concert and I was most impressed with the student participation parts!

The afternoon saw a workshop for GCSE Music students, who were introduced on a more “up close” and “hands-on” level to the instruments involved in the morning concert. Some students were brave and tried them out! We also learned more about life as a professional musician, considerations that have to be made when performing to audiences and how to arrange music for different ensembles.

We would like to thank “The Classic Buskers” and Brancaster Music Festival and its organisers for providing such an entertaining act for our school – a thoroughly entertaining and informative time was enjoyed by all.

Mrs Nicholls  
Head of Music



## Launching of the new lifeboat in Old Hunstanton – “The Spirit of West Norfolk”

The wind ensemble from Smithdon High School were extremely honoured to be asked to provide the musical accompaniment for the formal naming ceremony to launch the new lifeboat at Old Hunstanton on Saturday 22 October 2011. Various national and local dignitaries attended including The Mayor of King’s Lynn & West Norfolk, the Deputy Mayor of Hunstanton and Chairman of the RNLI Technical Committee.

Fortunately it was a glorious day, so we didn’t have to fight the elements as well as concentrate on our music. We performed the National Anthem at the beginning of the afternoon’s proceedings as well as two hymns during the service “Eternal Father” and “Will your anchor hold” which are well known sea-faring hymns, before the lifeboat was launched and we had the opportunity to see “The Spirit of West Norfolk” in action.

Thanks to Mr Michael Darby and the crew of the Hunstanton Lifeboat for inviting us to such a prestigious and important event for the local community. I am proud that our students could be part of the day.

Mrs Nicholls  
Head of Music



## Year 10 Geography field trip – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October

The Year 10 Geography GCSE groups along with Mr Chapman, Ms Bazeley-Smith, Mrs Gacoigne and Mrs Wanstall surveyed a stretch of the Norfolk coast on Thursday 20 October. The data collected will be used to complete the GCSE controlled assignment which is worth 25% of the students' final GCSE grade.

A sharp frost started the day which eventually turned out to be a bright, clear day perfect for fieldwork. Our first stop was Mundesley, an area which is suffering rapid cliff collapse. Students carried out surveys to look at the beach profile, beach sediment, cliff shape and wave power. They also looked at the various types of sea defences which were present on the coastline.

A short coach journey took us to Sheringham for lunch where most of us took advantage of the excellent fish and chips sold in the town. Before leaving, we walked to the cliffs in Sheringham to take photos whilst observing the impressive sea defences.

Our final stop was at Wells-next-the-Sea which is a coastline experiencing deposition of material, giving a complete contrast to what was seen in Mundesley. Students carried out the same surveys as they did in Mundesley. There was also an opportunity to take photos of the beach, sea defences and sand dunes.

This was a successful and enjoyable day which all students and staff enjoyed. It allowed students to develop their knowledge and skills of fieldwork and collect essential data for their GCSE controlled assignment.

Mr S Chapman



## Reminder from the Design Technology Department

All the Year 11 coursework completed for the summer 2011 examinations will be recycled or disposed by 16 January 2012. If you wish to collect it, you must arrange this with your subject teacher.

Thank you for all your hard work in completing your coursework and we wish you all the best for your future.

Mr Birks

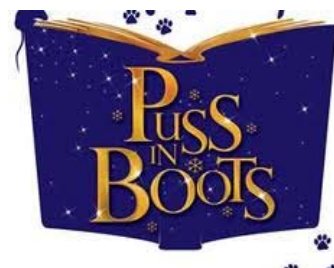


Year 11 Ambassadors arranged for Poppies to be on sale at school during break, lunch time and registration, prior to the two minute silence at 11am on 11.11.11.

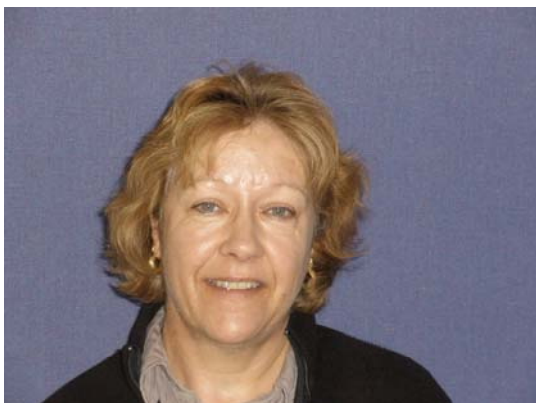
Pictured above are some Year 11's selling the poppies.

## Emily Darby Year 11 is.... PUSS IN BOOTS!

Emily Darby in year 11 is taking on the role of Puss in Boots at Hunstanton's Town Hall this Christmas. Please support her by purchasing tickets and going along to cheer her on! See back cover for information on how to get tickets.



**SMITHDON CLUSTER'S  
PARENT SUPPORT ADVISOR**



One stop parent shop

At Smithdon High School

Are you concerned about your child's  
development/behaviour?

Some recently asked questions:

Why does my child behave like this?

What is going on with him/her?

I can't get him/her to school, what can I do?

I just don't know what to do anymore!

**HELP!**

Come along to my one stop parent shop at  
Smithdon High School.

EVERY Monday morning from

January 9<sup>th</sup> 2012 8.30-11.00am

If you prefer you can contact me to make an  
appointment for me to visit you at home:

07525763412

Mrs Denise Murton



**School Council Year Reps**

**Year 7**

Bradley Durham

Dylan James

William Howes

Alice Peacher

Amy Noakes

**Year 8**

Lewis Downing

Minnie Coldman

Aine Cruise

Emily Frary

**Year 9**

Tom Holt

Wesley Leeson

William Reed

Alex Pickett

**Year 10**

Kathleen Short-Howard

Ruairidh Hardy

Harriet Peart

**Year 11**

Ayla Burridge

Jack Callaghan

Holly Hudson

Adam Cardew

**Sixth Form**

Jack Walsh

Fran Pike

Poppy Hawkins

Rebecca Whybrow

**Future dates of meetings:**

Jan 13<sup>th</sup> Friday P4

Feb 9<sup>th</sup> Thursday P4

March 16<sup>th</sup> Friday P5

May 4<sup>th</sup> Friday P6

# Smithdon Sporting Photos



Smithdon welcomed one of the few remaining 1948 Olympic Torches.



### Smithdon Cluster Swim Gala success

On 22 November over 120 students from the Smithdon Cluster of Partnership schools competed in their annual Swim Gala. The event took place at the CITB Pool in the morning and involved students from Years 4 to 6 competing in both individual and relay events. A record number of ten schools took part in the gala which was professionally marshalled by Sports Leaders from Smithdon High School. Schools competing were: Heacham Junior, St Georges Junior, Snettisham, King George VI, Docking, Ingoldisthorpe, Redgate, Brancaster, Flitcham and Sedgeford. Congratulations to all those who competed on the day and to the Sports Leaders for making the event run so smoothly.



In photo:  
Back L to R: Ollie Little, Bradley Gollaglee, Josh Chilvers, Ashleigh Britton, Alistair Kissock  
Front L to R: Jade Dennis, Alice Dean, Daniel Andrews

### Higher Sports Leaders progress at Smithdon High School

Sports Leadership at Smithdon High school has taken a step forward with the successful introduction of the Level 3 Higher Sports Leaders Award. After completing the Level 2 Award strong Sports Leaders can now progress to Level 3 which, once completed, gives them the knowledge and experience to coach groups of young students, groups of disabled participants and groups of older people. The qualification also gives each successful candidate an extra 30 UCAS points as well as giving them skills and qualities which potential future employers look for. The group of ten students currently on this first course look forward to extending their community work through support of the cluster of Primary schools in the Hunstanton area.



### Launch of Olympic Torch Relay Events

Sports Leaders from Smithdon High School supported the launch of the Torch relay events which will happen later in the year. The Leaders are pictured with the original torch from the 1948 Olympics.

Look out for information on local events happening near you.



# THE MAGICAL PUSS in BOOTS



## HUNSTANTON TOWN HALL

Thursday 29th December 7.00pm

Friday 30th December 7.00pm

Saturday 31st December 2.00pm and 7.00pm

Sunday 1st January 2.00pm and 7.00pm

**Tickets £7.50** and £5.00 concessions (under 16/over 60)

Every child at a performance will receive a "goody bag" kindly donated by The Pavillion Toymaster, Hunstanton

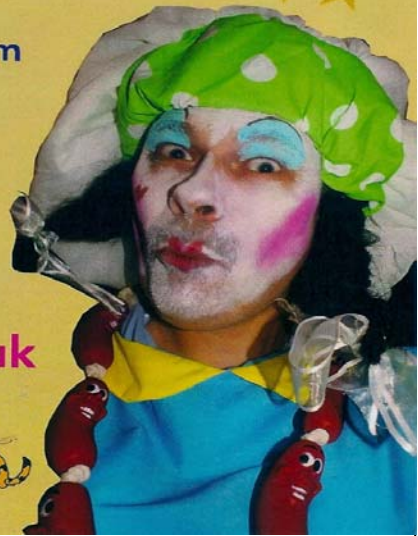
To **book your tickets** please contact:

Hunstanton Tourist Office 01485 532610 •

Elaine Bird 01485 533422 • Lisa Powell 01485 532402

for further information and to book online please visit:

**[www.hunstantonpantomime.co.uk](http://www.hunstantonpantomime.co.uk)**



*Huge thank you to all those that took part in the two fantastic fund-raising events this term – Children in Need and Tapping House Hospice.*

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone.*

*I would welcome any comments or thoughts on this newsletter, you can email me your comments or articles to*

*cpike79rw@nsix.org.uk*

***MANY THANKS***