

Three days of festivities culminated in a sell-out concert and olde tyme music hall at Nayland village hall.

Initiated by Nayland Community Council, the village's first-ever festival included features for all ages.

Council chairman Alan Hodges, who masterminded the weekend, said: "For a first venture it went very successfully. Every society that took part provided a range of interests so there was something for everyone. It provided a real lift to the village bringing everyone together and we'll probably do it again in two years time."

The programme began on Friday with Nayland Primary School choir singing folk songs in the village hall followed by Dr Ronald Blythe giving a talk on his book *Akenfield* and a film show based on the book.

On Saturday parish councillor Chris Hunt led a guided walk along Nayland footpaths and there was a day-long treasure hunt round the village. Winners were Jessica, Rosie and Lizzie Huggins and Amy Spencer.

The conservation society held an exhibition of Nayland bygones in Carvers' Barn where two experts from auctioneers Reeman Dansie valued numerous objects in a *What's It Worth* session.

Round the corner in Fen Street dozens of children cheered on their ducks in a race down the mill stream and the winner was two-year-old Harrison Austin.

The community council ran a successful barn dance and on Sunday families enjoyed a picnic lunch on the playing field with music from Stoke by Nayland Middle School Jazz Band and sports laid on by the youth club.

The evening performances, *Songs from the Shows* by Nayland Choir and the Village Players' olde tyme music hall ended the festival in style with appreciative cheers from the audience.

Throughout the weekend there was an exhibition of flower arrangements by Nayland Horticultural Society in St James's Church and a display by the art group in the village hall bar.



Parish Councillor, Chris Hunt led a guided walk round the local footpaths and walkways revealing interesting facts of past and present village life.



Community Council Chairman, Alan Hodges presents the Treasure Hunt prize to Lizzie, Jessica and Rosie Huggins. The fourth member of their team was Amy Spencer.

The crowds of eager spectators began pouring down Fen Street for the Duck Race. Then began jostling for their positions to get a birds eye view of the action.





On their marks Community Council Treasurer, Bryan Smith keeps tally of the ducks in the collecting ring.



Get set Steven McGuire ensures competitors are all in line for the start.



And they're off Steven provides commentary to the excited crowds, while Bryan makes sure there is no foul play.



Crowds of excited spectators lined Mill Stream following the progress of their ducks. Many thanks are due to Fen Street residents for allowing the crowd to utilise every inch of available space.



The final furlong It's a three duck nail-biter towards the finish as the crowd cheer them on from above.



And it's all over number twenty-four wins it by a beak.



Here, holding his champion duck, is the lucky winner Harrison Austin, while his dad Adam takes care of the prize!



The crowds then turned their attention to the Conservation Society's Bygones Exhibition held in Carvers' Barn. The display included a collection of village artefacts belonging to Wendy Sparrow and a selection of historic tins from Beaumont 's shop which belonged to Muriel Norfolk.





At the 'What It's Worth' session organised by the Conservation Society two experts from Reeman Dansie identified and valued over 70 items.



The exhibition included reassembled tiling which had once adorned the shop-front of Webb's butchers, 8 High St. The shop ceased trading in 1974 and the tiles were removed in the 1980s and kept in storage. The pieces were put back together for the exhibition by Andora Carver, Hon. Secretary of the Conservation Society."



Members of the Royal British Legion were kept busy providing hot dogs and burgers during the Barn Dance



The Barn Dance went with a swing as music by 'Kegs' enticed adults and youngsters onto the dance floor.





Villagers gathered for a Sunday afternoon family picnic, listening to the melodies of the Stoke by Nayland Middle School Jazz Band





The ladies of the WI were once again queens of hospitality, providing their refreshing drinks, delicious cakes, and cooling ices.



While some preferred the slower pace



The youngsters played a variety of games laid on by the Youth Club



Then there were the competitive fathers who would not be outdone!



The evening performances, *Olde Tyme Music Hall* by the Village Players' and *Songs from the Shows* by Nayland Choir, ended the festival in style with appreciative cheers from the audience.



Throughout the weekend there was a spectacular Exhibition of Flower Arrangements by Nayland Horticultural Society in St James' Church

















Throughout the weekend the Nayland Art Group held an exhibition of their varied styles of excellent artwork in the Village Hall



Stour at Nayland - Diane Dent



Brighton Pavilion - Betsy Cordingly



Tranquillity – Joyce Fulbrook



The Stour from Anchor Bridge – Joyce Fulbrook



Anchor Pub - Diane Dent



Harwich Harbour - John Burnett



'Corky' - - 'Ginger' Westlake



Cockerel – Peggy Shreeve



Summer Sunburst – Daphne Berry



Woody the Woodpecker - 'Ginger' Westlake



A Corner of Nayland Churchyard – Marje McDermott



Sweet Peas - Liz Thorne



Winter Woodland - John Burnett



'Ginger' - Diane Dent



Study in Blue – Liz Thorne



Trees – Sheila Sessions



Desert Nomad – Peggy Shreev



Autumn Leaves - Betsy Cordingly



'Charlie' - Val Seymour



A Summer Day – Sheila Sessions



Egret Fishing - Betsy Cordingly





Jack and Jill, Cladon Sussex – Daphne Berry



Jungle Lady - Marje McDermott

Blackberries - Val Seymour