

February 2023

# FELTWELL PARISH MAGAZINE

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**Inside: Eulogy for Deannie Nisbet,  
Children's Hopes for 2023  
Growing Up in Feltwell,  
WW2 Hero - F. W. Reeve,  
Scams, FiB, The Brecks  
and Their Wildlife.  
Puzzles & lots more.**



All proceeds from the sale of this magazine are shared between village organisations and St Mary's Church.

## **FELTWELL ORGANISATIONS**

List maintained by Paul Garland.

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Parish Council website: <a href="https://feltwellparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk">https://feltwellparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk</a>		
Feltwell's History Website can be found at <a href="http://www.feltwell.net">http://www.feltwell.net</a>		

## **Deadline for the next issue is 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

Submitted articles may be hand written or typed in Word 2019 or earlier.

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Advertisers, please contact Susan Withers (827758)

Distribution is by Ian Webb (828167) & Paul Garland



**FROM THE CLASSROOM**

## **Our Hopes for 2023**

In **Kestrels** Class, we have been thinking about our hopes and dreams for 2023. Here are a selection of them:

### **Individual Hopes and Dreams**

Do more exercise by walking my dog and going on walks with my Dad.

Improve my football skills.

Improve my go-karting skills and hopefully win the championship.

Be better at Maths.

Be calmer, use less plastic and try to be neater.

Eat more fruit and less meat so I can be healthy.

Improve my swimming and drawing skills.

Become better at sports and boxing.

### **Hopes for the School**

More baking lessons.

Add a basketball court to the playground.

More reading time.

To be kind and welcoming to new students.

More school clubs.

More environmentally friendly star point prizes.

Learn about different and new things in the world.

### **Hopes for the Village**

People to clean up after their dogs to help the environment.

Get a bakery.

Better parking because for children and adults, parking badly could

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be dangerous.

Tidy up the rubbish in the village.

Plant more trees and stop littering, mainly in the park.

In the park, add minigames for kids and children in need.

### **Hopes for the World**

All the people to get along.

To stop cancer.

Have cleaner seas so all the fish can live.

Stop cyberbullying.

No more wars – for the world to be at peace.

Stop polluting the planet.

Prevent climate change.

As you can see, Year 4 have some amazing ideas of how to improve our lives. Let's hope we can achieve some of our hopes and dreams, and we hope you achieve yours too!

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## GROWING UP IN FELTWELL IN THE 1950S & 60S

BY ROBERT WALDEN

### 23. Some Reflections...

These articles began as an attempt to provide an account of my childhood in Feltwell for my two sons. My father, grandfather, great grandfather and great, great grandfather had all lived in the village and direct ancestors had lived here since the 1600s and yet my boys (now not-so-young men) know little about it. Paul Garland suggested my recollections could be of interest to a wider audience but I never expected them to run to over 20 instalments.

Some have asked how I recall such detail or remember some events at all. I would say firstly, we all remember different things and I have forgotten many things of which some of my contemporaries have perfect recollection. Secondly, my life was divided into convenient segments: attending the village school during the 50s and secondary school during the 60s. I lived in Munsons Place in the 50s, Cambridge House in the High St until '65 and in Addisons Close until '70 when I left for college. Such changes can act as helpful markers when memories are a little muddled. Also I think being the second youngest of 6 children helped: I was quite an observant child and the activities of older siblings in particular were always of interest.

For me, the great thing about the so-called swinging sixties was that they followed the fifties and of course both followed the austerity WW2 years. The invasion of colour and especially plastics in their various forms and the increasing availability of new ways of listening to music, reinforced the declaration by the Prime Minister Harold Macmillan in 1957 that we had "never had it so good". I am only too aware that my own generation was especially fortunate: no wars, no national service and no enforced redundancies or unemployment which those just a few years younger than me, did experience. I bought my first house in Norwich at the age of 24 with just £40 in my bank account and with no financial help from family or friends. We had the contraceptive pill, colour television, modern music available for the first time to all, men in space and shortly thereafter,

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on the moon. Cars became safer and better and life expectancy increased steadily during this time, thanks in no small part to the introduction of the National Health Service. Changes that were just as striking as say, the more recent introduction of the internet and social media.

In particular, the production, marketing and cost of food has changed dramatically, which given an ever increasing population is perhaps very fortunate. People moan now about rising prices of food in our shops but despite even the current price increases, it is still very cheap compared with 60 years or so ago; at least as a proportion of family income. And the housewife (I use that word deliberately) of the 1950s would have welcomed in disbelief the range of food in our shops and especially the “almost ready to eat” convenience meals. Families set aside first rent and rates from their income and then food; after that, for most weeks there would be no surplus. No wonder children wore hand-me-down clothes and darned socks and had holes in elbows patched. For many, yogurts, burgers, pâté, fresh fruit juice – anything that needed a fridge or a freezer, did not appear until the mid 1960s. Meals were prepared from scratch, or from tins.

Television took food advertising to a new level: the canning factory at Lynn (“You’ll come again for Lin-can – the food with the come again flavour”) or our local pubs (“*The Three Tuns at Necton* – It’s a Morgan House! All your friends keep on repeating they enjoy the cheerful greeting and that is why they keep on meeting at a Morgan House!”) and Three Bears Porridge (“It’s the porridge from Norwich!”).

One sound from the 1950s I omitted to mention was the fire brigade siren at Methwold - heard clearly at Munson’s Place and no doubt throughout the village. In the days before pagers or mobile phones it was a way of summoning firemen to a call-out. The facility almost certainly dated from WW2 and the sound was identical to those air-raid sirens which featured in so many war films: a long, mournful slow drone which got louder and louder until finally fading away.



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A further recollection: on Wednesday afternoons we stayed down in the old school and Mr Feltwell took us for basket work. Both girls and boys enjoyed that. We inserted and wove 1/8 inch thick canes into pre-drilled ply-wood bases as posts or uprights and then used thinner canes to weave in and out the uprights. If the basket tended to spread out as you worked upwards then you were making a fruit basket. If your basket took on a perfectly vertical profile then of course you were making a waste-paper basket. I knew no households which had waste paper to put in a basket (newspapers were kept for lighting fires or for swapping at the chip shop for a free bag of chips) – nor did I know many people who kept fruit in a basket. But like many childhood activities, the fun was in the doing, not in the final product. And in our final year, perhaps to save cost of materials, instead of making baskets we could bring in our own plastic “Airfix” model aeroplane kits to construct. We really enjoyed that!

Another personal memory: at the age of 9 or 10, Pauline and I made a cocoa tin telephone. By threading and pulling taut a length of smooth string between 2 empty tins, if one person spoke into one tin and another listened at the other end you could hear speech very clearly. Pauline’s family’s house backed onto ours at Munson’s Place and we constructed such a device which stretched from our landing window to her bedroom window, a distance of some 50 yards. I remember it took 3 balls of string from Lister’s shop at Crosshill to link the two and we kept the joining knots as small as possible. It remained in situ for some weeks until a violent thunder storm prompted my mother to throw our end out of the window in case it was struck by lightening! I remember constructing another to impress my young sons in the 1990s – and failed to do so miserably. In our modern age they declared the entire exercise quite pointless.

*Dear Reader, Robert wishes to thank you for staying the course. He hopes the pieces have jogged a few memories. Robert is in his 70s but as his articles have shown his memory is still sharp. I wonder if I might encourage someone a decade or two younger to compile a series on growing up in Feltwell in the 70s and 80s? How about it?*



## A GLIMPSE INTO THE PAST

*A semi-regular column featuring historical news reports relating to the village.*

*No newspaper credited, no date*

**Captain H. D. Briggs, C.M.G., R.N.(rtd)**

Captain Harold Douglas Briggs purchased Hill House in 1932 from Percy Hamilton Hughes, J.P.

A newspaper report of 1933 stated that during the Great War (1914-1918) he was in command of H.M.S. BELLEROPHON and was later a general of the Royal Air Force. (a General is a rank in the Army, NOT the Royal Air Force, however the Royal Fling Corps was an army corps, which on merging with the Royal Naval Air Service on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1918, became the Royal Ait Force.) The letters C.M.G. after his name indicate that he was a Companion of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George.

Captain Briggs died in a nursing home in London on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 1944. The newspaper reporting his death stated that “he had lived at Hill House for the last 15 years” and that he “had seen much active service in the China Seas, the Persian Gulf and in the Great War.”

At the commencement of the Second World War (1939-1945), although retired and over 60, he rejoined the Navy and served for four years when serious illness overtook him. He left a son, Lieut. Commander Ronald Briggs, R.N., and one daughter, Mrs Castleton.

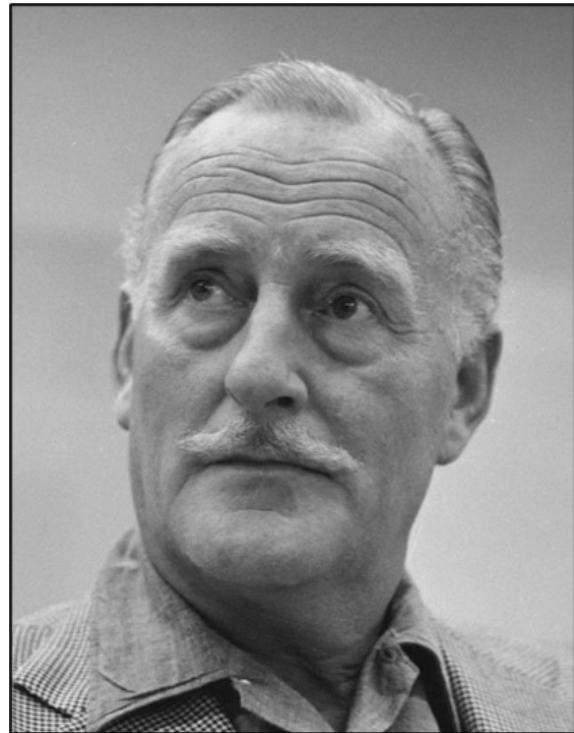
When the news broke of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 1942, Capt. Briggs told my mother that he was very worried about his daughter who was then living in Manilla. It transpired that Mrs Castleton and her children were interned by the Japanese. Capt. Briggs was on various committees in Feltwell including the Nursing Association and the British Legion.

When the Second World War broke out, he wrapped up some of his

more valuable books and placed them carefully in parcels in the pit inside his garage – presumably in preparations for rejoining the Navy.

After his death the pit was cleared of a very soggy mess of paper and cardboard!

During the war the Hill House property was let to various R.A.F. officers, one of whom was John Williams, a Hollywood film actor. One of the war time films he was in was “Target for Tonight.”



*Johnson with his Labrador dog, Sally, on the wing of his Spitfire in Normandy, around June–August 1944*

In September 1946, Hill House was purchased by (then) Group Captain J.E. Johnson, D.S.O., D.F.C., the top British Air Ace of World War II, having shot down the highest number of German planes.

In 1956, ‘Johnnie’ Johnson published his excellent book “Wing Leader” and in 1965 he retired with the rank of:- Air Vice

Marshal J.E. Johnson, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.F.C. In October 1968, Hill House was sold by him to Christopher Hugh Page Wood.

***Target for Tonight*** is a 1941 British World War II documentary film billed as filmed and acted by the Royal Air Force, all during wartime operations. It was directed by Harry Watt for the Crown Film Unit. The film is about the crew of a Wellington bomber taking part in a bombing mission over Nazi Germany. The film won an honorary Academy Award in 1942 as Best Documentary by the National Board of Review. *Thanks to Wikipedia.*



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# **Your Good Health**

**by Dr Ian Nisbet**

**JANUARY, 2023**

## **Management moves on**

As you may have heard, my darling Deannie died suddenly at a pantomime in Malvern on December 13<sup>th</sup> – Oh, yes, she did. I hope you will allow me to use this month's article to print the eulogy I prepared for her funeral which was held on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **DEANNIE Composed by Ian and read by Revd David Tennant**

I have to accept – we all have to accept – that our beloved Deannie has moved on to a better life. As the Rotary message to members put it “Rotarian Deannie has moved on to higher service”. For us, this is a gut-wrenching, utterly devastating experience and, quite honestly, without the immense support I am receiving from all our family and friends, I would have problems seeing

any point in facing the future.

After Deannie's sudden death at a pantomime on December 13<sup>th</sup>, I soon realised that my survival would depend upon finding some “positives” in the situation. As I pondered, these came faster than anticipated. Deannie had four FEARS for the future.

Over the past year or so, Deannie had been very distressed that her 90 year old sister, Marilyn, had entered a nursing home in Cambridge. We visited as often as we could but the visits greatly distressed Deannie, leading to FEAR 1 – that she would have to go into a home. She visited the new megahome they are building just down the road in Hagley and really disliked it, so that situation was put “on hold”.

FEAR 2 was that she might develop malignant disease and “die by inches” as has

happened to so many of our patients and our wonderful friend of 40 years, Judith's husband, Ken.

FEAR 3 was that she might develop a form of dementia – not unreasonable as both our memories were not improving with age. However, we kept taking the Dementia test used by doctors and she repeatedly scored 39 out of 40, so that was reassuring.

FEAR 4 was that I would die before her. We were inseparable by day and night for nearly 40 years and we loved each other unreservedly. I looked after all the “admin” side of running the house and she would look at my filing systems and the volume of “stuff to do” all the time, worrying how on earth she would cope if she lost me.

The Lord moves in mysterious ways and, by dying suddenly, Deannie has side-stepped all her fears.

Having discovered the above positives, I set about assembling all the happy memories and these flooded in! We married in 1986 – I had to

ask her 5 times before she said “Yes”, undertaking to look after our combined family of seven children and the surgery which was in the house. She embraced all that work, becoming Practice Manager when we built the new surgery around the corner in 1991. I retired from full time practice in 2005 and she retired at the same time, having been debilitated by Guillain Barre Syndrome.

We enjoyed family holidays in Europe with the children. Camping in Brittany, a beach holiday on a concrete tank training ground in Yugoslavia, villa holidays in the south of France and so on. In later years, Deannie and I would visit India twice a year for about 15 years in November and February and we also visited Malaysia, Bali twice, China and South Africa several times. Over many years, we had lovely Summer holidays with family in France and Madeira. Three months before she died, we spent a week at Lake Maggiore and three weeks before she died, we spent a week in Dubai.



We had wonderful times with our close friends, Judith and Ken - two weeks in Canada, stays in Budapest, Tallin, Reims, Arras, a two week cruise to the Baltic on "Balmoral" and many other trips. Also, family parties at The Old House, Christmas and New Year celebrations, birthdays, anniversaries and family weddings and supporting each other through times of difficulty and sadness. We owned a cabin cruiser with Judith and Ken for 35 years or so – lots of joint holidays, evenings and weekends on the boat and never a cross word. Many, many happy memories of Judith, Ken and our other Norfolk friends, several of whom are here today. Methwold St George was very important to both of us and Deannie held the place and the friends in the congregation with great affection. We remember with love all our other Norfolk friends and patients.

Deannie loved all the Scottish relatives,. They welcomed her with open arms and made a great fuss of her. (I have asked Alasdair Cant to pen a few words which will be read

by my cousin Fiona)

When we moved here 5 years ago, Deannie was thrilled to make such wonderful new friends in the Rotary Club, The Free Church and Slimming World. I have to admit to feeling "robbed" on their behalf, thinking of what friendships could have blossomed as time went on.

Deep sources of happiness derive from our children, all of whom have married wonderful partners and, between them, have produced eighteen grandchildren, all of whom we love dearly. Deannie got really excited by her grandchildren, taking a phenomenal interest and pride in their achievements and often would talk of little else, showing photos to her friends. She really enjoyed all the grandchildren at a massive party with friends and family to celebrate her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in March.

So, here I am on the day of the funeral. I now have to believe that our loss is REAL. I believe that she is with God. As a family, we have to move into the "reluctant acceptance"

## Cost of Living

We are acutely aware of the rise in the cost of living which is why we will endeavour to absorb the increased cost of printing this magazine and keep its cover price fixed for as long as we can.

**Georgina Sims      07913 976786**



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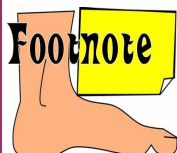
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phase of the grieving process and we are finding this difficult. However, the children and grandchildren, although seriously grieving in their own right, have been immensely supportive and loving to me at this gruesome time and, together, we shall cope.

Deannie and I spent a long time choosing the music for this celebration. As you will see, the hymns get progressively more powerful as the service proceeds. Deannie and I would be grateful if you could raise the roof while singing, especially the last hymn; Jean, on the organ, will give it some serious "wellie" and we shall send my darling off in a crowd of glory.

Deannie had a great "joie de vivre" and faced challenges head on with integrity, optimism and good cheer. Her respect for truth was unflinching, as were her strong moral

principles.

Deannie and I loved each other totally and unreservedly. We had a wonderful, fulfilled life together and I shall be eternally grateful for all the fantastic time we spent together. As this is **her** celebration, it is only appropriate that Deannie should have the last word, a voice at her funeral. Caroline Barnes, Deannie's niece in New Zealand, has just told me that, in her last email, Deannie signed off with the following which can act as her final message to us all:

"BE KIND TO ONE  
ANOTHER, LOVE EACH OTHER  
EACH DAY  
LOTS OF LOVE,  
DEANNIE  
XXX"

Please, God, bless my lovely  
Deannie and care for her.

Ian

*Ian got in touch and asked for the following to be placed in the magazine.*

Ian would like to thank everyone who attended Deannie's funeral and for all the loving messages and cards that he has received.

**A memorial service for Deannie will be held at St George's Church, Methwold, 12 noon on Saturday 11th March, 2023.**

## Sudoku Puzzle

Each row, column & 3x3 square must contain numbers 1-9

Answer on page 79

			6			7	8	
				7	9	3	6	
6		3				2		
	8			5	3	9		
	5						1	
		7	8	9			5	
		1				5		2
	2	9	1	4				
	4	5			2			



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## LATEST CONSUMER ALERTS AND TRADING STANDARDS NEWS

### **Scam Alert – Links leading to telephone calls selling investments**

We are warning residents about using links that as a response are followed up with a telephone call offering investments in various money-making opportunities.

In a report received at the end of last week, a resident saw an article on Facebook about some people who had made some money quickly through investing in bitcoin.

After clicking on the link, they received a telephone call. The person on the other end of the phone (who used a made-up name), seemed plausible so the resident originally only parted with £250. After this was invested, they were persuaded eventually to invest £4000 over a couple of weeks, The faker helped set up bank free online accounts so that money could be changed to bitcoin which the fraudster used.

It reached a point where the resident felt very uncomfortable because they were always being asked for more money so, in an effort to stop, they asked to withdraw it all. Then an email was received from the finance department using a fraudulent .com address. This email said £5000 was needed to pay the exchange fees, so more money was sent. Another email arrived that said the price had risen again because of exchange rates. Another £200 was sent. The next day the trickster said the money hadn't come through in time, so they asked for a dormant fee. This fee was £2400 to cover the first £2000 after exchange fees then another £5,500, at which point they said they had received enough and said the money was pending. Then the scammers asked for a mining tax fee of about another £6000, which was when the resident realised that this was nothing but a scam.

Action Fraud are warning that these cold calls often use high pressure selling techniques and the promise of high returns to persuade people to part with money.

They offer the following advice to avoid falling victim to an investment fraud:

- If you see a suspicious link on a social media site, be wary and just ignore it
- If you're considering any type of investment, always remember: if it seems too good to be true, then it probably is. High returns can only be achieved with high risk
- Never be rushed into an offer and always be on your guard against anyone trying to push you into a deal
- Take the time to seek independent legal or financial advice before making a decision

Always check the credentials of the company you're dealing with. [Check for known fraudulent organisations at the FCA.](#)

We advise all residents to be very wary of these links and any offers made during a telephone cold call. Never buy items, make investments or commit to visits if you are approached this way.

### **Scam Alert – Unsolicited Emails claiming to be from “FreshBooks”**

We are advising Norfolk residents and businesses of a phishing scam circulating encouraging you to “cancel your subscription” to “FreshBooks” after making a subscription.

FreshBooks is an accounting software packaging designed to assist the self-employed or small businesses with financial management.

The email is a spoof, only designed to harvest your personal details for identity fraud and to fleece your bank account of your hard-earned funds and savings.

Genuine Freshbooks users are being notified of the scam via [twitter and other social media](#), however fraudsters are targeting individuals at random.

If you receive something like this, take five to [think before clicking on any links](#) or responding. Criminals often include the branding and logos of trusted organisations in emails to trick you into thinking they're genuine.

### **Scam Alert – Energy Bills Support Scheme scams**

We are continuing to receive reports from Norfolk residents who have received automated telephone cold calls and text messages stating they are ‘eligible’ or need to ‘claim’ their energy bill discount.

Remember:

- You **do not** need to apply for the scheme
- You **do not** need to give you bank details

If you receive a contact asking you to apply or give details **it is a scam.** [For more information on the Energy Bills Support Scheme visit the GOV.UK website.](#)

### **Scam Alert – Telephone cold calls claiming to be from ‘British Gas’**

We are warning residents to be aware of telephone cold calls claiming to be from ‘British Gas’.

This follows a report from a Norfolk resident who received a call during which the caller stated they were calling from ‘British Gas’ and needed to make an appointment to visit the resident’s home as they ‘were aware of an issue with the property’s gas meter’. When the resident questioned what the issue was and how they knew about it, the cold caller was very evasive in their answers and the resident chose to end the call.

Subsequently the resident contacted British Gas directly who confirmed the cold call had not been from them and there was no record of any issue with their gas meter.

We always advise people to be very wary of claims made during telephone cold calls. If you receive a cold call and you are unsure of the validity of the call, our advice is **hang up** and then make contact with the company the caller claimed to be representing using the customer service number printed on a recent statement or via information available on their genuine website or app. **Never** use any details provided in a cold call.

### Scam Alert – Fake parcel delivery text messages

We are continuing to receive reports of fake parcel delivery text messages which lead to bogus websites that attempts to gain personal information or take payments.

D H L : Your parcel is still awaiting processing. Please confirm delivery charges.  
<https://cutt.ly/50CH-F7>

Previous examples have included texts claiming to be from Royal Mail, EVRI, DPD and the Post Office.

These texts have been sent by criminals who have created the fake website to look similar to the genuine websites, with the same branding, layout and font choices.

If you receive these or similar texts **do not click on the link**.

If you think you have provided scammers with your financial details you should contact your bank immediately.

If you receive what you think is a fake or scam text message, forward it, including the phone number or company name, to 7726. All phone operators now use this number as the short code to report spam and scam texts, which is free of charge. It won't cost you anything and it means your phone provider can investigate the sender.. *See bottom of next page.*

**Thank You!**

Toby and Carol, Brian and Sandy Watts would just like to say **Thank You** to everyone who attended mum's, Queenie's, funeral.

Also thanks for all the cards and messages of sympathy, it was much appreciated.

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## **Scam Alert – Telephone cold calls claiming to be ‘bank security’**

We are again warning residents after receiving reports of telephone calls which claim to be from ‘bank security’ making claims that your account ‘has been blocked’ or ‘is compromised’.

Previously, reports have included both live and automated calls which then attempt to gather personal and financial details.

We always advise people to be very wary of claims made during telephone cold calls. If you receive this or a similar call our advice is **do not** interact with the call and **hang up**.

If you are concerned about the security of a bank account or credit card, contact your bank or service provider directly using the customer service number printed on the card, on a recent statement or via information available on their genuine website or app. **Never** use details provided in a cold call.

### **For more advice and updates**

Visit our Consumer Alerts web page and catch up on previous alerts

Find us on Facebook    Follow us on Twitter

### **Reporting scams**

Reporting scams you receive helps us continue to build up intelligence on the scammers and how they target people.

If you think you have been the victim of an online scam you can report this to us via our partners, the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on **0808 223 1133**.

#### Citizens Advice consumer service website

If you've been the victim of an online scam you can get advice and support from Citizens Advice Scams Action: **0808 250 5050 (freephone)**

You can also report Frauds, Cyber Crime and Phishing attempts to Action Fraud, the National Fraud & Cyber Crime reporting centre:

**0300 123 2040** or by forwarding the message to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)

This is a live link to the [Action Fraud website](#) in the online issue.

## **What is 7726?**

A free service for you to use to report suspicious texts or calls you might receive on your mobile. 7726 is a number that most mobile customers using UK networks can text to report unwanted SMS messages or phone calls on a mobile. The number ‘7726’ was chosen because it spells ‘SPAM’ on an alphanumeric phone keypad – that’s a handy way of remembering it.

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## CASINO LOGISTICAL

This Logistical puzzle was designed by Chris at the Wellington. *The solution is on p65*

	The Grand	The Majestic	Emperors Palace	The Regal	Craps	Roulette	Slot Machines	Blackjack	£200 Loss	£100 Loss	Broke Even	£100 Profit
Kevin												
Joe												
Martina												
Veronica												
£200 Loss												
£100 Loss												
Broke Even												
£100 Profit												
Craps												
Roulette												
Slot Machines												
Blackjack												

Match the gambler to the casino they visited, their favourite game and their final total.

1. Kevin, the Blackjack player, the player who lost £100 and the player who Broke Even are all different players.
2. Neither of the men played at The Regal Casino, neither of the women played at The Majestic Casino.
3. The Craps player lost money at the Emperor’s Palace Casino.
4. Veronica made a profit at The Grand, she didn’t play Roulette.
5. Kevin played the Slot Machines.

DID YOU KNOW?

The body can detect taste in 0.0015 seconds, which is faster than the blink of an eye



## Feltwell Dispensary Opening Hours

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Tuesday: 07:30-12:00, 14:00-18:00

Wednesday: 08:30-12:00, 14:00-18:00

Thursday: 08:30-12:00, 14:00-19:00

Friday: 08:30-12:00, 14:00-18:00

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## OLD CODGERS NIGHT

Music from your youth Last Saturday each Month

6.30—10.00pm

Quizzes & Refreshments



The speaker for our first meeting of 2023 was Andy Moore who delivered part two of his talk on Downham Market (Bexwell) aerodrome.

This time he talked about some incidences that occurred on the aerodrome including the awarding of two Victoria Crosses and the fact that the last allied bomb dropped in WW2 was dropped by a Downham Market aircraft. He also reminded us that Downham had the top secret FIDO—Fog Intensive Dispersal Operation.

By the spring of 1942 the aerodrome was virtually completed having been built on hardcore and rubble from our bombed cities, something ironic in that the damage the Germans did was used to build something that would hit back at them. DM opened in July 1942 for operations but work was still ongoing with the first ground crew living in Nissan huts with open ends. The first planes were from 218, 623 and 214 squadrons flying Stirling bombers, mainly first tour boys needing 30 operations to complete a tour not knowing what they were going into the chances of them completing a tour was 1 in 7 at this point in the war.

In May 1942 the thousand bomber raid on Cologne saw three aircraft from 115 squadron at Marham land at DM by the light of goose neck flares. The first aircraft to land at DM.

In June 1942, with the airfield lit up for a routine check, the first German air raid occurred. Fortunately none of the bombs landed on the airfield but some cottages were damaged. Some local ponds mark the position of other explosions from that night.

First operation—1/7/1942—two Stirlings sent on a sea-mining trip off the coast of northern Germany. Involved in all major operations at the time including Peenemunde from which they all returned safely.

On the 29th July 1942 DM suffered its first loses when 12 planes were sent off but only 9 returned, a loss of 21 crew.

In May 1943 the King and Queen visited.

Everyone below the rank of Flight Lieutenant lived in Nissan huts, many around where Arbuckles is now, whereas ranks above this shared rooms in the Rectory, which doubled as the Offices Mess before a purpose built one was built later. Most senior officers lived in Bexwell Hall, opposite the church.

Sq Ldr Rothwell and his crew—Rothwell's ruffians—

Ground crew not happy with the quality of their food so they complained about it. They had a mascot called Pilot Officer Prune. Two days before they complained he was fed very well. When the complaint was made "Sir, this food isn't fit for a dog. "We'll see about that" and he offered it to the dog who promptly turned up his nose and turned away. Unknown to the officer they had put paraffin around the edge of his plate!

Many land army girls in the surrounding area listened in on radios to ensure that their boyfriends had got home safely.

Andy runs trips for relatives of those who served at DM.

The Aerodrome created friendships, marriages and maybe even illegitimate children but it shows that it did create some joy in the face of much loss and sadness.

Hamburg raids end of July-August 1943, first time a firestorm had been created. Wing Commander Saville with a scratch crew volunteered for the op but unfortunately they were the only crew shot down that night—27th July. Saville died in the aircraft together with two crew members. Four bailed out, one landed on top of the Luftwaffe building fortunately as it meant he was relatively well treated. The remaining three landed in the town only to be lynched by angry mobs. Another danger the young aircrew boys faced. When the RAF heard about this they offered aircrew revolvers to carry, which many did.

By March 1944 all Sterlings had gone. DM became home to 635 squadron flying Lancasters as part of A Group Pathfinders.

Pathfinders had to do 45 ops. They were the first planes to arrive at

a target where they dropped coloured target indicators—green, yellow, red. A master bomber would then fly the area, a very dangerous job, assessing the initial marking. He then controlled the remaining bombers by telling them where to drop—aim for the reds, drop bombs east of the yellows, etc.

At the end of March 1944, 635 squadron was involved in the notorious Nuremburg raid in which 96 aircraft were lost, three from 635. They were involved in all major operations at that time.

Andy continued to entertain us with many others incidents, some tragic, some amusing and too many to report here unfortunately.

In August 1944, 608 Mosquito squadron was formed as a light night striking force working alongside the Pathfinders. They had to do 50 ops per tour. Their job was to create mayhem over Germany by attacking different targets simultaneously. They would drop tin foil strips disrupting German radar meaning that the operators not only thought that the attacking force was larger than it really was but also not knowing where any of them were heading. In addition, they dropped target indicators at one location and bombs at another thus generating extra confusion. They were also involved in the bombing of Berlin which had proved costly with the slower heavy bombers. Towards the end of the war there was a Mosquito from DM over Berlin on 35 consecutive nights—the Berlin Express.

Andy will be visiting us again for Part 3 later this year.

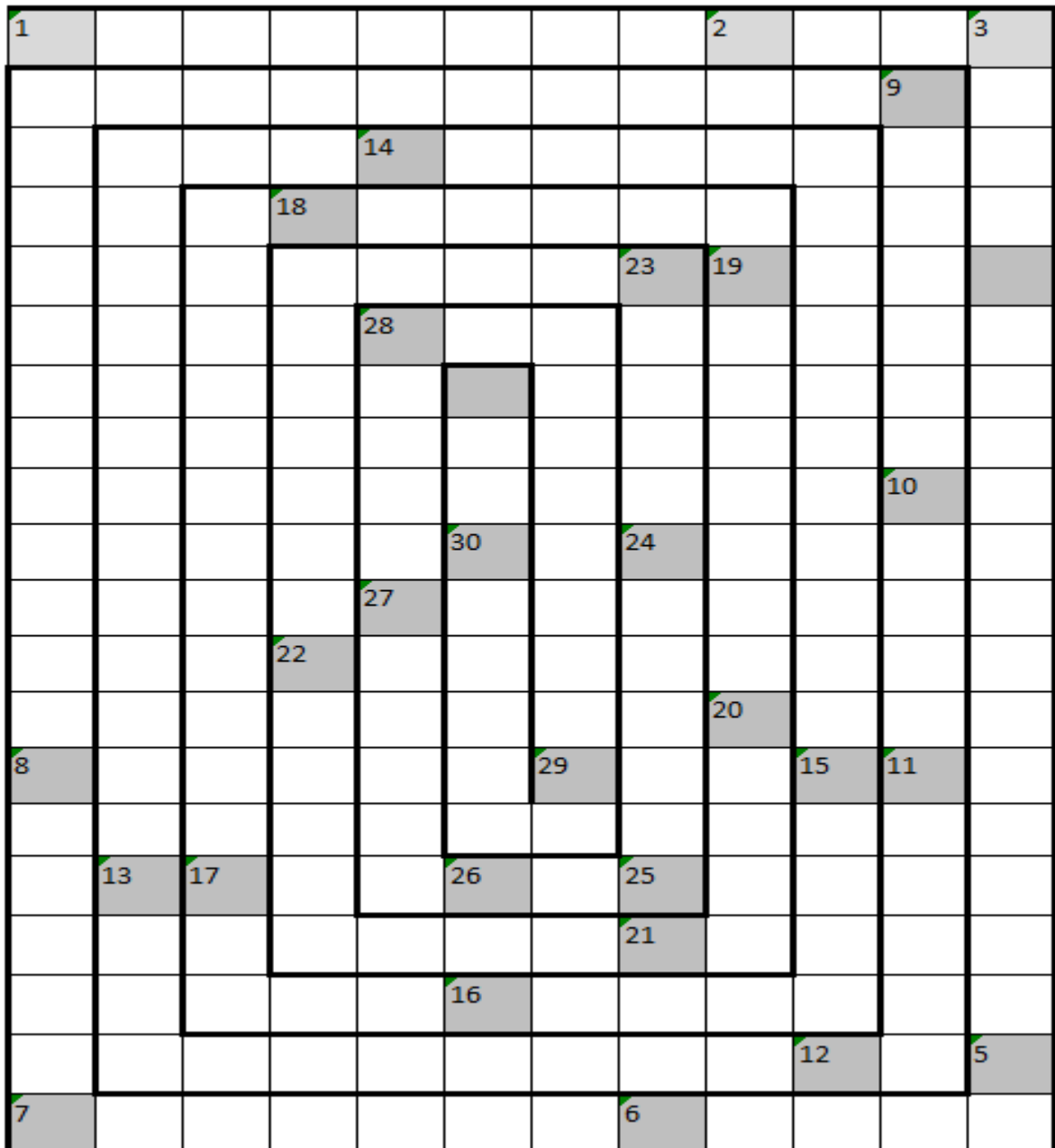
The Men's Breakfast Club usually meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Month at The Wellington in Feltwell at 9am. It costs £7.50 per person to attend which includes a talk, tea or coffee and a full English breakfast which has to be tasted to be believed just how good it is.

New members are always welcome. If you would like to join us then either call The Wellington and book on 01842 828224, before 4pm on the previous Wednesday, or email the Club co-ordinator Paul Garland at [garlandp@btinternet.com](mailto:garlandp@btinternet.com).

Our next meeting will be on **7th January**. Our speaker will be Kevin Boardman giving us another of his fascinating talks on a historical subject.

## WORD TRAIL NO. 25

Janet Clements brings us a different type of puzzle, a Word Trail. Starting at No.1 follow the clue numbers around the box clockwise finishing in the middle. The last letter of each answer is the first letter of the next answer. Work clockwise. Have Fun



### CLUES

- 1 Believable (9)
- 2 A sound heard again (4)
- 3 Unhealthily large human (5)
- 4 The Head of State in Japan during the second world war (7-8)



- 5 In 2019 this was UK's most popular girls name (6)
- 6 The act of washing yourself (8)
- 7 This country is bordered by Cameroon, Niger and Benin (7)
- 8 The location of the U.S.A. Masters golf tournament (7-8-4-4)
- 9 The name of the bird of ill omen to an old criminal (8)
- 10 Cylinder compressor (6)
- 11 The U.S. state in which Donald Trump was born (3-4)
- 12 The name of the first presenter of the X Factor in the UK (4-8)
- 13 HISTORY: This person was famous for stating... 'an army marches on its stomach' (8-9)
- 14 MEDICAL: E.C.G. in full (17)
- 15 An Alkaline referred to as 'Mg' on the Periodic table (9)
- 16 A bird of the Corvidae family (6)
- 17 SONG: An 1965 Beatles hit (5-4-1-4)
- 18 Jewish mourner's prayer (7)
- 19 This instrument has been nicknamed as the 'Mississippi Saxophone'
- 20 This city is found in Western Australia (7)
- 21 TV series that ran from the 1930's until 1989 giving an account of the lead up to and the Second World War 'All our ..... ' (10)
- 22 Surrealist artist famous for his melting clocks (8-4)
- 23 ..... Berlin, 'Easter Parade' songwriter (6)
- 24 One of the Wizards of Istari in JRR Tolkien's books of 'The Hobbit' trilogy (7)
- 25 Winter-time illness (3)
- 26 Instrument, implement (7)
- 27 MEDICAL: A common benign tumour composed of well-differentiated fat cells (6)
- 28 Rose in value (11)
- 29 The middle name of Angela Merkel (8)
- 30 The smallest unit of an element (4)

*This month's Word Trail solution can be found on page 72*



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Our new venture into sport has taken off with a swing with 9 players enjoying some fun and games. Steve Wellington is the organiser. See his article in this mag.

**And Casual Community Choir – 7.30pm >>> Anyone welcome**

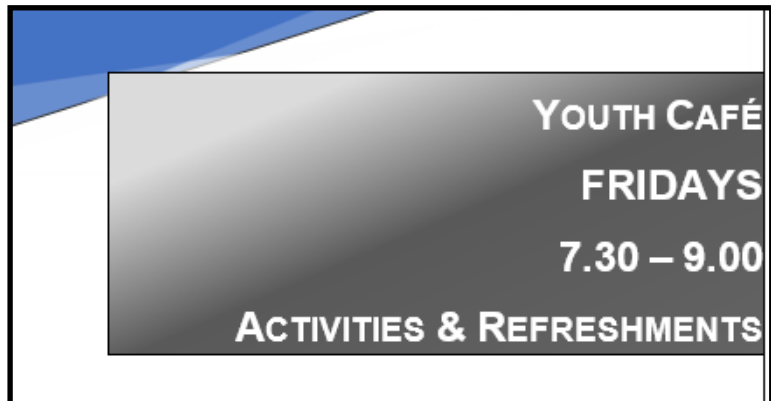
**Our first meeting was Tuesday 24 January when several enthusiastic villagers came to flex their vocal cords.**

**Wednesdays We Weed**

**Thursdays Brownies**

meet from 6pm with Tracy as the Brown Owl

**So to SUNDAYS** – our day to relax and reflect on our lives, where they've been and where they should be going



**10.45am for 11 to 11.45 – Fellowship and Refreshments**

**Sunday Speakers**

**5 Feb** – Rev Paul Critchley

**12 Feb** – Local Speaker

**19 Feb** – Mrs Joella Nash

**26 Feb** – Visit Wimbotsham

Find us by scanning this QR code on your Android or iPhone.

We can be contacted on Facebook, Messenger or mobile 07712578721 or by email

[mikegw15@gmail.com](mailto:mikegw15@gmail.com) Mike & Brigette Wilkinson

Give us a call or message us.

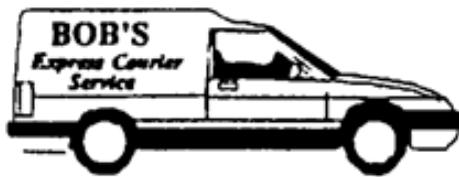


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Feb 23	Toss your own Pancakes + Activities

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## WILDLIFE CRIME REVIEW

Looking back at our records, we have investigated a considerable number of wildlife crimes this past year.

One area in which we've investigated several crimes over the last 12 months has been offences against bats. On one occasion we received a report of a suspected disturbance of roosting bats in a church. We investigated the report and found the work was done under an appropriate licence and unlikely to have caused a disturbance.

We had a similar job involving the reported destruction of roosting bats at a house and the question of whether the developers had applied for the correct licence. We worked with colleagues from Natural England to investigate and in this instance discovered the work was performed under the correct licence.

Unfortunately, on another two occasions this year, we have taken action when developers destroyed known bat roosts. In both cases, we issued Community Resolutions. Community Resolutions are a great way to resolve crimes and give back to the community, and in both these cases the offenders were asked to make significant donations to a local wildlife charity and install improvements for bats as part of the development. This should improve the prospects of the harmed species for the future.

For the first time last year we also investigated two reports of work damaging rivers where water voles were believed to be living. One of these incidents happened in a beck in the back of someone's garden, again the offender agreed to implement improvements to the beck to enhance it for the future and was asked to make a donation to a local wildlife charity via a Community Resolution. The other investigation, which remains ongoing, involves a much larger site with significant damage. I'll update you on this as soon as I can.

In addition, we investigated two breaches of licences issued by Natural England. One involved egg-pricking and the eggs in question were from Grey

# J M Harris EST. 1996

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Leg Geese. Egg-pricking is allowed under licence but had not been performed under license in this instance, so an offence had been committed.

The other case involved a person who had a license to shoot a limited number of Cormorants but hadn't renewed their license. This was a paperwork error on their part but still an offence. Both offenders admitted the offences and were dealt with a Community Resolution. Both offenders made donations to a local wildlife charity.

Disturbing nesting birds is always a tricky offence for us to prove and we, as always, have received many reports over the spring months last year. We had everything from motorbikes riding over ground hosting little tern nests, sea gull nests being removed, and nests being removed from wall cavities. Most of these end up with officers providing suitable advice. Proving culpability beyond reasonable doubt can be very difficult and as always, educational and awareness programmes around wildlife crime is key.

I know wildlife pest control and the use of traps is always controversial. We regularly get calls or information about traps believed to have been set illegally, and not complying with licenses.

On most occasions when we attend these reports, we find that the traps are set correctly or that all that is required is for the user to reset the trap slightly, and we help users as much as possible. However, there are also those cases when there are serious breaches, and these require further investigation.

Some of the traps we have seen this past year have included Larson traps that were incorrectly set and failed to meet welfare grounds, Fenn traps not set in appropriate tunnels, snares set against fence lines and the wrong bait used in traps. We still have a live investigation into a report of an otter sadly being killed in a trap and another involving two buzzards caught in Fenn traps. Identifying those responsible for setting the traps is often difficult as the bird travels some distance from the location where it is trapped to where it comes to rest, often from the exhaustion of carrying a heavy trap.

The RSPCA will often lead on animal welfare investigations but as a force we also pick up several investigations or work alongside colleagues in the RSPCA who have expertise in these matters. Alongside all this, there are so many more small investigations that we pick up...from illegal poaching, concerns around developments to reports of wildlife being harmed

## **LIVESTOCK WORRYING AND FENCING UNIT THEFTS**

Another crime that has appeared in the headlines a few times over the last 12 months is sheep or livestock worrying. At this time of year there are fewer reports of sheep being attacked but there has still been the occasional report. Please always keep your dogs on leads around seals and livestock. At this time

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Saturday 25th 8:30pm

of year, sheep start to become very vulnerable with many ewes heavily in lamb.

This year we have worked with the Crown Prosecution Service to prosecute one dog owner after it killed a couple of sheep. The owner was ordered to pay compensation to the victim. In a similar incident, the offender was issued with a Community Resolution with a requirement to pay compensation for the loss of sheep.

We will continue to investigate any similar offences. It isn't acceptable to claim your dog doesn't normally do it. Dog owners are responsible for the actions of their dog. Dogs should always be kept on leads and well away from livestock.

## **HARE COURSING**

It may be too early to say this yet but, for now, we remain on course for a record-breaking year – for the right reasons. Our calls to service for reports of hare coursing – this is known as OP Galileo - remain well below what we would normally expect. We do continue to receive a few calls, largely in marshland in the west of the county.

At the turn of December, we issued another three 7 Force Community Protection Warnings. The work we are doing as 7 forces is having a significant impact – it means anyone issued with a warning is liable to be issued with a notice next time and are likely to end up in court on a further breach which means we can apply for driving bans, dog confiscations to orders to prevent them from keeping dogs. On top of that we are working with more than 30 forces across the country sharing intelligence to try to disrupt this impactful and cruel crime.

Please, if you see any hare coursing in progress, call 999 immediately. Ideally, and if it is safe to do so, please provide a description of any vehicles involved and where they are parked. You can use What3Words to describe a location so we can direct resources to often very rural and isolated locations.

## **WHAT HAPPENED IN THE COUNTRYSIDE IN JANUARY**

January can be a tough month for us humans: cold, wet, often windy, and long dark nights when the sun makes very few appearances. The sun was a very welcome visitor when it did appear! If it was tough for us, it was sure tough for our wildlife.

I can't help but think about our garden birds at this time of the year. Birds like Blackbirds, Thrushes and Robins rely on soft ground with plenty of worms available or berries and seeds from plants. These are often few-and-far-between this time of year so please, if you can put out a few extra treats for

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them to enjoy, they would be welcome. It can take birds a little while to work out where a food source is but once they find it, you will be rewarded with a daily visit from many of our garden regulars.

Most of our mammals were well into their winter slow down. You shouldn't have seen hedgehogs out at this time of year and if you did I hope you sought expert advice. Likewise, bats shouldn't have been about during these cold months.

Now is the time to carry out any last-minute pond maintenance before the Great Crested Newts and other aquatic life starts to work its way back by the end of February for the breeding months. Newts will often move to undergrowth, log piles or even stone walls to avoid frosts. They can travel as far as 500 metres away from a pond to curl up for winter so just be mindful of suitable locations around a pond whilst carrying out work. Great Crested Newts are a protected species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

On our farms most of our cattle remained inside and were fed a winter ration, and they also required constant fresh bedding. Even those who did stay outside would have been supplemented as there was nothing nutritious left in the grass lands. Some will have grazed on stubble turnips; however, you don't see so much of this in Norfolk. Stubble turnips planted after the winter cereal crops are harvested in the summer are more likely to be grazed by sheep in Norfolk. These provide some great feed over winter.

All breeding ewes will hopefully be well in lamb now and some will have even started lambing, especially pedigree flocks who prefer to lamb early to provide large lambs for the show ring later in the year or for breed society markets. It is essential over the next few months that pregnant ewes are not put under any stress as this often leads to complications. Dogs worrying livestock is a real threat, please always keep dogs on leads around livestock.

Avian flu continues to circulate with our wild bird population and, sadly, within domestic flocks. A housing order remains in place and all domestic poultry must be housed and 'barriered' from wild birds.

On our fields sugar beet continued to be lifted and carted into the factories at Cantley and Wissington where this bulb plant, which originated 100s of years ago from the sea, is turned into sugar. Sugar beet is one of very few crops grown on a large scale and is harvested in the winter months. This is because of its biology of creating high sugar content. In short, sugar beet needs a mild growing season, but its sugar content is then secured in the bulb from a cold period.

Other field work was often on hold in January because the ground was far too wet, however, this gave a great opportunity for general farm maintenance to be carried out.

WNAS January 2023, Mundford Bowls Club

Methwold man, Tim Flatman RN, Officer Commanding 207 sqn at Marham, very kindly offered his time to present a talk about the revered American F-35 Lightning which is a single-seat, single-engine, all-weather stealth multirole combat aircraft;



often visiting Mundford airspace. After coming into service in 2006 it has evolved into three different variants, A, B and C; less difficult to understand than some of the tech-speak in Tim's repertoire. This data however, was limited to an unclassified selection.

He explained that the variants could be tailored to suit different requirements: speed, take-off and landing times, vertical take-off, ceiling, aircraft carrier stowage and manoeuvrability; the best of all these necessities is not available in one aircraft.

To demonstrate the popularity of the machine he also gave details of the distribution of end users: 1300 in America, 138 in Britain, some in Canada, Australia and quite a few in a number of European countries; he didn't say whether Lockheed Martin had a contract with Russia; perhaps that information comes under 'classified'.

Tim described the qualifications necessary to produce a modern generation pilot: he or she no longer needed muscle, a seat-of-the-pants approach or inertia conscious intuition, but, it is preferable to possess iPhone finger-tip coordination.

A pilot can no longer do or go where he/she pleases; the movements are monitored and recorded by base control and, the aeroplane will not allow the pilot to make commands beyond the aircraft's capability. The modern fighter pilot uses avionic technology which allows visual data to be retrieved through monitors in the helmet; information from the ground below can 'come through the floor'.

Combined British and American training exercises take place over the North Sea but much of the expertise is achieved using simulators; about 50% .

It seems this well-composed and imposing matter-of-fact young man (say, 43) was responsible for the record turn-out (37 present, six of whom were ladies; very encouraging) or maybe it was the result of additional website data; maybe a bit of both.

There was a barrage of questions at the end of the evening and one in particular asked by a lady who was alarmed by the F35's fuel consumption: "Was the aircraft 'green'"? At this point Tim lost a little of his composure and could have said, "No, it's silver" or, as a politician might say, "It's thirsty but for the greater good". Instead he savoured the moment of being part of a comedy double act.

Please find here: [www.westnorfolkaviationsociety.org.uk](http://www.westnorfolkaviationsociety.org.uk) details of WNAS Calendar, Photos, Press Releases, and any changes to the schedule.

Nigel Tooth

## A Message from St Mary's



It will happen. There will be a toilet and kitchen in the church. The work has been held up by the weather, illness, permissions from Highways and contractors being delayed on other projects. We hate the fact that the churchyard is such a mess, but hopefully this will have been sorted by the time you read this. Be assured that we will shout loud and long when the toilet is ready and you can use the building without the need to cross your legs! 😊

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New work is planned for 2023.

We are pleased to announce that we have created two new rose beds at the junction of



# Feltwell in Bloom

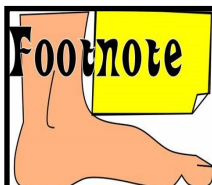
Newcombe Drive and Bell Street. These are created “In celebration of the Life and Works of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II” and are 10 roses from her Majesty’s favourite collection.

The flower beds created last year in Bell Street and Mulberry Close are experiencing the effects of winter and will benefit from the humus created by the worms, woodlice and slugs digesting and decomposing the dead foliage.

We are creating an area of meadow flowers within the grass area in Bell Street at the junction with Oak Street. Initially this will be a strip approximately 1m wide where we will scarify and clear some of the grass. We have been offered a wild flower seed collection and we have some flowering wild flower plants. The area will be defined by a series of short posts and coloured string. The area will also be allowed to mature and some grass allowed to grow to full height when it will produce seed heads attracting some insects and birds, we hope. The views of residents will be welcome and can be left of the Feltwell in Bloom Facebook page or messaged to a group member.

We have also planted wild English daffodils at the entrances to the village, around the 30mph speed limit signs. *(PS - if you slow down you might see them in the new year)*

**We are hoping to make a success of “Open Gardens” in 2023. To do this we need your support and the support of any of you who are prepared to invite visitors to enjoy your garden.** If you’re thinking about it please have a chat with me 07712578721, 827433, [mikegw15@gmail.com](mailto:mikegw15@gmail.com) or try and catch me when I’m at the chapel.



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## FELTWELL'S WW2 WAR HEROES NO. 7

*This month we continue our new series about WW2 War Heroes*

*All of the information in the "Feltwell's War Heroes" series can be found at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/43688219@N00/42905937225/in/album-72157679638767304/>.*

### Abbreviations used.

CWGC - Commonwealth War Graves Commission

SDGW – Soldiers Died in the Great War

IRC – International Red Cross

MIC – Medal Index Card

*This month's War Hero is:*

### **F.W. Reeve. Queens Own Regt**

Recorded on the Roll of Honour in the church as F. Reeve

No obvious match on CWGC.

The Roll of Honour website believe he is Probably Private 5780971 1st/6th Battalion, Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, who died aged 34 on 3 August 1944. He is buried in Bayeux War Cemetery. Private Reeve was the son of Frederick & Harriet Reeve, and husband of Elsie Maud Reeve of North Earlham, Norfolk. His Regiment is shown as the Queen's Own on the memorial.

That man on CWGC is:

Private REEVE, JOHN WILLIAM

Service Number: 5780971

Died: 03/08/1944

Aged: 34

Unit: 1/6th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey)

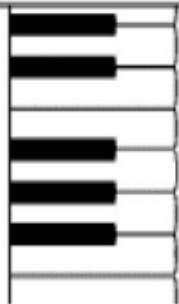
Son of Frederick and Harriet Reeve; husband of Elsie Maud Reeve, of North Earlham, Norwich.

Buried at BAYEUX WAR CEMETERY

Cemetery/memorial reference: XXVI. C. 14.

Source: [www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/2328749/reeve,-john-w...](http://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/2328749/reeve,-john-w...)

The Army Roll of Honour 1939-1945 records that Private 5780971 John W Reeve died on the 3rd August 1944 whilst serving in the West European Theatre of War with The Queen's Royal Regt (West



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Surrey). He was born and resident Norfolk.

There is no obvious Soldiers Will or Civil Probate for either an F. Reeve or a John Reeve.

### **Birth and family**

The birth of a John W Reeve was registered with the Civil Authorities in the Thetford District in the July to September quarter, (Q3), of 1910. His mothers' maiden name was Gray.

The most likely marriage of his parents was when a Frederick Reeve married a Harriet Gray in the Mildenhall District of Suffolk in the October to December quarter, (Q4), of 1902.

In the 1911 Census of England and Wales there is a married couple Frederick and Harriet Reeve who have been married 8 years and who were now recorded as a dwelling "Near Elm Tree", Feltwell. Frederick was then a 35 year old Shepherd from Froston, Suffolk. Harriet was 28 and from Lakenheath, Suffolk. The couple have had 4 children so far, all then still alive and also all still living with them.

They were:-

Grace Ethel	aged 7	born Froston, Suffolk
Albert Edward	aged 5	born Froston, Suffolk
Frederick George	aged 3	born Feltwell
John William	aged 9 months	born Feltwell

Until September 1911 the quarterly index published by the General Registrars Office did not show information about the mothers' maiden name. A check of the General Registrars Office Index of Birth for England and Wales 1911 – 1983 shows potentially three additional children of George and Harriet. All were recorded in the Thetford District with mothers' maiden name Gray,

Q4 1914	Arthur H Reeve
Q1 1919	Stanley R Reeve
Q1 1925	Herbert J. Reeve.

### **1939 National Register**

The 1939 National Register was a mini-census which was used to do a stocktake of the nations' skills, (with the view to making best use of the available resources in the event of war) and as the basis for

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the issue of ID cards and ration books. After the war it was used as a register for the National Health Service and continued to be used until the system was computerised in the early nineties. Known deaths and change of name were manually captured. It was this part of the register that entered the public domain via a Freedom of Information request. However entries where the person were still believed to be alive at the time the manual system was closed down **and** if they were less than a 100 years old were officially closed. Layout also leaves much to be desired, with location restricted to the relevant Urban or Rural District Council rather than village, town or city. It also doesn't set out relationships, so these need to be inferred.

There is a potential match for John Reeve and his family recorded in a household at 7 Council Houses, Downham Rural District Council, two doors away from the probable parents of Peter Lawrence. The people listed in this household are:-

- 1: Reeve, Frederick, Married, born 21st August 1875, Shepherd
- 2: Reeve, Harriet, Married, born 19th September 1882, Unpaid domestic duties
- 3: Reeve, John W., Single, born 18th June 1910, Pipe layer
- 4: Reeve, Aurthur H, Single, born 31st October 1914, Excavator
- 5: Reeve, Herbert J, Single, born 17th January 1925, Tea boy
- 6: Waters, Grace E, Married, born 11th October 1903, Unpaid Domestic duties
- 7: Waters, Frederick F, Single, born 29th July 1929, at School
- 8: This record is officially closed (and may indeed be a separate single person household).

Gong from the details on the 1911 census it would seem likely that Grace Waters was the married name of their eldest child.

### **Marriage**

It may be a co-incident, but the marriage of a John W Reeve to an Elsie M. Batley was recorded in the Norwich District in the January to March quarter, (Q1), 1944. A check of the General Registrars Office Index of births for England and Wales shows no likely children of John and Elsie.

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## On the day

As part of the commemoration of the outbreak of the Great War, the CWGC added a number of original documents to their site covering both major conflicts. One of these on their webpage for John William Reeve is a Concentration Report. These report detail the recovery and re-interment at the current resting place.

John and 6 other colleagues plus one tankman, all of whom died on the 3rd August 1944, were recovered from various locations near Le Manoir in October 1945. It's not clear from how the page of the report is laid out, but there is a note typed across the bottom " + Previously redg as 'Unknown'" which I can only assume applies to all of them. They are all marked as Killed in Action except for John, who is annotated "Pres", which presumably means presumed!

From Map Reference 7F/3 794.517

S.S.M 7886800 W R Knight, 5 RTR, originally shown as Killed in Action 4.8.44.

From Map Reference 7F/3 794.515

Pte 14410028 S W Sutton, 1/6 Queens, Killed in Action 3.8.44

Pte 5961840 J R Spicer, 1/6 Queens, Killed in Action 3.8.44

Pte 1616308 T W McGregor, 1/6 Queens, Killed in Action 3.8.44

From Map Reference 7F/3 793.516

Pte 5780971 J.W. Reeve, 1/6 Queens, Pres. Killed in Action 3.8.44

Pte 6086271 E Goddard, 1/6 Queens, Killed in Action 3.8.44

Capt 200139 E.R.C. Mayer, 1/6 Queens, Killed in Action 3.8.44

From Map Reference 7F/3 790.516

Pte 6476169 G. Barrow, 1/6 Queens, originally shown as Killed in Action 4.8.44.

On the British and Canadian side of Normandy, Operation Goodwood had given way to Operation Bluecoat" at this point.

'Goodwood' may not have been the breakout so desperately wanted, but it kept the bulk of the German forces in that sector. So when US forces launched Operation 'Cobra' on 25 July they faced only eleven weak divisions with limited fighting power. 'Cobra' broke the front open southwards from Saint-Lô, and American forces



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began a headlong advance westwards into Brittany and eastwards towards the Seine. The Germans had kept Allied forces bottled up for six weeks. But in so doing they had reduced themselves to remnants, devoid of reserves and unable to withstand the breakout when it came.

To support the US advance, Montgomery launched Operation 'Bluecoat' on 30 July, a big push south-eastwards from Caumont in the west of the British sector. Sensing a turning point, his orders to Dempsey were to 'throw caution overboard... accept any casualties, and to step on the gas for Vire'. With infantry in short supply, 11th Armoured Division led the assault. 'Bluecoat' saw savage, costly fighting in the worst Normandy bocage terrain. But tank-infantry co-operation was continuing to improve, and now troops embarked as riders on the tanks themselves, ready to jump off and deal with enemy positions.

Source: [www.iwm.org.uk/history/tactics-and-the-cost-of-victory-in...](http://www.iwm.org.uk/history/tactics-and-the-cost-of-victory-in...) See also : [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation\\_Bluecoat](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Bluecoat)

Operation Bluecoat: On 30th July, 11th Hussars finally rejoined the Division and remained with it until the end of the war and the Division then moved forward to Caumont. On the morning of 1st August, in thick mist, the Division saw action again as it advanced towards Aunay-sur-Audon, but became entangled with the traffic of 50th Division, who were also using the same roads. As they were fighting through Rommel's fortified villages, two days later the Division were still 5 miles short of their original object of Aunay-sur-Audon, although 11th Armoured Division were making good progress towards Vire. During the afternoon of 3rd August the German 326th Division counter attacked and fierce fighting took place around Aunay-sur-Audon, where both the Queen's infantry and 5th RTR suffered heavy casualties. The 5th RTR was engaged by several Tigers, Panthers and Panzer MK IV's and 'A' & 'B' squadrons were nearly annihilated. On that day 1/6th Queen's suffered 150 casualties, 1/7th Queen's 35 casualties and the Norfolk Yeomanry lost three guns, with 35 casualties.

[www.desertrats.org.uk/battles1944.htm](http://www.desertrats.org.uk/battles1944.htm)

# WORD SEARCH

Submitted by Mrs J. Clements.

This month our word search is on **SOVEREIGN STATES OF AFRICA**. Find the words from the list. They run vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backwards and forwards but always in a straight line. **There is ONE extra name on the list that is not found within the grid.**

The solution is on page 77

S	A	T	C	N	A	D	U	S	U	D	A
A	E	U	E	G	L	E	S	S	T	Y	C
O	G	N	D	T	O	G	O	F	B	R	D
T	B	I	E	Y	G	A	R	I	A	S	K
O	B	S	B	G	N	B	L	K	O	J	M
M	Y	I	D	U	A	O	R	R	L	O	C
E	C	A	W	A	R	L	O	J	R	C	W
A	A	L	L	D	W	M	E	O	F	A	Z
N	B	R	B	A	O	S	C	R	I	I	Y
D	O	W	U	C	R	C	E	L	M	D	A
P	V	A	R	R	O	Z	A	B	A	R	Y
R	E	N	K	E	S	M	A	A	L	B	N
I	R	D	I	G	O	B	I	G	A	U	E
N	D	A	N	S	W	B	U	Z	W	R	K
C	E	B	A	E	I	E	M	A	I	U	L
I	Z	R	F	M	L	N	A	H	I	N	A
P	O	W	A	L	A	I	L	C	T	D	I
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E	T	I	O	J	S	U	D	Y	O	C	A
R	O	G	D	F	R	A	Z	S	B	Y	T
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- ALGERIA
- ANGOLA
- BENIN
- BURKINA FASO
- BURUNDI
- CABO VERDE
- CHAD
- COMOROS
- DJOBOUTI
- EQUATORIAL
- GUINEA
- ERITREA
- GABON
- KENYA
- LESOTHO
- LIBYA
- MADAGASCAR
- MALAWI
- MALI
- MAURITANIA
- MOROCCO
- NAMIBIA
- NIGER
- RWANDA
- SENEGAL

SOA TOME AND PRINCIPE      SOMALIA      SUDAN      TOGO  
 TUNISIA      ZAMBIA      ZIMBABWE



## FELTWELL BOWLS CLUB



Hope you had a lovely Christmas and welcomed in the New year, let us hope for better prospects in the coming year.

Not much to report this month, still awaiting to hear what leagues we have entered, but we do have 3 or 4 prospective new members.

I must apologise for mixing up the dates of our last Quiz, it was right in my text but wrong in the advert. It was held Saturday 12th January 2023. I will report on it in the next issue.

We do have our next Coffee morning arranged, to be Saturday 18th. February 10 - 30am to 12 - 30pm all are welcome.

### **FELTWELL BOWLS CLUB COFFEE MORNING**

**SATURDAY 18TH. FEBRUARY 2023 10.30am to 12.30pm**

**To be held in the Bowls Club room at the end of the British Legion, Long Lane, Feltham, IP26 4BJ**

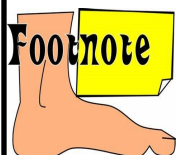
**There is a large off road carpark to the side of the British Legion.**

**All are welcome.**

**There will be a raffle and card stall.**

**All proceeds towards the running of the Bowls Club and a New Mower.**

**Come and enjoy a light hearted morning in very good company.**



I thought my window was down, but I found it was up when I put my head through it.

*Genuine statement from an insurance form*

# St Mary's Feltwell

Your Parish Church is open every  
day.



## CONTACTS

### Rector

Rev'd Joan Horan

01842 828034

[joanhoran123@btinternet.com](mailto:joanhoran123@btinternet.com)

The Rectory, Oak Street, Feltwell

### Curate

Rev'd Juanita Hawthorne

01366 728545

[revjuanita58@gmail.com](mailto:revjuanita58@gmail.com)

### Churchwarden

Chris Parker

01842 827152

[grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

### Benefice Administrator

Chris Parker

01842 827152

[grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

**TO ARRANGE, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS AND  
HOME COMMUNION**

**Please contact Chris Parker 01842 827152**

[grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

**TO ARRANGE BAPTISM**

**Please contact Tammy Wright 07717 507665**

[grimshoebaptism@gmail.com](mailto:grimshoebaptism@gmail.com)



*A good friend has gone but his mate carries on fishing in the pond.*

*A new friendship is formed but what secrets does the new friend keep?*

*Frederick James has some ideas.*

### **A FRIEND INDEED**

“ You know we was talkin' the other day about serious stuff an' that? And how you said, 'If you don't ask, you'll never know'?”

“Yes, I remember. You said as how you were sick of people saying you were thick, and would never amount to much in this world.”

“Yeh, that's it! They says I'm thicker than two short planks, three, in fact! Folks can be rotten, at times. I can't 'elp bein' thick, can I? Never 'ad no proper education, not like those posh kids 'ave. Poncin' up and down in their fancy school uniforms like they owns the place.!”

“Now steady on there, I'm one of those 'posh kids' you are talking about! And I don't think you are thick. You are educationally disadvantaged, my friend, but that doesn't mean you are thick. It just means that you haven't had the chances that such as I have had, that's all!”

“Yeh, I guess that's true, like, but look at you, sitting there in your posh blazer with its flashy badge on the pocket! Just by looking at you, anyone can see you ain't thick. Far from it, an' I can't see why you is my friend, and you've never called me thick, 'ave you? Not once 'ave you called me thick, not even as thick as only two short planks. Not never!”

“Well, my friend, I see it this way. Those people who call you thick, know that by doing so, they can hurt you and keep you in your place, which makes them feel superior to you. If they knew you better, like I do, they would know that you are a kind, decent person who would be a good friend to them too, given the opportunity. One doesn't have to be well educated to be a good person, and you are proving that by allowing me to be your friend.”

A warm welcome from  
St Mary's to our Services.



Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Eucharist	9.15am 11am	Feltwell Weeting
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Eucharist	9.15am 11am	Hockwold Northwold
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Eucharist	9.15am 11am	Feltwell Weeting
Weds 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Imposition of Ashes	7pm	Feltwell
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Eucharist	9.15am 11am	Hockwold Northwold

Morning Prayer or Eucharist every Tuesday at Hockwold at  
9.15am

**Zoom Eucharist Every Wednesday 10am**  
Please email Chris Parker for invitation details:  
[grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

St Mary's is open every day from 9am - 6pm.



**Coffee, Cake and Chat**  
from 10am every Weds morning.

Internet available and help to use it.



“Cor, I's never thought of it like that! Me letting you be my mate, (sorry, friend)! Blimey, how about that? I's got a posh mate, and he's my friend, too! Nah, it ain't that way really, is it? We's just pals 'cos we both wants to be, ain't we?”

“Yes, my friend, we are friends because we want to be, that is true!”

“Can I ask you summat, friend? In my Gran's bible, it says that 'in the beginning, God made the earth and all that stuff.' Right? So who made God?”

“That is a question that even posh folks can't answer, my dear friend !”



## TABLE TENNIS

**Feltwell Table Tennis club is now up and running every Tuesday from 1.45 at the Methodist Hall, Feltwell.**

**Come and have a coffee, great company and a bit of exercise from beginners up. £3 for two hours of fun.**

## CASINO LOGISTICAL SOLUTION

Kevin	The Majestic	Slot Machines	£200 Loss
Joe	Emperor Palace	Craps	£100 Loss
Martina	The Regal	Roulette	Broke Even
Veronica	The Grand	Blackjack	£100 Profit

### **A Message from the Editors**

Readers may recall that in 2021, owing to the various Covid related lockdowns we moved our annual subscription renewal date from January to March. We just wanted to remind everyone that this renewal date is permanent and subscriptions **will** be collected by our distributors in March 2023.

## **Help is at hand if you ask**

*From KLWNBC*

Christmas and New Year is a time for celebration but for people struggling with everyday living costs it can feel like an extra demand on a budget that already doesn't go far enough.

The stress this causes for many people is overwhelming and they tend to live life from day-to-day or even moment-to-moment and this has the effect of storing up bigger problems for later.

People often respond to money problems in one of two ways. They either avoid the problem altogether because they don't know how to get out of it or panic and go for a short-term solution like giving up their home or going to a money-lender – both of which usually make things worse in the long term. But it doesn't have to be like that and the council's main message is: talk to us before doing anything else – we can help.

We can check that you are getting all the financial benefits you are entitled to. If you're in debt we have services that will help you get back on track. If you find yourself in crisis we may be able to arrange help with food and rent costs. If you're struggling with your mental health we can put you in touch with people who can help with that too.

We understand that it can be really difficult to think beyond today's problems but if you can just take that first step of talking to us, it could be the most important conversation you have this year.

### **Money advice not money lenders**

Going to a money lender means fast access to cash without having to fill out forms, it can be a really tempting choice. But these people prey on desperation, charging huge amounts of interest and sometimes threatening or using violence to make you pay.

There ARE alternatives. If you get proper money advice they can help you maximise your income, making sure you are getting all the benefits you are entitled to and other help, such as discretionary support payments. They may be able to help you consolidate some of your debt or help you make payment agreements that you can manage.

The council pays for a money advice service that's specially to help with this and free to use – visit [moneyadvicehub.org.uk](http://moneyadvicehub.org.uk) or call 01553 970004.

### **Hang on to your home?**

Rent is usually a household's biggest cost and recently we have had a lot of phone calls from people who have given up their tenancies because they think they can't afford it. They intend to go on the housing register to get an affordable home.

What many people don't realise is that in many cases Government rules see this as making yourself 'intentionally homeless', which means that the council can't do much to help.

Even if we can help, it could be a long wait as very few affordable homes are available and there are around 1,400 people on the housing register in this borough alone. Over the past three months only 19 homes with 3 or more bedrooms have become available – that's about 6 each month.

For most people the best plan is to work out a way of staying in your current home. We can help with this.

Even if staying where you are isn't right for you, the most important thing you can do is talk to us before making any big decisions as this is when we can give you the most help.

If you feel ready to talk to us, you can call 01553 616200. Ask for housing options to talk about your housing situation or ask for Lily for anything else.

If you have internet access, have a look at our website pages on help with the cost of living at [west-norfolk.gov.uk/costofliving](http://west-norfolk.gov.uk/costofliving). The pages are broken down into different problems you might be facing and tell you where to get help for each one.

## WONDERFUL WEEKENDS

When I was young  
And in my prime  
I used to wander  
All the time  
So many miles  
Every week  
Country paths  
I would seek  
Where they went  
I did not know  
Or the Direction  
They did go  
How long it took  
I did not care  
Or the time  
Or just the where

One day I walked  
Near fifteen miles  
Found a pub  
And was all smiles  
A tasty meal  
A glass of Beer  
Then luckily  
A bus stop near  
Soon after this  
I bought a bike  
And finished then  
My weekly hike  
My healthy trips  
Were very far  
But ended when  
I bought a car

Harry Gill

## ST NICHOLAS CHURCHYARD

Please could I request that all Christmas wreaths and flowers be removed by the end of February in preparation for a churchyard work day and the grass cutting season starting. As per the Diocesan churchyard rules, and to help the grass cutting contractors, please note that no plant pots, vases, ornaments etc. should be placed in the middle of the grave spaces, they should stand on the plinth of the headstone.

Watch this space in March's magazine for the date of the work day, we would greatly welcome volunteers to help with this, even if it is only to tidy up the grave space of a loved one. Any help will be welcome.

For those of you new to the village, you may not realise that although St. Nicholas Church building belongs to the Churches Conservation Trust, the churchyard remains the responsibility of St. Mary's to maintain. We do try to do our best to keep on top of both churchyards, it feels like a never ending job!

Chris Parker, Churchwarden, St. Mary's





# RSPB Lakenheath Fen

## THE BRECKS AND THEIR WILDLIFE

For this month's article I thought it might be interesting to talk about the Brecks (an abbreviation of 'Breckland') which is a very rare and special habitat we have local to us. This article gets published in multiple parish publications, so some readers will be



living in the Brecks themselves- the area covers towns and villages such as Thetford, Brandon, Mildenhall, Swaffham and Icklingham (see the image below). In total, 970 square kilometres of East Anglia are classified as 'Breckland'!

### What's in the name?

It's thought that the word 'Breckland' is a shortening of 'broken land' which gives a clue as to what the habitat is like- the Brecks are very dry, often quite windy areas of very light and sandy soil. Between Norman and Victorian times, rabbit warrening was a very common source of employment and land use in the Brecks as the soil is poor in nutrients but beloved by rabbits. Rabbits were encouraged to breed in their natural burrows and were hunted by the warreners on a sustainable level to provide a regular supply of fur. This old usage gives rise to a lot of local names, such as

‘Warrener’s Reach’ in Lakenheath, or ‘Mildenhall Warren’. The sandy soil and high winds used to result in a natural phenomenon known as ‘shifting sands’ where the sand would form into dunes that shifted over time because of the wind. There’s no danger of it these days, but in 1665-70 Santon Downham was swamped by a ‘sand flood’ which completely submerged many properties in the village. And this instability is what gave rise to the ‘broken land’ name.

### **The Brecks’ unique wildlife**

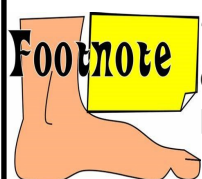
Although Breckland only covers a fraction of the land they used to (due to house building and other human development), lots of unique wildlife thrive here. Stone-curlews are a very rare bird which thrive at sites such as Cavenham Heath (owned by Natural England) or Weeting Heath (owned by Norfolk Wildlife Trust). They are roughly the height of a chicken, with long legs and large eyes which help them see at night (they are mostly nocturnal). Other birds like woodlark and tree pipit thrive here too, especially in the conifer plantations grown by the Forestry Commission. In some areas, the soil is too poor to grow arable crops so planting conifers is a more effective use of the land. Plants such as spring speedwell, wild grape-hyacinth and tower mustard thrive in Breckland soil. A lot of these plants survive by being very small and needing very little water.

At RSPB Lakenheath Fen we are just within the boundary of the peaty Fens- around a mile east of us, the soil changes dramatically and the Brecks appear- in fact the nearby Wangford Road straddles both habitats- it’s Brecks in the eastern half and Fenland in the west!

With best wishes for the month ahead,

Heidi Jones (Visitor Experience Officer, RSPB Lakenheath Fen).

*The map used in this article is from the Brecks, Fen Edge and Rivers Trust.*



“I was driving along the motorway when the police pulled me over onto the hard shoulder. Unfortunately I was in the middle lane and there was another car in the way..”

*Genuine statement from an insurance form*



# Events at RSPB Lakenheath Fen

## Spring 2023

Places for all events need to be booked online- please visit [events.rspb.org.uk/lakenheathfen](https://events.rspb.org.uk/lakenheathfen) for more information and bookings.

### Super Spring guided walk

Join us for a seasonal wander around the reserve to take in spring highlights- we will look for warblers and listen for cuckoos and bitterns.

Saturday 22 April (10am to 1pm)

PRSPB members (£12 adults, £6 Under 16's), non-RSPB members (£15 adults, £7.50 Under 16's).

### Join in with Harrier and Bittern Nest Watches

Tuesdays 16 May, 30 May, 13 June (all 7:30am-12:30am)

Why not join a warden for the morning and help complete our bittern and marsh harrier nest watch surveys? We will be looking to build a picture of where these birds are nesting on the reserve, and to keep track of their progress. Spectacular views, breakfast and transport are all included.

Price: Adults £40 for RSPB members; £50 for non-RSPB members.  
Two places available per survey date.

### Treasures of the Moth Trap

Monthly moth-trap opening at the Visitor Centre.

Children (under 16's) go free!

10am to 11am:

Friday's 31 March, 28 April, 26 May

Come along to see a range of beautiful, colourful and fascinating moths that we catch in our trap overnight- we will record what we see. Join us to learn a bit, take photos or just to feast your eyes!

Adults: £3 non-RSPB members, £2 for RSPB members.

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE NO. 36

Photos taken from Mr P. Garland's "Feltwell: Yesterday and Today" presentation first shown in 2018 and provided by Mr C. Cock. Modern photos taken August 2018 by Mr C. Brown.



Looking west. At the turn of the century it was so unusual to find anyone taking a photograph that a crowd soon formed, especially of children. Note the grapevine on the gable end of the house on the right. The photographer must have been stood with the Elm Tree behind him. Note the Elm Tree pub sign.



## WORD TRAIL No. 25—SOLUTION

<sup>1</sup> P	L	A	U	S	A	B	L	<sup>2</sup> E	C	H	<sup>3</sup> O
N	A	L	G	O	L	F	C	L	U	<sup>9</sup> B	B
O	A	R	T	<sup>14</sup> E	L	E	C	T	R	L	E
I	P	E	<sup>18</sup> K	A	D	D	I	S	O	A	S
T	A	E	R	D	A	L	<sup>23</sup> I	<sup>19</sup> H	C	C	<sup>4</sup> E
A	N	W	O	<sup>28</sup> A	P	P	R	A	A	K	M
N	O	A	D	M	M	R	V	R	R	C	P
A	B	S	A	O	O	E	I	M	D	A	E
T	N	Y	V	P	T	C	N	O	I	<sup>10</sup> P	R
S	A	A	L	I	<sup>30</sup> A	I	<sup>24</sup> G	N	O	I	O
U	E	D	A	<sup>27</sup> L	E	A	A	I	G	S	R
G	L	T	<sup>22</sup> S	I	H	T	N	C	R	T	H
U	O	H	Y	S	T	E	D	<sup>20</sup> A	A	O	I
<sup>8</sup> A	P	G	A	N	O	<sup>29</sup> D	A	L	<sup>15</sup> M	<sup>11</sup> N	R
I	A	I	D	E	R	O	L	B	A	E	O
R	<sup>13</sup> N	<sup>17</sup> E	R	T	<sup>26</sup> U	L	<sup>25</sup> F	A	G	W	H
E	O	I	E	T	S	E	<sup>21</sup> Y	N	N	Y	I
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I	N	R	O	H	T	E	T	A	<sup>12</sup> K	R	<sup>5</sup> O
<sup>7</sup> N	O	I	T	U	L	B	<sup>6</sup> A	I	V	I	L

Your **Parish Councillors** are:

Mr Ian Rayner (Chair), Mr Edmund Lambert (Vice-Chair), Mrs Sue Arnold, Mrs Miranda Bane, Mr Christopher Cock, Mr Paul Cole, Mrs Helen Wilson, Mrs Bernadette McGeeney, Mrs Linda Peckham, Mr Martin Storey, Mr Jonathan Fenn.

The Parish Council website can be found at:

<https://feltwellparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

The Parish Clerk, Jo Martin can be contacted by email at [feltwellparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:feltwellparishclerk@gmail.com). Or by phone on 828383.



# Breckland Branch



Did you know that cats may show no signs of being infested with worms? Although you might not see them, intestinal worms can be a serious health risk to your cat and your family, so it's important to understand how to protect against them.

Kittens pick up roundworms from their mother's milk and by swallowing eggs from the environment. Cats pick up roundworm eggs from contaminated soil and by eating infected hosts, such as rodents. Adult cats often don't show any signs of roundworm infestation, so it's easy for the problem to go undetected, yet a recent study has shown that just over 1 in 4 cats that go outside are infested with roundworms.

People become infected with roundworms by accidentally swallowing tiny worm eggs from the environment. Cats pass eggs in their faeces and as they prefer to go to the toilet in soil or sandpits, this poses a risk to children playing in these areas. Roundworms in people can cause damage to their eyes, lungs and heart. They can also be a risk factor in eczema and cognitive dysfunction. Children are especially at risk as they play on the floor, in sandpits or in soil where worm eggs may be present. Cats pick up tapeworm by swallowing fleas when grooming themselves. Tapeworms are picked up by eating rodents or birds, so cats who hunt are at much greater risk. Cats often show no signs of tapeworms, but may lose weight and coat condition. Tapeworm segments around the bottom can also lead to irritation. Due to their size and behaviours, cats often share areas of the home with their owners. Indeed a recent survey has shown that 53% of cats sleep on the beds of their owners or their owners' children.

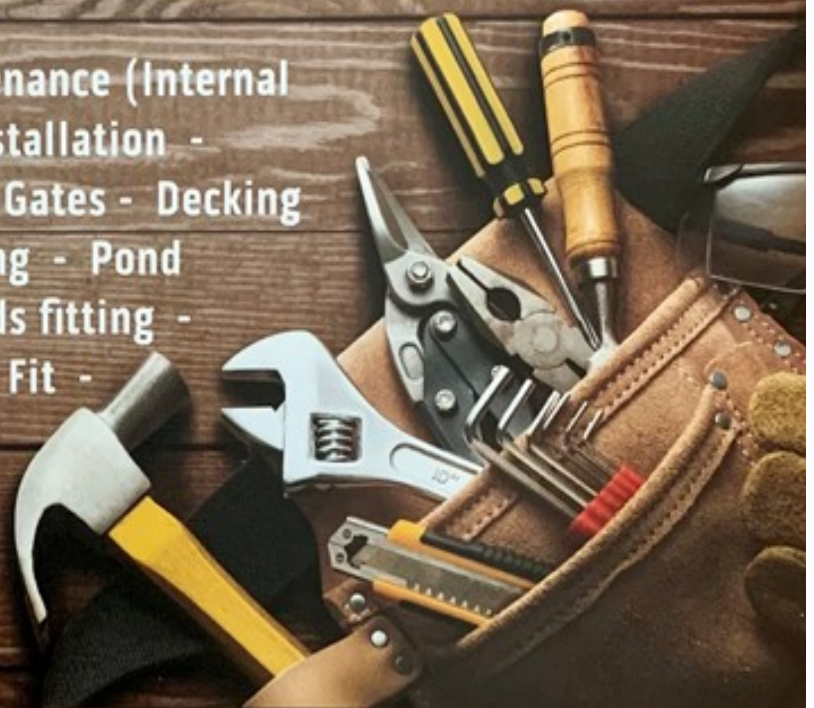
To protect your pet and family always wash hands after outdoor activities and before eating. Wash fruit and vegetables intended to be eaten raw. Cover sandpits when not in use and if possible cover vegetables in allotments and gardens.

Treat your cat with a product that's effective against worms regularly throughout the year and this is especially important in kittens, cats who regularly hunt or roam, cats in households with young children or someone elderly or with a poor immune system. Always buy your worm treatment from your vet as they have the most up to date products that work.

For help or advice or if you need assistance with the cost of neutering, please call us on 01842 810018.

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## NEWS FROM THE LEGION

2023 has started well for the legion with a good few hall lets, plus the carpet bowls and crib both doing well. A note about the crib, it is now being run by Bob Ling and the venue is now the top end of the legion building. The carpet bowls will be holding their annual lunch this month, the event also has the awards for the most cheese (bit in the middle of the carpet) hits and also the least hits over the past year. The Thursday evening sessions are also going well. We as a branch will be having a Valentines quiz night on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> Feb, starting at 7.30pm £3.00 per head, a max number of 8 to a team. Just to let you know it will not be all about valentines there will be the normal rounds of general knowledge, music and others so come along and enjoy a good night of fun and laughter. (Bring your own drinks and nibbles) There will be tea and coffee available. The county will be holding their annual conference (Feb 4<sup>th</sup>) at city hall Norwich in the council chambers. This conference we will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. As a branch we are involved in organising the agenda, food. Speakers and VIPs as I am the county conference committee chairman. Also in attendance will be our standard bearer along with our branch chairman who as a delegate has the right to vote. There will be others from the branch who are going as guests.

Our own branch meeting will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> Feb at 7.30pm.

### **METHWOLD SPIRITUALIST SERVICES**

Friday Meetings 2023, Doors open 7pm for 7.30 start.

17th February DORA SHERIDAN

24th March POPPY BOWLING

14th April ANN VENN

28th April LYNDA ROSE

ALL ARE WELCOME AT,

**The 21 Room, St. George's Hall Complex,  
16 High Street, Methwold, Norfolk IP26 4NT.**

Entrance donation £3. Evening of Clairvoyance £5 (towards costs)  
(Ample parking at rear) For further information ring 01366 727160



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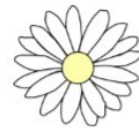
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## Feltwell History Society

The 24th Carols by Candlelight service held at St Nicholas church in December went ahead despite the very cold weather.

More people turned out than expected and they all enjoyed it.

The service was followed by refreshments afterwards at Hill House kindly hosted by Mr & Mrs Watts.

Our thanks to everybody who helped to make this annual event so special.

The Historical Society look forward to next year. *Marion Lucas*

The Feltwell Society planned events for this year are:

17th Feb.—Gt Plague of London—Kevin Boardman

17th Mar—Feltwell Wildlife—Claire Scarff

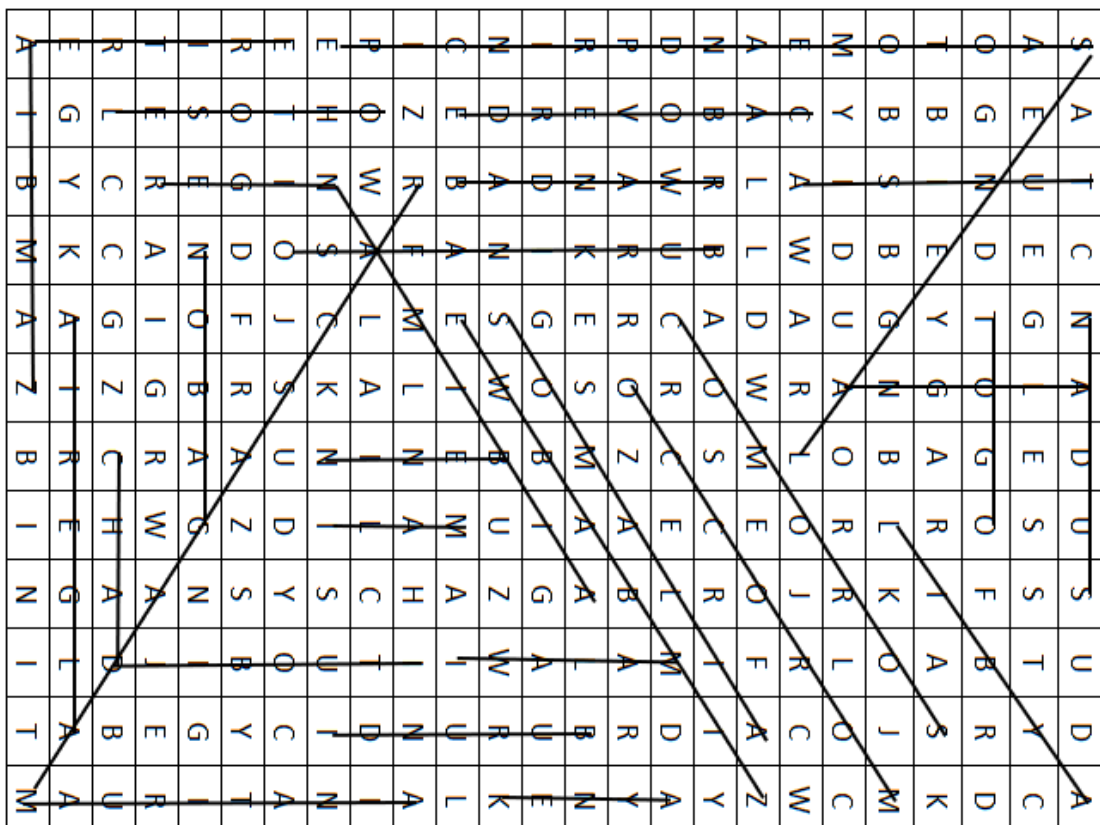
21st Apr—The Yanks are Coming—Linda Scoles

Other meetings will be advertised later.

We meet at the Chapel on the 3rd Friday of the month

### Word Search Solution

Next month's Word Search will feature  
**TV Shows**



A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of JANUARY 2023 in the British Legion, Long Lane. Ten Councillors attended and 4 members of the public

Mr Storey said public comments received during the budget consultation which ended 6/12/22 were being considered ahead of the budget meeting to be held mid-February. During the fortnight of frosts, NCC gritters covered 2200 miles on Norfolk A & B roads which does not take into account the A11 and A47 as these are covered by national highways. The 1900 grit bins across Norfolk can be refilled on request.

Carriageway re-surfacing is due to start on the A10 Downham Market roundabout and A1122 Stradsett junction in May.

Elections will also take place in May. Mr Storey said his £10K Local Members Budget opens again 5/4/23 and that after initially allocating £3.5K of this budget last year to combat flooding on the corner of Munsons Lane/Old Methwold Road, a further £3K had to be spent on this project. Chair said no drainage had been installed here and further work was undertaken over Christmas due to flooding. Mr Storey said the 30mph and 40mph roundels on Lodge Road and Wilton Road should be installed by April as the money had to be spent this financial year. When asked why this work requested and allocated in April 2022 was not being completed until 9-10 months later when costs had probably doubled, Mr Storey said there were 84 Norfolk County Councillors in Norfolk, each allocated £10K, and priority is given to emergency work.

Other issues such as staff sickness also cause delays and there is a backlog of work from the previous year which has a knock-on effect. Repairs to major roads also took priority. He said although costs may increase, the amount allocated remains the same and this money is not lost if repairs are not done within the agreed timescale as the schemes will be completed.

Memorial bench on High Street has been shotblasted and is awaiting painting. Thank you to Andrew Lambert for

undertaking the preparatory work to the bench prior to shotblasting.

Gym equipment will be installed at the playing field 11/1/23.

Mr Storey thanked the Chair, Ian Rayner, for his involvement in setting up the Christmas tree and lights in St Mary’s Churchyard over the Christmas period which he said looked wonderful. He asked for thanks to be passed onto his brother, Martin Rayner, and father, Mick Rayner, who also spent a great deal of time doing this.

**Residents are encouraged to deposit any glass waste into the bottle bank on the playing field as the Parish Council can obtain recycling credits for every tonne collected.**

Don’t forget to join Feltwell Parish Council’s Facebook page for regular updates and subscribe to our website <https://feltwellparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk> where draft minutes will be published a minimum of three clear days before the next meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place at the British Legion on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at the earlier time of 7.00 pm, all are welcome.

**SUDOKU SOLUTION**

5	9	2	6	3	4	7	8	1
4	1	8	2	7	9	3	6	5
6	7	3	5	1	8	2	9	4
1	8	6	4	5	3	9	2	7
9	5	4	7	2	6	8	1	3
2	3	7	8	9	1	4	5	6
3	6	1	9	8	7	5	4	2
7	2	9	1	4	5	6	3	8
8	4	5	3	6	2	1	7	9



**WE ARE  
MEMBERS**

# *The Fish Piper*

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## **Opening Times**

**CLOSED - Sun, Mon & Tues**

**Wednesday, Thursday: 4:30pm - 8:00pm**

**Friday & Saturday:**

**11:30am - 1:15pm & 4:00pm - 8:00pm**

- ◆ ***Last Orders taken half hour before closing***

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