

FELTWELL PARISH MAGAZINE

YOUR CONNECTION TO YOUR COMMUNITY

December 2024

Happy Christmas to all our readers,



Much to my annoyance I was photobombed by Santa last December whilst taking a photo of St Mary's!



How many reindeer can you find inside?

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Christmas Events

Christmas Lights for My Wish

Our Indian Volunteer Pt. 2

How Would We React?

News From the Playgroup

Training for the North Pole

Farmyard Mutterings

It's the Time for Nestboxes

Plus, all our usual puzzles and much more inside.

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.

Feltwell Bowls	Martin Blackman	829821
The Royal British Legion (Hall 828480)	Ian Rayner	07766 348679
RBL Poppy Appeal Organiser	Mary Reynolds	828130
Feltwell Historical and Archaeological Society	Marion Lucas (Chairman)	828769
Feltwell Table Tennis Club	Steve Wellington	07436 905520
Beavers and Cubs	Claire Scarff	827555
Feltwell School PTA		@ the school
Feltwell Women's Institute	Claire Scarff	827555
Feltwell Playgroup	Merle Gallagher	07582 371984
Feltwell Scout Group	Claire Scarff	827555
Feltwell Football Club	Neil Edwards (Secretary)	
Feltwell Youth Football Club	Andy Kennedy	828914
Feltwell & Thetford District Mencap	Mrs T. Sismey	827292
Feltwell Brownies	Tracey Cock	
Feltwell Social Club		828093
Feltwell Primary School	Mrs J. Lillycrop	828334
Feltwell Golf Club	Joanne Bates	827644
Feltwell In Bloom	Rita Page	07785345614
Rector of St Mary's Parish Church	Revd. Joan Horan	828034
Curate of St Mary's	Juanita Hawthorne	01336 728545
Churchwarden of St Mary's	Christine Parker	827152
Friends of St Mary's	Stephen Parker	827152
Feltwell Men's Breakfast Club	Paul Garland	827029
Feltwell Methodists	Mike Wilkinson	07712 578721
Feltwell Museum	Graham Simons	828387
Parish Clerk, Jo Martin. Email: clerk@feltwellparishcouncil.gov.uk		828383

Parish Council website: <https://feltwellparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Feltwell's History Website can be found at <http://www.feltwell.net>

Deadline for the next issue is 11th December 2024

Submitted articles may be hand written, emailed or typed in MS Word and sent to: The Editor, Mr Paul Garland, 16, Falcon Road, Feltwell, (827029),
Email: garlandp@btinternet.com

Advertisers should contact our Advertising Manager: Susan Withers,
The Bungalow, Blackdyke Road, Feltwell (827758)
Email: s_withers@hotmail.co.uk

Distribution is by Ian Webb (828167) & Paul Garland

You can subscribe to this magazine for £5 a year, incl. two free issues and free delivery in Feltwell. Gift subscriptions are available, contact the editor.

Santa's Helpers: How Each Village Resident Could Train for the North Pole

Imagine Santa in a pickle this year. The elves are overworked, the reindeer could use some cardio, and he's heard our village has just the skills he needs to get his Christmas operation back on track. Here's how each of us could bring a bit of village charm to the North Pole and help Santa make this the best Christmas yet.

Starting with our Farmers, who are practically ready-made sleigh-pulling pros. Used to hauling hay and lifting heavy tools, they'd have no trouble handling Santa's sleigh. With a bit of snow-boot training, they'd be set to tackle any icy conditions, making sure Santa can cross hill and dale. With all their strength and stamina, our farmers could add the extra power needed to get Santa's sleigh off the ground—no reindeer required!

Then there are the Dog Walkers, who would make perfect reindeer fitness trainers. Who better to ensure Dasher, Dancer, and the gang are in tip-top shape? With leads, whistles, and plenty of treats (they might have to switch biscuits for carrots), our dog walkers would organise "Rudolph Races" around the village, helping the reindeer build strength and stamina. Santa's reindeer would be primed and ready to zip across rooftops worldwide, thanks to their training around our frosty fields and footpaths.

Our well-stocked Shops would be essential for keeping the elves fuelled and on track. Stocked with all the holiday essentials, the shopkeepers would ensure Santa's crew never runs out of supplies, from wrapping paper to festive snacks. And with the help of our Fish & Chip Shop and Chinese Takeaway, even Santa could have a hearty meal after a long day. Perhaps he'd develop a taste for sweet and sour chicken or a classic fish supper—anything to keep him going through a night of deliveries.

The local Feltwell in Bloom team would bring a touch of holiday magic to the North Pole. Known for making our village beautiful, they'd transform Santa's workshop into a festive wonderland with

**IT'S THE METHODIST CHAPEL'S 90th ANNIVERSARY
APRIL 2025**

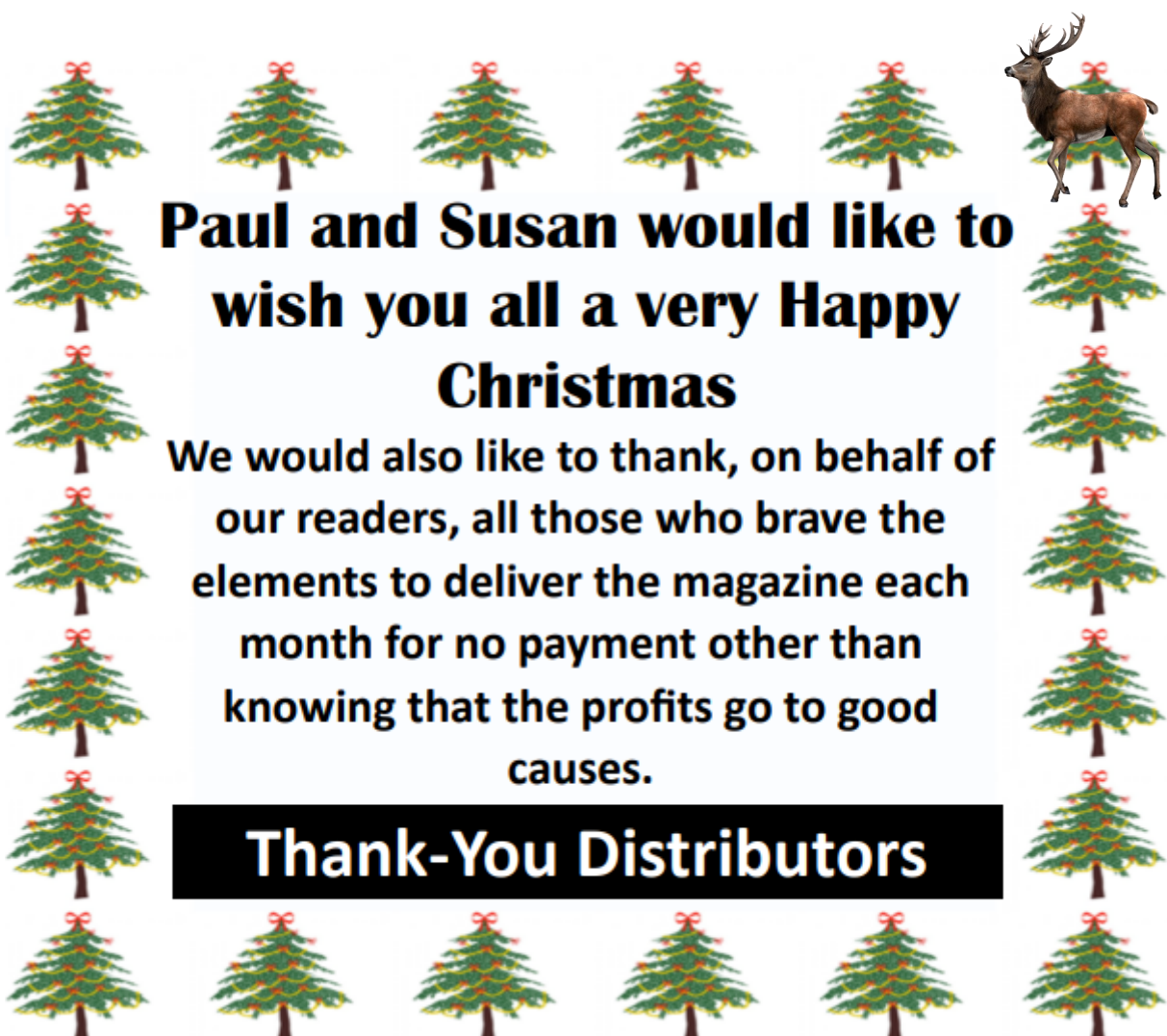
**IF YOU ATTENDED THE METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL
WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU
IF YOU HAVE ANY MEMORABILIA OR INFORMATION
ABOUT THE CHAPEL'S PAST, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH**



Pilot: Dead bugs on windshield.

Engineer: Live bugs on back order.

Excerpts from various aviation engineers' fault report forms.



poinsettias, holly, and twinkling lights. They'd line the path from the workshop to Santa's sleigh with snowy floral displays, inspiring the elves with festive flair. Thanks to our green-thumbed volunteers, Santa's workshop would become the most dazzling spot in the North Pole.

Meanwhile, our Pilates Enthusiasts would get Santa ready for all those tricky chimney descents. Imagine him at a morning Pilates session, perfecting his posture and strengthening his core for the big night. The Pilates crew would have Santa bending and stretching his way into every house without a hitch, with abs of steel to help carry his heavy bag of toys.

Finally, the High Street Café would provide the North Pole's cosy corner. Known for fuelling our village with coffee and treats, it would be Santa's favourite pit stop for a hot cocoa, perhaps with a cheeky mince pie to keep him energised. Between bustling villagers and festive tunes, the café would bring homely warmth to Santa's hectic schedule, helping him recharge for the long journey ahead.

With everyone pitching in, our village would be Santa's ultimate Christmas team! So if you hear sleigh bells early this season, it's just us doing our North Pole training. Merry Christmas!

Helen

Life Fitness Re-Engineering

Having driven around the village several times in the dark recently I think it's time I revived the old advertising slogan of

Wear Something Light at Night.

We are not the best illuminated village I'm sure and there are many very dark areas. Please, in the interest of safety, think about wearing a reflective vest or putting reflective tape on the back of your coat or your dog's lead or your bike. Please check that your children and grandchildren have working lights on their bikes. I would hate to hear that someone has been killed on our roads because they couldn't be seen clearly.

*I Can No Longer See You With My Eyes Or
Touch You with My Hands, But I Will Feel You
In My Heart Forever*



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40 Years
Experience

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MARK SKINNER
FUNERAL SERVICE



SAIF
INDEPENDENT
FUNERAL
DIRECTORS

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your loved one, like we would our own**

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27 High Street, Lakenheath, Suffolk, IP27 9JS, T: **01842 862777**
30 Bury Road, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 3DE, T: **01842 752197**

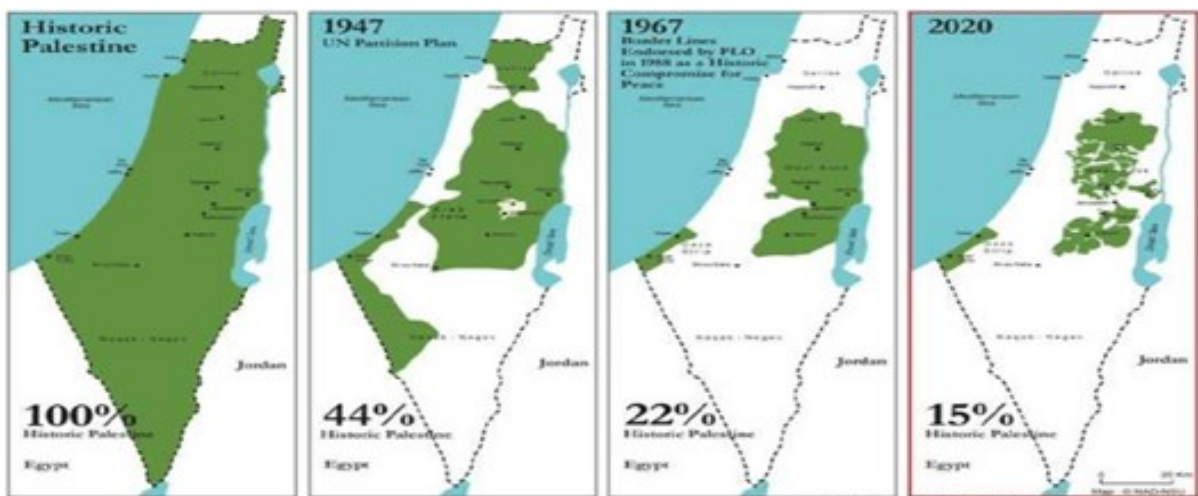
www.markskinnerfunerals.org.uk

HOW WOULD WE REACT?

Oh dear! Fred is at it again, tackling issues that are current and possibly, probably, will annoy at least one reader. As he asks at the end, "What do you think?" These are his personal opinions, Ed.

You will forgive me if, once again, I step up onto my soap-box, to give an airing to my reaction to affairs, past, present and future.

For the past 365 days, the world has watched the turmoil develop on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, where Palestine and Israel have bickered over land since 1947. As we all know and appreciate, after the war in Europe, a home had to be found for a nation decimated by the Holocaust, and partition of Palestine was the choice made by the members of NATO who thought they knew best at the time.



How that decision would affect the area has been questioned every day since the 29th of November, 1947, when, without proper consultation with the Palestinians, fifty-six per cent of their land was handed over to the Israelis, under the umbrella of Resolution 181. Thus began the twenty-year war between the two nations, resulting in a further reduction proffered by Palestine in peace negotiations. By 1967, whilst the negotiations were still on-going, the Palestinians had lost another fifth of their land, leaving them with just twenty-two percent of what they had prior to 1948.

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You will have to forgive the change of tone here, because this is where my view of the on-going situation comes to the fore.

In the fifty-seven years since the failed peace-talks, with yet another United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 in place , Israel have gained more and more land from the Palestinians by what appears to be land-grab and occupation, leaving them with just fifteen percent of their original homeland.

Obviously, I do not condone the way Hamas went about their way of showing the Israelis how they resented the foreign domination of their homeland, but how would we react to having our land taken away from us by stealth and force of arms? Nimbyism is an accepted way of objecting to just about anything, even in the UK, but Palestine has never had any recourse in law to stop Israel stealing their land. If that continues, the fifteen percent they were left with in 2020 will slowly disappear, until they are left with nothing, just as the Jews were, in 1948.

Question:- If that happens and Palestine becomes a homeless nation, will the UK, USA and NATO step in and find them a homeland? I doubt it very much. ("Not our problem any more, mate!") Whilst the USA and UK continue to support Israel, and Iran and Co support Hamas and Hezbollah, I see the makings of another 100-year war, the like of England and France's dispute over the Duchy of Aquitaine in 1337, and see how that turned out! The French still don't like us, but that's a different story.

Regular readers of the Feltwell magazine will know that I am prone to having an opinion about most things, so why don't you tell our editor what you think?

Frederick James, October 2024

NEW Lead Times for Prescriptions NEW

PLEASE ALLOW **5** FULL WORKING DAYS FOR YOUR MEDICATION TO BE READY

Ordered

Sat, Sun & Mon
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday

Ready for collection

Following Tuesday
Following Wednesday
Following Thursday
Following Friday
Ready a week Monday

CHRISTMAS AT ST. MARY'S
CAROLS ROUND THE
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE

ST. MARY'S CHURCHYARD
SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER 6PM



Come and enjoy singing your favourite Christmas carols around the lovely community Christmas tree, followed by a hot chocolate and mince pies inside St. Mary's.

If the weather is bad, we will sing around the Christmas trees in church. Wrap up warmly and don't forget to bring a torch.

CHRISTINGLE and POSADA SERVICE

Sunday 22nd December 4pm

Please come and join us for the Christingle service in aid of the Children's Society.



POSADA - Children from the early years' classes of the village primary school looked after Mary, Joseph and the Donkey during Advent as they travelled around Feltwell on their way to the Manger in St. Mary's, where they will arrive on 22nd Dec. The journals with accounts of where they visited and what they got up to will be on display in church until 6th January.

CHRISTMAS MORNING 10AM

A warm welcome to all who wish to come and celebrate our Lord's birth.



LATEST CONSUMER ALERTS AND TRADING STANDARDS NEWS

Scam Alert - Emails claiming to be from 'Tesco'

We are warning residents about scam emails circulating claiming to be from Tesco offering you the chance to 'reward yourself with a Tesco Gift Card worth up to £750'.

Fraudsters will frequently use well known businesses in their scam emails claiming to be offering gift cards or free items which can be claimed by clicking on a link in the email. Anyone following the link will be taken to a website which will often require you to 'complete a survey' to claim the offered but non-existent item. These surveys will attempt to gather personal and financial details which the fraudsters can use to send further scam emails using this information.

Scam Alert - Emails claiming 'Suspicious Virus Detected'

We are warning residents about a number of scam emails circulating claiming that a 'Suspicious Virus Detected' on your device. It goes on to state that 'it may soon corrupt your sim card, data, photos and contacts if no action is taken'. The emails are often branded with names like Google or Apple.

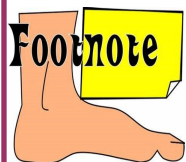
Anyone following the link will be taken to a phishing website which will attempt to gather personal and financial information.

Scam Alert - Buying and selling on Facebook Marketplace

Facebook Marketplace can be a great place to buy and sell goods and services, however, unfortunately the platform is also seen as a hunting ground for scammers. Scammers are there selling non-existent, fake and dangerous goods, but there are also there to try and prey on those selling products.

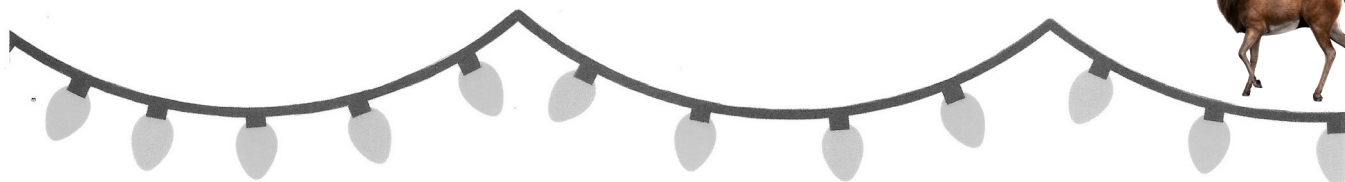
If you are using Facebook Marketplace, look out for these red flags:

- Refusing to meet up in person
- Moving conversations outside of Facebook Messenger
- Asking for items to be shipped before payment is received
- Buyers providing a prepaid shipping label
- Buyers overpaying then asking for a refund of the difference
- Messages claiming you need to pay a fee to 'upgrade your account'
- No profile picture



"I saw your patient today, who is still under our car for physical therapy."

Apparently from an actual entry on a patient's hospital record.



**We hope you enjoy our Christmas
lights.**

We are raising money for



**to provide goodies for children
who need blood tests at
West Suffolk Hospital**

Charity no 1049923



Scan and donate

**Roy and Eva Invite you to their
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON
1st Dec, 6pm. 4, Western Close, Feltwell.**

- Requests for your phone number or other personal information

Payment scammers pose as buyers who ask to purchase an item and claim to have sent a payment. They may send a counterfeit cheque, use a fraudulent payment method, or claim to have overpaid and request a refund for the excess amount.

Payment scammers might also exploit sellers by using payment methods that can be easily cancelled after an item has been posted or delivered.

Even in person the scammer will try to exploit a payment via a banking app by showing the transaction on their own mobile device. Always wait for the payment to have cleared before allowing the buyer to leave with the item.

Here's a quick summary of ways to stay safe when selling on Facebook Marketplace:

- Deal with local buyers whenever possible
- Avoid sharing personal information unless absolutely necessary
- Use secure payment methods like PayPal or cash-on-delivery
- Check comments under listings for warnings from other users
- Report suspicious buyers to Facebook

Scam Alert - Investment Scams and fake cryptocurrency exchanges

We are continuing to receive reports of individuals falling victim to online investment scams, including fake cryptocurrency exchanges. Losses to these scams range from a few hundred to several thousand pounds.

Bitcoin is the most famous cryptocurrency, but there are more than 1,500 cryptocurrencies including other well-known ones such as Ethereum and Litecoin. Cryptocurrencies only exist online and are not controlled by a bank, treasury or country meaning you can't get physical notes or coins from the bank.

Our advice is to always ensure you understand a cryptocurrency or an investment before transferring any money.

A cryptocurrency scam can take many forms, this could include:

- a fake cryptocurrency which doesn't or will ever exist
- a bogus investment which promises to put money in a legitimate cryptocurrency
- a dangerous website link that then downloads malware onto your computer

Which? have put together useful guidance on how to spot an investment scam which can be found on the Which? website.

The Financial Conduct Authority website also provides further details on how to avoid investment scams online.



**The Historical
Society
Invites you all
to**



Carols By Candlelight

**In
St Nicholas Church**

Sunday 8th December 2024

Commencing at 3.00pm

We look forward to seeing you at this popular event.

**Come and Sing your favourite carols
together with selected readings in this
lovely and now redundant church.**

If you think you have received an investment offer that you believe is a scam or you have become a victim of a scam, you can report this to us via our partners the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on freephone 0808 223 1133

Scam Alert - Facebook fake 'missing person' and lost/found pet

We are reminding residents to be alert for social media posts that could lead to phishing attempts.

Fraudsters frequently create posts that appear to be missing person alerts or posts about lost/found pets that are placed into community pages. The same post can often be placed onto a large number of pages simultaneously with a link for 'more information' and a request to share the post to help locate them or get them home.

These posts are designed to get people to interact with them thinking they are helping with the issue. But in reality the fraudster will use the links to try and gather personal or financial information with fake login sites, or once the post has a high number of shares will change the post to link to survey sites enabling them to gain money.

Before sharing any post on social media take a good look at it, think is the source genuine. Look at the original posters profile, is it a new account? Do they have any friends listed? Is it just a single profile picture? Have the comments been disabled to prevent people highlighting they are fake?

If you click on a link which takes you to a log in page, take a few extra seconds to check it is the genuine site. If you're not sure, don't enter any details.

Scam Alert - WhatsApp 'family member' scam messages

We continue to receive reports from Norfolk residents of WhatsApp messages where fraudsters attempt to impersonate family members to steal money.

The message will often start "Hello Mum" or "Hello Dad" and will say that they are texting from a new mobile number as their phone was lost or damaged.

They will then ask for money to purchase a new one or claim that they need money urgently to pay a bill.

The fraudsters will then provide bank details for the payment to be made to, with some coming back with further demands for money.

If you receive a suspicious message (even if you think you know who it is from), calling or requesting a voice note is the fastest and simplest way to check someone is who they say they are.

Stop: Take time before you respond. Make sure your WhatsApp two-step verification is switched on to protect your account, that you are happy with your privacy settings

Think: Does this request make sense? Are they asking for money? Remember

The Atmere Charity

The charity awards grants to individuals who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress.

It also helps for severe chronic illness in younger people.

Applications for assistance must be made to:
The Atmere Charity Secretary, 16 Falcon Road,
Feltwell, IP26 4AJ giving as much detail as possible about the need, distress or illness being experienced.

Any applicant **MUST** be a Feltwell resident.

Pure Water Clean

PURE water window cleaning Gutter vacuum & cleaning

Soffit & fascia cleaning Solar panel cleaning

Conservatory roof cleaning Conservatory Valet

Fully insured, reliable, Feltwell resident

Please call Craig for a free no obligation quote

07743 595424

that fraudsters prey on people's kindness, trust, and willingness to help

Call: Verify that it really is your friend or family member by calling them directly or asking them to share a voice note. Only when you are 100% sure the request is from someone you know and trust, should you consider it

You can report spam messages or block a sender within WhatsApp. Press and hold on the message bubble, select 'Report' and then follow the instructions.

Also remember to **never** share your account's activation code (that's the 6-digit code you receive via SMS).

Scam Alert - Household Support Fund text messages

We are highlighting a warning from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) about scam text messages claiming to relate to the Household Support Fund.

The message advises the recipient that they are eligible for £900 from the Household Support Fund if they click on a link, pay £1 and give their bank details for monies to be paid.

These messages are **not genuine**, anyone following the link will be taken to a website which will gather personal and financial details.

If you receive this message, please report it by forwarding the message to **7726**.

Scam Alert - Emails claiming to be from 'Netflix'

We are warning Netflix customers about scam emails circulating claiming that they are 'currently experiencing difficulty processing your payment' and asking you to 'update your payment information'.

The emails, which state they are from 'Support' are sent using Netflix logos and imagery, provide a link to 'update now', anyone following the link will be taken to a fake version of the Netflix website which will attempt to gather personal and financial details.

Our advice is **always** to be wary of claims made in unexpected email approaches and **never** click on links or open attachments if approached in this way.

Scam Alert - Text messages claiming to relate to 'UK Government Winter Heating Subsidy Office Benefit Payment Notice'

We are continuing to warn residents about text messages circulating which claim to be notifications from the 'UK Government'.

One recent example states that 'we will begin to issue winter heating subsidies to reduce your heating costs'.

The messages then claim that you have 'obtained the qualification to apply' and can do so via a link in the message. The message then claims that 'once

O Holy Night

A selection of festive music

Conductor - Chris Parsons



Wednesday 18th December 2024

7.30pm

Thetford Methodist Church

Tickets £10

No booking fee



Or

[https://
www.ticketsource.co.uk
/the-thetford-singers](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-thetford-singers)

the number of applicants is enough we will stop issuing winter heating subsidy benefits'.

These messages are **not genuine** and anyone following the link will be taken to a fake version of the official government website which will look to gather personal and financial information.

Reporting scams

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

If you have received a telephone cold call which you believe to be a scam or think you have been a victim of an online scam you can report it to us via our partners the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on freephone **0808 223 1133**.

[Citizens Advice consumer service website](https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams)

(<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams>)

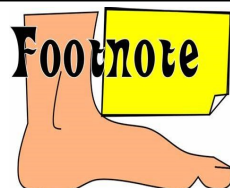
If you've been the victim of an online scam you can get advice and support from Citizens Advice Scams Action: 0808 250 5050 (freephone)

You can also report Frauds, Cyber Crime, Phishing attempts suspicious emails to Action Fraud, the National Fraud & Cyber Crime (NCSC) by forwarding it to **report@phishing.gov.uk**.

You can report suspicious text messages received by forwarding them to **7726** a free service for you to use to report suspicious texts or calls you might receive on your mobile.

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.



This is to let you know that our lavatory seat is broken and we can't get BBC2.

Extracts from letters written by council tenants



St Mary's Feltwell

**We wish you a happy, peaceful and
blessed Christmas from all at St Mary's.**

Your Parish Church is open every day.

CONTACTS



Rector

Rev'd Joan Horan

01842 828034

joanhoran123@btinternet.com

The Rectory, Oak Street, Feltwell



Curate

Rev'd Juanita Hawthorne

01366 728545

revjuanita58@gmail.com



Churchwarden

Chris Parker

01842 827152

grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com



Benefice Administrator

Chris Parker

01842 827152

grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

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

Please contact Chris Parker 01842 827152

grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

TO ARRANGE BAPTISM Please contact

Tammy Wright 07717 507665

grimshoebaptism@gmail.com

NEW YEAR'S EVE LOGISTICAL

This Logistical puzzle was designed by Chris at the Wellington.
The solution is on p74.

	Pub	Nightclub	Party at Home	Party at a Friends	Fancy Dress	Casual	Formal	Pajamas	12:30am	1am	1:30am	2am
George												
Greg												
Gloria												
Georgia												
12:30am												
1am												
1:30am												
2am												
Fancy Dress												
Casual												
Formal												
Pajamas												

Match the person to their party location, their dress and their bedtime on New Years Eve.

1. The Pyjama party was held at the Nightclub.
2. Greg hosted a Super Hero Party at Home.
3. The 1am Bedtime, Gloria, The Casual Dresser and The Pub goer are all different people.
4. Georgia was the last to bed. The Formal dresser was first to bed.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DISPENSARY

**ORDERS FOR REPEAT MEDICATION MUST BE PLACED
BEFORE FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER. TO BE COLLECTED
BEFORE CHRISTMAS.**

THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO THE MONTHLY SERVICE.

**A warm welcome from
St Mary's to our Advent and Christmas Services.**



Sun 1 st Dec	Eucharist Eucharist	9.15am 11am	Feltwell Weeting
Sun 8 th Dec	Eucharist Eucharist	9.15am 11am	Hockwold Northwold
Sun 15 th Dec	Eucharist Carols around the village Christmas Tree	11am 6pm	Weeting Feltwell
Sun 22 nd Dec	 Eucharist  Christingle	9.15am 4pm	Hockwold Feltwell
Christmas Eve	 "Midnight" Mass	6pm 7pm	Weeting Hockwold
Christmas Day	 Eucharist	10am	Feltwell
Sun 29 th Dec	Benefice Eucharist	10am	Northwold

Other Services

First Tuesday of the month **Holy Communion** at Hockwold at 9.30am. All other Tuesdays **Morning Prayer**.

Zoom Eucharist 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 10am

For Zoom log in contact grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

Evening Prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at Feltwell at 4pm



Coffee, Cake and Chat

from 9am every Weds morning.

We have a loo and baby change facility.

Community Information Point and Internet available
and help to use it.



Family Support and other ***Borough Services*** also
available.

NEWS FROM FELTWELL PLAYGROUP



Our Playgroup is a registered charity and has been running for over 40 years. We have friendly, trained, experienced staff who are supported by a small, dedicated, voluntary, committee. We offer both 2 year old and 3/4 year old government funded sessions and our fees are kept as low as possible to ensure that all families with 2 - 5 year olds can access some sort of childcare.



In the summer, Feltwell Playgroup applied for CIL Funding (Community Infrastructure Levy) with the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk (BCKLWN) to have our outside space resurfaced. We had full support from The Edmund de Moundeford Trust and The Feltwell W.I., who are the owners and leaseholders of the location. We also received help from the local community to have the outside area cleared ahead of the resurfacing.

When BCKLWN awarded us the funding for this, we were over the moon and got to it right away. Everyone at Feltwell Playgroup was all hands on deck to make sure the space will be ready for the project to start. The company we used was Soft Surfaces Ltd., who couldn't have been more helpful, professional and supportive.

We notified our neighbours and The Edmund de Moundeford Primary School that there might be disruption during the week of resurfacing. The primary school was very supportive and even opened their school gates early to accommodate potential limited parking due to works taking place.



It took a total of 5 days, back in October, from delivering materials to finishing resurfacing the entire area. It looks amazing and we couldn't be happier. We are certain that all children attending our setting, now and in the future, will have a fabulous time using the new and improved outside space.

A big thank you to BCKLWN, Soft Surfaces Ltd, The Edmund de Moundeford Trust, the Feltwell W.I., the Edmund de Moundeford Primary School, all parents and children attending our setting and everyone at Feltwell Playgroup. Together we made this possible.



NEED A WILL?

NEED PROBATE?

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FUNERAL PLANS?

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MUTTERINGS FROM THE FARMYARD

As I write this in November the weather is in a prolonged period of Anticyclonic Gloom. This feels quite depressing with virtually no sun but very little wind and no rain and means that we have managed to keep on top of our land work. All of our winter cereals are now in the ground and growing strongly. We have been able to apply herbicides to control weeds over the winter.

Matthew Waters has now lifted 70% of our sugar beet and it has been delivered to the Wissington factory. Our sugar beet was planted in good conditions last March and despite the weather grew away strongly. I was concerned that areas of the field planted after sunflowers and wild birdseed mixture had far too many competitive weeds which we were unable to control. Despite this the returns show that we produced 100 tonnes of beet per hectare adjusted to the standard 16% sugar. I mention this because this is becoming to be the norm and is double what we aspired to only 25 years ago. The credit for this must in the main go to the plant breeders. Over the past few years not only have they bred varieties able to produce increased yields but many have built in resistance to nematode attack and rhizomania. Also, some are branded 'smart' in that they can be grown using newer generation herbicides which control both a wide spectrum of weeds and weed or seedy beet from previous years.

The vines are still looking good. The different varieties are maturing at different speeds but they all seem to have developed a good rooting system right into the chalk subsoil. The next job over the winter will be to prune them down to the lowest fruiting wire to leave a trunk that will be retained for the whole lifespan of the plants. These will support one or two fruiting branches.

I do have to raise to subject of the Budget. The increases to National Insurance and the Minimum Wage will not affect a small business like ours. However, within the Cooperative, harvesting of salads and mushrooms and grading and packing onions are very labour

Continued over

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intensive and therefore very inflationary. The margins that we work with at present are so tight that these costs will have to be passed on.

The changes to inheritance tax will definitely have a profound affect on family farms like ours. We are told that the changes are to stop rich people sheltering their wealth in farmland. That is all well and good but we feel as if we are collateral damage. Whenever we have available cash, we invest in the business as we are in this for the long term. It is impossible to see how my children and grandchildren will be able to find the hundreds of thousands of pounds of Death Duty just because of the inflated value of land. Asset rich and cash poor!

GHOSTS OF WEST NORFOLK



Some months ago you may recall a request from Dr Paul Lee for ghost stories. Since then he has been busy working on a website called “The Ghosts of West Norfolk,” and he has asked me to publicise its web address. It is www.paullee.com/KL To read about the strange happenings documented on the site, simply click on a ‘ghost.’

SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS VEG PACKS

Local farmers have generously donated produce for vegetable packs for Senior citizens (over 65 years) living in the parish of Feltwell. Packs can be collected from Feltwell Social Club on Tuesday 17th December from 1.00 – 1.30 pm. Everyone needs to bring their own bag to collect their pack. (Please help neighbours to collect their pack if they are unable to come along themselves.)

Contact Penny Black on (01366 728711) or (07952 183040) as soon as possible to be included in this offer. Delivery will be available for those unable to personally attend.

I wish you all a safe Christmas.

Penny Black

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Our speaker for November was Susan Jones from the British Trust for Ornithology. The BTO have been in Thetford at a converted nunnery since 2001. Susan is the recently appointed Garden BirdWatch Supporter

Development Officer but she has been involved with the BTO for over 10 years, mainly as a bird ringer and general volunteer.

The BTO is a registered charity with the motto **Birds Science People**. They care about the Birds, use Science to tell people what's going on with birds, and to do that science they have to engage with People. Unlike all other wildlife charities the BTO is non-campaigning, purely impartial using the Science to provide evidence to Government, planning authorities and councils, to say this is what's happening to birds in your area. The BTO works in collaboration with many other organisations from the RSPB to the SpringWatch tv programme. They have one reserve at the Nunnery Lakes, Thetford.

All their data is collected by volunteers and their 120 staff who are experts in many fields. 130 regional volunteer representatives "spread the word" and 300 volunteers organise and support all those who participate in the various BTO surveys. They have about 20,000 members. Last year all volunteers contributed over two million hours of work to various surveys worth £42 million pounds. Volunteers are a massive asset to the BTO which is primarily financed by donations and contract work.

Their operating model is known as **The Conservation Loop**

1. Strong monitoring is essential, therefore large sample sizes and lots of data sets are required to provide reliable information about bird population trends.
2. Identified trends are used to set conservation priorities i.e. how can the decline in a particular bird species be reversed?
3. Various communication channels are then used to raise awareness and influence policy makers.
4. Research to identify the reasons for the trend is then undertaken and this generates new data which leads to the



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design and monitoring of the success of any interventions e.g. experimental field trials. Small scale.

5. Action—putting into effect the results of the research. Large scale.
6. Ongoing monitoring to assess the success of the large scale intervention can take many years.

Results of interventions are communicated in many forms, from reports to Government etc. to articles in various BTO publications.

The training of volunteers is vital to successful data collection and to this end training is provided online, in identification guides and in person. There is now a youth wing.

In essence a lot of the surveys the BTO does relies on citizen science. Ongoing surveys include seabird monitoring, wetland breeding survey (WEBS), heron census (longest running single species census in the world), winter gull roosts survey (WINGS) and the Garden BirdWatch which can be done “in your pyjamas at the kitchen sink!” and has been ongoing for almost thirty years. It’s a weekly count of all the birds you see visiting your garden, NOT flying over it. There are strict rules for doing this. A map of where the counted gardens are located covers almost all of the UK. It is free to participate online, costs £17 for a record book and quarterly magazine. Included, and done collaboratively with their own specialist societies, are amphibians, reptiles and mammals and selected invertebrates such as dragonflies, bumble bees, and a few butterfly species.

Susan then talked us through a number of examples where the BirdWatch survey has been particularly useful including identifying the decline of Greenfinches owing to the disease trichomoniasis which is more commonly found in pigeons. Around 2005-6 it jumped across species and had a devastating effect on the number of Greenfinches. The survey is now showing that the population appears to have stabilised, albeit at a low level but, hopefully, it will recover. Following this example Susan emphasised the need to wash your bird feeder regularly in order to limit the chance of

Continued on page 33

WORD SEARCH

Submitted by Mrs J. Clements.

This month our word search is on **TITLES OF STEVEN SPIELBERG FILMS.**

Find the words from the list opposite. They run vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backwards and forwards but always in a straight line.

There is ONE extra phrase on the list that is not found within the grid.

C	Z	S	O	M	E	T	H	I	N	G	E	V	I	L	S	R	W
L	A	M	I	N	O	R	I	T	Y	R	E	P	O	R	T	A	B
O	W	T	S	R	D	H	O	R	E	S	A	F	G	E	R	D	A
S	G	J	C	B	H	I	E	L	B	G	H	K	R	O	I	M	R
E	F	U	F	H	T	H	G	I	L	E	R	I	F	R	U	F	E
E	B	R	A	S	M	R	O	D	F	T	D	T	Z	N	M	S	D
N	E	A	K	C	M	E	A	T	K	A	H	D	I	L	E	U	A
C	H	S	W	Y	I	L	I	H	R	E	O	C	N	I	A	N	S
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F	T	R	E	A	D	Y	P	L	A	Y	E	R	O	N	E	D	H
T	S	C	H	I	N	D	L	E	R	S	L	I	S	T	O	E	T
H	E	L	S	G	C	A	Z	B	H	Y	T	A	T	O	S	X	D
E	R	S	N	S	O	S	R	C	O	S	W	S	F	N	H	P	N
T	R	D	A	O	T	Y	N	B	R	S	A	F	U	D	S	R	A
H	E	R	L	V	S	A	E	L	S	A	N	S	L	E	M	E	S
I	T	T	W	O	A	D	R	S	E	H	E	E	I	U	T	S	E
R	A	A	H	L	B	G	L	W	L	H	T	P	Q	J	H	S	N
D	R	S	O	E	C	O	E	S	T	L	S	M	O	E	E	A	O
K	T	D	O	H	Q	T	V	F	D	F	A	G	C	S	G	R	J
I	X	F	K	T	Y	P	O	H	O	V	D	A	T	S	I	M	A
N	E	Z	H	L	R	E	Q	E	R	I	S	R	T	I	R	F	N
D	E	A	W	L	R	H	G	M	E	N	L	L	Y	D	T	S	A
C	H	B	E	I	J	D	K	T	N	F	J	A	W	S	L	R	I
R	T	A	P	T	I	C	B	F	I	R	E	G	A	R	E	A	D
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Y	E	S	B	T	H	E	T	E	R	M	I	N	A	L	D	T	I

The solution is on page 78

ALWAYS
AMISTAD
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CATCH ME IF YOU CAN
CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF THE
THIRD KIND
DUEL
EMPIRE OF THE SUN
ET THE EXTRA TERRESTRIAL
FIRELIGHT
HOOK
INDIANA JONES AND THE
LAST CRUSADE
JAWS
JURASSIC PARK
LINCOLN
MINORITY REPORT
MUNICH
READY PLAYER ONE
SAVAGE
SCHINDLERS LIST
SOMETHING EVIL
STAR WARS
SUGARLAND EXPRESS
THE ADVENTURS OF TIN TIN
THE BFG
THE TERMINAL
THE VISIONARY
WAR HORSE
WAR OF THE WORLDS



Report continued

disease spread. Also, to move your feeder around the garden regularly to avoid disease accumulation on the ground.

If you'd like to get involved in the Garden BirdWatch contact the BTO at **www.bto.org/gardenbirds**

The Men's Breakfast Club usually meets on the 1st Saturday of the Month at The Well4ington in Feltwell at 9am. It costs £8.00 per person to attend which includes a talk, tea or coffee and a full English breakfast which never fails to please.

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 coordinator Paul Garland at **garlandp@btinternet.com**.

Our next meeting will be on the **7th December** when our speaker will be the ever entertaining **Kevin Boardman**.



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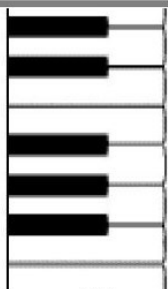
Your Good Health

by Dr Ian Nisbet

Yesterday evening, I was in Sutton Coldfield at the home of my daughter Charlotte, her husband, Oliver and two children for a meal. The conversation turned to the article that I write every month for Norfolk magazines. I have always written them for my patients and friends of 40 years spent in Feltwell and the surrounding villages. 30 or 40 years ago, the articles were a lot more earthy than is permitted nowadays and I have had to soften a lot of the jokes and be very careful not to offend any sensitive souls. I told Charlotte and Oliver that I often sat down to write the article without a single clue in my head about what the topic would be. Not so many of the “Yes we know, that is obvious” comments, please. They suggested that Kindness might be a good topic so, here we go. We held a long and rambling

conversation and came to the conclusion that there is a great deal of kindness around us, often unsolicited, and that the volume of kindness in our environment far exceeds the lack of kindness. In my experience, the majority of people really care about the welfare of their neighbours, friends and family. I am surrounded by kindness from my family, wonderful neighbours, Hagley Free Church members, Hagley Rotary Club, all my new friends in Hagley, the members of my ladies’ choir and all my long-standing friends from Norfolk (post 1977) and Sussex (1970 – 1977). I realise that this bounty of friendship is not universal and that many folk suffer loneliness and lack of help from other people.

My darling wife Deannie (also known as Management or Head Office in articles over the years) was really “into” kindness and I



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know many people in South West Norfolk who will testify to this. A Reiki Master, she quietly helped many people, always for no charge and often without my knowledge. I often referred patients to her for Reiki. She always assisted me at my acupuncture sessions at home, generating calmness at a time when new patients thought acupuncture would be painful. Shortly before she died at a pantomime in Malvern (Oh Yes, she did) Deannie wrote a letter to her niece in New Zealand, signing off with the following message which can act as her final message to us all and finish this contemplation.

“Be kind to one another, love each other every day – Lots of love – Deannie XXX”

It must be time for a few sanitised jokes:

A husband rolled home very drunk, vomited in the hallway and collapsed on the bed. He awoke next day with a crashing headache and was surprised to see two Aspirin and a glass of water by the bedside, next to a pile of neatly ironed clothes. He staggered into the hallway, astonished to see it clean and

shining. His wife was waiting in the kitchen with a big plate of breakfast. He told her that this was not quite the response he was expecting. “Well, I was rather angry when you came home,” said his wife, “but something you said made a difference. When you were on the bed, I tried to take your pants off and you said, ‘Hey, stop that, I’m married”.

A quiet, gentle man was sitting at a bar when a pretty young lady asked to sit beside him. He told her that it would be OK and offered to buy her a drink.

“WHAT, A MOTEL?” she screamed. “YOU WANT ME TO LEAVE THIS BAR AND GO TO A MOTEL WITH YOU?” He denied saying any such thing and she shouted “YOU WANT TO DO WHAT WITH ME AT THE MOTEL?” The poor chap was really embarrassed, denied once again that he has said any such thing and went to sit in a table in the corner of the room. Everybody was staring and glaring at him. The girl went over and joined him again. She explained that she was a Psychology student researching how people reacted to

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

SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

Answer on page 78



The Food Pantry, Feltwell

WHO ARE WE?

We are a group of volunteers who have set up a small non-profit shop of greatly reduced prices to help with the high cost of living for the local villages, as we are a rural community with no supermarkets nearby.

We run a membership scheme for a one-off charge of £3.50

For that we supply free fruit, vegetables & bread depending on availability & also the ability to shop with us at vastly reduced prices. Food donations are gratefully accepted, please leave in the Food Pantry area in St. Mary's Church, Feltwell.

We can also provide crisis packages for those in need, free of charge with the help of public donations.

You can find us at St Mary's Church, Feltwell.

We also offer second-hand clothing for a small donation.

OPENING TIMES:

Wednesday 9AM – 11:30PM

Saturday 12:30PM – 2:00PM

For more details visit our Facebook Page or call 07454 259280

unexpected, bizarre and embarrassing situations. She apologised for any distress she might have caused him at which point he screamed at the top of his voice, "WHAT, YOU WANT £150 ?!"

Wearing a new dress, a wife texted a selfie to her husband with the question, "Does this make my bum look big? He texted back, "NOO!" The autocorrect on his phone altered the message to, "Moo!" and the husband is currently looking for somewhere else to

live.

DIET TIP: If you think you are hungry, you might just be thirsty so drink a bottle of wine and then see how you feel.

Obese man to doctor, "Obesity runs in my family." Doctor, "The problem is that nobody runs in your family."

Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a healthy New Year! Best wishes to you all. Ian Nisbet

REV. THOMAS RAWLINS CHARITY

THE ANNUAL DONATIONS GIVEN BY THE ABOVE CHARITY WILL BE MADE ON SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER 2024 AT ST MARY'S CHURCH BETWEEN 1 – 2 PM.

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Feeling
Minnesota
Saturday 14th



Christmas
Jumper Day



22nd Dec

Blacksox - 8pm

Friday 27th



Alisha Grimes - 8:30pm

Saturday 28th



Bruce Aldred - 8:30pm

Sunday 29th



DJ Jay From 8:30pm

New Year's Eve



Well, Fred's article two months ago about the number of missed appointments has generated another reply.



In response to the missed appointments at the doctor's surgery, may I offer the following for the magazine.

I concur with the response in November's edition.

The mere thought of contacting the doctor's surgery fills me with dread. The website is clunky, not user friendly, not particularly mobile friendly and completely unusable when the surgery is closed. When calling the surgery one has to listen to several minutes of monologue and options before waiting for someone to answer the telephone.

May I suggest that a press 9 to cancel an appointment in the first 30 seconds of a telephone call, where a message can be left with your name and the date of the appointment you are unable to make would be tremendously useful. If the message left by a patient is unclear then when reception staff have the time they can call back to confirm if needed. That plus dedicated appointment cancellation email address or Whatsapp/mobile number available 24/7 would be a godsend. If I have a crisis at 6:45 in the morning that prevents me from making an appointment that day, when I am trying to get kids ready for school, I don't necessarily have time to set a reminder to call and wait through all the talking or send a website message when the surgery is open later in the day.

I appreciate that missed appointments are tremendously frustrating for everyone, both NHS staff and patients who are struggling to be seen but the current system at Feltwell Surgery makes both booking and cancelling appointments a test of endurance and patience that is both unnecessary and I am sure, a source of at least some of the problem.

Chris (Feltwell Resident)

This magazine is printed by **Limetree Printing**,
44A Paradise Road, Downham Market PE38 9JE.
Phone: 01366 383989

Santa is coming to town

Christmas Sleigh Timetable - 2024

1st Feltwell Scout Groups' Annual Christmas Sleigh will be visiting Feltwell village with Santa on the following dates. Any donation will be gratefully received by our elf collectors who will wear bright tabbards with the Scout Logo on.

PLEASE CHECK CAREFULLY BEFORE MAKING YOUR DONATION

which will be used to support the village scout group & the children that attend.

We will call on the night published - unless severe weather conditions prevail. We have a facebook page,

Santas Sleigh - Feltwell, which we update with timings etc. on visiting evenings.

SANTA'S GIFT SERVICE - Have Santa deliver a gift to someone special (children or adults). Due to time factors, gifts need to be collected from the sleigh. Cost is £5 per delivery with a maximum of **3** gifts per stop (extra gifts can be delivered at the same time for £2 per gift).

Gifts must be dropped off at Claire's - 67, Nightingale Lane, Feltwell, IP26 4AR - **by no later than 12 noon the day before delivery day**.

To make the experience for the recipient more special, please include on a separate piece of paper with the following info, however, if you'd rather not include it, that's fine.

RECIPIENTS NAME; GENDER; AGE; AN INTEREST or HOBBY; ANYTHING ELSE IMPORTANT

You can just write everything on a piece of paper, but please do not attach it to the gift.

Please ensure gifts are well wrapped and CLEARLY marked with the recipients name, address & the delivery day.

(please only small/medium sized gifts due to space on the sleigh)



Each evening we will start at approximately 5.30pm & are usually finished by 8.30pm - apologies if it is a little later.

All timings are approximate. Parked cars may restrict us from being able to turn, apologies if we cant get down your road.

Tuesday 10th Dec. - GIFTS MUST BE AT CLAIRE'S BY 12 NOON ON MON 4th, ALONG WITH PAYMENT & INFO FORM

WILTON ROAD; entrance to BANHAM WALK; start of NIGHTINGALE LANE; CLOUGH DRIVE; rest of NIGHTINGALE LANE (start **ETA 6.15pm**); FAIRFIELD WAY; FAIR CLOSE; ST. JOHN'S WAY; entrance to EDMUND MOUNDEFORD ROAD; UPCHER CLOSE (**ETA 7.15pm**); rest of WILTON ROAD; THE OAKS; BELL STREET; entrance to BARKERS DRIVE; NEWCOMBE DRIVE; FALCON ROAD; Front of HALL DRIVE & houses opposite; MULBERRY CLOSE; HIGH STREET

Wednesday 11th Dec. - GIFTS MUST BE AT CLAIRE'S BY 12 NOON ON TUE 5th, ALONG WITH PAYMENT & INFO FORM

LONG LANE; WESTERN CLOSE; MOATSIDE; ARCHERS AVENUE (**ETA 6.30pm**); SPARKES WAY & entrance to CAMP CLOSE; entrance to CURTIS DRIVE; HEReward WAY; PORTAL CLOSE (**ETA 7pm**); SHORT LANE; LIME KILN LANE (we will stop at the Social Club) (**ETA 7.30pm**); VINCENT CLOSE; PAYNES LANE; entrance to CRABBES CLOSE ; rest of PAYNES LANE.

Friday 13th Dec. - GIFTS MUST BE AT CLAIRE'S BY 12 NOON ON THU 7th, ALONG WITH PAYMENT & INFO FORM

SHORT BECK; HILL STREET, THE BECK; OLD SCHOOL CLOSE; rest of THE BECK; entrance to NEW HALL FARM; OLD METHWOLD ROAD (**ETA 6.30pm**); MUNSONS LANE; MUNSONS PLACE; rest of MUNSONS LANE; RAWLINGS WAY; LAMBERTS CLOSE; ST. NICHOLAS DRIVE; OAK STREET; ADDISONS CLOSE (**ETA 7.30pm**) (due to turning difficulties we apologise if we are unable to get down each road); LODGE ROAD; entrance to SKYE GARDENS; rest of LODGE ROAD; EAST HALL.

LISTEN OUT FOR THE MUSIC

Thank you & a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
to you all from 1st Feltwell Scout Group



FROM THE CLASSROOM

This month Herons class want to tell us how to ...

....wash a sabre toothed tiger.

In Herons class we've been looking at the book, How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth by Michelle Robinson. This linked to our History learning on the Stone Age. We then wrote our own set of instructions about how to wash another Stone Age animal. Here is one of our pieces of writing:

Does your sabre-toothed tiger need a wash? It's not an easy thing to do. Sabre toothed tigers are extremely fierce and their fur is notoriously difficult to clean. Don't worry just follow this step by step guide.

What you need:

A bathtub, sweet smelling bubble bath, shampoo, warm water, a bath bomb and a scrubbing brush.

What you do:

First, fill the bathtub. If your sabre-toothed tiger is feeling thirsty, this might take quite a while.

Next, add the sweet smelling bubble bath and a bath bomb.

After that, put the sabre-toothed tiger into the bath. Be careful that he doesn't bite you as sabre toothed tigers don't like water.

Then, start scrubbing. Don't forget to scrub his sharp, long teeth.

Now, wash his skinny tummy but be careful that he doesn't scratch you.

A final note of warning:

Make sure that you don't get any shampoo in the sabre tooth tiger's eyes because that will make him cross.

By MS



CHRISTMAS CYCLAMENS IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES

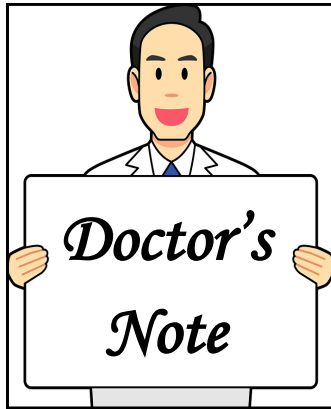
Would you like to remember a loved one this Christmas with a flowering cyclamen?

The plants, along with a list of names of all those being remembered, will be on display in St Mary's Church over the Christmas and New Year period.

Plants cost £5 and can be ordered from:
Chris Parker 01842 827152
or email cmparker@talktalk.net

Orders to be received
by
Monday 11th December





The Mounting Cost of Missed Appointments at the Surgery.

A small drop in missed appointments in October, from 79 to 68. This brings the total number of missed appointments for the year so far to **678**.

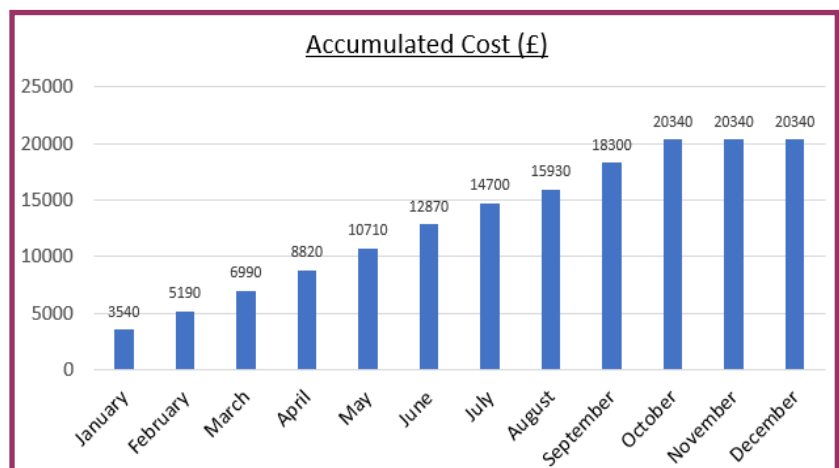
This means that 678 other patients could have been seen by a doctor in the first 10 months of 2024 if only people had cancelled their appointments rather than simply not turning up.

“Please, if you cannot attend your appointment, cancel it.”



Each missed GP appointment costs an average of £30, therefore, the cost of all of the missed appointments so far this year is **£20,340**, (see below) money that has to be spent to

pay the bills and the staff but for which no direct healthcare benefit is received by anyone. The additional 68 missed appointments in October represent a loss of £2,040 worth of lost healthcare for the month.



It's not that hard to cancel an appointment even if you don't have access to the internet. A simple phone call will suffice.

Let me know what you think by emailing me at garlandp@btinternet.com.

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMETABLE—THURSDAYS

Stop Name	Arrival Time	Departure Time	Postcode
Wilton Road	14:25	14:35	IP26 4AY
Fairfield Way	14:40	15:00	IP26 4AT
Church	15:05	15:35	IP26 4DA
St Nicholas Drive	15:40	16:00	IP26 4DW
Munson's Lane nr junction with OMR	16:05	16:25	IP26 4DE
Hereward Way	16:30	16:50	IP26 4BP

Upcoming Dates

23 January 2025

20 February 2025

20 March 2025

17 April 2025

Please note this information is subject to change or amendment both on a permanent and temporary basis.

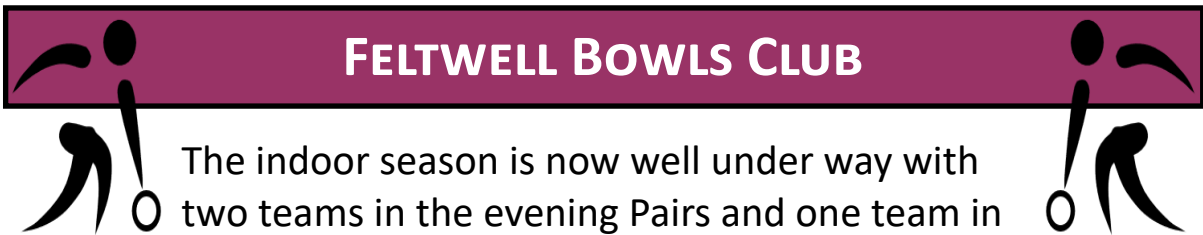
For all enquiries about this route please call 01603 222303

SIR EDMUND DE MOUNDEFORD CHARITY

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR POST 16 STUDY

- Are you over 16?
- Have you lived in Feltwell for at least two years and are still resident in the village?
- Are you studying at College or University?
- Do you need assistance with the purchase of equipment or books to enable you to study?

If you can answer "YES" to all of the above then apply in writing to Mr B. Hawkins, Agent for Sir Edmund De Moundeford Trust, 15 Lynn Road, Downham Market, Norfolk. PE38 9NL. In your letter you **MUST** include the date you moved into the village, details of the course you are studying, where you are studying, the qualification you expect to achieve upon completion and any costs necessary for you to embark upon the course. Include details of any books and/or equipment required. If you know a Trustee please put their name in your application. The award of a grant is at the discretion of the Trustees and shall not exceed £300. Only one award will be made per applicant.



The indoor season is now well under way with two teams in the evening Pairs and one team in the morning Triples. There are fewer teams entered this year which results in occasional missed evening's, one of which yours truly has already turned up to find that was his missed evening.

The top soiling of the green has been completed with five tonnes having been spread on it. Thanks must be given to all those who turned up to help the green keepers. It is settling down quite nicely and the results are already visible.

Our Quiz night was not so well attended this time for no apparent reason, but a little was made to add to the mower fund.

The next event was the Race Night with Pig racing. I will report on this in the next issue.

There is nothing more to add but to wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and all Best wishes for New Year

Max

ART FOR PLEASURE

Every Thursday 10.30 am – 12.30pm. £3 per session at Weeting Village Hall.

Contact Beryl Pountney, Secretary, for details on
01842 828750

The kettle is always on.

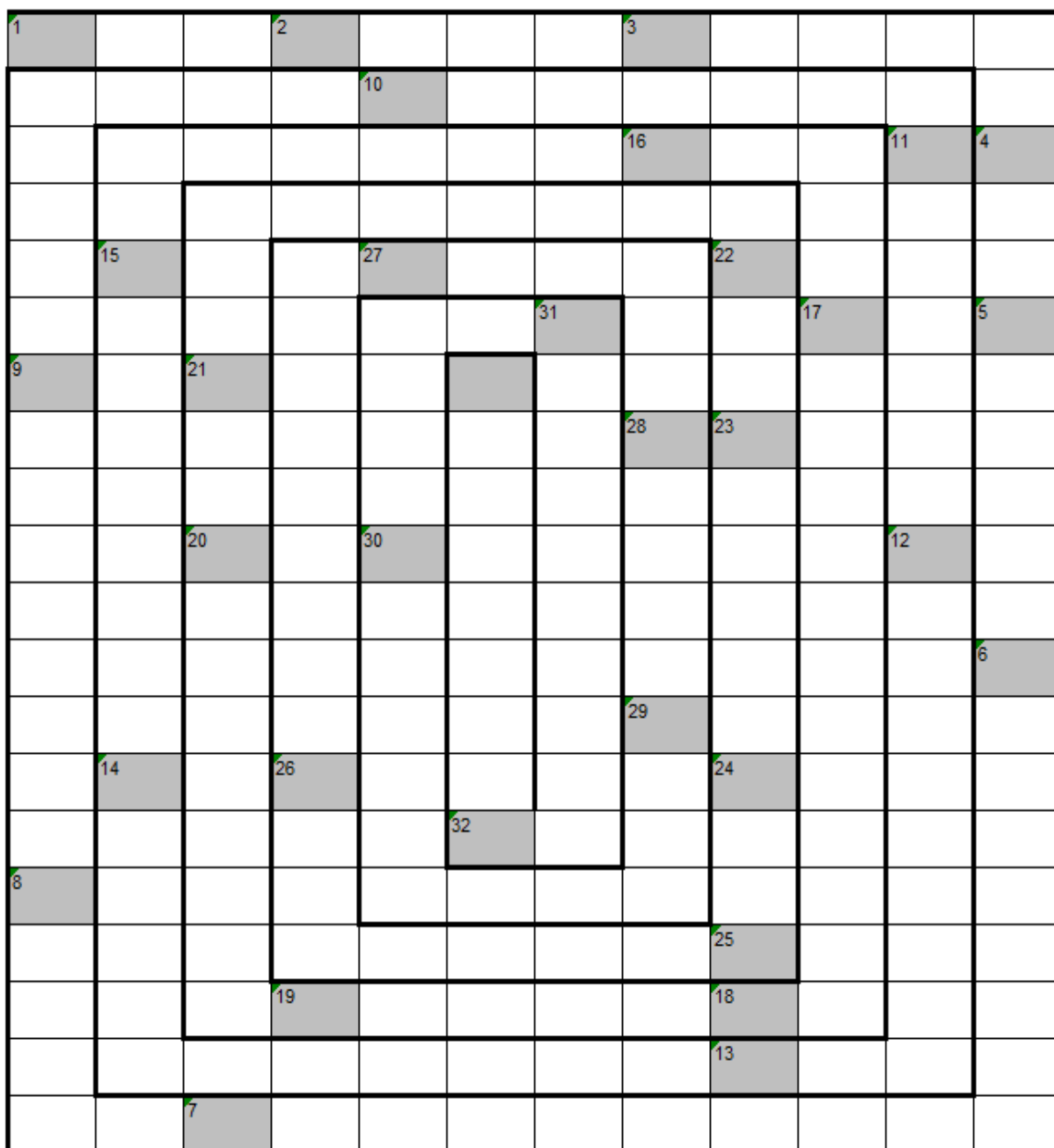


If you'd like to submit a **FOOTNOTE** of your own, be it a quip, a fact, an idiom, whatever you feel would be suitable, please send your **FOOTNOTE** to Paul at garlandp@btinternet.com or post it through my letterbox.

WORD TRAIL NO. 47

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 _____ men tell no tales, a saying (4)
- 2 Ban, shut out (5)
- 3 Arc of colours (7)
- 4 A narrow street or alley (4)

- 5 Greek Goddess of grain, agriculture, harvest and growth (7)
- 6 MEDICAL: Form of herpes zoster affecting the facial nerves (6-4-8)
- 7 This country is bordered by Peru and Columbia (7)
- 8 Relating to a sandwich chain in the UK, what does 'Pret a Manger' mean English (5-2-3)
- 9 Octobers birth stone (10)
- 10 Also known as the Seaside Daisy (8)
- 11 MUSIC: Title track to Bruce Springsteen's 1982 solo album (8)
- 12 The capital of Madagascar (12)
- 13 This volcano is found in Northern Chile (4-3-6)
- 14 Legally or morally binding (10)
- 15 A type of Tuna reaching up to 400 pounds in weight (9)
- 16 A large grey rain cloud (6)
- 17 Sovereign of the House of Denmark who reigned for 41 days in 1013-1014 (5-9)
- 18 Play (at) (6)
- 19 The Mexican dish involves filling corn tortillas with fillings and covering them in a savoury sauce. (10)
- 20 Oil reserve in an engine (4)
- 21 FILM: Born in 1975 he is famous for his film role in 'The Mandalorian' (5-6)
- 22 Reluctant (4)
- 23 Mobster (7)
- 24 Venus do _____, ancient statue (4)
- 25 Also known as the evening Primrose (9)
- 26 Found on the Eastern African habitats, this bird eats locust, caterpillar and other large insects (6-5)
- 27 these are produced by your body when you breakdown fats (7)
- 28 Underhand, cunning (6)
- 29 This TV/Director is famous in the role as a Detective William Murdock (7-6)
- 30 The eight planet from the sun (7)
- 31 Sambucus, a genus of the Adoxaceae family is also known by this name (11)
- 32 A ceremonial instrument originating in the Andes (4-5)

This month's Word Trail solution is on page 76.

01842
828481

FELTWELL SURGERY OPENING

8.00am - 6.30pm Mon-Fri only

Extended Hours for Appointments Only

Tuesday: 07:30 – 08:00 Thursday: 18.30 – 19.00

Out of Hours Service - Between 18:30 and 08:00, Monday to Friday, and all day at weekends and on Bank Holidays your call will be redirected to the **NHS 111** service.

**In a genuine emergency you should call 999 and ask for an ambulance.
Chest pains and / or shortness of breath constitute as an emergency.**

01842
828481

DID YOU KNOW?

The phrase “As clear as mud” is an expression rich with irony, used to humorously highlight confusion or lack of clarity. Although its precise origins are unclear, it likely arose from earlier colloquial expressions and gained popularity through its ironic tone. Over time, it has become an integral part of everyday speech, used to describe everything from bureaucratic complexity to simple misunderstandings.

TABLE TENNIS



Feltwell Table Tennis club is now up and running every **Monday at 7.00pm and Tuesday from 1.45 at the Methodist Hall, Feltwell.**

Any skill level or none. Just come along for an afternoon

of fun. It's a load o' laughs, which is good for the heart, and the physical exercise loosens those stiff joints. **All ages** welcome. Steve Wellington is the organiser. **£3 for two hours of fun.**

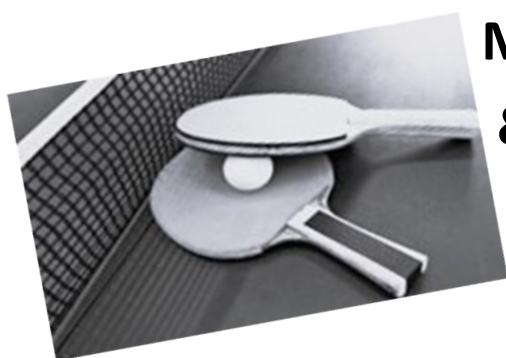
Pool Table NOW available.

FELTWELL METHODIST CHURCH, COMMUNITY HALL & GARDEN



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!!

Maybe you should come and have a look for yourselves!



**Monday Club with Table-Tennis
& Pool 7.00pm**

AND

**Day Club - Tuesdays at 1.45pm
NOW with pool &
Refreshments available**



Thursdays 6:00pm— 1st Feltwell Brownies

Friday:- join us for a cuppa while we pot or potter!!

**PLEASE NOTE..... WE DO NOT COLLECT OR RECYCLE CELL
BATTERIES ANY MORE.**

Please put them in a little bag on top of your wheelie bin for collection

**IT'S THE METHODIST CHAPEL'S 90th ANNIVERSARY (on its present
site) in APRIL 2025**

**IF YOU ATTENDED THE METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL OR CHAPEL
OR HAVE ANY OTHER INFO ABOUT METHODISM IN FELTWELL.....**

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

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Tel: 07534 892411

SUNDAYS – our day to relax and reflect on our lives, where they’ve been and where they should be going.

11am – Fellowship and Refreshments

Sunday Speakers for December

1 December **tba**

8 December **Monroe**

15 December **Rev Paul Critchley**

22 December **3.00pm** **A Christmas Sing-a-Long by candlelight**

29 December **tba**

Give us a call or message us or one of our members.

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 Mike & Brigitte Wilkinson 07799216693



“I saw a slow-moving, sad-faced old gentleman as he bounced off the roof of my car.”

Genuine statement from an insurance form.



**RSPCA EAST WINCH
WILDLIFE CENTRE**

**Christmas
MARKET**

DECEMBER 14, 2024

**RSPCA East Winch Wildlife
Centre, Gayton Road, PE321LG**

09:30-15:00

Walking on Air

07596157826

D.T.Byrne MCFHP MAFHP

Walking on Air, Unit 4, Harvey Adams Enterprise Centre, Wimbledon Avenue, Brandon, Suffolk, IP27 0NZ

Foot Health Professional

Long nails, Corns, Callus, Hard skin, Cracked Heels and Fissures, Fungal Nails, Ingrowing Toe Nails (Home or Clinic visits available) Diabetic Foot Care

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Merry Christmas everyone.

Christmas is when we celebrate with light to brighten the cold, dark days. Whatever our beliefs might be, I enjoy seeing the brightly lit houses and trees. As many people as possible try to brighten this dark season not only for their own families, with decorations and trees within the home, but also by sharing this gift with others by lighting up the outside of their houses too. It is a perfect time to say 'Thank you' for everything we have and receive.

So Feltwell in Bloom would like to say a big 'Thank you' to all of those within the village who have helped us in one way or another this year. From the donations of plants and cakes for our sales, buying plants, time given to achieve projects, donations for the missing tubs from Hereward Way, those sponsoring our new tubs, the loan of a greenhouse, or just the kind words of encouragement and appreciation we receive as we are working around the village. Thank you, it means a lot to all of us working on your behalf to brighten the village and make it look welcoming.

In the New Year we will be looking to further expand the displays around the village and would welcome any help you are able to offer. It does not have to be hard physical labour, we try to avoid that whenever possible! Perhaps an hour of watering is something you could manage once a week, in a tub close to where you live. Please contact me if you feel you can help. In the meantime, enjoy the Christmas holiday.

Contact us on the following platforms:-

Facebook - #Feltwell in Bloom

Email – feltwellinbloom@yahoo.com

Or phone Rita on 07785345614





**14 December
Tunnel of Light
AND
Christmas Cream Teas
Children's Lucky Dip
+
Grand Christmas Raffle**

Tickets available now

**3 Christmas Hampers & other prizes
to be won**

Tunnel of Light

+

Cream Tea

Tickets available NOW

***Admit One (1) (£5)**

Admit Family

(1/2xAdults + 1/2x Children) (£10)

<ENTER VIA TUNNEL of LIGHT>>>>>



Contact us for tickets

We can be contacted on Facebook, Messenger or mobile 07712578721 or by email mikegw15@gmail.com Mike & Brigette Wilkinson 07799216693



RSPB

Lakenheath Fen

NOW IS THE TIME FOR NESTBOXES!

Spring may seem a long way away but believe it or not- now is a really good time to think about putting up any extra nestboxes in your garden. This might sound surprising given that the days are getting shorter and colder still, but this is a clue as to why it is a great time. As well as using boxes for nesting in, many birds will use a well-placed, well-maintained box for shelter on colder nights. Some species of birds, like Long-tailed tits or Wrens, will roost communally for added efficiency in keeping warm (much like huddling penguins in the Arctic). The record for the highest known number of Wrens found together was 61 seen piling into one box in a Norfolk garden in 1969- and they will stack on top of one another, tails out and heads in!

Another reason for mounting new boxes now is that many small birds like Blue tits and Robins spend quite a lot of time ahead of the nesting season scouting out a safe space to lay their eggs when the time is right- once they have found a sheltered and suitable spot they will keep an eye on the area to see how often it is frequented by people, cats and other potential predators to see if it is likely to be quiet and safe enough to breed. They will also



Photo by Cathy Ryden showing a Wren collecting moss to build a nest. it is only the males that build a suite of nests for the female to choose from so he was a busy boy in Spring 2023 outside our office.



giving
nature
a home

Events at RSPB Lakenheath Fen

Places for all events need to be booked online- please visit <https://bit.ly/LakenheathFenEvents> to read more and book tickets.

Treasures of the Moth Trap

Friday, 29 Nov (10am to 11am).

Learn more about the amazing world of moths- join us to admire what we catch in our harmless trap.

RSPB members £5 (£2.50 for Under 18's);
non-RSPB members £6 (£3 for Under 18's)

Wetland Winter Guided Walk

Sunday 19 January (9:30am – 12:30pm)

Wrap up warm and join us to see the best that winter has to offer- with our knowledgeable guides.

RSPB members £12 (£6 for Under 18s); non-RSPB members £15,
(£7.50 for Under 18's).

Raptors in the Reed Bed

Saturday 8 February, 2025, 3pm-6pm

Watch the reserve come to life as darkness falls, and birds of prey hunt or arrive to roost in the reedbeds.

RSPB members £12 (£6 for Under 18's); non-RSPB members £15
(£7.50 for Under 18's).

Winter Walking Safari

Sunday 9 February 2025 (9:30am-3pm)

This behind-the-scenes tour provides a great opportunity to see the wildlife hiding out in parts of the reserve that aren't usually open to the public.

RSPB members £20 (£10 for Under 18's); non-RSPB members £25
(£12.50 for Under 18's).

spend time in the box, perhaps overnight, to see if any egg-thieves like squirrels or mice pop their heads in. If all goes well and the nest box seems safe, male birds may organise their territories in the New Year (as soon as the days lengthen) to include the box, with the hope that they can attract a female and advertise the nest box to her as a suitable place for her eggs.

A good place to put a new box is facing anywhere between north-east and north-west on the compass- this avoids the heat of the midday sun on warm Spring days. It's a good idea to site the box somewhere with a lot of clear space below and around it, so that ground predators like cats will find it difficult to sit under or above the box and wait for the occupants to come out. A nearby shrub- a few feet away- is popular though as the parent birds can safely land in it and survey the area to check if the coast is clear before flying to the box. There are boxes of different sizes for different species- Wrens, Robins and Pied wagtails like an open-fronted box, whereas tits and House sparrows like a hole entry.

A question we are often asked at Lakenheath Fen is whether old nestboxes should be cleaned out between seasons. The answer is that the best thing to do is to empty out any old nesting material (a small brush can help with this) and let the winter frosts do the rest- these will kill off any lingering parasites. The less chemicals we use that can come into contact with wild birds, the better- so if your box is really grubby and you want to clean it, then immersing it in very hot water once it is empty and giving it a scrub is a good option.

I hope this article has been a useful read. As ever, if you have any questions or you wish to get in touch with us, you can call us on 01842 863400 or e-mail us at lakenheath@rspb.org.uk, or pop in and see us.

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

A MESSAGE FROM THE DISPENSARY

**DUE TO STAFF SHORTAGES AND INCREASED WORKLOAD,
FELTWELL DISPENSARY WILL BE CLOSING BETWEEN 12 NOON
AND 3^{PM}, MONDAY TO FRIDAY, FROM MONDAY 3RD DEC. 2024.**

SORRY FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE CAUSED.

Chris Mills

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Some Thursday's CLOSED

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Feltwellians Around The World



FELTWELL'S INDIAN VOLUNTEER, PART 2

Dr Ernest Edward Francis (1866 – 1935)

Surgeon Major, Assam-Bengal Railway Rifle Volunteers

Ernest was born in Lambeth, Surrey in July 1865 into a Plymouth Brethren family. His father Samuel Trevor Francis was a leading figure in the movement as well as a renowned preacher and hymn writer. He also was an Indian Tea Merchant. Samuel, and his wife Angelina, were to have six children with Ernest being the oldest son.

Ernest is found matriculating from Mercer School in 1882, taking a different path from his father by training as a Surgeon at St Bartholomew Hospital. In 1891, he had past his surgical exams and had become a member of the medical profession and would remain so for the next 43 years.

With opportunities opening for young professionals in India, and no doubt influenced by his father's connections Ernest accepted an appointment as Surgeon to the Assam Bengal Company in 1891. He was undoubtedly suited to the role and over the next 14 years rose through the medical ranks, at one stage becoming the Chief Surgeon of Chittagong, later being appointed as Principle Medical Officer & Chief Surgeon on the Assam Bengal Railway. He was also held appoints as Surgeon to H.H. The Maharajah of Independent Tipperah as well as being an Honorary Magistrate.

Ernest also had a social life typical of the time and he was often found at the Calcutta Racecourse, where in 1901 he was elected a Member of Calcutta Turf Club. His passion for horses was to be seen in both his military activities as well as on his return to England,

Feltwell Dispensary

NEW Opening Hours from 2nd Dec

Monday: 08:30-12:00, 15:00-18:00

Tuesday: 07:30-12:00, 15:00-18:00

Wednesday: 08:30-12:00, 15:00-18:00

Thursday: 08:30-12:00, 15:00-18:30

Friday: 08:30-12:00, 15:00-18:00

☎ 01842 829738 or 01842 828481

You can order your medication or ask any queries regarding your medication online via our website:

www.feltwellsurgery.co.uk or by using the NHS App. We have a dedicated telephone number in place for our housebound patients to order their medication, which is open Monday to Friday between **10.00-12.00** and **14.00-16.00**.

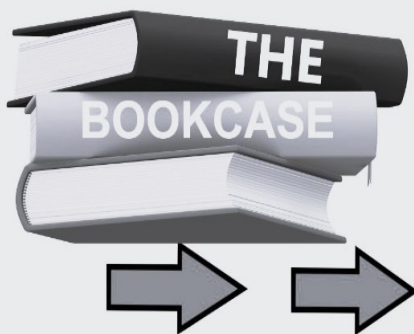
Having a party?

Don't have enough plates, dishes, glasses or cutlery?
Contact Sue Garland 827029 or Chris Parker 827152.

St Mary's Church can loan you all of the above
(at least 40 settings)

All we need in return is a donation to St Mary's Church Funds and an understanding that you will pay for any breakages.

FELTWELL BOOK EXCHANGE



"THE BOOKCASE"

*Located in the Methodist
Chapel entrance hall is*

NOW OPEN

Just one plea.....

PLEASE, when you use The

Bookcase, replace the books in the order in which they appear on the shelves.....in alphabetical order of the author. Thank you.

where he went on to own several racehorses often being seen at Newmarket, where his horses raced.

While in Bengal Ernest met and married Amy Kavanagh in November 1894, with the wedding service being in Dacca. Amy was the youngest daughter of Thomas Henry Kavanagh VC, who had the distinction of being one of only five civilians ever to be awarded the Victoria Cross. He gained his award for his daring exploits during the siege of Lucknow in 1857. Amy and Ernest were to have only one child, Constance Gladys, born in 1896, who was to have many challenges in her short life due to mental health issues.

In parallel with his professional life, Ernest was active in the Indian Volunteers, utilising his surgical and medical skills for the benefit of those serving in such military units. Whilst voluntary, there was a prerequisite for senior management of major companies to join the volunteer unit associated with the employer, more so when it was a railway company.



On his arrival in Chittagong in 1901 Ernest joined the Chittagong Mounted Rifles as Surgeon Lieutenant. It was a mobile volunteer unit, whose key function was to assist civil authorities in times of unrest and to be available if there were external threats to the State. With his change in employment to the Assam Bengal Railway in 1902, Ernest was transferred to the

Assam Bengal Railway Rifle Volunteers being promoted to Surgeon Captain, becoming a Surgeon Major in 1910.

Whilst little is known as to his daily activities, there are several published articles in which third parties commented as to his kind-hearted character, popularity and social concerns as to the wellbeing of the native population.

Unlike the UK Volunteers at the time of the Great War, Indian Volunteers could not be forced to serve overseas, Ernest however volunteered for active service in France. He wasn't involved until

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Lodge Road, Feltwell, Norfolk IP26 4DR



Feltwell Lodge is a comfortable Victorian property dating from 1860. It is a former hunting lodge set in 5 acres of beautiful landscaped gardens situated between Feltwell and Methwold.

The home is run by the proprietors, together with a fully experienced and caring staff providing a full 24 hour cover. The atmosphere is friendly, with no restrictions other than consideration for fellow guests.

Visitors are welcome and we encourage the maintenance of close links between residents and their families and friends.

**For Brochures please phone: Mr Paul Hanley RN
or Mrs Sandra Hanley RN**

01366 728282

Website: www.feltwelllodge.com

E-mail: feltwelllodge@hanleycarehomes.com

The KING has approved the grant of the temporary rank of Captain in the Indian Medical Service to the undermentioned Gentleman:—

Ernest Edward Francis. Dated 21st May, 1915.



May 1915 when he was granted a temporary rank of Captain in the Indian Medical Service and went with the 8th (Lucknow) Cavalry Brigade to France. His term of active service being for one year, which saw him in Field Hospitals in Flanders. Later when elements of the Indian Medical Services were transferred from France to the Middle East, he went with them to serve with the 1st Indian Division in Egypt.

In September 1916, Ernest returned to civilian life and continued in his role with the Assam Bengal Railway, becoming the Companies' Principle Medical Officer. He also continued his volunteer service. With the creation of the Army Medical Corps (Volunteers) in 1917, he transferred across and by 1919 was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Indian

Defence Force, Medical Corps.

The Francis family left India in March 1920, initially settling with family in

London, before Ernest found a General Practitioner's position in Norfolk. In 1925, Ernest took over the practice of Dr Rawson and succeeding Dr Neighbour as the local GP for Feltwell.

FELTWELL FUEL ALLOTMENT CHARITY

If you can answer “YES” to the following two questions you may be eligible for a **Winter 2024 Fuel Payment** from three Feltwell charities.

Are you at least 70 years of age or will be by the end of 2024?

Have you lived in the village of Feltwell for a minimum of 10 years and are still resident?

The Feltwell Fuel Allotment Charity does its best to maintain a list of qualifying recipients but relies heavily on local knowledge. The list is also used by the Trustees of the Atmere and De Moundeford charities who also give winter fuel donations. Last year the three charities issued a combined donation of £100.

If you meet the qualifying criteria and have **not** received a grant before, please write to our agent: Mr Barry L Hawkins, 15 Lynn Road, Downham Market, Norfolk, PE38 9NL. Please provide your **name, address, date of birth and the date that you moved into the village.**

Please mark the envelope “**Feltwell Fuel Allotment List.**”

Only one grant per household will be given.

ADVERTISING RATES

Full page—£240 per year or £24 per month

Half page—£120 per year or £12 per month

Quarter page—£60 per year or £6 per month

Eighth page—£30 per year or £3 per month

Our advertising year runs 1st Apr to 31st March

If you would like to place an advert in this magazine please contact our Advertising Manager: Susan Withers

Email: s_withers@hotmail.co.uk



Having bought the Old House, Feltwell from Mrs Archer in July 1926, He and his family, moved into it. It became the hub of Ernest's life for the next 9 years, serving the Feltwell and

surrounding community.

His name appears in many articles in the local newspapers, giving evidence in various courts, commissions regarding his patients and commenting on the quality of the general health services of the time. He was a strong advocate for widening the access of health services to the disadvantaged members of the community.

In late 1934, Ernest's health began to deteriorate, and he retired from general practice in September 1935. He died a month later at his home in Denver, West Norfolk. His funeral was held at St Mary's Church, Denver. His wife Amy went on to live for a further 16 years, but Constance, his daughter, being hospitalised in 1939, due to her failing mental health.

Ernest's life spanned two continents, during which he sought to serve those suffering and afflicted with illness, irrespective of rank or position. His social consciousness developed at a very young age, and it grew into a lifelong passion to serve. Living through the height of the British Empire he would have seen the industrialisation of Britain and subsequently that of India and the rise of the independence movement in India. He also was of a generation where to serve both professionally and militarily was engrained into the mindset of society. In time his caring and compassionate nature led him back to Feltwell, where once again he could be an active player in improving the health of a wider social community.

Breckland Branch

THE STORY OF LILY



In July of this year I was asked by our vet, Eastgate in Thetford, if I could take in a pregnant cat. I had a space at the time, so I was happy to be of help. But I did ask them to blood test her for Feline Aids and Feline Leukaemia first, which are both viruses in cats and can be fatal, although the cat may not be showing any symptoms to start with. She was also flea'd and wormed. We always carry out this procedure on pregnant cats before the kittens arrive. If mum is virus free, then the kittens will be too.

I picked up Lily from our vet a day or two later and found that she was the most stunning Ragdoll cat, with beautiful blue eyes. She is a pedigree – a first for us, as we only usually foster domestic cats and more often than not, they are black. The vets thought she was imminent to give birth. So I brought her home and set her up in my 'cat' room, with a cosy bed, food and water and waited.

Apparently, Lily was found in Bury St. Edmunds by a member of the public and taken to the Bury branch of Eastgate vets, where it was found that she had a microchip. This gives all the details of the cat, name, age, breed, and her owners details. The vet's rang the mobile number on the microchip details, and was told that the family had moved to London, and when they got there, they realised they didn't have Lily, they asked the vet to put her in a taxi and send her to

MISSED APPOINTMENTS @ THE SURGERY 2024

January—118 February—55 March—60 April—61
May—63 June—72 July—61 August—41
September—79 October—68

Every GP appointment costs an average of £30. These appointments could have gone to someone else in need.

If you cannot attend your appointment, please cancel it.

London, and said that the vets could pay for the taxi. Obviously that didn't happen, but all attempts to contact the owner afterwards, failed. They had blocked their mobile number and didn't reply to the email address on the microchip details. My own theory is that Lily came into season during the move, escaped from the house, and found herself a mate, or maybe two. I was sure she wasn't carrying pedigree kittens, as the owners would have wanted her back because they would be worth a lot of money. Ragdoll kittens sell for around £400.



The only problem with Lily is that she tended to be a bit aggressive. I would stroke her and she would be purring loudly, and then suddenly she would bite or scratch me. The vet and the vet nurses had all been 'had' by Lily. But we have no idea what her home life was like before she came to us.

Maybe they were not kind to her, maybe they hit her. We will never know and she couldn't tell us.

I made excuses for her all the time, that she was so big and uncomfortable being pregnant that it made her bad tempered, but things with Lily never changed. She was always ready to have a go – but I got used to her and I could tell when she was about to lash out, and kept my hands out of her reach.

Three weeks went by with no sign of kittens. Lily was getting bigger and bigger and looked liked she had swallowed a football! I took her to the vets to check that there were kittens in her tummy, and they scanned her and said the kittens were very squashed and they could only hear one heartbeat. But the very next day Lily gave birth to 5 beautiful babies. None of them were like mummy, but at least they were not all black! I lived in fear that the father was a black tom and all the babies would be like him. They were all different. There were

2 pale ginger and white kittens, both male. An all grey male kitten, a female grey and white kitten, and dark tortie (female – as torties always are). Lily was a good mum to start with. She let me take each kitten away from her every day to weigh them. We always weigh kittens to make sure they are all being fed, as we wouldn't know if one of them was hungry. They did fine until they were about 2 and a half weeks old, and then mummy wasn't eating much, and the kittens were gaining less and less weight each day. They should gain between 10-15 grams every day. So I took Lily back to the vets, and they examined her and told me that she hardly had any milk. One of the vets said – typical posh cat!

So from then on I had to supplement the kittens with milk formula. I left them with Lily, and took them 2 or 3 at a time into another room, and fed them with milk formula about 4 times a day. I had to take them away to feed them, as Lily also liked the milk formula and she wouldn't let the kittens have any!

The kittens went from strength to strength then, and when they were around 5 weeks old, I took them all away from Lily, to wean them off the milk and on to solid food. At least Lily didn't go through the discomfort that most mummy cats do, of her teats filling up with milk, and no babies to take it off her. They spend about 10 days crying for their babies and feeling really uncomfortable. But it has to be done, otherwise the kittens would still be feeding from mum, when they are 12 weeks old and more!

The kittens have now all been homed to lovely adopters after being vaccinated and wormed. Two of them went together, which was great. . The two ginger and white boys, kept the blue eyes, just like mummy. All kittens are born with blue eyes, but they change at around 6-7 weeks. But these two boys looked liked pedigree kittens.

The problem was what to do with Lily. Technically she is not a Cats Protection cat. We contacted our Head Office, and they took advice from a solicitor. We had to send the owners a recorded letter, so we know they received it, asking what they wanted to do about Lily. They did not respond, so the solicitor said to send another letter by

recorded delivery, 2 weeks after the first letter, giving the owners a date to reply by – which was 30th September. They didn't respond, so on 1st October Lily was neutered. She was then legally 'our' cat. Otherwise we couldn't neuter a cat that didn't belong to us. And I didn't want to risk Lily coming into season and driving me crazy with her yowling. Fortunately, that didn't happen.

So Lily was put up for adoption, hoping that someone out there would take on a cat with Lily's temperament. We had a few enquiries, but when we mentioned her behaviour, they were put off. Then a lovely lady got in touch to say she had seen the pictures of Lily on our Facebook Page and was very interested in adopting her. She wasn't worried about her habit of lashing out. She is a 70 year old lady, living in an old peoples complex, where she has her own bungalow, out in the sticks, near Colchester. Her last cat lived until he was 18, always a good sign of a caring owner. She came to meet Lily and was smitten. So Lily has gone off to a lovely new home and is being spoilt rotten.

If you need advice of help with the cost of neutering, please call us on 01842 810018.

Rita Thompson

Feltwell Historical Society - programme 2025

Jan. 17th - No meeting

Feb. 15th - Battle of Medway (Saturday morning, 9:45)

Mar. 22nd—Paul Garland - Feltwell photos

Apr. 18th - Kevin Boardman - Growing up in Norfolk in the 50's

May 16th - Sarah Doig - The A-Z of Curious Norfolk

June 20th - Kate Roma - her role as Local Com. Officer, CCT & Church repairs

July 18th - Social evening with buffet

Aug. 15th - Kevin Boardman - TBA

Sep. 19th - Liz Lesley-Smith - Oxburgh Hall

Oct. 17th - Stuart Samuels - Ghosts of Feltwell

Nov. 21st - Society Annual Dinner

Dec. - St. Nicholas Church - Carols by Candlelight TBA

There will also be an Afternoon Tea Event at St. Nicholas Church in June
TBA

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West Norfolk Aviation Society

December 2024 Report

www.westnorfolkaviationsociety.org.uk



Military Bases in the Arctic since WW2 - Part One

Our Speaker this month was John Blakeley who presented a very interesting talk (Part 1 of 2) on military bases in the Arctic. The Arctic has been a hotbed of contention for many years and there is still a very active 'Cold War' going on in the latitudes above 66.30 degrees North where temperatures can be as low as minus 40 degrees. Thule Air Force Base was built in Greenland and is the highest latitude Air Force base in the USA remaining in use today. Constructed in 1951, as the Cold war kicked off, it remains a vital USA and NATO base. John showed us an interesting film of its construction. The Arctic Air Ferry route was established under Operation Bolero to move aircraft across the North Atlantic in WW2 into the European Theatre of Operations. A series of bases was established to allow a maximum distance between bases of 750 miles. The route was from Newfoundland via Greenland, Iceland and onto the North of Scotland. Due to weather, mechanical and navigational difficulties, the many single-engined aircraft attempting the journey needed the assistance of an escort in the form of a well-equipped multi-engined aeroplane. An expected loss rate of 10% was anticipated but, luckily, 5.2% was the reality. However, losses rose exponentially in the winter and all crossings were suspended from Nov to March. There is a number of amazing survival stories including that of a B17 crew surviving for 100 days in the tail section of their crashed bomber waiting for the weather to improve enough for them to be rescued. There is also the remarkable story of a P38 Lockheed Lightning fighter which crashed in Greenland after returning in bad weather and was very recently recovered from under the ice and restored to flying condition. Appropriately named Glacier Girl, it remains in operational condition; Google it - it's a remarkable story. Little known facts emerged like: the UK

METHWOLD SPIRITUALIST CHURCH SPIRITUALIST SERVICES

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

**6th December An Evening of Clairvoyance With
POPPY BOWLING.**

JANUARY CLOSED.

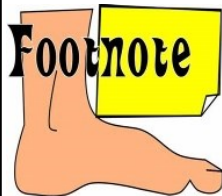
First Service for 2025, 21st February

**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

NEW YEARS EVE LOGISTICAL SOLUTION

George	Pub	Formal	12:30pm
Greg	Party at Home	Fancy Dress	1am
Gloria	Nightclub	Pyjamas	1:30am
Georgia	Party at Friends	Casual	2am



Answer me this: When they've done something
about it, what's next?

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

If you would like future
issues of this magazine

delivered **FREE** to your home in Feltwell please contact our
Distribution Manager Ian Webb on 828167.

March-March -£5 (12 issues, 2 free).

All subscriptions below 11 copies are pro rata.

‘politically invaded’ Iceland and the Faroe Islands to prevent them falling into the hands of the Germans. The USA took over ‘protection’ of Greenland which was semi-autonomous with Denmark. However Denmark had been invaded and subjugated by Nazi Germany. The Germans were unable to counter this because until late 1941 the USA was a Neutral country and any action against Greenland would have meant war against the USA. All highly intriguing. Meanwhile back in the present the vast majority of populated areas in the Arctic fall within Russia so maintaining a western ‘presence’ in the area is vital, hence the continuing cold war in the region which brings us to the end of Part 1. We look forward to welcoming John back in January with Part 2 which John says is even more interesting which makes it a definite do not miss in my book.

Finally if you like the sound of our group why not come to the West Norfolk Aviation Society meetings on the first Tuesday of every month at Mundford Bowls Club between 1900-2130 where you will be guaranteed a warm welcome with free tea, biscuits and light snacks. Be sure to check the website (Google West Norfolk Aviation Society) to see what exciting topics await and to ensure we will actually be there and not on an away day.

Mark Burch, Stand In Scribe, 07 Nov 2024.

Your **Parish Councillors** are:

Mr Ian Rayner (Chair), Mr Edmund Lambert (Vice-Chair),
Mrs Sue Arnold, Mr Paul Cole, Mrs Helen Wilson,
Mrs Bernadette McGeeney, Mrs Linda Peckham,
Mr Martin Storey (County Councillor), Mr Jonathan Fenn,
Mrs Emma Edwards, Mrs Julie Peacock.

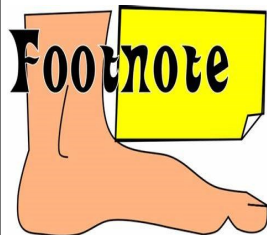
The Parish Council website can be found at:

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

The Parish Clerk, Jo Martin can be contacted by email at **clerk@feltwellparishcouncil.gov.uk**. Or by phone on 828383.

WORD TRAIL No. 47 SOLUTION

¹ D	E	A	² D	E	B	A	³ R	A	I	N	B
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"The brochure stated: 'No hairdressers at the resort.'
We're trainee hairdressers and we think they knew
and made us wait longer for service."

Actual complaint received by Thomas Cook

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

A Parish Council Meeting was held on Monday the 11th of NOVEMBER 2024 in the British Legion, Long Lane. 6 Councillors attended and 2 members of the public

Sqn Leader Eaton's report stated night flying commenced 4/11/24 and will continue until further notice but operations will finish by 10 pm and there would be a no-fly period 24/12/24 to 2/1/25 inclusive. Suffolk County Council has allocated funding for road safety improvements in the TriBase area including road sign replacement, white line/road marking improvements and cutting back of vegetation.

Mr Storey updated on Borough and Norfolk County Council matters and said £44.722m savings must be made for NCC to balance their 2025/26 budget and public consultations are open on three proposals; raising Council Tax, reducing street light usage and reviewing their Housing Related Support services. NCC will allocate £1.15m of their Household Support Fund to keep vulnerable people warm this winter now that the winter fuel payment is to be means tested. They are working with Age UK and Citizens Advice to ensure payments are made quickly. All information can be found on Borough Council and NCC websites

There was no update on the roundels again however Mr Storey was not impressed to learn roundels had been painted in Methwold earlier in the day so will take this up with Highways. Malfunctioning 30mph flashing speed signs along Lodge Road and Wilton Road will be repaired by Westcotec.

New basketball unit has been installed at the playing field. Mr Storey will flail the shrubs/greenery etc around the perimeter of the field.

Electrical work has been completed and the integrated fire alarm system installed at the Changing Rooms following the Fire Risk Assessment carried out earlier in the year.

Damaged street light in Mulberry Close has been replaced.

WORD SEARCH SOLUTION

G	Z	S	O	M	E	T	H	I	N	G	E	V	I	L	S	R	W
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K	T	D	O	H	Q	T	V	F	D	F	A	G	C	S	G	R	J
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**SUDOKU
SOLUTION**



Including this one there are 8 reindeer hidden somewhere inside this issue.

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

Work recommenced on the Long Lane development on 11th November and should be completed in the Spring. Flagship are working on removing the greenery obstructing the dog and rubbish bins.

A public event in conjunction with Age UK and Feltwell Community Group will be held during January at St Mary's Church to provide vulnerable residents with information on grants, benefits etc that they may be entitled to. Further information about the event will be posted on Facebook and a leaflet drop will be carried out asap.

Councillors approved a request from Greys Funfair to visit the village playing field next March/April – date to be confirmed.

Residents are asked to refrain from parking on the pavement in front of Central Garage as their vehicles are severely obstructing vision for drivers at the Long Lane/Short Beck junction. Proposal to Highways to remove the extended part of the pavement altogether.

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

Residents are politely requested to trim back greenery to their boundaries, particularly if it is obstructing pedestrians on neighbouring footpaths.

Please subscribe to the Council's website (<https://feltwellparishcouncil.gov.uk>) and Facebook page for latest news and notifications including RAF Feltwell demolition activities and road closures.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place at the British Legion on Monday 9th December 2024 at 7.30 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Feltwell Parish Council wishes you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



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***We wish you all a very Merry Christmas
and Very Best Wishes for 2025***



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