

# FELTWELL PARISH MAGAZINE

YOUR CONNECTION TO YOUR COMMUNITY

## May 2024



### Save the Dates

**Car Show — Saturday 18th May**

**Grand Village Fete & Parade — Saturday 15th June**

**Picnic in the Park — Sunday 21st July.**

How many butterflies can you find inside?

### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

**Ancient Metallurgy, D-Day 80,  
Bonfires, Wildlife Crime,  
School Report from Crows,  
GP Surgeries Under Threat,  
Parish Council Report.  
Plus all our usual puzzles and  
much more besides.**



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	Lisa Strutt	@ the school
Feltwell Women's Institute	Claire Scarff	827555
Feltwell Playgroup	Merle Gallagher	07582 371984
Feltwell Scout Group	Claire Scarff	827555
Feltwell Football Club	Sarah Ramsey (Secretary)	07825 506974
Feltwell Youth Football Club	Andy Kennedy	828914
Feltwell & Thetford District Mencap	Mrs T. Sismey	827292
Feltwell Brownies	Lisa Allbut-Kentish	07710 688857
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: <a href="mailto:feltwellparishclerk@gmail.com">feltwellparishclerk@gmail.com</a> .		828383
Parish Council website: <a href="https://feltwellparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk">https://feltwellparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk</a>		
Feltwell's History Website can be found at <a href="http://www.feltwell.net">http://www.feltwell.net</a>		

## **Deadline for the next issue is 14<sup>th</sup> May 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](mailto:garlandp@btinternet.com)

Advertisers should contact our Advertising Manager: Susan Withers,  
The Bungalow, Blackdyke Road, Feltwell (827758)  
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Distribution is by Ian Webb (828167) & Paul Garland

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# Edmund De Moundeford

## Voluntary Controlled Primary School

FROM THE CLASSROOM

### CROWS CLASS



This term, our class have been learning about the sea and Lord Admiral Nelson.



#### OUR CLASS TRIP

We went on a class trip to two museums: Lynn Museum and The Story of Lynn to learn about the British Navy. My favourite part was when we pretended to be on a ship. My least favourite part was when we tried the food that they had on the ship like sauerkraut, cheese, gherkins and dried grapes (raisins).

#### OUR ASSEMBLY

In our class assembly, we learned all about the British Navy and rocks. Our assembly was amazing and was attended by lots of parents. The sign-in sheet was completely full (true!).



**SCAN HERE!**

# **GRAND VILLAGE FETE & CARNIVAL PARADE**

**SATURDAY 15TH JUNE 2024  
FELTWELL PLAYING FIELD**



**PARADE  
STARTS  
1PM**

**LIVE MUSIC BY  
GENE GRIMES**

**'GLAMDADS'  
FROM 6PM**

**DISCO BY  
DJ COCKY**



**FETE  
STARTS  
2PM**

**GIN PALACE, BAR, FOOD, TEA & CAKES AND ICE-CREAMS  
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AND OUR FAMOUS TUG OF WAR!**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR PICNIC BLANKETS AND CHAIRS  
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**Monies raised are donated to village projects**

**Contact [feltwellcommunitygroup@gmail.com](mailto:feltwellcommunitygroup@gmail.com) for more info!**

**Please note, dogs are not permitted on the playing field (assistance dogs only)**



## FUN FACTS

- Nelson died at 4:30pm on October 21st 1805.
- Nelson was exactly 5ft tall (someone in our class is taller than him).
- Nelson survived scurvy (it was a very bad disease - he was lucky!).
- Nelson was preserved in rum to be transported back to England.
- Lord Admiral Nelson's coffin was made of the wood from HMS Victory.



## ALSO IN CROWS ...



Our class have been practising hard on our times tables. Battle of the Bands is a battle for Crows Class only. It is where we battle against each other: Mathletes vs Mathmagicians. Who will win?

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The Mathmagician's won!]

FIND OUT MORE: [www.edmunddemoundeford.co.uk](http://www.edmunddemoundeford.co.uk)

## BENCH TIME

*Another delightful conversation piece  
from Frederick James.*



"How long we bin sitting here, George?"

"Seems like forever, Bill. Seems like forever!"

"Must admit it's good to just sit and watch the world go by, George, now we got the time to do it."

"I know, Bill, but do you reckon your old lady would approve of you just sitting around? Just idlin' like?"

"Well, she ain't here, is she, George? So I does as I likes now, whatever!"

"I knows that, Bill, but what if Mave could see us, right now? What would she have to say, seein' us two just sittin' around like?"

"She'd probably speak 'er mind, I expect, George. She's always bin one for speakin' er' mind, has my old girl, an' that's a fact!"

"Yeah, but what do you reckon she'd have to say, Bill?"

"She'd more like as not say as you was leading me astray, George!"

"I dare say that my missus would have the same to say about you, Bill, so I guess we's even on that score. Do you miss 'er, George? How're you getting on since she's bin gone?"

"Oh, I's copin' ok, I guess. It's not bin easy, but you just gotta get on wi' it, ain't ya? I wouldn't want 'er to think I's useless. Besides, Bill, you an' I's got to set an example to t'other chaps for when it 'appens to them, after all!"

"Hadn't looked at it that way, George. You's right of course. I dare say my Doris would have summat to say as well, but I agrees with you. We 'as to set an example. They'd just 'ave to accept that, wouldn't they?"

“Glad to see you gets my point, Bill. A man after my own mind! After all, we's the ones who've been left to cope, so they'd have to accept us 'aving a little bench time, eh?”

“Of course you're right, George. You always are, come to think of it. It's good to 'ave a mate who knows where it's at, an' no mistake!”

“Right, Bill, so let's just sit 'ere and relax, and enjoy the time we've got!”

The two men eventually get up from the bench, and head across the green towards the bus-stop where they stand together, and patiently wait.

“What time did they say they'd be back, George?”

“No idea, Bill. Soon I hope, cos I's getting' hungry!”

Frederick James.

*Did you see that ending coming? I didn't.*

## **SUMMER EVENTS AT RSPB LAKENHEATH FEN**

### **Summer Walking Safari**

Sunday 21 July (2-7pm)

Our very popular annual longer walk, taking in the full range of habitats on offer. With luck, we may see Bittern, Common crane, Bearded tit, Hobbies and more!

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

### **Big Wild Sleepout**

Saturday 3 – Sunday 4 August (1pm-1pm)

Join us for a night camping under the stars on the nature reserve, with a range of wildlife-themed activities on both days- including pond dipping, bug-hunting, wildlife arts & crafts, guided walks and bat detecting. The price below is all-inclusive, even for non-RSPB members.

RSPB members £30 (£15 for Under 18's); non-RSPB members £35 (£17.50 for Under 18's).

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Summer is so nearly here as I write this. The gardens are busy with insects flying around; some are welcome, others less so to gardeners. All are useful though. Help the insects and birds this year by planting up a tub or basket. It will also look very colourful and welcoming around the village as well as feeding and housing our wildlife. When my mother used to make up her hanging baskets, she always accidentally added an odd tuft or two of grass. It did add to the colour in the baskets! I will leave you to decide if you want to do that or not.

Feltwell in Bloom is busy clearing and planting up the tubs for the new season. Can you help? If you have any spare plants we will gladly accept them. If we cannot use them in the tubs, we will sell them and raise funds towards more bulbs and plants for the new tubs we intend to install this year. We would also welcome more help from anyone with an odd hour or two to help plant up the tubs. Let us know if you can help please.

Come and join us at the Anglo-American Car Show on May 18th (my apologies for the incorrect date in the April issue). Come and talk about gardens with us – we will try to answer any questions you might have. We will also have a variety of plants for sale – both indoor and outdoor – all at reasonable prices. If we are lucky with the weather, it will be a warm sunny day like it was last year. I look forward to seeing several of you there or at the Village Fete on June 15th, where we will also have a stall to sell plants.

I would like to thank our members, both recent and longer serving. Their efforts make the village a more cheerful and colourful place to live.

Contact us on the following platforms:-

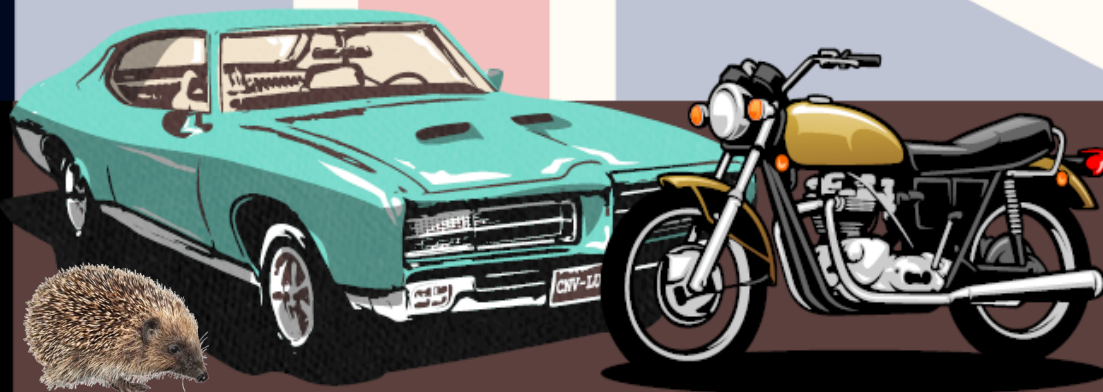
Facebook - #Feltwell in Bloom

Email – [feltwellinbloom@yahoo.com](mailto:feltwellinbloom@yahoo.com)

Or phone Rita on 07785345614 and I will try to answer your queries.

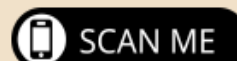
FELTWELL VILLAGE  
**ANGLO-AMERICAN  
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**18 MAY 2024**  
**10 AM - 4 PM**

Feltwell Playing Fields  
Paynes Lane, IP26 4BA



**REGISTER YOUR  
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**[WWW.FELTWELLCARSHOW.UK](http://WWW.FELTWELLCARSHOW.UK)**





## Feltwell Year 6 Prom

Every year the parents of the year 6 Feltwell children work super hard to raise funds to give the children a final celebration before they move on to secondary school. As part of this fundraising Year 6 children, with adult assistance, did a litter pick around Feltwell last month. If anybody would like to support their further efforts please contact Vicki Hurrell at 07806612333 or visit their GoFundMe page Year 6 Leavers Prom by Tanith Royffe.



A big thank you  
to all involved in  
helping keep our  
village tidy.  
Well done.  
Enjoy your prom.



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## **LATEST CONSUMER ALERTS AND TRADING STANDARDS NEWS**

### **Scam Alert - Fake DVLA emails**

We are warning residents about fake communications which claim to be from DVLA.

One recent example shared with us states, 'Our records show that you are not up to date with your current vehicle tax' and that, 'This is your last (v11) reminder from us'. The email goes on to claim that, 'Your Vehicle is not permitted to legally be on the road.'

These emails are not from DVLA, anyone clicking on the link provided in the text will be taken to a fake version of the DVLA website which will attempt to gather personal and financial information.

### **Scam Alert - Online surveys to receive high value items**

We are warning residents about numerous fake emails circulating claiming, 'you have been chosen' to receive a high value item in exchange for completing an online survey.'

The emails, which are often branded to appear as if they come from well-known companies contain a link to the survey which it states is required to 'claim' your item.'

Recent examples have included:

Emails claiming to be from Tesco offering a Yeti Backpack

Emails claiming to be from B&Q offering a Dewalt Tool Trolley

Emails claiming to be from Boots offering an Estee Lauder Blockbuster Gift Set

Emails claiming to be from Currys offering a Swann Home Security Camera System

Emails claiming to be from Screwfix offering a 'Mystery Box'

Emails claiming to be from Sainsbury's offering a Ninja Air Fryer

Anyone following the link will be taken to a well-designed website carrying the same branding as the email which will attempt to gather personal and financial details as part of you claiming the non-existent prize.



**NEED A WILL?**

**NEED PROBATE?**

**NEED LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY?**

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## **Scam Alert - Automated telephone cold calls claiming to be from 'Visa'**

We are again warning residents about automated telephone calls that claim they are from 'Visa'.

The calls will make claims about 'suspicious' or 'unauthorised transactions', giving details for purchases of several hundred pounds often quoting well known online retailers like Amazon and Apple. The recording then requires the call recipient to interact with the call, recent examples stated the caller needed to 'press 1 to accept these charges or press 2 to reject and be connected to their fraud team'.

These calls are a scam and the claims made are not genuine.

If you receive this, or a similar call, do not interact with it in any way and hang up.

It is likely there are several variations of these calls stating different transactions, amounts and actions that can be taken.

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

## **Scam Alert - Fake parcel delivery emails**

We are again warning residents about emails claiming to be from parcel delivery companies stating they are unable to deliver an item.

Recent examples have included messages claiming to be from EVRI stating, 'your local courier tried to deliver your parcel, but nobody seemed to be in'. The message goes on to say that the recipient needs to 'reschedule delivery' via a button in the message.

These messages are sent by criminals who have created fake website to look like the genuine ones, with the same branding, layout, and font choices. These are used to gather personal and financial information or take payments.

If you receive one of these messages do not click on any links.

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**<https://freedomrecycling.co.uk/>**



**Messenger**



If you think you have interacted with a scam message and provided scammers with your financial details you should contact your bank immediately on a number you know to be correct, such as the one on the back of your bank card

### **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

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

You can also report Frauds, Cyber Crime and Phishing attempts to Action Fraud, the National Fraud & Cyber Crime (NCSC) by forwarding it to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk).

You can report suspicious text messages received by forwarding them to 7726.

**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.



Would you please send a man to repair my spout? I am an old age pensioner and need it badly.

*Extracts from letters written by council tenants*

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

## SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

Answer on page 77



## 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**

## MAY BANK HOLIDAY LOGISTICAL

This Logistical puzzle was designed by Chris at the Wellington. The solution is on p62.

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Day At The Seaside	Day At High Lodge	Day At The Zoo	Day Out In Cambridge	£35	£40	£45	£50
Paula												
Maria												
Bianca												
Laura												
£35												
£40												
£45												
£50												
Seaside												
High Lodge												
Zoo												
Cambridge												

Match the person to the day, their activity and the cost.

- 1: The Saturday outing cost £5 less than the trip to High Lodge.
- 2: Maria went out on Sunday which was after Paula.
- 3: Laura spent £10 more than the person who went out Friday.
- 4: The visit to Cambridge was more expensive than High Lodge.
- 5: Bianca Visited High Lodge before Paula had her day out.
- 6: The person who went to the Zoo spent the most, the Seaside visitor spent the less.

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# Feltwellians Around The World



**Memoir for Sylvan Ellwood Weaver Born August 5, 1915.**

**Killed in action April 4, 1943. Part 3**

Written by Larry Weaver (son of Sylvan's younger brother Armand)

*As I write in the first person I, Larry, will type I(S) so you will know it is what Sylvan thought or felt as I imagined he would. When I write things that I am feeling or thinking I will write them as I(L).*

(S) Maybe the navy would allow drunken sailors but drunken pilots, navigators, bombers and air gunners? I don't think so - maybe just in port. But not on a 24hr basis.

I liked baseball, hockey, and hunting. My records say that I was a pretty good shot. Course that was just on my word. Later on in training I proved I was a good shot on moving targets. I did receive an Exemplary Gunner's proficiency badge and it was recommended I be a W.O. (Wireless Operator) and A.G. (Air Gunner).

When the war broke out in Europe, Britain had the enemy at its doorstep so speak, so that is why training schools were set up in Canada. They couldn't very well do training in airspace outside Britain because the Germans were there. In Canada there was excellent flying conditions for flying, immediate access to American industry i.e. parts and aircraft, and could transport men and airplanes to England via the North Atlantic. So, under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. signed Dec. 17, 1939 these schools were set up across Canada. Pilots would come from England, Australia, New Zealand and Canada to train under this umbrella. The plan's objective was to train pilots, navigators, bomb aimers, wireless operators, air gunners and flight engineers. As a result, 131,000 air crewmen including French. Czechs, Norwegians, Poles, Belgians and Dutch were trained between 1939-45 making this one of Canada's great contributions to Allied victory. U.S. president Roosevelt called Canada the "aerodrome of democracy."



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There were 107 training schools across Canada. Each focused on specific skills: flying, bombing and gunnery, air observation, air navigation, radio operations, or flight engineering. I(L) suppose that if you were good in all departments that if one got injured or killed while flying that maybe you could jump in and fill the position? That's just a guess. Trainees began their training at a Manning Depot where they learned to bathe (can you imagine needing to learn this?), shave, shine boots, polish buttons, maintain their uniform, and behave properly. The latter sounded pretty English to me (S). Like did you have to hold your fork in your left hand and knife in your right? This was humorous to me. Like how ridiculous can you get? Would I be a better soldier with better manners? LOL as they say these days in computer talk. We also received two hours of physical education daily and instruction in marching, rifle drill, foot drill, saluting and other routines.

So I(S) was first sent to Brandon, Manitoba - a Manning Depot. After one month it was decided I(S) would make a good W.A.G. Wireless Air Gunner so was sent directly to Medicine Hat, a service training flying school (S.F.T.S). Here we in bomber, coastal or transport command would train in twin engined Cessna Cranes and Avro Ansons. Cessnas were a pleasure craft made in Kansas that were produced to keep up with demand. The Ansons were a British made military craft quite a bit faster than the Cranes. Instructors for the most part were civilians. For the first 8 weeks we were part of an intermediate training squadron; for the next six weeks an advanced training squadron; and for the final two weeks at a bombing and gunnery school. It taught bomb aiming and aerial machine gunnery to air observers, bomb aimers and wireless air gunners. These areas required large areas of wilderness so to speak to accommodate bombing and gunnery ranges, so what better bald prairies than around Lethbridge and Medicine Hat?

*To be continued next month.*

## **MISSED APPOINTMENTS @ THE SURGERY 2024**

**January—118    February—55    March—60**

*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.*

## Chimney Sweeping & CCTV Inspections

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Our speaker for April was Fraser Reich. This was Fraser's third visit and this time he choose to tell us about Ancient Metallurgy (5,000 BC to 1,000 BC).

Metallurgy was his first degree and has always fascinated him, particularly this time period as, with very little scientific

knowledge, the people of that time did some amazing things with metal.

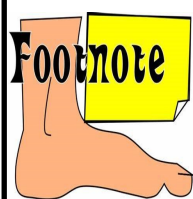
Metallurgy is part of materials science and engineering that studies the physical and chemical behaviour of metallic elements, their compounds and mixtures, know as alloys.. Ancient metallurgy refers to the way human beings discovered how to use metals to develop tools, and how their properties could be altered by mixing with other metals. One of the key developments was the discovery of how to extract metals from ores.

The period he talked about were as follows:

- The age of copper from 5,000 BC to 3,000 BC
- The first copper alloys: from approx. 3,000 BC to 2,000 BC
- The 'true' Bronze Age: 2,000 BC to approx. 1,000 BC

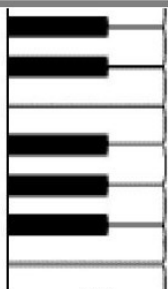
The earliest recorded metal employed by humans appears to be gold, which can be found free or "native". Small amounts of natural gold have been found in Spanish caves dating to 40,000 BC. Gold, silver and copper can be found in native form, allowing a limited amount of metalworking in early cultures. They have a crystal structure known as 'face centred cubic (FCC) that allows the pure metals to be worked almost endlessly without hardening, for example, pure gold can be beaten until it is so thin that it is translucent! But it's no good for making tools. Ancient peoples worked these metals for ornamental purposes.

The Copper Age or the Chalcolithic came about when early peoples learned how to 'smelt' copper ores. The oldest dated evidence for copper smelting is approx. 5,000 BC and comes from what is now Serbia. If you want to extract the copper out of an ore you can't just heat up



"My car was illegally parked as it backed into another vehicle."

*Genuine statement from an insurance form.*



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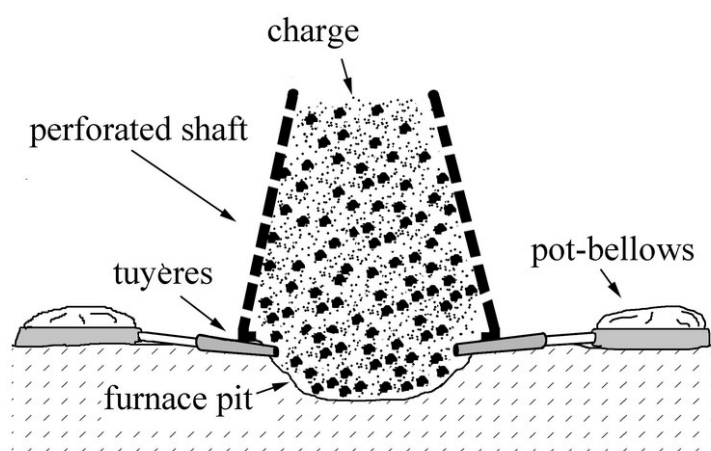
**Mob: 07825700575    Tel: (01842)827645**

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the ore to melt the metal 'out'. This is because the ores are the chemical compounds of the metal and other elements, such as oxygen (as an oxide ( $\text{CuO}$ )), sulphur (as a sulphide), or carbon and oxygen together (as a carbonate). To extract the metal these compounds must first undergo a chemical reaction called reduction to remove the oxygen and sulphur etc. Smelting, therefore, is the process in which suitable reducing substances combine with these other elements to free the metal. The reducing substance involved in the smelting of copper is Carbon Monoxide ( $\text{CO}$ )—more later.

Here's an example using the copper ore called Malachite which is essentially a combination of copper carbonate ( $\text{CuCO}_3$ ) and copper hydroxide ( $\text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2$ ). The malachite is first 'roasted' between 250 and 350°C. This process produces carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ), water ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) and copper oxide ( $\text{CuO}$ ) which can then be 'smelted' at a higher temperature in a furnace.

Ancient furnaces, such as this one, could reach approximately 1200°C. This was achieved by forcing air, by the means of bellows, through



a. Charging the furnace

charcoal (carbon) allowing it to burn, producing Carbon monoxide and releasing a lot of energy. By sheer coincidence 1200°C is also the temperature at which Carbon monoxide will react with Copper oxide to produce Carbon dioxide and pure Copper. ( $\text{CuO} + \text{CO} \rightarrow \text{Cu} + \text{CO}_2$ ). The liquid copper then

flowed to the bottom of the furnace as an 'ingot'. And all of this was done without the knowledge we have today. Ancient metallurgists were just as intelligent as we are but they were knowledge poor. If it worked don't mess with it, ritualise it. Our modern knowledge has barely improved the process but we do know a lot more about the chemistry and thermodynamics underlying smelting.

There is a period in the third millennium BC when the first copper alloy started to appear; a mixture of copper with arsenic (Arsenical copper). It



# Music May @ The Wellington



Friday 3rd  
8:30pm

**Chas  
Slater**



Saturday 18th  
8:30pm

**Alisha**



Saturday 4th  
8:30pm

**Harmonic  
Forces**



Friday 24th  
8:30pm

**TONIQ**



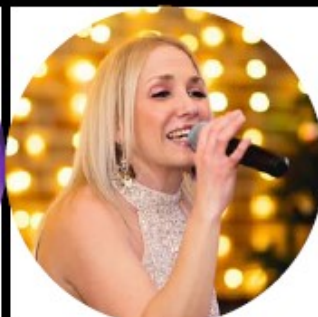
Sunday 5th  
8pm

**The  
Sixteenths**



Saturday 25th  
8:30pm

**Gemma  
Bowler**



Friday 10th  
8:30pm

**Light  
Waves**



Sunday 26th  
8pm

**Messijoes**



Sunday 12th  
3pm

**Lucy  
West**



Friday 31st  
8:30pm

**Carol Ann**





is likely that this happened naturally, because in some regions copper ores occur alongside ores which contain both copper and arsenic. The main property of an arsenical bronze is the ability to 'workharden' the alloy, making it able to take an 'edge' for cutting or chopping. It was also hazardous. The process by which 'workhardening' occurs was only discovered in 1966.

The quest for sources of the much less hazardous tin ores began in what became known as the (true) Bronze Age. Ancient bronze is an alloy of copper containing up to 12% (weight) of tin. The earliest tin-bronzes were probably created by smelting of 'Stannite', a natural copper-tin ore, but by about 2,000BC, the knowledge of how to produce 'bronze' was widespread. Tin bronze was superior to arsenic bronze in that the alloying process could be more easily controlled, and the resulting alloy was stronger and easier to cast. Also, metallic tin and fumes from tin refining are not toxic.

In the Bronze Age, two forms of bronze were commonly used: "classic bronze", about 10% tin, was used in casting; and "mild bronze", about 6% tin, was hammered from ingots to make sheets. Bladed weapons were mostly cast from classic bronze, while helmets and armour were hammered from mild bronze.

The 'true' Bronze age based on copper-tin alloys lasted for a thousand years (approx. 2,000 to 1,000 BC), until it became possible to smelt iron ores to produce early iron-based products.

The Men's Breakfast Club usually meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Month at The Wellington in Feltwell at 9am. It costs £8.00 per person to attend which includes a talk, tea or coffee and a full English breakfast which has to be tasted to be believed just how good it is.

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

Our next meeting will be on the **4th May** when our speaker will be Tim Fothergill who will talk about Health and Safety at Music Festivals. Tim has a wealth of experience and has dealt with stars such as Madonna and Beyonce as well as some of the biggest bands in the country. He has worked at most of the major festivals including Glastonbury and has many interesting tales to tell.



# OPEN DAY

Saturday 11th May 2024

2pm - 5pm

New bowler or experienced bowler,  
everyone is welcome!

Come and have a go, all equipment is supplied  
just wear flat soled shoes (trainers are fine)

Not sure? Come along and watch!



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# ***Your Good Health***

**by Dr Ian Nisbet**

## **How not to run a reception desk**

With two of my sons and their families, we flew from Birmingham airport on 25th March, having arranged to meet three Norfolk friends in Madeira. Unfortunately, as the 'plane neared Madeira, we were informed that strong winds would prevent us from landing. Apparently, another 36 flights had a similar problem that day. We ended up in Fuerteventura, one of the Canary Islands, and Jet 2 had been very efficient in arranging overnight hotel accommodation. We were each given a Jet 2 postcard with hotel details and a coach number for transport. Unfortunately, Calum and Grant and their families were put in one hotel and I was allocated to another which provide single rooms. This was non-negotiable and six of us who were single

travellers pitched up at The Sheraton Hotel.

I was first at the reception desk, presented my postcard to the male receptionist and told him that Jet 2 had arranged accommodation for me. Great hilarity among the reception staff. This man rocks up with a postcard and expects us to give him a free night's accommodation. All the receptionists were rocking with mirth and the bottom line was expressed by my receptionist "You do not have a reservation (repeated several times) so there is nothing I can do". I stood still and he then told me to move to one side as he had 'important' guests to attend to. As there were no other people trying to book in (my 5 companions were keeping well back, waiting to see how events turned out), I stayed put and, when the receptionist came on strong, I became aware of Deannie's spirit at my shoulder



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saying "Don't do it Ian" and, ignoring her, I informed him that he should never be in a "customer facing" job and that he was not fit for purpose. For some reason, this made him angry and he walked round from behind the desk, grabbed my arm and told me that we would take the matter outside! I declined graciously and informed him that I would sit in his posh settee with my five new friends until he saw sense and sorted the matter out. He then threatened to call Security and have me evicted. I gently suggested to him that he could do that but that he should insist that Security should be accompanied by the hotel General Manager who would certainly wish to be aware of the situation. He went a bit quiet at this stage and slunk off.

Shortly after this, as Calum had been keeping Jet 2 informed of my problems, the airline emailed the hotel and told them to allocate the rooms.

My receptionist had a personality change, obviously wondering about repercussions and he allocated me a superb room which had a bed big enough for four people (Just to

avoid confusion, only one slept in it) and a massive balcony, bathroom, sitting room, etc. The evening meal was superb, as was breakfast the next morning. I think the night must have cost Jet 2 the thick end of £300 so honour was restored.

The next day, we made it to Madeira, regaled by the cabin crew with stories of the two pilots and them touring the town for clothing, buying really cheap stuff and then "bumming" their way into the posh restaurant in their hotel. My three Norfolk friends had spent the night on Gran Canaria and we all enjoyed a convivial two weeks in my humble time share.

My old friend, Jayne, has sent me some sayings "Unfortunately, there is no lifeguard in the gene pool"

"How did we oldies survive? Our mothers wiped our faces with spit on a hankie, not an antibacterial wipe"

"I don't really mind getting older but my body is taking it badly" "I love bacon – sometimes I eat it twice a day It helps to take my mind off the terrible chest pains I keep

## Feltwell Dispensary Opening Hours

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

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

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

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

[www.feltwellsurgery.co.uk](http://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**.

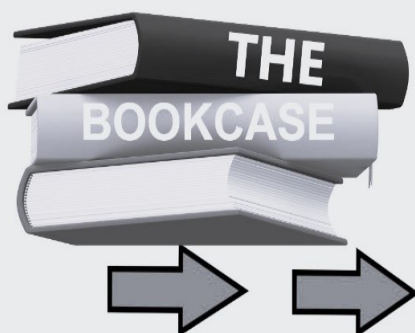
## Having a party?

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## FELTWELL BOOK EXCHANGE



## "THE BOOKCASE"

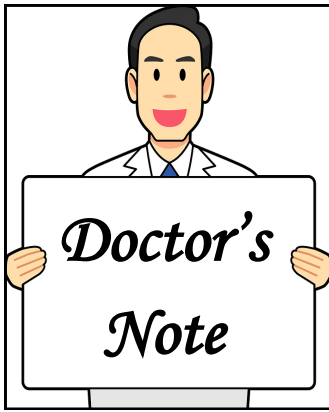
*Located in the Methodist  
Chapel entrance hall is*

***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.



## **Latest NHS statistics about the GP workforce – Feb 24**

There are 32 fewer fully qualified, full-time equivalent GPs in February 2024 than January 2024, the first month showing a fall in FTE numbers after seven months of sustained increases.

We have the equivalent of 1,862 fewer fully qualified full-time GPs than we did in September 2015.

The number of GP practices in England has decreased by 105 over the past year – reflecting a long-term trend of closures as well as mergers. This fall in both staff numbers and GP

practice coincides with a rise in patients: as of February 2024, there was another record-high of 63.20 million patients registered with practices in England – an average of 10,018 patients registered per practice.

As a result, each full-time equivalent GP is now responsible for an average of 2,298 patients. This is an increase of 360 patients per GP, or nearly 19%, since 2015.

### **GP appointments – February 2024**

Approximately 30.5 million standard appointments were booked in Feb. 2024, with an average of 1.45m appointments being delivered per working day.

Approximately 1.4million appointments per day were booked in the past year (March 2023– February 2024).

Appointments booked to take place face to face stayed the same – about 67% of appointments in both Jan. 2024 and Feb. 2024. 45.2% of appointments were delivered by a GP in Feb. 2024: a slight decrease since the previous month (45.5%).

So, with all of the above in mind is it surprising that GPs across England voted to reject the Dept. of Health and Social Care and NHS England changes to the 2024/25 GP General Medical Services (GMS) contract?

More than 19,000 GPs and GP registrars took part in the BMA's referendum, with 99.2% voting 'no' to the question: Do you accept the 2024/25 GMS Contract for General Practice?

The contract changes, which will be imposed by the Government and NHS England from the 1st April 2024, include a national practice contract baseline funding uplift of just 1.9%, or £179m, for England's general practices, way below inflation in recent years, meaning many practices will struggle to stay financially viable over the next six to 12 months and risk closure.

But, please be assured that all of us at Feltwell Surgery will continue to do our best to deliver the best possible service to you, our patients, during these difficult times. We all want the same thing: access to continuity of care with your family doctor in a local GP surgery that has the right balance of GPs, nurses, and other staff, and is well-resourced to meet your needs today, tomorrow and in the months and years ahead. It's what you want, and it's what GPs want too.

## NEWS FROM THE LEGION

What a busy few months we have been having here at the Feltwell Branch of The Royal British Legion.

Some of you eagle eyed folk may of spotted the new ramp installed at our property, this is to help our less able bodied members and guests to access our property. We have also completed some grounds maintenance work.

As well as this work outside, we have also had some internal electrical work done to convert our lights to LED.

We must also thank the Parish Council for installing the defib on the wall outside the Legion for all of the village to access in that life threatening situational time of need. It is another fantastic asset for the village and we are very pleased to house it for them.

Sadly, this last month saw us say a sad, but fond, farewell to Richard and Diane Barnes who have now left their home here in Norfolk to move up north to be closer to their family. Richard and Diane had been a major part of our Feltwell branch for many years, always leading from the front at Remembrance Sunday and always the first to volunteer with any help with branch matters.

Our Monday night cribbage nights continue to thrive, as do our Thursday morning and evening carpet bowl sessions. These three activities are open to everyone, not just Legion members. Crib starts at 7pm with the carpet bowls at 10:30am and 7pm. Please do come along to join us, even if you have never played either before, a friendly welcome is always available to offer guidance and tuition.

Our monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month in the meeting room at 7:30pm, again, these are open to all members and non-members.

Our monthly coffee morning is on the second Wednesday of every month at 10:30am with coffee, cake, a raffle and a quiz. All donations are split between the poppy appeal and the Feltwell RBL branch.

*Continued opposite*

The Legion Hall telephone number is 828480



## **D-DAY 80**

This year, Thursday 6th June, the UK will come together to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. This was the largest naval, air and land operation in history and changed the course of WW2.

As part of the National celebrations, why not join us to celebrate at 9:15pm on 6th June, to see the village beacon being lit. More details will be announced on social media and here in the Parish Magazine in the June issue.

Lastly, Feltwell and District Branch needs you! Our membership numbers are starting to dwindle and we need to start to recruit some new active hands-on members.

### **What is the RBL?**

The Royal British Legion is the UK's leading Armed Forces charity and one of its largest membership organisations. Members get together through the network of branches and clubs all over the country and overseas, to participate in social, fundraising and welfare activities.

### **Who can join the RBL?**

You don't need to be a serving member of the Armed Forces or a veteran to join the RBL. Membership is open to everyone. If you have an interest in the objectives of the RBL and want to help and support those who've served and their families, come and join us. We welcome men and women of all ages.

### **Why the RBL and its members matter**

Legion membership makes sure that:

Remembrance is kept alive, and the sacrifices our brave Service men and women have made are never forgotten.

The ex-Service community has a voice, and their concerns are brought to the public eye.

Becoming a member also provides the opportunity to get involved in a wide range of activities and events held locally, regionally and nationally throughout the year, including the annual Poppy Appeal.

If you think you would like to join us, why not pop along to our branch here on Long Lane for a chat. If no one is there, please call us on the number printed on the inside of the cover of this magazine.

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.

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## Save the Dates

**Grand Village Fete & Carnival Parade — Saturday 15th June**

**Picnic in the Park — Sunday 21st July.**

**Floats and Stalls are welcome for the fete -  
contact [feltwellcommunitygroup@gmail.com](mailto:feltwellcommunitygroup@gmail.com)  
for further info.**

## TABLE TENNIS



Feltwell Table Tennis club is now up and running every **Monday at 7.30pm 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.**

## Embrace the Journey: Why It's Okay to Make a Fool of Yourself

Have you ever tried saying the tongue-twister, “I'm not the pheasant plucker, I'm the pheasant plucker's son, and I'm only plucking pheasants till the pheasant pluckers come”? Go ahead, give it a shot! It's guaranteed to elicit a few chuckles, maybe even some belly laughs. But beyond the amusement, there's a valuable lesson to be learned.

Picture this: you're attempting a push-up for the first time, and instead of gracefully lifting yourself up, you find yourself nose-diving into the ground. Or perhaps you're in a Pilates class, trying to master a challenging balance pose, only to end up slipping off the mat in a less-than-elegant manner. And let's not forget the ambitious attempt at a handstand that leaves you sprawled on the floor, wondering what went wrong.

In moments like these, it's easy to feel embarrassed or discouraged. After all, who enjoys looking like a beginner or, dare I say it, a fool? But here's the truth: making a fool of yourself is not only okay, it's essential for growth.

Think back to when you were a child learning to ride a bike. Remember how many times you fell before you finally mastered the art of balancing on two wheels? Or consider the countless attempts it took to tie your shoelaces without any help. Each stumble, each failure, was just a stepping stone on the path to success.

So why do we lose that fearless, carefree attitude as adults? Why do we let the fear of failure hold us back from trying new things or pursuing our passions? The answer lies in our perception of failure.

We're taught from a young age that failure is something to be avoided at all costs. It's seen as a mark of inadequacy, a sign that we're not good enough. But what if we flipped that narrative on its head? What if we embraced failure as an integral part of the learning process?



## Opening Hours

Owing to very different levels of demand opening hours are as follows.

**Wednesday 9AM – 11:30PM**

**Saturday 12:30PM – 2:00PM**

Bric-a-brac and various items of clothing available.

All we ask is a small donation in return.

*Feltwell Food Pantry—Supporting our community*

## **FELTWEELBEINGS**

**On your own? New to the village?**

**Want to meet other people?**

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**Thursday 10am -12.noon** at Methodist Church Community Hall in Bell Street.

CHAT, Gentle Exercises, Play Table Tennis, Snooker, Board Games, Cards, Dominoes and loads more. We do Countdown, Bingo and more. We also have a Bring & Buy table.

We are also a listening ear and can help with form filling and other information.

Open to all over age 18 —whatever your ability.



Come and see the warm welcome you will get in our Warm Space.

Oh, and we do refreshments.



**TOTALLY ACCESSIBLE PREMISES**



Imagine approaching challenges with the same enthusiasm and resilience as a child learning to walk. They don't worry about looking foolish or making mistakes. They simply keep trying until they get it right, laughing all the while.

So what goals or skills have you set for yourself? Maybe you've always wanted to learn a new language, take up painting, or start a business. Whatever it is, don't let the fear of failure hold you back. Embrace the journey, relish the moments of stumbling and laughter, and celebrate every small victory along the way.

Because, here's the thing: the joy is not just in reaching your destination, but in the journey itself – the determination, the laughter, and the countless opportunities to grow. So go ahead, make a fool of yourself. It's all part of the fun!

Helen Goddard-Nickolls

Life Fitness Re-Engineering



## HOW NOT TO RUN A RECEPTION DESK

continued from p35

by Dr Ian Nisbet

getting!” “When you lose your children in the house, just turn off the WiFi. They will come out immediately and some of your neighbours might appear as well”

“If you are worried about Alexa listening to your conversation, just buy the male version .. it doesn’t listen to anything” “Most people don’t think I am as old as I am until they hear me stand up” “I don’t always go the extra mile but, when I do, it’s because I missed my exit” “Someone sent me an email about using Vodka for cleaning around the house. It works! The more vodka I drink, the cleaner the house gets.” “My doctor has given me three days to give up drinking. I have chosen May 2nd, 9th and 16th”

Take care of yourselves and treasure each other.

Best wishes to you all      Ian Nisbet

Deannie’s Zen saying: Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him to fish and he will sit in a boat all day, drinking beer.”

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## FELTWELL BOWLS CLUB



The club opening and enrolment night was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> April, there was a very good



attendance with all members rejoining and 2

prospective members. It's good to be outside again and the green looked good and bowled well, all thanks to Neil standing in for Colin our groundsman who is off having just had his knee operation.

We now have the Downham and District league fixtures list, the first game starts in July.

We will be holding an Open Day on May 11<sup>th</sup>. This is for anyone wanting to give the game a try if you are interested. There will be ample tutors/helpers to assist and show you the ropes.

There will be a BBQ available if you wish to bring anything along and make an afternoon of it. We will commence at 1 o'clock.

We have now managed to update our honours boards (they were several years behind), thanks to Laura and Scott and they look great.

The Quiz night held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March was well attended with around 40 playing.

We had another Race night on 27<sup>th</sup> April. I will report further in the next issue, hopefully it will be well attended as the first proved to be very popular.

Our next Quiz Night is Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup> so hope you make a note of the date and come along to what is a very enjoyable and popular evening.

### COMING EVENTS

1. Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup>. Open Day 2-5pm.
2. Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>. Quiz Night
3. Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup>. Carnival. We will have a stall and be entering a float.
4. Saturday July 6<sup>th</sup>. Yard Sale.
5. Saturday July 14<sup>th</sup>. Bowlathon - 8am to 8pm. More details in the next issue.

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.*

## Save the Dates

**Grand Village Fete & Carnival Parade — Saturday 15th June**

**Picnic in the Park — Sunday 21st July.** Please contact [feltwellcommunitygroup@gmail.com](mailto:feltwellcommunitygroup@gmail.com) for further information.



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](mailto:garlandp@btinternet.com) or post it through my letterbox.

## The Atmere Charity

The Charity awards grants to individuals who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress by making grants of money for items, services or facilities designed to reduce the 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, hardship or distress being experienced

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



# West Norfolk Aviation Society

## March 2024 Report

[www.westnorfolkaviationsociety.org.uk](http://www.westnorfolkaviationsociety.org.uk)



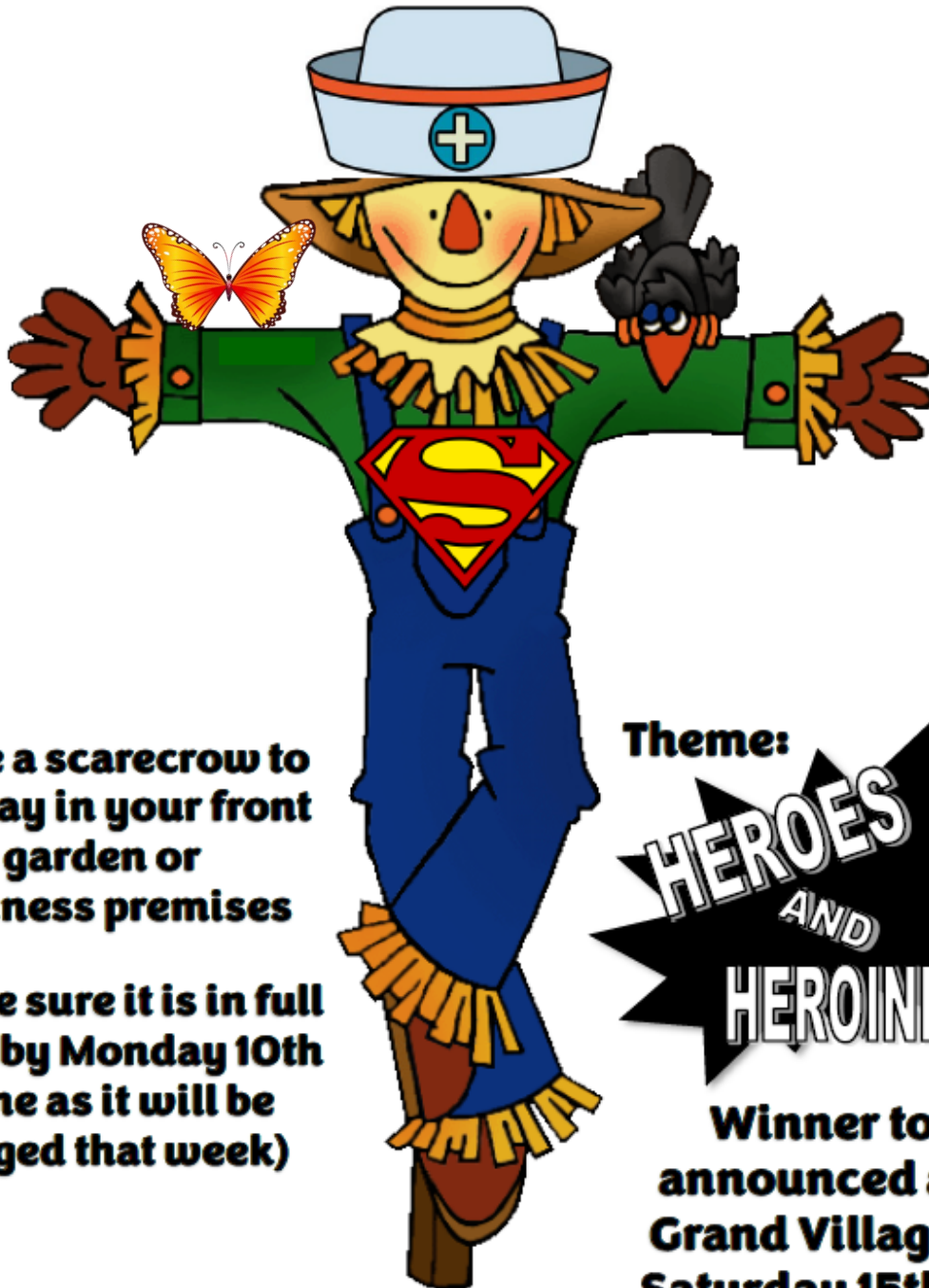
'Commander' David Allen, founder member of the WNAS (29 years), saved the day by standing in for a speaker who - was unable to be sought. He called his impromptu alliteration Allen's Airline Anecdotes. 'Commander' is our pseudonym for a confident gentleman with bearing and presence worthy of the rank but, alas, not official. He landed in Mundford 40 odd years ago chasing a job as a teacher. Being a polymath and a polyglot it was not surprising that he secured the position. His fascination for aviation began when, at the age of six, his father, a WW2 Curtiss KittyHawk pilot, took him and his mother for a spin in an Avro York (derivative of the renowned Lancaster bomber). A fire in one of the engines did little to dampen his enthusiasm for flight..... nor did the fact that a landing was forced as



Young David takes over the controls of a Bristol Freighter from his father. He seems unconcerned about the fire in one of the starboard engines.



# **FELTWELL'S SCARECROW COMPETITION**



**Make a scarecrow to  
display in your front  
garden or  
business premises**

**(make sure it is in full  
view by Monday 10th  
June as it will be  
judged that week)**

**Theme:**

**HEROES  
AND  
HEROINES**

**Winner to be  
announced at the  
Grand Village Fete  
Saturday 15th June**

**Please contact [feltwellcommunitygroup@gmail.com](mailto:feltwellcommunitygroup@gmail.com)  
for a registration form and more information**

a result of a strut becoming detached from the undercarriage.....nor did the fact that a priest committed suicide by jumping off the tailgate; one would have thought a mission in the upward direction would have been more appropriate. The strut falling from the undercarriage was eventually recovered from someone's garden.

David, forever the aficionado, was well supported, with hand-outs depicting thumbnail images of all the civil aeroplanes with which he had been associated. He only mentioned once that he took the helm of an airliner at the age of six but, he did, subsequently, have administrative positions at airports like Luton: loadmaster; ensuring balanced luggage distribution: pumping water to balancing points in the wings and tail. Security was another of his briefs; terrorist control you might call it now. On one occasion at night he apprehended a suspicious looking chappie snooping around a Handley Page Herald. The culprit told David that he had once flown this particular aeroplane. When it was revealed that the culprit was the Duke of Edinburgh, David was discomfited but, was spared insubordination charges.

Our man still has a close association with those fourteen aircraft depicted in the thumbnails; he now holds the honorary title of official guide at Duxford. Since retirement he has now sampled the real thing: he now holds a glider pilot's licence.

If there's one aircraft that could be used to personify David's character it would be the Bristol Britannia (Whispering Giant), it's quick and it's quiet whereas, this reporter is slow and deaf. This is not a good combination if the object of this exercise is to convey the maximum amount of accurate information.

Nigel Tooth



She is numb from her toes down.

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



# 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

Gift vouchers available



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## BONFIRES

It was the smell of smoke drifting on the evening air, the feeble breeze failing to carry it away, that sparked a sudden rush of nostalgic memory. The way the sharp, astringent smoke tickled the nostrils and irritated the back of the throat, stimulating a barely restrained cough, that had reminded me of the numerous times I had stood around a roaring bonfire at the edge of my grandfather's fruit orchard, the smoke curling around before heading skyward in the updraft.

I would have been anywhere between seven and twelve years old, those years in which a child begins to seek independence, to cut the strings linking them to family and the family home. The years in which security and stability and the urge to take risks and explore the world on one's own clash for superiority. The time when parents want to keep their child safe, keep them swaddled and yet know, in their heart of hearts that, at some point in time they must let their offspring out on their own. They must watch with worry, with hands wringing, with a saddened heart, their child learning to stand on their own two feet, as the saying goes.

My grandfather was a firm believer that you had to work hard for what you had, that nobody was going to give you the best of lives, that little was achieved without a risk being involved somewhere and in this respect, he allowed his grandchildren to take risks, supervised, of course, but risks that, I'm certain, my parents would not have allowed had they known at the time.

Which brings me back to the bonfires. My maternal grandparents lived in a tied cottage in a small village, north of Beverley in East Yorkshire. They had a front garden on which you could build a small house nowadays, where grandma grew her flowers, things of which grandad could not see the point as you couldn't eat them. Alongside the house was grandad's vegetable patch, about a quarter acre in size, where he spent most of his time when he wasn't at work as an estate carpenter. Rows of vegetables so straight and perfect they could have been sowed by machine rather than by his large and calloused hands. And, at the end of his allotment sized garden a

# FELTWELL VILLAGE MUSEUM

2024

Hi all, 😊 we're back open again 😊 MMXXIV

Every Last SATURDAY of the month, March - October

**11AM - 3PM**

*See...*

Feltwell's Wellington bomber crash remains & the story of its sole survivor.

*Look...*

Our Village Millenium photo books, see your house in the year 2000?

*Read...*

Paul Garlands 'Then & Now' books, all you need to know of who lived here before us!

*& Kids, if you can make it... you can keep it...*

**a FREE Flying Bird!**

Oak street Feltwell IP26 4DP

Enquiries call Graham

01842-828387

**FREE ENTRY**

😊 donations appreciated 😊

patch of grass roughly twenty yards wide before the edge of his fruit orchard that extended back so far you couldn't make out the other side where it stopped at a ramshackle wooden fence separating it from a farmer's wheat field. An orchard so large that, no matter how hard he and grandma tried they just didn't have enough time in their day to harvest all the apples and pears and plums that the old trees produced. The orchard was a wonderful playground for us grandchildren, numerous trees to climb, uncut grass so high that it was almost up to the top of our young heads. A cornucopia of adventures was had in that grass amongst the trees, cowboys and Indians with sticks for guns and bows fought running battles, pirates sailed in apples trees spying on unwary galleons from high in the branches. It was a magical time but we knew, if we fell out of those trees, that grandad would not be all that sympathetic. He would pick us up, crying and bleeding from scuffed knees and cut legs and simply say, "I did warn you to be careful, now you know what I meant." Despite his lack of apparent empathy, we all loved our grandad because he did let us take risks, he did let us climb those trees, he even taught us how to use a sickle and a scythe to cut down the long grass. And what a wonderful feeling it was when those long stalks of sun-dried grass fell in a neat swathe, not so good when the point of the tool stuck in the soil and the judder went all the way up our arms. With the grass cut out came the homemade rakes, their wooden pegs worn down with use but still good enough to drag the grass into one big pile at the end of the vegetable patch, far enough away from the orchard to be safe for what would come next. Grandad would carefully place some wood offcuts onto the pile, wood that he had brought home strapped to the crossbar of his bicycle, bits of old door and window frames, partially rotten boards from the sides of barns and fence posts, all gathered as he cycled around the estate carrying out his duties as a carpenter. He would build a teepee of the wood around the grass pile, we would scour the orchard for fallen branches and drag them out for him, oblivious in our anticipation of what was to follow to the nettle stings we would inevitably receive whilst doing so. When he had finished, we would stare in almost uncontrollable excitement at the structure that stood before us.

To my seven-year-old self the assemblage of wood and grass, paper and cardboard, was enormous, towering above my head but as I grew so it shrank in size. Looking back now, I realise that grandad must have retired and so was unable to collect as much wood as before, but we still burnt piles of dry grass and tree branches under his watchful eye. As most men will tell you, even a small blaze is better than none.

Strangely, I cannot recall what grandad used to light the bonfire. I suspect it was more likely a match or two rather than a lighter but whatever it was I can still hear the crackle of the dry grass as the flames began to take hold. At first a small flame, barely visible, from where grandad touched the grass with his match, but within a second or two bright yellow flames were spreading upwards and the sound of the grass popping was a delight to our ears. Small wisps of smoke would appear, carried skyward by the heat. We would stand transfixed as the flames spread upwards and around the base of the pile, the smoke getting ever thicker. Then would come the louder sound of the branches exploding as any moisture inside them was turned to steam by the rising heat, the steam desperate to escape its confinement within the wood. As the flames rose ever higher the heat distorted the air above the burning pile turning the sky into a shimmering backdrop for the flames to lick. To our childish eyes it seemed as though the flames were trying to set the very sky alight. Higher and higher they grew as more and more wood caught ablaze and as we watched, entranced, our faces and legs getting hotter and hotter, we waited for the inevitable to happen. Grandad's carefully erected teepee would collapse in on itself sending an enormous shower of sparks skyward. We would watch them rise and die and, as the heat became too much to bear, we would step back from the flames into cooler air. Smoke would swirl around us and at its densest we would turn our backs and change position in a futile effort to escape its sting. Our eyes would water but so desperate to watch the fire burn were we that we just rubbed our eyes, gritted our teeth and stuck it out. After all, grandad hadn't turned away from the flames and smoke and so weren't we going to turn our backs on its merciless bite, but we did, every time.



As the fire's fuel burnt away so its heart was revealed, the bright red centre that would continue to smoulder away for several hours yet. Grandad would rake any stray bits of wood that had fallen away when the stack had collapsed onto that heart and they would catch almost instantly in a short-lived blaze and a few joyful crackles.

Grandma would call us in for tea remarking at how much we smelled of smoke. She would wipe down our smudged and tear-stained faces with a cold wet cloth and we would squirm in her arms.

Grandad would strip to his waist outside, pump the water pump a few times until a stream of water was established and wash himself down before entering the house.

After tea and a strip wash at the kitchen sink, we would put on our pyjamas, be sent to do a bedtime wee outside in the privy and, as we crossed the small concrete yard, we looked for the dull red glow marking the spot of some of the best times of our young lives.

Edward Gee

## MEET-UP MONDAYS EASTER QUIZ

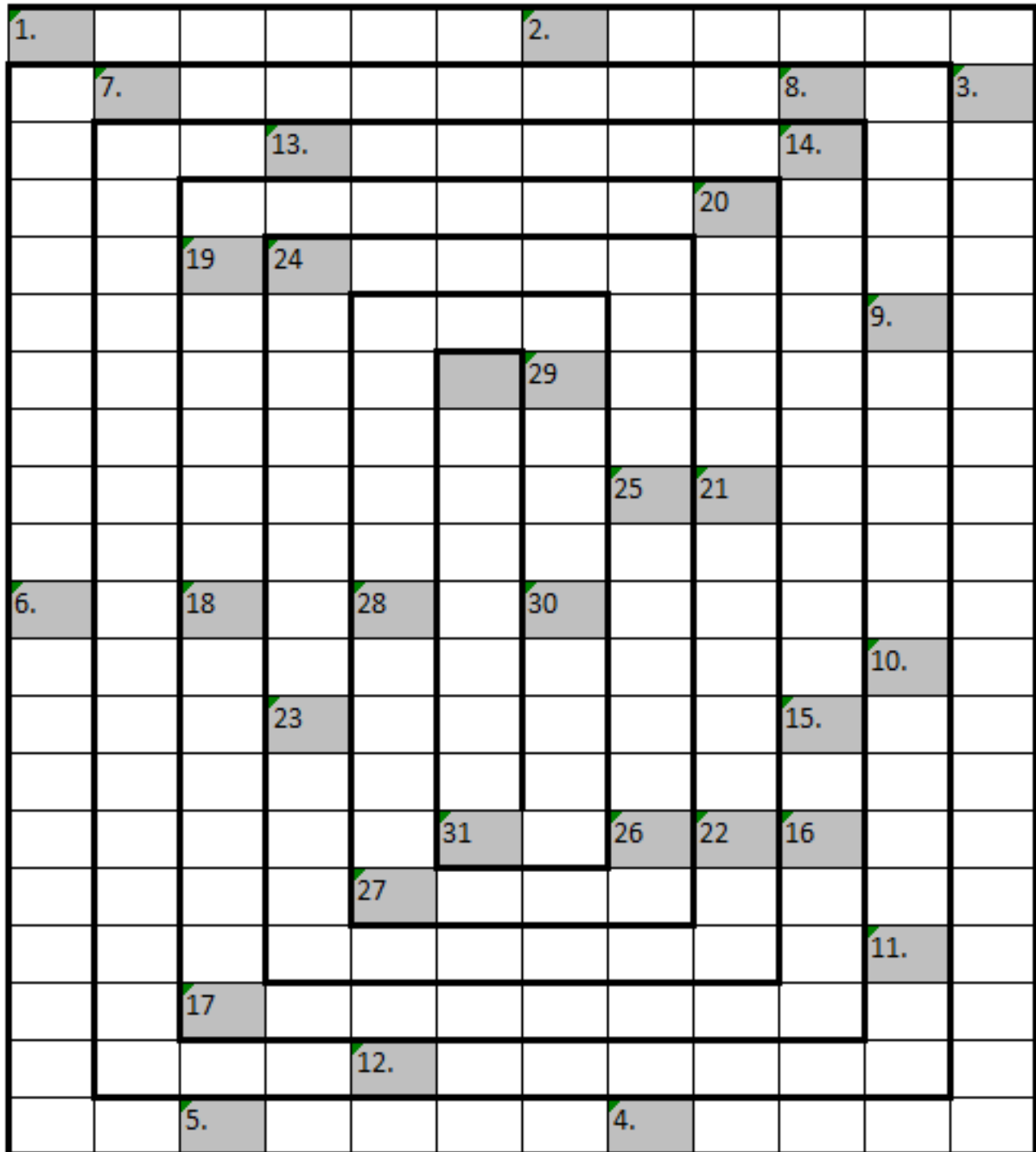
The Wellington holds a FREE Meet-up-Monday tea and coffee afternoon each week between 12.30 and 4.30 pm. This Easter weekend the group organised a small quiz as a way of change to the normal afternoon, a '**Who Am I**' quiz. Pictures of us around 5-7 years old were submitted and the challenge was to guess who they are today. Fun was had by all as genders changed and names submitted of people not on the board. It was a great laugh and merriment had by all. To the winner of the most correct answers, of course, an Easter Egg.'



## WORD TRAIL No. 40

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 Fine Muslin (7)
- 2 Salty tinned fish (7)
- 3 U.S.A's north west National Park (11-8-4)
- 4 To abduct and hold captive (6)

- 5 This artist was know for paintings such as Le Rêve, The Wheeping Woman and Sleeping Peasants (5-7)
- 6 Excess financial outlay (11)
- 7 This marginal expanse of water is situated between Australia and New Zealand (6-3)
- 8 Llama-like animal (6)
- 9 Fictional book and film character of the middle east, son of a poor woodcutter who steals riches from a magic cave (3-4)
- 10 MEDICAL: A disorder of breathing characterised by widespread narrowing od the airways in the lungs (6)
- 11 CULINARY: This powder is used as a thickening agent that becomes clear (as in sauces) as it is cooked (9)
- 12 MUSIC: Sung by John Denver, its opening line is 'Almost heaven, West Virginia.' (4-2-4-7-5)
- 13 The male productive part of a flower (7)
- 14 A point at which a function takes an infinite value (11)
- 15 Lout, hooligan (3)
- 16 Looking after an infant (11)
- 17 Horticulturist (8)
- 18 Full, satisfied (7)
- 19 Catch in a snare or among obstacles (8)
- 20 Plunge into, swallow up (6)
- 21 Substantial (of food) (7)
- 22 AUTHORS: This author wrote the novels 'Gone Girl' and 'Sharpe Objects' (7-5)
- 23 Which boxer was nicknamed 'The Dark Destroyer' (5-4)
- 24 Gymnophobia is the fear of what? (9)
- 25 If you're born between Oct 23-Nov 21 what star sign are you (7)
- 26 Off-white gem stones (5)
- 27 Mouth secretion (6)
- 28 Greek philosopher born 384BC (9)
- 29 Cross a threshold (5)
- 30 Isolated, distant (6)
- 31 A word used in SciFi movies that aliens use describe us (9)

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


**FELTWELL  
METHODIST CHURCH,  
COMMUNITY HALL &  
GARDEN**




**Wednesdays - 7.30pm—Zumba dancing**

**Thursdays** – Feltwellians meet at **Feltwellbeings 10 til 12** for a chat over light refreshments in a warm environment. Activities available and optional.

**Friday is now Forage day.** Yes, foraging for weeds, dead heading, planting new plants and foraging for a space to plant our community vegetables, runner beans etc. YOU are welcome to join us. You might even get a cuppa!!



**LINE DANCING**  
**From 2.00 pm**  
**Thursdays**



**So to 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 Fellowship—Speakers for May**

**5 May — Rev P. Critchley — Holy Communion**

**12 May — Mrs J Nash**

*Continued over*



19 May — Mrs P Driver

26 May — The Trinity — What is it? Who are they?  
(Not from the X-men!)

ALL are welcome to share with us in these informal gatherings.

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](mailto:mikegw15@gmail.com) Mike & Brigitte Wilkinson 07799216693



**DID YOU  
KNOW?**

The strongest muscle in the human body  
is the masseter, or the jaw muscle.



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**NEW NEW**

## LITTLE PICKLES

PARENT & TODDLERS

Fridays 9.30 am – 11.30

METHODIST  
CHURCH,  
COMMUNITY HALL



## WILDLIFE CRIME UPDATE

It is fair to say policing in general is different every day. The past two months have seen a huge variety of wildlife investigations take place. The team have led on several investigations with a couple even proving to not be criminal incidents.

The first was an otter which had reportedly dumped at an entrance to a garden centre. Sadly, it transpired the otter had been hit by a vehicle and moved away from the busy junction. For a small mammal, who is considered to be water based, otters can and will travel huge distances on land. Their typical range is 15 square miles and they will travel 10+ miles a day both on land and water to find food. They are a great sign of a clean river.

We also have two incidents under investigation whereby sea gulls have been intentionally killed. Many people may see sea gulls as a pest however many are now becoming a conservation concern and they can no longer be dealt with under a general licence like some of our 'pest' bird species.

Another slightly unusual one has seen the start of an ongoing piece of work with all our auction houses and antique dealers. We are reminding them of their requirements under the Ivory Act, Wildlife and Countryside Act and CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) to only sell legally obtained specimens (or those that can be proven antique). This has followed one or two bits of ivory appearing but also a very rare taxidermy Hawksbill Sea Turtle, where the age could not be proven to be pre-1947. The three pieces of legislation

designed to protect wild species from illegal trade is incredibly complicated and we have enjoyed working with the experts and the auction houses. It is fair to say all parties have learnt a lot and it has been a really positive engagement piece which will continue moving forward.

We have sadly also picked up four dead birds over the last couple weeks including two barn owls, a buzzard and a sparrowhawk. The two barn owls have been confirmed as NOT being shot and further tests are ongoing under the WIIS scheme (<https://www.hse.gov.uk/pesticides/reducing-environmental-impact/wildlife/wildlife-incident-investigation-scheme.htm>) to understand if these were from natural causes or potential first hand or second hand poisoning. We have only just collected the buzzard and sparrowhawk and these have yet to be x-rayed. We cannot release any more details of these birds until we have further test results etc. as this forms part of the investigation. Obviously, if it is found that they have died of natural causes, then we will report to the relevant agencies to help them understand bird populations. We will of course keep you updated.

Again, if you ever find any deceased wildlife which you do not think is quite right, or in an unusual place, please do report it to us. This can be completed online very quickly and anonymously if you wish to. Where possible, please record the exact location using What3Words as it really helps us to find samples.

Of course, it would be remis of me to not mention bird nests in a spring newsletter! We have had several calls already in relation to nests being disturbed or destroyed. We have reports of quadbikes in unauthorised areas disturbing ground nesting birds on the coast – this has only recently come in, so it is in the very early stages. We have also interviewed a tree surgeon for the removal of rook nests.

It is essential before carrying out any work in trees, hedges, roofs and in fact anywhere with birds, that there are no nests being built or in use. If there is, please leave the work till after the nesting season finishes. It is a criminal offence to disturb a nesting bird (some exemptions do apply but these are very strict, and you must fully understand your actions and comply with the licence).

NEED TO TALK TO US?

PC Chris Shelley | [christopher.shelley@norfolk.police.uk](mailto:christopher.shelley@norfolk.police.uk) | 07900 407106



# **FELTWELL LODGE**

## **RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME**

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](http://www.feltwelllodge.com)

E-mail: [feltwelllodge@hanleycarehomes.com](mailto:feltwelllodge@hanleycarehomes.com)



## ART FOR PLEASURE

We finished 2023 with members enjoying a sumptuous Christmas Lunch at Thetford Golf Course. However, as usual at our last meeting in Weeting Village Hall of 2023 we interrupted our painting to enjoy a buffet lunch of salads, quiches, sausage rolls, mince pies, cakes, etc, mostly made by our members. We also all produced a Christmas Card painted by ourselves so everyone went home with a card made by one of our fellow artists.

In January Phillipa Parker came and held a workshop in pastels. It is not a medium that most of us used very often but we all produced lovely pictures of hares. Since then many of the group have been working on a seascape in pastels. If you came to Weeting Village Hall's Easter fete you may have seen some of them.

We are hoping to continue having suggested subjects on our programme but we are all individuals and often we are all working on different subjects, in different mediums, so the resulting pictures can be so different.

If you have always wanted to try your hand at drawing or painting we meet every Thursday morning at Weeting Village Hall. New members are always welcome, our name Art For Pleasure means exactly that - we meet for the pleasure of painting and the company of like minded friends.

Further details can be obtained from: Beryl Pountney, 01842 828750

## DOGS WORRYING LIVESTOCK

It is essential that dogs are kept on leads at all times when any livestock is around particularly in the coming weeks with young lambs appearing.

Your dog may be fine and have great recall, but it only takes that one incident when they lose concentration and get into a field of livestock and you end up criminally responsible for their actions. They don't have to kill, simply causing shock or disturbance to the animal is an offence.

There are many places free of vulnerable livestock/wildlife that dogs can be taken and allowed off of the lead. Please follow signs. You will see a few more pop up in the coming weeks, especially where ground nesting birds are. Your dog can cause harm to these nests and it is a criminal offence to disturb them.

## **METHWOLD SPIRITUALIST CHURCH SPIRITUALIST SERVICES**

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

**May 10<sup>th</sup> GREGG PETTIT**

**May 24<sup>th</sup> DAVID REED**

**June 7<sup>th</sup> SAM REID**

**June 21<sup>st</sup> Evening of Clairvoyance with  
LYNDA ROSE**

**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

### **MAY BANK HOLIDAY LOGISTICAL SOLUTION**

Paula	Saturday	£35	Seaside
Maria	Sunday	£45	Cambridge
Bianca	Friday	£40	High Lodge
Laura	Monday	£50	Zoo



Answer me this: Why is it that temporary traffic lights go up on a Friday for work that doesn't start until Monday?

### **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).

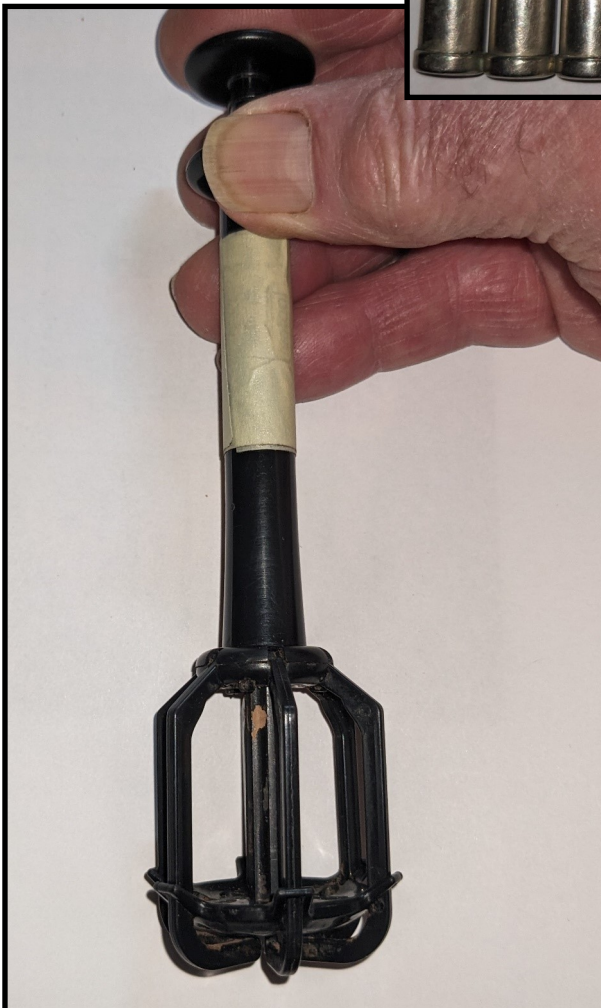
All subscriptions below 11 copies are pro rata.

## CURIOS NO. 8

First, the answer to Curio No. 7 from last month. .

Ans: this is a cigarette case made to resemble a magazine of ammunition. It would fit neatly in a breast pocket and the elliptical window allows the finger and thumb to pull the cigarette out far enough for the mouth to extract it fully. Probably not part of standard issue!

Paul B had always thought this to be so until a "knowledgeable chap" insisted it was a real ammunition case for officers - though



the internal bore does not support this and examples - some in silver - do turn up at auction.

And now for this month's curio. Answer next month.

**Description:** *"This little tool is made of plastic. The "grab" at the lower end of the stem can be opened by pushing the outer stem down and away from the end of the inner stem. By pressing the inner stem further into the outer stem the jaws close. The photos illustrate this - but what was the purpose it was designed for?"* Tool 'Open' photo overleaf



Answers and/or  
guesses to my  
email address,  
please:

garlandp@  
btinternet.com



## 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.



# WORD SEARCH

Submitted by Mrs J. Clements.

This month our word search is on **NAMES OF COMMERCIAL AIRLINES**. Find the words from the list. They run vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backwards and forwards but always in a straight line.

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

A	C	A	T	H	A	Y	P	A	C	I	F	I	C	S
B	E	D	E	J	E	T	S	T	A	R	I	H	E	I
A	A	R	J	C	A	I	L	A	T	I	L	A	R	N
I	S	L	O	N	L	I	T	D	J	A	M	C	H	G
R	N	D	L	F	K	O	R	A	I	S	A	R	I	A
C	A	H	I	J	L	C	O	L	P	A	N	N	L	P
A	H	A	A	U	M	O	W	A	I	M	I	A	C	O
N	T	L	P	T	Y	K	T	S	G	E	H	I	M	R
A	F	L	E	C	A	B	O	K	O	R	C	S	T	E
D	U	S	S	I	W	S	S	A	Q	I	R	S	E	A
A	L	V	M	R	C	E	E	A	L	C	I	Y	J	I
S	W	C	A	U	A	N	N	I	K	A	A	A	Y	R
D	Y	O	I	E	T	I	I	R	Y	N	K	W	S	L
R	X	A	N	M	H	L	L	L	F	A	O	R	A	I
A	N	T	W	I	Y	R	W	I	A	I	G	I	E	N
K	I	P	E	R	S	I	O	N	R	R	V	A	Z	E
E	A	G	S	A	I	A	N	E	J	L	A	H	C	S
S	Y	N	T	T	M	A	S	S	S	I	D	S	L	H
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N	I	H	T	L	N	Y	L	I	S	S	Q	I	K	L
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AER LINGUS  
 AEROFLOT  
 AIR CANADA  
 AIRASIA  
 AIRCHINA  
 ALASKA  
 AIRLINES  
 ALITALIA  
 AMERICAN  
 AIRLINES  
 BRITISH  
 AIRWAYS  
 CATHAY  
 PACIFIC  
 DELTA  
 EASYJET  
 EMIRATES  
 JAL  
 JETSTAR  
 LION AIR  
 LUFTHANSA  
 MALAYSIA  
 AIRLINES  
 QATAR  
 QUANTAS  
 RYANAIR  
 SINGAPORE  
 AIRLINES  
 THOMSON  
 AIRWAYS  
 WESTJET  
 SWISS  
 KLM

*The solution is on page 77*



# St Mary's Feltwell

Your Parish Church is open every  
day.

*The Aisle officially opened by Lady  
Dannatt - Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk.*

## CONTACTS

### Rector

Rev'd Joan Horan

01842 828034

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

The Rectory, Oak Street, Feltwell

### Curate

Rev'd Juanita Hawthorne

01366 728545

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

### Churchwarden

Chris Parker

01842 827152

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

### Benefice Administrator

Chris Parker

01842 827152

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

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

**Please contact Chris Parker 01842 827152**

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

**TO ARRANGE BAPTISM**

**Please contact Tammy Wright 07717 507665**

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

## Breckland Branch



On a cold, wet afternoon in February, I had a call from a man who had found a kitten on farmland in Thetford. He brought him to me, as we were not sure of his age, and I am the hand rearer for our branch, if he was really tiny. Kittens under 6 weeks old need hand feeding.

The poor kitten was very wet, cold and petrified. He wouldn't let me dry him with a towel, without losing a finger or two, so I put him on a hot pad in a dog crate in my kitchen and let him dry out on his own. I gave him some food, which he promptly ate. He was very hissy, spitty and growly. I did manage to put him in a small box and then weigh him on my kitchen scales, and was able to determine he was around 10-11 weeks old. So not a hand rear – he could feed himself and use the litter tray. The dog crate is not very big, just enough room for a warm bed and a litter tray. I had him in my kitchen, as I wasn't sure if he was a feral kitten, and he may have never been in a home before. He would need to get used to household noises, like the kettle, washing machine, phone ringing and me talking to him. So for the first 24 hours, I talked to him, giving him food regularly and picking him up in a towel, to save my fingers, as many times as I could, despite the hissing and growling.

I needed to move him to my pop up pen so that he had more room to move round.. This pen is about 4 feet and is circular, so more room for toys. It was then I noticed he was having difficulty moving around. He crawled on his front legs, dragging his body behind him. The poor boy couldn't walk or stand but he managed to fall into the litter tray for toileting.

At the next convenient time, I took him to our vets in Thetford. I saw a lovely vet, called Jess and she examined him thoroughly. She couldn't find anything obviously wrong with him, his spine felt fine and his legs had the normal number of bones in them. She came to the conclusion that he had either suffered a spinal injury, affecting all 4 of his legs, or he had a neurological condition. She pinched the

*Continued over*

skin between his toes on his back legs, but he couldn't feel anything. He wasn't aware his legs were there. She blood tested him for Feline Aids and Feline Leukaemia, and fortunately they were both negative. She suggested that I start physiotherapy with him, and showed me how to do bicycle movements with all 4 of his leg which I should do around 3 times a day.

So off we went home, me now worrying that if he didn't respond to the physio, or he wouldn't let me do the physio, he may have to be put to sleep. There's no life for a kitten who can't stand or walk. Fortunately he let me do the physio and was even purring all the time! I decided to double up on the amount of times I worked on him, hoping that things would improve. Fortunately he did begin to respond to the treatment and when the vet saw him a week later, she was very pleased with his progress. However, she decided not to vaccinate him, as she didn't want anything to interfere with the physio. She wanted to see him again in 2 weeks time.

By the time we went back 2 weeks later, the improvement in the kitten's movement was amazing. He could now walk around almost normally, but his back legs were still weaker than his front legs. The vet said he could now be vaccinated and microchipped and she would like to see him again in 3 weeks time when he has his second vaccine. At the time of writing this article, he is a different kitten. He now has his own room with lots of toys and spends hours playing and batting all the balls around, and he can climb the cat tower. No one would know that he had such a poor start and also a poor outlook. We will never know how he came to be in that field on a cold, wet day, but we can only assume that he was dumped, because whoever had him, thought he would not be homeable. I am delighted with the result, and would have been heart broken if I had had to have him put to sleep. He is now a lovely, very purry little boy with a bright future ahead of him.

If you need help or advice, or assistance with the cost of neutering, please call our helpline on 01842 810018.

Rita Thompson.





# **RSPB Lakenheath Fen**

## **A TIMELINE OF SPRING AT RSPB LAKENHEATH FEN**

When does Spring start? Officially it's on 1st March, but in terms of being marked by events on the reserve, you could say it was 4 March as this is when our first migrant bird turned up- Garganey. This small duck has beautiful markings and is lightly built, flying all the way from the swamps and marshes of central Africa each Spring. On 13 March we hosted a Stargazing event here and whilst I was locking up afterwards (in the dark!) I heard a Little ringed plover peeping its high call as it flew overhead.

Then, on 14 March, a Bittern was first heard booming. Male Bitterns make the loudest call of any UK bird- a deep, sonorous, repeated bellow that sounds like someone blowing gently over the top of a glass bottle. Many visitors come here at this time of year hoping to hear a Bittern, and this year it's particularly likely- on a recent survey we recorded 17 males spread out across the reserve- our previous record was 12! Hopefully, this is a sign that we are managing the reedbeds in the right way for these special birds- which was our intention in 1995 when the reserve was first created.

Next came some rather wet and windy weather and a 'pause' in the Spring arrivals until some brave Sand martins turned up on 25 March. These smart birds are like House martins but are chocolate-brown in colour, rather than dark blue, and missing a House martins' white rump. Sand martins will look for vertical sandy or muddy banks to nest in, and the Suffolk coast is a favourite location for these, or sometimes they will choose purpose-built banks on nature reserves. A couple of waders arrived next- the neat little Dunlin on 15 March, closely followed by a few smart Avocet the next day on 16 March. We are hopeful the latter will return to nest here when the water levels on the Hockwold Washes begin to drop and expose muddy edges.



## 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**

31 May, 28 June, 26 July, 30 August (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)

### **Guided Pond Dipping**

Saturdays 4 May, 1 June, 6 July, 3 August (12-1:30pm)

Why not borrow a pond-dipping kit and a knowledgeable guide to see what beautiful and strange creatures live below the water?

RSPB members £6 (£3 for Under 18's); non-RSPB members £7 (£4 for Under 18's).

### **Spring Wildlife Walks**

1, 12 and 26 May (9:30am-12:30pm)

Join us to look and listen for Bitterns, Common cranes, Bearded tits and the first migrant warblers and Cuckoo. Perfect for all abilities.

RSPB members £15 (£7.50 for Under 18's); non-RSPB members £18 (£9 for Under 18's).

### **Beginner's Photography Workshop**

Saturday 22 June (10am-4pm)

Reserve Site Manager Dave Rogers will be giving an introductory talk covering the features of your camera, followed by a walking tour of the reserve to put your new knowledge and skills into practice. Suitable for budding photographers with a DSLR camera.

RSPB members £80 (£40 for Under 18's); non-RSPB members £100 (£50 for Under 18's). *Additional events continued opposite and on p8*

Since early March, Chiffchaff had been heard singing here (along with Blackcap, some now overwinter in the UK) but the first entirely



Cuckoo photo by Matt Walton

migratory warbler to turn up was Willow warbler on 29 March followed by Sedge warbler on 9 April, Grasshopper warbler on 13 April and Reed warbler a day later on 14 April. By this time, the very first Cuckoo had been heard, as well as a couple of Nightingale- early April can be a very intense time for arriving birds! Winds from the south and south-west aid the long journeys

these birds face, and warmer weather encourages them to sing, when they become much more obvious to us

As I write this, it is mid-April and the very first reports of Hobby have come in from eagle-eyed visitors. So much has happened already this Spring but we are not done yet- we await lots more Hobbies, the first Swifts, Garden warblers, Common terns and perhaps Turtle dove and Spotted flycatcher if we are lucky. If you are able to come and visit us in the coming weeks, a whole range of special birds await you- whether you are a keen birdwatcher or just want to experience some peace and fresh air in the outdoors.

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

## St Mary's Quiz Night

**1st June 2024, 7:30pm.**

**£7.50 to include supper. Please bring own plates, cutlery, drinks and snacks.**

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



Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Eucharist	9.15am 11am	Feltwell Weeting
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Eucharist	9.15am 11am	Hockwold Northwold
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Benefice Eucharist	10am	Weeting
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Eucharist	9.15am 11am	Hockwold Northwold

### Other Services

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

**Zoom Eucharist** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays at 10am

For Zoom log in contact [grimshobeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:grimshobeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

**Evening Prayer** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.



## FELTWELL FOLK 6

This column will feature *Feltwell Folk* from the past, sometimes in sports teams, sometimes in working situations and even singly.

This months Feltwell Folk photograph shows members of the Friendly Society at their Annual Feast.



Around the turn of the Century, Feltwell inhabitants could always look forward to fun and games on the Wednesday of Whit week. On this day, Friendly Society Members held their Annual Feast. At 10.30 a.m. Feltwell Enterprise Band would play beneath the ancient Oak Tree until the crowd had assembled. The Lodge officials resplendent in their highly coloured sashes and cuffs would add to the "glamour" of the occasion. The procession, led by the band, then moved off via Oak Street and The Beck for the service at St. Mary's at 11 a.m.

After the service, the procession wound its way via Cock Street (now High St.), Short Beck, Chapel Street (now Hill St.), The Beck and Lodge Road and into the Grange Meadow. Lunch was served in a marquee by Mr. Roper of the Oak Hotel. The afternoon was devoted to Sports and the great event was the Marathon. Runners had to make a circuit of Grange Meadow, then on to Lodge Road, passing by the Rectory, round by The Sandpits, returning via the Old Brandon Road to the Grange Meadow where another circuit had to be made before reaching the finishing tape.

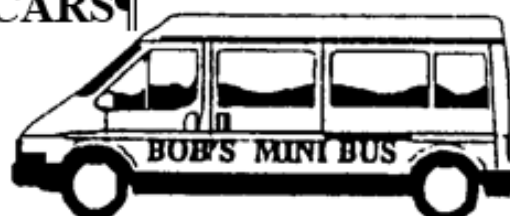
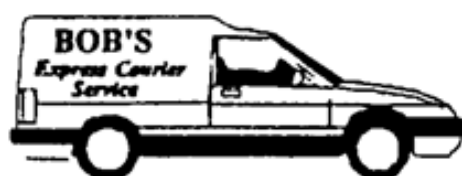
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Churches  
Conservation  
Trust

**The Friends of St Peters Church**

Station Road, Hockwold cum Wilton



# *CRAFT FAIR*

**Saturday 11 May**

**10 – 4pm**

**Local people with homemade items including:**

- |                    |                 |                    |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| -wood weaving      | -pies & cakes   | - mixed crafts     |
| -hair bands / bows | - baby knitting | -dried flowers     |
| -decoupage         | -glassware      | -knitted hedgehogs |
| -cards             | -candles        | -sewn gifts        |
| - wax melts        | -toys           | -soaps             |

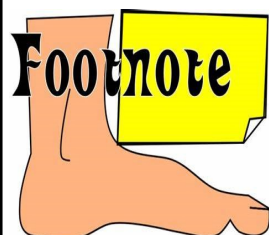
*Free Entry*

*Our homemade refreshments available + Tombola Draw*

## WORD TRAIL No. 40 SOLUTION

→

1. O	R	G	A	N	Z	2. A	N	C	H	O	V
N	7. T	A	S	M	A	N	S	E	8. A	L	3. Y
E	A	D	13. S	T	A	M	E	N	14. S	P	E
M	O	N	T	A	N	G	L	20. E	I	A	L
Y	R	19. E	24. N	A	K	E	D	N	N	C	L
A	Y	T	N	O	T	L	N	G	G	9. A	O
P	R	E	E	T	G	29. E	E	U	U	L	W
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E	N	P	L	I	I	T	25. S	21. F	A	B	T
V	U	E	E	R	L	E	C	I	R	A	O
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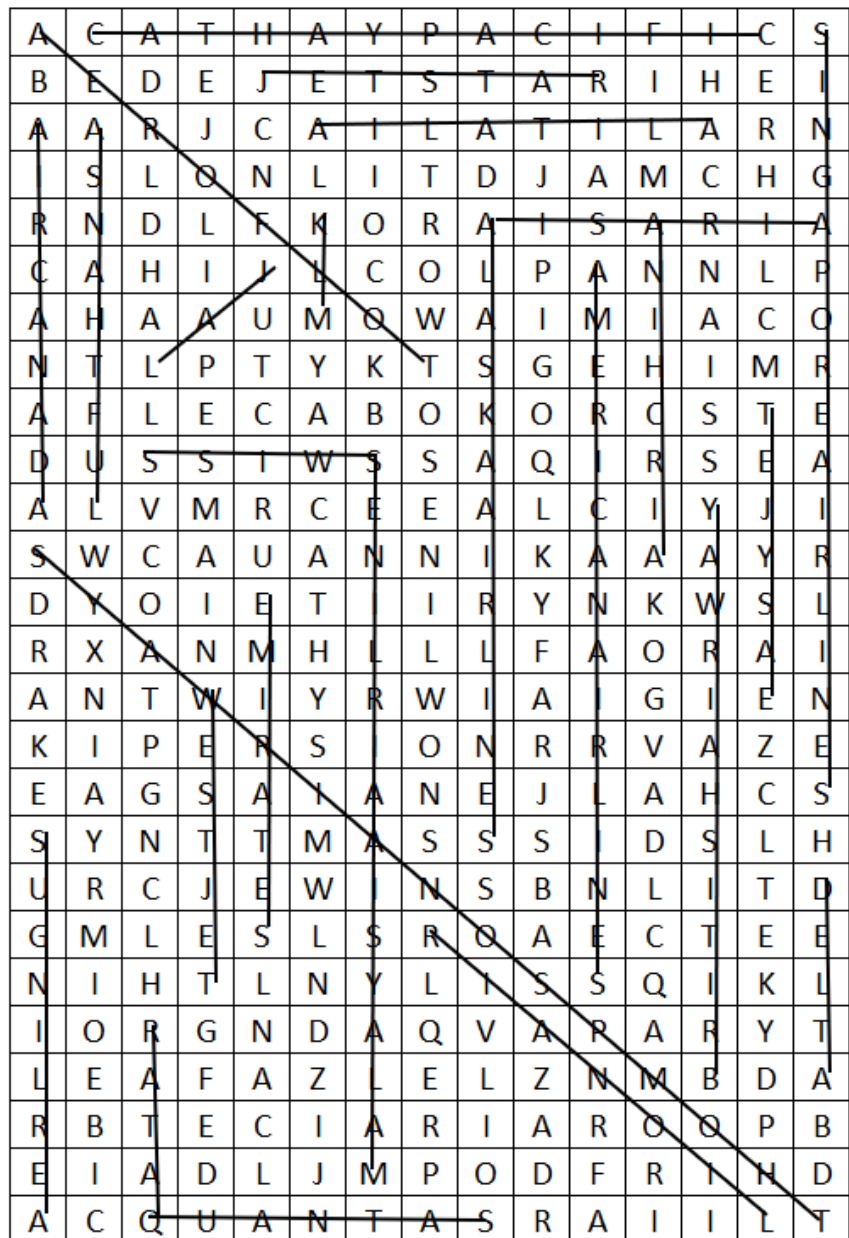
**Footnote** It's lazy of the local shopkeepers in Puerto Vallarta to close in the afternoons. I often needed to buy things during 'siesta' time—this should be banned."

*Actual complaint received by Thomas Cook*



## WORD SEARCH SOLUTION

Next month's  
Word Search  
will feature  
**HOTELS IN  
LONDON**



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

## SUDOKU SOLUTION

Including this one  
there are 7 butterflies  
hidden somewhere in  
this issue.



A Meeting was held on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> of APRIL 2024 in the British Legion, Long Lane. Eight Councillors attended and two members of the public

New access gate and fencing for playing field entrance has been manufactured by J M Ayres & Sons and will be fitted shortly.

Chair gave data from two SAM2's collected over a **one month** period as follows:- **Wilton Road (near the Base) SAM2:** 52,063 vehicles approached the village and over 50% were travelling over 30mph. The maximum speed recorded was 70mph, giving an average speed of 36.1 mph. **Wilton Road (near the Oakfields Estate) SAM2:** 66,757 vehicles approached the village of which 15% were speeding. The maximum speed recorded was 60mph which must have been the same vehicle recorded above speeding at 70mph because this was recorded at the same time, on the same day. The average speed recorded was 33.3 mph. Councillors were shocked at these statistics and also deduced that approximately 14,000 of 66,757 vehicles must have come through Paynes Lane. Road works were not in place along Bell Street during the timeframe. A discussion then took place about whether two SAM2's could be situated along Paynes Lane to get a more accurate account of how many vehicles were travelling along there and at what speed. Clerk to request Highways conduct a traffic survey.

No further update regarding the start date for work to recommence on the Long Lane development site but the tender process for the new contractor had been completed.

Start date for repair work to commence on a property along Oak Street is w/c 15<sup>th</sup> April and should take four weeks.

CTE Electrical will install a defibrillator at the British Legion and S Walker Electrical will install another at Feltwell Surgery. Both defibs were obtained via match-funding grants from the Dept of Health & Social Care and donations of £500 each

from Borough Councillors Martin Storey and Adrian Lawrence from their Member's Community Budget via Feltwell Community Group. The Parish Council would like to thank Mr Storey and Mr Lawrence for their donations and the Londis, R H Lindsays, the Social Club and the British Legion for absorbing the running costs of these vital pieces of potentially life-saving equipment. Two carry cases will be purchased to house a rescue kit with each defib.

Clerk will report potholes opposite Glebe Farm on Hythe Road and chase repair of sunken manhole opposite Portal Close. Highways did not class the potholes on St Mary's Street as dangerous but will monitor for repair. Path around 2 Oak Street has been sided out but the footpath is still not considered to be wide enough for wheelchairs, mobility scooters etc. Clerk to contact Highways.

Norfolk Association of Local Councils subscription has been renewed together with their website hosting service.

Chair will make further enquiries about the free urban tree packs on offer from The Woodland Trust.

The new website address <https://feltwellparishcouncil.gov.uk> is up and running. Residents are asked to subscribe to the website and Facebook page for automatic updates of latest news including RAF Feltwell demolition activities (existing website subscribers need not re-subscribe). Clerk's new email address is also live [clerk@feltwellparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@feltwellparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Monday 13th May 2024 at the British Legion at 7.00 pm followed by the Annual Meeting of Parish Council. Everyone is welcome.

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.



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