



WEETING VILLAGE LIFE



March 2022
Edition 37

Congratulations Weeting!

During the first few months of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, the residents of Weeting showed Norfolk just how a village community could respond to a crisis.

The Parish Council had an information leaflet delivered to every home with useful contact details as well as a plea for volunteers who would be willing to help anyone self isolating with shopping, prescription collections or just a friendly telephone chat and we had a superb response from over 50 people who were then provided with PPE, ID cards and a bright blue tabard to identify them when out and about. Later, a red card was also provided to each household to be displayed in a window if they needed assistance. Many of the volunteers walked around the village and were able to strike up friendships with residents by chatting across the garden. One volunteer set up a rota for prescription collections from the Brandon chemist shops which speeded up the process of collection and delivery considerably.



The Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, Lady Dannatt, has recognised this effort and the Parish has received a memorial plaque "To Commemorate the Resilience" of our community during the pandemic. This was presented to us at the parish council meeting in January by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Mary Rudd.

We plan to place the plaque on the post of the village sign.

Editor's note:

A list of the clubs and organisations in the village can be found in the centre pages of Weeting Village Life along with details of who to contact if you would like to make enquiries. Most of the clubs have room for more of you to come along, so have a look and see if anything takes your fancy!

Editor's Contact Details:

Sue Nairn
Sixpenny Tithe
Park View
Weeting, IP27 0QD



01842 810212
wvl@btinternet.com



To book the Village Hall for meetings, parties or other social functions, contact Angie Page on 01842 814147

New Play Equipment

The wooden play equipment, that was installed several years ago on the playing field, is really starting to look its age and, in some cases, has been identified by the inspector as in need of replacement. Ideally, we would eventually like to update everything to metal framed items as they will last for decades with minimal trouble. However, these cost several thousand pounds each and the parish council can only afford to replace them over a period of years. This year's item was the combination climbing frame and slide and a new one was installed in early January. The slide part of the old one, being made of metal, has been retained in order to erect it as a separate item later.



Well Done Little Wombles!

Stop Press! - Following on from Little Saints' report on page 3.

The storms made it tricky getting out, but these four did 6 days of litter picking during their half term, collecting **12 bags of rubbish** from around the village.

They have raised **£261** so far, which is amazing.



Noel did **6 miles** on his bike, raising **£100** for the Little Saints Pre-School.

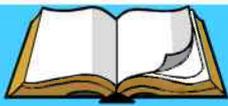
Freddie **scootered round the streets** of the village and raised **over £200**.



If anyone would like to add to the collection, the link is:

<https://gofund.me/e87dfc51>

Thank you to everyone who has donated.



School Report



Since our return from the Christmas holidays, the children have been incredibly busy. Our new knowledge curriculum has encouraged the children to learn and use new vocabulary, build connections in their learning and explore subjects in depth. Despite the continued challenges of Covid, the children have come



together as a school community to participate in "Number Day" where funds were raised for the NSPCC charity. Chestnut class enjoyed finding numerals and counting pictures on their number outfits.



The children also explored lots of number rhymes, including "10 Green Bottles" and "5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer".



They also marked Children's Mental Health Week with a number of activities around the theme of "growing together". The children created hot air balloons, with names and pictures of friends and adults who could help them if they had a worry or problem. The week culminated in a kindness non uniform day, dressing up in pink, red or hearts!



Chestnut Class

The children have been exploring the theme of "Space" this term. They learnt about astronauts and what they need to wear in space. The children know that space boots keep astronauts on the ground because there is no gravity in space, unlike on Earth, and wear oxygen back packs so that they have air to breath. After watching Tim Peake on the International Space Station and learning about Mae Jameson, the children painted an astronaut, making sure that they included all the equipment needed.



Even snack time was a bit different. Instead of "Earth Snack", the children tried "Space Snack" and tucked into delicious space ice cream, space apple, space banana and space pear!



The children worked in teams to create rockets. They had to remember to add wings, windows, a nose cone and booster flames to help with a successful rocket launch.



Oak Class

Our reading class book this term is "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe". Each pupil is reading beautifully in class and so far, the class have produced detailed biography writing and persuasive writing around the subject of World War II. In History, we have looked in more detail at the Armistice and Treaty of Versailles from a German point of view.



In Art, the children looked at the architecture of the Houses of Parliament and how this important building was influenced by both gothic and classical styles. They have gone on to study the work of the Victorian pre-Raphaelite artists, looking in detail at Ophelia by Millais and The Annunciation by Rossetti. The children considered how these artists had wanted to reflect reality in their paintings by engaging in careful observation. They learnt different techniques of painting with watercolours,



painting wet-on-dry and wet-on-wet, as well as working from light to dark. This was in contrast to working from dark to light as they have previously done with opaque materials such as acrylics and oil pastels.



In Science, the children have been using symbols to represent components of a circuit including batteries, wires, bulbs and switches. They have learnt about the importance of switches for conserving energy and for safety reasons. The class have been involved in designing, making and evaluating an electrical device. They have worked scientifically to consider the purpose for which they are designing their device. It has been great to see pupils making their devices using wires, batteries, buzzers and switches.



School Report



This half term the children have been challenged to come up with an idea to fundraise for preschool and raise £20.22 by 22/02/2022. All the children have done a fantastic job! Here are just a few of the ideas they came up with; making and delivering pizzas, litter picking, painting nail, selling valentines cards, selling home-made cakes and bike riding. A big thank you to all the families for their support.

In preschool we have been making valentines cards and printing valentines pictures. We have been looking at the bear hunt story, the children have retold the story using puppets and recreated different parts of the story during craft activities. Some of the children started their own "Little Saints band" they enjoyed using different instruments and singing to all the staff.

We look forward to having everyone back after the holidays and welcoming some new children. We have a few spaces for 2-3 and 3-4 year-olds, for more information please contact us on 07927 690968.



The Friends of Weeting School would like to introduce our newly appointed members;

Becca Salton (Chair) Nicci Dyer (Vice Chair) Jenny Barnett (Treasurer) Kayleigh Shaw (Secretary) and Dr. Jacqui Hardie (School Representative) We also welcomed Marie, Jemma, Tiffanie, Marcia, Sam, Wendy, Suzanne, Melissa and Melanie to the committee.



As part of a fresh start for 2022, we asked the children to take part in a competition to design our brand-new logo. They did a fantastic job and we received lots of colourful entries! It was very difficult to

choose a winner however we are pleased to say that Annie (Elm Class) won 1st Place with the most votes, and Alice (also of Elm Class) came in 2nd. We would like to say a big thank you to all the children for taking part.

In other exciting news, the Primary School were kindly offered a grant of £1000 from TESCO's to use on outdoor equipment. The School Council reps have been discussing how they would like to spend the money, with input from the other children in each class.

Due to ongoing health and safety regulations regarding Covid, we are unable to organise any indoor events at this moment. However, we plan to hold themed non uniform days, 'The Great School Bake Off', an Easter Craft Fair and a Summer Fete in upcoming months to continue fundraising for the school and to give the children some much needed fun! (Dates to be confirmed)

We would like to finish by saying thank you to all staff and parents for your continued support and we look forward to having a fun and exciting 2022!

The Friends of Weeting School

CLUB SPOTLIGHT



Hockwold Amateur Theatrical Society



are pleased to announce that we're planning our next show

The Little Mermaid

To audition come along to Hockwold Village Hall on Sunday 10th July, 2pm to 6pm No previous experience needed, just enthusiasm and sense of fun

Show dates: 24th to 26th November 2022

Rehearsals will take place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings from 6th September

Full membership to be paid at auditions

Our rehearsal venue is Breckland School in Crown Street, Brandon, where we meet every Tuesday evening during school term time.



We are always happy to accept new adult members, youngsters aged over 11, and junior chorus between age 6 and 10 (depending on current show requirements).

Please do get in touch, we would love to have you in our group to help on stage or back-stage no matter what your previous experience. If you would like to learn the art of theatrical design and performance this is the place to start.

For more information contact our Secretary on 07985 376465 or email shoestringsecretary@hotmail.com.



are looking for new members aged 11+

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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

W.A.S.P.s

This world has gone through some very bad times and we all hope that the end of the long road is in sight, but I, like most of you, feel that we should not take any chances. This terrible virus has attacked the weak and the strong so please be careful.

We have been extremely lucky over the last two years. First, we were the last group to put on a show in the village hall, getting our production of CINDERELLA finished just two weeks before shutdown. Then, in September last year, we managed to put on another show of four short skits with songs to compliment them. We did this with the virus in mind and all the audience sat at tables that had room between and all the cast had had all their injections. We followed this up with a Christmas Concert with all our favourite carols and Christmas songs.

The WASPS have just started to rehearse for our next production and we are hoping that for this next show we will be able to have chairs in the good old layout. This is so much better as we can then get more people in to see us and have a laugh at our antics.

The new show will be held on the first Friday and Saturday of July with a matinee on Saturday afternoon. It will be called "OUR LAD IN", or, if you say it fast, it becomes "Aladdin" - only it is not !??, so I hope I have whetted your appetite! I am enclosing some pics of the Christmas show which was great fun. All those who came had some great laughs, especially when the cast performed my version of "The Twelve Pains of Christmas" - it was a hoot.

For more information about the WASPS and what we do please contact me:

Carole on 01842 550919



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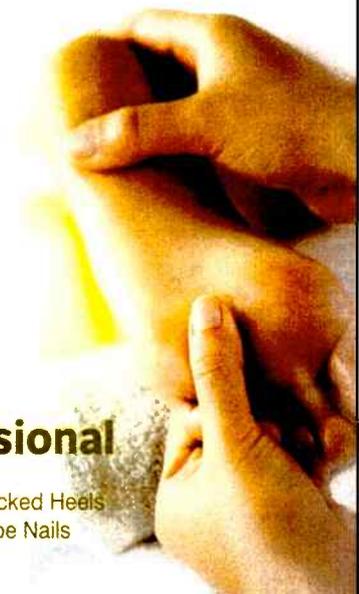
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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Art For Pleasure

Christmas seems a long way off now, but we will remember Christmas 2021, not because we celebrated in style, but because we got to celebrate at all. In the past we have gone to a local pub for Christmas lunch but with Covid still promising to spoil our festivities the club had a D.I.Y. Lunch. As the picture shows one of our members



arranged a buffet table with crackers and Christmas decorations. We each bought a suitable offering of sausage rolls, sandwiches and mince pies etc., which were thoroughly enjoyed. As in the past we all painted a Christmas card and were privileged to receive an original work of art from a fellow member.

So, we have started 2022 with renewed enthusiasm. We were happy to welcome some new members eager to try their hand at painting and a few who are renewing an old hobby.

As we move into Spring, we hope to have some early flowers from members garden which we can arrange as a still life – there is nothing like painting from nature.

If you would like to try your hand at painting or have been painting for years, we are always happy to welcome new members. Just call in at Weeting Village Hall any Thursday morning. Our name Art for Pleasure means exactly that – we meet for the pleasure of painting and the company of like-minded friends.

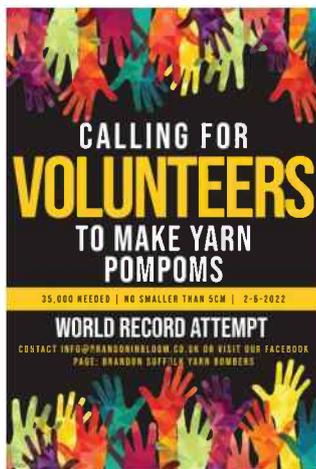
Further details can be obtained from:
Beryl Pountney, Club Secretary – Tel no: 01842 828750

Brandon in Bloom invites you to join in with our Guinness World Record Attempt for the Queen's Jubilee.

Brandon in Bloom are attempting to beat the current world record for the number of pompoms in a line! The current world record stands at 29,312, and was achieved by Eden Valley Hospice (UK) in Carlisle, UK, on 21st September 2016. The pompoms must be no smaller than 5cm, and tied together in a chain of 50. We are also looking for donations of yarn to make the pompoms.

The record attempt will take part on **Thursday 2nd June** at Brandon Country Park.

To find out more contact Brandon in Bloom at rachel@brandoninbloom.co.uk or visit our facebook page Brandon Suffolk Yarn Bombing.



Thetford Singers

When spring comes in, nature awakes and all begins to grow and bloom around us. For centuries this has inspired writers and musicians to put pen to paper and illustrate this great miracle. The season stretches from the first tentative stirrings on otherwise still cold and dismal days through the

mysteries of the Eastertide to the glories of May with its fragrant blossoms.

Our own John Weeks has followed in the footsteps of generations of writers and has linked a programme of springtime songs old and new with existing as well as specially written texts to take us through 'springtime, the only pretty ringtime'. The choir is proud and excited to be presenting this cornucopia of literary and musical works.

Please join us for an evening of seasonal words and music on **23rd March 2022 at 7.30pm**. Tickets are **£8** from **The Leaping Hare Box Office**, Thetford, online at www.leapinghare.org or by phone: **01842 751975**.



Thetford Voices



We are launching our 2022 programme of Open Singing Workshops for children and young people aged 6 to 16 with a half-day session on the afternoon of **Saturday 23rd April**, 1.30 to 5.00 in the Williamson Hall of Thetford Grammar School.

Our **Spring Sing Thing** is a chance for newcomers to discover the fun in rehearsing a mix of songs chosen to suit across the age-range and delivering a quality performance to friends and families at the end of the day. Past and present Voices will be able to put aside the disappointment of our Covid-cancelled Carolling Day in December in discovering even more great songs that are guaranteed to stay in the memory for months to come.

The workshop is led by experienced song leaders and a DBS-registered volunteer team: appropriate Covid-safe measures will be in place. Generous grant support from Thetford Town Council enables us to keep the attendance fee to £5 a head. All enthusiastic young singers are welcome.

Email thetfordvoices@gmail.com for a booking form and further information.

PLEASE, PLEASE READ THIS!

As residents of Weeting, no doubt you have opinions about how you would like the village to develop in the future. Everyone here has a potential voice, but you need to bring your ideas into the light. The ideal platform for this is the regular monthly Parish Council meetings as these will keep you abreast of local and national issues that could affect us as well as enabling you to put forward your ideas and suggestions for improving the facilities and lifestyle within the village.

The Parish Council committee are a very committed group of people, but we would value your input at our meetings. Currently, we have only one regular attendee!!

The Parish Council does not have a bottomless pit of cash. We get some monies from Breckland, but most of it comes from the annual precept which everyone pays through their Council Tax. Therefore, planning for the future is essential if we want to make improvements as it may require fund raising events and / or applying for grants from various sources.

So, PLEASE make the effort to attend some of our meetings - always on the 3rd Thursday of the month, 7pm at the Village Hall and bring your ideas and enthusiasm with you. We look forward to seeing you.

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

HOCKWOLD CRICKET CLUB.

A VIEW FROM THE GROUNDSMAN'S HUT.

With January well 'n truly behind us, and with Covid currently on the back foot, I feel a twang of optimism in the air.

There is certainly an expectant buzz at our Club, as the wheels of yet another cricket season move ever forward.



We have been busy over the winter months planning the funding for some exciting projects. We have 2 grant applications currently in the Norfolk pipeline, and we are

very optimistic for their success. Hopefully I'll be able to tell more on this next month.

Groundwork has continued over the winter, with our ground crew working hard to maintain and repair the outfield. Huge thanks must go to Messer's Marlow and Spencer.

Our 1st.XI will continue in the NCA Div. 3, while the 2nd.XI having gained promotion, will do battle in the NCL Div. 2 West. Our Sunday XI remain in the MNSCL Keith Grimmer Division.

I did mention in my last newsletter the Norfolk Cricket Board's hopes of moving forward with an entirely new league structure, The NRCA. One that would benefit league cricket throughout Norfolk immensely. Sadly, it has fallen at the first hurdle, and is currently being remodelled, to hopefully go forward for 2023. But as I said previously, the right committee candidates for the new venture are proving hard to entice.

With the success of our junior sessions last summer, plus the fabulous response to our 2 day Summer School, we are hoping for another good take-up this season. We expect to start our Wednesday evening junior sessions in mid-April. We also intend to offer the ECB junior initiative, the All-Stars program, which will begin in May. In addition, we will be offering both hard ball and soft ball competitive match experience to our young members.

If you are interested in taking up cricket, or are an experienced player, and fancy joining a progressive, family orientated club, do contact me for further details.

John Ruddick - Chair.

07902 231235. www.hockwoldcc.play-cricket.com

Calling All Clubs!

If your club would like to submit a report, advertise an event and / or include photographs in the next edition, please contact the editor (details on front page).

Similarly, if you wish to add your club to the list in the centre page, or change contact details, days, times, etc. please let the editor know.

Easter Craft Fayre

Hi everybody, already we are into March and if you received your magazine on the 1st, then "Happy St David's Day"!



The committee are organising a Craft Fayre for Easter, that will be held in the **Weeting Village Hall on Saturday 2nd of April**. (See the poster advert below).



We did manage to hold a Christmas Fayre, which was great fun and such a joy to see all the crafts that our local friends and neighbours had created. Hand painted glass, beautiful wooden objects, cards and pickles / jams and so much more. It was a pleasure to look around and admire the talent and even buy something you will never find anywhere else.

As usual, refreshments will be available from Norman, Pat and Angie in the Kitchen. Their bacon rolls are great!

Doors open at 9am and we hope to see you there. If you are a crafter and would like to take part, please ring me to see if there are any tables available as they do go very quickly. My telephone number is 01842 550919.



Carole Wilkins – Secretary of Weeting Village Hall Committee.

WEETING VILLAGE HALL

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IN THE VILLAGE HALL

ON

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FROM 9AM TO 3PM

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Editor's Note:



Mark Your Calendar

The next edition of Weeting Village Life will be published in **June 2022**.

If anyone would like to submit an advertisement, article, photo, etc for consideration to be included, the deadline for receipt by the Editor will be **Friday 20th May 2022**.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Rector's Report

A huge thank you

A huge 'thank you' to everyone who took part in the Angel Festival at St Mary's before Christmas. It was a fantastic display – there were lots of creative entries from children and adults both individually and in groups. The amazing entry from the pre-school – an angel made from many small hands set around a traffic cone stood out along with Rosie Willis' humorous 'Specsavers Angel'. Classes from Weeting school exhibited three very different, thoughtful and creative entries and the gorgeous life sized 'wedding' angel exhibited by Jo Nordan on behalf of the Bowls Club certainly captured attention on entry. Thank you also to the 'Line Dancing Angels' who entertained us on both days of the festival and to Bex who generously donated a delicious, decorated Christmas cake for the raffle which was won by Ben Sullivan. It was a great festival and was well supported by the village. The festival culminated on the Sunday evening with a Carol Service – the church was packed which was so great to see. Thank you to all who took part in that service. Due to Covid we were unable to serve the traditional mulled wine and mince pies – hopefully we'll be able to offer traditional hospitality this coming Christmas.

Elvis Tribute Night

Another huge thank you to Lisa Marie and friends who are organising the **Elvis Tribute Night** coming up at **Weeting Village Hall at 7.00pm on Saturday April 9th**. It will be a fantastic evening of all our Elvis favourites with a bar and food van, tombola and raffle. Do look out for posters around the village and be sure to pick up your tickets from Lisa. Proceeds from this evening will go straight into the porch repairs at St Mary's which hopefully will enable that essential work to begin sooner than we'd thought.

Swing Band planned for May

On **Saturday 14th May** there will be a **Swing Band** performing in the Village Hall – a fun evening of both listening with dancing if you choose. The Saxon has very kindly offered to provide a bar for the evening. There will be an array of mouth-watering 'light bites' on offer included in the ticket price and of course a 'monster' raffle. Proceeds will also go towards St Mary's porch repairs and running costs. Look out for advertising on Facebook and posters around the village closer to the event.

Repairs at St Mary's

Thanks to the generosity of Ian and Richard Smith we hope to have the south aisle floor repaired as soon as Diocese approves the application and the materials are ordered. This will enable work on the repairs to the wall and ceiling to be looked at and hopefully enable us to get grant funding to complete the repair of the south aisle so that the whole church will be useable. Tommy Saward, churchwarden is seeking quotes from roofers to repair broken tiles on the porch roof and Ian Smith continues to apply for the remaining grant money we need to make the porch safe. As ever, funding is difficult to find and we're reliant on grant funding along with local fundraising to make these repairs as St Mary's does not have sufficient money to fund major repair work and manage the running costs needed to keep the church open. It's fantastic that Lisa Marie and others from the village are supporting St Mary's with the Elvis Tribute evening because the more we can raise towards these essential works, the sooner that our church will be the physically welcoming space we really want it to be for the benefit of all in the village. Please support our fundraisers which will help keep St Mary's available for your Baptisms, weddings and funerals into the future, as well as I hope enjoyable social events which bring people together, like the Angel Festival. A reminder that St Mary's is signed up to **Easyfundraising online**. Many retailers from the major supermarkets, Amazon and shops like Currys, Marks and Spencer, John Lewis and other major outlets offer a percentage of your purchase if you order from them via the Easyfundraising website – at no cost to you. It really is a case of 'every little helps'. If you can support us this way, it would be truly appreciated.

I'll look forward to seeing many of you at the Elvis Tribute Night. Looking a little further ahead I wish you all every blessing and a safe and relaxing break this coming Easter.

Joan Horan
Rector.



[A selection of photos of Festival Angels can be found on pages 16 & 17 of this magazine]

St Mary's Church



Rector: Joan Horan (Tel: 01842 828034)
Churchwardens: Tommy Saward (Tel: 01842 813601)

Regular services are as follows:

Second Sunday of the month: Service of The Word @ 11am
Third Sunday of the month: Eucharist @ 11am



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21st April 2022
19th May 2022
16th June 2022

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Fri & Sat: 12.00 - 9.30pm • Sunday Closed

Parish Council Notes

As we move forward into Spring, we are going to be planting a new tree on Parrott's Piece. The Council decided on a Sweet Chestnut as it will, in due time, prove productive and give the children the opportunity to go foraging for the fruit of the tree!

As you will see, Weeting along with most Parishes in Norfolk, has received a plaque to commemorate the community's resilience during the COVID-19 Pandemic. It will also serve to remind us of those residents whose time with us was cut short. We hope to mount it with the village sign on the oak post.

The January meeting of the Parish Council set the Precept for the village. Once again, we have had to increase it by 5% to cover the rise in inflation and energy costs. This means a Band D property will now pay £76.16 per annum (up from £72.53). Bands A,B & C will pay less. We are fortunate in some respects, as we do derive an income from the recycling of glass and clothing and these funds are mainly used to support grants and community projects in the village.

The Parish Council meets on the third Thursday of each month and we would appreciate your views on what you think could be

done within the parish. There are funding streams available for Green Projects. One such idea is to have charging points for Electric Vehicles somewhere in the village, possibly Hereward Way near the bus shelter. We will be discussing this at our next meeting.

Litter continues to be a perennial problem even though several individuals in the district have been hit with heavy fines. We have several villagers who regularly venture out collecting the litter and we will be organising a mass litter pick in the not-too-distant future, so please keep an eye out on the FB Page for the when and where!

You will be aware of the demolition of the Railway Signal Box which was built in 1932. Whilst the Parish Council were aware that a Permission to Demolish had been granted by West Suffolk, we were not made aware or consulted as to when this would happen. It remains to be seen what will happen with the Railway Station buildings as there does not seem to have been any action since they were given Grade 2 listings. Permission has been given for a Bat Shelter to be built in the area next to the Station Master's House.

Mike Nairn - Chairman of Weeting Parish Council

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?? Who's Who ??

Weeting Parish Councillors

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
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| Cllr Tom Childerhouse | 01842 811469 |
| Cllr Clodagh Drewry | 01842 815073 |
| Cllr Margaret Lister (V-Chair) | 01842 810467 |
| Cllr Tim Murfet | 07958 723994 |
| Cllr Mike Nairn (Chair) | 01842 810212 |
| Cllr Sue Nairn | 01842 810212 |
| Cllr Sarah O'Donnell | 01842 550603 |
| Cllr Bernard Smith | 07985 902188 |

Please contact Margaret for street lighting problems
tjchilderhouse@btconnect.com
clobagh-drewry@hotmail.co.uk
margaretlister11@gmail.com
t.murfet652@btinternet.com
mike.nairn@btinternet.com
sue.nairn@btinternet.com
sarah.odonnell28@gmail.com
bernardsmith7@btinternet.com

Weeting Parish Clerk

Mrs Pauline Angus 07392 004834

clerk@weetingparishcouncil.org.uk
50 Brecklands, Mundford, Norfolk, IP26 5EG

Breckland District Councillor

Cllr Sam Chapman-Allen 01953 688522
Cllr Robert Kybird 01842 753132

sam.chapman-allen@breckland.gov.uk
robert.kybird@breckland.gov.uk

Norfolk County Councillor

Cllr Fabian Eagle 07450 679838

fabian.eagle@norfolk.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

Mrs Elizabeth Truss 020 7219 3000
House of Commons
SW1A 0AA

elizabeth.truss.mp@parliament.uk

LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

| CLUB | CONTACT | LOCATION | DAY AND TIME |
|---|---|--|--|
| Adult's & Children's Street Dancing | Micha 07841 474400 | Village Hall | Monday 4.30 - 6.30pm Wednesday 4-7pm. Thursday 6-830pm |
| Art For Pleasure | Beryl Pountney 01842 828750 | Village Hall | Thursday 10.30am – 12.30pm |
| Bingo | Angie Page 01842 814147 | Village Hall | Tuesday Open at 6.30pm Eyes down at 7pm - 9pm |
| Brandon & District Classic Vehicle Club | John Maxim 01842 811032 | Brandon Sports & Social Centre | 2nd Monday 7.30pm |
| Brandon & District Camera Club | Denise Whiting 01842 862079 | Baptist Church Brandon | Alternate Wednesdays 7.30pm |
| Brandon & District Society of Model Engineering | Mick Wickens mick.wickens@gmail.com | Brandon Council Offices | 1st Wednesday 7.30pm |
| Brandon Speaker's Club | Gary Sander 01842 814679 | Function Room, The Raml Brandon | 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7.00-9.30pm |
| Carpet Bowls | Heather 01842 815406 | Village Hall | Friday 10 – 12 midday |
| Green Bowls | Sue Windget 01842 812094 Carol Newman 01842 815089 | Bowls Club | Friday 6.00 – 10 pm Sunday 12 midday – 4.00pm |
| Gun Club | Derick Spencer 07741285278 | Weeting Gun Club | Alternate Sunday January to October |
| HATS | Gary Sander 01842 814679 | Hockwold Cricket Pavillion | Tuesday & Thursday 7.30 - 9.30pm (during rehearsal periods) |
| History Group | Julianne Young 01842 813581 | Various - call to check location | Last Thursday 7.30pm |
| Indoor Archery | Mike 07894 904090 | The Dome, Mildenhall | Saturday 12.30 - 3.30pm |
| Keep Fit | Dorothy Kent 01842 810378 | Village Hall | Monday 10.00– 11am (except Bank Holidays) |
| Line Dance | Rita Thompson 01842 815550 | Village Hall | Friday 2.00 - 4.pm |
| Methwold Theatre Club | 01366 727526 | The 21 Room St George's Complex Methwold | Tuesday 7.30pm |
| Model Car | Colin | Village Hall | Alt. Wednesday 7pm - 9pm |
| Pool | Carol Newman 01842 815089 | Bowls Club | Tuesday 7.00pm |
| Rainbow | Anna. 07956 683499 | Village Hall | Thursday 4:445 to 5:45 |
| St Mary's Church | Tommy Saward (Churchwarden) 01842 813601 | St Mary's Church | See list of Service times |
| Shoestring Theatre Company | Jill Hopper, 07985 376465 | IES Breckland School Crown Street, Brandon | Tuesday 7.00 - 10.00pm |
| Thetford Singers | Sue Nairn 01842 810212 | Methodist Rooms Tanner Street | Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm |
| W.A.S.P.s | Carole Wilkins 01842 550919 | Village Hall | Monday 7pm - 9pm Friday 6.00 - 8pm (during rehearsal periods) |
| Weeding Saxon FC | James Langley. 01842 811627 | | |
| Weeting Steam Rally | Wendy Young Rally Co-ordinator 01842 810317 | | Monday 7pm to 9pm Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm |
| Weeting Weenies | Rebecca 07926 073609 | Village Hall | Wednesday 10.00 – 12 midday (school term time only) |

Spring Gardening



Ready, Set..... GROW! Here we go again, the busy spring season is here. Spring is my favourite time of year and it is without doubt the most exciting and busiest time of the year to be a gardener. I look for signs of spring everywhere, the first snowdrop, crocus, daffodil, blossom on trees and shrubs, new shoots from perennials. All of a sudden, we go from an environment of bland browns and greys to fresh new greens and colour!

If it's been a while since you've been in your garden it can be overwhelming to know where to start with the long list of tasks ahead of us. Here's my top tips:

March:

This is a great month to have a blitz on the garden if not yet done in February. It's always better to do this in late winter/ early spring (rather than the Autumn) as the old growth will not only protect your plants from frost or rotting, it also provides cover for hibernating insects. There will probably be old, dried-up foliage that died off in the autumn from your perennials (plants that come back year on year) covering many of your beds; March is a good month to get rid of this so new growth can happen unhindered.

Weed seedlings are starting to grow and unless dealt with now they will cause problems later. Once you've cut back and weeded now is a perfect time to feed and mulch the beds with organic compost which will feed the roots and keep the moisture in.

If you are keen to 'grow your own' now's the time to get sowing seeds! Don't be too keen to start tender beans though, they can wait until April or even May. And for a splash of spring colour, add primroses to beds, borders and hanging baskets.

April:

The growing season is really underway this month, with plants seemingly coming out of nowhere to burst into life. Suddenly winter seems a long way away as so many shrubs, trees and bulbs are in full bloom.

Now's the time to tackle your lawn. Start feeding the lawn, and if moss is a problem apply lawn sand or an "all in one" lawn product and re-seed any bare patches. Westland "Safe Lawn" is 100% natural product that's safe to use around children and pets.

Garden Centres, including here at P&R Garden Supplies, will be full of summer bedding and basket plants. Depending on the weather it might be a few more weeks before it's safe to plant them out. Only buy them if you have suitable facilities to grow them undercover, where they are protected from cold nights and late frosts.

May:

May is my favourite month of the year, every plant looks lush and healthy. Grass will be growing quickly now so regular mowing is now essential to keep the lawn looking its best.

Now's the time to start planting tender summer bedding and basket plants outdoors, keep an eye on weather forecasts though as there is always that one late frost that tries to catch us all out!

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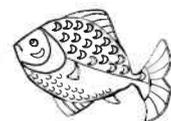
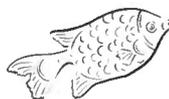
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CLUB SPOTLIGHT



On Tuesday January 11th, a healthy crew assembled at the Mundford Bowls Club all prepared for take-off. There were some old-ish faces returning to the fold with the prospect of three potential new members.

Commander, David A, called us all to order and announced the first action for the evening: a quiz presented by Chairman and resident wit, Chris H.

Each crew member was given a check list with 10 missions: the brief was to identify the various events, characters and machinery in aviation history. Not one question went unanswered. Chris afterwards revealed the scores: the response exposed a wealth of wisdom among the participant's knowledge but, the guesswork produced more hilarity.

A film was then shown depicting archive aviation material. For those of us who were less well informed, community contributions made up for what the film lacked in narrative support.

The modest commander then made mention of the fact - as he relinquished his position as raffler and appointed John H as his successor - that the turnover in generosity had almost doubled since his abdication.

These evenings would not be the success that they are, without the stalwart efforts of the MBC stewards, Len and Val; three cheers for them.

Next month the modest commander will present a talk of his own entitled: 'This Idiot's Guide to Gliding'. We will not be deterred. It is also planned to show the second instalment of the Coventry Air Show DVD.

All welcome.

<https://sites.google.com/view/wnas-uk/home>



A new year, 2022, let us hope it will give us all we wish for as well as perhaps more freedom to return to some form of normality, that is if we can remember what that was!!

January saw us submit jpeg images under the title of Emotion and then we were able to listen to Lewis Turner and Tim Bridges give their talks. On the 9th February we endeavoured to photograph the moon in our 'Lunar Night' Workshop. There was advice on hand for everyone on settings for your cameras, so that we could help you take some incredible images.

We hope you may be inspired to come along and share your interest in photography with us. We all have a lot to learn from each other and from the experts we ask to join us from time to time. Watch out for these editorials to learn more about what we have in store as each month passes. There is always someone on hand to help with any technical questions you may have.

We meet fortnightly at the **Baptist Church Hall, 39 High Street, Brandon, IP27 0AQ, at 7:30pm and our next dates are 9th and 23rd March 2022.**

Covid precautions and Government Guidelines will be observed at all times.
For further details, please contact info@brandoncameraclub.co.uk
We look forward to seeing you in March.

Take care and stay safe.

Don't forget you can follow us on Facebook and keep up to date with what's going on.

Check out our website on www.brandonphotographicclub.co.uk



Weeting Bowls Club

With the coming of Spring, bowling members are eagerly anticipating a great season of bowls. With this in mind, we are delighted to welcome back our green keeper Tony

Stevens. Tony is currently working hard to restore the green to tip top condition by mid-April when we expect to begin bowling again.

This year Weeting Bowls Club has entered three leagues, in addition to friendly home and away matches. We will also be running a number of in-house competitions and knockout tournaments throughout the summer. Whatever your level, or even if you have never played before, there will be something for you.

If anyone would like to sample bowling for the first time, Weeting Bowls Club will be offering **free introductory sessions** during the

week 22nd – 29th April 2022. All ages are welcome from 6 years and above. No equipment is needed, but a pair of flat shoes is essential on the green.

All current or returning bowlers will be welcome to try out the green from Friday 16th April. For further information about trial sessions or club membership, please contact:

Joanna Nordan (Club Captain) - jonordan@hotmail.com

Or Sue Windget (Club Secretary) - suewindget@hotmail.com

The bowls social club is now back in full swing after a very difficult covid couple of years. We have a high membership to date and members can enjoy a fully equipped, reasonably priced bar. We have enjoyed some good events so far this year and coming up we have an Irish night on the 19th March with a Live Irish duo guaranteed to be a great night. We have private parties booked too.



Our regular karaoke at the beginning of each month is always popular. Follow us on our Facebook page Weeting bowls Club Events. We are open Friday nights, Saturday nights and Sundays until late and Tuesday evenings. Come and join us for a drink or just come to meet friends and socialise. I guarantee that you will never want to leave.

If you would like to book the club for your special event, please let us know. Also, if you would like to try your hand at bowls, come along and have a chat.

Contact:

Sue Windget 01842 812094/07855 764288

suewindget@hotmail.com

Carol Newman 01842 815089/07837 174056

Calling All Clubs!

If your club would like to submit a report, advertise an event and / or include photographs in the next edition, please contact the editor (details on front page).

Similarly, if you wish to add your club to the list in the centre page, or change contact details, days, times, etc. please let the editor know.

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Picture Puzzle

Below are 10 photos of examples of discontinued automobile marques - all UK manufacturers. Can you identify them?
Beside each photo is the name of a manufacturer, but not the correct one for the photo. Some letters have been omitted from the marque name.
Can you match the correct manufacturer with each photo?
Answers on page 16



1 RLY



2 JWTT



3 LVS



4 WLSLY



5 STNDRD



6 STN



7 RMSTRNG SIDDLY



8 HMBR



9 TRMPH



10 JNSN

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Walking in Norfolk

Time to get walking again!

At this time of year, we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Norfolk <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/norfolk> has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web, but it is difficult to find. Walking in Norfolk (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. So, home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris
www.walkinginengland.co.uk
john@walkinginengland.co.uk

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Tales from the Past

By John Holledge

In 1967 I went to work for T.H.Nice & Co in their garage in Thetford, on the corner of the old A11 and Bury Road. It was a very old building and it looked its age. The front garage was for cars and the back was used for HGV's where I worked.

I have some happy memories of my time there. In those days, it was common practise to repair punctures for all sorts of vehicle wheels and on one occasion a man appeared with a wheelbarrow that had a flat tyre. The tyre looked old and perished. "Can I use your airline please?" he asked. I looked at it and told him to be very careful and not to over inflate it. He said, "Oh no" and proceeded to pump it up. I carried on working on my vehicle and a moment later there was a huge bang! I quickly turned round to see what had happened, - the man had disappeared in a cloud of dust, but I could hear him cussing and spitting. I went to see if he was alright and when the dust cleared, he sat rubbing his eyes. "Where's my hat?" he cried. It was nowhere to be seen, but at that moment pieces of straw began to fall from the sky. "My hat, my bloody hat", he said and then I remembered that he had been wearing a straw hat. We could not find any pieces big enough to fit his head and, what was worse, people sitting in their cars trying to get through Thetford on the old A11 were watching and falling about laughing. The man scrambled to his feet, picked up his wheelbarrow and wheeled it away with the remains of the tyre flapping around as he went.

We were always up to fun and games in that garage and one day I had to repair a puncture on a large tractor wheel. When the tyre was removed and I was vulcanising the tube, one of our apprentice lads, Phillip Hill, came in and wanted to get inside the tyre to roll up and down in the workshop. I held the tyre up and he got inside it and then I pushed it down to the car shop. Soon others became involved and with three of us pushing it, speed rapidly increased and it became apparent that it was going to be impossible to stop it quickly enough to prevent it running into the road! I can still remember Phillip screaming as he went off down the A11 in amongst the traffic, that was swerving about trying to avoid a collision. He must have covered 100 yards when the tyre ran onto the pavement and crashed into a solid brick wall belonging to Mrs Sutherland, the then Lady Mayoress of Thetford. The tyre bounced back onto the road, went round and round and fell over in the middle of the road with its passenger still on board. Cars stopped and people got out of them to help, but Phillip got out, stood up, fell down, stood up, fell down and stood up again. He did not know if it was Easter Sunday or Pancake Day! My Mate, Andy, picked him up and took him into the tea room to recover whilst I got the tyre off the road and into the garage P.D.Q. before the police got involved. Phillip said he thought he had been in space for a week!

We used to service the vehicles for the well-known bacon factory, Danepak, and it was sometimes necessary to get into the rear body to make repairs to the floor etc. We had to be as quick as possible in order to maintain the very low temperatures they worked at. On one occasion the interior light had gone out in this vehicle, so I got in to check the bulbs etc. At this point, my workmate, Bill Dives, came through the icy gloom and said, "that's what they make fog with on the stage." "Is it?" I said. "Yes, I will show you" said Bill and with that he picked up a large box of dry ice (this was used to chill the bacon) and he carried it over to a 500-gallon water tank around the back of the tyre bay. This tank was always full of rainwater and was used to test tubeless tyres for leaks. He removed the wrappings and tossed the dry ice into the water. Well, I have never seen anything like it; the water erupted into great clouds of vapour that ran down the tank, across the used car lot and down the Bury Road. Within 10 minutes the fog had completely covered the cars and you could not see a thing! All the motors on the Bury Road had stopped and, thankfully, there were no collisions. At that moment, our General Manager, Mr Lloyd Baker, came to see what was going on. I could just see the top of his head (he was 6ft 4in) and then he disappeared. I could hear him saying "where has all this bloody fog come from?" I called to him, but we could not find each other. When all the fog had blown away, I found all the water in the tank had gone and the ground was frozen solid. Needless to say, we never tried that again.

I worked at Nice's until it closed. Where it stood is now a block of flats.

WEETING VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Hello everyone, here we are again, another new year with two months gone already by the time you get to read this report and hope you have all had a good Christmas and enjoying the new year. The hall itself has been booked up since the beginning of January with most clubs now returned and making the most of the facilities that we have on offer, including a new oven/cooker and microwave.

During February we will have had more refurbishments and maintenance done, first off with the aid of a grant from the National Lottery Fund we will have had insulation put in in the ceiling. This of course meant the hall was shut for 3 days to enable the workmen to do their job safely – thanks to the groups who forfeited their time in the hall that week (7th to 9th February) and the following week we had the hall redecorated from top to bottom by a young man who has only just started up in business on his own – whenever we can, we like to encourage young entrepreneurs and use local trades people. Although the hall was repainted by some of the committee last year, it was deemed that it needed brightening up and you will notice when you come in now – that EVERYTHING has been given a fresh lick of paint, doors, door surrounds and all other wood panelling.

Various other jobs have had to be done, such as the water heater. This packed up during the craft fayre in November, but was found not to be too major, - there was a switch that had tripped off and needed to be reset. All the heaters are still running at full capacity thank goodness, and we are still looking at getting some other heaters fitted especially in the toilets areas– as the existing heaters are out of date and not working sufficiently enough to keep the chill out !!!!

We still may fit extra heaters in the main part of the hall, and we are looking at wall mounted heaters rather than ceiling mounted ones. The solar panel project has been shelved for the time being as it has not been deemed cost effective enough for us at present.

We still have the notice boards, kindly donated by the Parish Council to put up, but as yet we have not been able to decide where best to put them. We hope to put one at the end of the driveway to replace the old board as this is looking pretty awful now.

In the meantime, the Village Hall Committee is under new management, and, as with all changes, the new Chairperson, Norman Killeen is getting things moving. As mentioned above, the re-decoration of the hall and the insulation of the ceilings have been projects overseen by him, including the removal of the two old cookers. One other change has been the Secretary and this is now Mrs Carole Wilkins (WASPS).

On behalf of Village Hall Committee
Karen Scott, Treasurer

Don't forget
#BinDayChange



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Graham 01842 828387



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- 3 - Jensen (Interceptor). 4 - Austin (7).
- 5 - Humber (Super Snipe). 6 - Alvis (TC21).
- 7 - Riley (RME). 8 - Wolsey (6/80).
- 9 - Jowett (Javelin). 10 - Standard (Vanguard).

Answers to Picture Puzzle on page 13



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(For years 7, 8 and 9)
Friday 6:30pm – 9pm
(For years 10, 11, 12 and 13)



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Youth Worker and Centre Manager - Anna Badcock
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4
Rosie Willis
St Peter's Church



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