



# WEETING VILLAGE LIFE



September 2019  
Edition 28

## Ben's Buzzing Report!

At the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA) headquarters at Stoneleigh Park, I attended a selection day to go to the International Meeting of Young Beekeepers (IMYB) which this year was held in Slovakia. I was lucky enough to be one of the three selected for the English team.



On 2nd of July, we met up with the rest of the team at King's Cross Station and went off to do a few tourist activities in London to pass the time before heading to a hotel for the night. The next morning, we flew from Heathrow to Vienna, and had a wander around the very beautiful city. Later that day, we met up with the teams from Northern Ireland,

Scotland, and France to catch a coach to Bratislava airport to pick up the team from Russia and then we had a three-hour coach journey to Banská Bystrica. We finally got there at 11pm and were shown to our dorm rooms in the school where the meeting took place. We were all exhausted. I was in a dorm room with one other person from the English team, and two people from the team from Israel. Luckily, they both spoke English. We were all talking until 3am (which probably wasn't the best idea as the competition started early the next morning).



On the first full day there, we were separated into teams with people from other countries. Our first activity was drone marking. We did the beekeeping all without bee suits because the Slovakian bees are extremely docile. The other activities that day were theory based.



The next day, we had a honey tasting session. Some honey we had to identify. We also had to taste samples of honey from all the participating countries and vote for the one we liked most. Italian honey was the favourite for most, although I preferred the Finnish variety. Each evening we had presentations from each country's team, which were mostly singing and/or dancing. The English team attempted Morris dancing! Later in the evenings, some of us played board or card games, and learned new games from other countries. Others spent their time partying. I also spent a lot of my evenings learning Slovenian from one of the competitors.

The final day, we visited the Harmanecká cave. There was an hour's walk up the side of a mountain to get there and about an hour's tour around it. It was full of caverns, stalactites and stalagmites, which looked amazing. After getting down from the cave we went by cable cars up one of the mountains which overlooked a peaceful tree lined valley. A very long day of walking and sightseeing ended with the final ceremony and prize giving, followed by Slovakian dancing which most of us joined in with. I managed to be individually placed 61st out of 79, and the English team came 22nd out of 29.



The journey back to Vienna seemed much shorter than the one to Banská Bystrica. We had a spare day before flying back to England, so we went and explored other parts of Vienna and had some delicious coffee and cake at a small café. Sadly, we had to fly back from Vienna, after a very tiring but fun-filled few days. It was an absolutely thrilling experience, I met loads of amazing people, most of whom became very good friends and I learned the many different ways that bees are kept in other countries.

Ben Sullivan

## H.A.T.S. Off!!



A huge thank you to everyone who supported HATS on our Water or Wine stall at Hockwold Country Fair on 2nd June. Congratulations to Aaron M who won the "Guess How Many Corks" competition. The actual total was 146 and he guessed 147! He was given his prize of £10 and a bottle of wine at the end of the Fair.



## 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:

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Weeting, IP27 0QD



01842 810212  
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To book the Village Hall for meetings, parties or other social functions, contact Angie Page on 01842 814147



# School Report



## Weeting VC Primary School

### Goodbye and hello...

It's that time in the school year when our Year 6 children leave us to start their secondary school experience. As part of our leaving celebrations, Oak Class treated us to a highly professional performance of "Mystery at Magpie Manor" with a cast of excellent singers, actors and dancers. During our Leavers' Assembly our Year 6 children reflected on their time at Weeting Primary School with some very unique memories and experiences. Each child received a 2019 Leavers' hoodie from The Friends of Weeting and a dictionary gifted by the school.

We have also said goodbye to some of our teaching staff. We wish Mr King, Mrs Gomes-Wilson, Mrs Turner, Mr Bunten and Mrs Buckfield the very best of luck. We are also very pleased to welcome Mr Rhodes as our new Executive Headteacher and Mrs Allen and Mr Davis to our teaching team.

### RHS Campaign for School Gardening

During the last year Chestnut class have been participating in this award scheme. They have successfully achieved the Level 1 and Level 2 award.



An area between the 2 classrooms and outside space was chosen as our gardening area. Tyres and plants donated by parents were used to make the garden. A living wall was made from a pallet with the help of our caretaker Mr Lloyd.

The children chose to grow flowers, herbs, tomatoes, potatoes, courgettes, beans and strawberries from seeds and plants. Children drew instructions and referred to these when filling containers with trowels, making holes before planting and watering. They wrote labels to show what they planted. The children have cared for the plants, taking it in turns to water and weed. At the end of term we had an amazing display of sunflowers and harvested some delicious strawberries and potatoes!



### The Local Governing Body – The Trinity Partnership

The Local Governing Board (LGB) operates under a Scheme of Delegation agreed by the Trust. The usual term of office for Governors is four years. Induction and training are offered for all new Governors. Governors can expect to attend 6 meetings per term, usually in the evening. Governors also take part in various school monitoring activities, which usually take place during the school day.

### Why be a Governor?

Being a governor is a way to have a positive impact on your community. You will help steer your school, establishing its vision and ethos. You will be part of a team committed to improving the lives and future prospects of our children.

### Want to know more?

Contact the school [office@weeting.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@weeting.norfolk.sch.uk) and arrange to meet Jacqueline McCamphill, the Chair of Governors for an initial, informal chat. Fill in an application form and then complete a Disclosure and Barring Service check before starting. You must be over 18 and living in the UK.



## Little Saints Pre-School

We have had a very busy but equally enjoyable summer term.



We gratefully received some new toys and equipment from our local Sure Start Centre, many thanks to them!

In setting the children have been learning about zoo animals and different types of holidays. We had a very successful sports day, the children did a wonderful job, we have a few Usain Bolts in the making!

A trip to Banham Zoo was enjoyed by children, parents and staff - the weather being very pleasant for both events!



On the last day of term we had emotional leavers assembly for those children moving up to school, we will miss them and wish them all the best in this new chapter of their lives.

We look forward to welcoming new children starting this coming school year and those returning.

We still have some spaces available, if you would like more information please contact us on 07927 690968.

Well done to all staff and committee members on a brilliant school year!

Last academic year the **Friends of Weeting School** committee ran a very successful fundraising campaign to allow us to revamp the school's rather tired and unloved library. We successfully completed the transformation last April and are pleased to report that the new library is well used and much loved by pupils and teachers alike.



So, now our attentions have turned to our next project. It has come to our attention that Weeting Primary School is struggling to provide the children with enough hands on ICT (Information & Communication Technology) experience due to a lack of modern computers and laptops and less than one tablet available per class. Learning how to present information and communicate electronically is a vital skill for all of us today and so the sooner the children are able to familiarise themselves with the latest technology, the better.

Therefore the focus of our fundraising efforts this year will be towards updating and expanding the ICT equipment at the school. We hope to be able to provide enough tablets to allow every child in a class to have the use of their own during a lesson, and to provide enough laptops for regular ICT lessons for all classes. This is another big ask of our team but we hope to achieve it before the end of the summer!

Alongside our regular activities, such as discos and bake sales, we will be running a variety of events throughout the school year to push towards this goal. If you'd like to support our charity there are a number of different ways you can...

We're currently running a **Diary Date Lotto**; we sell days in our diary for £1, then at the end of the summer term (or when the diary is full) we randomly select a date. Whoever picked that date wins £100. Simple! If you'd like a date (!) then please see any of the *Friends* committee members, or ask Mrs Duke in the school office.

We plan to host the **"Weeting's Got Talent"** variety show again this Spring. It proved so popular with the children last year that we'd love to give them all the opportunity to have their 5 minutes of fame again, and it was great fun for the audience too! So watch out for more information soon.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported the *Friends* events recently. We are a committee of volunteers and our motivation is the support we receive, and to see the children happy in their school – so please continue to support our efforts. *Thank you.*



# School Report



As we prepare to welcome nearly 160 new Year 7s in September I have been reflecting on the year and what an incredible year it has been at Iceni Academy. Thank you to everyone involved. We have achieved some incredible things and that would not have been possible without the support of our wonderful community. Thank you. We have even more ambitious plans for next year and I hope you will get involved with your community school.

We have celebrated many student successes this year, so much talent! Iceni has such brilliant students from sports people (an alumni was selected to play bowls for England recently) to others who work tireless and quietly for their community. These students are the pride of Iceni.

I just wanted to take a moment to celebrate some of the successes of our dedicated staff. Regular readers might know there is a form on our website where people can nominate any of our staff for an award (<http://icenimethwold.org.uk/staff-recognition/>). Over the course of the last twelve months there have been about thirty nominations.

The nominations have included comments like the following; "Best teacher my daughter has ever had, really looks forward his lessons", "Always about for my daughter and son helps with most things, he's friendly and dedicated to the school and pupils" and "she went above and beyond in really assuring me my son was in safe hands". This is why we do what we do. Thank you for your recognition of what our trained and motivated staff do.

We were delighted to welcome a number of our local primary schools in to visit us last week for a visiting drama company to perform A Midsummer Night's Dream and then run some associated workshops. The event, organised by Assistant Principal, Miss Staniforth was very enthusiastically received by the students. Their enthusiasm for Shakespeare was brilliant!

I couldn't really finish a column in this fine publication without mentioning toilets! Over thirteen months ago I started our quest to get the facilities that our young people deserve and I am delighted to say that work starts in the first week of the holidays! This will be the last time I mention toilets, I promise, at least until after the summer when we book a date for the official opening!

Have a great summer, I look forward to seeing you soon.

Stephen Plume  
Principal

## Now You See It / Now You Don't!



The bus shelter along Peppers Close has found a new home at last. It has been standing idly for several years as buses no longer passed it by and, despite the Parish Council offering it to first the football club and then the village school, it had remained in situ and un-loved!

After advertising it on a website for local Parish Councils, it has been gratefully snapped up by Denver PC who collected it in early August.

You may also see that the old parish notice board has gone too. This had become very dilapidated, as have several other boards around the village. Eventually all the old boards will be removed and a new one put up in a key position.



### WEETING VILLAGE HALL

## FAMILY RACE DAY

**Saturday 19th October**

**8 races of 6 horses**

**Fun for all the family**

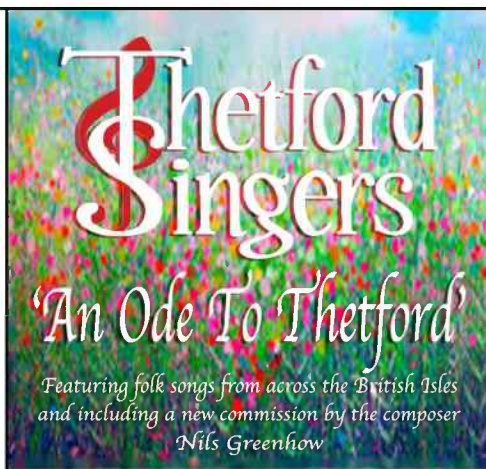
**Everybody Welcome**

**Doors open 1.30pm**



For more information call Brenda on:  
**01842 814161**

If you fancy being a Jockey or want to sponsor a race, please give me a ring



### FREE CONCERT

**2pm Sunday, 8th September**

**In the grounds of Thetford Priory**

**Musical Director Chris Parsons**

*Please bring a blanket or a fold up chair!*

Registered Charity 289142

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



## QUIZ & NIBBLES

IN AID OF THE VILLAGE HALL

**SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

IN

**? WEETING VILLAGE HALL ?**

**START AT 7PM**

THERE WILL BE SELECTION OF NIBBLES PLUS TEA  
& COFFEE  
RAFFLE AT HALF TIME



**PRIZES FIRST THREE TEAMS**

**£5 PER HEAD TEAMS OF SIX OR UNDER**



**CONTACT CAROLE ON 01842 550919**

# CLUB SPOTLIGHT

## WASPs

Well, here we are again September; wow, the years have gone so quickly. We, the WASPs, (WEETING ALL STAR PERFORMERS), started in 2013. I cannot believe we started that long ago. Our first show was called "Frosty and Rudolf's Christmas Adventure" - I wonder how many of you came and saw it? I remember the hall was full and we all laughed so much when the wicked fairy started to sing "Nobody Loves a Fairy When's She's Forty" and she slipped over, - not in the script, but it was funny so I said "keep it in"!

So, back to the next show for this year. We are going to try our hand at CINDERELLA. The cast has said "could we not stick to the story"? Well, maybe, but don't hold your breath as I cannot help but put a little twist into it, all in good fun! "If you would like to join us", as we say in our theme song, then come to our first meeting which will be on Friday 6th September at 6.30pm. We will be there to welcome you with tea and biscuits.

"Cinderella" pantomime will be held in our village hall on the same weekend as usual - Friday 6th December and Saturday 7th December, with two evenings and a matinee on the Saturday.



Our last show, held in July, was a hoot with our title "WILL THEY WON'T THEY". Well, they did eventually, and I know all who came loved the Groom's and Best Man's bright yellow suits - that was such

fun and the pictures show just what they looked like! My thanks to all who came and supported us and to the cast as usual. You pulled out all the stops to make it such a fun show. See you all on the 6th.



Carole.

Brandon Speakers Club



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Worried about talking in large groups?  
Worried about sounding like an idiot?

Whether speaking to 1 or 1000

Brandon speakers club can help with those butterflies.  
Come build your confidence, skills and make some friends in the process

Come along to our meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month  
Function Room, The Ram hotel, High Street, Brandon, IP27 0AX

19.00 Start and 21.00 Finish Everyone Welcome!  
Come and start making a change

**Methwold Theatre Club**  
**THE STAGE AWAITS YOU!**  
BE IT ON, OUT FRONT or BEHIND  
NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME  
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The 21 Room  
St George's Hall Complex  
High Street, Methwold, Norfolk. IP28 4NT  
Tel: 01366 727 526  
www.methwoldtheatreclub.org.uk  
WEEKLY MEETINGS  
TUESDAYS: 7.30 PM  
email: mtc@methwold.net

## ART FOR PLEASURE

Our group have had two workshops recently, one "Portraits in Acrylics" which had us all concentrating extremely hard as this was something we had never attempted before. However, we all rose to the challenge and everyone produced reasonable portraits.



Our second workshop was with Nicki Saunders "Working in Pastels". This is not the medium many of us work in, so for the first part of the day Nicki explained the different pastels and papers available. Then she demonstrated how she would go about working. After which we all tried our hand at a 10-minute quick picture using only one colour plus white and black. Then a detailed all colour picture of the same river scene. Finally applying pastels on velour. It was a most interesting day and we all went away having learnt something.

We meet at Weeting Village Hall every Thursday 10.30 a.m. To 12.30 p.m., when you are welcome to call in and see our group putting into practice what we have learnt at the workshops. Whether you have painted before or would like to try a new pastime we are always happy to welcome new members. 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

Terry Kimpton, Club Chairman - Tel no. 01842 819732

## WEETING VILLAGE HALL'S ANNUAL

## CHRISTMAS FAYRE

TO BE HELD IN THE

**Weeting Village Hall**  
**Sunday**

17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019

9am to 3pm

Come visit us, see all the beautiful Christmassy arts and crafts on sale, with a raffle, tombola and of course refreshments

# CLUB SPOTLIGHT

## A "PITCH" in time

Here I sit in an unfinished away team dressing room, surrounded by tools and paint brushes, on the penultimate eve of the start to the new football season. My thought of "What have I done" vibrating through every nerve synapse within my body.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself; my name is Karl Smith and I have agreed to manage AFC Weeting. I look at myself currently as a Don Quixote, a man on a quest but not sure where the road will take us, and what battles we will face along the way. I would love to generate a positive established team who have a home base site to be proud of. Unfortunately, we are a long way from this "GOAL" excuse the pun!!

Family, friends and I have worked tirelessly and self-funded the project, over the last three weeks to get the football hut back into some sort of usable order. There was a massive flood from the old tank in the roof and unfortunately this was left and as a result the whole place was covered with mould and rotten woodwork throughout. We have made some impact on the outside and the away team changing rooms, through replacing timber framework, making safe the falling in roof by battening and plastering it, then we started the painting!! Now we need help!! My mother, Sandy Smith, has ideas to start fund raising, looking into grants that are available to get enough monies to gradually get the old place back into good shape or even raise enough for a new build!! WOW. If you have trade skills that we need to rebuild a sad and sorry building, we would love to hear from you or if you can donate anything to help our cause, such as a Burco boiler or an old bar-b-q that we can use to fund raise.

Sandy is setting up a car boot sale on the parking site next to the hut every 3rd Sunday 9am-1pm. This will start 22nd September. This has the Parish Council's support. £5.00 per plot.

We had our first game on the 17th August playing the winners of last year's division four. We tried our very best to give them a challenge, even though we are a newly formed team and the final score was 6-1 away. We would love to have you come to the grounds in the future bringing your support; and when we get a tea urn you could even join us in a cup of tea or coffee. Our next home game after this publication will be on the 7th September 2019, kick off 3pm.

I have included some photos of the progress we have made so far to our soon to be fabulous hut, and here's hoping some good footy results too.

Any help would be much appreciated:

Karl Smith (Manager) - 07539 468875

Sandy Smith (fund raising) – 07951 741294



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Our next sessions will be held at Weeting Bowls Club on Tuesday September 17th and Tuesday September 24th at 6pm. They are free of charge and are organised by Breckland District Council.

We look forward to meeting you.

Lorraine Craven – Transitional Support Officer  
Breckland Council

## Weeting Rally Picture Gallery



# CLUB SPOTLIGHT



We are fast approaching our first meeting of the new season. Meetings are held at the Baptist Church Hall (behind the Chapel) on the High Street, Brandon. There is plenty of parking at the rear of the building and we meet on alternate Wednesdays starting this year on the 4th September. Make it a date and come along to meet us.

We have an interesting and eclectic year of topics ahead of us, including tutorials and workshops on Depth of Field and Focusing; using a Flash and Multiple Exposures; Composition, Cropping and Cleaning-up Clutter and Macro Photography, so don't miss out. Come along on Wednesday 4th September to meet the members, hear all about the year to come and watch a DVD on the Art of Travel Photography (Getting Beyond the Postcard).

You don't need to spend a fortune on expensive cameras to start learning about photography, many phones, compact and bridge cameras take some really good images and these are well worth looking at. Give it a go and see how you get on.

Everyone is welcome to join in and we look forward to seeing you at the start of the new season on Wednesday September 4th 2019.

**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](http://www.brandonphotographicclub.co.uk)**

Denise Whiting  
Marketing

## Over 60's

We have had lots more going on since my last report. The August meeting was enjoyed with a sing-along when Joy Thompson (one of our members) very kindly brought along her organ and entertained us with her music and singing. Several of our members also joined her on stage and gave us a song. All our members brought along a plate of food to make it a very enjoyable afternoon.

Now in September we are all looking forward to a fish and chip lunch supplied by our local fish shop George's, who always give us a very tasty meal and provide excellent service. We will be enjoying another trip also in September, this time a mystery trip. All we have told our members is they will be going to the coast.

Our Christmas dinner is also booked, so we have plenty to look forward to. By the time you read this report we will have had our trip to Melton Mowbray (and no doubt will come back with some of their famous pies) and our cruise on Rutland water.

I am pleased to say that over the last few months we have had three new members who seem to be enjoying our company.

Dorothy Young (Coffee) - Secretary (01842 814611)

## Editor's Note:



The next edition of Weeting Village Life will be published at the beginning of **December 2019**. 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 11th November 2019**.

I look forward to hearing from you.

## WEETING VILLAGE HALL

Well here we are again, halfway through the year, and what a year we have had so far. We held our AGM in May and duly elected the committee to help run the hall for another year! Some of the old faces are still on the committee – like me (the Treasurer), Angie Page (Lettings Officer, Bingo), Carole Wilkins (Committee member representing the WASPS), Julianne Young (Committee, representing Messy Church and Keep Fit), Norman Killeen (Over 60's Rep), Rebecca Mann (Weeting Weenies) Rita (Friday Line Dancing), Margaret Lister (Parish Council Rep). New positions being filled are the Chairman – Peter Willison, Vice Chair – Eve Day and Secretary – Brenda Willison.

Since taking over as Chairman, Peter has been going through the finances of the hall and brokering new and better deals with our utility suppliers, i.e. the Electrics, water, gas and, most important, the insurance that we need to cover not only the hall itself but all those who use it. The hourly charges have gone up to cover some of the utility expenses we have had to bear the brunt of – that was a difficult decision to make in the light that some of the clubs that use the hall on a regular basis are struggling with numbers attending.

We held our first Easter Fayre on Easter Sunday, which was well attended and we are already taking bookings for our Christmas Fayre which will be held on 17th November, so any crafters, artists or any other Christmassy themed stall would like to come along and show off their wares, contact Carole on 01842 550919, strictly on a first come first serve basis as this is a very popular event.

We are also holding a Quiz & Nibbles on the 14th September in aid of the Hall, with teams of up to 6 contestants; prizes to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd winning teams. Refreshments will be served at half time, and a raffle – if anyone has anything suitable as a raffle prize please contact Carole (phone number above – also see separate poster)

By the time this report comes out we will have held our next Dance – please note the ticket prices have gone up to £7 and if the dances are to continue then tickets must be pre-ordered BEFORE the night. The last dance had to be cancelled due to no tickets being sold prior to that one. We cannot run these dances without a guaranteed number of people attending as we have to cover the cost of the bands (usually around £350) plus the cost of the electricity and more importantly the setting up and clearing up afterwards. Our team of volunteers set up during the afternoon of the dance and the cleaning of the hall has to be paid for as this has to be done straight after the dance if any hirers are using the hall the next day (the cleaners are usually there until at least 2am). Volunteers to come and help set up or put away at the end of the evening would be welcomed and any raffle prizes donated are always very much appreciated for these functions.

Other events are planned, and will be advertised on various boards around the village and in the local press and online – so do look out for these things, and if you have anything you want to put on or use the hall for something special, please contact Angie and she will be only too happy to book you in, but remember, regular users have priority as they have booked their dates and times at least 12 months in advance.

Karen Scott, Treasurer - Weeting Village Hall

# Parish Council Notes

As most of you will be aware by now, Tavalera Developers submitted an Outline Planning Application for 450 dwellings at Mill Farm, Weeting. The Parish Council invited all residents to submit comments to Breckland District Council, expressing either their support or opposition to the proposal. The vast majority of responses were against it. It will be some time before the application will be heard by the Planning Committee as there are several fundamental issues that have to be addressed by the developers. Similarly, the Planning Application for the Crematorium is due to be held at some time in the Autumn.

Some of the mums will now know that the toddlers' swing set in the play area has had to be dismantled as it was found that one of the wooden uprights had become rotten and unsafe. As we go to press, we are obtaining quotes to replace the swings, hopefully before the weather becomes too inclement.

Soon the children will be going back to school and the mums will be engaged once again on the school run. **Please, please, please**, avoid parking in All Saints whilst you hurry your kids into the school. The road is not really wide enough to allow parking on either side, even if the cars are parked partway on the verge. We would politely ask you to use the car park area near the Bowls Club and the recycling bins and walk your children down to the school crossing patrol. This would also help to ensure that, in this climate of councils having to cut services, our crossing patrol is retained.

Over recent months, we have had work done on the Village Hall drive and the playing field car park. They look a lot better for it and we would like to keep it that way! So, if you have the need to use these, we would be grateful if you could slow down to a little more than walking pace.

I would like to remind you all that the Parish Council meet every third Thursday of the month at 7pm in the Village Hall and you are welcome to come along. The first half hour is open to members of the public to ask questions of the council or raise issues that the council can address within their remit.

The Parish Council would like to thank Paul and Mandy Smith for all their contributions to the village during their time at The Saxon and wish them every success in their future ventures.

# Christmas Light Up

It may still be summer, but, by the time the next magazine comes out, we shall have the village Christmas tree up and decorated!

The official light up will be on **Saturday November 30th at 6pm on Parrot's Piece** and we would like to make it a fun occasion. Santa will be there and we hope to have stalls and music too.

The Village Hall committee are hoping to use the occasion to raise funds for the Hall, so if anyone would like to be involved or has suggestions for stalls, entertainment etc, please contact a member of the Parish Council (details below).

## New Footpath for Hereward Way

Following several complaints about car parking along Hereward Way and the lack of a footpath to the bus shelter, the Parish Council have persuaded Breckland District Council to alter the road markings. These seem to be working well.



## Our Magazine Gains Radio Fame!

On Bank Holiday Monday, August 26th, Weeting Village Life was mentioned on Radio Norfolk's early morning programme chaired by DJ Graham Barnard.

A little bird had contacted the programme when Graham had asked for details of Norfolk's village magazines and even managed to sneak in a preview of our front page.

Fame at last!!

## ?? Who's Who ??

### Weeting Parish Councillors

Cllr Margaret Burlingham	01842 811177
Cllr Tom Childerhouse	01842 811469
Cllr Clodagh Drewry	01842 815073
Cllr Margaret Lister (V-Chair)	01842 810467
Cllr Mike Nairn (Chair)	01842 810212
Cllr Sue Nairn	01842 810212
Cllr Jeff Prosser	01842 812672
Cllr Sandra Walmsley	01842 812672

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Please contact Margaret for street lighting problems  
tjchilderhouse@btconnect.com  
clobagh-drewry@hotmail.co.uk  
margaretlister11@gmail.com  
mike.nairn@btinternet.com  
sue.nairn@btinternet.com  
jeffrey\_prosser@yahoo.com  
sandra walmsley@rocketmail.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

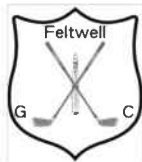
fabian.eagle@norfolk.gov.uk

### Member of Parliament

Mrs Elizabeth Truss 020 7219 3000  
House of Commons

elizabeth.truss.mp@parliament.com

# Club Spotlight



If you are new to golf and would like to take up the sport – no matter your age – or if you would like to come back to the game after a break, we can offer you a great deal. We have excellent facilities and can cater for all standards of golfing expertise, whether you are a novice or an experienced player, an all-round golfing experience.

You don't have to be a member to play our course, we offer very competitive rates and you can take advantage of our Twilight times for as little as £10. This can be reduced even further with our Loyalty Card – just pick one up when you sign in to play and for every 5 times you play you get your 6th round ABSOLUTLEY FREE.

Should you then wish to join the Club we are currently offering a superb deal of 15 months membership for the price of 12 months – an offer not to be missed. Call Jo Bates now, on 07855 821116, to find out more on this and other incentives we can offer you.

Perhaps you would like to arrange a golf day out for your work colleagues, we have some great 'Society Packages', visit our website or call Jo for more details, no matter how many you want to book for we have something tailor-made for you.

We welcome all visitors to Feltwell Golf Club and the Clubhouse stays open until 7pm on Tuesdays; until 9pm on Wednesday – Friday and 5pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Plenty of time to enjoy a drink, try our Ale of the Month and have a meal. Robert is taking bookings on 07376 182419 for meals, Afternoon Teas and Sunday Carveries, so don't miss out.

Visitors are always welcome at Feltwell Golf Club – you don't have to be a member or even come with a member. Simply, enquire in the office, Pro Shop or the Bar, buy your ticket and enjoy a game of golf.

Follow us on Facebook and keep up to date with what's going on at Feltwell Golf Club.

Remember you are never too young or too old to start playing golf and we look forward to seeing you soon at Feltwell Golf Club

## Weeting Bowls Club



We started our bowling season in May and have played many games this year both league games and friendlies against the other villages. We are hoping that we will finish further up the league table than we did last year. The outcome will be in the next issue.

Our club has also had many events and private functions, birthday parties, christenings, baby shower and wakes. We have had our regular monthly karaoke which is very popular. Our Dirty dancing night (from the film) was excellent and well attended. We have had a live band The Underdogz playing at the club and by demand, we have rebooked them for 21st December.

Still to come we have an ABBA night on 21st September, our Halloween party on 26th October (not to be missed),

Why not come over to your local club and meet our friendly staff and have a drink at the bar. I think you will be pleasantly surprised. You could also try your hand at bowls. We are always looking for new bowlers or just come and meet new friends and socialise.

For more information ring Sue on 01842 812094/07855764288 or email [suewindget@hotmail.com](mailto:suewindget@hotmail.com)

# Weeting Postmill

Lately we have been made all too aware of the area called Mill Farm due to the proposed development plans. However, I wonder how many village residents are aware of the history of the site and what once stood there?



Weeting postmill stood beside the Brandon Road almost equidistant between Weeting's All Saints church and Brandon to the south. The mill had a roundhouse and was originally built with common sails, but, by 1850, one pair had been replaced by patent sails, each with 6 bays of 3 shutters and 2 pairs of 2 shutters (innermost). By 1900, all four sails were clockwise rotating patent sails driving 2 pairs of French burr stones and a flour mill. (French burr stones were usually between 4' and 4'6" in diameter, 12" to 15" thick and weighed 2,400 pounds. They were so named because they came from the Marne Valley in Northern France).

One of the earliest records of the mill can be found on the Faden map of 1797. William Faden Jr was known as one of the greatest figures in the English map trade, becoming Geographer to the King in 1783. He recognised the importance of large-scale county surveys and assembled a substantial stock of such maps, including the 1797 map of Norfolk and this clearly shows the position of the Weeting postmill. The miller in 1799 was Thomas Green whose father, also called Thomas Green, was miller of the Stoke Ferry southern postmill.



Papers kept at the Norfolk Record Office, dated 1802, include applications for the repair of Weeting Mill and an advertisement was placed in the Bury & Norwich Post on 7th April 1824 as follows:

*To Millers. To be Let and entered upon immediately  
An old establishes Post Windmill with two pair of French Stones, Flour mill and other gears complete, also a good Dwelling house, Granary, Barn, Stables and other buildings and about 108 acres of Arable and Pasture Land.  
Apply to Mr Thomas Carr, Weeting Nursery near Brandon. (Thomas Carr was the estate Land Agent)*

In 1850 the Norfolk Chronicle posted:  
*Mill & Farm to Let at Weeting near Brandon  
All that substantial POST WINDMILL recently repaired and in good working order, driving two pairs of stones, with one pair of patent sails and one pair of cloth, with all the other necessary machinery and a good roundhouse.*

Various millers worked the mill throughout the nineteenth century including Frederick Newdick (1846-1850), Edward Burton (1853-1864), John Burton (1865), Edward Burton (1865-1879) and William Jacobs (1879-1890)

Sadly, the mill eventually fell into disrepair and was demolished around 1915. However, the surrounding land continued to be known as Mill Farm and was latterly owned by Mr Victor Grass who died whilst working on the farm on 5th July 1986.



# Rector's Report

## St Mary's update – Lead Theft

On the night of June 5th, thieves targeted the roof of the Lady Chapel on the north side of St Mary's. The lead roof was almost completely stripped. This is the side of the church facing the churchyard and the Childerhouse farm and is not overlooked from the village, making it an easy target. Fortunately, the theft was discovered the next day by Churchwarden Tommy Saward. The police were called and a watch was placed on the church in case the thieves returned to remove the remaining lead. Heavy showers caused some further minor damage to the interior of the Lady Chapel before the roof could be securely covered with a heavy duty tarpaulin.

This theft and the damage to the roof and stonework has added in to the already serious structural and repair issues at St Mary's identified in the Quinquennial inspection. On Monday 24th June the PCC met at the church with Holly Isted and Sue Dickenson from Ely Diocesan Office. Holly is Historic Church Buildings Support Officer thanks to a partnership with Historic England and Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust. Sue supports parishes making grant applications and has strong links with English Heritage for whom she worked for 13 years. Upon inspecting the building Holly recommended that St Mary's be placed on the "Churches at Risk" register which will enhance our prospects of obtaining grant funding. This listing has now happened.

Holly was inspirational. She is experienced in helping parishes to think about ways in which they can engage with school and community groups to deliver joint heritage activities. Sue's contacts with Historic England [English Heritage] may assist us to plan joint activities focused on both Weeting Castle and St Mary's. Any application to the Heritage Lottery Fund will require us to show how the repairs and restoration of the Church will enhance engagement with the community through a series of activities aimed at raising the profile of church – past and present. Possible ideas include a medieval day with activities centred on both castle and church, "creatures and plants" of churchyard and castle grounds, 'scaffolding' and tower tours to name a few ideas. These activities would be coordinated by a dedicated coordinator funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of the grant. These events will be widely advertised and it is hoped that they would be enjoyed by and supported by the village community.

Ruth Blackman, St Mary's architect is meeting with the PCC on August 28th to discuss a timeline and costings for the various urgent repairs. Ruth will also advise us further with regard to grant applications. I'm hoping to begin that process in early autumn and especially to have the urgent repairs to the porch and the Lady Chapel roof carried out as soon as possible so that the church is once more properly accessible and weather proof. Repairs to the south aisle will take longer contingent on the level of funding available.

I will continue to update the village on progress at St Mary's and look forward to working closely with the village community to secure St Mary's future as your village church.

Joan Horan  
Rector



## St Mary's Church

**Rector:** Joan Horan (Tel: 01842 828034)  
**Churchwardens:** Julianne Young (Tel: 01842 813581)  
Tommy Saward (Tel: 01842 813601)

### Regular services:

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

## Help Save St Mary's

**Easyfundraising** is so easy to do and, not only costs you absolutely nothing, but enables you to be a part of a much needed campaign to start helping to save our beautiful village church.

St Mary's has been a part of the village since the 14th century with late Decorated and Perpendicular style architecture. The first rector dates from 1309 and the church registers date from 17th November 1558 (also the date of Queen Mary Tudor's death). The arcade between the north aisle and nave is 14th century. The round tower, although Norman in appearance, replaced the original wooden one when the church underwent restoration by John Angerstein during the 19th century.

**PLEASE** consider joining easyfundraising and help us save St Mary's.

### The Editor

## The Weeting Walkers

The Weeting Walkers meet every Tuesday morning, starting and finishing at the Saxon Pub, except those marked in **bold** which start and finish at Brandon Leisure Centre, Church Road, Brandon (B) or start earlier (W). Research has shown that walking is an excellent activity to improve your health, so why not join us and take the opportunity to enjoy some of the lesser seen areas of our countryside at the same time?

3rd September	10am	4.6 miles
10th September	10am	3.5 miles
<b>17th September</b>	<b>9.30am (B)</b>	<b>4.3 miles</b>
24th September	10am	5.97 miles
1st October	10am	5.1 miles
<b>8th October</b>	<b>9.30am (B)</b>	<b>6.4 miles</b>
15th October	10am	4.7 miles
22nd October	10am	4.6 miles
<b>29th October</b>	<b>9.20am (W)</b>	<b>5.3 miles</b>
5th November	10am	3.5 miles
12th November	10am	5.1 miles
<b>19th November</b>	<b>9.30am (B)</b>	<b>6.4 miles</b>
26th November	10am	4.7 miles
<b>3rd December</b>	<b>9.30am (W)</b>	<b>4.3 miles</b>

Our walks are organised as part of the **Ramblers** and are short but brisk. We encourage walkers to go at their own pace with a front and back marker. We do not stop during the walk, but there is a welcome stop for coffee or tea at the end. There is no need to book – just arrive in good time to hear the pre-walk introduction. You are welcome to come for a taster walk first to see you like it! A good pair of walking shoes and adequate outdoor clothing is all that is needed as, on occasions, it can be wet and muddy.

For further details of all the walks in Breckland (and throughout the UK) please go to the Ramblers website [www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk)

# LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

<b>CLUB</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>DAY AND TIME</b>
Indoor Archery	Mike 07894 904090	The Dome, Mildenhall	Saturday 12.30 - 3.30pm
Art For Pleasure	Beryl Pountney 01842 828750	Village Hall	Thursday 10.30am – 12.30pm
Beading	Christine Cornell 07740 863017	Village Hall	2nd Tuesday 2.00 – 4.00pm
Bingo	Angie Page 01842 814147	Village Hall	Tuesday Open at 6.30pm Eves down at 7.30pm
Brandon & District Classic Vehicle Club	John Maxim 01842 811032	The Ram Brandon	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	Peter Ephithite 01842 813154	The Ram Brandon	1st Wednesday 7.30pm
British Legion	Doris O'Grady 01842 812323	Village Hall	3rd Wednesday 2.00 – 4.00pm
Carpet Bowls	Heather 01842 815406	Village Hall	Friday 9.45 – 12 midday
Darts	Carol Newman 01842 815089	Bowls Club	Thursday 7.00pm
Funky Cat Children's Gym	Anita 07885 414344	Village Hall	Tuesday 10.00 - 12 midday (except for school holidays)
Green Bowls	Carol Newman (sec) 01842 815089	Bowls Club	Friday 6.00 – Late Sunday 12 midday – 4.00pm
Gun Club	Andy Goldsmith 01953 886501	Weeting Gun Club	Alternate Sunday January to October
HATS	Gary Sander 01842 814679	Hockwold Hall	Tuesday & Thursday 7.30pm
History Group	Robert Childerhouse 01842 811520	Various - call to check location	Last Thursday 7.30pm
Indoor Bowls	Carol Newman 01842 815089	Stoke Ferry	3rd Friday
Judo	Donna 07738 381970	Village Hall	Saturday 9.45 – 11.45am All ages – novices welcome
Keep Fit	Dorothy Kent 01842 810378	Village Hall	Monday 9.30 – 11am (except Bank Holidays)
Knit & Natter	Vivien Muir 01842 810003 Doris O'Grady 01842 812323	Village Hall	Last Monday of the month (or previous week if a Bank Holiday) 2.00 – 4.00pm
Line Dance	Vicky 01842 812877	Village Hall	Monday 7.00 - 9.00pm Friday 2.00 – 4.00pm
Methwold Area Children's Centre	Louise Ramsay 01842 815928	Old School House, Weeting	Monday - Friday 8.30am-4.30pm
Model Car	John Abbott 01366 385452	Village Hall	Alt. Wednesday 7.30 – 10.00pm
Over 60's	Jean Monk 01842 814553	Village Hall	1st Tuesday 2.00 – 4.00pm
Patchwork & Quilting	Christine Cornell 07740 863017	Bowls Club	2nd Monday 11.15 – 3.00pm (excluding December & January)
Pool	Carol Newman 01842 815089	Bowls Club	Tuesday 7.00pm
St Mary's Church	Julianne Young (Churchwarden) 01842 813581	St Mary's Church	See list of Service times
Shoestrung Theatre Company	Natasha Morgan	IES Breckland School Crown Street, Brandon	Tuesday 7.00 - 10.00pm
Thetford Singers	Sue Naim 01842 810212	Methodist Rooms Tanner Street Thetford	Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm
W.A.S.P.s	Carole Wilkins 01842 550919	Village Hall	Friday 6.00 - 8.00pm
Weeting Steam Rally	Wendy Young Rally Co-ordinator 01842 810317		Monday - Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm
Weeting Walkers	Keith & Linda Thomas 01760 756455	Meet at The Saxon pub car park	Tuesday 10.00am
Weeting Weenies	Wendy Lashley 01842 810381	Village Hall	Wednesday 10.00 – 12 midday (school term time only)
Weeting Football	Karl Smith 07539 468875 Sandy Smith 07951 741294	Weeting Playing Field	Contact Karl or Sandy for details

# Autumn Gardening.



The seasons seem to be passing by so fast this year, autumn is here. Autumn is my second favourite season, a time for woolly jumpers (hand knitting my second favourite hobby!), long walks through falling leaves, Halloween and Guy Fawkes night. Now the oppressive heat of summer has faded you can work comfortably in the garden which is a really good thing because there is so much to do!

When the weather gets colder, the colours in the borders ironically heat up - from fiery shades of orange through to plum. Although for me, ornamental grasses steal the autumn show with their decorative seed heads and feathery plumes.

Autumn gardening can be split into three sections, the first is planting for Autumn. The wealth of autumn flowering plants available can be overwhelming, from late flowering perennials, evergreen shrubs, conifers and bedding plants there are plenty of choices to refresh your borders, containers and baskets.

Secondly (the saddest part) is the big autumn clean up, its time to put the tender plants back in the greenhouse, give hedges a final trim to keep them neat all winter, and move any plants that are growing in the wrong position. Cut back herbaceous plants that are not needed for winter interest or food and habitat (provide protection for overwintering beneficial insects) for wildlife. After tidying borders apply a mulch such as bark chippings or garden compost to insulate plant roots for winter, and to keep weeds in check.

Finally, it's time to look forward to spring. Bulbs are available from late August, and should be planted immediately after purchase to prevent the bulbs from drying out (except tulips which are best planted in November). It seems miraculous that those unpromising little brown bulbs, corms, tubers and rhizomes (collectively known as bulbs) can transform into spectacular spring flowers-but they do. It really is worth spending time choosing and planting bulbs as they provide months of colour during the duller months of the year, from January through to June. There are also bulbs for growing indoors such as prepared hyacinths, paperwhite narcissi and hippeastrum (Amaryllis). These should be planted in the third week of September if you require flowers for Christmas (10 weeks!)

Now is also the time to plant biennials such as Sweet Williams, wallflowers, forget-me-knots and aubrietia. Biennials differ from annuals (which flower and set seed all in one growing season) in that they grow fast from seed and develop strong roots and foliage in one season, before flowering in the next. They are hardy enough to withstand a cold winter and quickly produce flowers in spring without having to wait for the plant to grow first. Autumn is also seed sowing time, Hardy annuals, sweet peas and wildflowers can all be sown now, resulting in earlier flowers in 2020!

Rachel Sobiechowski BSc(Hons)  
P&R Garden Supplies, Fengate Drove, Weeting  
Tel: 01842 814800  
[www.p-rgardensupplies.co.uk](http://www.p-rgardensupplies.co.uk)

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**Bulbs £2.75 each or 4 for £10**  
**Nets of Daffodils From £5.99**

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# OVERHANGING TREES & BUSHES

Weeting Parish Council has had several requests lately to intervene regarding neighbour's overhanging trees and bushes, but this is not within the council's remit. The following guidelines may prove helpful.

If your property shares a boundary with a neighbour's property, there are a few aspects of the law (and good neighbourliness) that you need to bear in mind when growing trees/hedges. This guide covers what you need to know and also what you can do if you are having problems with your neighbour's trees.

## Cutting back trees

- You have a common law right to cut back tree branches that overhang onto your property. It is however always best to discuss with your neighbour about any trees / hedges you wish to cut back before doing so.
- The law states that any branches cut off belong to the person on whose land the tree originally grew, so you should ask your neighbour if they want them back, or if they are happy for you to dispose of them.
- Do not just throw trimmings back over the boundary - this could constitute 'fly tipping'. Ask your neighbour whether they would like any trimmings back.
- Equally any fruit on trees, even if they are growing on branches which overhang your property, still belongs to your neighbour. You are therefore stealing if you pick these for yourself without your neighbour's permission.
- If you are pruning a neighbour's tree, be careful that you do not damage the tree further back than your boundary.
- If you damage the tree on their side, they may claim against you for the replacement cost of the tree.
- Be careful to check if any trees are subject to a preservation order - your local authority will be able to tell you this. If you cut down a tree with a preservation order, you will be guilty of an offence under section 210 or 211 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- If you choose to cut down overhanging branches, or trim trees, you will have to pay for the cost of doing so yourself. Try speaking to your neighbour however as you may be able to reach some sort of agreement in relation to any gardening work required, though they are not obliged to contribute to this cost. Note that you are not entitled to access to your neighbour's property to enable you to trim the branches on your side of the boundary without their permission.

## Ownership of trees

- Sometimes you may be unsure who owns the trees causing you concerns or the trees may be part of a shared boundary and you are unsure who is responsible for their maintenance:
- tree belongs to whoever owns the property upon which the tree trunk originally grows, even if the branches or roots have begun to spread onto another property. The owner has a duty to maintain this tree so that it does not cause a hazard. Therefore, if branches are broken and hanging precariously, the owner should remove these.
- If a tree is planted on the border line between properties, you should check your Property Title Documents to see if these give ownership to one property. If not, you both share the duty to maintain the trees, and these should not be cut down without prior consent from both owners. To check your title deeds, visit the land registry website or call them on 0844 892 1111.
- There is no such thing as 'no man's land'. All land and therefore all trees are owned by somebody.
- If you can't decide by looking at the original Property Deeds who owns a tree, a court will be able to decide for you. However, this is an expensive resolution and so it may be better to simply agree ownership between you and your neighbour.

## Damage caused by overhanging trees

- You cannot force your neighbour to remove overhanging branches or fallen leaves on your property. However, if these cause excessive damage, you can sue them for the cost of repair. It is however always better to try to amicably resolve any disputes with your neighbours before resorting to the courts, which is often a long and potentially expensive process - remember you still have to live next to this person, so an amicable solution will often lead to a more comfortable living environment.

- If any damage was caused by a tree from your neighbours' property but this was due to 'an Act of God', such as a thunderstorm, any damage was not foreseeable. Your neighbour will not therefore be responsible for this. If any damage caused to your property is severe, you may wish to contact your Buildings Insurance company about this.
- Falling leaves, fruit, flowers, and pollen are annoying, but you cannot legally ask your neighbour to prevent this or remove any fallen debris.
- Liability to remove any fallen leaves etc lies with the owner of the Property affected (or the Tenants if they have maintenance obligations which include gardening).
- Whilst falling leaves etc are annoying, they are not legally a 'nuisance', which has a very specific meaning.

## Right to Light

- The Rights of Light Act 1959 states that if a Property has received daylight for the last 20 years (the minimum prescribed period), they may be entitled to continue to receive that light. This means that if your neighbour builds a large fence or there are large trees which restrict the daylight your Property receives (for example by blocking daylight reaching a window), you may be able to apply to the courts for your daylight to be restored, or for any injunction to prevent a proposed fence being built.
- If trees have a Preservation Order, this suggests that the Property does not have a Right to Light, as it will not have had a continuous period of daylight for at least 20 years. Usually the only way you can prune a tree with a Preservation Order is if it has become dangerous.
- There is no right to direct sunlight, only daylight.
- Even if you have a right to light, the amount of light is restricted to approximately equivalent to one foot of candlelight.
- You do not have any right to a view which is obscured by trees. Equally you have no right to not have a view if trees previously covered an undesirable feature such as a brick wall.

## Dangerous Trees

- If you are concerned that a tree is diseased or damaged and poses a danger due to having fallen, or being at risk of falling, you should contact the owner of the land on which the tree is growing. If the land belongs to the local council, contact them to request that the tree is cut down or pruned.
- If you are unable to contact the land owner or they refuse to take action, contact your local council's Environmental Health Office. The owner is not under any legal duty to take action but will be liable if a tree they knew to be damaged caused damage to Property or injury to a person.
- As prevention is often better than waiting for damage or injury to occur however, the Environmental Health Office may be able to invoke the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 if the tree poses an immediate risk to Property or people. This allows them to serve notice on the land owner to make the tree safe. If they fail to do so, the Environmental Health Office may undertake this work themselves. The land owner would then usually be charged for any gardening required.

# INTERESTING ANAGRAMS!

DORMITORY:

PRESBYTERIAN:

ASTRONOMER:

DESPERATION:

THE EYES:

GEORGE BUSH:

THE MORSE CODE:

SLOT MACHINES:

ANIMOSITY:

ELECTION RESULTS:

SNOOZE ALARMS:

A DECIMAL POINT:

THE EARTHQUAKES:

ELEVEN PLUS TWO:

DIRTY ROOM

BEST IN PRAYER

MOON STARER

A ROPE ENDS IT

THEY SEE

HE BUGS GORE

HERE COME DOTS

CASH LOST IN ME

IS NO AMITY

LIES - LETS RECOUNT

ALAS! NO MORE Z'S

I'M A DOT IN PLACE

THAT QUEER SHAKE

TWELVE PLUS ONE

And for the grand finale:

MOTHER-IN-LAW:

WOMAN HITLER



# Pet's Corner



## Do It Yourself, - but ask a vet.

In the run up to Christmas many of us redecorate or undertake other Do-It-Yourself tasks around the house. Such projects can leave our pets exposed to a variety of unfamiliar toxins.

### Paints and brush cleaners

Paint may be water or solvent based. Water based paints such as emulsions, silks and egg-shell finishes are easily identified by the instruction to clean brushes with water, they are far less dangerous than solvent based paints such as gloss, enamels and some masonry paints which require white spirit or other solvents to clean brushes.

Swallowing (ingestion) of water-based paint is likely to cause little more than mild stomach upset which requires no special treatment. Water based paint on an animals' hair or fur, can often be removed by rubbing with a fat, such as butter, vegetable or olive oil and then washing with a mild soap and warm water

The ingestion or skin contamination of solvent based paints is of more concern. These paints usually contain a petroleum distillate- highly irritant compounds, which cause blisters, inflammation and burns. Detergents or hand degreasers may be needed to remove them from the skin, alternatively, as with water-based paints, rubbing the dry coat with a fat before washing with detergent or water may be successful.

Dogs and cats are likely to attempt to remove paint from their coats by licking, leading to ingestion. Ingested solvent-based paints can cause increased salivation, pawing at the mouth and head shaking. There may be mouth ulcers, vomiting, diarrhoea, all leading to inappetence. Animals are at risk of inhaling vomit causing respiratory problems. Clinical signs may not be immediately obvious and veterinary attention should be sought.

Cleaning solvent-based paint from an animal's coat using white spirit would be more hazardous than the initial exposure and must be avoided. White spirit, also a petroleum distillate, has the same potential for irritation and complications if ingested.

Named as the 40th attempt to produce a product to Disperse Water, WD-40 has a trade secret formulation. WD-40, alongside certain damp-proof fluids and damp-proof membranes also contain petroleum distillate-based compounds, they are irritant to the skin and gastrointestinal tract. Vomiting, coughing or retching after swallowing these products can lead to contamination of the lungs.

### Wallpaper paste

Wallpaper paste is irritant to the gastrointestinal tract, first aid measures include carefully rinsing an animal's mouth and encouraging drinking. The degree of irritation caused depends on the amount of pre-mix powder or ready to use paste ingested. If animals show signs of vomiting, lethargy and inappetence, it may be necessary for a vet to administer anti vomiting medication, fluids and other supportive care. Serious or long-term effects are not expected. Although fungicide is often added to wallpaper paste to inhibit mould growth, the concentration is too small to present an additional toxicological issue.

### Glue and foam fillers

It is very difficult to swallow (cyanoacrylate) Super Glue as it sets so quickly. Attempts to eat the glue may cause mild irritation, vomiting, coughing and increased salivation. Occasionally the glue may stick strongly to the teeth, gums and tongue. The Veterinary Poisons Information Service regularly receives reports of dogs with mouths glued shut or tongues glued to the floor of the mouth. It is important not to attempt to remove the glue and these adhesions generally loosen within 48hours, application of fats may speed the process.

Polyurethane adhesives such as 'gorilla' glue can expand to more than 8 times the original volume within 2 hours. These products can form a hard, cured finished product which presents a risk of obstructing the gastrointestinal tract.

Expanding foam, commonly used as gap filler, insulation or sealant is not likely to cause toxicity problems. However, as some of these products claim to expand in volume up to 30 or 50 times, ingestion of even small amounts can cause obstructions. It is not normally known how much has been swallowed as dogs may chew and puncture the container. Ingestion may cause vomiting, diarrhoea, anorexia, lethargy, depression, abdominal discomfort and extension with the possibility of dehydration. Eating and drinking which may increase the size of the obstruction should be initially avoided and urgent veterinary attention should be sought. If a mass has formed in the stomach, these signs will not resolve until it is surgically removed.

Any expanding foam set on the skin should be left to naturally slough off over several days as it can be very difficult to remove.

### Sugar soap and cement

Sugar soap is a traditional product used for cleaning paintwork and preparing for repainting. It is composed of an alkali (usually sodium carbonate or hydroxide) in an organic solvent and an abrasive agent. Builders cement is also alkaline. Although it may take up to 12 hours for the full extent of injury to become apparent, contact with sugar soap or cement should be regarded as potentially serious. As skin contact is initially pain-free, many pet-owners delay seeking veterinary attention. Unfortunately, alkalis penetrate deeply into the skin and are extremely dehydrating. Thorough irrigation after skin exposure, with repeated checking of skin pH is important. After ingestion, pain relief and gastro protectants may be needed, vomiting should be avoided. Endoscopy may be required to assess full extent of damage

### Lead

Care should be taken when heat stripping or sanding old paint during renovations, as up until the 1960s lead was added to many paints. Lead compounds are toxic by ingestion, inhalation and rarely by skin exposure. Inhaled lead is not a respiratory irritant but may be absorbed into the blood stream within the lungs. Today, lead is only included in certain specialist paints.

Inquisitive puppies more commonly suffer lead toxicity, firstly they are more likely to lick and chew foreign objects. Secondly, lead is absorbed from the intestines into the blood stream more effectively in young growing animals. Lead absorption uses the same mechanism as calcium absorption. Animals with a high calcium demand are more efficient at up taking it from the intestines.

Clinical signs of lead toxicity include both gastrointestinal and neurological effects with vomiting, salivation, diarrhoea or constipation, increased sensitivity to touch or pain, weakness, lethargy, tremor, twitching and convulsions. Radiography can be used to confirm exposure to lead as it is easily seen on x-ray images. It is also possible to measure levels of lead in the blood, although blood concentrations do not correlate with the severity of clinical signs.

### Conclusion

This article aims to outline several toxins which owners may have little knowledge of. Readers will hopefully be more aware of risk and be more prepared for first aid following exposure. This article is of course no substitute for the specific advice from your veterinary surgeon following a thorough clinical examination if your pet.

Paul Jarman Veterinary Surgeries

# Be Chair Aware!



A few months ago, I was asked by one of my friends to contact an elderly couple who had placed an order for two "special" orthopaedic chairs. The salesman had visited their bungalow and persuaded them to part with £6,500 for the said chairs but could not contact the company to check for their delivery.

I spent a long time on my computer only to find out that this company had changed names many times, had made several court appearances and had had problems with trading standards, etc..

Now the work began – phone call after phone call before finally finding someone in the office who knew about the order. Several weeks later, having spoken to one person after another, a delivery date was arranged – and it **did** happen and two chairs were delivered. However, not too long afterwards, one of the electric motors developed a problem and it became impossible to contact the company any further.

Shortly afterwards, another person contacted me with a similar story, but, unfortunately, I could make no contact with their chair provider at all.

The moral of this story is – **DO NOT, DO NOT** purchase these products from door to door salesmen. Go to a reputable retailer who can supply the same products, probably for a fraction of the price!

John Maxim



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Brandon Creative Forum supported by the *Market Place* creative programme proudly present *Tales & Trails* for 2019. A Creative Arts festival with an environmental theme for all the family.



Following the success of *Ferry Tales*, *Fire and Flint* and *Musical Mayhem*, *Tales and Trails* is our fourth community event. This year we are taking over the Brandon Country Park on Saturday 21st September 11

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Make a note in your diary and keep an eye on our website for more information at:

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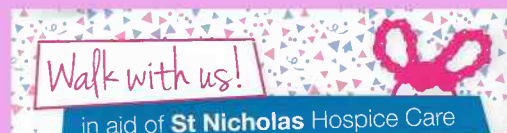
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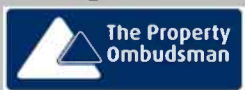
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