



WEETING VILLAGE LIFE



October 2020
Edition 31



We're back!! A bit later than usual, but hopefully interesting nevertheless. Unfortunately, the clubs have not been able to meet during the past 6 months, so there is little news to report from them. However, most of them are keen to start back as soon as groups of more than 6 can meet again. Great news that we have an active football club once more, so well done to James and his team and good luck for the coming season.

Prior to the lockdown the Parish Council decided it would be a good idea to gather a group of volunteers from across the village who could help with shopping, pharmacy collections etc for those who would have to self isolate. By the time lockdown happened, we had no less than 50 individuals who were provided with blue high visibility vests and ID cards that enabled them to be easily recognised by residents and shop staff. Jayne Martin organised a rota of volunteers for pharmacy collections which meant that only one person had to do the run each day and this worked extremely well. Up to August 1st when lockdown was ended, there had been over 200 collections and deliveries of medicines made. Several volunteers took to walking around the village and chatting to people sitting in their gardens or telephoning others who just wanted someone to talk to. In another instance, the group heard about Vera and Denis Chenery who were celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary alone because their family party couldn't take place. Afternoon tea was ordered for them from Robert's at Feltwell Golf Club and members of the volunteer group stood outside the bungalow when the delivery arrived and presented them with a beautiful pot plant too. The local press also attended and we made it onto page 3 of the EDP!

My thanks to all the volunteers - Weeting led the way and other villages followed.



The wooden benches on Parrot's Piece had become rotted over time and the Parish Council have replaced them with new ones. Hopefully these will serve well as they are made from a more robust material. As the original ones had been dedicated to past villagers, the plaques have been attached to the new benches.



The sunflowers around the gazebo looked great, despite the original ones being strimmed away accidentally by the grass cutters!



Despite the inconvenience of much of All Saints being closed to through traffic for several weeks, the new pathways are a big improvement and should make using prams and wheelchairs a lot easier and safer.

Unfortunately, all the plans for celebrating the 75th anniversary of VE Day had to put aside due to Covid-19. We were due to have a street party outside the Saxon on May 8th with food and music from the 30's, 40's and 50's with fancy dress an option. After all the work that had been done to the pub, it was a great shame that effectively they had to close before they had opened, if you get my meaning. Anyway, now that the closure has been lifted, it is good to have a great pub in the village again.



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



School Report



It has been lovely to welcome back all our children for the start of the new school year. The familiar busy feel of school is a welcome return to normal for all our children and staff.

The children in **Chestnut Class** have been busy in their garden. They worked together to dig holes and plant bulbs and pansies in different plant pots, tyres and old wellington boots. They have been practising using different gardening vocabulary including action words like “filling” and “planting”; names of objects like “trowel” and “bulb” and describing words like “full” and “green” to help them talk about what they were doing.



Beech Class have been using the book “The Colour Monster” to learn all about feelings. We have also been thinking about how we can help ourselves and other people to keep our school values of “Respectful”, “Ready” and “Safe”.

Most of all we are very happy to be all together and have been working extremely hard to develop our skills and have fun!



School Report



In **Elm Class** this term the children will be focusing on creating detailed setting and character descriptions in fictional writing and reports in non-fiction. We will be underpinning this with discrete teaching of spelling, punctuation and grammar which will initially concentrate on word classes and basic punctuation. Our texts in whole class reading this term will be “The Iron Man” by Ted Hughes and “Horrible Histories World War I”, which links in with our topic on the Great War. Geography, History, Art, DT and music will all be covered through this theme, giving the children the opportunity to make links in their learning.

In **Oak Class** the children will be learning all about the ancient Maya civilisation. The children will learn who the ancient Maya people were and where and when they lived. They will use maps and atlases to locate Maya cities and identify countries in Mesoamerica. In addition to this they will learn about the religious beliefs and rituals of the ancient Maya people and find out more about some of the many gods they worshipped. They will learn about the Maya writing system too and practise writing words using logograms and syllabograms in the hieroglyphic style of the ancient Maya people. The pupils will learn about the work of the explorers John Lloyd Stephens and Frederick Catherwood and will have the opportunity to analyse historical pictures of the cities they discovered. They will also learn about the types of food eaten by the ancient Maya people and they will find out about the significance of corn and chocolate.



School Report



We were very disappointed to have to cancel our annual bingo event back in March due to COVID. We always look forward to this event and get a huge amount of support from families and the local community. We received some wonderful prizes from local businesses to help us with this event and we were thankfully able to use them to put on a tombola at the Weeting car boot sale in September. We raised just shy of £100! A big

thank you to parents who donated items for us to sell, those who supported our stall and to those businesses; Londis, High Lodge, Brown's cafe, McDonalds, Tesco, Mr G's, No.30 Coffee Lounge, to name a few!

In setting we have been grateful to parents for support and understanding of the changes we have had to make due to COVID. This term we will be looking at harvest; planting our own vegetables, how to care for them and where they come from. We will be using fruit and vegetables to paint pictures! We will be celebrating Halloween and Guy Fawkes night and learning how to stay safe when celebrating and of course we will be doing lots of exciting Christmas crafts and activities!



Our current committee Chairman is stepping down in October, if you would be interested in filling this role please contact the pre-school and they can put you in touch with a member of the committee.

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

ART FOR PLEASURE

We are planning to return to Weeting Village Hall in the new year and again enjoy our Thursday mornings painting and socialising with like-minded art enthusiasts. As we meet during daytime hours most of our members are retired and being in the older age group have spent the summer in shutdown. Indeed, some members are still shielding. However, there have been an awful lot of phone calls supporting each other in keeping with the friendly nature of our club.



Our Chairman, Terry, (one of our younger members), has been busy putting photos of our work on Facebook and joining up with other local art groups i.e. Brandon, to exhibit work as we were unable to put on our annual exhibition. You may have seen some. If you did, we hope you enjoyed seeing the variety in our work.

Some of the members have been meeting in Brandon Country Park each Thursday morning to sketch, paint, or just go for a walk together (weather permitting).

Hopefully Thursday 7th January 2021 will see all our friends arriving at the Village Hall with pencils, paints, brushes and paper raring to catch up on this lost year.

If you have ever wanted to paint or would like to rekindle your hobby, we would love to see you. 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 NEWS

Well, what can I say? Welcome back everyone, and hope you have all kept safe and well – how many of you managed to do all those jobs you kept putting off till the new year or “when I get a moment”?

My mum Carole and I have gone through our home and totally redecorated, refurbished and done all the jobs we have been putting off months, even years like our kitchen, we have even managed to actually sit in our garden and enjoy the summer sun (when we had some of course)!!!

We were supposed to have our Annual General Meeting at the end of April, but of course that got cancelled and thankfully our Chairman and Secretary, Peter and Brenda Willison, very kindly stayed on in their roles, as did the rest of the committee, quite a few had been indicating that they were going to step down this year through various reasons and none of us are getting any younger!!! – well done all for sticking with it – we are always looking out for fresh faces and able bodied people who can come along and help out as and when necessary.

We have also been trying to think of ways to get more done in the hall while it's been empty, and applied for various grants, but none have come back to us yet – which is most annoying as we wanted to get the ceilings renewed in the main part of the hall, and those in the toilets, kitchen and entrance hall repaired. Whilst having the main hall ceiling done we hope to have new LED lighting put in to help save on the environment and cut down on the bills, lighting and electrics to be replaced in the kitchen, toilets and entrance hall too. We were in the meantime granted a special grant fund which has enabled us to do some of the work as with being closed, like most people, we were still paying the bills for the electric, water and gas but not getting any money in by of the usual clubs using the hall.

In the meantime, whilst the hall has been in shut down since the middle of March, with no one being allowed in what so ever apart from Angie, our lettings officer cum cleaner who has kept an eye on the place and carried out regular cleaning during the last few months, just to keep on top of everything. We have a new front door and porch, this got damaged by strong winds at the beginning of the year, so needed replacing, plus a window on the field side needed changing as well – thanks to Styles for doing a good job.

The main floor in the hall has now been oiled and polished by our Chairman Peter Willison, and I can tell you, he has done a fabulous job on this, it looks fantastic!! We had a company come in middle of August to give the hall a thorough deep clean in light of us being able to re-open in September.

At the beginning of August we had a meeting for all the clubs who usually regularly use the hall to find out how they were all coping and how soon they wanted to come back, bearing mind social distancing etc, and so far we have Line Dancing and Street Dancing being able to start in mid-September. The likes of the drama group (WASPS) and Judo of course are unable to re start at present due to the close proximity that they need to be in to take part in their activities, other clubs are hoping to re start in the New Year. One or two have since closed their doors, such a shame as one of the clubs had one of their main people move away from the area and with no volunteers coming forward to help run the club, they decided now was the time to close completely. Another club folded due to numbers dwindling and couldn't afford to come back.

Since the deep clean, we have been busy making signs and laminating them with the view that these will all be put up in prominent places for all to see and pay attention to as this virus has made us all very aware that new rules and regulations are now going to have to come into force once the hall is re-opened – things like a sanitiser station being situated in the entrance hall as you come in, reminders being put up indicating a one way system for entering and leaving the premises, cleaning everything that you have used and or touched after use, and one member of the group being responsible for making sure everything has been left clean and tidy and ready for the next group and a log book being signed and dated by that representative every time they use the hall – it's going to be an absolute pain to start with, but I think once everyone has got into the swing of things it will all come second nature to us all.

Hopefully, by the time this report comes out we will have had our second meeting with all the clubs in preparation to the re-opening of the hall and will have more idea as to who will be restarting and when, so look out for posters and other forms of advertising in and around the village, so if you see a club that you would like to join, please come along and support them, contact names and phone numbers are always printed in the Village News Magazine.

Editor's Note:

The Village Hall looks wonderful - so refreshed and with a gleaming floor. Well done to Peter and Brenda Willison, Rita Thompson, Eve Day, Carole Wilkins and Karen Scott.



Football is Back!

Weeting Saxon Fc is a newly formed team, that has entered the North West Norfolk Saturday League and will be playing their football in Division 3 for the 2020-2021 season.

We approached Weeting Parish Council early in May and asked if we could use their facilities and pitch. We gave them our 5-year plan and the Parish seemed happy with this. As soon as we got the green light that we were allowed to use the facilities, we knew there was a bit of work to do on the changing rooms, as there was no running water, the toilets were not in use and the showers were not working. Within the first couple of weeks we had running water, working hot showers and the toilets up and running, which came at a minimal cost. We also freshened up the changing rooms.

We managed to get early commitment from a lot of players which allowed us to carry out the necessary works. Whilst we undertook these, we kept in contact with the Parish council at all times. As the works progressed, we spoke to the Parish again in regard to the goalmouths and Margaret Lister was extremely helpful and donated some grass seed for them. She also contacted Tim from TJM Groundworks and he donated 2 tonne of top soil for us, which was very much appreciated. Furthermore, we have gained not 1, but 2 sponsorships for the coming season. These are:

Budgens Weeting, - our Main Kit Sponsor,
Molyneux Estate Agents – they have a Match Day Sign, which we will be on displaying at every home game.

If anyone would like to have a sign, or could sponsor us in any other way, it would be more than appreciated.

We decided to turn the goals the opposite way around and leave the nets on so that members of the public who go onto the Playing Field can still use them.

As we approached Pre-season (and Coronavirus allowed us), we can confirm the commitment we have had from every single player has been outstanding, and although we didn't win all our games we have improved dramatically. We managed to have a charity match during which we raised £300 for the Critical Care and Dialysis unit at King's Lynn hospital in remembrance of our manager's late grandfather.

As Pre-season has now officially finished, we are focusing our attention to our first League game of the season on the 19th September playing away to West Winch with a 2:30pm kick off.

If you have any queries or would like to know more, then please follow our Facebook page, or Twitter page for the Saxons. Alternatively, for sponsorship questions, please contact James Langley via email. James.Langley1990@gmail.com



W.A.S.P.S

Hi Everybody, I do hope you are all staying safe and well. Who would have thought that something like this virus could have happened in this day and age and here we all are in October 2020.

A lot of things have been going on in the WASP camp since the last Village News. In March of this year the WASPs put on a pantomime, CINDERELLA, and it was the last thing held in the village hall before lockdown.

What a scramble to get it done and yet again we were dogged with two of the cast having to drop out at the last moment, due to illness. I am glad to report they are both doing ok. So, with a little sorting out, we managed to get the show on the road. A BIG thank you to Isabella Nash who took over one of the roles. We should also say a big thank you to all of you who came and supported us as we were not sure at that time if anybody would venture out, but bless you all, we did appreciate it. This last six months has been difficult to take in. What will happen in the future? However, all the members of the cast have stated that as soon as we can all get together again you count us in; such loyalty from a great cast.



So, with that in mind, we set up a talk room through ZOOM and had lots of discussions about what, where and when. We realised very soon that groups like ours would be one of the last to be able to start again due to the fact of being able to let an audience in to see our next production and also the difficulty of being able to get on the stage and use the changing rooms in safety, which is still the main problem.

But, not to be out done, we have come up with a solution for now in order to keep us going until we get the all clear.

Up to March of this year I had written twelve shows for the WASPs and have a lot more that I had written previously and put away for a rainy day.

So, the WASPs are still in being and once every couple of weeks we all meet via another virtual channel and all have scripts. We are given parts to read and have had some very funny and enjoyable evenings. Now we have got this sorted, a new script is being written and very shortly the cast will start to practice and, with fingers crossed, we hope to perform the new show sometime in 2021.

I am pleased to say that we have now got some new members whom we welcome very much, but there is always room for more, so, if you would like to join us, contact me.

Carole 01842 550919.



Parish Council Notes

Since our last edition, we have all had to adapt to changes in our lifestyles and the way we go about our daily lives. It has been traumatic at times and has forced some of us into isolation and despair. Fortunately, our village has rallied round and lifted those who needed help and companionship, though not necessarily face to face. We have a fantastic community and over fifty souls came forward to volunteer for the Parish Council Community Support to help with shopping, prescriptions etc. There were also a number of people who helped their neighbours and friends with various chores such as gardening, decorating and so on. So, on behalf of the Parish Council and all our residents, I would like to say a Great Big Thank-you and Well Done!

However, I somehow feel that we may yet have to call upon our volunteers again; I hope and pray that we don't but, with the onset of Autumn and Winter looming and the R rate increasing daily, that maybe a forlorn hope! So, I would ask all who volunteered and those who feel they could help in the village in some small way to keep any eye out on the Weeting Village News Facebook Page.

The Parish Council will be organizing another mass planting of Daffodils and Narcissi in early October, possibly the second weekend, so if you would like to help, please keep an eye on the Weeting FaceBook pages.

Planning:

You will be aware that there have been a number of Planning Applications for developments etc. within the Parish. Primarily, the application for the Crematorium to be sited in the Northwestern corner of the Mill Farm triangle. This was heard by the Breckland District Council (BDC) Planning Committee and was refused for a number of reasons on the 22nd June. To date, there has not been an appeal launched or a new application submitted.

Again, with the Mill Farm triangle, there has been an amended submission for 125 dwellings. This is down from the original application for 450 dwellings. The Parish Council has raised several objections. The application and associated documentation can be viewed on the BDC Planning webpage with the link below: (<http://planning.breckland.gov.uk/OcellaWeb/planningDetails?reference=3PL/2019/0678/O&from=planningSearch>)

Currently, we don't know when this is likely to be heard by the Planning Committee, but it is more likely to be later on this year or early next year.

Additionally, there has been an amended application submitted for the land to the West of Lynn Road at New Lodge Farm for 76 dwellings and the diversion of the Public Right of Way which runs behind Cromwell Road connecting Lynn Road and Angerstein. The Parish Council has objected to the diversion of the right of way and has serious concerns as the number of dwellings was 54.

The application and associated documentation can be viewed on the BDC Planning webpage with the link below: <http://planning.breckland.gov.uk/OcellaWeb/planningDetails?reference=3PL/2020/0743/F&from=planningSearch>

Brandon Railway. Station: A Planning Application made by Greater Anglia which had been granted for the demolition of the Station Building had been granted, but, due to a successful campaign by various groups, this has effectively been stopped as Historic England have, at the direction of the Secretary of State for Culture, now listed it. There had been numerous applications over the years for this to happen and at long last it has. It now remains to be seen as to what Greater Anglia and Network Rail will do and to what use the building can be put.

?? 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 Sarah O'Donnell	01842 550603
Cllr Jeff Prosser	01842 812672
Cllr Sandra Walmsley	01842 812672

- 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
sarah.odonnell28@gmail.com
jeffrey_prosser@yahoo.com
sandrawalmsley@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
SW1A 0AA

elizabeth.truss.mp@parliament.uk

Puzzle Page

Below are 10 pictures of a portion of a car make badge. The first letter of each make is as follows: 'A-R, B, B, C, I, L, M, P, P, S.' Can you match each letter to its badge? Answers on page 16.
(Note: To offer a little help, there are 3 Italian, 3 USA, 2 Japanese, 1 French and 1 German)



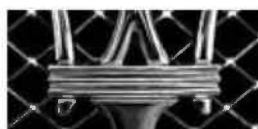
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10



MOBILE LIBRARY



8th October 2020
5th November 2020
3rd December 2020
31st December 2020
28th January 2021

Angerstein Close	10.10 – 10.25
St Edmund Close	10.30 – 10.45
Saxon Place	10.50 – 11.00
All Saints	11.05 – 11.15
Glebe Road	11.20 – 11.45
Rectory Lane	11.50 – 12.10

The Mobile Library Service is back in action again, but please note the following information:

- You will be required to wear a face covering when you visit the mobile library
- The mobile library will be operating on a one customer (or one household of up to 3 people) at a time basis to reduce the number of people inside
- Please remember to bring your library card with you
- We will ask you for your contact details for 'test and trace' purposes
- Hand sanitiser will be available for use on the way in and out and surfaces that are commonly touched will be regularly wiped down
- Returned items will be quarantined for up to 72 hours

Haunted Halloween



BATS	GOBLIN	OCTOBER
BONES	GRAVEYARD	OWL
BOO	HALLOWEEN	PUMPKINS
CAULDRON	HAUNTED	SCARE
COSTUMES	HAYRIDE	SKELETON
CREEPY	JACK-O-LANTERN	SPIDER
FRANKENSTEIN	MONSTER	SPOOKY
FRIGHTEN	MOONLIGHT	TRICK-OR-TREAT
GHOSTS	MUMMY	

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Rector's Report

We are living in extraordinary times. None of us could have imagined back in January when Weeting PCC was planning an ambitious schedule of social events and fundraisers starting with the Valentine's Quiz that less than 2 months later the entire country would grind to a halt with the population living in the suspended animation of lockdown. It seemed inconceivable that a pretty looking but deadly little virus could so swiftly contaminate the whole world, claiming almost a million lives to date worldwide and devastating families and communities everywhere.

Restrictions began to be eased here in England in June/July and we emerged blinking from our enforced hibernation into the summer sun. It was with much joy that in this Benefice we were able to reopen our larger churches, following deep cleans and with rigorous social distancing and compulsory mask wearing in place. The two small churches in the Benefice, Hockwold and Weeting will be the last to open for Sunday services however I hope to have appropriate measures in place to enable this to happen in October. St Mary's Weeting is the first church in the Benefice to hold a funeral since lockdown.

Lockdown was an anxious time, a struggle to keep contact with people and to find new and different ways to connect spiritually especially as Easter approached. St Mary's and the Benefice as a whole plunged into a 'virtual' world. Having pretty basic computer skills, I found myself hugely challenged by the need to become 'tech savvy' pretty much overnight as I struggled to master the technology that seemed to be so effortless to some of my [mostly male] colleagues! However, Zoom proved to be a lifeline in keeping a sense of a worshipping community alive across the Benefice and Wednesday morning Zoom services still continue as a way of connecting with people who are still shielding and/or being very careful to protect vulnerable family members. It has been especially heartening to see some of our young people tuning in regularly to the Zoom services. The technology continues to be a very useful way, not only to connect with worship but also to enjoy some, albeit it virtual chat and catch up afterwards. Chris Parker sends out invitations each week for Wednesday Zoom Eucharists via the Pews News list. If you would like to join in the weekly worship via Zoom please contact Chris Parker 01842 827152 or grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com.

At the end of July, St Mary's parishioner Freddie Rhodes was confirmed by Bishop Stephen Conway along with two other youngsters Chloe and Rhys Frohawk [Northwold] at an outdoor Eucharist for whole Deanery at Stow Hall. It was a special occasion for the Rhodes family, with Freddie's older brother Jacob as his sponsor and his granny Rosie Willis having her first post lockdown outing to celebrate with Freddie and the family at the service and a family picnic afterwards in Stow Hall gardens.

I would like to thank Sue and Mike Nairn for coordinating people across the village to reach out to those who were most vulnerable, organizing shopping, prescription collection and keeping contact with villagers who were especially vulnerable and alone during lockdown. This initiative was replicated across all the villages in this Benefice and it did bring people together at a time when isolation was – and remains - such a huge threat to the mental health of many, especially those without access to computers and the means of connecting 'virtually' with family and friends.

It's difficult as Autumn takes hold and the virus appears to be accelerating again across the country to predict what is likely or permissible with groups especially as Government advice remains so fluid. How long for example will this "Rule of 6" remain in force and how might that affect our Christmas celebrations and services? I was thinking around the possibility of outdoor services in all the villages for Remembrance and Christmas – however we await both Government and "C of E Central" advice on how best to proceed. The best I can do is to keep the village updated via Sue and the Village Facebook page. Some socially distanced services will resume later in October at St Mary's once the PCC has completed their AGM and has a coherent plan of action. We want to see as many of you as feel safe back worshipping 'live'.

Vale Leslie Hardwick

Well known villager Leslie Hardwick had been valiantly fighting COPD and a number of related infections for quite some time. Supported by Janis, he battled on until he finally succumbed on June 30th. At his funeral, attended only by his closest family, the music and poetry he loved accompanied him on his final journey. Leslie leaves a huge hole across the Grimshoe Benefice, especially at St James Hockwold. There are many things I shall miss about Leslie. Not simply his excellent administrative and organisational skills which kept St James Hockwold and the Benefice accounts purring along so beautifully. Not just his loyalty and support, kindness and generosity and his musical gifts. I shall miss his lovely, often off beat and mischievous sense of humour – his sharing of Matt cartoons and dog stories. His love of literature was evident in his meticulous crafting of the many orders of service for special feasts and occasions over the years at St James and before that at St Mary's. His contributions to the village magazines in Hockwold and Weeting drew on his varied literary and theological interests and were always interesting. Vale Leslie. Rest in peace.

I will continue to update you all via social media as we continue to adapt to changing circumstances. We can only hope and pray that the virus will be contained and enable some semblance of social normality to resume. In the meantime, look out for one another, keep safe and well.

Every blessing

Joan Horan [Rector]



St Mary's Church



Rector:	Joan Horan	(Tel: 01842 828034)
Churchwardens:	Julianne Young	(Tel: 01842 813581)
	Tommy Seward	(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

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 - 7.30pm Thursday 6 - 9.15
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	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
Brandon Speaker's Club	Gary Sander 01842 814679	Function Room, The Ram Brandon	2nd & 4th Wednesday 7.00-9.30pm
Carpet Bowls	Heather 01842 815406	Village Hall	Friday 10 – 12 midday
Children's Dodgeball	Sam 07944 531757	Village Hall	Monday 5.00 - 6pm
Feltwell Golf Club	Denise Whiting 01842 862079	Feltwell Golf Club	
Green Bowls	Sue Windget 01842 812094	Bowls Club	Friday 6.00 – 10pm 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 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
Judo	Donna 07738 381970	Village Hall	Saturday 10 - 12midday All ages – novices welcome
Keep Fit	Dorothy Kent 01842 810378	Village Hall	Monday 10.00– 11am (except Bank Holidays)
Knit & Natter	Vivien Muir 01842 810003 Doris O'Grady	Village Hall	Last Monday of the month (or previous week if a Bank Holiday) 2.00 – 4.00pm
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	John Abbott 01366 385452	Village Hall	Alt. Wednesday 7pm - 9pm
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
Shoestring Theatre Company	Natasha Morgan chairman.shoestring@gmail.com	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 - 8pm (during rehearsal periods)
Weeting Saxon Football	James Langley 01842 811627 James.langley1990@gmail.com		
Weeting Walkers		Meet at The Saxon car park	Tuesday 10am
Weeting Weenies	Marie Stubbins 07960 756455	Village Hall	Wednesday 10.00 – 12 midday (school term time only)



Dear All,



It's great to be back writing articles for the Weeting magazine, what a strange, difficult year we've all experienced. For many people, especially during lockdown, gardens became their safe-haven. This resulted in a gardening boom with many of our suppliers reporting a SIX time increase in demand for key products. This then resulted in many shortages (toilet rolls all over again!), especially compost, plant fertilisers and seeds. Suppliers simply couldn't meet the demand whilst keeping their workforce safe. A recent survey by DIY Chain Homebase claims that people across the UK planted 322 million more plants this year than in 2019 just imagine the benefit this must have on our environment!

For Paul and I, the start of lockdown was a massive shock to the system. We had just re-stocked the shop ready for the start of the spring season, and overnight forced to close. The very next day we saw a massive spike of interest on our website. We promptly employed our friend Harvey (who was also unable to work on his landscaping business) to deliver for us four days a week. We kitted out Harveys gardening van with shelving to be able to deliver to as many people as possible. We used the other three days to prepare orders, plan routes and deal with the hundreds of enquiries we received on a daily basis. All of this whilst seeking continual advice from the HTA and Norfolk Trading Standards to ensure everything we did was safe and within regulations. It was very different to the normal day-to-day running of the shop but somehow with your patience and understanding we got through it and was able to help many people continue to garden through the lockdown, we had made it through to opening in mid-May. Our course, we weren't able to trade at anywhere near the levels we would normally be able to in the shop but we will always be eternally grateful to everyone who supported us through the most difficult time our business has experienced during our 18 years trading. I hope we never experience it again, but if we do Paul and I know we are able to quickly adapt and do our best.

Since lockdown ended it has been wonderful to see so many of our customers be able to return to our store, online shopping is good for some things but to buy plants you really need to be able to see them! We've received 100's of pictures and stories of your lockdown projects and it has been very inspiring to us to hear about all of your successes and failures. Gardening is about learning from what went wrong (there's always something that doesn't grow as planned) and improving the following year! Gardening can be brilliant for both mental and physical health. But it's not just our health that's improved, a sustained gardening boom will benefit wildlife, we've witnessed a massive increase in the sale of flowering perennials that are ideal for pollinating insects.

Professor Sir Ian L Boyd, of the University of St Andrews, said: "Scientific studies show clearly that gardens are an important resource for pollinators like bumble bees, honeybees, solitary bees and hoverflies. Urban landscapes where gardeners have intentionally planted flowers which attract pollinators are very likely to be contributing to sustaining pollinators, and trees and other shrubs also provide cover and food for other species. The data showing increased attention to gardens and planting of flowers which attract pollinators during the current lockdown is to be greatly welcomed. We need to build on the few benefits from the lockdown and it would be good to see this new interest in gardens sustained into the future."

None of us know what the next few months have in store, and whilst we may not be able (or willing) to use our gardens as much during the winter months I hope that the trend to spend more time in our homes, looking after our little piece of earth continues in all of our futures. Paul and I will be here to help you in any way we can! I promise the next article will return to 'normal' gardening chores, but until then Stay Safe.

Rachel Sobiechowski,

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CLUB SPOTLIGHT



Bowls Club

It has been an awful year so far for everybody due to pandemic but we thank all our members for their continued support during these tough times.

The club remains open on Fridays 6 - 10pm and Sunday lunch 12md - 4pm.

We will still try to keep everyone entertained as best we can while following all the Covid rules. The club is Covid secure and has all the precautions in place to ensure everyone's safety.

Keep following us on our Facebook page for future events.

The beginning of the year started well with private parties, we had a reggae night, a Chinese evening, karaokes, pool competitions, a pancake evening and then everything stopped on March 20th.

We have managed to play in-house bowls competitions while following Covid rules. We have future plans for some brilliant events which will be advertised as soon as we have the go ahead from government and we are virus free. Meanwhile, we will continue to serve our customers the best that we can under the present circumstances.

The Committee

Editor's Note:

Whilst we are under the constraints imposed upon us by the Covid-19 pandemic, many clubs cannot meet as they would do usually. I have updated the Clubs & Organisations page as best as I can, but, if you wish to join any of them please check with the contact first. I hope that next year will see life returning to more normal function so that we can begin to enjoy the social events once more.

I was sorry to learn that the Over 60's Club has disbanded as it had been very well attended in the past and offered members excursions, mystery tours, meals and fun and games as well as friendship and support.

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.

Editor's Note:



The next edition of Weeting Village Life will be published at the mid **December 2020**. 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 27th November 2020**.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Top Tips

This article has been written with some tips and ideas on how we can all prepare for winter - this is just a few ideas and if you have any other useful or helpful suggestions please feel free to upload them to the Weeting Facebook page or share with the Parish Council to be circulated. There can be no predictions on how the pandemic situation may affect us during the winter months - however by making some plans or changes to our current situations could help us to feel prepared and therefore reduce anxieties and stresses in the months ahead.

Gas and Oil Supplies

During the Spring Lockdown Gas and Oil suppliers reported an increase in orders due to lots of people being at home. If you don't already have a level indicator on your tank you can request that your oil or gas supplier installs one with an automatic alert for your tank to be being refilled. You can decide on the level with your supplier.

It is advisable to book a Gas Safe engineer for any works required inside your house - the start of Autumn can be a very busy time with lots of people turning their heating back on. Although a test run of your system to check for leaks and that all parts of the system are working correctly can be done at any time.

Prescriptions delivered to your home address

A google search for prescriptions delivered to your home will show a number of providers who will offer this service meaning that you can have your medication delivered straight to your door. Both the Boots Pharmacies in Brandon offer a service at £5 for one delivery, or £55 per household for a year (up to 52 deliveries).

MOT

You can book your car in to a MOT station one month in advance of the date of your MOT. Your MOT will then have the additional days added on to your certificate. To check the date of a vehicle's MOT visit <https://www.gov.uk/check-mot-status>

Driving Licence and Passports

There is currently a delay to process passports and driving license renewals. You may wish to check the dates of these items and ensure that you apply with plenty of time left should you need to renew them.

Christmas Posting Dates

The Royal Mail publish their Christmas Posting Dates on their website and display them at Post Office counters. Other couriers also do the same on their websites. At this point the posting dates have yet to be released but this should be done in the near future, particularly as the Royal Mail are reporting on-going delays because of the Covid-19 situation.

Have a stock cupboard of useful items

Whilst not wanting to promote panic buying having a stock cupboard of tinned food, non-perishable food and medicine and first aid items is useful. Torches and batteries are also useful items to have in supply during the winter months.

Treasures in the Attic



About 12 miles to the north of Weeting stands the imposing National Trust property of Oxburgh Hall. Built in 1482 by Sir Edmund Bedingfeld, when Edward IV was on the throne, it has weathered a timeline of nearly 550 years of history and is still occupied by the Paston-Bedingfeld family today.

One warm, calm evening in August 2016 the unthinkable happened. One of the dormer windows on the courtyard side of the attics of the west wing literally slid off the roof and bricks, tiles, leading and glass smashed through the West Lobby roof and on to the ground below. Fortunately, no-one was in the courtyard at the time, although Sir Henry's very elderly aunt, who was residing in her upstairs flat in that wing, was marooned and had to be evacuated by the fire brigade. The first step was to cover the gaping hole in the roof and then erect intricate scaffolding to enable surveyors to establish the cause of the mishap and whether any further dormers were in danger of slipping. The scaffold had to be arranged so that it didn't touch the house and needed enormous counterweights to hold it in place. What was discovered was quite scary. It highlighted the fact that the dormer windows had not been attached to anything, each only leaning against a wooden frame. This arrangement had been installed during the mid-nineteenth century and, although they had remained in place for almost 200 years, the workmanship left a lot to be desired as far as modern standards go. Rotten timbers, Death Watch Beetle, questionable timber reconstruction, a vast weight of moss on the tiles and wobbly decorative chimneys were found and several of the other dormers were precariously holding on and had to be temporarily pinned to stop further slippage.



It became apparent that the entire roof of the hall, including all the chimneys, would have to be removed down to a level below the attic floorboards in order to ensure a solid repair. Planning this has taken about three and a half years as it was estimated that it was going to cost about £6 million pounds and all the necessary materials needed to be obtained – solid oak to replace the rotten beams, bricks, roof tiles and specially shaped chimney bricks to replace the eroded ones. As much as possible of the original material will be re-used of course and bricks have been carefully numbered as they have been dismantled in order to make sure that they go back in the exact same place.



Another major plan was how to erect scaffolding around the outside of the building so that the entire roof could be covered whilst the work was in progress. Those of you who have visited Oxburgh Hall will know that it is surrounded on all sides by a moat and this meant the scaffold had to be especially designed, and trials undertaken, to ensure that no damage was inflicted on the moat floor. This was finally approved and erected in Spring this year and work on the roof is now well under way. It is hoped that it will be completed by the end of 2021.



The deconstruction has had to be slow and meticulous in order to work out how to proceed from one stage to the next. As areas are revealed, they often flag up more problems that could not have been anticipated in advance and this has slowed things down at times. However, some wonderful finds have been discovered, many of which had undoubtedly been deliberately hidden beneath the attic floorboards when the devout Catholic Bedingfelds were in danger of persecution for their faith. Items found include pins, needles, buttons belt buckles, Penny Red stamps (dating to 1840's), a George II halfpenny (reigned 1727-1760), fragments of 16th century texts, old letters that had been cut to make sewing patterns, a wax seal still attached to a piece of parchment, old laundry lists, a rat's nest lined with fragments of high status clothing and furnishing fabrics, including silks, satins, velvets, linens, decorative embroidery, ribbon and leather. Also found were small fragments of hand written music using a style called mensural notation that was used between the late 13th and 16th Centuries, empty cigarette packets from the early 20th Century and an empty chocolate box. However, perhaps the most remarkable finds have been part of a page of a 15th Century illuminated manuscript in gold leaf and bright blue ink that remains distinct enough to identify it as part of Psalm 39 from the Latin Vulgate Bible and a small book with an exquisite embossed leather binding that proved to be the complete text of *The King's Psalms* in remarkable condition apart from the first few pages that had been nibbled by the rats. This dates from 1566 - 1568. What further intriguing finds will be made I wonder? Eventually it is intended to display many of these for all to see, but here are some photos to give you a taste.



Knitted hats for people in need.

Last Christmas Brandon Yarn Bombers created a knitted and crocheted Christmas tree from 942 squares. The resulting beautiful tree was displayed in St Peters Church over the festive period then in January the squares were sewn together by the volunteers to make 9 blankets that were sent to Queen Elizabeth Hospital (Kings Lynn) to be given to end of life patients. The blankets give the patients much comfort.



In early 2020 plans began on a similar idea, this time instead of squares, making hats for homeless people and people in need, to be pinned on a tree. Julie Jervis 'Just Yarn By Jules' is arranging for a new tree base for the hats to be attached too, and anyone will be able to help themselves to a hat (no questions asked) at Brandon's Thursday market during November and December.



If you would like to help make the hats, please make them in dark colours, preferably green. Any size from Child to Adult required. Completed hats can be given to Julie on the Market, or Rachel at P&R Garden Supplies.

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5 - Alfa-Romeo (Italy). 6 - Lamborghini (Italy).
7 - Cadillac (USA). 8 - Infinity (Japan).
9 - Buick (USA). 10 - Subaru (Japan).

Answers to Picture Puzzle on page 8

Once Upon A Time



Brandon Station

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!



Methwold Theatre Club

Dear All,

We hope you are all keeping well and safe in the current climate. As like many groups, MTC has been unable to meet for their weekly meetings in person, but we have been meeting on Zoom each week, which is great fun and will continue until some sort of normality is resumed.

Because of the current situation, the Race Night that was scheduled for June has been postponed and hopefully will be re-scheduled at the beginning of next year. With regard to our November play, this will be deferred to early Spring 2021, when we expect to resume rehearsals, and the rules regarding social distancing, and gatherings have relaxed. We will of course keep you informed.

Hope to see you all in the near future; in the meantime, stay safe in these unprecedented times.

Kindest regards,
Rose Gibson and all at MTC



Hockwold Amateur Theatrical Society



Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation the HATS committee have taken the decision not to hold a Christmas production this year. We will announce any meetings, auditions and performance dates as and when the situation changes. Stay safe everyone and we hope to see you all soon.

Our Annual General Meeting is usually held during September/October each year. The committee met at the end of August and decided that as a face-to-face meeting would be difficult to hold, due to current government guidelines, that it should be postponed until such time as we can all meet in person. The existing committee have agreed to remain in their posts until the next AGM is able to be held.

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