



WEETING VILLAGE LIFE

September 2021
Edition 35



Can You Hear Us at the Back?

Some time ago, before the Covid Virus hit us, we, the WASPs, (Weeting All Star Performers), contacted the Tesco firm to ask if we could put our name forward to be included in the BAGS OF HELP scheme that they were running in all their stores. It took many, many months and a lot of form filling in, and then, in January 2020, we heard at long last that we were going to be included in the Brandon store for Bags of Help, from the 1st of April. The whole cast was very excited and we waited impatiently for it to start. However, on the 31st of March our treasurer received a letter to say, "very sorry, we have had to cancel Bags of Help for the considerable future." We were very disappointed as we had planned to use that money to buy new sound equipment, which we really did need.

Out of the blue this year, our treasurer received another letter from the head office at Tesco. It said they had decided to award all the groups, that were going to participate in Bags of Help, some money towards their project.

We received the grand sum of £1,000 and the pictures show our musical director, David, getting tuition on how to use the new sound equipment. We are now looking forward to our next show, fingers crossed,



which will be in the Village Hall on October 15th and 16th.



So, with any luck, we shall be belting out all our songs

and skits and you will all be able to hear everything even in the back of the hall.



Carole

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!

Fly Tipping is Illegal

All things considered, the residents of Weeting are keeping the village clean and tidy and we have our regular Wombles who collect up the loose detritus from the verges and green areas. Thanks to you all.

HOWEVER, it is a shame that a few selfish people must spoil it for everyone else.

Overnight, between Tuesday 24th & Wednesday 25th August, several black bin sacks containing household waste were left in and around the small bin next to the bus shelter at Park View. This was less than 24 hours after the regular household waste collection by Serco! Perhaps the person responsible for dumping this had forgotten to put their green bin out in time, but that is NOT an excuse for leaving it for someone else to organise its collection at public expense. **SO, SHAME ON YOU!**



Breckland District Council have been made aware of the rubbish and Serco will have to send out a truck to pick it up at a cost to us all. **Be aware that Fly Tipping is illegal.** They sift through the bags and will prosecute the perpetrator if they can identify them from the contents. Just recently someone in Thetford was identified after fly tipping and was fined £400.

Another thing to bear in mind – if Mr X pays a "Man with a Van" to take away his unwanted rubbish and it gets dumped in a field, or on the roadside, Mr X **will** be prosecuted if identified and the chances are that "Man in a Van" will be untraceable. Always make sure you check that "Man in a Van" is licensed to carry away the rubbish and can guarantee it will go to a bona fide collection centre.

The litter bins around the village are meant for just that – litter - small items of rubbish, such as sweet wrappers etc., not bags and boxes of unwanted household items. More items are often left around the clothing banks and these are also reported as fly tipping. Please use your household bins or go to the nearest recycling centres – either Thetford or Mildenhall.

One last plea – if you are out and about, why not take your rubbish home with you and put it in the appropriate bin? If the clothing banks are full, please report them on 01507 466159 or 07903 009234.

THANK YOU.

Editor's Contact Details:

Sue Nairn
Sixpenny Tithe
Park View
Weeting, IP27 0QD



01842 810212
wvl@btinternet.com



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



School Report



Looking back.....

It has been another strange and different year for our children, but we are incredibly proud of how all of them, and their families, adapted to the changes we all experienced - from being in bubbles in school and our online home learning during lockdown.

It was great to see how we managed to continue with familiar events and routines with a bit of creativity! All the children joined in with sports' day, taking part in the full range of races and games with the help of our sports' coaches Aaron and Reece.

Children from Chestnut and Beech class made an amazing start to the creation of our two memorial gardens – one on Parrott's Piece, to share with the village community, and one in the school grounds. The children have planted lots of different coloured plants to represent the colours of the rainbow which was so symbolic during the lockdowns. They will be continuing to plant out the areas next term adding roses and lots of different types of bulbs. A very big thank to you to all the children, families and friends who helped fundraise for these spaces during our Lent Challenge, digging out the beds and watering the plants over the summer holidays. We are also very grateful to the Parish Council for their kind donation of the land and funds.



Our Year 6 children celebrated the end of their primary school time with pizza and a video montage of their favourite memories. We wish them all the best of luck as they move onto their next exciting adventures. Congratulations to Robbie Fairclough who was the recipient of this year's Crossman Cup award.



We also said goodbye to our headteacher Mr Rhodes who has been with us for the last two years and wish him well in his new school.

New beginnings.....

Children moving into Chestnut, Beech and Elm class spent an exciting morning during the summer holidays meeting their new class teachers, teaching assistants and exploring their new classrooms.

We look forward to welcoming our new headteacher, Mr Steeden, to the school. We are also very pleased that Mrs Cridland and Miss Hilton, two experienced Teaching Assistants, are moving from The Norman School to join us at Weeting.



Little Saints Pre-school

We would like to welcome all children returning to us this school year and welcome those children that will be starting with us throughout the term. Our topic this term is "all about me" we are really looking forward to getting to know our new children!



Our fruit and vegetables have grown so much over the summer! We are excited for the children to see and try them.

We would like to welcome our new members of staff. We are excited to have them join our team and they are looking forward to getting to know the children.

A lot of hard work has gone into improving the running and look of the pre-school. A big thank you to everyone who has been involved in this. Especially to all the parents who helped with removing unwanted/broken equipment. A huge thank you to Impress Express Mildenhall for our lovely new signs! Also, a big thank you to one of our parents for the fabulous job of designing our new logo!

We appreciated those who took time to attend our AGM and we would like to welcome our new committee members. Our chairman is still looking to step down, so, if anyone is interested, please contact the pre-school.

Spaces are filling up fast, but we still have some spaces available for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds. Please contact the pre-school for more information on 07927 690968.



WEETING VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Monday 27th September
7.00pm in the village hall**

**More committee members are
needed to keep the hall open**

**All clubs who use the hall should
send at least one representative**

**Everybody Welcome for ideas
and to help run the hall**

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

ART FOR PLEASURE

We have finally started meeting again in the Village Hall. Our first week back was quite emotional and there was not much artwork done. We did bring our paints and paint brushes along with our own drinks and our masks. There were only a few of us and we kept our distance, and the doors and windows open, but the joy at meeting up again after so long in lock-down was full of laughter and joy.



Not everyone has ventured back yet as some are still shielding or worried due to existing health problems, but we are still keeping in touch, and most are hoping to join us soon when their confidence returns.

As I write this we have had three meetings and by the second and third it was evident our inspiration had returned and the paint brushes were working fast. We were all surprised how much we missed each other's help and how little we had done during the lock-down. Hopefully that is all behind us now and life will get back to a new normal where we can meet and enjoy, not only the artwork, but the company of like-minded friends.

So, if you want to shake off the monotony of not going out and would like to try your hand at drawing and painting or renew an old hobby you would be very welcome.

We meet every Thursday morning 10.30 am – 12.30 pm at Weeting Village Hall.

For further details:-
Beryl Pountney, Club Secretary – Tel no. 01842 828750



After months of rehearsing outdoors in a draughty barn, Shoestring Theatre Company were finally able to put on a live performance at the Brandon Festival on 21st August, their first live performance since January 2020. Here they are entertaining the audience singing a medley of songs made popular during the last 18 months in their tribute to NHS and Key Workers. They displayed their acting skills in a short sketch written by one of the members about a hypnotist who had learnt her art from YouTube videos during lockdown and their dancing ability in a lively routine to Footloose, representing the wonderful feeling of being free from Covid-19 lockdowns. Everyone involved had the most amazing time, there is nothing like performing to a live audience! And, the audience applause and whoop, whoops! at the end was lovely to hear after so long.



Shoestring Theatre Company is looking forward to appearing at other events in Brandon before the end of the year and are planning their next pantomime, Peter Pan, which will be taking place in early 2022.

We are currently recruiting children from age 11 upwards and adults to join our group to take part in any way from acting through technical sound and lighting, set, props and costume design to front of house and stage management roles.

Our usual rehearsal venue is Breckland School in Crown Street, Brandon, where we will be returning on 14th September for our regular Tuesday meetings. Please do get in touch, we would love to have you in our group no matter what your previous experience, or lack of.

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

Visit us on Facebook @shoestringtheatrebrandon.

Hockwold Amateur  Theatrical Society

We invite you to our
Annual General Meeting
On
Monday 13th September 2021
Hockwold Village Hall
7pm

It is a great opportunity to join our management team and take HATS onwards and upwards!

All Welcome!

Please be aware that only adult members are eligible to vote at the AGM, with the exception of voting for junior representatives to the committee. Any adult wishing to join the committee must already be a member of the society with at least 2 years' experience of being involved with our shows, while junior committee members must be at least 10yrs of age and have 2 shows experience.

Memberships will need to be paid on the night; this will be a special price of:

Adults £7.50 (will normally be £15 per year)

Juniors £4.00 (will normally be £7 per year)

If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact:

Gary Sander 01842 814679 or Tracey Askew 01842 827654

Social distancing will be observed and please wear a mask if you are able



are looking for new members aged 11+

Do you like to act, sing and dance?

If you do, then Shoestring Theatre Company could be the place for you

We meet every Tuesday evening, put on 2 shows each year and appear at other events in the town

Contact our Secretary for more information
shoestringsecretary@hotmail.com
07985 376465



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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

FIT CAMP

The summer sessions have been busy and everyone has enjoyed the warmer (if not sometimes wet) weather. We continue to have new FITTIE members coming along to our sessions, the beginner class is really quite popular at the moment. Boxing workouts have come back to FIT CAMP too which is great fun and an awesome way to let off any stress from the



day. Spencer has jumped on board to be the new FC trainer which is brilliant to add a new dynamic to the team. He is an awesome instructor who will deliver some exciting workouts to all levels and abilities. Welcome Spencer 🙌



We have our first party since Covid coming up at The Saxon which will see members and non-members coming together to celebrate getting through such a tricky time. We are getting ready to go into autumnal workouts with Pumpkin Power and Halloween fancy dress. The Christmas party is also in full swing with plans coming together to really enjoy the last few months of 2021 😊

It's been a great few months and I'm excited to continue helping local people get fitter, stronger and bringing health to the forefront of their minds 🙌

Naomi



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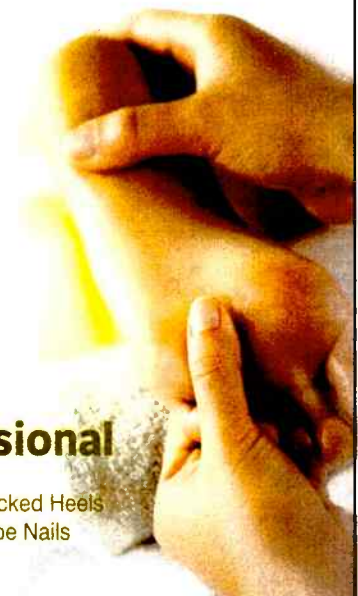
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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Methwold Theatre Club
presents

**The Mad Matters
Halloween Tea Party
Murder Mystery**

Saturday 30 October

St George's Hall 7.30pm.
*Bring your own alcohol and humour,
jam tarts will be provided.*

Fancy Dress optional and encouraged.

Tickets £12.50
from 01366 727526



SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS OF ST NICHOLAS HOSPICE CARE

ELVIS AND NEIL DIAMOND SHOW 13th NOVEMBER 2021

Hello to you all! We are following the latest news which shows that we hopefully are coming to the end of this pandemic, thanks to the vaccine programme being so successful. Our Elvis and Neil Diamond show looms closer on Saturday 13th November and, after communicating with Elvis, he tells me he has already started live shows and is looking forward as usual to performing at our next show.

We are working hard with our many friends and sponsors to secure auction and raffle prizes, you may even have something at home you would like to donate to our raffle. If so, put it to one side.

There are still several tables of 10 left for the show, although you do not have to book the whole table. Sales are still going on slowly with many of you requesting that we hold your table. Please send in your payments to confirm your booking so that we can organise the caterers. In the unfortunate event of a postponement, your money is held in a secure account.

Looking forward to seeing you all again soon. Keep safe.

John and Lizzie

Contact John Maxim
Email: johnmaxim@hotmail.co.uk
Mob: 07876 656070

Lizzie Cross
Email: lizziecros@stnh.org.uk
Mob: 07458 305292

St Nics does Elvis and Neil Diamond!

New spectacular tribute
show for 2021



**Saturday 13
November 2021
7pm-midnight**

WASPs

Hi everybody, well, we have been through some troublesome times and now I do hope we are all on the road to recovery. At long last the Village Hall has opened its doors again and the clubs are coming back to take full advantage of the newly decorated hall,

We, the WASPs, have started rehearsals for the forthcoming show and we hope you will all come and see us in action once again. Remember, all the actors on this stage are from Weeting and the surrounding villages and they are all amateurs. Most have never been on a stage before joining the WASPs, so they may not be another Judy Dench or Colin Frith, but they are very dedicated and full of enthusiasm.



This show is a little different from our usual send up of Pantomimes. We have taken most of the songs from previous shows which will go along with the four short skits we are using. There is audience participation too, so come prepared and, as usual, the kitchen will have goodies to eat and drink and, of

course, there will be a raffle.

Now to the most important part! The show is to be held in our village hall as usual on **FRIDAY 15TH AND SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER**, so make a note in your diary. On Friday the doors open at 6.15 pm show starts at 7pm. For Saturday matinee, doors open at 1.15 pm and show starts at 2 pm. On Saturday evening, doors open at 6.15 pm and show starts at 7pm. Tickets - adults £5.00, OAPs and children £4.00. **But, Bonus**, if you buy your tickets before the day the ticket price will be 50p off. Tickets available from Carole (01842 550919) or Denise (07762 409974).

Due to the Covid virus, we have arranged seating differently in the hall so there are only so many seats available for each show, so please make sure you buy your tickets as soon as possible to avoid being disappointed.



We are all looking forward to seeing you again, so, as our WASP's song says, "The Weeting show is here again to make you laugh out loud and we love to sing our songs to a happy, clapping, cheerful crowd."

Carole

Knit and Natter Group



With the continuous rise in the Covid-19 illness, we feel that to re-open our club at this moment would not be wise for the safety of our members.

However, we are hoping that by Monday February 28th 2022 the situation may have improved to a degree that we can consider opening up again and this is a date that we are aiming for.

In the meantime, we extend our very good wishes to you all and look forward to meeting up again on February 28th.

Sincerely,
Vivien & Doris

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

The Bowls Club social calendar kicked off, when restrictions were lifted, with a very talented singer / entertainer and everyone who attended had a great time. So far, we have had a couple of birthday parties in the club, our regular karaoke duo, Jerry and Eve, have attended and we have been entertained by members and visitors on these evenings. We had a great night at our Caribbean evening. Still to come are our regular monthly karaoke, the next one is 18th September. We have a Peaky Blinders night on Saturday 2nd October which is set in the 1930's-1940's. Fancy dress of this era would be great. We hope this will be a great event. Our Halloween party is planned for 30th October and this has always been one of our most popular events of the year.



Saturday October 9th

We have a fund-raising event in the club to raise funds for our local Weeting church of St Mary's.

SATURDAY 9 OCTOBER 2021 from 2.00pm
At WEETING BOWLS CLUB
To raise money for St Mary's church, Weeting

You are cordially invited to
THE MAD HATTER'S
TEA PARTY

Prize for the best adult and child's hat

Colouring competition

Artisan teas, coffee, soft drinks, sandwiches, home made cakes and scones. Best hats, colouring competition for children, book sales, raffle prizes and teapot auction. Be sure to make a note in your diary today.

Everyone is welcome to any of our events.

Our year has also been a sad one and it is with great sorrow that we report the unexpected death of our much-loved bowls captain, Peter Hunt, on 27th June. Pete loved all sports and has been a good friend, motivator and role model to all our members. In Pete's honour, and in memory of others who have passed before him, we have introduced a new trophy to be known as the Peter Hunt Memorial Award. The take-up for this competition has been impressive and is reaching its final stages.

This year we have been delighted to welcome new bowlers and our in-house competitions are also reaching their final stages. Externally, Weeting took part in the Ashill league as usual against six other clubs. Results were mixed with some good wins and was enjoyed by everyone who took part. We will be having our award/presentation evening on 24th September and hope everyone who took part in competitions can attend.

Finally, we are always looking for new bowlers, pool players and new members to join our happy, friendly club. You don't have to play bowls or pool to join. You can just be social members and enjoy quiet or fun and exciting evenings and have a drink in our well stocked, modern bar.

If you would like more information on any of the above please contact:-

Sue (Secretary) 01842 812094, 07855 764288

suewindget@hotmail.com

Carol (Treasurer) 01842 815089, 07837174056

Saving St Mary's

I am sure that most of you are aware that our village church is in dire need of some tender loving care. Over the past few years it has seen structural degradation inside the south porch and gradual subsidence of the floor under the pews on the south side to the extent that it is now considered unsafe to use this side of the church. Added to that, we had the lead over the Lady Chapel roof stolen, causing rainwater to gain entry.



Whilst the Lady Chapel roof has now been made watertight, the cost for the rest of the repairs needed runs into tens of thousands of pounds and there is no magic fund from the Diocese forthcoming. Therefore, it is down to the village to find a way forward.

Whether you are a churchgoer or not, you cannot escape the fact that St Mary's is a major part of our village history and identity. Once upon a time we had two churches in Weeting. All Saint's, built in 1309, stood next to the site of the present village hall, with a square tower at the west end. Unfortunately, this tower collapsed in 1701 and the building, left open to the elements, eventually fell apart.

St Mary's may be even older than All Saint's as there is evidence of 11th and 12th century origins along with some 14th century work. The chancel is of the Decorated period (1250 - 1350) and the nave windows on the south side are of the Perpendicular period (1350 - 1520). Many alterations were made during the 1800's, including the construction of a crypt beneath the church by the Angersteins, and the round 'Normanesque' tower was added in 1868.



The church is Grade II listed and therefore considered to be a building "of special interest, warranting every effort to preserve it." Therefore, we really need to come up with some ideas about how we can fund raise in earnest. If there is anyone reading this who is prepared to try to source grant monies or has any sound suggestions, please contact Rev. Joan Horan.

In the meantime, please support the forthcoming events such as the Mad Hatter's Tea Party (see opposite in the Bowls Club report). The recent Village Quest event was successful with eight teams entering and a profit of over £120 was raised, so well done to those who took part and all those who organised it.



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Rector's Report

As our lives are 'waking up' from lockdown hibernation it has been good to be out and about again, even if August hasn't been quite the warm balmy weather we might have liked. Lots of us have been holidaying closer to home given the uncertainties around venturing abroad. Thank you to the teams who entered our Village Quest on Saturday 21st August. Despite uncertain weather, people turned out to follow the clues around the village trail set by Jo and Peter Nordan. Those who participated helped St Mary's kick start some much-needed fundraising following these many months of inactivity due to lockdown. We'll look at running another mystery trail next year and hope for better weather.

Thank you also to the army of volunteers who supported our clean-up of the church and churchyard on Saturday July 10th. It was so heartening to see people from the wider village community coming along to support the regular churchgoers in giving St Mary's a brilliant spring clean inside and out. The Lady Chapel and the vestry have been cleared of clutter, essential repairs made, woodwork polished and bugs flushed out of the 'piscina' in the sanctuary thanks to Peter Norden and his extra large drill. Jo Nordan has made a lovely new cover for the Lady Chapel altar. The side pews have been unscrewed and more space has been created in the Lady Chapel. Outside, trees and bushes were cut back and graves tidied. All looks so much better after the months of pandemic. It was a truly cooperative effort and was much appreciated by all and especially by the families who subsequently brought children for Baptism in the weeks following.

A number of our 'locals' are rightly expressing their concern about the future of St Mary's. It is true that our church is in dire straits financially. The urgent repairs needed to the porch, let alone the major structural repairs to the south aisle are unaffordable without the aid of grants and the increased running costs, especially the increase in the Church of England's 'parish share' which we must pay to the Diocese each year to sustain ministry, is placing an almost intolerable burden on our small but committed congregation who work so hard to keep St Mary's afloat. I know that so many of you in the village feel secure at present in the knowledge that our church is there when you need it, especially in marking those important times – Baptisms, weddings and funerals. By supporting our fundraising initiatives, you are helping to keep St Mary's available for these significant life events now and into the future. It'll take some sort of miracle to get the funds to repair the south aisle and have the entire church safe for a full congregation given the competition nationwide for a slice of grant money.

On Saturday October 9th, from 2 - 4.30pm, we will be hosting a "Mad Hatter's Afternoon Tea Party" at the Bowls Club. A range of artisan teas and coffee and cool drinks for children along with tasty sandwiches, scones and mouthwatering cakes will be on offer. There will be prizes for the most creative hats for both children and adults, a colouring-in competition for the children and of course a bumper raffle. Please do come and join in and help support St Mary's by enjoying good food and company. At £8.00 per head and half price for children this represents a good value and a fun family afternoon.

Looking ahead, we're hoping to host another Quiz night in November, Covid safety permitting and "Angels on Parrot's Piece" in the lead up to Christmas. There'll be more details about these plans on Facebook and through the school as we firm up plans in the near future.

St Mary's is YOUR church. We're there for everyone in the village in times of celebration, in times of need and in times of hardship and sorrow. It is a valuable resource of the village – one that **would be** missed if it was no longer there. Please support our efforts to keep St Mary's alive and open not only for Weeting's present, but for the future as well.

Every blessing

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 are as follows:

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



MOBILE LIBRARY

9th September 2021
7th October 2021
4th November 2021
2nd December 2021
30th December 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

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Parish Council Notes

Planning:

You may be aware that Dignity Funerals had made an application for a Crematorium to be built in a ten-hectare plot at the north-western end of the Mill Farm triangle. This had initially been refused by Breckland District Council for a variety of reasons, such as impact on the environment and landscape, need etc. Dignity appealed the decision and the matter was put before the Planning Inspectorate. The appeal was heard over four days and the Planning Inspector decided against the appeal. Dignity then had the opportunity to take their case to a higher authority but have not done so and are now outside the deadline for that action.

There has also been an application, made on behalf of the Mobile Phone Network Three, to erect a 20-metre-high mast for their 5G network. The site they had selected was near the telephone kiosk in Hereward Way, next to the shop. The land is owned by Breckland District Council, but they had not been approached by the network. The application went to Breckland District Council Planning and has now been refused. The applicant does have a right to appeal the decision but have yet to do so.

Litter Picking:

With the lifting of some of the COVID restrictions, we would like to organise a series of Litter Picks around the village and would appreciate your input as to where you consider they should happen. We still have several individuals who are regularly clearing litter in their neighbourhoods or when they are out walking or running. They have been issued with sacks from Breckland and have been advised as to where and when they should leave the sacks for collection by SERCO and that they should also let the Parish Council know so that they can pass the details on to Breckland District Council. This is necessary as there have been instances where individuals have put out their own domestic waste in black bags either in, or by, litter bins. This is actually "Fly Tipping" and if the waste is traced back to a given individual, they could incur a large fine.

Play Equipment:

The Parish Council has successfully made applications for grants to replace some of the equipment in the play enclosure on the Recreation Ground. Hopefully this will be happening in the not-too-distant future. We are also having some work done at the entrance to the car park on the Recreation Ground. This has become necessary as the matting has lifted and become a trip hazard to pedestrians and it will also cause vehicles to slow down in order to access the car park.



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?? 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 Bernard Smith	07985 902188

- 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
bernardsmith7@btinternet.com

Weeting Parish Clerk

Mrs Pauline Angus 07392 004834

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

Breckland District Councillor

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

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

Norfolk County Councillor

Cllr Fabian Eagle 07450 679838

fabian.eagle@norfolk.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

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

elizabeth.truss.mp@parliament.uk

LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

CLUB	CONTACT	LOCATION	DAY AND TIME
Adult's & Children's Street Dancing	Micha 07841 474400	Village Hall	Monday 4.30 - 6.30pm. Wednesday 4.00 - 7.30pm. Thursday 6.00 - 9.15pm
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 7.00 - 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	Dave Moore 01842 811996	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 10.00 – 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 Carol Newman 01842 815089	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 01842 812323	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 7.00 - 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	Jill Hopper. 07985 376465	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 Steam Rally	Wendy Young Rally Co-ordinator 01842 810317		Monday - Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm
Weeting Walkers		Meet at The Saxon pub car park	Tuesday 10am
Weeting Weenies	Marie Stubbins 07960 756455	Village Hall	Wednesday 10.00 – 12 midday (school term time only)

Autumn Gardening.

Hasn't it got noticeably more like Autumn than Summer early this year? The nights are noticeably drawing in, and the mornings are damp and cooler. Paul and I have already started our autumn clearance in our own garden a few weeks ago, and the gaps created have been filled from all of the lovely autumnal hardy plant stock we have in store now.

The trend of wildlife gardening has been (rightly) ever more popular in 2021. With many people choosing leaving areas of their garden 'wild' for insects. However, there are many of us who's gardens are too small to leave a "messy" area and our overwhelming desire as gardeners is to tame our patch. That doesn't mean that you can't still do your bit for pollinating insects as many non-native flowering plants within the garden offer beautiful floral displays in the landscape, as well as serve as essential sources of pollen and nectar needed by insects.

Bumblebees, solitary bees, butterflies and many other pollinators emerge when the weather warms up, but pollen and nectar can be hard to come by. Many insect species have been hibernating since autumn, and when they emerge, they need food for energy. Hoverflies, butterflies and hibernating bees such as bumblebees and solitary bees will come out at the first sign of warmer weather – this can be any time from February to April. Some species of bee, such as honeybees meanwhile don't hibernate, so they will become more active and start collecting nectar as soon as your spring flowers arrive.

Though often overlooked when planning a pollinator garden, spring bulbs are hardy and reliable, and among the very first flowers to bloom in late winter and into early spring. Choosing varieties that are rich in both nectar and pollen will be a lifeline to pollinators as these early blooming flowers ensure that bees are able to feed before other native nectar sources are readily available. September is the best month to purchase and plant spring flowering bulbs.

One of the first to flower is Crocus (although technically classed as a corm) Flowering as early as February they are very attractive to queen bumblebees, honey and solitary bees, and even the odd hoverfly. Bees can see the colour purple more clearly than any other colour, so it's no surprise that most of the bulbs on this list are purple. Chionodoxa, commonly known as glory of the snow, bloom in very early spring. These hardy, carefree bulbs are excellent for naturalizing. Planted beneath trees or shrubs, or even right in the lawn, they will multiply readily and spread a ripple of early spring colour through your garden.

Other bee-friendly bulbs to plant now include grape hyacinths, winter aconites and snowdrops (although winter aconites and snowdrops are often more successful when planted "in the green" in spring). Later (but equally useful) bee bulbs include Alliums, Fritillaries and English bluebells.

Planting bulbs in containers is an easy way to ensure you don't miss their colourful displays, especially if they are on your front path, or next to the back door on your patio. Bulbs can be layered in pots to flower over a long season and by combining bulbs you'll not only create eye-catching pots you'll also attract different pollinators too.

Then in spring, take time to watch the first, hungry bees come to your garden, they remind us summers on its way!

Once you planted your bulbs it's a good idea to mulch the soil with either a conditioner or bark chippings. Not only will this help keep down weed growth, it will insulate your plant roots protecting them from the worst of the winter weather.

Rachel Sobiechowski BSc(Hons)

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A FEW MORE OF MY MEMORIES

By John Holledge

When I was about 7 years old, there was this postman who rode his bike loaded with letters and small parcels up to Weeting to deliver round the village. Unfortunately, he was a heavy smoker and would consume Wills Woodbines one after the other. On a cold, frosty morning he could be heard coughing as he pedalled up from Brandon railway crossing to Weeting.

My grandfather, (Dick Farrington), used to have rope bird scarers and I used to cut off the cartridges to use them separately – they were great! I stuffed one into a big cabbage growing in my grandad's garden, lit it up and retired to a great distance to watch the result. A few moments later, Grandad came to cut a cauliflower growing alongside the cabbages and, as he bent down to cut the stalk, there was a tremendous bang. The poor man nearly jumped out of his skin – he was not best pleased! The cabbage was completely obliterated with only the stalk remaining. Grandad was flabbergasted – he knew it was me and I got some advice on what he would do if I ever did it again.

Life was hard in those days, especially for the people that worked on the land. The weather could be appalling with freezing cold wind, rain and frost. The women would wait on the green, (no bus shelter then) waiting to be picked up by farm transport, dressed in their warmest clothes topped by old army great coats, wheat sacks tied round the middle by binder string, or a belt if they had one, woolly hats and wellies. They carried food for the day and a bottle of cold tea and a beet hook for topping and tailing the sugar beet – a back breaking job. I remember some of the women, Avis Bailey, Nell Brown, Pansy Branch, Kath Grass and Violet Amos. They were always smiling and full of life. Avis and Nelly lived in The Row, Pansy and Kath lived at Park View and Violet lived in Main Road. Sorry if I have forgotten anyone's relations.

We had a lot of snow when I was young and, if the roads became blocked by drifting snow, a ploughing blade would be hooked behind a farm tractor and adjusted to the width of the road. Sometimes we would tie our sledges to it and got pulled round the village. Whilst we were on the snow it was good fun, but if you came to a bit of road with little or no snow, the sledge would grind along and break the string and that was the end of our free ride. Of course, there was nowhere near as much traffic on the roads then as there is today.

Later on, we formed a youth club and that is where I met Patricia Brooks who later became my wife. We have lived in the village all our married life, in the Post Office cottage for 4 years, then to Sequoia for 8 years and finally we had our currant home built in 1976, which just happens to be between our two previous homes. We are now both retired and on 3rd August we celebrated our 57th wedding anniversary. We have a daughter, Elizabeth and son, Nicholas. After reading all my memories my wife says that she is glad our son did not take after me!

Calling All Clubs!

If your club would like to submit a report, advertise an event and / or include photographs in the next edition, please contact the editor (details on front page). Similarly, if you wish to add your club to the list in the centre page, or change contact details, days, times, etc. please let the editor know.

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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

To celebrate the beginning of a new season of face-to-face meetings, Brandon and District Photographic Club are presenting an exhibition of framed photographs during the month of September. Turner Funerals in Brandon are kindly hosting this event, 10am – 4pm, Monday – Friday, at 2a Thetford Road, Brandon, IP17 0BS.



We hope you may be inspired to come along and share your interest in photography with us. We meet fortnightly at the Baptist Church Hall, 39 High Street, Brandon, IP27 0AQ, at 7:30pm commencing Wednesday September 8th 2021

Covid precautions and Government Guidelines will be observed at all times.

For further details, please contact www.brandonphotographicclub.co.uk info@brandoncameraclub.co.uk

We look forward to seeing you in September.

In the meantime, we hope this editorial finds you all well. Take care and stay safe.

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

Tales of a Village Policeman

I came to Weeting as the Village Bobby in 1978 at a time when policing was completely different to what it is today. We had a great deal of autonomy and worked with the minimum of supervision. Consequently, I came across some unforgettable characters. One of whom was a Polish former soldier by the name of Piezcyek (the spelling may be incorrect).



He was very small in stature and always introduced himself as, "I Piezcyek. I Sergeant in Army!" and he would then launch into the reasons for his visit. He had been seeking a bride from his homeland for several years and was frequently visited by the prospective brides who stayed but a few days before returning home having enjoyed a brief, all expenses paid, break in Weeting. That is until he met Danuta. He was positively diminutive by comparison and rumour had it that she was a Fire Chief with the Warsaw Fire Brigade. They married.

A few months later, Piezcyek appeared on my doorstep with the usual introduction. He then went on to say: "I married. I love Danuta. She lovely lady". He then went on to express her liking and desire of the physical aspect of married life! "She big...I not big...I have no strong... she like jiggy-jig. I cannot make much jiggy-jig...you come see my wife!" I quickly responded, "Piezcyek, go and see Dr Perry. He has tablets that make you go jiggy-jig lots of times, then you keep Danuta happy!" Well, I have never seen any one scramble for the bicycle as he did and then pedal as fast as he could towards Brandon! I phoned the Doctor and told him Piezcyek was on his way to see him to get some "jiggy-jig pills. His response was "You b*****d, I've just put him off inviting me to entertain Danuta! Now I have got to think what I can give him!" (This was in the days before Viagra etc.)

Both Piezcyek and Danuta have long since passed away, but they are always in my memories of the community I once policed.

Mike Nairn

Picture Puzzle

Below are 10 outline maps of Countries (not to scale).
Can you identify them? Answers on page 16



1
6

2
7

3
8

5
9

10

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John said 'There is so much walking information on the web, but it is difficult to find. Walking in Norfolk (part of the Walking in England suite of websites (www.walkinginengland.co.uk) – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So, home or away, check out the website and get walking!

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Weeting Parish Council Needs You!



It is always disappointing that more residents do not attend our Parish Council meetings as it is the ideal opportunity to hear the latest information about what is happening in the village and beyond, both in Breckland District and Norfolk County.

It is also the ideal platform for anyone with questions to ask the council about local issues or those with positive ideas and suggestions on how we might improve life here.

The meetings are usually on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Village Hall, starting at 7pm and are usually concluded by around 8pm. The minutes of each meeting are posted within a few days on the noticeboard in Hereward Way near the Post Office shop.

We welcome everyone who wishes to attend. However, if you have a question you would like to raise, it would be helpful if you could contact our Parish Clerk (contact details on page 9) so that the issue can be included on the agenda. This also gives us time to gather any appropriate information that you may be seeking prior to the meeting in order to satisfy your query.

Hazardous waste



Waste is hazardous if it can cause harm to humans or the environment and includes any waste that needs specialist disposal.

We don't normally take these items at our recycling centres, however we hold annual free household hazardous waste days (amnesties) when we do accept certain hazardous waste items.

These are for residents disposing of household hazardous waste only and not for any business, group or other organisation.

The next household hazardous waste days will take place in September and October 2021:

- 11 and 12 September - [King's Lynn](#)
- 18 and 19 September - [Dereham](#)
- 25 and 26 September - [Thetford](#)

Your local district, borough or city council may offer a hazardous waste collection, but they might charge you for this service.

WEETING VILLAGE HALL NEWS

HOORAY!!! Welcome everyone, and hope you have all been keeping safe and well.

It's been a difficult time over the last 18 months but glad to say the hall is now open again and most of the clubs and groups have started back and are in full swing with their activities, making full use of the newly decorated and spruced up hall.

Not everything is done yet, but by the time you are reading this, a new electric circuit board will have been put in. This is one of the many things we have been doing to upgrade the hall and make it more user friendly and more environmentally friendly too.

As at time of writing, we are waiting to hear back about grants for renewing the heating in the hall and getting solar panels on the roof, all continuing to make the hall more economically viable and safe for everyone to use. These projects we hope will be done before the winter as the new heaters will be infra-red heaters in the ceilings rather than the expensive to run gas heaters that we have at the moment.

But we do have a problem, - at our AGM, which is scheduled for September 27th starting at 7pm, the current Chairman (Peter Willison) and Secretary (Brenda Willison) are standing down. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for their hard work and the support that they have given over the last 4 years and wish them luck in their new endeavours. Although the secretary position has been filled, we will need a Chairperson to take over the reins and guide us for the next 12 plus months ahead.

Also, we do need more members on the committee as we need a minimum of 10 people to enable us to keep the hall open – so a big question to ask: are there any members of the public who would like to come and join us? We have a committee meeting every two months or thereabouts and the occasional work party to do any necessary work in the hall, these last between half an hour to an hour, depending on what's been happening.

All current users of the hall **MUST** have a representative on the committee, this is something we sadly do not have, if you do not supply a member to come on the committee any problems you have will not get rectified and it's no good complaining to other people as you need to air your views at the committee meetings!!! Basically, if there are not enough people to form a committee, the hall will close PERMANENTLY and all the hard work that we, the existing committee, have put into this hall will have been for nothing, so please come along and support your local village facilities.

And on a final note, we will be hosting a Winter Craft Fayre in the Hall on November 13th, doors open at 9am – at this moment all the tables have been booked, and we have a number of people on a waiting list, if we get any more on this list then we may run on the Sunday, 14th November as well.

Karen Scott

Maitland Kingsleigh Bookkeeping Services

C/o 24 Peppers Close, Weeting, Brandon, IP27 0PU

Need a bookkeeper? I'm a Weeting home based bookkeeper. looking for small companies, sole traders in need of a reliable person to do their accounts ready for submitting to the accountants for tax returns, available 7 days a week, no job too big or too small, all accounts tailored to your needs, Purchase & Sales Ledger, ETB, etc separate invoicing package if needed. Reasonable rates charged. Contact me (Karen) on karenescott1960@gmail.com

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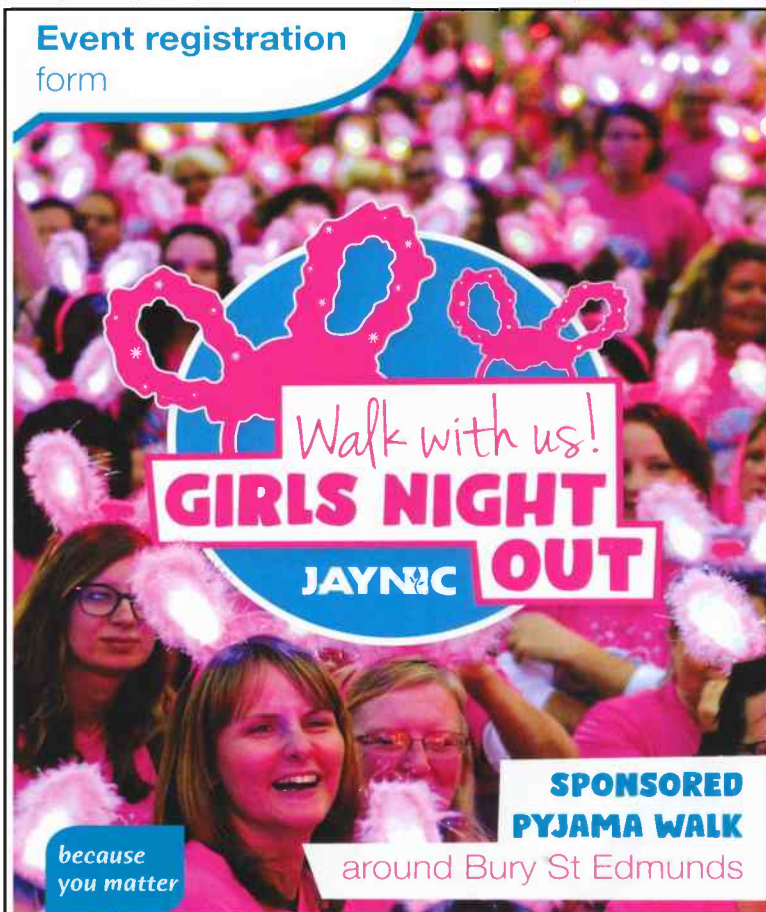
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Editor's Note:



The next edition of Weeting Village Life will be published in **December 2021**. 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 19th November 2021**. I look forward to hearing from you.

SATURDAY 9 OCTOBER 2021 from 2.00pm
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Answers to Picture Puzzle on page 13

9 - Australia. 10 - Madagascar.
5 - South Africa. 6 - Portugal. 7 - Sri Lanka. 8 - Vietnam.
1 - New Zealand. 2 - Ireland. 3 - Somalia. 4 - Russia.

Using The Village Defibrillator

Hopefully, everyone is aware that we have a defibrillator in Weeting that is kept in the old red telephone box near the Post Office shop in Hereward Way. Originally, it had been sited on the wall of the Village Hall but moved to its current location when the telephone box became available several years ago.



It is a very sophisticated piece of equipment, but it is simplicity itself to use as it gives instructions all the way along about what you have to do and it will only produce an electrical charge to a patient if its computer system identifies there is need to do so. Therefore, do not be afraid to deploy it if you believe a patient may be having a heart attack.

What you need to do in an emergency:

1. Dial 999 to report the emergency and request an ambulance. They will ask you if the patient is breathing and what has happened. If the patient is unconscious without a discernible pulse, a heart attack is likely and they should give you the code that you will need to open the locked cabinet where the defibrillator is kept. (Write this code down, if you can, in order to avoid forgetting it!)
2. **Do Not** leave the patient in order to fetch the defibrillator yourself if you are on your own. Try to contact someone quickly to fetch it for you, but if no one is available, the next step is vital.
3. Position the patient on their back, preferably on the floor as you need to have a solid surface behind them and commence CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation) as instructed by the Emergency Service. Keep going until the Paramedics arrive and can take over from you. At this point they may ask you to fetch the defibrillator.



Inside the locked cabinet you will find the defibrillator in its bright orange carry case. Included in the case are the electrode pads (marked 'PULL'), but you will also need to take the small green bag that is in the cabinet. This contains surgical gloves, a razor, tweezers and swabs. A strip light comes on when you open the cabinet so that you are able to find everything, but please do not try to remove this as there is also a 'wind-up' torch in case of need. Return to the patient as quickly as possible.



Once the emergency has been resolved, it is important to return the defibrillator to the locked cabinet as soon as possible. Please return the green bag and the 'wind-up' torch as well and make sure the cabinet is securely locked. The Parish Council need to be made aware that the equipment has been used in order for them to replace any items that are now missing; i.e. electrode pads and the contents of the green bag. **Please note that the items have to be purchased by the Parish Council and are not replaced free of charge. Replacement sets cost about £60.**



Failure to inform the Parish Council that the defibrillator has been deployed means that it cannot be used if another emergency occurs. We do not hold spare items as they have a shelf life and we therefore have to order them which takes a few days.

If you are not confident about performing CPR, please contact Naomi on 07506 246786 to book yourself onto the next available FREE course. You can learn a simple technique that could save someone's life.

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Weeting's Hidden Treasure The Stump Cross

The upright stone is the base of a mediaeval wayside cross. After its top was lost it became known as Stump Cross. It probably dates from the 1300's and would originally have stood around 12 feet (4m) high with a decorated cross on the top. It is carved from Barnack stone which was probably transported by river to Brandon from a quarry near Peterborough.



It was sited in a field north of Weeting beside a green way, called locally Walsingham Way, so called because (it is said) that it was used by pilgrims on the way to the Lady of Walsingham. The cross was placed on a hill in order to have the greatest prominence in the landscape. Some 3,500 years earlier the Bronze Age people of the area were building dramatic burial mounds on the hill to achieve the same result. Before trees were planted in the early 1800's, the hill was a windswept heath. The mediaeval traveller approaching it would have seen the cross and the burial mounds silhouetted along the ridge of the skyline.

In 1538 the commissioners of King Henry VIII destroyed the shrine at Walsingham and pilgrimages stopped. It may have been at this time that the cross on the top was removed, or perhaps later in 1643 when parliament ordered that all crosses should be pulled down.

To find the stump cross today, travel north out of Weeting towards Methwold and turn right onto the Cranwich Road. You will need to park the car and walk along fire ride 58, going past the pumping station and you will find a notice board on the right-hand side of the track with information about the cross. You do have to walk between the trees for several yards as the cross is not immediately visible from the track. The walk is fairly easy and great if you have a dog, with lots of birdsong along the way.

The plantation is called Mount Ephraim if you look for it on a local map, named thus after an area of densely wooded hills in Palestine described in the Bible.



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