



WEETING VILLAGE LIFE



September 2022
Edition 39

Norfolk Mobile Library Service

Norfolk County Council has launched a consultation about changes to the rural mobile library service and wants to find out how residents use the service, how much they value it and what elements of the service could be changed. They are asking for people's thoughts about how they could deliver a more modern and efficient mobile library service that is fit for the future.



The Council, like all organisations, continues to face higher costs and demands for services. Initial proposals to save £13 million as part of a £60 million target for next year were considered by Cabinet on 4th July and one of the proposed savings is to reduce the budget for the mobile library service by £200,000 – this is nearly half of the existing budget of £422,000.

At present six mobile libraries are operated by Norfolk County Council with a total of 1,304 stopping places where the times spent at each range between 10 minutes to an hour. Reduction in funding means potentially reducing the number of routes. The library currently visits Weeting every 4 weeks, stopping at six locations for a total time of two hours.

Cllr Margaret Dewsbury, Cabinet Member for Communities & Partnerships, says, "When there are difficult decisions to be made, it is important to us to hear from residents to understand what matters to them and to consider how we can make best use of our resources.

"There may be an opportunity to make better use of our fantastic range of digital services such as eBooks, audiobooks and online newspapers. We can also encourage people to learn how to use digital devices to help with everyday matters as well as offering a wider choice of reading materials.

"It is really important that people have their say, so we would like to hear from as many people who use our mobile libraries as possible."

The consultation opened on 22nd July and runs until the 14th September. The results will be presented to the County Council's Cabinet in November 2022 and final decisions on the Council's budget will be made in February 2023.

The consultation is available on the Norfolk County Council website, as a paper copy via the mobile libraries and from library branches throughout Norfolk.

Please note that if responses are received after September 14th, the Council cannot guarantee that they will be able to take them into account.

Recycling your old paint tins.



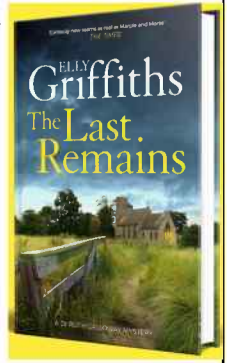
Partly used tins of paint are classed as hazardous waste and can only be accepted free of charge at the recycling centres on specific dates.

The next date at the Thetford centre is Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd October 2022.

Do You Recognise This Location?

Fans of Elly Griffiths will know that she is an author of many books, but her Ruth Galloway series is based in Norfolk. Ruth is an archaeologist whose ancient digs always seem to end up being involved in a modern murder inquiry.

Elly has been conducting some research in the area recently, having visited Grimes Graves and St Mary's, Houghton-on-the-Hill with its mediaeval wall paintings. Her new book, *The Final Call*, due for release in February next year, therefore promises to be a "must read".



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Editor's Note:



Mark Your Calendar

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

If anyone would like to submit an advertisement, article, photo, etc for consideration to be included, the deadline for receipt by the Editor will be **Friday 18th November 2022**.

I look forward to hearing from you.



School Report



It is unbelievable just how quickly the last academic year has gone. For the first time in two years, school life, as well as everyday life, has returned to some familiar routines. Our older children have been excited to be involved in familiar events, but for our youngest children there has been a whole new set to experience! A really big thank you to all our families who have shown such fantastic support

at all our school events and all our fundraising events organised by our amazing Friends of Weeting committee. We have all worked together to create a superb community feel to our school again.



Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

The school was visited by the Mayor of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk who presented each child with their Platinum Jubilee souvenir coins.

We were very proud of one of our youngest children, Ronnie, who was invited to Norfolk County Council's headquarters as one of the 7 finalists in the Norfolk Gardens' Trust "Design a bouquet for the Queen" competition. Ronnie won the prize for the best written description across all age groups! Lady Dannatt, Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, and head judge, commented that all the judges were amazed that someone so young could make such thoughtful and well-presented comments. Ronnie's description was "The red flower is so beautiful and I just love it. The thistle is a really nice colour. I did a bud so it'll be a surprise! The purple rose is for my daddy. It's his favourite colour. The Queen might like purple. The purple flower will remind The Queen of her crown. She will think of her husband when she looks at my flowers because flowers remind us of whoever dies in our families. She will remember Prince Philip".

Our celebrations ended up with a friends and families Jubilee Garden Party. The field was awash with red, white and blue and the tea hampers all looked delicious. A big thank you to all the children who decorated the field with their Jubilee inspired bunting. Entertainment was laid on by the children. Their enthusiastic singing of the national school song "Here's to the Queen" was infectious and the dance routine by Chestnut and Beech

Class Trips

The Nest Class went on a visit to Church Farm where the children got the chance to stroke lots of different animals including goats and rabbits. They even got to hold some baby rabbits! All the children were really kind and gentle to all the animals. Their day finished with a tractor ride and the opportunity to feed the pigs!



Chestnut Class had an amazing school trip with their reception friends from The Norman and Duchy of Lancaster schools to Sandringham House. The trip started with a walk around The Queen's back garden, which was huge! We could fit 37 children around the very old oak tree and we found the secret garden with steps that The Queen used to run down when she was a little girl. We had a very exciting workshop based on the story "Peppa's Royal Party", where we helped design a picnic lunch for The Queen, - we had all sorts of flavours of jellies, and created crowns.



We even got to hold some of the Coronation presents given to The Queen from countries around the world. We wore our crowns to parade around Sandringham gardens and we were rewarded with lots of waves from the visitors! We treated the visitors and Sandringham House staff to an

impromptu singing of "Here's to the Queen!" which made lots of people smile!



Beech Class went with their friends from The Norman School and visited Pensthorpe Nature Reserve. They made great use of their scientific knowledge to describe the plant life and habitats that supported the life cycles of minibeasts and animals. They had first-hand experience of seeing and handling the recently hatched ducklings and exploring the amazing wildlife found in the Wetland Discovery area during their pond dipping session.

Elm and Oak Class went by train to Norwich Castle and Museum. The children from Elm Class used the amazing setting of the Castle and the dungeons to write their own prequels to their class text "Beowulf". The children in Oak Class were particularly interested in the Norfolk Regiment Exhibit, learning about the history of the regiment and medals

received by individual soldiers.

School Houses

The children have all participated in deciding on the names of our school houses, reflecting our three school values. Our new houses are all named after famous people from Norfolk or Suffolk and are:

Friendship – Edith Cavell. A nurse during the First World War who helped injured British and German soldiers and Allied soldiers escape from Belgium. She was arrested because some people didn't agree with what she was doing and as a result was found guilty of helping the enemy and was executed.

Creativity – Philip Pullman. The author wrote the fantasy trilogy "His Dark Materials" which was ranked third in the top 200 novels by the public. The trilogy also won the Carnegie Medal for the most outstanding children's book. Elm Class have recently explored another one of his books "The Firework Maker's Daughter" as one of their class texts.

Perseverance – Jessica Jane Applegate. The swimmer won a gold medal at the London Paralympics in for the S14 200m. In the same race she set a Paralympic record for the fastest ever swim in the 200m. In the 2016 Paralympics she won a silver medal in the 200m medley and a bronze in the 100m freestyle.

Sports Day

On Tuesday 5th July we held our first annual Sports Day event in two years. We were very lucky the weather was sunny and shining on our glorious event! We had track and field events that ranged from traditional running races to javelin and shot-put competitions. The children all performed to the best of their abilities and displayed a tremendous amount of perseverance, reliance and effort in all their events.

A huge congratulations to Applegate House who managed to score the most points and claimed victory to the house cup. A big thank you to all the parents who attended and spectated with great passion, and a special thanks to all the parents who took part in the parents' race, truly eventful and memorable for all!

School Awards

At the end of term, we celebrated Leah Blake through the presentation of the Leah Blake Creativity Award. This new award will be presented each year to a child in school who has showed great creativity in art, English or in their thinking. The award is a fitting memorial to Leah Blake who was a very creative and artistic little girl who loved painting, drawing and making. We were delighted that this year the award went to Leah's big sister Lexie who is an amazing artist and inspired Leah's love of art.



The Crossman Cup is awarded to a Year 6 child, who during their time at school, has consistently demonstrated the values of friendship, creativity and perseverance. This year's recipient is Rosie Poole who has consistently shown these values since she started in Reception. She will be such a good role model for others in her new school next year.



Goodbyes and Good Lucks

It is that time in the school year when we not only say goodbye to our Year 6 children, as they move onto their high schools, and welcome our new reception children, but also to staff who are moving on to new adventures. After 5 years working across The Trinity Partnership, and most recently setting up and running our newest class, The Nest, we are saying goodbye to Mrs Hague. Mrs Hague is moving on to an exciting opportunity working at a complex needs specialist school. Mrs Lewis will be joining us to take on the role of class teacher in The Nest. We are saying a temporary goodbye to Mrs Hoggins who is going to join The Norman School team for a year to work with Year 3 and 4. We will miss them both a lot. Miss Fusco, who has been working across all our classes this term, will be joining us while Mrs Hoggins is away.



As everyone will be aware, the Weetemo Steam Rally and Country Show returned in July, celebrating its 52nd year, following a two-year gap due to Covid restrictions. Love it or hate it, the rally is one of the largest of its kind in Britain and attracts exhibitors and visitors from a wide area.

This year it seemed to be especially well attended, perhaps because it offered an opportunity for life to feel "normal" again after lockdown. The weather was hot and dry, perhaps a bit too hot some of the time, but the organisers managed to keep the dust fairly well under control.

The rally was officially opened on the Saturday afternoon by none other than our own Mike Nairn (local resident for 44 years & Chairman of the Parish Council) who was acting in his capacity as this year's Chairman of Breckland District Council!



As usual, there was so much to see and, looking through the programme, I was amazed at the number of exhibits listed. These included:

128 steam driven traction engines, road rollers, Showman's engines, ploughing engines, haulage vehicles, threshing displays, timber yard, road making and railway engines, 106 miniature steam engines, including 47 from the Brandon & District Model Club, 144 tractors, 147 classic cars, 34 vintage cars, 38 vintage commercial vehicles, 88 vintage motorcycles, 60 military vehicles, 23 fire engines, 35 stationary engines and 3 organs!



On 23rd July we performed at the Brandon Festival where our members, including the junior chorus from our last pantomime, did an amazing job and performed with lots of energy to really impress our audiences!

We gave 2 performances during the event. The first was a re-run of our Queen's Platinum Jubilee performance in June singing and dancing to Surf's Up, Dancing Queen and We Are the Champions.



The second included more dance, expertly choreographed by Mia, to Beautiful Bizarre followed by a medley of songs; True Colours, Pure Imagination, You Will Be Found & From Now On. (Photo by Jean Chenery Betts)

This was our summer project for this year, which meant we could spend more time perfecting and creating more pieces and routines to perform. Mia has encouraged and pushed our members to try new styles of performance from what they are used to, in preparation for our 2023 Pantomime, Snow White!

Going by our audience's reaction, it was a very successful day!

If you have an interest in any aspect of amateur theatre, on stage or backstage, we would love to hear from you.

Contact Jill, our secretary, on 07985 379645 or shoestringsecretary@hotmail.com

Visit us on Facebook @shoestringtheatrebrandon Or on Instagram at shoestring.theatre

Main ring events also included a working Spaniel dog display, the beautiful heavy horses from Banham and daring motorcycle stunts by the Flynn Ryan team.

In other areas around the site there were displays of chainsaw carving, dog agility, steam threshing, steam ploughing, frame sawing and road making, rides on a model railway, many trade stands, a craft tent, bar and restaurant tents, a wide range of food stalls and, of course, the usual fairground rides.



If this has whetted your appetite for next year, make a note on the calendar for Friday 14th to Sunday 16th July 2023!





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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

ART FOR PLEASURE

After a year of holding our breath and hoping the club would get back to pre-Covid times, we feel things are, (fingers crossed), almost back to normal.

In July we had a lovely day at Ipswich Museum of East Anglian Life. There was so much to see both inside and out and the weather was pleasantly hot and sunny.



Something else we have achieved for the first time since Covid was a workshop. Isobel Bartholomew, a member of the Icenii Botanical Artists, came to Weeting to show us how to draw and paint Sunflowers.

Botanical artists have to be shape, size and colour perfect so we were rather anxious about how we would cope. However, Isobel demonstrated in stages how to construct a picture, which we then attempted to copy. Isobel came and sat with each of us in turn, helping us. By the end of the day, we knew how to draw, mix paints, and how and when to apply them. We all went home knowing we had improved and looking forward to putting into practice all we had learnt.

If you have always wanted to paint or would like to try a new hobby, we meet at Weeting Village Hall every Thursday 10.30 am – 12.30 pm.

Details from: Beryl Pountney 01842 828750
Mary Wood 01842 813654

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www.manorcourthome.co.uk

BRECKLAND CATS PROTECTION

Breckland Cats Protection consists of a small band of volunteers of about 12 people. Some are fund raisers, some foster cats or kittens, we have a co-ordinator, treasurer, neutering officer, homing and welfare office, but we need more volunteers, so that we can help more cats. We are particularly short of people who can foster. If you have a spare bedroom and have the time, you could help us to help more cats. We pay all expenses, so it doesn't cost you anything except your time. We pay mileage and provide food and litter. You would need to be able to drive, to take a cat to our vets in Thetford if it needed treatment or neutering.



In Weeting we have a problem with a feral colony of cats. Before Covid, we trapped, neutered and returned about 40-50 cats, we took their kittens and socialised them and homed them. Behind every feral cat there is a human. True feral cats are the offspring of a stray or abandoned domestic cats.

In most cases, adult feral cats cannot be domesticated or re-homed as they have not been socialised when young and become too used to living wild. Our branch trap, neuter and return adult cats back onto their territory. Very young kittens can be domesticated through good socialisation with humans before they become too used to living wild.

If you live in Weeting and have the time, we desperately need your help. We are trying to cope with the original colony, but more un-neutered cats have joined the group and these need trapping, taking to our vets in Thetford to be neutered and returned to their territory. We would pay mileage, so that you are not out of pocket, but we don't have anyone who lives close by to help us. We can deal with the situation more quickly, if we have people to help us, otherwise it will be a long-drawn-out process and all the time, with un-neutered cats, the population of feral cats is growing.

Remember, cats are protected by law and purposefully killing or harming a cat constitutes an offence. Don't forget these cats didn't ask to be here, but they are here because someone down the line, abandoned their un-neutered cat and turned it into a feral.

If you can help, or need assistance with the cost of neutering, please call us on 01842 810018.

Rita Thompson.

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

BRANDON HAPPY TO SING CHOIR

Promoting Health and Wellbeing

You may not have heard of the Brandon Happy to Sing Choir before, but we are a new group that makes singing fun for anyone of any vocal ability. We are only just beginning to make ourselves heard in the community by appearing at a couple of local events in July.

In June we were approached by Brandon in Bloom asking if we could perform Bob Marley's "Three Little Birds" by the Friendly Bench in mid-July. Despite only having one practice meeting before the event, we agreed to do it, and we pulled it off!! There are even videos of us circling the country on the Friendly Bench nationwide Facebook site.



Then, on 23rd July we appeared at the Brandon Festival where we sang some well-known favourites including "Top of the World" and "Bring Me Sunshine" along with two songs written and arranged for us by our choir leader: one a tribute to Queen Elizabeth, in keeping with the theme of the Festival, and another, our 'anthem' called "Happy to Sing"



If you are interested to join our friendly singing group, contact our Co-ordinator, Jill, on 07985 376454 or at jill.h2schoir@hotmail.com.

Afternoon Tea Dance

Hosted by The Belles of St Mary's
in aid of repairs for St Mary's Church Weeting.

Come and join us for a cuppa, a catch up and a twirl round the dance floor. We're hosting an afternoon of merriment in aid of St Mary's Church, Weeting. The porch of this beautiful 12th century building is in much need of repairs. Having raised over £1000 at our successful Elvis tribute night in April, we'd like to match this by hosting another event in the lovely village of Weeting. Tickets are £10 each, which includes tea, coffee and cake.

Date: Saturday 15th October Time: 1pm -4pm

Venue: Weeting Village Hall
Saxon Court
Hereward Way
Weeting
Brandon
IP27 0QN

Music, sound system by Happy Dave Doughty.

For tickets and further information, please contact:
Lisa Jackson Mob: 07598 177466
Or Maxine Clare email: t4lli@hotmail.com
Find us on Facebook: <https://fb.me/e/1LFbUsamI>

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

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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

We at Brandon and District Photographic Club are looking for like-minded people who enjoy the art of photography in all its formats, to join us on two Wednesdays each month to learn more about the craft and impart your knowledge to our members. September saw the start of our new season 2022 – 2023 at Brandon Baptist Church Hall, High Street, Brandon from 7.30pm until 9.30pm.



We kicked-off this year with a **Blue Hour Challenge**, a wander around Brandon capturing the town at dusk on camera, this was followed up at the second meeting of the month with a display of the images taken and critique offered from all attending.

- (Left To Rust)

We encourage you to come along to a meeting, with no obligation to join immediately, simply meet with us, chat with us and look at some of the work our members achieve. The first meeting in October will be on Wednesday 12th when we will be listening to a 'Mystery Speaker' – these evenings are always very enlightening, when we can learn from other photographers, some professional, some who just have a love of photography and wish to share their knowledge with others. At the end of the month, Wednesday 26th October we will be holding our first Print Competition of the year, more details as to subject matter for each of the categories will be available later, on Facebook.

We hope you may be inspired to come along and share your interest in photography with us. We all have a lot to learn from each other and from the experts we ask to join us from time to time. Watch out for these editorials to learn more about what we have in store as each month passes, it is promising to be a very interesting year. There is always someone on hand to help with any technical questions you may have and you don't need to splash out on a lot of expensive equipment, you can use the camera on your phone or ipad and still learn a lot about composition, focusing and lineament.



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

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

We meet twice a month at the **Baptist Church Hall, 39 High Street, Brandon, IP27 0AQ, at 7:30pm**

Covid precautions and Government Guidelines will be observed at all times. For further details, please contact info@brandoncameraclub.co.uk

Denise Whiting - Marketing

New Teen Shelter

In July, a new teen shelter was added to the playing field. No decision has yet been made about the fate of the old one which is still in situ. If anyone has any suggestions, please contact a member of the Parish Council.



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:

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!

W.A.S.P.s

Well, I am just like the rest of you - how did we get to September so quickly and all the children are getting ready to start the Autumn term? I do hope all of you had a good summer holiday and the weather was quite exceptional. We, in England, are not used to having such a long spell of sunshine with NO rain and all the gardens have been looking quite sad. Hopefully they will all pick up again when the rain catches up and all the water tanks are full again.

So, what has the WASPs been up to since the last Weeting magazine? Well, the Show "AR LAD IN" did indeed take place on the 1st and 2nd of July. but it was touch and go. We always have some things that go wrong, but, WOW, this one was unique as I do not think we have ever had so many of the cast drop out of one show. Still, with major help from some of the cast who pulled out all the stops,



we did manage to put it on and I think the audience appreciated the work that had gone on behind the scenes. I for one would like to say a very big thank you to all the cast for what they did to make it possible for us to run.

Through no fault of their own, we lost six of our original cast, illness being the major factor. We are hoping they are all fully recovered now and will be able to join us for our Christmas show. I had managed to change the script during the two previous months so that some of

the other cast members took a different part, but then the dreaded Covid came our way. We lost one member on the Thursday before the show and then on the Friday the 1st of July we lost one of our main cast members. I must admit at that point I was at my wits end, but then I spoke to one member, who had had to drop out at the beginning, and she came up trumps by coming in that day and reading the part brilliantly. We are very blessed with some great people in our Drama group as they all do their very best to get a good show together and always give 101%.



Our Christmas show will be held on Friday 9th and Saturday 10th December. It has not got a title as yet, but I do know that T.REX the dinosaur plays a major part, as the first half of the Christmas production will be written by one of our younger members, Miss Hannah Sullivan and we are all looking forward to reading the script very soon. It is such a thrill to think that today, will all the distractions some of our young people are still interested in, we are keeping some of our old traditions going and, most of all, enjoying the chance to be a major part of our next production.

We, the WASPs, are just a small group of local people who put on original shows written locally, and the cast is made up of people from all walks of life from 9yrs old to most over 50. Some have disabilities with walking, seeing, or hearing not all as good as they used to be, but we all have one thing in common - we are all very enthusiastic and just love getting on to the stage acting, dressing up in all sorts of costumes and singing great songs put together by our musical director David. Our front of house and backstage staff are second to none - nothing is too much trouble and they are always there to put everything together to make it work.

Another thing that I should mention is that the WASPs like to have fun. They like to laugh, and they like to make the audience laugh, even when they get it wrong, because then the audience laugh even more and that is what we are about. So, if you are free on a Friday evening, come along to the Weeting Village Hall and join us. There is always room for one more, and we would very much like to have some more children for this Christmas show. We start rehearsals again in September, but just ring me, Carole, on 01842 550919 anytime and I will give you all the information. I enclose some pictures of us getting ready for our show in July this year.

Rector's Report

St Mary's Church



News from St Mary's

The 'Belles of St Mary's' invite us all to their next event at the Village Hall – a "Tea Dance" on October 15th. "Elvis" Dave who was such a hit at the Elvis Tribute evening back in April will be providing some great music for us to show off our moves on the dance floor. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be included in the ticket price along with a mouth-watering array of delicious homemade cakes and other goodies. Tickets are £10.00 per head all-inclusive and advance tickets can be purchased from Lisa – local/cash sales and Maxine who will handle online sales. Please see the poster for further details. This will be a lovely afternoon of singing, dancing and chatting over delicious food so please come and join in the fun. Let's dress up, be ready for some great dance moves and a good catch up with old and new friends. Many thanks to Lisa, Max and Evelyn for organising this event.

Porch update

Work to repair the porch is almost ready to start – we're just waiting for a couple of updated quotes to come in and we're hoping that this work can be completed before Christmas. Thank you to everyone who has helped raise the money for this essential work through fundraisers and also thanks to Ian Smith who has raised a couple of successful small grants to contribute to the costs. It will be fantastic to see this work completed at long last.

South Aisle

Last week we were very fortunate to have a visit to St Mary's by Geoffrey Hunter, Head of Church Buildings, Ely Diocese and Nicholas Thistlewaite, the interim Archdeacon whom I invited to meet with the PCC to discuss repairs to the South Aisle – the next major project. This meeting proved timely as Geoffrey's practised eye immediately spotted a few very large pieces of plaster on the nave roof which are in imminent danger of falling. This he believes to be due to the very hot, dry weather causing the plaster to shrink. The worst danger is bang in the middle of the aisle adjacent to the vestry and both the porch and north aisle entrance. We need to sort the problem urgently before the plaster falls as it has potential to cause injury to anyone standing underneath it, as well as causing damage to the pews and fabric of the building. Geoffrey suggested that we have netting installed across the nave ceiling to collect falling debris safely. This will involve erecting scaffolding to attach the netting – a cost which we were not expecting but which I'm hoping may be met by an emergency grant from the Norfolk Churches Trust. One of my 'little' jobs for this coming week! However, there's a silver lining here. Once the netting is secured, we can proceed with the next phase of the repairs to the South Aisle which will be to repair and level the floor. This will involve temporary removal and storage of the pews and lifting the floorboards of the platform underneath. Hopefully we won't find any nasty structural surprises awaiting us in the Angerstein vault and with our Diocesan architect's approval, the pew platform can be levelled and renewed prior to reinstating the pews. Given that we'll have the ceiling netting in place to catch any plaster falls, we will then be able to open up the south aisle and use the whole church again. The extensive work which will be necessary to repair the south aisle exterior roof and interior plaster ceiling will require a huge grant and considerable fundraising, however the good news is that the whole church will be safely usable again until we have the funds in place to undertake those repairs.

I'm hopeful that if we can get funding in place for the floor – we'll need about £3,000, maybe slightly more given the cost of materials – that this work can be completed by summer next year, all things going to plan with a mix of fundraising and grant applications. The PCC is fully committed to working in conjunction with village and community groups such as the Belles of St Mary's to raise the funds to restore our church building to be fully functional once more. I'm very grateful to Geoffrey and Nicholas for their support in validating the way forward envisaged by the PCC in terms of the floor repair and to Geoffrey for spotting the danger to life and limb from falling plaster. Despite the additional immediate cost to install the netting, we can now see a clear time frame for a way forward in finally being able to open up the whole church space much sooner than we expected.

We'll update you all with progress via Facebook as work begins on the porch. I'd like to thank everyone in the village and beyond who has supported our fundraising events over the past year – we've had some cracking fun especially with the Angel Festival, the Elvis tribute night and the Downham Band evening and we do have a number of excellent and very different ideas in the pipeline for events around Christmas and into 2023.

Every Blessing

Joan Horan - Rector



Rector:

Joan Horan

Tel: 01842 828034. revjhoran@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

Tommy Saward

Tel: 01842 813601 tommysaward@hotmail.com

Julianne Young

julianneyoung0@gmail.com

Regular services are as follows:

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

Third Sunday of the month: Eucharist @ 11am

MOBILE LIBRARY



8th September 2022

6th October 2022

3rd November 2022

1st December 2022

29th December 2022

Angerstein Close	10.10 - 10.25
St Edmund Close	10.30 - 10.45
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All Saints	11.05 - 11.15
Glebe Road	11.20 - 11.45
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Parish Council Notes

In July, we saw the return of the Weeting Steam Engine Rally after a two-year absence. It was well attended and, as usual, members of the Parish Council acted as stewards on the people carriers touring round the site. It seemed that there was a great deal more in terms of exhibits and stalls which bodes well for the future.

The Breckland Mobile Food Store has proved to be popular when it visits Weeting on Fridays between 10:30 and 11:30. In addition, the Silver Social events have also proved popular and are advertised on the Breckland Website and Facebook Page.

The Parish Council are currently exploring the costs and funding to replace the fencing around the Play Park and it is hoped that we will replace the wooden paling fence which is now reaching the end of its useful life.

Mike Nairn - Chairman

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**Further information can be found at:
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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 Tim Murfet	07958 723994
Cllr Mike Nairn (Chair)	01842 810212
Cllr Sue Nairn	01842 810212
Cllr Bernard Smith	07985 902188

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

Weeting Parish Clerk

Mrs Pauline Angus 07392 004834

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

Breckland District Councillor

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

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

Norfolk County Councillor

Cllr Fabian Eagle 07450 679838

fabian.eagle@norfolk.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

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

elizabeth.truss.mp@parliament.uk

LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

CLUB	CONTACT	LOCATION	DAY AND TIME
Adult's & Children's Street Dancing	Micha 07841 474400	Village Hall	Monday 4.30 - 6.30pm Wednesday 4-7pm. Thursday 6-8.30pm
Art For Pleasure	Beryl Pountney 01842 828750	Village Hall	Thursday 10.30am – 12.30pm
Bingo	Angie Page 01842 814147	Village Hall	Tuesday Open at 6.30pm Eyes down at 7pm - 9pm
Brandon & District Classic Vehicle Club	John Maxim 01842 811032	Brandon Sports & Social Centre	2nd Monday 7.30pm
Brandon & District Camera Club	Denise Whiting 01842 862079	Baptist Church Brandon	Alternate Wednesdays 7.30pm
Brandon & District Society of Model Engineering	Mick Wickens mick.wickens@gmail.com	Brandon Council Offices	1st Wednesday 7.30pm
Brandon Speaker's Club	Gary Sander 01842 814679	Function Room, The Raml Brandon	2nd & 4th Wednesday 7.00-9.30pm
Carpet Bowls	Heather Woodhams 01842 815406	Village Hall	Friday 10 – 12 midday
Green Bowls	Sue Windget 01842 812094 Carol Newman 01842 815089	Bowls Club	Friday 6.00 – 10 pm Sunday 12 midday – 4.00pm
Gun Club	Derick Spencer 07741285278	Weeting Gun Club	Alternate Sunday January to October
HATS	Gary Sander 01842 814679	Hockwold Cricket Pavillion	Tuesday & Thursday 7.30 - 9.30pm (during rehearsal periods)
History Group	Julianne Young 01842 813581	Various - call to check location	Last Thursday 7.30pm
Hockwold Cricket Club	John Ruddick 07902 231235		
Indoor Archery	Mike 07894 904090	The Dome, Mildenhall	Saturday 12.30 - 3.30pm
Keep Fit	Dorothy Kent 01842 810378	Village Hall	Monday 10.00– 11am (except Bank Holidays)
Line Dance	Rita Thompson 01842 815550	Village Hall	Friday 2.00 - 4.pm
Methwold Theatre Club	01366 727526	The 21 Room St George's Complex Methwold	Tuesday 7.30pm
Model Car	Colin	Village Hall	Alt. Wednesday 7pm - 9pm
Pool	Carol Newman 01842 815089	Bowls Club	Tuesday 7.00pm
Rainbow	Anna 07956 683499	Village Hall	Thursday 4:445 to 5:45
St Mary's Church	Tommy Saward (Churchwarden) 01842 813601	St Mary's Church	See list of Service times
Shoestring Theatre Company	Jill Hopper, 07985 376465	IES Breckland School Crown Street, Brandon	Tuesday 7.00 - 10.00pm
Thetford Singers	Sue Nairn 01842 810212	Methodist Rooms Tanner Street	Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm
W.A.S.P.s	Carole Wilkins 01842 550919	Village Hall	Monday 7pm - 9pm Friday 6.00 - 8pm (during rehearsal periods)
Weeting Saxon FC	James Langley. 01842 811627		
Weeting Steam Rally	Wendy Young Rally Co-ordinator 01842 810317		Monday 7pm to 9pm Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm
Weeting Weenies	Rebecca 07926 073609	Village Hall	Wednesday 10.00 – 12 midday (school term time only)

Autumn Gardening

The first month of Autumn has arrived and although the nights are drawing in there is still plenty of time for gardening and lots of sowing and planting to do in September. For the widest choice and best quality, buy spring flowering bulbs as soon as possible. Don't delay planting (apart from Tulips), typically 3 times the depth of the bulb.

Weeks of hot, drought conditions have once again played havoc with our gardens. Lack of water can severely limit a plant's growth. But even after it starts to rain regularly again, plants can still suffer from problems related to prolonged drought. In general, if perennials manage to survive an initial drought, they tend to fare better than woody plants.

Short-term damage, caused by one dry spell, includes wilting, leaf scorch, and some defoliation. Long-term damage from drought includes stunted growth, branch die-back, and possible death of the plant. Many woody plants can take up to three years after a drought to display negative long-term effects.

One common long-term effect of drought is stem dieback, which is a result of the loss of fine feeder roots. As soils become dry the fine roots in the upper soil surface may be stimulated to increase in number to get what little water is available. However, if the soil remains dry, they will begin to die, thus putting the root system out of balance with the amount of foliage. When rain does return, the plant may not be able to take full advantage of this much-needed water because of its reduced root mass. The result is a resizing of the canopy through branch die-back.

Pest problems are another result of long-term drought. Many pests, like wood borers and beetles, cannot survive in a healthy tree. As a tree or shrub becomes weakened from drought, these pests invade rapidly. Some pests, like spider mites and aphids, can also be more detrimental to their hosts during extended hot and dry periods. Also, many beneficial insects, such as predatory mites, slow or cease foraging activity under these conditions.

During a drought our lawns are never going to look at their best and will soon turn dormant and start to go brown. To determine if a lawn is dormant or dead, inspect it down at the soil level. Lawns that have gone dormant will have brown leaves, but the crown at the base of the leaves will still be green, and the roots will have a healthy off-white color. If a lawn is completely dead, the entire plant—leaves, crowns, and roots—will be brown and brittle. If the lawn is in fact dead, your only options are to either reseed or lay turf. You can help your dormant lawn by implementing a recovery plan of scarifying, aeration and over-seeding. Early Autumn is a great time to get on with this even whilst it is dry because recovery will be rapid once rain finally arrives.

While no one can predict with certainty how long a particular drought will continue, we do know that droughts will occur periodically over time. Choosing the right plants for your location and caring for them properly are the best ways to lessen a drought's long-term impact. Incorporating organic matter into your soil, weeding regularly, watering infrequently but deeply with soaker hoses or drip irrigation, and applying mulch over the soil around your plants are the best ways to help them weather a drought.

Top tips for Autumn:

- Clip conifer hedges. If you leave this too late any new growth will be damaged by frost.
- Sow seeds of mizuna, mustard, rocket and winter hardy lettuce.
- Plant evergreen shrubs whilst the soil is still warm.
- Plant winter flowering pansies & violas in tubs & baskets.

Rachel Sobiechowski BSc (Hons)

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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

West Norfolk Aviation Society Meeting at Mundford Bowls Club July 2022

Commander David A opened the meeting with a welcome to two new members David B and David C. The Commander proceeded to offer the apologies of the scheduled speaker who, through illness, was unable to present his talk. However, an ad hoc double/double act came to the rescue in the form of Steve C and Steve dR, both of whom gave separate accounts of their experiences whilst attending the Royal International Air Tattoo (RIAT) last month at Fairford near Swindon.

Steve C, a paramedic, donated his time and expertise as a volunteer and, provided 5 ambulances to oversee the health and safety of the 200,000 attendees (you've a long way to go: Girls of the England Women's Football Team, before you can beat these attendance figures).

Every year many separate groups get together on this occasion in a charitable endeavour to promote funding for children's science education.

Steve's paramedic team gave demos of medical response initiatives; even being provided with a mock-up field hospital as part of their showpiece equipment.

There were many ground based side shows associated with the flying displays during the day and the fun didn't stop there: a live jazz band accompanied all of the other activities associated with night time revelry.

However, there were some casualties; about 100; mainly suffering from the effects of freak weather conditions but, Steve made it clear that the safety of everyone was paramount and the organisation of the event had to meet with the approval of at least three protection agencies including the Federal Aviation Administration.

Then, it was Steve dR's turn: Steve is a photographer extraordinaire and no stranger to this stage. With evidence to illustrate the point, using his own 10 foot screen, he gave an account of the performances of the star attractions at this same event. What appeared to be his favourite among the aerobatic display teams were the South Korean Kia formations flown with breath-taking precision. It seems the Red Arrows are losing their lead.

The Commander finalised proceedings by congratulating the impromptu speakers, the catering staff and, reminded all that their presence would be welcome at the senior officer group meeting at the same venue on the Friday of the same week, 11-00 Hrs.

More information at: www.westnorfolkaviationsociety.org.uk

Nigel Tooth



Weeting Bowls Club



We have had a great year so far with our social calendar with live bands. We enjoyed an Irish night with live band earlier in the year for St Patrick's Day. We also enjoyed a long weekend of entertainment for the Jubilee with quiz on the Thursday, karaoke on Friday, a London night with disco on Saturday with pie and mash and a barbecue on Sunday. We have had live bands in the club which has been lovely.

The second half of the year includes our regular monthly karaoke which is on the first Saturday of each month (not to be missed). We have a local rock band coming in on Friday 16th September for an evening of rock. Friday 21st October another evening of rock with Blue Thunder. Our Halloween party is definitely not to be missed on Saturday 29th October, Saturday night fever disco on Saturday 12th November. Also, we have several private parties booked.

We can cater for birthdays, anniversaries, christenings, wakes or anything else. We have a fully stocked bar. Why not come in and take a look. We can guarantee you won't want to leave.

For more information contact

Sue on 07855764288

suewindget@hotmail.com

or Carol

on 07837174056

carloffice21@yahoo.co.uk

PLODding - Another Tale from a Rural Beat Officer



In my time I have met some truly memorable characters and one I shall name as "Interpol Wal!" He was employed by British Sugar as a Night Watchman and was issued with a Uniform of sorts, complete with peaked cap. Many of us thought that this was the only clothing he had as he wore it all the time, gardening at home and even when he went shopping in King's Lynn. He also had a fantastic imagination and had a wonderful store of tales which some defied credibility.

Our night patrols of the section inevitably meant calling in to the Gatehouse at BSC Wissington in the early hours. We would be offered a cuppa and if Wal was on duty, we would be regaled with a tale or two. On occasions we were called to go to Wissington as the watchman had not checked in after his rounds. The first place we checked was the lift as Wal frequently used it when he should have used the stairs and the lift was known to stop for no reason, quite often with Wal onboard, trapping him. Having established he was OK, we would have to call someone out to get the lift going again!

There was one occasion when we arrived at the Gatehouse and we could see Wal in an armchair and seemingly asleep. Quietly, we went in and removed the lead to the kettle. We then exited and returned with a great deal of clanging and banging. As we entered, Wal leapt to his feet and offered us a cuppa and turned to switch on the kettle, only to find the lead missing! His reaction was an absolute picture as he searched high and low, muttering some expletive or other. Subsequently we did return it, claiming it to be a spare that was always carried in our vehicle!

Mike Nairn (ex PC871)

WEETING VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Hi everyone, here we are in September, hope everyone has enjoyed their summer so far, and we are welcoming back the groups that have had a few weeks off to recover from all their strenuous activities.

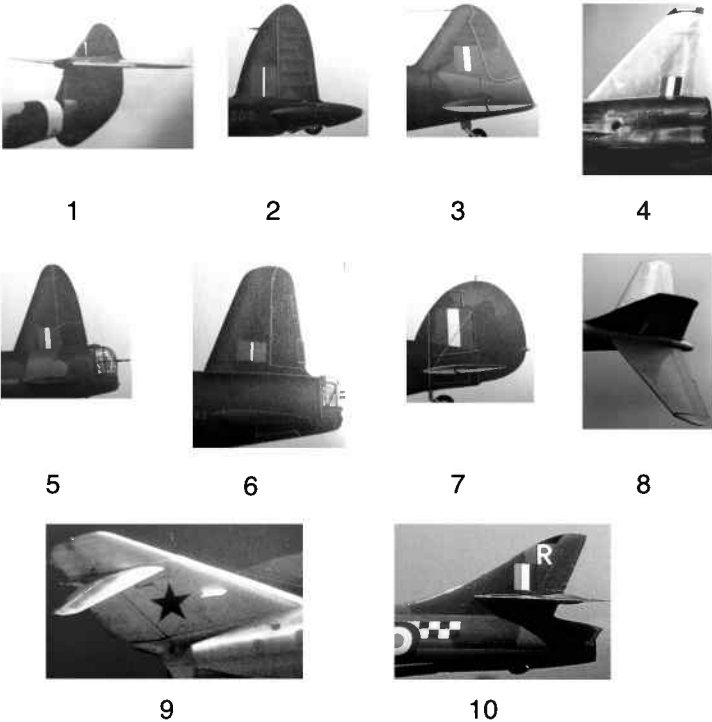
In the meantime, we have (or are getting) the curtains cleaned and repaired ready for the winter, a much-needed job after putting up the new rails and making the most of the opportunity whilst there has not been much going on in the hall. We have had a new pair of step ladders delivered as the ones that we have been using up till now have been deemed too dangerous for those on the committee that need to use them for various jobs in and around the hall – like getting the curtains down and back up again, hanging the backdrop up for the WASPS show, new brooms have been bought as well.

A few running repairs have been carried out over the summer namely clearing the drains from toilets on both sides (ladies and gents) not a pleasant job, but Nathan Lock and Robbie Fairclough were on hand to do the job and spent quite a few hours as the blockage on the one side went further than just in the hall itself, both young men are very talented in the art of odd jobs and maintenance

On behalf of Village Hall Committee

Picture Puzzle

Here are ten images of the tailplanes of aircraft of WW2 or later.
Can you identify the aircraft? Answers on page 17.



Walking in Norfolk



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

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

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

www.walkinginengland.co.uk
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1963 – A Memorable Year

Wednesday 7th August:

I will always remember this date as it was the day Tricia and I got engaged and started to make plans for our wedding. Boy, that was a long time ago – 59 years. Little did we know what was about to happen.

Thursday 8th August:

This was the day of the Great Train Robbery. It made headlines in all the papers and filled the TV news because of the daring and clever way it was done and the amount of money they got away with. The type of vehicles they used to carry out the robbery were a small military type as well as a van that was thought to have been used to move the large amount of cash. The Police were asking people to look out for these types of vehicles and report to them anything they saw.



Sunday 11th August:

An old family friend, Andy Parker, who was the owner of a caravan storage facility at East Runton, Cromer, came to Weeting to purchase an old Volkswagen Combi (motor home) from an American serviceman called Chick Janosac. The vehicle was accident damaged with broken windows and would not start, so, after having purchased it, Andy asked me to steer it back to East Runton whilst being pulled on a rigid bar behind his Land Rover. We hooked up the vehicles, fitted on tow boards, lighting and a number plate bar. Tricia and Andy rode in the Land Rover and I steered the Combi, dressed in my leather flying jacket because of the broken windscreen and cold wind. Of course, my little wire-haired terrier dog, Terry, was sitting on the front seat next to me with his head out of the window as usual. Off we went and all was fine until I heard a scraping noise from beneath the Combi, so I signalled Andy to stop in a forestry lay by to check what was the matter. It turned out to be a piece of metal left over from the original accident that was scraping along the road. Whilst I was checking this out, I noticed people in cars slowly cruising by, looking very intently at us, pointing and nodding in disapproval.

When we eventually arrived in Swaffham, the traffic lights were on red, so we had to stop and wait. All at once we found ourselves completely surrounded by police cars, one in front, a second one beside us and a third right behind me and immediately the place was filled with police officers – I had never seen so many in my life! One of them leaned through the broken window on the passenger side and told me to turn the engine (that did not go) off! He was a lucky man because my terrier nearly bit his nose off – he pulled his head back just in time, but in doing so he caught his helmet and it fell into the Combi. My dog got it and gave it a good shaking in Terrier fashion until he was satisfied that he had killed it before letting go and the policeman managed to grab it.

We were detained for nearly an hour before they were satisfied and let us go. It came to light that that the people passing the forest lay by had reported us to the Police as being involved in the Great Train Robbery!

When we eventually got to East Runton, Andy's wife, Nell, wanted to know where we had got to. When Andy explained what had happened, she would not believe him, so he told her to ring the Norfolk Police and ask if it was true. Needless to say, we were not the Great Train Robbers, so all ended well really. It was an experience we will never forget and we often laugh about it, although it was frightening at the time.

The robbers were, Ronnie Biggs, Bruce Reynolds, Douglas Gordon Goody, Charles Frederick Wilson, Ronald (Buster) Edwards, Brian Field, Roy James, John Thomas Daly, Roger Cordrey, Robert Welch, Jimmy Hussy, John Weaver, Danny Pembroke and Thomas Wisbey. Several other members of the gang were never caught. They escaped with £2.6 million (equivalent to £58 million today), much of which was never recovered.

John Holledge

The photo above is the Train Robbers' Bridge (also known as Bridego Bridge) near Ledburn, Buckinghamshire.

The Breckland Mobile Food Store in Weeting

The Breckland Mobile Food Store went live on Tuesday 10th May 2022 and visits Weeting every Friday morning between 10.30 and 11.30am. It is parked at the back of the lorry park area, next to the Bowls Club, beyond the bottle banks, and is available to all Weeting residents.



This is an enterprise powered by Breckland Council and the Norfolk Community Foundation, along with providers such as Morrison's, the supermarket chain.



At present, there is just one vehicle that will visit the same 11 chosen villages in Breckland every week, but they hope to expand the service to more areas by increasing the number of mobile, as well as static, shops in the near future. It supplies good quality, affordable food and if you live in Breckland you can become a member. After showing proof of address and paying a one-off joining fee of £3 per household, members can buy fresh, dried and tinned food, alongside toiletries and personal care items at a discounted cost.



In addition, the Breckland Mobile Food Store can offer signposting to community members, helping them to address the challenges that they might be facing, such as social isolation, debt and employment advice, debt management, schools and employment, or mental health and well-being.

Snow White


An Original Script by Leah Sanders

FEBRUARY 2023



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1pm

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PLEASE, PLEASE READ THIS!

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

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

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

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

- 1 - Gloucester Meteor.
- 2 - De Havilland Mosquito.
- 3 - Westland Lysander.
- 4 - English Electric Lightning.
- 5 - Vickers Wellington.
- 6 - Short Stirling.
- 7 - Gloucester Gladiator.
- 8 - English Electric Canberra.
- 9 - MIG 15.
- 10 - Hawker Hunter.

Answers to Picture Puzzle on page 13



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