



# WEETING VILLAGE LIFE

September 2023  
Edition 43

## Weeting Dog Walk

You lucky people! Not many villages have a designated dog walking path, but, after some criticism that ours was getting a bit overgrown, a few members of the Parish Council, along with their spouses and other family members, recently set to and did some extensive tidying up. Thanks go to you all and we hope that it now meets with everyone's approval!



The path is there to be enjoyed, so please remember to clear up after your dog and put the bags into one of the bins situated at each end.

Also, a reminder that dogs are NOT allowed on the Jubilee Playing Field for obvious reasons as children, as well as the football team, play on there and animal faeces do pose a potential serious health problem as well as being generally unpleasant to tread in. Thank you.

## Grass Cutting.

There has been an avalanche of comments on social media lately regarding the untidy grassy areas around the village, although the problem is the same everywhere in Norfolk and not just locally. However, our Parish Council has not been to blame and has made several complaints to those responsible.

Let me explain.....

Within the Parish of Weeting there are three agencies who have responsibility for the grassed areas and verges.

- Weeting Parish Council have responsibility for Parrotts Piece and the Jubilee Playing Field, and our contractors also mow the Church Yard. These are paid for by the Parish Council.
- Breckland District Council, whose contractor is SERCO, have responsibility for the grassed areas within the Residential estates, Angerstein, St Edmunds and Hereward.
- Norfolk County Council are responsible for all of the verges and the area in front of The Row. Their Contractors are CMG and they have a policy of four cuts per annum for Urban areas and two cuts per annum for Rural areas. As a Rural area, we only qualify for two cuts at present.

Most of the local authorities have adopted a policy of only cutting where necessary for safety reasons and if you park a car on the verge outside your home, they will not cut around it and will leave that verge uncut.

Unfortunately, we are not given any notification as to when they are coming and therefore cannot give ample warning.

Mike Nairn – Chairman, Weeting Parish Council

## Rascals at the Castle?

It has been brought to our attention that further damage has been inflicted on our castle ruins. Why must people seek to destroy? Don't they have anything better to do with themselves? Shame on them all!



English Heritage are being very tardy with the repairs to the main building too. The scaffolding and barriers have been in place for years now. Their excuse seems to be that they need to use lime mortar to make repair and that can only be used in summer weather – WELL???

The Parish Council are attempting to chase English Heritage through our District Councillor, Robert Kybird, but, in the meantime, PLEASE DON'T create further damage to this 800-year-old building.

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

## Editor's Note:



The next edition of Weeting Village Life will be published in December 2023.

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 10th November 2023**.

I look forward to hearing from you.

## Editor's Contact Details:

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# School Report



Wow! The end of the school year seemed to arrive very quickly! It's been an exciting and positive year at Weeting and I just want to thank every member of our school community – children, families and staff – who have made this year so memorable.

After several years of disruption due to Covid, we have finally had a full calendar of events. How fantastic has it been that we could all come together and celebrate key events such as the Harvest Festival, Christmas Production, Carol Service, Sponsored Walk or Run, Remembrance Day, Easter and class story cafés. We plan to continue with these as well as have more family events next year.

Last term is always a busy one and last term was no exception. Here are some of the highlights!

## Ofsted:

On 13th and 14th June 2023, we had our Ofsted inspection. After previously being rated as 'requiring improvement' we were delighted that we were given a rating of 'good' by Ofsted for the first time in 12 years, and rated as 'outstanding' for our Early Years Provision.

The school was described by inspectors as a place where "pupils get off to an excellent start", "take pride in their work" and where the curriculum is "broad and ambitious." The whole school community was delighted with the result, which rates the school 'good' in the quality of its education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development and leadership and management. The Early Years Provision was given an even higher 'outstanding' rating. Inspectors particularly praised this stating: "Children in Reception have access to an extensive range of enticing activities. These help children's all-round development as part of an ambitious curriculum. Teachers routinely praise children's efforts. They use their phonic knowledge to write about things that interest them. Children play imaginatively. They make detailed creations inspired by the stories they have been reading. There is a sharp focus on developing children's vocabulary. They are very well prepared for Year one."

The inspectors stated that the school has been transformed over recent years from one which required improvement, to a place that they described as "calm and orderly" and one that our families told inspectors that "pupils love coming to school." The report highlighted a range of positives including that pupils show good levels of empathy and that "they take care of each other and play well together" as well as learning "to be respectful and understand differences." The leadership of the school was highly praised, along with its "clear ambition that every pupil will develop a love of reading." Class teachers were found to be meticulous in their planning of lessons and ways to engage pupils, presenting information clearly and checking knowledge levels.

The report highlighted the SEND provision, noting the positive impact of The Nest, our learning hub where SEND pupils from across the Trinity Partnership take their lessons. "This is a calm and less busy space where pupils can keep up with learning. Pupils that access this class are, rightly, proud of their achievements."

Pupil comments echoed those of the inspectors, with children across all years speaking highly of the school. Year 4 pupil James said: "We use our school values of perseverance and friendship to be independent learners to achieve our life goals." Reception pupil Mabel added: "I like to come to school because I can make things."

Having taken on the permanent headship in May I was absolutely thrilled with this Ofsted report and it really does highlight all the very hard work that that has taken place over recent years. I am incredibly proud of the school, staff, children, families, and community – we have all worked together to make this school a place where learning is fun, exciting and challenging. The report reflects our school vision, which is a cord of three strands is not easily broken, where the children, staff and families have come together. It has been four years of hard work since our last inspection, total commitment and support from staff. I am delighted that Ofsted saw how amazing this school is and I am excited about our next steps.

## Treachery at Traitors' Quay:

The children in Elm and Oak Classes put a huge amount of hard work into this year's end of year production "Treachery at Traitors' Quay". The plot was a spy thriller set during World War 2 and focused on the evacuation of a group of children. Both the acting and singing were of the highest standard, with the hostility between Mr Mulch (Charlie) and General Kitchener (Daniel) a particular favourite with all the audiences! The enthusiasm with which the children approached the play, particularly the learning of all those lines, was a testament to their commitment to learning and the effort that they have expended throughout the year.



## Family Rounders' Tournament:

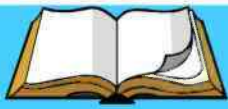
"What a great afternoon!" and "Can we do this every year?" was the overwhelming feedback from our EACH fundraising rounders' tournament. It was great to see so many of our families turn up, complete with picnics, for our shared lunch before taking part in our house rounders' matches. There was a lot of fierce competition between children, parents and families with some great hits and catches being made. A huge thank you for all your donations as we raised £52.00 for EACH.



## Visit to "The Nook":

Herbie and Joanne, from our School Council, were invited to The Nook's Open Day, to acknowledge all the work that has been done this year to fundraise for EACH. Ellie Miller, Fundraising Co-ordinator, who visited school to help School Council decide on possible types of fundraising events, gave them a personal guided tour. Herbie and Joanne were very impressed with how homely The Nook felt. Herbie commented "I don't really like hospitals, but this doesn't feel like a hospital at all". Both children were very impressed with the giant hydrotherapy pool that all children and families can access. A particular favourite of Herbie's was the very large bath tub that went up and down and could have lights and bubbles on. I think we all decided we would like something like this at home! Joanne liked that the bedrooms for children had special duvets on to make them feel welcoming. She particularly liked the Minions duvet set!





# School Report



The summer term is also a time where we celebrate some amazing achievements and acknowledge some very special work by our children.

### Courageous Advocacy Trophy:

Canon Andrew Read, from the Diocese of Ely, was our very special visitor to present this brand-new trophy. Canon Read explained that this award is given to an individual or group of children who have thought about others before themselves, often promoting the needs of others who are less fortunate than themselves. It was a great honour that this inaugural award went to our School Council, who have planned and organised all of the fundraising events for EACH this year. They have done an amazing job and our grand donation total sits at £1400.00. A big thank you to everyone in our school community who has contributed to this!



### Leah Blake Creativity Award:

This year the Leah Blake Creativity Award was presented to Mabel Romer, from Chestnut Class. Staff commented on how Mabel has shown great creativity and imagination in her artwork, model making, story telling and role play!

### Crossman Cup:

Olivia King was the recipient of our Crossman Cup this year. This award is presented to a Year 6 pupil who has demonstrated our school values of creativity, friendship and perseverance throughout their time at Weeting Primary School. Memories of Olivia's creative writing, supporting the younger children at lunchtimes – including reading lots of jokes from Christmas crackers and overcoming her fear of heights to climb trees in the Forest School and up to the top of zip wire during the Kingswood Residential – demonstrated just why she was such a worthy winner.



It also a time for us to say "goodbyes" to pupils and staff. On the last day of term, we said our official goodbye to the Year 6 children and their families. As is the custom, the children wrote and organised the content, including their memories of Weeting and some well thought out advice for the upcoming Year 6 children. They were also presented with transition books from Mother Joan and a copy of "The Day No One Woke Up" by Polly Ho-Yen from the school. The children had previously enjoyed "The Boy in The Tower" during their whole class reading time and were keen to explore more of the author's work. They have been an amazing group of children to have as part of our school community and we wish them all the very best as they move onto secondary school.



Our end of year worship turned out to be a very special one. We started by saying goodbye and thank you to Mrs Nice and Mrs Shannon who are leaving our school to take on new jobs at other schools in the areas. We then said goodbye to several of our longer serving support staff – Mrs Cronin, Ms Duke, Ms Grass, Mrs Moore, Mrs Morriss, Mrs Powell and Mrs Wright. I would also like to welcome Mrs Colberg, Miss Shaw, Miss Crawford and Miss Back who are joining the team in September.



Wow! What a busy last half term! We enjoyed having Mat



and Oona Owl from Brandon Library visit us again! The children loved the stories they shared; "Nature trail" "There's a monster in your book" and "Whatever next!" Along with some fun nursery rhymes.



Our sports day was a big success! Thankfully the weather stayed nice for us. We had a great turn out of families who came to cheer the children on. We were very impressed with the children's sprinting, balancing and perseverance. They were all great at cheering each other on, especially when it came to the mum's and dad's race!



On the last day of term, we thoroughly enjoyed our pre-school trip, with the children and families, we visited Brandon Country Park. We all enjoyed some time playing on the park, hunting for sticks to build a den and then a yummy picnic. We then really enjoyed a session with Roots and Boots, there was lots to do! Reading stories, building with Lego, playing with playdough, cooking in the mud kitchen, playing with dinosaurs and diggers. A couple of firm favourites were swinging in the hammock and roasting marshmallows on the fire! Thank you for having us Roots



and Boots!



Sadly, it's the time in the school year when we have to say goodbye to our some of our children going up to school. We got to celebrate them during our presentation afternoon. We are so proud of all our school leavers; we will miss them a lot but wish them all the best as they start their next chapter.

We are looking forward to welcoming lots of new children in September!

Although spaces are filling up fast, we have some availability. If you are looking for childcare for ages 2-4, please contact the preschool on 07927 690968.



# School Report



This has been the first full school year without any covid restrictions, and we certainly made the most of it! This year we have been fundraising for new music equipment for the school, this was voted for by families of the school. Our total raised for this is £1393!! A huge thank you to everyone who helped by

donating items to our bucket of booze, our Christmas hampers and for attending our events!



Our first big event was our winter wonderland back in November, it was a big success with a Santa's grotto, games, a raffle and stalls.



Throughout the year each class hosted a bake sale to raise money for their class trip, cakes and bakes were kindly made by families of the children of that class. The class that raised the most for a second-year running was Beech class!



We have held a variety of after school clubs, such as Easter bonnet decorating, a sensory workshop, making neon crafts and decorating plant pots.



During the year we held a few school discos, by far the favourite has been our most recent leavers disco which was held on the school field. It was neon themed, at the request of our year 6 leavers. We had a photo booth, a tuck shop, face painting and a VIP area for our year 6 children. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone!

The Friends presented the year 6 children with leavers hoodies, which have been very popular.

In aid of the King's coronation, the Friends put together a packet of seeds for each child to take home to plant in their gardens to mark the occasion.

We have taken part in some community events this summer, volunteering at the hub at the Weeting steam rally and also holding a stall at the recent family fun day.

We have been so grateful for all the support we have received from the school and families in helping to make all our events a success!

Sadly, our Chairman Becca is stepping down after many years on the committee. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and commitment to making sure fun events are carried out for the children at Weeting Primary school. We will miss you Becca!

## Breckland Council



Do you have some old paint tins in your shed? Norfolk County Council will be holding a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day at Thetford Recycling Centre during the weekend of 16th / 17th September between 9am – 4pm.

For further information visit <https://loom.ly/99mox00>



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# CLUB SPOTLIGHT

## Art For Pleasure

We have usually exhibited at least once a year and tried to be as near to Weeting as possible. So, when the opportunity arose this year, we decided to stay at home completely. We meet and paint each week in Weeting Village



Hall, so on 15th July we collected a selection of our work and displayed it for the first time in the Hall. For those of you who visited, thank you for your support, and we hope you enjoyed seeing the skill and talent of your friends and neighbours.

We know many of you did as, not only did we sell some of our work, but we have also been joined by four ladies who wish to take up art as a hobby. In fact, on the day, some of you tried your hand at encaustic art (making pictures from wax colours with an iron) as demonstrated by Mary Wood, one of our members.

We are hoping to make this an annual event so if you missed us this year, look out for us in 2024 at Weeting Village Hall. If you can't wait that long, we will be supporting the Village Hall with their Christmas fete.

Our name Art for Pleasure describes our group perfectly – whether you have never done anything more than enjoy doodling with a pencil, or you want to return to an old skill, you will be welcome. We are of very mixed abilities and work in many varied mediums – pencils, pen and ink, water colour, acrylics. If you enjoy art why not come along to Weeting Village Hall any Thursday morning at 10.30 am. The kettle is always on.

As stated, we meet every Thursday 10.30 am – 12.30 pm at Weeting Village Hall.

For more details phone Beryl Pountney 01842 828750

## Breckland Cats Protection

Female cats can have up to 3 litters a year, which is a drain on their systems, and there is always the chance that something may go wrong and she needs a caesarean section which can cost around £1,000.



Male cats also need to be neutered, as they constantly spray indoors and out, marking their territory and their urine has a very unpleasant smell until they are neutered. It takes around 2 weeks for the smell to decline once they have had the operation.

Male and female cats will wander far and wide to find a mate, and often get hit by cars in the process. They can also become infected with Feline Aids or Feline Leukaemia from other cats they come into contact with. Male cats often get into fights with other male cats and can get abscesses as well which often need veterinary treatment.

We are here to help you. We can send you a voucher towards the cost of neutering if you are on a low income or struggling with the cost-of-living crisis. Our vouchers are worth £35 towards the cost of neutering a male cat, and £50 towards the cost of neutering a female cat which you can take to any vet. Just ring our help line on the number below, listen to the message to access the correct phone number and have a pen and paper ready to write the number down. Our helpline does not take messages but will lead you to the correct number to ring, depending on your requirement.

For help or advice, ring 01842 810018 between 9am and 6pm.

Rita Thompson,



HAVE FUN!

GET FIT!

WHY NOT JOIN

**METHWOLD  
BADMINTON CLUB?**

THIS FRIENDLY BADMINTON CLUB MEETS EVERY THURSDAY EVENING AT ST. GEORGE'S HALL IN THE CENTRE OF METHWOLD FROM 7PM ONWARDS.

OUR SEASON RUNS FROM SEPTEMBER TO APRIL.

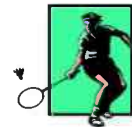
WHY NOT COME ALONG, MEET NEW FRIENDS AND ENJOY AN ACTIVE EVENING PLAYING BADMINTON.

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01842 827428

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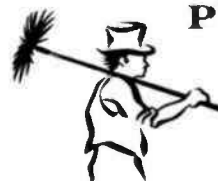
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Email: [mail@bunchesandbows.org.uk](mailto:mail@bunchesandbows.org.uk)

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# CLUB SPOTLIGHT

## WASPS

Hi all, it was a hoot wasn't it? "MURDER IN THE MANOR" - it was such a fun show to do. The cast laughed all the way through the rehearsals, and I know all who came to see it enjoyed the antics on stage. I asked the audience if they



knew who the murderer was, but hardly anybody guessed and I must admit I did not tell the cast until the week before the show who it was and what with PC World and PC Plodd causing chaos every time they came on stage, well what can I say except that I was so chuffed it went down as well as it did!

So what next you say? Well, we are well on our way to get the next production started and this Christmas we will entertain you with a show called "SANTA'S LOST HAT". We are getting the scenery painted etc. and the costumes are being sorted, so what with the paint brush in one hand and the sewing machine in the other, we are quite busy!

This year we have some new additions to both cast and crew for which we are very grateful.

I hope you enjoy being with a crazy bunch of people!

We will start our rehearsals on Monday 4th of September. at 6 00pm at Weeting Village Hall.

## SUMMER CRAFT SHOW

As the summer weather had been so bad this year, we were very much surprised to find that on the 29th of July the sun shone all day. The crafters all arrived and set up their goods and outside we had some car Booters that also turned up together with an ice cream van.

It proved to be a great day out for everybody and soon lots of lookers and buyers turned up. With the wonderful array of items on each stall, people were so amazed by the talent of their neighbours. So many things to see from beautiful greetings cards to painted china and knitted goods - the list goes on and on. I just loved the toy animals that had been made. So much to see, I for one can't wait for the next one. There was also a very, very large stuffed lion and if you found the square with his name on it, then you won him, and he has now gone to a new home in Mundford. Tombola - well, I'm not sure what to say about that stall except the ladies who ran it kept us all in stitches for the whole day!

Angie, as usual, was in the kitchen with lovely hot bacon and sausage rolls, cakes and tea and coffee to keep us going. if you missed it then the good news we have another Craft Show on the **11th of November** and for the first time we will also have a Christmas bazaar on the **9th of December**, so make a note of the dates and come along to find that perfect present for your loved one.

## QUIZ

We will be holding our autumn Quiz night on Saturday 30th of September. if you want any information, please ring me and I will let you know details, but just to say usually it will be teams of six or under at £8 per head to include a meal, so please do not eat before you come as there will be plenty of food. **HOWEVER**, please book your table a week before the quiz at the latest, so we can make sure there is enough to eat and that all tables are set ready for you.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our events for the Winter season.

Carole  
Tel No: 01842 550919

Andy Phipps was our guest speaker this month with special permission from RAF Lakenheath Fire Department who granted him relief from duties in order that he could attend this special occasion.

Andy exuded confidence and authority which must have developed at an early age; from a determination to succeed. He grew up in Shoeburyness, gained few formal qualifications and after various shore-based jobs leading nowhere he became



obsessed by the idea of a naval career and eventually got it. He served time in the Falklands safeguarding fuel stations. After he returned home, this newfound experience led him to a fire service training centre in Cambridge which, in turn, led him to the Fire Service at Lakenheath. He now spearheads a crew of about 40 Brits and 100 Americans; this might sound like a metaphor for some of the equipment he uses: fire engines with armour piercing water nozzles designed to extinguish fires inside crashed aeroplanes but, with sufficient control to prevent the drowning of the occupants. This equipment together with a number of other fire fighting vehicles, each costing not much less than \$1 million apiece, complete the ensemble.

Despite the proactive procedures necessary to fight fire, he stressed the point that as much goes into fire prevention as it does into fire fighting. There is a close working relationship between the police and the medical teams present on the base and, although there are certain legal procedures to follow, common sense is often used to transcend the law.

Snippets: during WW2 Lakenheath was an unarmed decoy airfield to Feltwell which was where the real action took place; Andy was proud to be able to reveal that, although he has had to attend quite a few accidental crash landings, there has never been an F15 downed in hostile engagement; fire control is one thing but the mopping-up duties also include the clearance of cockpit residue resulting from the effects of high G-forces on pilot intestines.

It is with great sadness that the WNAS reports the passing of one of our members: Roger Burrows from Watton had a small factory unit at Threxton where he built and piloted 7/10 scale replicas of inter-war biplanes. We were all looking forward to the maiden flights of a Hawker Fury and an SE5 but alas, it was no to be. He gave a presentation a few years ago at our bowls club meeting place and invited members of the society to a party at his workshop - memories to be treasured!

Nigel Tooth



## Grand Costume Sale

Saturday 30th September  
10am until 12.00 noon

### Methwold Theatre Club

are selling wide range of costumes, hats & accessories.

Come along, have a coffee and browse the rails!

21 Room, Methwold Hall Complex  
High St, Methwold, IP26 4NT

## WEETING VILLAGE HALL

Hi everybody, this year is going by so fast, can't believe its September already by the time you read this article.

So what has been happening in the hall since June? All the clubs have been in full swing up to the end of July when the Weeting Weenies, Street Dancing and one or two others took their annual break, and we look forward to seeing them back in September when the new school term starts.

We had our first annual summer craft fayre at the end of July, hosted and run by Carole Wilkins (see separate report), a lot of time and energy was used making sure everyone was booked in and had a good time. The weekend before we had a Fun Day Fund Raising going on in the hall and on the playing fields, felt so sorry for the people that day as I don't think it stopped raining from dawn to dusk, but I hear they had a good day all the same.

Not a lot else has really been going on in the hall except the usual groups, one or two parties going on. The new back door to the hall has been painted now, this is the one that was replaced due to being damaged earlier in the year, the fitting of this door and the removal of the old one was overseen by Committee Chairman David Wood, thank you David for painting it as well. The new sensor lights at the front of the hall are working well, as are the lights on the playing field side as all needed updating, talking of updating all electrical equipment belonging to the hall will have been pat tested as well by the time you read this. We have to get this done every year to keep in line with our insurance recommendations, and to keep all hall users safe and sound.

Next on our agenda is to look into solar panels again, but we have to make sure the roof is strong enough to support the panels, if the roof is strong enough then we will proceed and hopefully get this done in the spring.

In the meantime, we do have some other events coming up such as the Winter Craft Fayre in November and a Christmas Bazaar in December (see separate report for dates), not forgetting the WASPS Christmas show. If anyone else wants to put something on in the hall, please do contact Angie Page and she can find a slot for you, bearing in mind the hall does have regulars booked in most nights and during the day Monday to Friday – for contact details of any of the clubs please see the list in this magazine.

Not much else to report at this time except to make sure you look out for the posters which we put out at the corner of Peppers Hill and by the Bus Stop at the junction of Hockwold Road and the main road through the village, we also put notices in the notice boards, again by the brick built bus shelter, at the end of the drive way leading to the Hall, there is one in the over flow car park by the children's play area and by the front door of the hall. So until next time, take care and keep safe and well.

Karen Scott  
Treasurer  
Weeting Village Hall

### **Weeting Gardening Services** Lawns & Hedges

**Ron Bloomfield**  
14 Glebe Road, Weeting  
Tel: 01842 812173



## St Mary's Church



### 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:

Third Sunday of the month: Eucharist @ 11am

## MOBILE LIBRARY



7th September 2023

5th October 2023

2nd November 2023

30th November 2023

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

**Georgina Sims 07913 976786**

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Tues - Thurs: Lunchtime Open: 12.00 - 2.00pm • 4.00- 9.30pm  
Fri & Sat: 12.00- 9.30pm • Sunday Closed



## WEETING SPEED RECORDER UPDATE

Time Period FROM	Time Period TO	Position (Direction facing)	Total Count of vehicles	Speed Limit mph	Vehicles within the speed limit	Speeding Violations
6 <sup>th</sup> May	3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Lynn Road (S)	61387	40	55319	6059
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	1 <sup>st</sup> July	Peppers Close (E)	3327	30	3203	124
1 <sup>st</sup> July	29 <sup>th</sup> July	South Park (N)	73253	30	63827	9426

### Quarterly Summary

Total Vehicle Count from 6 <sup>th</sup> May to 29 <sup>th</sup> July 2023	<b>137967</b>
Vehicle Count within the speed limit	<b>122349</b>
Speeding Violations within the village	<b>15609</b>
Violators as a percentage of the total vehicle count	<b>11.3%</b>

## ?? Who's Who ??

### Weeting Parish Councillors

Cllr Tom Childerhouse	01842 811469	tjchilderhouse@btconnect.com
Cllr Clodagh Drewry	01842 815073	clobagh-drewry@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr Margaret Lister (V-Chair)	01842 810467	margaretlister11@gmail.com
Cllr Mike Nairn (Chair)	01842 810212	mike.nairn@btinternet.com
Cllr Sue Nairn	01842 810212	sue.nairn@btinternet.com
Cllr Peter Nordan	01842 815638	nordanp@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr Bernard Smith	07985 902188	bernardsmith7@btinternet.com
Cllr Carole Wilkins	01842 550919	carolewikns@sky.com

### Weeting Parish Clerk

Mrs Pauline Angus	07741 481956	clerk@weetingparishcouncil.org.uk
50 Brecklands, Mundford, Norfolk, IP26 5EG		

### Breckland District Councillor

Cllr Sam Chapman-Allen	07771 966457	sam.chapman-allen@breckland.gov.uk
Cllr Robert Kybird	01842 753132	robert.kybird@breckland.gov.uk

### Norfolk County Councillor

Cllr Fabian Eagle	07774 295510	fabian.eagle@norfolk.gov.uk
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### Member of Parliament

Mrs Elizabeth Truss	020 7219 7151	elizabeth.truss.mp@parliament.uk
House of Commons		website: <a href="http://www.elizabethtruss.com">http://www.elizabethtruss.com</a>
SW1A 0AA		Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/trussliz">https://twitter.com/trussliz</a>

### Constituency Office

01842 766155

# LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

CLUB	CONTACT	LOCATION	DAY AND TIME
Adult's & Children's Street Dancing	Micha 07841 474400	Village Hall	Wednesday 3:45 - 8:45 Thursday 6:30 - 8.30pm
Art For Pleasure	Beryl Pountney 01842 828750	Village Hall	Thursday 10:30am - 12:30pm Thursday 10:30 - 3:30pm
Bingo	Angie Page 01842 814147	Village Hall	Tuesday Open at 6:30pm Eyes down at 7pm - 9pm
Brandon & District Classic Vehicle Club	John Maxim 01842 811032	The Ram, Brandon	2nd Monday 7.30pm
Brandon & District Camera Club	Denise Whiting 01842 862079	Baptist Church Brandon	2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7:30pm
Brandon & District Society of Model Engineering	Dave Moore 01842 811996	Brandon Council Offices	1st Wednesday 7:30pm
Brandon Day Centre	Michelle Jarrett 01842 819777	Warren Close, Brandon, IP27 0EE	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 10am - 3.30pm
Brandon Speaker's Club	Gary Sander 01842 814679	The Ram, Brandon	2nd & 4th Wednesday 7:00-9:30pm
Carpet Bowls	Heather Woodhams 01842 815406	Village Hall	Friday 10 - 12 midday
Fit Camp	Naomi 07506 246786	Playing Field	Monday 6:15 - 7:15pm
Green Bowls	Sue Windget 01842 812094 Carol Newman 01842 815089	Bowls Club	Friday 6.00 - 10pm Sunday 12 midday - 4:00pm
Gun Club	Derick Spencer 07766 750153	Weeting Gun Club	Alternate Sunday January to October
HATS	Gary Sander 07754 727130	Hockwold Village Hall	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		
Outdoor Archery	Mike 07894 904090	Euston Park	Friday 6:00 - 10pm Sunday 12 midday - 4:00pm
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 Badminton Club	Jeff Millard 01842 827428	St George's Hall, Methwold	Every Thursday between September & April 7.00pm
Methwold Theatre Club	01366 727526	The 21 Room George's Complex Methwold	Tuesday 7:30pm
Model Car	Colin. 07876 330687	Village Hall	Alt. Wednesday 7pm - 9pm
Pool	Carol Newman 01842 815089	Bowls Club	Tuesday 7:00pm
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 Thetford	Wednesday 7.30 - 9.30pm
W.A.S.P.s	Carole Wilkins 01842 550919	Village Hall	Monday and Friday 6:00 - 8pm (during rehearsal periods)
Weeting Saxon FC	James Langley. 01842 811627		
Weeting Steam Rally	Kate Plant Rally Co-ordinator 07907 720312		Monday 7pm to 9pm Friday 9:30am - 2:30pm
Weeting Weenies	Marie Stebbins mariestebbins@hotmail.com	Village Hall	Wednesday 10:00 - 12 midday (school term time only)
West Norfolk Aviation Society	07706 030307	Mundford Bowls Club	1st Tuesday

# Rector's Report

## St Mary's Church



### Latest from St Marys

Many of you will have seen on social media that the pews have all been removed from St Marys in preparation for contractors to begin their investigative and repair work. Originally this was scheduled to begin in August, however delays seem to be inevitable and I'm still waiting to hear from the architect about a start date. With a bit of luck it will be September as the work must be completed by December under the terms of the grant.

I want to say a huge thank you to Peter Nordan who coordinated the removal of the pews and special thanks to all the volunteers who came to help remove the pews and help store them at Childerhouse's farm. Many thanks to Tom and David Childerhouse for providing the storage and the transport for the pews from church to farm. It's been a great community effort – it's heartening to see church and community pulling together to clear the space for the contractors to come in and begin their work.

We have a feeling that the south aisle floor may not be the huge job we feared. Tommy Saward and I met with Scilla Latham of the Norfolk Churches Trust on Thursday 3rd August. Scilla advised us to expand our current grant application to include the cost of restoring the floor. She also commented positively on the amount of floor space in the church without the pews and we discussed how much more flexible and useable the space would be if we are allowed by the Diocese to sell the pews off and replace them with chairs. I will be definitely exploring this option in coming weeks. Thanks to Mike Nairn who has begun the process of exploring options for sourcing chairs.

I enjoyed my brief time in the Hub at the Weeting Steam Rally along with Julianne and Tommy and the Childerhouse family. Though the location this year was away from the ringside action, it's a great space for people to chill out with small children and especially to dodge the many showers.

In October, in conjunction with the school, we're planning to hold a Harvest time country dance with refreshments in the school hall. Jo Nordan will be visiting school as the new term begins to help teach some of the dances. The children will be able to show off their dance moves on the evening and all are welcome to come along and join in what should be a great fun event. Many thanks to Jacqui Hardie and the staff at Weeting school for this joint cooperative effort.

There will be a Quiz Night in the Village Hall to raise funds toward St Mary's repairs in early November with the usual plentiful, warming supper and great raffle prizes.

### Year 6 Pilgrimage

On 19th June, Rev'd Juanita and I joined with the Year 6 children from Weeting and the other two schools in the Trinity partnership for a great day out on pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. This is now an annual fixture, and it was also lovely to welcome the children from the Duchy of Lancaster school in Methwold to be part of the day. The weather was great, so we were able to enjoy a picnic in the beautiful Shrine grounds and the children had made some creative pilgrim badges to wear. Congratulations to Jeremy who won the badge competition for Weeting.

I'm really looking forward to building on the cooperation between church and school in the new school year and we have some creative ideas for Collective Worship in the run up to Christmas.

I hope you all have a lovely, relaxing and safe time over the August holidays.

With all good wishes and every blessing,  
Joan Horan  
Rector St Marys Weeting.



### 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:

Third Sunday of the month: Eucharist @ 11am

## Quatermass And The Pit

In 1958 the BBC was showing a weekly science fiction programme called Quatermass and the Pit and it was easily the scariest series they had ever produced at that time. People would sit and stare at the television not saying a word; some would hide behind the sofa, occasionally peeping over the top, whilst others covered their eyes with a cushion, but it was a must-see programme. For those who have never heard of it, this is the story about a new underground railway tunnel that was being dug under London when they found a strange rock-hard object blocking their path.

It had obviously been buried for many years and further excavation revealed that it was some kind of vehicle that had crashed during the last war whilst the bombing was in progress and had become buried in the rubble. Anyway, a certain Professor Quatermass was called in to examine it but attempts to gain entry all failed until they came across what appeared to be a round door. Drilling and jacking would not work, explosives, hydraulic rams and flame cutters also failed. Quatermass listened to try detecting any sound from within, but it was deathly quiet.

My father was sitting in the corner of the room in his favourite armchair, checking his football coupon; my mother was on the settee, knitting and my little dog, Terry, was busy chewing through the standard lamp wires behind a chair. Suddenly, Quatermass said he could hear movement from within the craft and, at that moment, the door began to move outwards. We were all transfixed to the TV screen, holding our breath. Then, with a crash, the door fell off and out came these space creatures that looked like ants, but they crumbled to dust in a moment. It was at that point my mother jumped so much that she dropped several stitches and spilled her tea; my dad laughed, but not for long because at that moment Terry made contact with a live wire. There was a loud yelp, a bang and all the lights and television went off – my parents thought the space creatures had caused it! Terry was scrambling to get out of the room in the dark to cool his scorched whiskers and mother thought the end of the world had come – she had to have a brandy to calm her nerves!

We had to fit a new fuse to the board and got the power back on just in time to see the last few minutes of the programme when this huge ghostly image stood over Tower Bridge before disappearing into the mist.

Looking back on it, the programme was very scary and I could not sleep that night thinking whether these creatures really could be up in space. By today's standards it would be looked upon as rubbish, but not back then. The kids at school talked about it and some did not show up the next day. It made headlines in the papers too – anyway, the aliens did not take over the world, Terry's whiskers grew back quite quickly, and he carried on chewing his basket to bits!

Do you remember the 405 lines television? It was based at Alexandra Palace in London and was the only TV mast in the country. The picture was not very good until the Tacklestone mast improved things, followed by 625 lines TV and 21inch TV screens.

John Holledge

(Editor's note: I too remember Quatermass and it gave me nightmares for years – why my parents let me watch it I will never know! Also, the only daytime programmes in the '50's were "Watch With Mother" – [Andy Pandey, Bill & Ben, Rag, Tag & Bobtail and The Woodentops], programmes such as "I Love Lucy" with Lucille Ball & Desi Arnez and underwater programmes featuring Hans & Lotte Hass. Children's Hour began at 5pm and the evening ended with the National Anthem and shutdown. Only one channel, in black & white too!)

## **Autumn Gardening 2023**

Autumn has arrived and the nights are starting to draw in. Autumn is a special time to be a gardener, allotments (and veg growing areas) are brimming with fruit and vegetables to be harvested and the soil is the perfect temperature for planting.

### **Mulching your flower borders:**

Most of us sadly lost garden plants last winter due to the week of harsh frost in December. One way to help plants survive through winter is to mulch to insulate roots.

If your home-made compost is ready to use it can be spread on the soil between plants to hold in moisture and feed your plants. If you don't make your own compost, you can purchase bags of compost, bark, or manure to do the same purpose. You can clear dead stems and foliage now too although in my opinion it is best to leave them standing until spring to provide habitat for insects and to provide extra insulation.

Weedy beds will need clearing before mulching which can be hard work. You could try covering empty beds with cardboard. The cardboard will block out the light from any weeds and cause them to die back. This will make it much easier to dig in spring. Alternatively, you can sow green manures, these crops are grown on bare ground either in spring or autumn and dug into the soil a few months later. This method enriches the soil and improves the structure.

### **Harvesting fruit and vegetables:**

Now is the time to get over to the allotment or vegetable patch to collect what you can from the last of the summer crop before the cold weather comes. Autumn crops such as apples, pears, squash and leeks should all be ready to start harvesting now.

Any bare plots can be sown with winter salad crops such as mizuna, rocket and winter lettuce.

### **Planting bulbs and sowing seeds:**

Now is the time to plant spring flowering bulbs including tulips, crocuses and daffodils. They can be planted in pots or in flower beds. If you have a large area of grass, try planting crocus bulbs in drifts for a vibrant colour show in early spring, the bees will thank you.

You can also sow seed of hardy annuals in early autumn, including cornflowers, scabious and ox-eye daisies.

### **Clearing leaves:**

When the leaves start to fall and the season heads into mid to late autumn it's a good idea to clear leaves from lawns and flower borders. Keep the leaves to make leaf mould to feed next year's plants. Do this by piling leaves in wire cages and leaving them to break down. If you're tight on space, use strong bags tied at the top and add puncture holes near the base for air to circulate. This makes a good mulch to use on your plants next year.

Removing all leaves from around roses is also a good idea as the leaves can harbour diseases, including blackspot, during the winter. These need to be incinerated (not composted) otherwise you risk the diseases remaining in the compost you've created.

### **Other Top Tips for Autumn:**

- Clip conifer hedges. If you leave this too late any new growth will be damaged by frost.
- Plant evergreen shrubs whilst the soil is still warm.
- Plant winter flowering pansies & violas in tubs & baskets for a splash of colour.

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

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# Picture Puzzle

Here are ten images all of which have appeared in previous puzzles. Seven are items found in or around the home, one is a portion of label of a common household products and two are found in Weeting. Can you identify them?  
Answers on page 14.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10

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## 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 walk routes, 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](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk)  
[john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)

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Weeting Steam Engine Rally & Country Show went very well this year and despite the rain on Friday and high winds on Saturday, we are all very pleased with the success of this years' event. A big thank you to all the villagers who supported us and came along to enjoy the weekend, and a very big thank you to those who

helped with the set up and take down of the show, - your help is very much appreciated. If anyone would like to get involved in helping next year, please do get in touch.

We had a small layout change this year which worked very well, with more steam engines on show along the bus route, and the heavy horse ring was an addition that went down well and showed the beauty of heavy horses in action. With around 90 full size steam engines and over 150 model steam engines, we are the largest steam engine rally in the East of England, attracting many visitors from



around the country and world, this year we had campers from Derbyshire, Scotland and Cornwall along with visitors from New Zealand. It's not just steam engines though, we have vintage vehicles, classic vehicles, military vehicles and tractors, fire engines and so much more, there really was something for the whole family to enjoy!



Our working steam area is always a hit, demonstrating how steam engines used to be worked within various industries, from road making to wood sawing and ploughing, giving the younger and not so younger generations an idea of how things used to work, back in the day. This year we introduced a steam apprentice theme to the small ring



on Friday, which was a success with the under 21s being able to have a go at steering full size and model steam engines. As a charity, the Rally aims to educate on all things steam driven, from the manufacturing, history and preservation - we need to keep the steam scene alive for the next generations to come.

Friday night was packed out with Dr Busker in the beer tent and The Polka Dots in the restaurant tent, both keeping everyone entertained after a very wet day! Saturday saw the outdoor stage in full action with country singer James Dunne as the warm up act for the band Heathen, who rocked the night out for us in style, meanwhile, in the restaurant tent, The Swingettes kept the party going with vintage style songs.



We would like to thank all our volunteers and sponsors, without them we couldn't put on such a great event for everyone, please do get in touch if you would like to help or sponsor the rally next year.

Rally chairman, Richard Parrott was very pleased with how the event went, and hopes everyone enjoyed themselves and continue to support us again next year.

Dates for our 2024 show are Friday 19th, Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st July, keep up to date with what's going on by visiting our website or following us on social media, search Weeting Rally to find out more.

Kate Plant - Rally Co-ordinator (07907 720312)

www.weetingrally.co.uk

Registered Charity No. 1158906

(Photographs by kind permission of Heritage Snapper)

# CLUB SPOTLIGHT

## Weeting Bowls Club – September 2023

I am delighted to report on a very enjoyable and successful summer season of bowls, which began with the Pete Hunt Memorial Knockout Competition and the Coronation Pairs Competition back in April/May.

Our Weeting bowlers, now resplendent in their new team shirts in club colours, and club caps, have all shown remarkable enthusiasm and dedication throughout the season. Consequently, the standard of play and match performance amongst all the bowlers has improved significantly.

Internal Club Championships have included Mixed Singles, Pairs, Triples and a New Bowlers competition, all running concurrently with two league matches every week. As the season draws to a close we are now looking forward to our Presentation evening on 29 September when trophies, shields and certificates will be presented to worthy recipients, and all will enjoy refreshments and camaraderie.

On the social side, the club have welcomed a good number of new members who have joined us purely for social events such as live music from bands like Broadbandits, Blue Thunder, Mr E and Riffugees; themed discos eg. Country and Western; monthly karaoke nights and psychic nights, in addition to private parties and charity fund raising events.

Next year (2024) promises to be a very special year, as Weeting Bowls Club will be celebrating its 50 Anniversary. The bowls club committee have all been working hard making plans for the refurbishment of the club and the bowling green in preparation for this momentous year.

To date, we are indebted to The United States Air Force 48 fighter wing from Lakenheath, who volunteered their services to help committee members with the painting of the exterior of the Club House (see photo below). Work on restoration of the bowling green is to begin in September, and internal modifications to the kitchen and interior will commence in due course.



We are open every weekend and all are welcome. Check out our Facebook page for details of upcoming events. If anyone is interested in joining or visiting the club, they should come along and introduce themselves; or contact Mrs Joanna Nordan (Bowls Captain) – 07701042676 or Mrs Hazel Cook (Club Secretary) – 07517516444

- 1 - Fir cone.
- 2 - Spring clip.
- 3 - Sony label.
- 4 - Weeting Village sign (east side).
- 5 - Battery
- 6 - Screw thread.
- 7 - Glass tankard handle.
- 8 - Two-button WC flush.
- 9 - Weeting Castle ice house. 10 - O.S. Map detail.

### Answers to Picture Puzzle on page 13

## 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!

# Moving the Pews

The plight of St Mary's Parish Church, Weeting is well known, but, at last, visible progress is being made.

The most recent task has been to remove the Victorian wooden pews from the nave to allow a cherry picker access to the interior. This will be used to make repair to the ceiling where the plaster has fallen off and to apply netting in order to stop any further crumbling debris from falling into the body of the church.

Peter Nordan coordinated a group of volunteers who spent several days toiling away at detaching the heavy pews and stacking them ready for removal to storage. Then came the call for more helpers to carry them outside and load them onto a flatbed trailer to be transferred to a barn on Tom Childerhouse's farm. This entailed an awkward manoeuvre through the north door



which was not wide enough for one pew and a volunteer on each side at the same time. As there were 18 pews and only four at a time could be fitted onto the trailer, this was quite a task with much to-ing and fro-ing. Several volunteers remained at the church to carry them out into the churchyard and three others had the unenviable job of unloading them at the farm and stacking them under cover. Many calories must have been burned during both jobs!!



Others had the unenviable job of unloading them at the farm and stacking them under cover. Many calories must have been burned during both jobs!!

Thanks go to everyone who helped out and, thankfully, it was a dry day!



During the removal, the nave carpet was rolled back and uncovered some memorial stones that had been covered for so long that I doubt anyone can remember them being there. More about those and who they were for later. The entrance to the Angerstein crypt was also uncovered, although it is sealed with mortar. Churchwarden, Tommy Saward, showed me a diagram that was drawn in 1946 of the position of nine lead lined oak coffins belonging to the Angerstein family that lie beneath the stone floor along with who resides in each one, the earliest being Amelia Angerstein who died in 1848.

Although the pews have been put into safe storage for now, it is hoped that they may not be returned to the nave. Many of them would need some substantial repairs and have suffered woodworm infestation in the past – no longer active, hopefully! Replacing them with chairs would be a more practical approach as this would allow a more flexible use within the church. Old church pews are quite sought after and, if the Church of England allows it, we could sell them to help offset the cost of our repair work to the building.



Luckily, it seems that the wooden floor in the south aisle that had appeared to subside, resulting in the pews on that side having to be roped off, may not be as drastic as first thought, which may mean that repair costs could be a bit less. We must wait and see what the surveyor's report tells us. Anyway, the work has to be completed by December, so we look forward to celebrating Christmas in St Mary's.

# Robert Miller's Floor Stone

As mentioned in the previous article, a floor stone dedicated to Robert Miller and his wife Sarah was uncovered when the nave carpet was rolled back during the removal of the pews in the church.



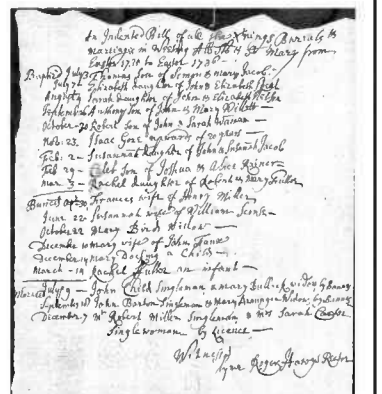
The assumption must be that they were not interred beneath the floor as there was no crypt in 1773 to our knowledge. Therefore, this is probably just a memorial stone and it is quite likely that the pair are buried somewhere in the churchyard. However, records dating back that far are not kept at the church and locating them might be difficult as headstones that old are often badly eroded by time and weather.

Anyway, my curiosity has got the better of me and I enjoy a challenge. Having done a lot of research into both my and my husband's family trees, I have a range of websites available to be that can help to find a certain amount of information as follows.

Robert Miller was born in Hillborough, the son of Henry and Frances Miller and was baptised there on 15th April 1691. At some point the family moved to Weeting where Robert met and married Sarah Carter, by licence, at St Mary's, Weeting on December 7th 1735. He was 44 years old and Sarah 23, so a bit of an age difference. Apologies for the faintness of the image, but this written entry is almost 300 years old and the book in which it is written dates back to 1558!



His mother, Frances, had died earlier that year and was buried, again at St Mary's, on April 30th 1735. This page is an Indented Bill for 1735-36 and includes both Frances' burial and Robert's marriage.



Robert, as we know from the floor stone, was buried on 13th July 1773 at the grand age of 83 years. Sarah lived on another 21 years and was buried on October 22nd 1794, aged 82.

I have not been able to find any children of the marriage, nor details of Robert and Sarah's life in Weeting so far. One thing I will say is that I would not wish to be called the **relic** of my husband!!

Another floor stone is behind the church organ in the Lady Chapel. This is dedicated to Osbert Denton and other family members. More research is called for!

Sue Nairn - Editor



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