

December 2020

FELTWELL PARISH MAGAZINE

YOUR CONNECTION TO YOUR COMMUNITY



A very rare and recently discovered photo of Father Christmas in his sleigh over the old newsagents shop in Hill Street.

**Light a Candle in
Your Window**

**War Hero No. 26:
G. A. Payne**

**Archaeology in
Feltwell**

Christmas Stories

**Wildlife Friendly
Gardening**

**Twelve Stats of
Christmas**

Another 80-page issue!



FELTWELL ORGANISATIONS

List maintained by Paul Garland.

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RBL Poppy Appeal Organiser	Mary Reynolds	828130
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Feltwell Museum	Graham Simons	828387
Parish Clerk, Jo Martin. Email: feltwellparishclerk@gmail.com .		828383

Parish Council website: <https://feltwellparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

Feltwell's History Website can be found at <http://www.feltwell.net>

Deadline for the next issue is 14th December 2020

Submitted articles may be hand written or typed in Word 2019 or earlier.

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LIGHT A CANDLE IN YOUR WINDOW

What a year this has been! I couldn't have begun to imagine in my wildest nightmare when writing last year's Christmas message that in 2020 we'd fall down a rabbit hole into a dystopian world of pestilence and lockdown. A world where our most basic human instincts for the comfort of love, friendship and fellowship require 'social distance' to attempt to stem the tide of a voracious virus sweeping through our planet at lightening speed and deadly effect. Who could have conceived that our 'go to' accessories would be little bits of cloth covering our nose and mouth and lashings of hand sanitizer? Do you know that very pricey 'designer' face masks are the 'must haves' on this year's 'Santa list'?

As the days shorten and the nights draw in, we find ourselves isolated into lockdown once more as the powers that be try desperately to limit the upsurge in hospitalizations and deaths. Our world has shrunk – no more catch up over a coffee with friends or impromptu calling in to each others houses for a chat, holidays whether domestic or abroad are liable to last minute cancellation, children's education is severely compromised, elderly loved ones are denied the comfort of visits from those they're closest to... no wonder we are all feeling absolutely frayed at the edges as winter approaches and the 'normality' of family time at Christmas is threatened. Family and community life has retreated to the 'virtual' as we reach out for connection via Zoom, WhatsApp, Skype or other social media platforms. None of these can replace that vital human connection we long for – a hug.

As we approach Christmas this Advent we are missing those traditional 'markers' of the season that bind us together as community. There are no 'tree festivals' at Feltwell or Northwold. Children in our schools who look forward so much to welcoming Mary, Joseph and that very naughty donkey into their homes during 'Posada' – the representation of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem – are disappointed to find that "Donkey" will not be

consuming bucket loads of carrots or raiding the fridge at midnight this year! Carol services will move online or will be limited in numbers and they will feel very different as communal singing in church is prohibited by law. The delightful chaos that is Christingle on Christmas Eve is a 'no no' this year. Midnight Masses will go ahead – hopefully, but will feel very different with social distancing, mask wearing, track and trace and 'lashings' of hand sanitizer at the door. These rituals have always drawn us together as community and we feel their absence keenly this year.

We have marked the beginning of Advent most years at Feltwell with an Advent carol service which has drawn participants from across the Benefice and local village community. One of the songs we sing is called **Light a candle in your window** and its chorus goes like this:

Light a candle in your window

Let the night know that you care

Light a candle in the window

It may guide the Christ child there.

Now more than ever we need the light of the Christchild shining through the darkness of this pandemic that has caused so much suffering, grief and loss in our world. Someone commented to me the other day that Jesus was born in 'less than ideal circumstances'. Indeed he did enter a world where Roman oppression and brutality was the norm, born in squalor because his young parents had been forced by the occupying power to travel far from the comfort of family and home to Joseph's ancestral city in order to be taxed. Life was on a knife edge for this young family who then had to flee into exile as refugees to avoid Herod's murderous, jealous rage. No it wasn't an ideal start. If however we believe that Jesus is "Emmanuel" which means "God with us" it was imperative that he should experience and share the hardships and vicissitudes of life just as we do. This sharing of life in all its facets is what makes Jesus 'real'. It is what makes this feast of Christmas real. Jesus lived among

us. He showed us the way to live by bringing healing, reconciliation peace and love through his presence, his touch, his word. He lived in solidarity with us. One of the reasons why I like the symbolism of the Christingle is that it points us forward – with that red band of ribbon around the orange – to the Prince of Peace shedding His blood for us on the Cross. Why? So that all the earth might be reconciled in love and peace with God and enter into the joy of life eternal with Him forever. Jesus IS ‘the light that shines the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it.’ He is our comfort and our hope in these troubled times.

Light a candle in your window...it may guide the Christ child there.

One positive aspect of this pandemic is the way in which communities continue to pull together to support those who are vulnerable and most in need. I'll leave you with a challenge this Christmas. If we all light candles in our windows this Advent and Christmas we can show our solidarity with one another and our resilience in these dark times – it's an invitation to welcome the light of Christ into our homes and families and to light our way forward towards the renewal that will come. For Jesus remains with us now. He is our hope in the darkness of pandemic, our hope in the midst of human tragedy. Christmas may be celebrated very differently this year, but the steadfast love of the Christchild endures forever.

May the love, joy, peace and blessing of the Christchild be with you all in this holy season.

Joan Horan

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Phone: 01366 383989

Everyone at
The Wellington



would like to wish all of our
friends and customers a very

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a

HAPPY & HEALTHY

NEW YEAR

We look forward to seeing you all
in 2021

It has become something of a tradition over recent years that this issue of the magazine contains a Christmas story by a local author. This year I asked both our contributing authors for a Christmas story. What I got back couldn't have been more different. We start with...

Dear Santa

by Frederick James

Dear Santa,

I have just realised that I have missed the last post for letters to go to where you live at the North Pole. I remembered to put an Air Mail sticker and even your post code on my envelope, but it won't reach you now for Christmas, will it? The thing is, my letter took so long to write that by the time I'd finished, the last day for the post had passed by before I knew it.

I suppose I could have put my letter up the chimney, but I didn't because I thought it would get covered in soot, and you wouldn't be able to read it. Besides, we are all electric, and haven't got a chimney! It's nice to get a letter, though, isn't it? I get letters sometimes, and cards when it is my birthday, from my family and my friends. Sometimes the cards have money inside. That's nice!

Even if I had sent you my letter on time, you probably wouldn't have had time to do what I want, so I've decided to send my letter anyway, so that you will know what is top of my list. Mummy and Daddy have always told me that you can do magic and make anything happen if kids like me deserve it. This way, you can read my letter when you've finished delivering those parcels all over the World, and you've got the chance to sit down and have a rest. And besides, next Christmas is a long way away, but if you can do it for me for then, I will be really happy!

What I want you to do is quite hard I suppose, but will you try to do it for me, if you can find the time? After all, next Christmas is a long way away. It always seems a long way away to me when I have to try to be good for all that time. I've got a few more days being good for this Christmas, but when they are all used up, I promise to start

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again straight away, so that you will help me. It means so much to me that I won't ask for any other presents for next year. I'll still be good for Mum, though. I promise. I will help her with the washing-up, and do errands when she asks me. I'll keep my bedroom tidy, and put my dirties in the wash bin. I'll do my homework and try to do well at school, too. You know, all that sort of stuff. It won't be easy, but I will try really hard, honest.

I've been saying my prayers every night at bed-time, but somehow it hasn't worked so far. My Granny tells me that you have to be extra-special good for your prayers to be answered, but I can't try any harder. If I do, I think I'll burst!

If I tell you what I want, it has to be a secret until you have done it for me, because I want it to be a surprise.

You see, my daddy is a soldier, and he is a long way away across the sea fighting bad people. Mummy and I miss him so much, and it would be really nice if you could bring him home to us for next Christmas.

Lots of love.

The next story by Edward Gee was written for his grandchildren and is printed in a smaller font size as it is quite long.

The Magic Wrdrobe

by Edward Gee

This story was inspired by the thought, "What do you get a child for Christmas when they already have everything they could possibly want?"

Seven-year old Sophia woke on Christmas Day to a bedroom that was remarkably smaller than it had been when she had gone to bed. The walls were in the same place, the window hadn't moved and yet the light entering her eyes was much less bright than usual. Something was casting a shadow over her bed. Sophia looked towards the bottom of her bed and was astonished to find the panelled side of a large wooden wardrobe looming over her. That, most definitely, hadn't been there on Christmas Eve. Sophia wondered if it could be her Christmas present from Father Christmas. But

how could he have got that on his sleigh? And how did he get it into her bedroom, after all it doesn't even have a chimney. But Father Christmas is magic so he can get anything anywhere she decided.

Raising herself onto her elbows she heard the rustle of paper and felt the heavy presence of a bulging Christmas stocking against her side. She pushed it aside far more curious about the wardrobe than the trinkets that lay in the stocking.

Having slipped her feet into her slippers Sophia walked to the wardrobe. Mounted on its single door was a highly polished mirror in which Sophia admired her reflection momentarily. Then she spotted a label tied to its brass handle, reached out to remove it and read, "Dear Sophia. Please enjoy your dressing up games." Signed, Father Christmas. Sophia stared at the message for a moment and a look of puzzlement crept across her face. "Nibbles, what do you think Father Christmas means by 'Enjoy your dressing up?' she asked her knitted rabbit laying quietly on the pillow where a few minutes ago he had been nuzzling her neck.

Nibbles has been Sophia's best friend ever since her grandmother had given him to her for her second birthday and he has been her constant companion ever since.

Sophia reached out her hand, took hold of the handle, twisted it and opened the door. Her eyes grew wide as hanging inside was the most gorgeous light-blue evening gown. The gown looked as though it would fit her perfectly.

Without a second thought she took the gown from its hanger, stripped off her pyjamas and put it on. Then she noticed a pair of sparkly blue shoes sitting on the dark blue velvet lining of the wardrobe. She took them out, placed them on the floor and slipped her feet inside. Like Cinderella putting on her glass slippers they also fit perfectly. Sophia closed the wardrobe door and looked at herself in the mirror.

"What do you think, Nibbles? Do I look like a countess? Would I be the centre of attention at any party?"

Inside her head she heard Nibbles say, "I think you look wonderful, Sophia. I think everyone would say how beautiful you looked."

"I think so too," Sophia said turning around in front of the mirror to look at her back view. "Very elegant," she said to the room.

As she continued to examine her reflection the door of the wardrobe began to swing open and before Sophia could stop it she caught a glimpse of something else hanging inside. *How strange*, she thought to herself. *I'm sure there was*

only one thing hanging in the wardrobe.

As the door finished swinging open Sophia saw, hanging on the same clothes hanger as before, a purple dress clearly made for a princess to wear. Sophia gasped in amazement. She couldn't work out how she hadn't noticed it the first time she had looked inside. She just had to try it on.

She took off the blue gown and threw it on her bed. She removed the princess dress from the hanger and put it on. It fit perfectly. Then a glittering diamond tiara laying on the blue velvet caught her eye. She lifted it up and carefully threaded it into her hair, closed the wardrobe door and admired herself in its mirror. The dress made a delicious swishing noise as she swung her hips from side to side and the tiara caught the sunlight entering through the window and the diamonds glowed brightly.

"The Princess Sophia will see you now," she said to Nibbles and Nibbles replied, "I have fought dragons and trolls, walked miles through hot desert and waded across crocodile infested rivers to ask you to marry me your most radiant majesty."

"Yes, Prince Nibbles, I will marry you for you are a most handsome, brave and honourable man." She reached out her hand and took hold of Prince Nibbles. Then they both paraded around the bedroom, hand-in-hand.

They stopped parading when the wardrobe door creaked on its hinges as it swung open once more. Sophia wondered what it would reveal this time.

A pirate's outfit hung from the hanger and a hat and eye patch lay underneath. Sophia stepped out of the princess dress, tossed it onto the bed where it came to rest on top of the blue gown already lying there. She put on the pirate clothes, placed the hat with its skull and crossed bones on her head and became Pirate Captain Sophia.

"Ha hah, me hearties," Pirate Captain Sophia growled as she prowled in front of the mirror, an eye-patch over her left eye. "Pirate Nibbles, you have been found guilty of stealing extra food. You must walk the plank."

"No! No! Not the plank. Please Captain, I can't swim."

"Then you should have learned before you joined my crew."

"But, but," stammered Pirate Nibbles in fear. "It was only an extra apple. And it had maggots in it!"

"Ah. So you admit to stealing extra meat as well as fruit. You shall walk the plank, twice."

Pirate Captain Sophia raised her cutlass and prodded Pirate Nibbles in the

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Out of Hours Service - Between 18:30 and 08:00, Monday to Friday, and all day at weekends and on Bank Holidays your call will be redirected to the **NHS 111** service.

back forcing him along the plank towards the long drop into the ocean. Nibbles looked back over his shoulder. His mouth opened to plead for his life one last time but instead he said, "Look, the door is opening again."

Sophia turned around and saw a purple and black witch's dress hanging inside the wardrobe. *Time to change*, she thought. She quickly removed the pirate costume and became Witch Sophia. She picked up a pointed black hat and a wand from the bottom of the wardrobe and with a wave of her arm turned Nibbles into a black cat. "Meow, meow," said Nibbles as he rubbed himself against Sophia's legs.

Sophia pointed the wand at the bed with its pile of clothes, spoke a spell and the bed became a sail boat bobbing on a calm blue sea under a bright yellow sun. The pair of friends lay back in the boat and floated peacefully until Sophia got bored. She spoke another spell and with a thunderclap and a puff of white smoke the sail boat became a flying carpet high up in the air. Sophia looked over the side and saw her house sitting majestically in its grounds. The carpet zoomed down towards the house and entered through an open window into her bedroom where a wardrobe stood with its door hanging open. Inside the wardrobe hung a robot costume.

Another quick change and, "Where is my spaceship?" Robot Sophia asked Nibbles in a voice that sounded like it had been made by a machine which, of course, it had.

"It got destroyed when we landed here. We are stranded with no way to get back home," replied Robot Nibbles.

"Then we must look for some other way off this planet," replied Robot Sophia moving her arms in a chopping motions and beginning to walk stiff-legged around her bedroom.

"Let's look inside this wardrobe to see if there is anything useful," suggested Robot Nibbles.

"Good idea, Robot Nibbles."

Robot Sophia walked stiffly towards the wardrobe, took hold of the door and opened it slowly, just like a robot would. She peered inside and was amazed at what she saw. Hanging from the clothes hanger was a pink ballerina outfit in Sophia's size. She gasped at the appearance of this latest set of clothes because she had dreamed of being a dancer ever since she had begun to walk.

"Oh, how beautiful," she said as she began to remove the robot costume.

She tossed it onto the bed where it joined the rest of the discarded clothes and put on the pink tights, leotard and tutu. She picked up a pair of pink

ballet shoes from where they lay on the blue velvet, slipped her feet into them and tied the ribbons tightly around her ankles.

When she arose she was the world famous Prima Ballerina Sophia. She stood on her points and pirouetted in front of the mirror moving her arms as though she were a swan floating serenely on the water. Nibbles clapped enthusiastically at her performance.

Sophia was just about to take a bow when the door of her bedroom opened and her mother's voice said, "Happy Christmas, my darling."

"Happy Christmas, mummy. Look what Father Christmas gave me."

"A lovely new wardrobe. How wonderful," her mother replied. "We'll have to go on a shopping expedition and buy lots of new clothes to fill it up."

"No, mum. We don't have to. Every time I open the door there's a new outfit hanging inside."

"Well I never," her mother replied, a knowing smile spreading across her face. "A wardrobe full of surprises. What better a gift for Christmas? One that will last a lifetime."

Senior Citizens Christmas Veg Packs

Local farmers have generously donated produce for vegetable packs for Senior citizens (over 65 years) living in the parish of Feltwell. Packs can be collected from Feltwell Social Club on Tuesday 15th December from 1.00 – 2.00 pm

Everyone needs to bring their own bag to collect their pack. (Please help neighbours to collect their pack if they are unable to come along themselves.)

Contact Penny Black on (01366 728711) or (07952 183040) before Friday 11th December to be included in this offer. Delivery will be available for those unable to personally attend

I wish you all a safe Christmas Penny Black

FELTWELL IN THE NEWS

From Thetford and Watton Times 1925, no date recorded.

Choral Society

A concert was held at the Coronation Hall on Wednesday night. The chief organiser was Miss E. M. Scandrett who obtained valuable assistance from Mr & Mrs E. Brown and Mr W. Wompra.

There was an appreciative audience and thanks are due to Messrs A. Stapley and W. P. Coe (Brandon) and the Misses Phyllis and Audrey Gouldstone (Ely) who contributed to the programme.

A feature of the evening was the songs and dances of the Misses Gouldstone which were executed in character and also in excellent style.

Other contributions to an excellent programme were Messrs. A. G. Symonds, G. Futter, E. Brown, W. Beamis, W. Wompra, Mrs E. Brown, Miss W. Spinks, Mrs E. Farr, Miss M. Neville.

The concerted items by the Choral Society and others were much appreciated.

Notes

Miss Scandrett was the church organist for many years.

Mr E. Brown was the licensee of the Oak Hotel.

A.G. Symonds, Lawn House - retired newsagent

George Futter – clerk, Wissington Sugar Factory

Walter Beamis – agricultural worker and nephew of A.G. Symonds

Miss Winifred Spinks – school teacher.

Miss Margery Neville, Beck House, daughter of Ernest J. Neville.

She died in the “mushroom case” a few years later and is buried in Methwold Cemetary.

W. Wompra had one arm. He and his wife were butler and housekeeper respectively at Denton’s Lodge.

FINE CELL WORK EXHIBITION—HUMAN TOUCH

One of the many things that I have missed during the Pandemic and through these periods of lockdown is the freedom to travel and to visit exhibitions and shows to indulge in my interest in stitching and fascination with fabric and threads and the whole idea of using them as an artistic medium as valid as paint on canvas.

On 27th February I visited what was to be my last exhibition trip for a while. I and a handful of friends travelled to London to see the Fine Cell Work Exhibition at Sotheby's in Bond Street, and what a joy it was. A small exhibition but perfectly put together, a collaboration between eight contemporary artists and prisoners.



We were met by Jenni Parker, the daughter of Christine and Stephen here in Feltwell. Jenni works for FCW, she co-ordinates and organises the volunteers who go into prisons to teach prisoners to stitch, so she was a perfect guide for the exhibition having seen the project grow from its

inception and having first-hand knowledge of the process of putting the works together and of the stitchers who have embroidered the pieces; it was so interesting to be able to question her about the charity and to find out how the charity works and the logistical hoops to jump through in organising a project such as this one.

If you haven't heard of FCW you will be surprised to learn that it is the employer of the largest number of hand-embroiderers in Europe. The charity not only trains almost 500 prisoners a year in skilled commercial embroidery and quilting, it also makes a significant contribution to design through collaborations with well-known designers. Fashion Houses such as Stella McCartney will

approach FCW first when they require first class hand embroidery on their projects.

Founded in 1997 by Lady Anne Tree FCW has worked with 4,600 prisoners across 32 prisons in the UK. Volunteers run fortnightly workshops, teaching prisoners how to make cushions (on average 150 hours' work), quilts and specially commissioned pieces.

Prisoners are able to work in their cells even though at times this involves being inventive in accommodating larger pieces in a small space! Financially prisoners can earn up to £1,500 a year, and the aim is for

them to gain a greater sense of self-worth and hope.

Having recently received a major grant from the National Lottery the charity is increasing its work with



former prisoners and plans to open a London based training workshop; The Fine cell Works Hub. Those taking part will spend 3 to 12 months gaining an accredited textile qualification.

Human Touch is a ground-breaking collaboration between international contemporary artists and prisoners to create unique new art works which would be put together to make a fundraising exhibition. Kath Kidston is a Trustee of the Charity and it was her vision and determination that has driven this project over 3 years and brought it to fruition. Each artist has designed a piece of work to be stitched by the prisoners. Sounds easy! However some of the pieces are quite large and may have been embroidered by more

than one person, those people may be in different prisons, and the projects had to be broken down into 'bite size' sections so they



could be worked on in cells, then 'reconstructed' when the embroidery was complete. All in all, a logistical nightmare. The final exhibition is a testament to the dedication and commitment of all those involved, not least the stitchers themselves

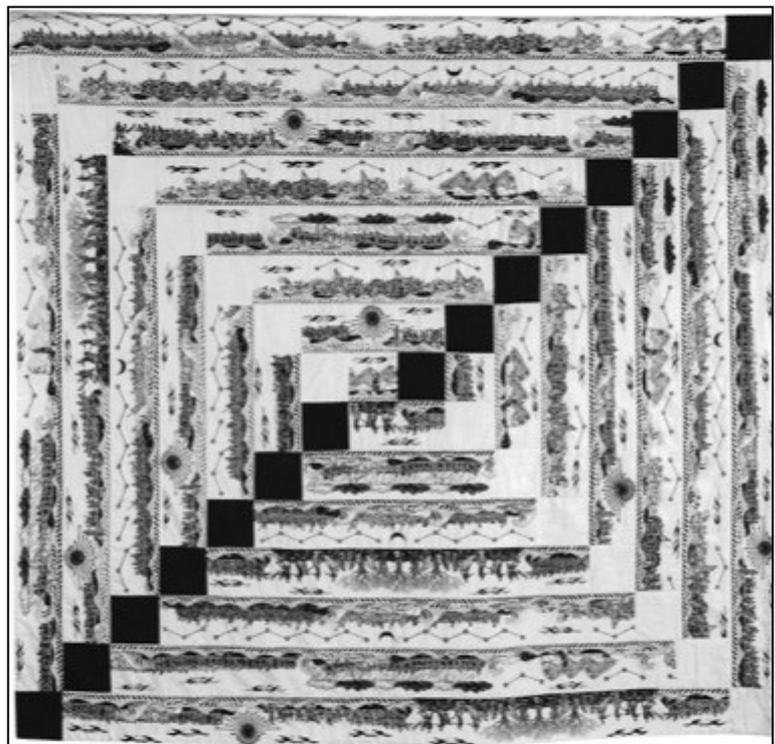
(mostly men) who have excelled in their work which is absolutely exquisite.

Sotheby's provided the exhibition space free of charge and conducted an online auction, as I understand it all but one piece (that actually wasn't finished) have sold and raised in excess of £220,000 for the charity.

Do have a look on line at FCW and all the pieces that they sell, its quite remarkable.

Yvonne Brown

The images are from this quilt designed by Ai Weiwei, Chinese contemporary artist and activist. The quilt is called *Odyssey in Quiltin*, it is 200 x 240 cms, and depicts the transition of migrants across the globe. It was hand embroidered and quilted in sections by 13 stitchers from 8 prisons.



Latest Consumer Alerts and Trading Standards News

This week we're highlighting the following Scams, Consumer Alerts and News:

Scam Alert – Online scammers selling Pets

Scam Alert – Emails claiming to be offering large cash sums

Scam Alert – Telephone cold calls claiming to be from 'Amazon'

Scam Alert – Emails claiming to be from 'DVLA'

Information Alert – Covid-19 and Lockdown scams to be aware of

- Fake Government emails offering grants and tax reductions
- Emails offering to assist with universal credit applications
- Fake track and trace emails claiming you have been in contact with someone who has Covid-19
- Fake adverts for hand sanitizers and face masks
- Fake emails offering 6 months of free TV License
- Fake online dating profiles
- Fake investment opportunities

Scam Alert – Scam inheritance letters

Safety Alert – Asda issues a recall for a number of their 'George Children's Dressing Gowns' due to the hood lining used not meeting flammability requirements

News Alert - Bird flu national prevention zone declared (*See p16*)

Scam Alert – Telephone cold calls claiming to be from 'Amazon' regarding 'the iPhone 7 ordered on your account'

Scam Alert – Emails claiming to be from 'Amazon'

Recall Alert – Diageo Great Britain recalls 'Guinness Draught 0.0%' because of possible presence of mould

Food Alert - Nutricia recalls 'Aptamil Multigrain Banana and Berry Cereal 7+ months' because it may contain small pieces of plastic

Online, email and phishing scams

Be on the look out for the following scams which are circulating:

Action Fraud warn people selling items online to be on the lookout for criminals sending fake PayPal emails

Phishing emails claiming to be from the 'Mail Administrator' claiming you will be 'blocked from receiving emails within the next 24 hours due to the refusal of updating your mailbox'

More advice and updates

For more advice and updates you can:

[Visit our Consumer Alerts web page and catch up on previous alerts](#)

[Find us on Facebook](#)

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Reporting scams

Reporting scams you receive helps us continue to build up intelligence on the scammers and how they target people.

You can report scams and get further advice from our partners the Citizens Advice consumer helpline:

0808 223 1133 (freephone)

[Citizens Advice consumer service website](#) *(Live link in online issue)*

If you've been the victim of an online scam you can get advice and support from Citizens Advice Scams Action:

0808 250 5050 (freephone)

[Citizens Advice Scams Action website](#) *(Live link online)*

You can also report Frauds, Cyber Crime and Phishing attempts to Action Fraud, the National Fraud & Cyber Crime reporting centre:

0300 123 2040

[Action Fraud website](#) *(Live link online)*

It's been four years since Friends Against Scams launched with the aim of spreading awareness of scams and looking to equip as many people as possible with the knowledge to protect others.

Friends Against Scams is a National Trading Standards Scams Team initiative, which aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams by empowering people to take a stand against scams.

- Scams cost the UK economy £5 - £10 billion a year
- 53% of people over 65 have been targeted by scams
- Only 5% of scams are reported

- Statistics indicate that the average scam victim has lost over £3,000

Anybody can join Friends Against Scams and make a difference in their own way.

Every Friend Against Scams makes a difference – so what are you waiting for? Join in. Spread the word. Protect others.

Go to the [Friends Against Scams website](#) to complete their free online training session.

Bird flu national prevention zone declared 12 November 2020

The UK Chief Veterinary Officer has declared a national Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) covering all of England to reduce the risk of the disease spreading.

This comes after two separate, unrelated cases in kept poultry and birds confirmed in England last week and a third case of H5N8 avian flu in captive birds was confirmed at a broiler breeder farm in Herefordshire. A very small number of wild birds in South West of England have also been found to have had the disease.

This means it is a **legal requirement** for all bird keepers to follow strict biosecurity measures.

A Message from the Editors

Readers are reminded that we publish the magazine online on the village website towards the end of the month in which it is issued. The web address is :

http://feltwell.net/magazines/mag_index.htm

All issues are in Acrobat (pdf) format for easy viewing. What you may not have realised is that all the links in the online version are active and, of course, it is in colour.

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Your Good Health

by Dr Ian Nisbet

Last month, we discussed our new coffee maker which arrived set up; it would not work until I disabled Bluetooth remote operation facility. The camera system which protects our house is connected to my Wi-Fi and I can interrogate the cameras from anywhere in the world using my Ipad. Strict password control is in place to prevent others hacking into my Wi-Fi system through the camera software. However, some cameras are preconfigured to be accessible via an app which hackers can access by using the default password which comes with the system. As time goes on, more and more devices will appear to make life “more convenient” if you want to close your curtains from the car on your way home, turn on the kettle or oven, and so on, but they all increase the hacking risk. The hackers have techniques to

turn household gadgets, such as Samsung Smart TVs, into spying devices which can record conversations.

A newspaper reporter employed a firm used by banks to find holes in their online security. Within minutes, the legal hacker had gained access to his Wi-Fi through a British Gas Hive Active Heating system which is remotely controlled by an app on a 'phone or tablet which enables the customer to remotely adjust their central heating. The hacker obtained the reporter's address and holiday dates (the system had been programmed to turn off while he was away) without effort. Baby alarms, which can be interrogated remotely, can be used by hackers to gain access to your Wi-Fi and to see into the child's bedroom. My recent copy of *Which Magazine* looked at the

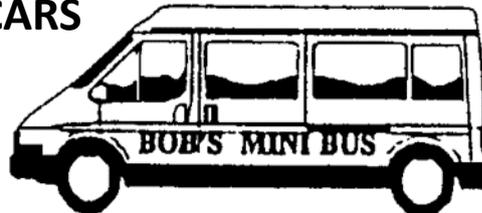
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new phenomenon of smart doorbells where a video picture of the caller can be seen on the telephone of the owner, wherever he happens to be (courtesy of an App and his Wi-Fi) and the owner can converse with the caller. Which tested 12 such doorbells and could only recommend three, one costing £360 and the other two £200. All the others had shocking security and privacy risks. For example, one video doorbell (£72) sends your home Wi-Fi name and password unencrypted to China. If stolen, this data could allow a hacker to access your private data and any other smart devices you own.

With the ever increasing number of devices hooked up to personal Wi-Fi, the balance between convenience and security seems to be tipping the wrong way and, as I am not particularly “tech savvy” I shall avoid them where possible in future.

That is all a bit “heavy” and Christmas is coming so I think it is time for a few jokes.

A priest and a nun were on a trip to a faraway monastery when their car broke down in the middle of nowhere as a blizzard raged above them. They found a deserted cabin with a sleeping bag, a bed, and a pile of blankets. They took shelter. The priest, being a gentleman, offered the nun the bed and took the sleeping bag for himself. As they tucked in for the night, the nun called out, "Father, Father, I'm cold!" so the priest got up and put another blanket on the nun. "Is that better, sister?" he asked. "Yes Father, much better," she replied. So he climbed back into his sleeping bag and started to nod off when she again called out with "Father, I'm still cold!" so once again, the priest got up and put another blanket on her, ensuring she was well tucked into the bed. "Is that better, sister?" he asked. "Oh yes, Father, that's much better," she said. So the priest got himself back into the sleeping bag, and this time was just starting to dream when he woke up to her call of, "Father, Father, I'm just so cold!" The priest thought long about this and finally said, "Sister, we are in the middle of

J M Harris EST. 1996

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nowhere in a blizzard. No one but you, myself, and the Lord himself will ever know what happens here this night. How about, just for this night, we act as though we were married?" The nun thought on this for a minute. She could not help but admit to herself she was curious, and finally answered with a tentative "OK, Father, just for tonight, we will act as though we are married." "Wonderful." the Father replied, "Now get up and get your own blanket" before

rolling over and falling asleep.

A man bought his wife a massive diamond ring for Christmas. His friend was envious as he could not afford anything so grand for his wife. Then, he remembered and said "I thought she wanted a new 4 X 4 car. "Yes," replied the husband, "but where would I find a fake 4 X 4?"

Deannie joins me in wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

Ian Nisbet

FELTWEELLBEING

Feltwellbeing is now open every **Thursday from 10.00 till 12.00** at **Feltwell Methodist Church Hall.**

All safety precautions and social distancing in place with contactless hand sanitisers and one way system. The hall is thoroughly cleaned before and after every session. Everyone welcome. **£2.00** per session to cover hall costs including tea, coffee and snacks. We look forward to seeing you there.



It is often said that, "the cat's out of the bag" but have you ever wondered how it got in there in the first place? And why?

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NEWS FROM THE LEGION

Just as we thought things were getting better lockdown 2 happened which threw the remembrance plans out the window. It was then decided with the parish council chair that it will go ahead with a small group of people in the memorial grounds, and advise people that if they did turn up it was at their own risk but social distancing must be observed. So Covid 19 - friendly services were held on armistice day by the Feltwell and District Royal British Legion at Hockwold memorial, Feltwell war memorial, and the war graves at St. Nicholas' Church. The turnout for Feltwell was greater than I expected thank you. After Feltwell we then went to the memorial in Northwold on Remembrance Sunday. I would like to give a special to Mary Reynolds who was at the memorial for a long while after the service making sur that the wreath layers maintained their social distancing whilst they paid their respects. The spirit of remembrance was still strong and the services still brought a tear to the eye and a feeling of pride for those in our Armed Services, who represent us bravely in many theatres of war. Many chose to honour the two minute silence on their door steps or within their own homes this year but the spirit of remembrance burns brightly.

I expect many of you watched the B.B.C. Festival of Remembrance on the eve of Remembrance Sunday. Despite not having a live audience and the contributors being socially distanced, it certainly fulfilled its remit in reflecting and honouring those who have sacrificed their lives in fighting for our freedom. The Duchess of Cornwall spoke movingly, paying special tribute to the nursing profession, both in the N.H.S. and the Armed Services.

Another very short service was held on the 11th day of the 11th month at 11 o'clock where a small gathering lead by the vicar took place and the chairman of the branch. Thank you to all who attended.

Let's hope that, providing we do what we are asked to, next year we can have some semblance of normality for our services. Just as a foot note that in May 2021 the Legion will be celebrating 100 years.

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Archaeology in Feltwell

The report on the archaeological investigation carried out on the school field contains some very interesting BACKGROUND information. I hope you, dear reader, agree.

Note: NHER = Norfolk Historic Environment Record.

Feltwell is a village and civil parish in the southwest of the county of Norfolk close to the border with Cambridgeshire. The village is cited within a large parish of 5376 ha, 65% of which is fen. Archaeological evidence indicates a longevity to human presence on the fen edge which lies 1km west of the village. Widespread scatters of flint tools and pottery dating to the Palaeolithic through to the Iron Age have been recorded on the fen edge and an Early Bronze Age cremation and inhumation cemetery located 2km west of the development site has been examined through excavation (NHER 5188). At the same site evidence of Iron Age occupation was recorded and included structures, and a rich collection of artefacts. However, prehistoric findspots and monuments are scarce on the higher ground within a 1km radius of the development site itself. Findspots of prehistoric date closer to the village include a Neolithic axehead (NHER 14660), a Mesolithic or possibly later macehead (NHER 14661) and Neolithic flint chisels (NHER 17539). Two possible Bronze Age round barrows are visible on aerial photographs at NHER 32238 and NHER 35543.

Roman settlement in the parish follows the pattern of Iron Age occupation. The evidence for Roman activity includes numerous buildings spaced at regular intervals along the fen edge and includes one at Whiteplot Farm (NHER 21137), Little Oulsham villa and bath house (NHER 5205) and another villa now destroyed by the building of the Cut Off Channel (NHER 5210). Roman settlement was not only related to the fen edge and the discovery of the Glebe Farm Roman Villa and bath house (NHER 4921) with its hypocaust system illustrates that Roman occupation did occur away from the fen. This villa site adjoins the west side of the current development site. Archaeological excavations at the Old School site (NHER 40913)

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200m southwest of the development site identified Roman pottery and tile contemporary with the villa suggesting the location of a settlement beyond the boundaries of the villa. Two separate excavations a little further south (NHER 51622 & NHER 41934) recorded more Roman ceramic building material whilst Roman finds are relatively common in the general area of the village. Chance finds include a Roman coin on Wilton Road (NHER 11467), Roman pottery and a quern on Paynes Lane (NHER 24271) and a Roman finger ring on Addison Close (NHER 37480).

Evidence of Anglo-Saxon activity comes from previous archaeological excavations at The Old School site (NHER 40913) located 200m south of the current site. Later Saxon and early medieval occupation remains in the form of structures, including a sunken-featured building, post-holes and other settlement features were identified. Finds included a small quantity of Early–Late Saxon pottery. This evidence suggests occupation within this area of the present village during the 10th–11th centuries.

That the village of Feltwell was established before the Norman conquest, is demonstrated by charters recording that it was granted to the monastery of Ely in the late 10th century. The ruined church of St Nicholas (NHER 4939) located 350m southwest of the development site has surviving elements of Norman architecture (the tower) whilst much of the remaining elements are of 13th to 15th century build. The church of St Mary 350m south of the development site (NHER 4940) is first recorded in 1494. Evidence for medieval activity has been found at a number of locations in Feltwell. Medieval pottery was found during an evaluation on Bell Street and a small quantity was also identified at the Old School Excavations (NHER 51622). Further afield, ariel photography has recorded a medieval moated site and deserted settlement around 800m southwest of Feltwell (NHER 4925) whilst another moated site and fishponds is located a little closer to the village at around 500m southwest (NHER 24981).

To explore an abridged version of the NHER database go to:

<http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk/>



CHRISTMAS
CYCLAMENS IN
MEMORY OF
LOVED ONES



St Mary's PCC would like to offer you the opportunity of purchasing a flowering cyclamen in memory of a loved one. The plants, along with a list of all those being remembered, will be on display in St Mary's over the Christmas and New Year period.

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Wednesday 9th
December



FELTWELL IN THE NEWS

From the Thetford and Watton Times 1925, no date recorded.

Wireless

The number of wireless enthusiasts in Thetford and district continues to multiply and week by week one sees further aerials spring up.

What a fascinating hobby wireless is to thousands of listeners.

The cottage situated miles from any other human habitation has its wireless to break the monotony of the dreary rural life.

Many who possess sets are quite capable of working them to perfection but judging from the oscillation that occasionally occurs there are others who yet need some experience.

The pity of it is that those who oscillate on their sets not only mar their own pleasure but that of hundreds of others listening in at the same time.

During the present week someone has been setting up a persistent 'howl' that forced many to switch off.

I hope everyone who owns a set will endeavour not to create these disturbances, not only on their own interests but in the interests of other.

Just why Pip recorded this cutting I can't imagine as Feltwell isn't mentioned in it anywhere. Perhaps he operated a wireless set? Whatever the reason, 95 years later in the time of instant access to news, it makes interesting reading.

REV. THOMAS RAWLINS CHARITY

Due to the current restrictions posed by Covid-19, the Trustees have taken the very difficult decision to cancel this year's donations. It is very unfortunate but our priority is the health and safety of the Feltwell residents.

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Visitors are welcome and we encourage the maintenance of close links between residents and their families and friends.

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CHRISTMAS PRESENT LOGISTICAL

This Logistical puzzle was designed by Chris at the Wellington.

	Alison	Harriet	Adam	David	Bicycle	Board Game	Jumper	Lego	Aunt	Sister	Santa Claus	Dad
Green												
Red												
Gold												
Stripy												
Aunt												
Sister												
Santa Claus												
Dad												
Bicycle												
Board Game												
Jumper												
Lego												

Match the gift giver to the recipient, the wrapping paper and the gift.

1. Alison's gift wasn't from her Dad.
2. David didn't receive the Bicycle or the Jumper.
3. The Lego from Adam's Aunt wasn't wrapped in Green or Gold Paper.
4. David's gift was wrapped in Gold paper and it wasn't given to him by a woman.
5. The Board Game, the Jumper, Santa's gift and the gift wrapped in Red paper are all different gifts.
6. Harriet's Sister didn't use Stripy wrapping paper.

Solution on page 41

EDMUND ATMERE (FELTWELL) CHARITY

The Charity awards grants to individuals who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress by making grants of money for items, services or facilities designed to reduce the need, hardship or distress.

It also helps for severe chronic illness in younger people.

Applications for assistance must be made to: The Atmere Charity Secretary, 16 Falcon Road, Feltwell, IP26 4AJ giving as much detail as possible about the need, hardship, distress or illness being experienced.

Applicants **MUST** be a Feltwell resident.

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FELTWELL METHODIST CHURCH

Monday 2 & 16 November Craft & Chat group meet again.

“Old Codgers” meet again in this socially distanced hall, on **Saturday 2 January** to celebrate the New Year & it may include our usual fun quiz, and sharing jokes and a bit of comedy when we all have a good laugh. It’s an open event with no age limit and its only £3, and that includes some refreshments! This event complies with Methodist Church of Great Britain & UK Government instructions.

Sunday morning worship may continue weekly at 11.00am in the Community Hall, depending on Covid-19 rules and guidelines. Families can sit together and other visitors have safely distanced seating. We all wear masks. Our services are only 30-45 minutes long, and include moments to pray for each other and our community. Non-members are very welcome.

Mondays from 6.30pm Zumba Gold is currently suspended but may be on again soon. Keep an eye on the village Facebook page for updates. Come along and ‘dance’. All attending maintain 2m safe distancing.

Wednesdays from 6.30pm Maria’s Exercise group is currently suspended but may be on again soon. Keep an eye on the village Facebook page for updates.

Thursdays from 10.00am Feltwellbeings continue to meet in the Community hall under government guidelines for “support groups”. Seating is around safely distanced tables and refreshments are available. Friends chat, share concerns and celebrations and support each other through personal challenges. We’ve a snooker table, dart board, bagatelle, all of which entertain us and we have a few minutes guided exercise each week.



If you want to talk privately to someone, want to share a problem or want someone to celebrate with you, want to come to an event or one of our groups, you can't get out but would like to..... Contact our pastoral worker Brigette Wilkinson 01366 728797 / 07799216693

For room bookings & events, to discuss weddings, marriage ceremonies, infant baptisms, funerals, memorial services please contact Mike/Brigette Wilkinson 01366728797

mikegw15@gmail.com

Church secretary is Jean Dennett 01842 728209

FINE CELL WORK ENLARGED

When this issue goes online towards the end of December a worthwhile exercise would be to zoom in on the photographs in the Fine Cell Work article in order to see the quality of the stitching in the pictures. It really is quite remarkable. Here's an example.



The eagle-eyed amongst you will have noticed our recently introduced footnotes. We would very much like you to submit a **FOOTNOTE** of your own. Please send your **FOOTNOTE** to Paul at garlandp@btinternet.com.

YESTERDAY'S MEMORIES

I think I became Church Warden in about 1939, anyway, it was in the Reverend Cope's time. The first official job I had was when the Bishop of Ely came and Captain Hardy and I escorted the [cross of sacrifice](#) into the church. The church used to be full in those days, but it was in the war that it began to fall apart. I was warden with Captain Hardy and Major Swan and when he was ill, I took over. I was also with Miss Baker's brother and Basil Vincent. I think I got elected every year because I was the only one who applied! We had a team who used to keep the church yard tidy and cut the grass. I liked seeing it tidy. Farming had a big influence on my faith; watching the farm is like the resurrection all over again. You set the corn and you know it's going to grow.

Mr George Lawrence *(interviewed in 1992)*
George was a church warden for over 50 years.

March the Month for Prostate Cancer Final Total

Prostate Cancer UK have finalised a total for the **March the Month** appeal. It is

£283,122

Men, check your risk of developing Prostate Cancer at

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CHRISTMAS PRESENT LOGISTICAL SOLUTION

Alison	Stripey	Santa Claus	Bicycle
Hariot	Green	Sister	Jumper
Adam	Red	Aunt	Lego
David	Gold	Dad	Board Game

Feltwell's WW1 War Heroes No.26

All of the information in the "Feltwell's War Heroes" series can be found at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/43688219@N00/42905937225/in/album-72157679638767304/>.

This month's War Hero is:

G.A. PAYNE, 4TH NORFOLK REGT.

Abbreviations used.

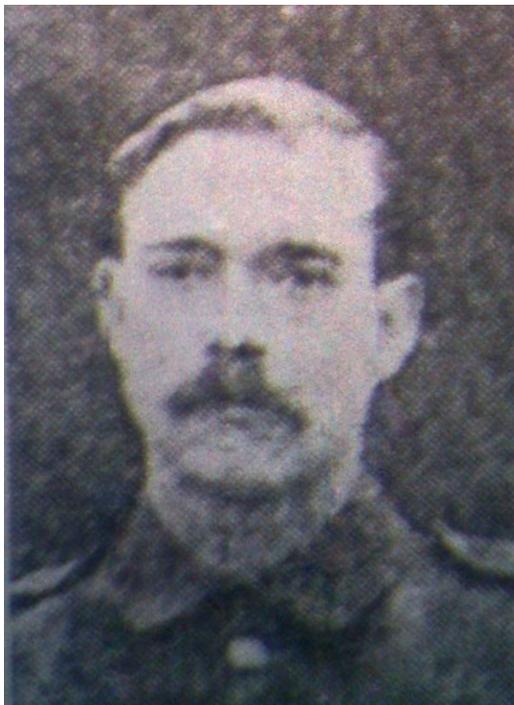
CWGC - Commonwealth War Graves Commission

SDGW – Soldiers Died in the Great War

IRC – International Red Cross

MIC – Medal Index Card

On the Church Roll of Honour he is recorded as George Payne.



Missed from the Roll of Honour website.

This picture appeared in the edition of the Norwich Mercury dated Saturday June 16 1917. The accompanying caption read :

"Private G.A. Payne, Norfolks, son of Mr. and Mrs. G.A. Payne, Whiteplot Farm, Feltwell, killed in action in Palestine on April 19th."

PAYNE, GEORGE ALBERT

Rank: Private

Service No: 201034

Date of Death: 19/04/1917

Regiment: Norfolk Regiment
"D" Coy. 1st/4th Bn.

Panel Reference: Panels 11 to 15.

Memorial: JERUSALEM MEMORIAL

Additional Information: Son of George Albert Payne.

Soldiers Died in the Great War records that Private George Albert Payne was Killed in Action on the 19th April 1917 whilst serving in Palestine with 1/4th Battalion, Norfolk Regiment. No place of birth or residence is shown. He enlisted in Norwich.

The Medal Index Card for Private 201034 George A. Payne, Norfolk Regiment, is held at the National Archive under reference WO 372/15/160193

He had previously been Private 4707 in the same Regiment.

1889 Birth and baptism

The birth of a George Albert Payne was recorded in the Thetford District of Norfolk in the April to June quarter, (Q2), of 1889.

The baptism of George Albert Payne, born 15th May 1889, took place at St Mary and St Nicholas, Feltwell on the 7th July 1889. His parents were George Albert, a Labourer, and Lois Louisa. The family lived at Feltwell.

www.freereg.org.uk/search_records/5818f8fce93790eca32d249...

1891 Census of England and Wales

The 2 year old "Geo. A" Payne , born Feltwell, was recorded living at Chalkpit, Methwold, Norfolk. This was the household of his grandparents, John Baker, (aged 60, born "Igbourgh" (?), Norfolk, an Agricultural Labourer) and N.A. Baker, (aged 58, born Kenninghall, Norfolk). They have a daughter of their own living with them, Lizzie Baker, (aged 16, born Methwold). They have another grandchild living with them who is probably Georges' sister – the 9 year old Tillie Payne, born Feltwell.

1901 Census of England and Wales

The 12 year old George Payne, born Feltwell, was recorded living at Mickleborough Farm, Feltwell. This was the household of his parents, George A, (43, Horsekeeper on Farm, born Feltwell) and Lois L, (37, born Methwold). As well as George their other children are:-

Charles.....aged 15...born Feltwell...Cattleman on Farm

Lizzie..... ..aged 8.....born Feltwell

Herbert....aged 6.....born Feltwell

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William.....aged 1.....born Feltwell

1911 Census of England and Wales

The Payne family were now recorded living at White Plot Farm, Feltwell. Parents George Albert, (52, Yardmen on Farm) and Lois Louisa, (46) have been married 30 years and have had 8 children, of which 6 were then still alive. Children single and still living with them are:-

Charles.....aged 24.....Horseman on Farm

George Albert...aged 22.....Horseman on Farm

Herbert Ernest..aged 17.....Labourer on Farm

Lizzie.....aged 19

John William.....aged 11

On the day

Extracts from “The Battle for Palestine 1917” by John D. Grainger

Following the failure of the first two attacks by mounted forces to flank the city, it became obvious to the Turks and their German advisers that the next attack would be likely to be an infantry one, centred on taking Gaza itself.

Although inferior in numbers, the German aircraft available were technically superior to the Allied craft, and were able to carry out reconnaissance almost at will, and carry out harassing raids on the Allied build up.

To protect the city, the Turkish forces were set to digging, and more guns were brought up. Except to the north, the city was soon surrounded by a series of redoubts, intended to ensure that the Beersheba road remained open.

And so the race was on - to build up military superiority, (in terms of numbers the Allies outnumbered the Turks 2:1, but weren't aware of it), would give the Turks time to make their defences almost impregnable. And in the eyes of the Allied Commanders in the field, Murray, Dobell and Robertson, the earlier assaults had come within a whisker of success. So in their eyes there was no time to extend the water pipeline, or build up supplies.

(Page 43) The plan also grew in size, as the Turkish construction out-paced the Allies ability to bring troops to the front. The initial plans, a two division attack, a mounted break-through along the shore-line, had to be abandoned. The generals settled on a three division attack, with the 54th (East Anglian) being allotted the eastern sector, furthest from the coast, most beset with supply troubles, and tasked with taking the first part of the Beersheba Road line.

Further to their east was the Camel Corps and the rest of the cavalry, serving as a flank guard, but ready to sweep through any opening.

he first stage of the attack came on the 17th April. The three infantry divisions moved forward at dawn, and by 7.30 am were at their chosen positions, where they entrenched. The Turks did little to interfere, though one of the British tanks exposed itself unnecessarily and was put out of action by accurate Turkish artillery fire. Clearly one of the tasks which had been successfully accomplished by the Turkish side in the three weeks since the first battle had been accurate artillery registry of all the visible places in the area where necessarily an attack would come.

(Page 45)The second stage of the attack, after a days work on trenches and dug-outs, went as might be expected, considering it was made by soldiers walking over open ground towards well entrenched and protected men armed with rifles and machine guns. An artillery bombardment of an hour or so, including the gas shells, and including fire from the ships at sea off Gaza, seems to have woken up the Turks rather than intimidated them - there was still insufficient British artillery to provide a really serious bombardment. The Turks did not actually notice the gas shells: higher air temperature seems to have encouraged rapid evaporation.

The 54th Division set-off behind this bombardment to attack the entrenchments of the Turkish 53rd Division along the Beersheba Rd.

A more detailed account from “The History of the Norfolk Regiment 1685 – 1918”, Volume 2, by F. Loraine Petre can be found online at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/43688219@N00/42905937225/in/album-72157679638767304/>

Feltwellians Around The World



Tony Witzel

My name is Tony Witzel and my family lived at RAF Feltwell from 1966 to 1968 when my father was stationed at RAF Mildenhall with the USAF. We were fortunate to live in a wonderful house at 10 Portal Close.

Back then, the backyard bordered a large sheep pasture, in which was an ancient camp/outpost that we always thought was a Roman fort but was just a large ditch surrounding an overgrown central area. About the time of our departure there was an excavation ongoing in the central area. I assume nothing of great importance was discovered because when I returned in 1987 I was sad to see that the pasture and "fort" had been turned into a housing development.

I have many fond memories of living in RAF Feltwell, going to school at RAF Lakenheath, playing Little League baseball in a long-gone baseball field next to The Bird In Hand outside of RAF Mildenhall, visiting my dad's old 8th AF WWII B-24 bomber base at Old Buckenham, and so much more.

I now live near Fredericksburg, Virginia, USA and look forward to returning soon to that area.

Thank you very much for offering this wonderful site, and please accept my application to be included as one of the Feltwellians Around The World.

With such evidence of Tony's connection to the village I had no option but to accept his application. I wrote back enquiring if he had



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any photographs of his time in the village. Here is his reply.

Thank you, Paul!

I'm truly very honoured to be accepted as a Feltwellian. I've been talking with my kids about it all weekend.

The kids are also interested in the area because they have relatives nearby -- my wife's mother was from the Terrington St. John region and is buried in the church there. Another tie to the District.

My son found an Ordnance Survey published 1955 (reprinted 1965) that clearly shows the Moat, which I understand from reading more of your Feltwell.net site, including The Western Close page by Mr. A J Orange, was determined to be a medieval manor. I shared that information with my sister because we always wondered what it was.

I was happy to catch a glimpse of our former house in a Google Maps street view looking into Portal Close from Long Lane. There is a blue minivan parked in the driveway. The recording was made in April 2010 on a beautiful sunny day with trees in bloom.

I'll ask my sister whether we have any photographs of the village but I don't remember any. As children we stayed close to the RAF Station and most of the trips with our parents were toward Lakenheath and Mildenhall.

Back to the subject of ties to the Sceptred Isle, my youngest son is about to start studies at MetFilm School in London, a 2-year degree program. He just finished quarantine on Saturday. And my youngest daughter has been accepted to a masters degree program at the University of Aberdeen and starts in January. I'll have two more good reasons to head over. If I make it, I will try my utmost to return to Feltwell.

I hear that a lockdown is about to be enforced. I hope that you stay safe and healthy, Paul.

Warm regards,

Tony



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RSPB Lakenheath Fen

Wildlife Friendly Gardening

As we find ourselves at the end of the calendar year, you may be looking ahead to 2021 and thinking about what you can do differently next time around- I have never been one for making resolutions- I try to make changes whenever I think of them but do find myself desperate to start building some swift boxes to put on my new house ready for the Spring and New Year seems like a good time to do it!

I thought this month I'd discuss a few ideas for changes you could make in your own gardens, or even just on your doorstep if you don't have much more room than that. These are easy, affordable things which should both bring happiness to you and your family (if you are nature lovers!) and also benefit wildlife too.

The first, and maybe most important thing you can do, is to leave out a shallow bowl of clean, fresh water at ground level, either on your doorstep or in the garden if you have one. Many small mammals and birds will find it a lifesaver, both in winter when other sources may be frozen over, and in spring and summer when others may dry up. Hedgehogs inhabit most residential areas (even ones where we might not imagine them!) and are very thirsty, drinking a lot each night, and are very easily dehydrated. Even in the depths of winter hedgehogs can be active if the temperatures are above freezing and a reliable source of water is invaluable to them. Mine use a china saucer which I acquired from a charity shop for £1- it's plastic free, easy-to-clean and now has a new purpose in being recycled. Birds will use it for drinking as well as bathing in- to keep their feathers in good condition clean water is crucial.

Another possibility if you don't have much room is a pot or window box with some native wildflowers growing inside- garden centres and supermarkets often sell packets of field poppies, ox-eye daisies, cornflowers, marigolds or mixes for £1-2 and you can either buy a small amount of compost or use earth from your garden to grow them in. This will help pollinating insects by providing nectar sources, and it is lovely to watch the plants develop, flower and set seed. You may find small birds visiting to feed on the seeds in the autumn.

If you have a little more room, you could plant a native berry-bearing shrub like hawthorn, blackthorn or rowan for birds to feed on, and the flowers of these bushes in spring are valuable fuel for insects too. If you'd like a climber instead, try ivy- which is becoming known as our 'native buddleia' for the benefit the flowers provide in late summer for butterflies, hoverflies, bees and moths. It is fast-growing, evergreen and offers excellent hibernation spots for small mammals, moths and caterpillars in the winter and good nesting sites for wrens, robins and blackbirds in the summer when the plant is mature. The photo shows a Black rustic moth attracted to the smell of the unopened flower buds of the ivy in my garden- it couldn't wait!



If you'd like more inspiration on changes you can make at home for wildlife, then visit <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/gardening-for-wildlife/> or if you are without internet, we have a free 'Gardening with wildlife in mind' leaflet you can pick up from the Visitor Centre on your next visit- just ask one of us when you arrive and we will fetch you one!

With best wishes for a happy Christmas and New Year,
Heidi Jones (Visitor Experience Officer, RSPB Lakenheath Fen).

Twelve Stats for Christmas from the ONS

You will note that these statistics go up to the end of 2018. I haven't been able to find any for 2019 but I guess they will not be that different.

It's a time of year for sharing so here are twelve stats on a Christmas theme for your stockings.

1. Christmas is, for many, all about shopping and how we shop has changed over time, from in store to using our computers or phones to purchase goods. The money we spend online has increased from a monthly average of 4.9% in 2008 to a monthly average of 17.9% in 2018. This means that nearly 18 pence of every pound was spent online in 2018, the highest annual proportion reported yet. *Bet it's higher this year.*
2. There were 1,292 live births on Christmas Day 2018. It was the second most unlikely day to be born in 2018— only beaten by Boxing Day when there were 1,193 live births.
3. More girls were named Holly in December 2018 than in any other month that year. In total, 201 new baby girls were called Holly in this month 2018
4. We leave milk out for Santa: The price of a pint of milk went up 633% between December 1971 and December 2018, from 6p to 44p. *Just checked Tesco milk 11/11/2020—27p/pint for 4 pints, 40p/pint for two pints!*
5. And we leave carrots out for reindeers: A kilo of carrots was 7p in December 1971 and in December 2018 the price per kilo was 72p. *Just checked, Tesco loose carrots 11/11/2020—41p*
6. 1kg of Brussel sprouts cost 11p in December 1971 and had increased to £1.30 in December 2006. They're no longer in the inflation basket – the “shopping baskets” of items used in compiling the various measures of consumer price inflation are reviewed each year. *Just checked, Tesco loose sprouts 11/11/2020—£1.18p/kg*



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7. Price of potatoes went from 51p a kilo at Christmas 1994 to 75p at Christmas 2018. *Just checked, Tesco Maris Piper—48p*
8. Lots of people will be looking forward to Christmas pudding in a couple of days, UK producers sold 24 million kg of dried fruit in 2018 worth £105 million.
9. Shops also sold 361 million tonnes of cream worth £672million in 2018.
10. Gingerbread sales have been pretty consistent over the years and were worth £15 million in 2018.
11. Turkey sales have been increasing in recent years having doubled since 2008, worth £30 million in 2018. Some people like to enjoy a drink at this time of year. Whisky sales were bigger than beer sales for the first time in 2018 at around £3.5 billion. *Now that's a lot of whisky!*

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OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS

As Editors we would like to encourage you to put pen to paper or fingers to keyboard and submit some additional content to our village magazine. We have no preference over the content, as long as it is within the law and all submissions will be considered for suitability. Perhaps you'd like to write about your experiences of Feltwell, a biography of a deceased relative, a poem, your hobby or interest, an opinion piece or even a moan or word of praise or a thank you. Please send your submission to Paul or Susan at the contact details on the inside front cover. Thank you in advance.



Carols by Candlelight

St Mary's Church

Sunday December 20th

6pm

In these times of Covid, we can't sing, but we can come together to listen to favourite carols and seasonal readings.

Due to Covid safety you will need to apply for free tickets to Sue Garland 01842 827029

sueegarland@outlook.com

Further information will then be sent to you.



Sadly, due to Covid we are unable to hold a Christmas Tree Festival this year, but the church will be open every day and there will be some decorated trees and shoe box nativities on display.



Restoring, Protecting and Enhancing the Water Environments of Norfolk

How can you keep your river healthy and clean?

This is the last in a series of articles from Norfolk Rivers Trust.

Soil management and loss: excess soil and silt in rivers has a hugely damaging impact. Silt from road verge and field erosion covers up the gravels that fish and invertebrates require to spawn. Silt and soil carries nutrients (such as fertiliser) and pollutants (such as pesticides, oil and brake dust) into the water where they are released, damaging the fragile balance and encouraging algae blooms resulting in dominant weeds out-competing our aquatic plants. Allowing a wide 'buffer' of long grasses, trees and shrubs along the riverbank will let

water filter through but prevent soil from reaching the stream. You can also help prevent these pollution events by blocking unused field gateways where rainwater can wash out carrying silt and soil with it. Rather than digging grips to drain rainwater directly into



the river, instead re-direct silty water into a dead-end ditch or silt trap which will allow the water to filtrate into groundwater, whilst trapping the high nutrient silt which can be reused on the fields.

If you are a landowner with riparian land and would like to talk to us about restoration and rewilding please do get in touch with us at Norfolk Rivers Trust. We offer a wide range of services including surveys, restoration and management advice. Email info@norfolkriverstrust.org

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But was running out of jobs
So with something new I'm fired.

My fence is really rotten
So I thought on what to do
As I hate the cost of new stuff
And had to think things through

I started collecting pallets
That I saw laying around
And other bits of timber
That I thought were sound

The first fence is finished
A space eight feet by six
This took some time I know
To make up and fix

But what happens now I say
I have run out of wood
There's another sixteen feet to do
To make up if I could

It seems I've got to spend the cash
Sometime soon I know
But I cannot take it with me
When it's my time to go

Harry Gill



St Mary's Feltwell

Your Parish Church



We wish you all a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and hope that you and your loved ones stay safe and are able to spend some time together.

CONTACTS

Rector:

Rev'd Joan Horan

01842 828034

joanhoran123@btinternet.com

The Rectory, Oak Street, Feltwell

Churchwardens:

Chris Parker

01842 827152

grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

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A warm welcome is extended to anyone wishing to attend our Advent services:



Sun 6 th Dec	Benefice Eucharist	Feltwell	9.15am
Sun 13 th Dec	Eucharist	Hockwold	9.15am
Sun 20 th Dec	Eucharist	Feltwell	11am
	Carols by Candlelight		6pm
	<i>See separate article for details</i>		
Christmas Eve	Benefice Eucharist	Weeting	4pm
	Midnight Eucharist	Feltwell	10pm
Christmas Day	Benefice Eucharist	Northwold	10am
Sun 27 th Dec	Benefice Eucharist	Hockwold	10am

Mid-week Eucharist every Wednesday at 10am via Zoom. Please email Chris Parker for invitation details:

grimshoebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

Please also feel free to come into church when it is open. Come for private prayer, for peace or to admire the beautiful building.

We ask only that you follow the safety measures clearly posted in the church and that you wear a face covering at all times.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

The church will not be cleaned each day, so we leave the decision to you as to whether or not you come in.



Do join us for our
Carols by Candlelight
 Sunday 20th Dec 6pm
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 has to be ticketed (it's still free).



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Word Search

Submitted by Mrs J. Clements.

C	R	A	N	B	E	R	R	I	E	S	S
H	E	C	S	T	N	I	C	K	C	L	F
R	O	Y	F	S	D	C	S	T	F	I	G
I	T	U	A	T	I	N	S	E	L	E	N
S	E	L	X	Y	E	K	R	U	T	J	I
T	L	E	R	U	D	O	L	P	H	B	D
M	T	T	A	E	F	S	Z	W	Q	O	D
A	S	I	E	F	N	Y	O	Y	C	S	U
S	I	D	X	R	L	N	J	L	N	R	P
C	M	E	L	E	S	L	O	O	E	E	S
A	O	Q	D	C	U	P	I	D	X	I	A
K	J	T	S	N	N	T	V	Z	I	N	M
E	B	E	C	A	A	O	E	A	V	D	T
D	Z	M	Q	R	X	Y	S	I	J	E	S
O	L	O	O	P	A	S	F	D	L	E	I
B	A	C	K	A	G	E	C	V	R	R	R
S	E	L	F	S	A	E	F	A	Y	A	H
D	E	L	O	P	H	T	R	O	N	S	C

This month our word search is on **CHRISTMAS**

Find the words from the list. They run vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backwards and forwards but always in a straight line.

CARDS
CHRISTMAS CAKE
CHRISTMAS PUDDING
COMET
CRANBERRIES
CUPID
DECORATIONS
DONNER
ELFS
GIFTS
MISTLETOE
NORTHPOLE

PRANCER
REINDEER
RUDOLPH
SNOW
ST.NICK
TINSEL
TOYS
TURKEY
VIXEN
YULETIDE

Solution on page 77

Home Learning Tips

Use the internet or books to find out:

Which countries do NOT observe a public holiday for Christmas?

When was December 25th first identified as the date of Jesus' birth?

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SPOT THE DIFFERENCE No. 16

Photos taken from Mr P. Garland's "Feltwell: Yesterday and Today" presentation first shown in 2018 and provided by Mr C. Cock. Modern photos taken August 2018 by Mr C. Brown.



Above,; the old school built by the Edmund de Moundeford Trust .
Below: now used by the WI and Feltwell Playgroup. Shame the trees have gone. Does anyone know when they were removed?





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The COVID Show



Our long months under the continuing threat of Covid-19 and the associated pandemic

continues, and I'm becoming more and more irritated by those league tables we are subjected to on a daily and hourly basis. I can tolerate league tables associated with sport, but only just, because they usually only appear once a week, as the results are reported, and then disappear until the following Saturday.

Being a willing and reasonably successful maths student in my youth, I have lived with numbers all my life, but the pandemic has brought with it an assault on my psyche which I find offensive, to say the least. To announce the country's daily death-toll on the hour, every hour as a list of numbers, bar charts and graphs is the cruellest, most insensitive way of keeping the nation informed, that one could possibly imagine.

It's not what the cognitive resident seeing out his or her time in a nursing home would want to see or hear, knowing that the government is winding down your clock! The gentle, comforting attention they are getting from weary, often overstretched staff counts for nothing if you are being reminded every day that you are a drain on the nation's purse strings! There are, of course, residents who thankfully will not be aware of their situation, and for that we must be grateful, but the pain felt by their kinsfolk at being denied a simple but so important and reassuring hug must be unbearable.

As a minor league statistician, I can understand the need for bar charts, graphs and critical path analysis, but do we have to see and hear evidence of Covid's progress on every radio frequency and TV channel every hour, on the hour? The government constantly reminds us of the worry of personal depression, while repeatedly fuelling the situation for those who might be susceptible.

It's not that we don't want to know. Of course, we do, but not in such a dramatic fashion from those who don't seem to appreciate



Thank you to everyone who donated during Harvest. I have been amazed that even during these difficult times you continue to generously donate food. You have done something wonderful for everyone who needs the foodbank.

Donations. Even though we have gone into a second lock down the foodbank carries on. If you would like to donate food the drop-off box is in St Mary's Church, Feltwell, which is still open for private prayer and you can continue to go there to donate. Or if you would prefer not to go shopping or leave the house it is possible to use direct banking to send a monetary donation. Several people have asked me about this and the details are on the website below or you can email me for the details.

Have a lovely Christmas. I hope you have a, albeit quiet, lovely and warm Christmas, and thank you for all you continue to do for the foodbank.

Any food stuff which does not require refrigeration and is in date is ok, below are a few ideas:

Tinned meat/fish
Tinned vegetables
Tinned fruit
Tinned tomatoes
Tinned Soup
Instant mash potato
Pasta/ Rice
Pasta sauces
Carton UHT milk or

powdered milk
Sugar – small packet - 500g
Tea bags/instant coffee
Cereals
Tinned sponge pudding
Tinned rice pudding
Biscuits or snack bars
Fruit juice carton

Jam
(Our local distribution point would welcome toiletries too: toilet roll, toothpaste, soap.)



If you need the foodbank please don't hesitate to contact someone who can give you a foodbank voucher; such as a doctor, health visitor, social worker, clergy, citizens advice bureau or police.

The people at Brandon Harvest Centre are very welcoming and can help you with advice or just a cup of tea and conversation, the Foodbank office there is open on a Tuesday between 1.00pm and 2.00pm, at Fengate Drove, Brandon, IP27 0PW.

Thank you for all your donations, kindness and generosity,

Ness Fry foodbankdonations@nym.hush.com

If you would like to know more: <http://thetford.foodbank.org.uk>
<http://www.trusselltrust.org>

the effect it is having. The result of their information overload is widespread indifference, resulting in the wild parties and gatherings and the inevitable confrontation with police officers who would be better employed fighting crime.

I realise that the Government is doing what it thinks is best under the most difficult of circumstances, the likes of which we haven't seen for decades, but we just have to trust them and try to cooperate in any way we can.

Will my rant change anything? Of course it won't, and there will be those who will be saying, "*Not you again! Get back in your box!*", but I would be interested to know if any of you feel the same way?

Frederick James. November 7th, 2020

Despite all the doom and gloom around at the moment I would like to wish you all the best for the coming year and hope you have the happiest Covid-free Christmas possible.

Bored? Fed up with the virus?

Sick of the telly? Need a stocking filler?

Need something different to do?

Nip into a local shop and pick up a Quiz to help raise money for

St Mary's Church. **Only £2**

£10 first prize, £5 second prize.

Closing date **January 10th 2021** (All instructions on the sheet)

Thanks to Londis, Central Garage, One Stop and the Fish Piper for selling the sheets and thanks to Jackie Reeves for writing the questions, some of which are devilishly hard. Therefore, even if you don't complete the quiz send it in, you might still win!

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Hospital Happenings *by Tony Bennett*



Monthly Ramblings about West Suffolk Hospital.

News: November 2020

The hospital is coping well with the number of Covid patients coming in, as of today, November 12th, there are 15 cases in WSH, a big jump from last week's 9. Several wards have been designated for Covid and suspected Covid patients.

A new CT scanner is now located in a mobile unit in the Day Surgery Unit car park, bringing the hospital's total to 3. Hopefully this will bring the waiting times down in due course. If you have a scan booked the location will be stated in the appointment letter.

Waiting Times:

The impact on waiting times due to the virus has been profound, many clinics were cancelled, many staff were off either sick or self-isolating resulting in longer waiting times. At the moment the waits are as follows:

Modality	Predicted waiting time in weeks
MRI	10-11
CT	21-22
Ultrasound	26
Endoscopy	30+
Nuclear M	8-10

A lot of effort is going in to try to reduce these waits but it will probably be some months before things are back to normal. Clinically urgent patients are being prioritised of course.

A statement from the MRI service: "Evening and weekend lists are being added to assist with the backlog of

patients waiting. In the New year a mobile MRI unit will be required to take our referral to image waiting times down even further. This may be parked off site in the community. "

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Walk-In Service:

This service has been suspended for the time being, all imaging is now done by appointment.



Case of the Month:

Our scanner stopped in the middle of a scan. Mostly this would not be a problem, we can fix the issue and carry on. This time though, it was a child having a dynamic kidney scan which needs to run through in one go or else data is lost.

The camera gave an error message saying it had lost its location, it didn't know where the cameras were in time and space. This was very odd as it hadn't moved during the scan. The fault had been reported once before during a bone scan which does involve movement. The result was that my colleagues re-set the gantry as quickly as they could and carried on, getting enough images to make the child's scan viable thank goodness.

We got the engineers at GE onto the problem and by the following day they

had figured it out. On the side of one of the cameras is a button, if pressed it cuts out the gantry computer. It's a safety feature in case the cameras should ever try to crash into each other but in this case it was activated by the child wagging his legs over the side of the camera. It can be a problem trying to get a 3-year-old to keep still!

We have now been able to adjust the position of the cameras for this type of scan, the cameras will now be close together and it will be impossible to get a foot between them to hit the button so this problem is marked as solved!



Sudoku Puzzle

Each row, column
& 3x3 square must
contain numbers
1-9

Answer on page 78

		4	3		8		1	
	3			1	2	4		8
3					9	6		
		8		5		9		
		6	1					7
6		5	2	9			8	
	2		5		3	1		



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- **Gingerbread Biscuits**

Sweet

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- Scones
- **Xmas Cream Tea**
- **Xmas Afternoon Tea**
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- Norfolk Marmalade
- Suffolk Coffee
Whole Bean & Ground
- Suffolk Breakfast Tea
- Local Flours
- Cheese & Butter

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Brandon Photographic Club is open again, albeit in a different format due to Covid restrictions.

Our meetings are now being held through Zoom links – members will receive a link by email prior to the meetings. We welcome anyone to take part and there will be no membership fees, at least until we can safely return to the our meetings in the Baptist Hall. If you would like to join us then please contact Tim Bridge on badpc@tbridge.co.uk and he will be able to give you a link to enable you to join in.

There will be just one meeting in December which will be held on Wednesday 9th December - this will be an Open Competition. For entry details and a link to the meeting please contact Tim Bridge on badpc@tbridge.co.uk. On 6th January we will be welcoming Jane Goodall wh is going to give us a talk entitled 'Beautiful Lights' - find out how she works the light for maximum effect considering perspective and visual cues to make successful landscape images. Jane will be showing you her essential kit for a landscape photographer, some of which might surprise you. See how she uses the latest 'online' and smartphone applications to aid in image making and optimise her choice of landscape locations. It's a fun and interactive evening, even online!

You don't need to spend a fortune on expensive cameras to start learning about photography, many phones, compact and bridge cameras take some really good images and these are well worth looking at, or if you are unsure come along to any of our meetings and speak to us. Learn how to best focus your camera and compose your pictures, we often have magazines available for you to browse through, giving ideas on how you can improve your talent or encourage you to take up a new hobby.

In the meantime we hope this editorial finds you all well and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, in whatever form this may take this year. Take care and stay safe.

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

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A Message from the Editors

We are acutely aware that during the lockdown some of our subscribers were unable to read the magazine as they don't have access to the internet. Plus, those of you who did manage to read a copy online or downloaded, didn't get a physical copy. In the light of this we have decided to give you all two free issues. Consequently our annual subscription renewal date will move from January to March 2021.

Paul and Susan

Word Search Answer

Submitted by Mrs J. Clements

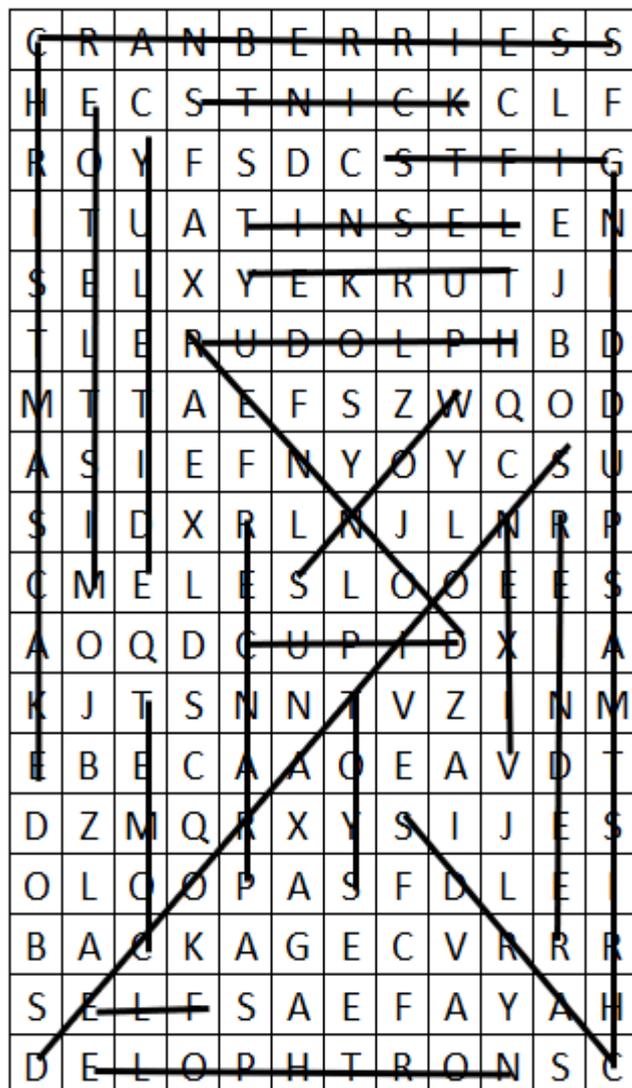
Next month's Word Search will be on **BONES OF THE HUMAN BODY**

Our Local Foodbank

If you would like to donate to our local Foodbank

There is a drop off point at St Mary's Church, Feltwell.

Any food stuff which does not require refrigeration and is in date is ok. Thank you for all your donations, kindness and generosity. Ness Fry



Sudoku Solution

1	8	2	9	4	5	7	6	3
5	6	4	3	7	8	2	1	9
7	3	9	6	1	2	4	5	8
3	7	1	8	2	9	6	4	5
2	4	8	7	5	6	9	3	1
9	5	6	1	3	4	8	2	7
6	1	5	2	9	7	3	8	4
4	2	7	5	8	3	1	9	6
8	9	3	4	6	1	5	7	2



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NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held virtually via the Zoom platform on Monday the 9th of NOVEMBER 2020. 10 Councillors attended and 2 members of the public. Squadron Leader Turnbull was also in attendance.

Clerk to submit bid to Norfolk County Council Parish Partnership Scheme for three sets of plastic, dark oak effect, village entrance gates incorporating the 'FELTWELL' sign. If successful, 50% of the cost of these will be funded by the PP Scheme and the gates will be placed either side of the village entrances at Hythe Road, Lodge Road and Wilton Road. Highways advised the verge at the Southery Road entrance is not wide enough to accommodate a set of these gates.

S P Landscapes will lift the canopy of the tree on Old Methwold Road and remove the dead branch from the tree at the playing field.

MWM (Anglia) to lay concrete bases for the new litter bins replacing those at Addisons Close and Bell Street, and for the memorial bench at the playing field to commemorate the late Mr Peter Cooper who served 26 years as a Parish Councillor (to be set in place at a later date).

This year, the Parish Council will put up a Christmas tree in St Mary's Churchyard.

The new Parish Councillor for the Feltwell ward is Mrs Helen Wilson.

Next meeting is to be held virtually on Monday 14th December 2020 at the earlier time of 7.00 pm via the Zoom platform. Please contact the Clerk on 01842 828383 or email feltwellparishclerk@gmail.com for information on how to attend. All are welcome.

The Parish Councillors wish you all a Merry Christmas and sincerely hope you all have a very happy and healthy 2021!

The Parish Council website can be found at:

<https://feltwellparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

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Opening Times



Tues, Wed, Thur 4:30pm to 8:00pm
Fri & Sat 11:30am to 1:30pm & 4:30pm to 8:00pm

Christmas 2020

We will be CLOSED from 21st December until Tuesday 5th January

We would like to thank everyone for their support and wish you all a Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for 2021

www.facebook.com/TheFishPiper

