



WEETING VILLAGE LIFE



September 2026
Edition 55

Jubilee Field Play Area



The Parish Council have added a new roundabout, which is also wheelchair friendly, to the children's play area on the Jubilee Field beside the Village Hall.

The old wooden picnic tables have had to be moved to make room for the roundabout, but

these are well past their prime and two new tables have been ordered and will be installed very soon, hopefully by mid September, if not before. They may even be in place by the time you are reading this item! They have to be made to order and one of them will also be accessible for a wheelchair.

A Royal Encounter

The school visited the Royal Horticultural Society's first ever show at Sandringham in order to display their upcycled container garden which they submitted to the "Upcycling Containers" category. This was judged by Queen Camilla and the children were invited into the inner display area where they met King Charles who took time to talk to all the gardening club children. He quizzed them about what they had grown and whether they had tasted the vegetables and recommended that they grow spinach next year as it tastes delicious.



See page 3 for more details.

Good Company
LIVE AT
WEETING VILLAGE HALL

September 26th
8:30 to Midnight
60s, 70s and Rock 'n' Roll
Contact Sue on 07855764288
Tickets £10
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St Mary's Church Repairs Fund

There is a free and easy way for everyone who does any shopping online from Amazon, Tesco, Sainsbury's, John Lewis, Ebay, Argos or Booking.com to help towards raising the desperately needed funds for the essential repairs to our village church.

It is simple to join and will not cost you a penny, but every time you shop via one of these online sites, a small donation will be given from the companies straight to St Mary's fund.

Please consider joining easyfundraising.org.uk and help us to save our beautiful church.

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!

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School Report



The last half term of the school year always goes very quickly, but we have had so many exciting events happening in school. As always, the end of term is a time of change across the school.

We have welcomed our new reception children to meet their new teacher, Miss Williams and their teaching assistant Miss Kent. Both were very impressed with how quickly the children settled in and how confident they were in their new surroundings. A huge thank you to our Acorn Class team who have taught them over the last few years – you have done a fantastic job!

We said goodbye to our Year 6 children as they finish their primary schooling and move onto their new adventures at high school. All have represented the school so well over the years and their Key Stage 2 SATs results were much deserved and down to the hard work that they have put in, along with the amazing hard work that both Miss Woodison and Miss Shaw have put in.

We also said goodbye to Miss Charlesworth and Mrs Palmer who left us to move on to new positions. Here are just some of things we got up to!

We have also changed our Trust name from DEMAT (Diocese of Ely Multi Academy Trust) to Grace Schools to reflect the work that is done as a Trust throughout the country, whilst remaining firmly rooted in our Christian values and faith as part of a Church of England School.

Truck Visit

A huge thank you to one of our dads who surprised the children with a visit in one of his giant trucks – it filled the entire staff car park. The children had a great time learning about how to keep safe near large vehicles and discovered lots of interesting facts about the truck. Chestnut Class particularly enjoyed learning that the fuel used to power the truck was made from pig urine! All the children had a chance to climb up into the cab and loved being up so high and having a great view!

Children from Chestnut, Beech and Elm classes had a visit from the charity Bright Bites to learn about the importance of toothbrushing and good oral health. There were lots of in-depth questions and discussions and the children were fascinated about facts about what happens if you don't brush your teeth well and what happens to your teeth if you drink too much juice or fizzy drinks. The children learnt that we need to brush teeth in a circular motion for two minutes, and how we should drink mainly milk and water to protect our teeth. The children were surprised to find out that we should not use mouthwash after we brush our teeth, because that washes away the toothpaste protecting our



brush teeth in a circular motion for two minutes, and how we should drink mainly milk and water to protect our teeth. The children were surprised to find out that we should not use mouthwash after we brush our teeth, because that washes away the toothpaste protecting our

I had the absolute pleasure of joining children and families to celebrate their involvement in the inaugural Grace Schools Art Exhibition. The children were rightly proud of their work and we were all very impressed with how many pieces there



were from school and how well they had been displayed. It was lovely to hear comments from other families and colleagues and I understand that our CEO used his vote for one of our children's pieces of work. Art is certainly a strength of our school and is one that we are all very proud of.

Year 5 and Year 6 enjoyed a trip of a lifetime with a visit to London. Despite a very early start, their enthusiasm showed no end and the journey into Central London became a competitive game of spotting London landmarks, with some great recall of learning in Chestnut, Beech and Oak classes! We lost count of how many times the Shard was spotted!



Our day started with a Lion King Theatre workshop. We were all incredibly impressed with the children's politeness, listening skills and enthusiasm as they explored animal characters, worked in groups to create scenes involving vehicles and learnt a song and dance routine from the musical.



After a quick lunch break, it was a short walk to the Lyceum Theatre for the afternoon performance of The Lion King. We had some fantastic seat, although some of us were so engrossed in what we were watching that we were on the edge of them for most of the performance! The respect for the performers was evident with lots of enthusiastic cheering and clapping, particularly when the song practiced in the morning was performed.



The extreme heat we are currently experiencing meant that unlike other schools, we went ahead with our Sports Day, just in a slightly different format. It was great to see such enthusiasm from the children as they participated in the events and cheered on their friends. Congratulations to Cavell House who are the 2026 Sports Cup winners! A huge thank you to Mr Jarvis for the amazing PE lessons this term which fully prepared the children for their events and for the brilliant last-minute changes to the day itself!



Acorn Class showed some great form as they threw themselves into all events with enthusiasm and skill.



There were some very talented javelin throwers who showed superb accuracy and distance throwing.

Chestnut Class threw themselves into their team games with great seriousness and concentration. Walking with a bean bag on your head, and not holding onto it, takes some skill!

One of the most popular team events in Beech Class was a problem solving one, using 6 cups to create a tower as quickly as possible. There was a lot of competition and focus in evidence in this timed challenge!



Elm Class had a great time with beanbag on the head team game and the sack race, where their balancing skills were put to good practice. Who knew a sack could be so slippery!

Our small but perfectly formed group of Year 6 children rose to the challenge of the Leavers' Play tradition in style this year. Under Miss Shaw's expert direction and coaching they took on a multitude of roles bringing the story of 'Jackie and the Spudstalk' to life. There were lots of great acting and some superb one liners. It was fantastic to see children, who shone on stage and we definitely expect them to go on to take a full and active part in drama groups in their high schools. It was a lovely end to the term as we celebrated the amazingness that is Year 6. Their peer written



certificates captured their individuality, humour and characters and we all hope that these will continue as they move up to high school.



It was a huge congratulations to Connie who was awarded the Weeting Values Cup, an award where staff nominate a Year 6 pupil who has shown our three values of friendship, creativity and perseverance throughout their time with us.

Our Leah Blake Creativity Award was presented to Blanka, in Chestnut Class, who even at such a young age has shown a creative flair in both her artwork and story writing this year.





School Report



The school attended the RHS's first-ever show at Sandringham to display the school gardening club's upcycled container garden, which they submitted to the 'upcycling containers' category. A group of children were delighted to meet King Charles and Queen Camilla. The brief was to create a mini garden that highlights the importance of protecting the UK's biodiversity, and Queen Camilla attended to judge the category.



The children were also invited into the inner display space to meet the King. King Charles took time to talk to all the gardening club children, quizzing them on what they had grown and if they had tasted the vegetables. He also recommended that we grow and taste spinach next year as it is very delicious. I was so proud of how the children responded with such confidence and it was brilliant to see the sheer delight on their faces during the conversation with the King.



The garden, called 'We are Weeting', also needed to represent the local community and included:

- Leah's garden: Former pupil Leah sadly passed away four years ago. We took Leah's chair to the Flower Show and the gardening club painted pots in blue - Leah's favourite colour - and planted them up with blue and purple flowers.
- Steam engine: Yellow, red, orange and pink plants represented the fire of a steam engine and an upcycled steam engine was created from an old wooden train toy. Plants were placed into recycled fire buckets and vegetable tins from the school kitchen.
- Forest: to represent Thetford Forest, which surrounds the school, ferns and succulents were propagated from existing planting arrangements around the school and surround a stumpery, created from a fallen tree in the school grounds.
- Farm: The children grew fruit, vegetables and herbs from seeds to represent the farming community. The after-school club also created the scarecrow complete with school uniform.



Thank you to everyone who came to the Leaver's Disco at the end of term. We hope you all enjoyed it. It was lovely to see so many of you get your faces painted and make memories in the selfie mirror. Thankfully we had lots of sunshine (unlike last year!) and a visit from an ice-cream van to help stay cool.



The judges had a really difficult time choosing the winners as so many of you danced the whole evening and made a brilliant effort with outfits, well done to everyone who took home a prize!

Also, we'd like to say a big thank you to Scott from Dynamix Disco who kindly donates his time and provides all of our school discos free of charge. We really appreciate it!



And last but not least, a thank you to the Friends team who worked super hard to ensure everyone stayed safe and had a fun evening. Without them events like this wouldn't be possible!

If you would like to consider joining The Friends of Weeting School then please come along to the AGM meeting on Monday 7th September 2026 at 3.30pm, meet in the school office.



Hockwold Amateur Theatrical Society Present

The Panto Murder Mystery

18+

Oh No He Didn't!

Written & Directed by Eleanor Buntin

SATURDAY 29TH AUGUST 2026
Hockwold Village Hall, Main Street, IP26 4LW

Doors Open 7pm for 7:30pm start

Tickets: £12 (include meal)

Tickets are pre-book only

Will you be able to solve this dramatic whodunnit?



To Book your tickets
Scan the QR Code
or visit our website at
hockwoldamateurtheatricalsociety.com
or to reserve them

Text us on 07498 598842 or email us at hats26598@gmail.com

Show includes strong language, and explicit content



CLUB SPOTLIGHT

ART FOR PLEASURE

For the second year running we had a stall at Feltwell carnival. If you came you will remember the sun shone on us and it was a great carnival with entertainment carrying on into the evening. We sold quite a few paintings and gained a few new members to our club.



We try not to have anything planned for the club during the summer as attendance fluctuates according to holidays, visitors, etc. So, most of us bring something we particularly want to work on and in whatever medium we enjoy or would like to try out. Generally, there are summer flowers to bring and try to paint, although roses have bloomed and fallen so quickly in these heat waves. However, animals and birds have been the favourites to work on with some beautiful results.

If you are interested in drawing and painting; had always wanted to try; or it is a hobby you would like to take up again, call in and see us at Weeting Village Hall any Thursday morning 10.30 am – 12.30 pm. You can see for yourselves the animals, birds and variety of work we can produce.

Although we meet to draw or paint, we are a very social group enjoying a morning cuppa with a biscuit and sometimes cakes all for just £4 a morning.

Some of us had painted before but quite a lot decided to take it up as a hobby on retiring. We are of mixed ability and work in all mediums. The essence of the group is in the title – the pleasure of painting and socialising with like-minded art lovers.

We meet every Thursday 10.30 am – 12.30 pm at Weeting Village Hall. IP27 6P

For more details phone:

Beryl Pountney 01842 828750

Tim Gallagher 07788 455989

Diane Grimes 07824 839642

BRECKLAND CATS PROTECTION

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

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



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

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

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

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

STUTT ROOFING
of Lymington Road
Weeting, Breckland, IP27 6P
CONTACT:
Paul & Linda Stutter
01842 828750
07788 455989
07824 839642
Email: paul@stutterroofing.co.uk
www.stutterroofing.co.uk

Any Ideas?

If anyone has a suggestion for a new and interesting item that they would like to see in Weeting Village Life next year, please contact the editor on wvl@btinternet.com.



There are many clubs listed on page 10 of the magazine, but only a handful submit items regularly, so if your organisation would like to highlight what you do, especially illustrated with colourful photos, I am always pleased to include it in the next edition.

The Editor

Editor's Note:

The next edition of Weeting Village Life will be published in December 2026.

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 13th November 2026**.

I look forward to hearing from you.



WEETING ALL STAR PERFORMERS QUIZ NIGHT & MEAL

SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER
STARTS AT 7PM

TEAMS OF UP TO 6 PEOPLE

£8 PER PERSON

REFRESHMENTS BEING SERVED SO BRING YOUR OWN PLATES AND CUTLERY

PLEASE BOOK YOUR TEAM IN BEFORE THE DAY

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WEETING VILLAGE HALL

PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE

IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 14th November

FROM 10AM TO 2PM

Refreshments available all day

Lots of lovely gifts and crafts

for Christmas

Merry Christmas

To book the Village Hall for meetings, parties or other social functions,
Contact Angie Page on 07902 553759

Ploughing Horses



This summer we were lucky to host some beautiful ploughing horses in action at the Steam Rally.

Horse ploughing is the traditional practice of using draft horses to pull a single or multi-mouldboard plough through the soil to turn it over before

planting crops and has been in practice since early civilisations including The Romans. It has given way in more modern times to the tractor and mechanical harvesting machinery but can still be found in use here and there in the world. Typically, many Amish farmers still use horse drawn ploughs as they prefer not to use powered machines.



It is a skill that requires a matched team of horses, a specialised walking or sulky plough and precise voice or rein commands from the ploughmen. Ploughing horses are characterised by their size, stamina and strength and common breeds are the Shire, Clydesdale, Belgian

and Percheron. They are also easily identifiable by their hairy feet. The long, thick hairs, officially called "featherings", provide a waterproof barrier to keep the undercoat and skin dry whilst also protecting their legs against brambles or other snags in the underbrush.



Working at a steady walk, a team turns the soil over in smooth waves to expose the lower areas to the air and frost in order to break up the clods. The first few furrows, or crown, are the trickiest part, requiring the ploughman to keep a straight line. A furrow cuts, lifts and rolls over a uniform strip of land measuring about 150mm deep and 250mm wide.



It typically takes about three years to fully train a team of two horses to work harmoniously, respond to voice cues and to stay calm around loud noise and crowds. The horses are commonly attached using a doubletree or two horse hitch in order to distribute the pulling load equally.



In general, horse ploughing is only seen at country shows or similar events these days. You often see them beautifully decked out with braided manes and



tails and this practice dates back hundreds of years. It is the best way to prevent the hair becoming tangled in the farming equipment and also preserves the health of the hair by keeping it well groomed, clean and clear of excess dust and dirt (think of the dust this year at the rally!). It makes the horses look more professional and

provides a means of identification. Apparently, braiding is also a good way to bond with a horse as it is time consuming.

Other adornments that ploughing horses have exhibited for hundreds of years are decorative plaques on their harnesses, commonly known as brasses and are often displayed on a "martingale" which is a strap that runs down the horse's chest. These brasses often reflected local customs, superstitions or the owner's identity. Common themes include symbols of good luck such as horseshoes and four-leaf clovers, heraldic symbols, animals and commemorative designs for events or royal occasions.



All the photographs shown here are provided with the permission of Simon Earp and Bex. Thank you and hope to see you at next year's rally.

Able

Q & A



Able Community Care is a Norfolk, family owned, Home Care provider which was established in 1980. We are often asked by our clients, carers and members of the public, questions across a wide range of care issues. Care information is often time-consuming and difficult to access, so we are happy to share some of our questions and answers with you.

You do NOT have to pay to apply for the Attendance Allowance or Scotland's Pension Age Disability Payment (PADP).

We recently heard of a pensioner who was contacted unexpectedly and told she could receive up to £114.60 per week* and that their company could complete an application for her.

A little research revealed that some businesses charge between £250 and £650 + VAT to help with Attendance Allowance claims, while others work on a "No Win, No Fee" basis or take a percentage of the award.

Before paying anyone, remember:

- 1 You can apply yourself online or by requesting an application form.
- 2 Free help is available from trusted organisations, including:
 - Age UK – 0800 678 1602 or local branches
 - Independent Age – 0800 319 6789
 - Your local Citizens Advice branch

Advice organisations consistently point out that you do not need to pay for assistance with an Attendance Allowance application.

Please share this information with older relatives, friends, and neighbours who may benefit.

***Lower rate is £76.70**

Question – I am beginning to think that an older relative may be starting to show behaviour that may be dementia. Could you recommend any leaflets that I could read to help me either understand or dismiss the thoughts that I have?

Answer - Yes -For anyone who has a relative with dementia, is concerned that they or a loved one may be developing dementia, or would simply like to learn more about the condition, The Dementia Guide from the Alzheimer's Society is an excellent resource. This comprehensive 96-page booklet can be downloaded free of charge or requested in printed form from the Alzheimer's Society website at Alzheimers.org.uk, or by calling the Alzheimer's Society Dementia Support Line on 0333 150 3456.

The guide provides clear and practical information to help people understand dementia, including day-to-day coping strategies, ways to stay safe and well, and details of the support services and care options that may be available.

Written in an easy-to-read format and carrying the NHS symbol on its front cover, the guide is a valuable source of information for anyone affected by dementia.

Angela Gifford Able Community Care – Est in Norfolk in 1980

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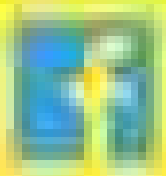


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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Air Rifle range

Well, we had a better turn out at our last event on the 26th July with about a dozen shooters coming along for a bit of plinking fun at the club on what was a pretty hot day. Our last air rifle shoot of the season will be on the 23rd August between 10am-1pm and we hope we have another good turnout. The club has tried different days to hold the air rifle events and whilst July's turnout was good we will be reviewing matters going forwards as there's quite a bit of effort that goes into setting up the range along with the time commitments for the committee. As most will appreciate to do this for only a handful of regulars can be difficult. Hopefully it won't come to a "use it or lose it" scenario but we have to be realistic as a club and use our resources in the best place to improve our overall offering. No decisions have been made and hopefully we can continue to keep offering this facility, we certainly hope so.

We are always looking for feedback on how to improve our little shoot so feel free to give your views to any of the committee.



We have two ranges, one out to 25m and the other out to 45m. There's a mix of paper, knockdown, clay, chalk disc, tin cans and some interesting snap cap targets fed into the old primer positions of 12g shot gun cartridges. Not easy to hit when it gets a little windy or the sun is in your eyes!

All our dates and events are published on our website and Facebook pages for 2026 so

keep an eye out for updates. We do hope you'll join us for what is a great bit of fun and an excellent entry into the sport. Annual Memberships for the Air Rifle club are just £10 per person with fees on the day (cash) at £10 per session for adults and £5 per session for under 14's.

Weeting Steam Rally

What an event! For the 3rd year in a row we exceeded our expectations and were blown away by the number of people that come onto our little air rifle range we set up each year. At £1 for 5 shots we had queues on the stand for most of Saturday and Sunday with kids and adults of all ages trying their hand for the Top Gun score. There were some excellent scores with 27/30 taking Saturdays Top Gun and a shoot off between two guns on Sunday who had posted 26/30 scores.

The committee all slept well after 3 days of shooting, but would like to thank all those that joined us for a shot or two and your continued support that brings much needed funds into the club.

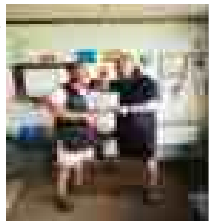
Clay Pigeon Shooting

Since our last newsletter we have had a number of events with skeet, crazy quail, ABT and sporting competitions held with some excellent shooting seen from a number of members. Many are improving their scores week on week with the variety of shoots held along with the friendly banter that always accompanies our days.

The Friends of Weeting School ABT comp was won by Alex Taylor, the WGC Crazy Quail comp was won by Mark Cobbald and the recent sporting comp was won by Ian Childerhouse following a tense shoot off with Ben Di-griolio.

Clay Pigeon shooting continues to be the cornerstone of our friendly little club and our next events will be held on 6th and 20th September. Full details on our website as usual.

The club continues to enjoy a good turnout at each event and we are now also able to take card payments as well as cash. The weather has been kind to date and can only hope this continues albeit many of our diehard members will shoot in all conditions come rain or shine. It's all good practice! We have skeet, DTL, ABT, Teal and sporting set ups along with our newest trap here we can set up 25/50 or 75 bird flushes at the single push of a button. This year's shooting calendar is publicised on our website and social media and we look forward to seeing both old and new faces at the club.



Hello from the Shoestring committee! It's that time again where we get to update you on what we've been up to, and goodness do we have some exciting updates!

It's been an incredible few months for us as we approached our summer show: No Biz

like Show Biz. Our cast and crew put some incredible effort into this show, which was evidenced by the fantastic run of performances we had! Well over 100 people attended over two nights and we were left with some heart-warming feedback from our audiences. Most noted was the improved confidence of our younger members, going right back to our values of making theatre an enjoyable and educational experience for everyone.

We also invested some much-needed money into our lighting equipment. With our new control desk, we can design some amazing visuals to accompany our on-stage talent, making our performances better and better each year.

By the time you're reading this the school holidays will be approaching a finish, meaning we too will be preparing to return to our Tuesday rehearsals. Our first event of the new academic year will be an information evening for our next pantomime; Jack and the Beanstalk. This will be held at St. Peter's Centre (formerly the Church Institute) on 1st September. Come along if you'd like to be involved in any way, shape or form!

As we look towards summer 27 (it seems far away now but it'll be soon be with us), we're looking to put on something a little less run-of-the-mill for us. Our summer show 27 will be "Return to the Forbidden Planet", so keep an eye out for information coming soon.

For now we'll leave you with some snaps of No Biz! Remember, if you'd ever like to become part of the group you can get in touch with us via Facebook or our website at www.shoestringtheatrecompany.co.uk.



WASPs



After our last show, Hansel and Gretel, the cast has had a little rest. The weather was very, very hot during that weekend, but the cast and crew did such a grand job with changing costumes

and scenery etc. and afterwards the backstage crew had the job of putting everything away. All the costumes had to be looked at, washed etc and put away in the right box in the storeroom and, as there are over 40 large boxes, it does take quite a time. The scenery also had to be looked at and got ready for our next production, but nevertheless, it was a fun show and we all enjoyed being a part of it.



Which now means that yours truly has to start thinking about what we are doing next!

So, during the first week of December, the WASPs will be on board a ship in Weeting Village Hall on the evening of Friday 4th and the afternoons of Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th when they will entertain all the passengers on an Around the World Cruise. We hope that YOU, the passengers, will come and join in the fun and wait until you see the Hula Hula and the Belly Dancers!! All I can say is WOW.....



There is always room for more WASPs, so if you fancy coming to see us and then maybe join us, we are in the Village Hall on a Friday evening from 6pm till 8pm starting again in mid-September. Ring me or come to the Lunch Club on a Tuesday every other week, we are always there.

Carole 01842 550919

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Weeting Bowls Club

The bowling is going great in both the leagues we are playing. Hopefully we should do well. Our Bowlers are playing well and are playing against county players in some of the matches.

Both our pool teams are registered in the Northwold Leagues which is great for them.

Darts season will be finished soon.

We are always looking for new players to play bowls, pool and darts. If you are interested just pop into the club house and enquire at the bar. Someone can point you in the right direction on whom to contact.

Regular social events

1st Saturday of each month Karaoke with Jerry and Evie (Check our Facebook page)

3rd Saturday of each month Pool competition.

Bingo every month on a Sunday (as advertised on our Facebook page)

Dates for your diary

Live Music Events

26th September singer **Steve Lees**

10th October singer **Marc Jacobs**

28th November singer **Dan Starr**

All welcome. Non-members must sign in at evening events. If you would like to join our happy band of social members, come and see us at the club. Members enjoy a subsidised bar price in a safe, clean and welcoming venue. Our club can cater for private parties at a competitive price. Please check Weeting Bowls Club Facebook page or web site for any further information.

WEETING VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Hello everyone, well Summer is here and we have had some really hot weather over the last few months and now have a hose pipe ban!!! Fortunately, the hall does keep reasonably cool and most of the clubs and groups are still able to come and make the most of their time there.

Some clubs like the Dance group on a Wednesday are now off till September, as is the Model Car. Unfortunately, the Keep Fit group that were using the hall on a Monday morning have now disbanded – such a shame but like everywhere else, numbers and costs of keeping these lovely little clubs going is getting harder – so if anyone is interested in a Monday speak to Angie and she will sort out a convenient time during the day for you – Monday evenings from September are fully booked.

Bingo, the Lite Lunch Club and the Knit & Natter groups are going from strength to strength on a Tuesday. Wednesdays during the day until 3.30pm are free - the Dance group are there from 3.30 till 9pm during school term time. Thursdays are busy with the Art group in from 10.30 to 12.30 (once a month they are there till 3.30pm) and the Pop-up Pantry are there from 1.30 to 3.30pm (except for the 3rd Thursday of the month). Fridays are another busy day with Carpet Bowls from 10am to 12.30, Line Dancing from 2 till 4pm and the WASPS are there from 6pm to 8pm – if you want to join one of these groups, look on the Club Directory page and give them a call, new members always welcome.

We do have various events coming up throughout the coming months – Coffee mornings are on the first Wednesday of the month (10 till 12noon), there will be a quiz in October – look out for the adverts/posters in and around the village and on Facebook (Weeting Village News, Weeting Village Hall etc). There is another dance on 26th September (see Sue Windget for details).

We are still working on getting the Ladies & Gents toilets done – new loos etc, hope to get them done over the next couple of months.

Until then, take care and hope to see you all at one of our events

Karen Scott, Treasurer, Weeting Village Hall



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WEETING (SAM2) SPEED RECORDER UPDATE

Time Period FROM	Time Period TO	Position (Direction facing)	Total Count of vehicles	Speed Limit m.p.h.	Vehicles within the speed limit	Speeding Violations
2026						
24 th April	22 nd May	South Park (S)	110269	30	97302	12976
22 nd May	11 th June	Park View (W)	23271	30	21607	1664
11 th June	10 th July	Lynn Road (N) school zone	73269	30	53751	19518

Summary

Total Vehicle Count for the recorded from 24 th April to 10 th July 2026	206809
Vehicle Count within the speed limit	172660
Speeding Violations within the village	34158
Violators as a percentage of the total vehicle count	16.52%

Breakdown of speeding vehicles for the above periods: -

	South Park (S)	Park View (W)	Lynn Road (N) school zone
Speed Limit	30	30	30
35	11447	1616	15545
40	1334	47	3316
45	166	1	561
50	16		77
55	2		15
60	2		4

St Mary's Church



Churchwarden:

Tommy Saward Tel: 01842 813601 tommysaward@hotmail.com

Regular services are as follows:

1st Sunday each month: - Holy Communion 11am
3rd Sunday each month: - Holy Communion or Service of the Word 11am

CHURCH UPDATE

Following the timeline published in the last issue of Weeting Village Life, here is a brief update on the work of the RPT (Restoration Project Team) and PCC (Parochial Church Council)

From the five applicants received, the RPT (sub-committee) shortlisted three for the interview process. The interviews took place at the Church on 7th July and, after due process and deliberation, the RPT and PCC decided to appoint Jonathon Capek of Scorer Hawkins Architects.

We felt he had our interests at heart as he had completed a project in Lincolnshire where a church is annexed to a Heritage building, just as we are in Weeting with the recently refurbished castle ruins next door. He strongly believes that this unique combination, along with his expertise, will give us an upper hand in our lottery application and this was one of the main reasons he chose to tender.

We are now awaiting his acceptance of the project and will update accordingly.

Peter Nordon
Chairman RPT. Lay Chair PCC

Parish Council Meetings

Weeting Parish Council meetings are held at the Village Hall at 7pm on the 3rd Thursday evening each month unless otherwise advertised.

All village residents are welcome to attend. If you have an issue that you wish to raise at a meeting, please advise the Parish Clerk in advance, (see contact details below), so that it can be put on the agenda.

?? Who's Who ??

Weeting Parish Councillors

Cllr Ian Childerhouse 07747 794867
 Cllr Tom Childerhouse (V Chair) 01842 811469
 Cllr Margaret Lister 01842 810467
 Cllr Mike Nairn (Chair) 01842 810212
 Cllr Sue Nairn 01842 810212
 Cllr Peter Nordan 01842 815638
 Cllr Rowena Read 07985 702940
 Cllr Bernard Smith 07985 902188
 Cllr Carole Wilkins 01842 550919

i.childerhouse@weetingparishcouncil.gov.uk
t.childerhouse@weetingparishcouncil.gov.uk
m.lister@weetingparishcouncil.gov.uk
m.nairn@weetingparishcouncil.gov.uk
s.nairn@weetingparishcouncil.gov.uk
p.nordan@weetingparishcouncil.gov.uk
r.read@weetingparishcouncil.gov.uk
b.smith@weetingparishcouncil.gov.uk
c.wilkins@weetingparishcouncil.gov.uk

Weeting Parish Clerk

Mrs Pauline Angus 07741 481956

clerk@weetingparishcouncil.gov.uk

Breckland District Councillor

Cllr Sam Chapman-Allen 07771 966457
 Cllr Robert Kybird 01842 753132

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

Norfolk County Councillor

Cllr Scott Hussey

scott.hussey@norfolk.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

Mr Terry Jermy
 House of Commons
 London SW1A 0AA

terry.jermy.mp@parliament.uk
 Facebook: Terry Jermy for South West Norfolk
 Twitter: @cllrterryjermy
 Office: 020 7219 8254

LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

CLUB	CONTACT	LOCATION	DAY AND TIME
Adult's & Children's Street Dancing	Micha Barber 07541 474400	Village Hall	Wednesday 3:45 - 9:15pm
Art For Pleasure	Beryl Pountney 01842 828750	Village Hall	Thursday 10:30am - 12:30pm 3rd Thursday 10:30 - 3:30pm
Bingo	Angie Page 07602 553759	Village Hall	Tuesday Open at 6:30pm Eyes down at 7pm - 9pm
Brandon & District Classic Vehicle Club	John Mason 07876 656070	The Ram, Brandon	Every Tuesday 7pm
Brandon & District Photographic Club	Philip Desmond 185061 photoclubbrandon@gmail.com	Brandon Baptist Church High Street	September - May 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7:30pm
Brandon & District Society of Model Engineering	Dave Moore 811090 01842	Brandon Council Offices	1st Wednesday 7:30pm
Brandon Day Centre	Michelle Jarrett 819777 01842	Warren Close, Brandon IP27 0EE	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 10am - 3:30pm
Brandon Speaker's Club	Gary Sander 814679 01842	Brandon House Street	2nd & 4th Wednesday 8:45-9:30pm
Carpet Bowls	Heather Woodhams 01842 815406	Village Hall	Friday 9:45 - 12 midday
Crafty Natter	Daphne Frigg 814679 07498 Eds 283150	Village Hall	Alternate Tuesdays 2pm - 4pm (dates listed at the Village Hall)
Friends of Brandon Station	Gary Hall 814167 01842		
Green Bowls	Carol Newton 01842 815089 Elaine Lowe 07496263744	Bowls Club	Tuesday 7pm-10pm, Friday 8pm-10pm Saturday 8pm-Late, Sunday 12pm-12am
Gun Club	Ian Crislerhouse 07747704867	Weeting Gun Club	Alternate Sunday January to October
Happy To Sing Choir	JB Hopper j.b.hopper@hotmail.com	Methodist Church Hall Brandon	All Fridays 7pm
HATS	Gary Sander 07754 727130 garydms@gmail.com	Hockwold Village Hall	Tuesday & Thursday 7:30 - 9:30pm (during rehearsal periods)
History Group	Judith Young 01842 813581		
Hockwold Cricket Club	John Huddock 01842 231235		
Outdoor Archery	Nile 07864 904086	Boston Park	Friday 8:00 - 10pm Sunday 12 midday - 4:00pm
Light Lunch Club	Carol Wilkins 864162 07870 Joan 01842 815550	Village Hall	Alternate Tuesdays 11am - 2pm
Line Dance	Rita Thompson 01842 815550	Village Hall	Friday 2:00 - 4 pm
Methodist Badminton Club	Jeff Milant 827426 01842	St George's Hall, Methwold	Every Thursday between September & April 7:00pm
Methodist Theatre Club	01366 727526	The 21 Room St George's Complex Methwold	Tuesday 7:30pm
Model Car	Cipri Parsfield 07676 350687	Village Hall	Monday 7:30 - 10pm
Pool	Carol Newman 01842 815089	Bowls Club	Tuesday 7:00pm
Put Up Parity	Beverley	Village Hall	Thursday 1:30 - 3pm (E's 3rd week)
St Mary's Church	Tommy Saward (01842 813601)	St Mary's Church	See list of Service times
Shoeshing Theatre Company	Elyn Wilkins shoeshingtheatre@gmail.com	83 Buckland School Crown Street, Brandon	Tuesday 7:00 - 9:30pm 7:00 - 8:30
Thetford Singers	Sue Mann 01842 810212	Methodist Rooms Tanner Street Thetford	Wednesday 7:30 - 9:30pm
W.A.S.P.s	Carol Wilkins 850919 01842	Village Hall	Friday 8:00 - 9pm (during rehearsal periods)
Weeting Community Dances	Susan Windget 813181 suewindget@hotmail.com		
Weeting Seach FC	James Langley 811527 01842		
Weeting Steam Rally	Kate Platt 720312 Co-ordinator 07607		
West Norfolk Aviation Society	07706 030307	Mundford Bowls Club	1st Tuesday

WEETING PARISH COUNCIL life continues ... February 1976.

That is 50 years ago and I thought I would just see what was going on in the world then. You may remember, yes, the hottest, driest summer for years. Drought conditions, water rationing etc etc – sounds familiar? Roughly 23 billion ladybirds swarmed over Southern and Eastern coastal towns – have not seen them as yet but the rest, oh yes! Harold Wilson, Labour Prime Minister unexpectedly resigned and we had James Callahan. We had heavy inflation and a severe sterling crisis – well perhaps not quite so bad now as we don't appear to be going to the International Monetary Fund for a loan as yet nor have a Minister for Drought. *Ah well, Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.*

Concorde started its first commercial flight and the first Ebola outbreak occurred in Zaire. The average weekly wage was £72 with a pint of beer about 32p. However, what was Weeting Parish Council coping with at the time with Mr Norman Parrott still in the Chair. The first item was the proposal that a weekly bus service might be put in place specifically to allow the member of the Youth Club to visit the Sports Centre in Thetford. A meeting of children, parents and councillors had taken place to discuss this and it was thought up to thirty children would be interested. It was decided not to make any decision until after a proposed visit to the Centre had taken place.

It was agreed to keep the Parish Precept at the same rate and mention was made of the new estate which would be Shadwell Close. There was also mention of a letter being received from a Mr Bone claiming that the Old Rectory had been a guest house for 30 years – apparently in connection with a planning application. Mr Burlingham, however, stated that he had lived in the village since 1946 and Mr Bone was not living in the Rectory then! Councillors proposed and agreed that representatives from the Planning the Public Health Departments should come to a meeting to answer their questions in relation to the application for a Guest House, Riding School and residential Riding School to operate from the Old Rectory. Mr Parrott confirmed that there would be elections for Breckland Council in May and also advised that the waiting list for housing had been reduced by half. It was noted that the Christmas money from the Atmere Trust was much appreciated by the elderly folk in the village.

In any other business, Mr Holledge asked whether it would be possible to have a library in the village but Mr Parrott felt that in the current financial climate with government cut backs, this would not be possible especially as there was the Mobile Library, it was pointed out that the library in Brandon was open until 7.30 pm for those unable to use the Mobile Library.

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in March 1976 with only four members of the public attending which was noted as a "poor response". There was reference to the continual problem of Mr Allen "braking cars" at the Tower Flats causing a nuisance to all living in the area and the number of dogs on the loose in the village, particularly the large ones. Mr Parrott commented that providing new lighting down the main road through the village was unlikely in this time of expenditure being cut, neither the Parish nor the County would be able to do this. *First time there has been any reference to the parlous condition of the country's finances.*

The playing field was suffering from the dry weather in 1975 and would need reseeding. *I wonder what it was like at the end of the summer of 1976.* There were problems with the previous Football Club not paying its bill, so it was unanimously agreed to change Clubs, charging them £2.00 for the hire of the field for the cup tie and £1 the Parochial Church Council for their Fayre. The Bowling Green was also having problems locating the top soil they need – apparently this came from new housing developments and that from Shadwell Close was very poor but maybe the development near the Row might be better! Apparently, the residents of Peppers Close were tipping their garden rubbish in the ditch along the road and this would cause flooding, according to Mr Parrott. He would have a word with Highways. It was unanimously agreed to increase the Clerk's pay to £125.

In April and May, we had two special meetings open to the public. The first on the 7th April concerning the reasons for allowing the planning permission to go ahead for the Weeting Riding School at the Old Rectory and was attended by two members of Breckland District Council. It was apparent from the notes that Councillors made no progress in the question of the Riding School nor the matter of cars still being broken up outside the tenant's council house. The new Bus Shelter was also the subject of a petition – residents complaining about the numbers of teenagers with motor bikes who now use the shelter. Mr Parrott agreed that this was a Parish Council matter and would be discussed at the next Council Meeting. The bikes language apparently was atrocious.

It was this latter complaint which triggered the next special meeting on the 19th May – I quote "Due to the public outcry regarding the bus shelter at the entrance to the playing field" it was though proper to call another meeting for the public to attend. After considerable heated discussion with members of the public and councillors, it was decided that letters should be sent to the parents of the teenagers involved and also talking to the teenagers themselves. The Police had been called on a previous occasion but in the opinion of those present, were of little help. It was suggested that they might be more helpful if they left their cars and approached on foot!

After more heated discussion, it was agreed to call another open meeting on the subjects in a month's time with Mr Parrott inviting the members of the public to stay for the Parish Council meeting.

The formal Parish Council Meeting followed with Mr Parrott unanimously being re-elected as Chairman with Mr W Holledge as Vice Chair. Mr Parrott welcomed a new member of the Parish Council Mr W Field. It was emphasised that the new Norfolk Structure Plan was important and that Councillors should make every effort to attend one of the two local meetings. Providing fencing at the rear of the changing room was agreed, as the provision of "some form of toilet" *the mind boggles!* The Bowls Club again came up and the question of who as going to cut the greens. Mr Burlingham had been undertaking this task free of charge for some time and Councillors thought this was now an imposition. Discussion then took place and as to whether Mr Burlingham would continue, but on a formal paid basis. There was also the question of the cost of the petrol which Mr Burlingham had been providing for free and it was agreed to purchase a further petrol can for use at the Bowling Club. *I think Mr Burlingham must have deserved one big thank you for that lot.*

Any other business is usually a source of treasure and this meeting does not fail us. The proposal to apply for planning permission to turn the bottom of the Old Garden Centre into one person flats met with very strong opposition from Councillors who appeared to feel there was a likelihood these would end up being let to local Servicemen which would result in the area becoming a "Red Light" district! Mrs Snooks at the Post Office was having a problem with cars parking near the entrance to her drive, thus making it difficult to see traffic when reversing out of her property. Mr Parrott said he would look into it.

It is difficult to appreciate that we are still only in July 1976 but we are back to a proper Parish Council meeting. The Playing Field is a continuing topic and it is the grass that is growing around it and whether the grass cutting authority would mow this area of mainly weeds. It was also agreed that the children's climbing frame which had already been repaired twice but was now dangerous as was the area where the Water Board had been working laying pipes. They had left deep ruts which could be dangerous to a child and as was often the case, Mr Parrott said he would have a word with the Water Board. Apparently, Mr Burlingham was doing a grand job with the Bowling Green.

The situation at the Railway Crossing was becoming bad and the proposal was that a mini-roundabout at that junction would improve the situation (a thought!) but this was not as dangerous at that by the Post Office. *Remembering the Post Office then was at the end of the Hockwold Road on the corner of Rectory Lane – it is now a house.* Complaints had been made about vehicles speeding down the Hockwold Road to the junction with the Brandon Road, particularly affecting the elderly crossing to the Post Office (*they used to collect pensions in cash weekly then*) Mr Parrott reported that the project for the new council houses would go through and a grant of £500 (£4600.00 ish now) had been given to the Bowling Club. Again, a gem from Any Other Business – unfortunately part of the Church fencing had come down and cattle were crossing into the Churchyard and feeding amongst the gravestones. Councillors were interested in how much the Church would be prepared to offer against the cost of repairs. Another public meeting was agreed with the Church members and Councillors and members of the public to discuss the question. Another gentleman, Mr Grass, who was doing a grand job in the village keeping the playing field tidy, was also going round the village keeping that tidy too. It was noted that he had not had an increase in wages for some considerable time and councillors agreed to a rise to £3.00 per hour from £2.00. (£2 = £13.90 today).

Discussion took place on how to raise match funding for the grant for the Bowling Club and included Bingo and a Christmas Draw. Next a mystery, cheques had been received from Eastern Electricity for £2.50 and 77p respectively covering wayleaves, leaving the councillors and clerk somewhat bemused. The Revd Webb in his letter, only said he had instructed Eastern Electricity to send these to the council from now on. Being, rightly in my mind, somewhat suspicious of the implications in accepting such payments, councillors agreed the Clerk should write to EE for an explanation.

Mrs Drummond, the Clerk, also reported that an official Audit of the accounts had taken place with the Auditor making some suggestions – in particular inferring the Council was over insured and that annual fees for the playing field etc should be paid prior to the season start. The playing field continued to attract discussion, the number of times it was used and the important question concerning the use of the Village Hall toilets during a game. Councillors felt this was impossible as the hall was often in use for a function so it was proposed that the cost of a toilet(s) built by the changing rooms should be investigated. The purchase of a further quantity of fertiliser for the Bowling Green was approved

On learning that Breckland were thinking of carrying out repairs on The Row, Councillors proposed they should apply for listed status for the cottages to prevent Breckland not perhaps being as careful as they should. In any other business, a major complaint about dogs barking – in this case, the dogs were in the council houses and it was felt the Parish Council might do something, although the police had said it was a civil matter! Further complaints ranged from noise from lorries to a mobile caravan still parked at the Old Rectory with an enforcement order already in place. Then there was the Queen's Silver Jubilee and Mr Parrott admitting he had not thought about it, but all the village organisations might come together for a Fayre with the proceeds going to the village.

Yet another public meeting was held in September to discuss the repair of the Churchyard fence. Only four members of the PCC (not the Rector) attended. Considerable discussion ensued along the lines of the Church had not spare cash to help, being fully committed to covering the cost of major repairs (£5000 = £46,700) *unfortunately not a lot different to now, though figures now a bit more breathtaking.* The PCC were asked to report back to the Parish Council

1976 is still not finished, we still have the November Parish Council meeting ... it was an eventful year.
Ann E Morgan.



Autumn Gardening



The first thing I like to do when I sit down to write these articles is look back at what I shared the previous year. Drought was naturally high on my agenda this time, but I noticed it was also the focus of my articles in 2025 and 2022. If you'd like a copy of either, just drop me an email and I'll be very happy to send them over.

By now, I'm sure most of us are familiar with the hosepipe ban and what we can and can't do with water in the garden. At first, I was convinced that using a watering can meant I was getting through far more water. However, after checking our smart meter and comparing the figures, I discovered that I've actually been using around 20% less water at home—which is a very welcome saving! When you're not busy watering, here are a few rewarding jobs to enjoy in the garden this autumn:

September: September is the ideal month for planting narcissi (daffodils) and other spring-flowering bulbs, except for tulips. It's a good idea to buy bulbs as soon as they arrive in store—not only will you have the best selection, but the bulbs will also be fresher. If they need to wait before planting, keep them somewhere cool and well ventilated, and open the bags or nets so that air can circulate around them. Try to plant daffodils as soon as you can, as they'll begin putting down roots once they're in warm soil. Plant them deeply—at around twice the height of the bulb. One of the main reasons daffodils 'go blind' and fail to flower is that there may not be enough moisture or nutrients closer to the soil surface.

Sowing hardy annuals in autumn will give you earlier flowers than sowing them in spring. Calendula (pot marigolds), cornflowers, nigella (love-in-a-mist) and poppies can all be sown directly into beds and borders. Sweet peas can also be sown in deep pots and left to overwinter in an unheated greenhouse.

September is also a good time to give conifer hedges a tidy trim. Try not to leave it too late, as young new shoots can be damaged by frost, which is one of the main causes of browning.

It's worth preparing your lawn for winter too. Apply an autumn moss killer, then scarify the lawn a couple of weeks later to remove dead moss and thatch. This will help the grass thicken up and give you a lush, green lawn next year.

October: Once the first frosts arrive—usually sometime in October—tender annuals begin to blacken, and that's your cue to refresh a few pots and baskets with winter colour. Pansies and violas can keep flowering even beneath a light dusting of snow, while mini and Latina cyclamen often bloom for weeks, sometimes right up to Christmas in a mild season. There really is no shortage of lovely choices for autumn planting!

Towards the end of October, gardens often put on their finest display of foliage colour as the leaves of shrubs and trees slowly change colour.

November: Then, as November arrives, those glorious leaves begin to fall and it's time for a gentle tidy-up. Clear fallen leaves from around roses to help prevent blackspot from spreading. It's best not to compost these leaves or use them for leaf mulch, as the disease can persist in the soil.

Cut back herbaceous plants that aren't needed for winter interest or as food and shelter for wildlife but leave ornamental grasses standing to protect overwintering beneficial insects. Once the borders are tidy, add a mulch such as bark chippings or garden compost to insulate roots through winter and help keep weeds in check.

This is also the perfect time to plant tulips. They don't root well in warm soil, so there's no rush to plant them earlier. Waiting until the soil is cold also offers natural protection from certain viral and fungal diseases, which are far less active in cooler conditions.

Autumn is also one of the best times of year to plant shrubs, conifers and hardy plants. The soil is still warm, giving roots time to establish before winter. A healthy root system will then help each plant take up as much water and nourishment as possible.

As the kitchen garden begins to slow down, it's sadly time to store the last of the summer crops. I enjoy making green tomato chutney, cucumber pickles and hot chilli sauce, so there's still a taste of summer to enjoy throughout winter.

There's plenty changing at the garden centre too, as summer favourites make way for all the rich colours and fresh inspiration of autumn. Do pop in and see what's new—we'd love to welcome you.

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Weeting Steam Rally 2026

Well, another rally has come and gone and appears to have been very successful. I don't know whether it is my imagination or not as I don't have the figures for this year's gate, but the car park seems to have been extra full, especially on the Saturday. All I know is that Park View, where I live, had nose to tail, very slow moving, traffic for all three mornings, making travel to and from home very difficult. At one point I donned a high visibility jacket and helped a neighbour's daughter to back her car out of her parent's driveway by stopping the flow of traffic briefly. It took my daughter, who lives in Mundford, about an hour to get from Pepper's High Hill to the rally field!



There were a few changes to the layout this year. The steam ploughs were in action at the Hockwold Road end of the site and were accompanied by some beautiful Shire ploughing horses – see page 5, whilst the old plough area had a crop that was being harvested by some intriguing old machinery. The vintage cars were beyond the fairground area, which may not have been the best site for them as it is a corner of the field that is perhaps not reached by many on foot and few visitors got on or off the tractor drawn transport trailers during the hours I was a conductor on them.

The fairground was in abundance as usual, although £4 per person per ride seemed a lot to me. Perhaps I

am behind the times with that idea, but I always think back to the King's Lynn Mart when I was a child and it cost just 6d (two and a half new pence) a ride and half price on children's day!! However, the galloping horses and electric yachts seemed popular despite that.

The Little Barford engine wasn't in steam this year as I believe it needs some maintenance, but the woodyard was in full swing along with the threshing and road repair demonstration.

A newcomer to the field was a huge Mortier organ. The Mortier company, based in Antwerp, Belgium, created massive mechanical dance organs and orchestrions between 1898 and the early 1950's. These were known for their thunderous volume, ornate Art Deco façades and the ability to simulate a full jazz or dance orchestra using punched cardboard music books and pneumatic propulsion.

There were rows of stalls selling a wide range of items – clothing, confectionary, toys, tools, pet supplies etc. as well as the craft and bar tents and the Burrell Restaurant tent. The Hub provided a welcome cool space for families with young children to let the kids enjoy some play time and enable the parents to sit down and have a few minutes rest.

As usual, there were a great many full sized and scaled versions of steam engines, rollers, static and showman's engines and goods vehicles on display with the mandatory big line up and whistle chorus after the Grand Parade.

This year the weather was reasonably kind as the weekend fell between heatwaves! The Friday was hot, but the following two days had a cooling breeze and even an extremely short smattering of rain. Nevertheless, the water bowzers were kept busy spraying the ground in an attempt to keep the worst of the dust down.



MOBILE LIBRARY



3rd September 2026

1st October 2026

29th October 2026

26th November 2026

Angerstein Close	10.25 - 10.40 am
St Edmund Close	10.45 - 11.00 am
Saxon Place	11.05 - 11.15 am
Glebe Road	11.20 - 11.45 am
Rectory Lane	11.50 - 12.10 pm

CLUB SPOTLIGHT



Brandon
Photographic Club

The new season for the club begins on Wednesday 9th September at 7.30pm in Brandon Baptist Church Hall, Brandon high street.

If you feel intimidated at the thought of attending the club because you don't have the 'fancy equipment.' Then consider this quote from photography pioneer and master Ernst Haas: **'A complex photographer with simple equipment compares favourably to a simple photographer with complex equipment.'**

Ernst Haas is highlighting the fact that it is the person and how they observe the world, not the equipment that can make the difference between a quality image and those that are just ok. If you only take photos on your phone or a simple point and shoot camera, don't worry, all are valid.

At the time of writing this the final touches are being put to the club timetable. Several guest speakers have been invited to present to the club. The subjects range from aviation photography, exploration in the arctic circle to a day in the life of a wedding photographer.

Confirmed speakers are, Brandon resident Colin Lang will be at the club Wednesday 14th October 2026. 'The Northwest Passage' Colin participated in an expedition from Nome Alaska to Halifax Nova Scotia through the legendary Northwest Passage. Many explorers disappeared for ever trying to find the Northwest passage, but thankfully Colin returned to share his experience through photographs, artifacts, highlighting the effects of global warming and promises plenty of polar bears!

Accomplished photographer Mick Mansfield of Bury St Edmunds will explain the intricacies of Aviation Photography on Wednesday 24th March 2027. Through a collection of his own images Mick will cover how to get the best image from static aircraft in museums, those in flight, cockpit views and aircraft photography at night. He will also discuss the equipment he uses, plus some of the images that did not make the grade.

Unconfirmed at present is Bury St Edmunds based professional wedding photographer Jackie Gillman. 'A Day in the Life of a Wedding Photographer'. Jackie will give an insight behind the scenes of a typical modern wedding day. Capturing the day long before even setting foot in the ceremony venue, hours spent editing and coping with the unexpected. Always trying to achieve the unique images to satisfy the client and stand out from the competition.

Apart from the guest speakers club competitions are held throughout the season. One competition has the theme of 'The songs and lyrics of the Beatles'. Will be interesting to see how the members have interpreted this subject.



Other activities include photographing light trails and light painting, closeup and macro photography and discussing images presented by the members.

The club meetings are open to non-members. There is a charge of £5 to attend guest speaker evenings.

Looking back to last June the club met with other clubs from the region at the Imperial War Museum Duxford for an enjoyable day of good company photographing the exhibits and re-enactors dressed in 1940s costumes.

Consider coming along to one of our meetings not just for the photography but enjoy the company.



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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.



www.toastmasters.org

Brandon Speakers Club

Meet at Brandon House, High Street,
Brandon, Suffolk, IP27 0AX
at 6.45 pm

2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month

Upcoming meetings:

12.08.26	26.08.26
09.09.26	23.09.26
14.10.26	28.10.26
11.11.26	25.11.26

Contact us for more information
Garydtm@gmail.com

Or check out our website:
brandonspeakersclub.co.uk



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choir) or email info@brandonchoir.co.uk

Second Defibrillator and Bleed Kit

We have had a defibrillator in the old red telephone box in Hereward Way for several years and this has been used on many occasions.

A few months ago, I reported that we had added a bleed kit to the defibrillator box to be used in the event of a severe knife wound.

However, the Parish Council decided to install a second defibrillator and bleed kit on Parrots Piece as this would be more convenient to the southern end of the village in an emergency. Brandon Town Council have also placed a defibrillator at the Catholic Church on the corner of Fengate Drive. If any of these units are required, please dial 999 and the operator will give you the access code to your nearest unit, but please remember to return the items as soon as possible and to ring the contact number in the box to inform them that they have been used. This will enable them to be checked and re-stocked.



Calling All Cars!

At 5.20 in the morning of Wednesday July 15th, my husband and I were rudely awoken by the sound of a fast-running car engine, the squeal of brakes and skidding tyres followed by an almighty crashing noise and the wail of police car sirens in hot pursuit. Living where we do on the corner of the main road and Park View and having been resident here for some 48 years, we have seen quite a lot of accidents on and around this junction, but this one has to beat them all into cocked hat.

Leaping out of bed and pulling on a few clothes, we both ran outside to see if we needed to help in any way. However, the police were already there in abundance and more traffic cars were turning up from every direction. In the end we had 8 or more police vehicles from both Norfolk & Suffolk in attendance! I am sure everyone is aware of what had led up to this invasion – a shop in Watton had been ram-raided and the cash machine stolen. The thieves sped away in two vehicles – a pick-up with the cash machine and a beautiful red Alpha Romeo as a get-away vehicle. With the police hot on their heels, they dumped the pick-up with its cargo between Mundford and Weeting and the crew all piled into the Alpha. Unfortunately, they misjudged their speed when they turned into Park View and



demolished a hedge, several fence panels, a brick wall, some wheelie bins and wrote off 2 local resident's cars. They ran off, although one of them was later captured. However, the Alpha Romeo was a sorry sight!



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