



FLITCHAM cum APPLETON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

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Parish Council

The next meeting of Flitcham Parish Council is due to be held at the Community Centre on **Monday, March 3rd commencing at 7:30pm.**

The Agenda is posted on the Community Centre Notice Board and on the PC website. Members of the public are warmly welcomed. There is always time allowed at the beginning of every meeting to give members of the public the opportunity to speak and ask questions; however the public cannot take part in the remainder of the meeting, although they are welcome to stay and listen to proceedings.

Gill Welham, Parish Clerk 01366 384205
clerkflitchamparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk

Remember that if there are any issues you want the Parish Council to consider please contact the above or the Chairperson, Susan Allen - 600119



January 12th - Holy Communion, 3.00 pm

January 26th - Family Service, 11.00 am

Flitcham Social Club

**Opening hours: Thursday, Friday and Saturday
from 7.30 pm**

Events in March 2025

• Saturday 8th	Coffee morning 10-12
• Tuesday 11th	Bingo
	Eyes down at 7.30pm
• Thursday 13th	Folk Club 8pm
• Friday 14th	Poker Club
• Saturday 15th	Meal Night
• Thursday 20th	Acoustic Music Night 8pm
• Saturday 22nd	Coffee Morning 10-12
• Thursday 27th	Folk Club 8pm
• Friday 28th	Poker Club

From the Elyard Archives



Division 5 League Winners - April 28th 1997

Back Row

R. Eke - C. Farrow - I. Ding - N. Riseborough - S. Blackmur - K. Piggot - G. Keeley - N. Farrow - R. Elyard

Front Row

C. Fox - R. Gray - J. Thurston - M. Panttorne - G. Wix

Sticks and Stones....

I sometimes wonder why we humans agonise over choosing names for our children or pets when we often end up calling them by some derivative or totally different nickname. Occasionally nicknames can be cruel but mostly they are terms of endearment; personal connections which signify intimacy and affection. I have always thought that nicknames make you feel a little bit more loved and less alone in the world; we do not generally give them to people we dislike.

1977 was the year I started secondary school and it also saw the release of the first Star Wars film. My brother and I adored this film and, more importantly, it gave us the perfect nickname for our mum who was always utterly relentless in her mission to ensure that we completed all our homework. As we entered the house our book bags were searched, we were marched to the kitchen table and told to begin. Henceforth, she was known as the 'Stormtrooper', after the fictional soldiers in the Star Wars franchise.

As a teacher who also lived in a series of boarding schools, I spent most of my career swimming in a sea of nicknames. Boys especially, hardly ever call each other by their proper names and my son was always known as Beez throughout school. I rarely heard him call his peers by their official names and at his wedding I realised, as I greeted some of his old school friends, that I wasn't entirely sure what some of their proper names were. All teachers with any grip on reality are well aware that their pupils have nicknames for them (I was known as Trotter or Wingnut) but, rather endearingly, my pupils were very shocked to discover that we teachers, in return, had nicknames for them too. Both our dogs, courtesy of my two children, have nicknames; the smaller one is called Croquers as they think she looks like a fat little potato croquette on legs and when they were tiny children they also gave a nickname, which he is well aware of, to a long time Flitcham resident who used to greet them from behind his hedge with a huge grin. Nicknames stick to people and the most ridiculous often prove to be the most adhesive. This is why, although my offspring are now 28 and 30 years old, they still talk about 'The Jolly Gardener.' As I said before, an affectionate name for someone well liked.

All manner of celebrities, particularly in the world of sport, are known by nicknames: Beefy Botham, Hurricane Higgins, Chopper Harris, Lightning Bolt, The Crafty Cockney and many more. My personal favourite being one-time QPR football player Fitz Hall who is known as 'One Size.'

Ann Beasley

You may send in material at any time via my letterbox at Beech House, Abbey Road or email terry.allen2@pm.me and you can phone on 600119. However, it must reach me by the 16th of the month to appear in the following month's edition.