



FLITCHAM cum APPLETON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

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October 2025

Parish Council Meeting

The Council co-opted Roger Glazebrook as our fifth Councillor at its meeting on September 1st. Our full complement, which has rarely been attained in recent years, is seven.

The future of the telephone box was discussed (see August Newsletter for more information). We decided that without a clear idea of the practical and viable options for its future use, there was no point in applying to adopt it. Some suggestions have already been made and the school will be approached to see if it would like to participate.

As you will know, the village has long had an Emergency Plan which would be initiated in the event of a major incident and help supplement the emergency services. To this end, it would be helpful to have a clearer idea of what resources already exist in the village by way of relevant skills, equipment and facilities (see article in this Newsletter).

We have now had five offers of help to paint the playground perimeter fence, which is very encouraging; work will begin in October.

TA

News from Ukraine

We are doing well, sometimes it is difficult, but it's okay, we cope with difficulties. We settled in a hostel for displaced people, and we will live here and I will look for an apartment. As it turned out, an apartment is difficult to find.

Kirill went to school yesterday. On September 1st [the start of the school year], we always have a solemn meeting of schoolchildren and parents. It takes place in the street. Children read poems, the principal or guests speak, the school bell rings. Yesterday, apparently, all the children were divided into three parts; the solemn event for Kirill's class and for eight more classes was at 10.20. The other classes were earlier. This is probably because the shelter does not accommodate all the children. Yesterday we had just approached the school and the air raid siren sounded. The children and teachers went to the shelter. Probably half an hour later the air raid siren went off and the solemn events began. Yesterday was an introductory lesson, and today [2nd] all the lessons begin. Sritlana and Kirill (as messaged to Sarah Blackmur)



October 12th - Holy Communion 5pm

October 26th - Family Service 11 am

Football Returns to Flitcham

As you will know from the August Newsletter, Dersingham Football Club will be using the football pitch from October until March. They have many youth teams and this will enable them to hold practice and training sessions weekly. This is the timetable:

Wednesday

Under 16 girls 5pm - 6pm

Under 14 boys 6pm - 7.30pm

Under 13 girls 7pm - 8pm

Under 8 boys 5pm - 6pm

Thursday

Under 12 boys 6.30pm - 8pm

Under 11 boys 6pm - 7pm

Under 9 boys 5pm - 6pm

Much of the time these sessions will be in the dark and lit by portable floodlights. Sounds exciting!

Most importantly, there is an open invitation for any children in the village to come along and join in. You will need to let the Club know beforehand by contacting Gary English on 07786 986985

TA

Flitcham Bowls Club

With the season now over, the team held its place in the middle of all the Leagues. We lost in the Albert Victor Cup Final by 6 shots and the Bridge's League Cup Final by 1 shot! However, we managed to win the North West Norfolk Subsidiary Cup. The Captains would like to thank all their players for their support and, in particular, John Farrow for all his hard work maintaining the green.

Paul Hunter

Village Photo - Thanks to all who took part - more details in November issue

A tale of two twitchers.....

Ed Cross's recent article about sightings at the bird hide in Flitcham reminded me of the many happy times I spent down there when my children were young. Most children go through phases of being obsessed with certain topics or hobbies; my two were no different and the prospect of getting them hooked on an activity which meant they had to be both still and quiet at the same time filled me with huge anticipatory joy.

Both children loved writing down what they had seen in the little book kept for all bird watchers to log their sightings. Over and above the usual sightings, they enjoyed spotting the Little Owl who used to perch in the fallen tree and, on one very memorable occasion, the beautiful flashing jewel of the Kingfisher. For Tom even this was not excitement enough and as a family we all remember the fateful day of his most impressive sighting. He was absolutely, categorically, determinedly certain that he had indeed spotted an African Bee Eater. He had looked it up in his little book to check and could not be convinced that this sighting was an incredibly unlikely one, Flitcham being in neither Africa, Asia, Southern Europe, Australia nor New Guinea. As I was telling him this he got rather grumpy and it reminded me of the famous scene in Fawlty Towers when Basil, somewhat waspishly, points out to a guest who is expressing disappointment about the view from her room, that she is unlikely to see 'herds of Wildebeest sweeping majestically across the plain' from the window of a hotel in Torquay.

It is still the case today that in the Beasley household, any unidentified bird or birdsong is attributed to what is now known as the Lesser Spotted (or never spotted at all) African Bee Eater.
Ann Beasley

Emergency Plan

Climate change with hot dry summers has made some problems, such as fires and flooding, more likely to occur and there is always the possibility of a serious accident occurring in the parish.

For various reasons, it is not always possible for the emergency services to arrive at the scene in good time when early intervention by residents could alleviate any injury or other harm. It is with this in mind that the Parish Council is updating its Emergency Plan to include those residents who have the skills and/or willingness to assist in such a situation. If you are so willing to help in the Parish, could you please contact the Parish Clerk: clerkflitchamparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk or on 07876 136054.

Please give contact details and specify your abilities and skills, including any up to date accreditation, where appropriate. Your help will be appreciated.

RG

Warm Homes:Local Grant Scheme

The Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk has been working as part of the Norfolk Warm Homes consortium since 2022 to facilitate the implementation of domestic energy efficiency grants across the borough. These grants typically accommodate the replacement of central heating with air source heating, insulation measures and solar panels where appropriate. Any interested or concerned residents are advised to contact Jacob.Medlock@West-Norfolk.gov.uk or on 01553 616227 for details. Alternatively, households that wish to make an application should visit the link below to Norfolk Warm Homes

This is a very brief summary received from the Council. There is a lot to consider, including, in particular, eligibility, so you really need to look at the website:

<https://norfolkwarmhomes.org.uk>

Social Club October Events

Wed 1st	Acoustic Night
Thurs 2nd	Darts match v Wolferton
Thurs 9th	Folk Club
Fri 10th	Poker Night
Tues 14th	Bingo - Eyes down 7.30pm
Thurs 23rd	Folk Club
Fri 24th	Poker Night
Wed 29th	Acoustic Night



A Former Flitcham Schoolboy!

From the website of the British Model Flying Association:
"We're delighted to announce that British Model Flying has a new WORLD CHAMPION!"

Neil Allen has been crowned World

Champion in the Free Flight class of F1C, following the culmination of the championships which have been taking place in Salonta, Romania.

Team GBR has been competing against 22 other nations in the F1C (engine assisted gliders) class. The models, which weigh approximately 450 grams, have no radio control and the sole object of the flight is duration. A short engine run which is limited to just 4 seconds, climbs the aircraft at a great rate before it then converts into a slow-flying, high-performance glider. A unique challenge in both design and execution."

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.