



FLITCHAM with APPLETON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

June 2026

Poo-ster Competition

Following ongoing issues being brought to our attention of dog poop not being disposed of correctly around the village, the Parish Council has acted and approached Flitcham Primary Academy to enlist their help.

The pupils have been busy designing posters to encourage people to respect our village and to use the poop bins provided or dispose of it at home. A resident and two parish councillors had the difficult task of judging the competition entries and are now pleased to announce that 1st place went to Andraya, 2nd to Erin and joint 3rd to Nethania and Daisy.

Thank you to all who entered and we hope they enjoy spending their book tokens (anonymously donated) as much as we look forward to seeing their posters around and having a positive effect.

Deb Morgan-Davies



June 14th - Holy Communion 5.00pm
(Apologies for displaying the wrong time last month!)

June 28th - Family Service 11.00am.

Parish Council Meeting May 18th

We said goodbye to our Chairman Richard Gray who, after years of stalwart service, has decided to retire from active service and turn his attention to other projects at home. Huge thanks go to Richard for all his efforts during his tenure and we are pleased to announce that Roger Glazebrook has picked up the baton as Chairman with Phil Clarke stepping into the role of Vice Chairman.

Maintenance and repair work on the playground, in particular the swings, has been completed and was funded by the money given to us by Councillor Stuart Dark from the Norfolk Community fund.

We also decided, temporarily at least, to pause the process of adopting the phone box. Having gained sight of the terms of the contract we would have to sign with BT, we have concerns about potential issues of unseen costs and liability. We are gathering more information before we proceed and will keep residents informed. The village welcome pack is currently being updated and given a new look and we apologise to any new residents for the delay in receiving a copy. The book swap facility in the bus shelter is there for all residents to use and enjoy and as such, the number of books in the shelter needs to stay at a sensible and manageable level. Thank you for your cooperation in this respect. Terry Allen has kindly renovated the noticeboard in Abbey Road which is ready for use again; thank you.

Finally, there have been a couple of thefts in the village recently; oil was stolen from the tank of a vacant property and some garden lights removed from another property. We are a small community and would just like to encourage residents to be vigilant and observant and, as good neighbours do, look out for each other and communicate any concerns you may have to the council, each other or appropriate authority.

Date of next meeting; Monday 6th July 7.30 pm
Community Centre
Ann Beasley



My Link to Flitcham

I had no knowledge of a village called Flitcham, having been brought up in Denver, until I married my second husband and moved to Hillington. My children both went to Flitcham school and we were very involved with the social club. I later moved to Flitcham following my divorce in 2003. It was then I discovered a previous connection to the village.

My maternal grandparents were from Durham and my grandad was a miner. Due to serious health problems they moved to Flitcham around 1932 and lived at no 61 Church Road. My mother was born and baptised in Flitcham the following year and her brother, Ernest Oakes, who was fourteen years her senior, joined the Royal Norfolk Regiment at the age of eighteen. The family briefly moved back to Durham, as there was a shortage of miners, but returned again in 1939 to Norfolk to run "The Cock" pub in West Winch.

Uncle Ernest was killed in action ("missing presumed dead") on May 25th 1940, having volunteered for what was considered a suicide mission to allow the Dunkirk beaches to be evacuated. His death occurred two days before the notorious Le Paradis massacre, on 27th May 1940, carried out by SS division Totenkopf (the Death Squad). Ninety seven soldiers, many being his colleagues from the Royal Norfolk Regiment, were executed after surrendering.* The SS Commander was later tried at Nuremburg for war crimes.

Ernest's family's grief was so severe they erased all trace of him so we had nothing, not even a photograph, and he was never spoken about. However, he is commemorated on the West Winch war memorial. Initially, we had thought he had been one of those murdered at le Paradis and wondered how we should tell mum. However, in the 1990s, my brother did some extensive research and found his grave in Northern France; taking my mother to visit gave her immense comfort. She was very affected by his death but I think, moreover, by her parents' response in deleting him from their lives. Thankfully she got to know where he was buried and visit his grave.

I just find the link to Flitcham from so long ago very sad and poignant but it also explains why Flitcham feels like the place I was always meant to be.

Geraldine Farrow

*A monument to the ninety seven, of whom only fifty were identified, was dedicated at Norwich Cathedral in July 2021

 **NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME**
Garden Open For Charity

Tapping House

Wheatfields, Hillington, King's Lynn,
PE31 6BH

Sunday 14 June

10am - 2pm

Adults £4.50 Children free
Light refreshments

    

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS DOGS WELCOME PLANTS FOR SALE TEAS ACCEPTED

More information at ngs.org.uk



You may have seen this quite alarming sight (well, to TA anyway) on the Icknield Way near the Old Vicarage but Ed Cross writes:

"These are (almost certainly) the webs of ermine moth's caterpillars. They do look devastating but, as

far as I'm aware, hedges/trees recover. There is a roughly 30metre stretch of hedge just on the Hillington side of Grimston which had 2-3 years of being taken over. It now looks OK (though I will double check next time I go by!). There's more information here <https://butterfly-conservation.org/news-and-blog/dont-worry-about-ermine-webs>."



Flitcham Social Club

Saturday, June 6th Afternoon Tea 2pm

£12.50 per person

Saturday June 20th Barbecue 6.30pm for 7.00

Burgers, sausages served with salad and minted new potatoes. Gateau for afters.

£15 per person

Booking essential for both events:

at the bar or with Gavin or Debbie: 07867 615947

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.

The Parish Council supports the Newsletter with a contribution towards the cost of its production.