



FLITCHAM cum APPLETON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

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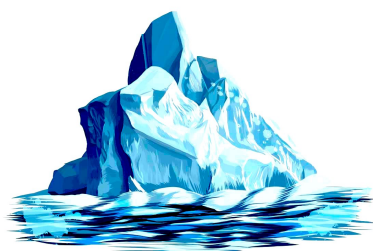
March 2024

Community Centre Management Committee

At the AGM, on October 17th last, Geoff Kilham & Fred Sturman resigned from the Committee. They were thanked for their hard work and commitment. Lee Miller (Chips) has joined the committee as the representative from the Darts team and Lesley Dumpleton, who is the Treasurer of the Social Club, has also taken on the role of Treasurer of the Management Committee. The Committee is made up of representatives from various organisations in the village; current members are:

Chairman: Neil Farrow
Secretary: Joan Gray
Treasurer: Lesley Dumpleton
Social Club: Colin Lukey
St Marys Church: Sally Stanton
Parish Council: Richard Gray
Darts: Lee Miller.
Bowls: Paul Hunter

Car Hits Icebergs



(Not to scale)

There is a dip at the bottom of Abbey Road, just before it joins the A148, which floods regularly and often freezes over. We came upon it after the ice (surprisingly thick, as we soon learned) had been broken up. "On no account are you to drive through that", instructed my passenger. In spite of (or perhaps because of) this command, I bravely carried on. "Didn't get stuck anyway", I muttered.

A few days later I discovered that below the front bumper of my luxury limousine there were two large holes which had formerly accommodated the fog lights. The tiny fragments of their earthly remains were later recovered.

St Mary's Church Services

March 10th Mothering Sunday Holy Communion 3pm
March 24th Palm Sunday Family Service 11am
March 25th Holy Communion 7pm
March 31st Easter Day Service 11am

March 29th - Good Friday
WALK from SANDRINGHAM TO HILLINGTON.
Join at Flitcham Church 10am and walk to Hillington Church for a service, with Hot Cross Buns on arrival, at about 11am.
MORE DETAILS from Sally Stanton 01485 609099

Parish Council

The next meeting of Flitcham Parish Council is due to be held at the Community Centre on **Tuesday 5th March 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
chairmanflitchamparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk

THE 30TH ANNUAL FLITCHAM YARD SALE

Easter Day March 31st From 9am

Now's the opportunity to sell off that old rubbish those priceless treasures you have carefully hoarded over the last year. It will cost you a mere £2, with proceeds towards the Community Centre.

Val Blackmur will again be organising it so contact her if you want to take part - 600020.

Changes to Telephone Network

The network which delivers the current landline phone services is to be switched off at the end of 2025, after which all landline services will be offered digitally, using broadband connections rather than copper phone lines. These changes will affect everyone who has a landline which they would like to keep on using. BT is now moving fixed broadband customers to its Digital Voice service in a region-by-region roll out and East Anglia is scheduled for this Spring. BT is focussing on customers who are most ready to switch, so vulnerable customers (including those with a healthcare pendant), landline-only customers and those in areas with no mobile reception won't be switched for now. You will be contacted four weeks before any proposed changes, so there shouldn't be any surprises.

In most cases, the changeover will be simple; while some phones may require an adaptor, many will continue working (particularly cordless phones) – you'll just have to plug yours into your router or a new socket. Once set up, your phone will work in much the same way as it always has. You'll be able to keep the same phone number and will still hear a dial tone when you lift the handset. You'll also still have to pay for calls in the same way – even if they're delivered using your broadband connection.

If you don't have, or want, broadband but only have a landline, you won't be forced to pay for broadband services. Your digital phone service will work using a special dedicated broadband connection and should not cost any more than you pay now. In any event, if you don't yet want to change to a digital service, traditional phone services will continue to work for a couple of years.

Note: Although this article refers to BT, other providers that use BT's network (operated by Open Reach), and which will almost certainly include yours, must follow the same procedure and contact their customers well in advance of the changes.

This is an edited version from a Which web page: <https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/broadband/article/digital-voice-and-the-landline-phone-switch-off-what-it-means-for-you-aPSOH8k1i6Vv>

AgeUK have also produced a useful guide, which is more comprehensive. <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/money-legal/consumer-issues/changes-to-landline-telephones/>



Paul's Bygones

Many of us have had the opportunity to browse Paul Blackmur's astonishing collection of old tools and implements. Some once served a valuable function, and were just superseded over time, while others ranged from the bizarre to the positively dangerous. From time to time we'll be featuring some of these for your wonder and delight. Here's an easy one to start with; all will be revealed next month.

Flitcham Social Club

Time moves rapidly and you may be surprised to know that at the beginning of March 2024 it will be one year since the re-opening of the Social Club. To celebrate, there will be a Happy Hour at the Social Club on Saturday the 9th March where the first drink will be free between 8:00pm and 9:00pm. Hopefully there will be plenty of members and visitors to take advantage and toast the club.

There has been another successful meal night when Burns' Night was celebrated with haggis, neeps, tatties and a wee dram. The haggis was addressed with a few of Robbie Burns' poems and everyone survived to tell the tale afterwards. Our February meal night was on February 24th, when over 40 romantics attended a somewhat late Valentine's celebration. The next meal night is planned for March, when St Patrick's Day will be celebrated, and there are plans for a Fete during July.

The possibility of disabled access is being explored with the Estate and we are awaiting to hear possible options. We will also be talking with them about opportunities to reduce our electricity costs.

Please join the Club if you are not a member as it helps with our funding but, more importantly, come and enjoy a sociable evening on a Friday or Saturday.

March Dates

- 1st. Poker Night
- 7th. "Darts and Dominoes" v Sandringham
- 9th. Happy Hour. One free drink each, between 8pm and 9 pm, to celebrate one year since our reopening.
- 14th. Folk Club, everyone welcome, great music and raffle
- 15th. Poker Night
- 16th. Meal Night, celebrating St Patrick's Day
- 21st. Charity Darts night
- 28th. Folk Club
- 29th. Poker Night
- 31st. Flitcham's Great Annual Yard Sale.

You may send in material at any time via my letterbox at Beech House, Abbey Road or email t.allen@suster.plus.com 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.