

FELSHAM + GEDDING

september 2026

VILLAGENEWS



ISSUE 261

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Please be aware that items submitted after the deadline cannot be guaranteed to appear in the magazine.

COPY SUBMISSIONS

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ADVERTISING

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COMPLIMENTS, COMPLAINTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Village News welcomes your feedback. Do you have any comments about what we do, what's going well, anything you'd like us to change?

NEWSLETTER GENERAL POLICY

We do publish acknowledgements, articles of general interest, artistic works and similar.

We do publish factual material from recognised organisations.

We do publish to the Village Website at
<http://felsham.onesuffolk.net>

We do not publish defamatory, rude, blasphemous, racial or other inappropriate material.

We reserve the right to edit contributions to suit publication needs.

We are reliant on contributions from many sources, taken in good faith, and cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions.

Copyright waiver is presumed implicit on all submissions unless clearly stated otherwise

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PS Do you like our coloured front cover? We would like to keep it each month. You may donate to the printing of the Village News by dropping a donation into our tin, it's situated by the till in the Village Store ~ Thank you

Welcome to September

This month's welcome is all about something wonderfully - and perhaps quintessentially - British: a village garden party. In fact, in the five years I have lived in England - all of them here in our village - this was my first proper one.

I am therefore hardly an expert, but it certainly seemed to have everything a good garden party should have: a beautiful setting, plenty of people to talk to, refreshments and, of course, that most British and topical source of conversation—the weather.

Nobody was anxiously watching for rain or complaining about the cold, largely because there was no sign of either. The heat, however, certainly kept everyone talking—and moving from one precious patch of shade to another.

The garden party was held in aid of Breast Cancer and raised a considerable amount of money. Warmest congratulations - and a very big thank you - to Harvey and Ingrid, who organised the event and welcomed everyone into their beautiful garden. It was a lovely afternoon in support of an extremely important cause.

There was even the opportunity to go for a drive with Phil in his magnificent, immaculately kept and highly polished old-timer - Phil's pride and joy, I imagine. Am I right, Phil?? Unfortunately, we missed our chance, but it looked like enormous fun, and taught us an important lesson about not leaving the exciting things until later. Hopefully we'll get a chance soon.

Alongside the fundraising, refreshments and search for shade, conversations were happening all around the garden. Some were light-hearted, some more personal and others undoubtedly concerned the best place to stand without slowly melting away.

And that brings us beautifully to this month's wellbeing article, **Why We Need People Who Really Listen**. It explores why we don't always need advice or solutions. Sometimes we simply need someone who will give us their attention and allow us to finish what we are saying - something I am still working on with my husband.

As always, you'll find the latest village news, events and community updates throughout this edition. We hope you enjoy catching up with everything that has been happening - and perhaps find time for one unhurried conversation of your own.

Happy reading!
The Village Team

Why We Need People Who Really Listen

Because not every problem requires advice, a solution or a story about someone's cousin

Most of us would probably say that we are good listeners. We look interested, make encouraging noises and usually resist checking our phones - at least when the other person is looking. But truly listening is more difficult than it sounds.

I am particularly aware of this when my husband interrupts me halfway through a sentence - usually because he has already worked out what I am going to say. Occasionally, he is right, which is extremely irritating. More often, I wasn't going to say that at all, and I now have two problems: the original story and the fact that I wasn't allowed to finish it.

While someone else is speaking, we are often busy preparing our reply. We are deciding whether we agree, remembering something similar that happened to us or searching for something helpful to say. Sometimes we begin solving the problem before the person has even finished explaining it.

"You mustn't worry."

"Have you tried making a list?"

"My neighbour had exactly the same thing."

These responses are usually well meant. We want to help. And occasionally someone really does want the name of a good plumber or instructions for removing red wine from a cream carpet.

But often, people are not asking us to fix anything. They simply need somewhere to put what they are carrying.

Being properly heard can help us understand our own thoughts. Something that feels muddled inside our head may begin to make more sense once we say it aloud. The listener does not need to have the perfect answer. Their attention is often more valuable than their advice.

Good listening also tells another person: *You matter. I have time for this. You don't have to hurry.*

Of course, listening does not mean remaining completely silent while staring intensely at someone. That can feel less like friendship and more like a police interview. It means being curious, allowing pauses and asking questions that help the other person continue:

“What was that like for you?”

“What happened next?”

“How are you feeling about it now?”

Sometimes the kindest question is simply, “Would you like my thoughts, or would you prefer me just to listen?”

We cannot give everyone our complete attention all the time. Some conversations happen while dinner is burning, the dog is barking or we are already late. But perhaps we can create occasional moments in which nobody is rushing to respond, advise or move on. We all need people who will listen to us. And we can all become that person for someone else.

Mini Resource: Listen Without Fixing

Choose one conversation this week:

- Put down anything that might distract you.
- Let the other person finish.
- Ask one genuine question before offering your opinion.
- Don't immediately compare their experience with your own.
- If you are unsure, ask: “Would you like advice, or would you just like me to listen?”

You may not solve the problem—and that may not be the point.

Until Next Time

Corina

Village News

Do you live in Felsham?

Are you going to College or University?



Do you have books or equipment to buy?



or accommodation to pay for?

If the answer to these questions is **Yes**

Then why not apply to The Felsham Charity for an Education Bursary.

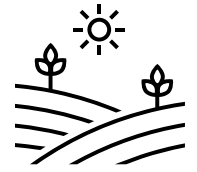
Just a short note detailing your name, home address, the College/University you will be attending, your course and your year. Please also include your bank details as we try to pay all accepted applications by BAC's.

Snail mail: Tricia Wilson, 12 Meadow Close, Felsham, IP30 0QS

Email: pawilson4@btinternet.com

Also remember – *You can apply for this Grant every year your course continues as long as your permanent address remains in Felsham.*

What's On This Month



September 2026 — What's On

Felsham – Saturday 12th September – Murder Mystery Supper – Check, there may be tickets left.

Bury St Edmunds

Saturday 5 September - Bury St Edmunds Market — 9am–4pm, Butter Market.

Sunday 6 September - Bury St Edmunds Makers Market — Butter Market, 10am–3pm.

Thursday 10 September

- **Annual Colchicum Day** — Fullers Mill Garden.

Friday 11 September

- **NMG Awards 2026** — The Apex, 7.30pm — celebrating new music from East Anglia.
- **Ickworth Heritage Open Days begin** — free entry 11–14 September, with tours, talks and demonstrations.

Saturday 12 September

- **Harmonica Workshop** — The Apex.
- **Watercolour for Beginners** — The Apex.

Sunday 13 September

- **Heritage Open Day – Theatre Royal** — 10am–2pm, behind-the-scenes access, costumes and props. Free.
- **Cityscapes: Watercolour for Beginners** — The Apex.
- **Fireman Sam** — The Apex, 12 noon.

Wednesday 16 September - Sculpture Workshop – Make a Clay Hare — The Apex, 2–5pm.

Friday 18 September - Booze & Brushes — The Apex, 7pm.

Saturday 19 September - Bury St Edmunds Market — 9am–4pm.

Sunday 20 September

- **Bury St Edmunds Guildhall Heritage Open Day** — 11am–3pm, including WWII Operations Room, gardens and historical re-enactment.

Tuesday 22 September

- **The Vicar of Dibley** begins — Theatre Royal, running 22–26 September.
- **Reconstructing the Abbey of St Edmund – Dr Richard Hoggett** — Moyse’s Hall.

Wednesday 23 September

- **Lunchtime Concert: The Rococo Ensemble – “A Paris”** — Theatre Royal.

Thursday 24 September - Suffolk Design Festival 2026 — The Apex, 9am–4pm.

- **Pottery for Beginners/Improvers** — daytime and evening courses begin.

Friday 25 September - After The Great Heathen Army – Vikings in the Medieval Cult of St Edmund — Moyse’s Hall, 7pm.

Saturday 26 September - The Great British Harvest Festival — St Edmundsbury Cathedral. Picnic from 5.30pm; concert 7.30pm. Featuring Sir John Rutter, Dame Evelyn Glennie, Nik Kershaw, Chesney Hawkes and others.

- **ExSTRAWdinary Scarecrows** — Nowton Park, 10am–4pm, also 27 September.

Sunday 27 September - ExSTRAWdinary Scarecrows — Nowton Park, 10am–4pm.

Stowmarket

Stowmarket has a particularly good September programme, with the **Food Museum, John Peel Centre, Regal and local markets** featuring heavily.

Saturday 5 September

- **FOMO Fest 2026** — Food Museum. Family-friendly music festival with two stages, funfair, children's activities, food and bars.
- **Stowmarket Farmers Market** — Market Place.

Sunday 6 September - Family Ford Fanatics 2026 — Stonham Barns Park.

Monday 7–28 September - Save a Life September — free St John Ambulance first-aid sessions, Monday evenings.

Tuesday 8 September - Baby Massage Course — Stowmarket Library; five-week course.

Thursday 10 September - Oasis 2026 – Oasis tribute — The Regal, Stowmarket.

Saturday 12 September - Nature Explorers: Moths & Bats Evening — Oaks Meadow.

Sunday 13 September - Autumn Plant Fair & Artisan Market — Helmingham Hall Gardens, 10am–4pm; 50+ nurseries, artisan stalls, talks, music and food.

- **Heritage Open Day** — Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds is also listed through the Stowmarket/Visit Suffolk events feed.

Wednesday 16 September - Private Tour of Columbine Hall & Gardens with Afternoon Tea.

Thursday 24–Sunday 27 September - Circus Cortex: BizZZar — Stonham Barns Park.

Thursday 24 September - The Fabulous 50s & Swinging 60s Matinee Show — The Regal, Stowmarket.

📍 Lavenham

Throughout September - Lavenham Guildhall 75 Years Exhibition — 28 August–20 December, so it continues throughout September.

- **Discover Medieval Lavenham – Guided Walks** — continuing through September, 2–3.30pm on selected dates.

Sunday 6 September - Open Mic Night at The Greyhound — 4.30–8pm.

Sunday 13 September - Lavenham Airfield Summer Walks — 10am–1.30pm; guided walk exploring the wartime American airfield.

Wednesday 16 September - Wine Tasting at The Greyhound — 7–9pm.

Friday 18–Sunday 20 September - Heritage Open Days – Lavenham Guildhall — **FREE**, 10.30am–4pm, no booking needed.

📍 Sudbury

Sunday 6 September - Men's Walk & Talk — Kingfisher Leisure Centre, 10am–12 noon.

Thursday 10 September - Info@ — Sudbury Arts Centre, advice drop-in for 16–24-year-olds.

Monday 14 September - Passing Conversations Bereavement Support Group — Christopher Centre, 2.30–4pm.

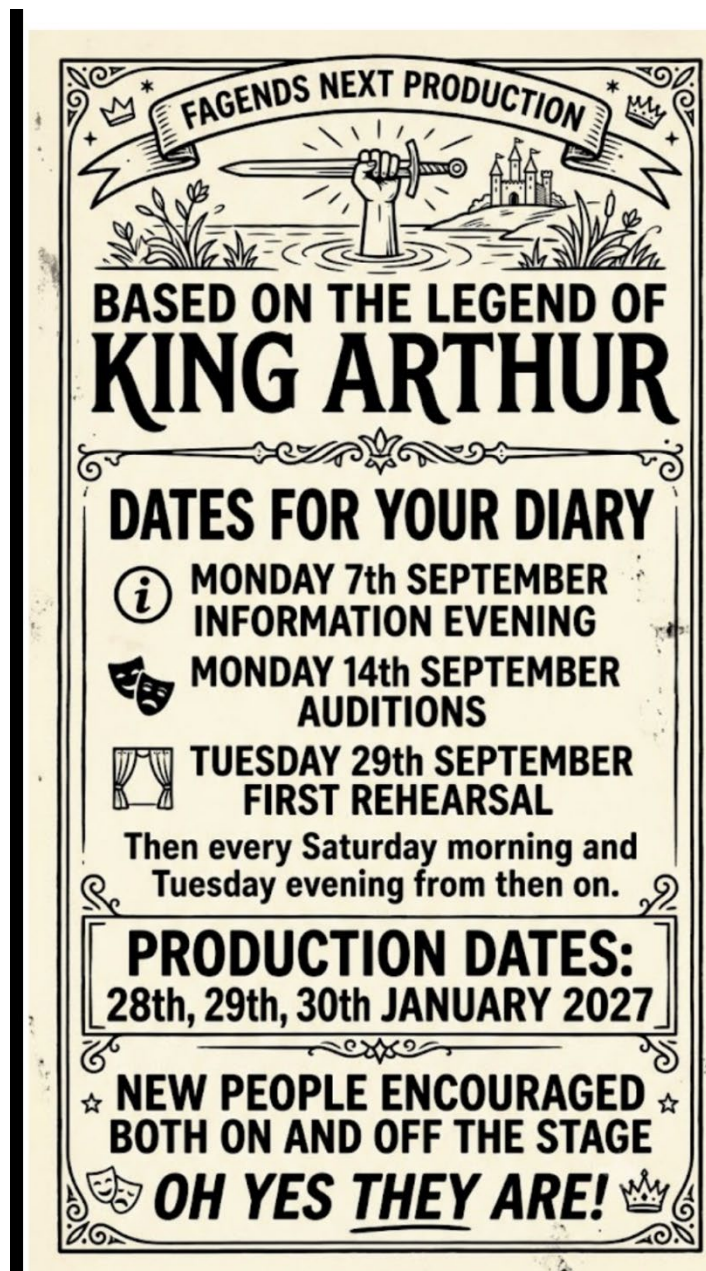
Friday 18 September - Walk 'n' Water – Sudbury & Henny Riverside — 3.5-mile walk followed by a River Stour boat trip.

Friday 18–Sunday 20 September - Heritage Open Days — various Sudbury venues and activities.

Saturday 26–Sunday 27 September

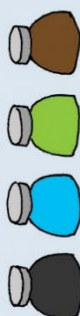
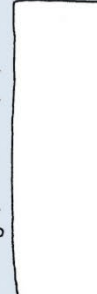
- **Tudor Michaelmas Weekend** — Kentwell Hall, listed by Visit Suffolk.

Fagends Next production



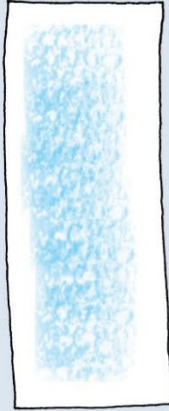
Blow your own forest

You will need

- Sponge 
- Water-based paint 
- Water 
- Masking tape 
- A long piece of paper 
- Paper drinking straws 
- Pipette 

1

Use a sponge to dab watery blue or green paint over your piece of paper to create the background of sky or bushes.



2

Use masking tape to fix down the wet paper to stop it curling up.



3

Use a pipette (or a straw) to put small drops of runny black or brown paint along the bottom of the paper.



4

Aim a drinking straw at a blob of paint and blow hard to make it 'grow' up the paper into a tree shape. Neighbouring trees can overlap.



5

You can then stick on leaves or drawings to make a fuller scene.



Miniature versions of this can make good greetings cards.

Gardening in September the start of autumn



Enjoy your garden - There is still plenty to do in the garden before the cooler weather arrives. Suffolk's relatively mild climate means many jobs can be carried out throughout the month.

Jobs for September



Flowers & borders

- Keep deadheading roses and summer flowers to encourage more blooms.
- Plant spring-flowering bulbs such as **daffodils, crocuses, tulips and alliums**.
- Divide overcrowded hardy perennials and replant them elsewhere.
- Collect seeds from favourite flowers for sowing next year.



Vegetable garden

- Harvest **runner beans, courgettes, tomatoes, carrots and beetroot** regularly.
- Pick apples and pears as they ripen.
- Sow winter salads, spinach, spring onions and hardy broad beans.
- Clear away spent vegetable plants and add healthy material to the compost heap.



Trees & shrubs

- September is a good time to plant new trees, shrubs and hedging while the soil is still warm.
- Water newly planted trees and shrubs well, particularly during dry spells.
- Check trees and shrubs for dead, damaged or diseased branches.



Lawns

- Give the lawn an autumn feed if needed.
- September is an excellent month for **reseeding bare patches**.
- Scarify lightly to remove moss and thatch, then aerate compacted areas.



Think about wildlife

Leave some seed heads standing over winter — they provide food and shelter for birds and insects. Avoid being too tidy!



Suffolk tip -September can be surprisingly dry. **Check the soil before watering**, especially around newly planted trees, shrubs and bulbs. Water thoroughly rather than little and often.

SEPTEMBER PLANTING CHECKLIST

- ☐ Spring bulbs — daffodils, crocuses & alliums
- ☐ Tulips — plant towards the end of September
- ☐ Hardy annuals & biennials
- ☐ Winter salads & spinach
- ☐ Spring onions
- ☐ Hardy broad beans
- ☐ New trees, shrubs & hedging



Tip: Plant while the soil is still warm and give new plants a good watering.

Harvest Thanksgiving & Supper at Felsham Village Hall Friday 2nd October 2026 at 7pm



**A very short act of worship to give thanks to our farmers and
for the harvest followed by supper!**

All Welcome!

News from your Village Store

Do you know what your store has in stock?

Drop by and wander around, you may see something you would like and you'll see, we may have that something you have made a special trip to town and didn't need to, we are on your doorstep

An essential aspect of convenience is being able to provide customers with precisely what they want. To achieve this, we offer an ordering service. Tell us what you want in the way of bread, meat, cheese, fruit and vegetables and we'll make sure your request is added to our next order.

So call us on 01449 736042 and speak to one of us or leave a message. Or email us on enquiries@felshamandgeddingstore.org and let us know what you need and when you need it.

Our ordering/deliveries regime is as follows:

What	From	When
Fruit, veg and milk	Ridleys	Contact us before 3:00pm and your order will be delivered first thing the next day.
Meat, sausages, pork pies, pasties, cold cuts	Lavenham Butchers St Edmunds Butchers	Contact us on Monday or Thursday to order what you want from St Edmunds Butchers. Contact us on Tuesday to order what you need Lavenham Butchers to deliver on Thursday.
Bread, rolls, scones, croissants, etc	Sparling & Faiers in Lavenham	Place your order with us on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday for next day delivery.
Magazines and newspapers	Sicklesmere Post Office	Order what you need a few days before you need it and we'll ask them to deliver it.

If there is anything else you need please don't hesitate to ask us to order it for you. One of our suppliers will normally stock it and supply it to us.

If you want to support your community store by volunteering, or by providing some financial support, please call Andrew on 07976743944 or Nick on 07850456950 or Gwen on 01449 737355.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	1	2  Table Tennis	3  Special £8.50 2 course lunch Thursday lunch £8:50
7  Spud & Slice Pizza 5 to 8 pm	8  Parish Council 7.30pm	9  Carpet Bowls	10  Special £8.50 2 course lunch Evening Bingo BROWN BIN
14  Spud & Slice Pizza 5 to 8 pm	15  Holy Communion 11am	16  Table Tennis	17  Special £8.50 2 course lunch Mexican theme menu
21  Spud & Slice Pizza 5 to 8 pm	22	23  Carpet Bowls	24  Special £8.50 2 course lunch Quiz night BROWN BIN
28  Spud & Slice Pizza Pizza 5 to 8 pm	29	30  Table Tennis	

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
4	5 BLACK BIN	6  Sunday roast is back  6pm Celtic Style Communion
11  GREEN BIN	12  Murder mystery 7pm	13  Sunday roast
18   Whist Drive 7:30 pm BLUE BIN	19	20  10am Café Church  Sunday roast
25  BLACK BIN  BUILD A BURGER	26  Movie night – IL POSTINO@ 7:30pm -Doors open at 7 pm	27  Sunday roast

 Fresh Fish, 10.45 in the VH Car Park	 St Peter's Church, Felsham
 Library Van will be in Gedding @10.10, then at Felsham VH @ 11.40	
 Events at the Felsham Six Bells	 Events at the Village Hall

I hired a company to install concrete fencing and a gate in my back garden. The quality of the work is poor, some wooden panels are loose, and the gate doesn't shut properly. I paid before I inspected the work. What can I do?

When you put your trust in a trader and they don't meet your expectations it can be frustrating.

When there's a problem caused by a trader, you should be able to get it fixed or get some money back. Evidence is important - take photos and make notes about what happened and when, including times and dates, and keep hold of receipts or other proof of payment.

People can experience different types of problems with traders, and there's specific advice available on our website depending on what the issue is. In your situation, it's important to note if a trader hasn't done a good job with 'reasonable care and skill', the Consumer Rights Act 2015 entitles you to ask for the problem to be fixed or for a refund.

This is something you can mention when you take the problem up with the trader and cite your evidence. They should fix the problem within a reasonable amount of time, without causing you too much inconvenience. The law doesn't say what counts as reasonable, so you'll have to agree on it with them.

If they can't or won't fix the problem, you can ask for a partial or full refund, depending on how bad the problem is. You'll have to come to an agreement about how much you should get. It's a good idea to start by suggesting a figure and explaining why you think it's reasonable, then take it from there. Once you've agreed on the amount with the trader the law says you should get your refund within 14 days.

If you can't come to an agreement, or they refuse to fix the problem or give you a refund, there are other steps you could take - including complaining to your card provider if you paid by card.

You can check if the trader is a member of a trade association or quality scheme. If they are, they might have to follow certain rules, and if they've broken them, you could get help to take your complaint further. They might be part of an alternative dispute

resolution (ADR) scheme - a way of solving disagreements with a trader without going to court - or they might agree to use one.

If the trader isn't part of an ADR scheme, and you've already complained to your card provider and the complaint isn't resolved, you may be able to complain to the Financial Ombudsman Service.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide in depth advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

Film Evening

**FELSHAM & GEDDING VILLAGE HALL SOCIAL CLUB
FILM EVENING**

**Saturday 26th September
7.30 PM**

IL POSTINO

Italy 1994

**Doors open from 7 - interval refreshments -
new members & guests are very welcome**

The Dementia Event

THE DEMENTIA EVENT

*Live well with dementia
with the right support.*



Are you worried about dementia or supporting someone living with dementia?



Hear **Dr Peter Prinsley MP's** keynote speech on dementia followed by a Q&A session.



Experience what it's like for someone living with dementia on our **Dementia Virtual Tour Bus**.



Engage in discussions with brilliant organisations, charities and businesses offering support for those living with dementia.

Join us at **The Dementia Event** at Stowmarket Golf Club



Lower Road, Onehouse,
Stowmarket,
IP14 3DA



Friday, 9th October



11:00am – 3:30pm

FREE ENTRY

Kindly sponsored by



Stowmarket Golf Club
at Finborough Park



ENGLAND
GOLF
CHAMPIONSHIP
VENUE



Together we can make a difference.

THE DEMENTIA EVENT

Live well with dementia with the right support.

The Dementia Event is coming to Stowmarket Golf Club on Friday, 9th October, from 11am to 3:30pm, offering an opportunity for local people to learn more about dementia, discover sources of support and connect with organisations that can make a real difference.

With the message "Live well with dementia with the right support," the event is aimed at anyone who is worried about dementia, supporting someone living with dementia, or simply wants to understand more about the condition and the help available locally.

Visitors will have the opportunity to experience what it's like for someone living with dementia on the Dementia Virtual Tour Bus. This interactive experience offers valuable insight into the challenges people with dementia can face in everyday life and encourages greater understanding and empathy.

The Dementia Event has been kindly sponsored by Frantec and Stowmarket Golf Club, with support from local partners helping to bring this important community event together.

Whether you are personally affected by dementia, caring for a loved one, or simply want to learn more, come along, ask questions, meet local organisations and discover how the right support can help people live well with dementia.

A keynote speech will be delivered by Dr Peter Prinsley MP, focusing on dementia and followed by a Q&A session, giving attendees the opportunity to hear from and engage with him directly.

The event will also bring together a range of brilliant organisations, charities and businesses, providing information, advice and practical support for people living with dementia, their families and carers. It is hoped that the event will help visitors discover services they may not previously have known about and provide reassurance that support is available.

Held at Stowmarket Golf Club, Lower Road, Onehouse, Stowmarket, IP14 3DA, the event is free to attend and everyone is welcome.



Kindly sponsored by

frantec



Stowmarket Golf Club
at Fildborough Park



 Friday, 9th October |  11am – 3:30pm |  Stowmarket Golf Club, Lower Road, Onehouse, Stowmarket, IP14 3DA | **FREE ENTRY**

Village Friends

VILLAGE FRIENDS

an over 65's friendship group

We next meet on:

Thursday 17 September

New members welcome!

2-4pm at Felsham and Gedding Village Hall

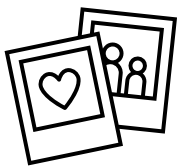
If you would like to come please contact:

Canon Sharon 01284-828599 or 07825 086063 revsharon2@gmail.com

(drivers are able to provide lifts, just let Canon Sharon know)

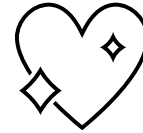
Organised by the Cockfield Benefice

Do you know any neighbours who you would like to invite? Please spread the word, we want to ensure nobody is alone with the Village Friends.



Bus timetable

To/From Bury St. Edmunds			Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
53	Outward	Felsham Six Bells			10.38				
		Gedding Bus Stop			10.41				
		Bury Bus Station			11.07				
	Return	Bury Bus Station, Stand 5			12.55				
		Gedding Bus Stop			13.19				
		Felsham Six Bells			13.22				



What is a Funeral Celebrant? - by Gwen Simpson

I am often asked this question; I will do my best to explain. Firstly, I need to go back 12 years to the Funeral of a dear aunt, and the subsequent funeral of my father.

My aunt, had an interesting life, worked as a secretary, in Banking, in London. During the late 40's she met and married a Banker who was about to move to various parts of Africa for his work. She travelled with him and, apart from returning home for her first child, lived in many interesting countries in the continent of Africa.

When she died, her funeral was all of 15 minutes! 15 minutes to cover her entire life; this was when the seed was planted in my head.

My father died 10 years ago, and chose to be buried in a Natural Burial Ground, with the choice of who would facilitate his funeral. My father, a man of Christian values, only went into a church for Weddings & Funerals. A well-respected man, loved by many, my mother and I chose a Funeral Celebrant. The gentleman visited and asked us to go through my father's life; his interests, passion and everything we knew about his childhood, work life and retirement.

Together we produced a story of his life which was read at his Funeral, together with tributes from myself, work colleagues and students.

I found this opportunity to reflect on what my father meant to myself, my mother, friends and colleagues, so very comforting. It turned a day we had been dreading, to a wonderful celebration of his life. On that day, I decided to train to be Funeral Celebrant.

I felt deeply passionate about the need to celebrate the life of every deceased person and trained with the UK Society of Celebrants as a Civil Celebrant, this means I can work with people of all beliefs, or people who choose no religion.

There are Humanist Celebrants who only provide non-religious services.

Gwen Simpson

T: 01449 737355

M: 07979 151509

E: gwensimpson.800@gmail.com

Rev Sharon

Dear Friends

The beginning of September often feels like the start of the New Year – and that's probably because it heralds the start of the new academic year. I'm sure there are many of you with children who can't wait for the new school term to start, or perhaps some of you who will find it hard if your child is just starting school. Letting go of our children at key points in their lives can be both exhilarating and frightening at the same time.

I am in awe of the children I meet through my ministry in our local primary schools, for it seems to me that they have a lot more to contend with than I did when I was at primary school over 50 years ago (I'm sure some of you can remember your primary school days too!).

One of things that the children really enjoy is sports day, and I'm sure that some of them have enjoy watching major athletics competitions on TV (or however they watch them!). In schools today sports day is not so much about the winning but the taking part, and the pupils trying their best. It reminds me of St Paul, who uses the analogy of a race when speaking about being a disciple of Christ. He encourages us to be disciplined, to endure through hardship, and to focus on an eternal spiritual prize rather than temporary worldly rewards.

Rewards are great to receive, but we should heed Paul's words in that the rewards of this life are temporary and not the main goal. For Christians, the main goal is to follow Jesus, to care for our neighbour as ourselves, and to seek God's wisdom in all we do.

If you'd like to know more about what it means to be a Christian, why not join our 'Start' course which is taking place in October. Send me a message if you are interested.

May the Autumn months bring you the spiritual rewards you have been seeking, and may God bless your endeavours.

Yours in Christ

Sharon

Canon Sharon Potter, revsharon2@gmail.com

01284-828599 or 01284 828599

www.cockfieldbenefice.com

revsharon2@gmail.com, 01284 828599 or 07825 086063



Cockfield Benefice Services and Events - September 2026

Saturday 5 September	2-4pm 'Knit & Natter' at Bradfield St Clare Village Hall, refreshments and a space to craft/knit/crochet/sew. All welcome!
Sunday 6 September Trinity 14	9.30am Morning Prayer at Stanningfield 11am Holy Communion at Bradfield St Clare 6pm Celtic-style Communion at Felsham
Tuesday 8 September	11am Holy Communion at Felsham Village Hall followed by a soup and sandwich lunch
Sunday 13 September Trinity 15	10am Morning Prayer at Cockfield 11am Holy Communion at Bradfield St George 6pm Praise & Worship at Gt Whelnetham
Thursday 17 September	2-4pm Village Friends at Felsham Village Hall
Friday 18 September	7 for 7.30pm Quiz at Gt Whelnetham Community Centre. Up to six per team, byo drink and nibbles. £5 per person. Contact Luke 07789 922395, Margaret 01284 386340 or Rosemary 01284 834371 for more details.
Sunday 20 September Trinity 16	9.30am Holy Communion at Stanningfield 10am Café Church at Felsham Village Hall 10.30am Holy Communion at Cockfield 6pm Evening Prayer at Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 27 September Trinity 17	9.30am Holy Communion at Gt Whelnetham 10.00am Worshipping Together at Bradfield St George

A service of Celtic-style Morning Prayer is usually held every Tuesday at Cockfield at 9am and at Stanningfield every Thursday at 9am. *Please note these services may be subject to change – for up-to-date service times see the benefice website at www.cockfieldbenefice.com*

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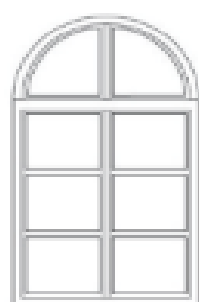
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ST PETER'S CHURCH, FELSHAM	REVEREND SHARON POTTER	01284 828599
ST MARY'S CHURCH, GEDDING	Revsharon2@Gmail.Com	
CHURCH WARDENS	Tricia Wilson Philip Cockell	01449 736330 01449 736272
DOCTORS SURGERY	Woolpit Health Centre, Heath Road,	01359 240298
PHARMACY	Woolpit	01359 242394
F&G COMMUNITY STORE & POST OFFICE		01449 736042
F&G FUEL GROUP	Pawilson4@Btinternet.Com	01449 736330
FACEBOOK	Felsham & Gedding Community	
FAGENDS	Philip Cockell	01449 736272
THE FELSHAM SIX BELLS		01449 258216
FELSHAM CHARITY	Tricia Wilson Pawilson4@Btinternet.Com	01449 736330
FELSHAM PARISH COUNCIL	Simon Garrod, Chair Isabelle Reece Felshamparishclerk@Gmail.Com	01449 737728
GEDDING PARISH MEETING	Stephen Drury – geddingparishmeeting@outlook.com	07946 417828
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	Peter Prinsley https://peterprinsley.org/	@parliament.uk
MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCILLOR	Nicky Willshire Nicky.Willshire@Midsuffolk.Gov.Uk	
COUNTY COUNCILLOR		
MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL	Needham Market	0845 606 6170
PLAYING FIELD	Philip Cockell, Chair	01449 736272
SHELTERED HOUSING	Mid Suffolk District Council	01473 826639
POLICE	Safer Neighbourhood Team One Stowmarket.Snt@Sufolk.Pnn.Police.Uk	101 999 (emergency)
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TREE WARDEN	Mark Tavernor, Mtavernor@Btinternet.Com	07512 783887
VILLAGE HALL	Andrew Conquest, Chair Victoria Dillon, Caretaker Beverley Williams, Bookings	01449 737619 07738 405520 07765 871749 01449 737778
VILLAGE WEBSITES	FELSHAM: Felsham.Onesufolk.Net GEDDING: Gedding.Onesufolk.Net	
WHIST DRIVE	Isabella Challis	07927 963900