FELSHAM + GEDDING

november 2026

VILLAGE NEWS



ISSUE 262

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

Copy Submissions

Email: **fgvillagenews@gmail.com** or call Gwen on her landline 01449 737355

Advertising

Email: f**gvillagenewsadverts@gmail.com** or call Jo on her landline 01449 737793

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We do not publish defamatory, rude, blasphemous, racial or other inappropriate material.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

I'm writing this from Germany, where the autumn colours have been absolutely spectacular. Bright oranges, yellows and reds - and when the sun shines through the leaves, it's breathtaking.

In places, there are so many on the ground that it's like walking through snow, only considerably more colourful! I hope Felsham and Gedding have been enjoying an equally lovely display.

Alongside enjoying the scenery, I've been on "Parent Duty", including helping my elderly parents get to grips with technology. My sister-in-law used to call my mom a "technological embryo". I'm not entirely sure how far she's progressed since those days, but you must admire their willingness to keep trying!

And explaining something you normally do without thinking certainly tests your own patience - and your ability to explain things. Apparently, "just click there" isn't quite the detailed instruction we think it is.

Back at home, Bonfire Night is coming up on 5 November. We had a brilliant turnout last year, and we're hoping to see everyone there again this year. A lovely chance to catch up with neighbours and enjoy an evening together.

This month's wellbeing article looks at the stories we tell ourselves - particularly when we decide we know what someone else is thinking. Something I suspect quite a few of us will recognise!

Enjoy this month's edition, and I hope to see you around the village soon.

Best Regards,

The VN Team

“The stories we tell ourselves…”

“They probably think…” - and other things we don’t actually know.

You wave at someone in the village. They look straight past you.

“Oh, charming! What did I do to offend you?”, you think.

By the time you get home, you’ve reviewed your last conversation, wondered whether your joke went down badly and decided you won’t bother waving next time. Meanwhile, they were trying to remember whether they’d switched off the oven and didn’t even see you because the sun was shining directly in their eyes, and / or they weren’t wearing their glasses! Ask me - without my glasses, I can‘t see further than my hand!!

We’re rather good at this - give us a gap in the information and we’ll fill it. Sometimes with enough drama to keep you going to Christmas. A friend hasn’t replied. Someone sounds short on the phone. Two people stop talking as we arrive. We notice what happened, then add what we think it means.

“They’re annoyed with me.”
“I must have said something stupid.”
“They were talking about me.”

Occasionally, we do pick up on something real. But we can become remarkably certain about things we haven’t checked. Our mood plays a part, too. After a good night’s sleep, an unanswered message might mean someone’s busy. After a difficult day, the same silence feels personal. So, before writing the next chapter in your head, try asking: “What do I actually know, and what am I adding?”

I know my friend hasn’t replied. I don’t know why.

We don’t always need to fill the gap. We can leave it open and get on with our day - or we could just ask!

“You seemed quiet earlier. Is everything all right?” usually gets us further than rehearsing an argument for the rest of the day. I know I’ve certainly done that many times - and by

the time I've given them a chance to reply, we've already fallen out three times in my head!

And when I finally speak to them, it turns out everything's fine. They've had a busy day, and I've had an imaginary falling-out. Perhaps next time I'll ask a little sooner!

So - next time you catch yourself thinking, "They must be…", pause and ask, "Do I know that?" If it matters, check with them.

Until next time,

Corina



Suffolk Autumn Quiz

How well do you know our lovely county?

As autumn arrives, with colourful leaves, harvests and misty mornings, why not test your knowledge of Suffolk? Have a go at these 10 questions. Answers are at the bottom!

1. Which Suffolk village is famous for its medieval wool-trade buildings and crooked timber-framed houses?

2. Which bird is famous for its spectacular swirling flocks in the autumn evening sky?

3. Which river runs through Sudbury and is closely associated with the artist Thomas Gainsborough?

4. True or false? Suffolk's traditional landscape includes areas of heathland as well as farmland and woodland.

5. Which famous Suffolk-born composer wrote the opera Peter Grimes?

6. Which THREE of the following are commonly associated with autumn in Suffolk?
   A. Falling leaves
   B. Harvest activities
   C. Bluebells at their spring peak
   D. Mushrooms and fungi appearing in woodland

7. What is the name of the historic abbey ruins and gardens in the centre of Bury St Edmunds?

8. True or false? The Suffolk Punch is a traditional breed of heavy horse developed in Suffolk.

9. Which Suffolk coastal area is particularly associated with shingle beaches, heathland and the nearby RSPB Minsmere nature reserve?

10. Which traditional celebration takes place on 5 November, often marked by fireworks and bonfires?

Suffolk Autumn Quiz - Answers

1. Lavenham
2. Starling
3. River Stour
4. True
5. Benjamin Britten
6. A, B and D — falling leaves, harvest activities, and woodland fungi
7. Abbey Gardens
8. True
9. The Aldeburgh and Minsmere coast
10. Bonfire Night

How did you do?

- 9–10: Suffolk superstar!
- 7–8: A real county enthusiast.
- 5–6: Not bad at all!
- 0–4: Time to explore more of beautiful Suffolk!

.

What's On in November 2026

Bury St Edmunds • Stowmarket • Lavenham • IP30 & surrounding villages

Felsham & Gedding
Bonfire Night – Playing Fields 6 pm
Quiz Night – Saturday 14th November, doors open at 7 pm
Beatle Drive – Saturday 21st November, 7 for 7:30pm
Christmas Fayre – Sunday 29th November 10 am to 4 pm

Bury St Edmunds • Sudbury • Long Melford • Lavenham • Stowmarket
November brings fireworks, live entertainment, literary events, markets and the first signs of Christmas across Suffolk. Here are some ideas for days out and evenings during the month.

BURY ST EDMUNDS

3–7 November	Anything Goes Theatre Royal. A musical comedy presented by the Irving Stage Company.
5 November	Lindisfarne Live music at The Apex.
6 November	Festival of Remembrance Royal British Legion event at The Apex.
7 November	Fireworks Night Abbey Gardens. A family evening with fireworks, food and entertainment. Check ticket availability and arrangements before travelling.
8–10 November	Ballet Ballet performances at the Theatre Royal.
12 November	Go West Live music at The Apex.
14 November	Bach's B minor Mass Bury Bach Choir concert.
16 November	Blazin' Fiddles Live traditional Scottish music at The Apex.
19 November	Christmas Lights Switch-On Town centre celebrations, with festive entertainment and the illumination of the Christmas lights.
22 and 29 November	Festive Sunday Markets

	Butter Market. Seasonal shopping, gifts, food and entertainment.
25 November	Hothouse Flowers Live music at The Apex.
26–28 November	Cathedral Christmas Market St Edmundsbury Cathedral. Festive stalls, gifts, carols and live music.
From 14 November	Arts and Crafts Fair Blackthorpe Barn, Rougham Estate. Handmade gifts and local crafts on selected dates through December.

LAVENHAM

13–15 November	Lavenham Literary Festival A weekend of authors, talks, books and discussion at venues around the village. Check the official programme for individual speakers, times and ticket prices.
Throughout November	Historic Village Visit Explore Lavenham's medieval streets, independent shops, cafés and historic buildings. Check opening times for the Guildhall and other attractions.

LONG MELFORD

November	Village and Seasonal Activities Explore the historic High Street, independent shops, cafés and local heritage. The annual festive programme may include special shopping and community events. Confirm the date of the Christmas celebrations with local organizers before travelling. Check opening arrangements for Kentwell Hall and other local attractions, as seasonal access may vary.

SUDBURY

Thursdays and Saturdays	Market Days Visit Market Hill for the regular town market and a browse around the shops. Community activities, walking groups and support groups may also be running during the month. Check the town council's events calendar for confirmed dates.

STOWMARKET

5 November	Carmen A Royal Ballet and Opera screening at The Regal.
6 November	Celebrating the Women of Unsigned An evening showcasing female musical talent at the John Peel Centre for Creative Arts.
7 November	Family Bonfire Night Food Museum. Check the organizer's listing for ticket prices, timings and entertainment.
7 November	Farmers Market A chance to browse local produce alongside the town's regular Saturday market.
8 November	Fallen Angels A filmed Broadway production at The Regal.
11 November	Armistice Day Remembrance service at the Recreation Ground War Memorial.
Throughout November	Music and Creative Activities Look out for live music, workshops and community events at the John Peel Centre and Fox Yard Studio.



Film Night

FELSHAM & GEDDING VILLAGE HALL SOCIAL CLUB
FILM EVENING

7.30 PM
Saturday 7th November

DARKEST HOUR
UK 2017

A wartime drama set in 1940 and based upon real events

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

Gardening in Suffolk
November 2026

Preparing for winter and looking forward to spring

November brings shorter days, chilly mornings and the first proper frosts to Suffolk. Although the garden is slowing down, there is still plenty to do to protect plants, enjoy winter colour and prepare for next year.

1 Plant for spring colour

November is an excellent time to plant tulip bulbs. Plant them at roughly three times their own depth in well-drained soil. Winter pansies, violas and primroses will brighten pots and borders through the colder months.



2 Plant trees, roses and shrubs

Bare-root roses, hedging, fruit trees and soft-fruit bushes can be planted while they are dormant.
Choose a mild day when the soil is workable, not frozen or waterlogged.



3 Make use of fallen leaves

Rake leaves off lawns and paths, then collect them in a wire cage or perforated bags to make valuable leaf mould.
Leave some leaves beneath hedges and shrubs to provide shelter for garden wildlife.



4 In the vegetable garden

Harvest leeks, parsnips and Brussels sprouts as needed.
Plant garlic in a sunny, well-drained spot and, in milder parts of Suffolk, consider sowing broad beans.
Cover vulnerable crops if frost is forecast.



5 Protect your garden from winter

Move tender plants into a frost-free greenhouse or sheltered spot.
Raise patio pots on feet or bricks to improve drainage, wrap vulnerable containers against frost and secure climbing plants before strong winds arrive.



6 Give wildlife a helping hand

Leave some seedheads and hollow stems standing for insects and birds.
Keep bird feeders and water dishes clean, and check that hedgehogs have undisturbed places to shelter.



Your November checklist

- ☐ Plant tulips and winter bedding.
- ☐ Clear leaves from lawns and drains.
- ☐ Plant bare-root trees and roses.
- ☐ Protect pots and tender plants from frost.
- ☐ Clean, sharpen and store garden tools.
- ☐ Order seeds and plan next year's vegetable patch.

Suffolk tip: *Our soils vary from sandy and free-draining to heavier clay. Avoid digging or walking on wet, heavy soil, as this can damage its structure.*

Gardening guidance: Royal Horticultural Society (RHS).

Quiz Night


world cup
STAR WARS
!!*@!!
APPLES
1850
superman
QUIZ NIGHT
FELSHAM AND GEDDING VILLAGE HALL
SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2026
COST - £5 PER HEAD
UP TO 6 PER TEAM - WE WILL ALLOCATE YOU TO A TEAM IF NEEDS BE
HALL OPENS 7PM - QUIZ STARTS AT 7.30
6 BOTTLES OF WINE FOR WINNING TEAM
BAR AND NIBBLES
MC/ QUIZMASTER MARK CRAWFORD
TICKETS FROM THE SHOP OR ANDREW CONQUEST ON 01449 737619

Pine cone creatures

Wildlife Watch

You will need

- Pinecones
- Craft foam, felt or card
- Scissors
- PVA glue and double-sided sticky tape
- Various things (as many natural as possible) to make your animal, such as:
  - Leaves
  - Acorn cups
  - Berries or googly eyes

Always check what berries are before you pick them because some can be harmful to people!

1. Decide what animal you want to make. If you want it to stand, pick a pine cone that will stay upright and make and glue on the feet first.



2. Add legs or wings and eyes and ears using the materials you've collected.





PVA should stick most things, but ask an adult to help if you need to use a hot glue gun.

Here are a few examples to get you inspired...



mouse



fox



owl

Acorn cups with berries or googly eyes in the centre make great eyes!

Illustration: Corinne Welch © Copyright Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts 2018

www.wildlifewatch.org.uk

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
		New for Wednesday's – Chip Shop Menu at Six Bells	
2 Spud & Slice Pizza 5 to 8 pm Christmas Community Choir 1st Rehearsal 7:15pm	3	4 Table Tennis Chip Shop Wednesday	5 Special £8.50 2 course lunch Evening Bingo **BROWN BIN**
9 Spud & Slice Pizza 5 to 8 pm	10  Holy Communion 11 a.m. ParishCouncil 7.30pm	11 Carpet Bowls Chip Shop Wednesday	12 Special £8.50 2 course lunch 7:30 pm Bingo
16 Spud & Slice Pizza 5 to 8 pm	17	18 Table Tennis Chip Shop Wednesday	19 Special £8.50 2 course lunch Special Polish Themed food night **BROWN BIN**
23 Spud & Slice Pizza 5 to 8 pm	24	25 Chip Shop Wednesday Carpet Bowls	26 Special £8.50 2 course lunch Quiz Night

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
29 th October **BLUE BIN**		1 Sunday Roast 6pm Celtic Style Communion
6 **BLACK BIN**	7 Movie night – "Darkest Hour" @ 7:30pm Doors open at 7 pm	8 10:45 am Service of Remembrance Sunday Roast with British Legion Raffle
13 **GREEN BIN**	14 Messy Church – 3 – 5 pm in the Village Hall 7pm for 7:30pm Quiz Night	15 10am Café Church Sunday roast
20 **BLUE BIN** Whist Drive 7:30 pm	21 Beetle Drive 7:30 pm in the Village Hall	22 Sunday roast
27 **BLACK BIN** **BUILD A BURGER**	28	29 Sunday roast Christmas Fayre 10 to 4 pm - Village Hall

	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

From the Rector's study....

I have a confession to make – I love jelly babies. When I was younger, I had a very sweet tooth, and jelly babies were always one of my favourites. Why should I mention this? Well, did you know that jelly babies were introduced in 1918, at the end of the First World War to celebrate peace. In fact, they were known as 'peace babies', a surprising fact from over a century ago.

The peace of the world has been shattered once again, with conflicts raging in many places. It feels as though we have gone backwards rather than forwards in achieving peace.

Jesus offers us His peace as a free gift; we don't have to earn it. He says in John's Gospel, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives'. There is a difference between the peace that Jesus gives us and the world's peace. Jesus offers us His peace as a free gift, we don't have to earn it, all we have to do his listen to his words and accept that he can be our salvation, and that he can bring us peace.

We shall be continuing the tradition of Remembrance here at St Peter's in Felsham on Sunday 8 November at 10.45am, when we shall stay silent at near enough 11am for 2 minutes to remember the fallen, those who lost their lives that we might have freedom, and we shall pray for peace across the world.

The Sunday before that, 1 November, we shall be remembering all those we have loved and lost at what is called an 'All Souls' Service at 3pm. You are most welcome to attend and to light a candle to remember your loved one. If you would like me to read out the name of your relative or friend as we pray for all who have died during that service, then please do message me, or add their name to the list at the back of the Church. I look forward to seeing you then.

Every blessing

Sharon

Rev Canon Sharon Potter, revsharon2@gmail.com,
tel: 01284 828599, 07825 086063.

Cockfield Benefice Services & Events November 2026

Sunday 1 November **All Saints/All Souls**	9.30am Morning Prayer at Stanningfield 11am Holy Communion at Bradfield St Clare 3pm All Souls Service at Felsham
Monday 2 November	7.15pm Christmas Community/Benefice Choir Rehearsal at Felsham Village hall. All welcome! (first of 6 weekly rehearsals on Mondays)
Saturday 7 November	2-4pm Knit'n'natter at Bradfield St Clare Village Hall All crafters/knitters/crocheters welcome!
Sunday 8 November **Remembrance**	10.45am Service of Remembrance at Bradfield Combust War Memorial (Outdoor) 10.45am Service of Remembrance at Cockfield 10.45am Service of Remembrance at Felsham
Tuesday 10 November	11am Holy Communion at Felsham Village Hall followed by Soup & Sandwiches
Saturday 14 November	Cockfield Christmas Craft Fair at Cockfield Village Hall, IP30 0LA. 10am-2.30pm. Free entry.
Saturday 14 November	Messy Church 3-5pm, at Felsham Village Hall. For all children accompanied by parents/carers.
Sunday 15 November **Safeguarding Sunday/** **2nd before Advent**	9.30am Holy Communion at Stanningfield 10am Café Church at Felsham 10.30am Holy Communion at Cockfield 4pm Evening Prayer at Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 22 November **Christ the King**	8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said) at Gedding 9.30am Holy Communion at Gt Whelnetham 10.00am Worshipping Together at Bradfield St George
Sunday 29 November **Advent Sunday**	10.30am Benefice Communion at Bradfield St Clare with guest preacher the Archdeacon of Sudbury

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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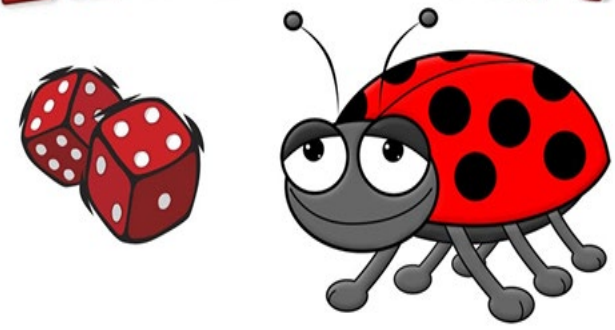
For more information

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.....

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7.00 for 7.30

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Includes Pie & Pea Supper

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Village Friends

VILLAGE FRIENDS

an over 65's friendship group



Thursday 19 November

New members welcome!

2-4pm at Felsham and Gedding Village Hall

This month we have an Advent Activity
No fee - food - tea – raffle

contact Canon Sharon for more details:
01284-828599 or 07825 086063 revsharon2@gmail.com
(drivers are able to provide lifts, just let Canon Sharon know)

Organised by the Cockfield Benefice

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				

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VACANT ALLOTMENTS

We have several half and full plots available on the allotments behind the church in Felsham.

The rent is lower than comparable villages around as we like to encourage full usage of our allotments.

With the ever-rising cost of vegetables, now is the time to start growing your own!

Nothing tastes better than fresh vegetables grown by yourself, cooked and eaten within hours of being harvested. No food miles at all!

Please contact BRYN on 07401 100172

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ST PETER'S CHURCH, FELSHAM	REVEREND SHARON POTTER Revsharon2@Gmail.Com	01284 828599
ST MARY'S CHURCH, GEDDING		
CHURCH WARDENS	Tricia Wilson Philip Cockell	01449 736330 01449 736272
DOCTORS SURGERY	Woolpit Health Centre, Heath Road, Woolpit	01359 240298
PHARMACY		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	01449 737728
	Isabelle Reece Felshamparishclerk@Gmail.Com	
GEDDING PARISH MEETING	Stephen Drury – geddingparishmeeting@outlook.com	07946 417828
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	Peter Prinsley Https.Peterprinsley.Org/	peter.prinsley.mp @parliament.uk
MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCILLOR	Nicky Willshere Nicky.Willshere@Midsuffolk.Gov.Uk	
COUNTY COUNCILLLOR		
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)
TABLE TENNIS	Adrian King	01449 737495
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VILLAGE HALL	Andrew Conquest, Chair	01449 737619
	Victoria Dillon, Caretaker	07738 405520
	Beverley Williams, Bookings	07765 871749 01449 737778
VILLAGE WEBSITES	FELSHAM: Felsham.Onesufolk.Net	
	GEDDING: Gedding.Onesufolk.Net	
WHIST DRIVE	Isabella Challis	07927 963900