

VILLAGENEWS

IT'S GARDEN TIME



Lady Sandra Shrimpling Chadacre
organises the Manor gardens
prior to opening

WELCOME

to the May edition of your
Felsham and Gedding Village News.

I can't believe how much rain we've had and how cold it has been. I am hoping that we are just about to turn a corner, and everything is going to improve. As you can see, I am the eternal optimist, and I can't believe that it can stay this way for much longer and despite the weather the birds are nesting and our gardens are beginning to fill with flowers.

This month we have a Table Top Sale to look forward to as well as the Parish Meeting and lots going on in the Six Bells, now that I've had my cataract surgery I hope to see some of you at some of these events.

There will be **NO Film Night** this month though as the VH is having a new floor laid.

Also please do check out the ad for Volunteers in the Shop and Post Office and if you have a few spare hours do give it a go we are a friendly lot and it's a great way to get to know people in our community.

Tricia

Next Copy Date: 20/05/2024

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 Jo Tavernor on 01449 737793

Advertising

Email: fgvillagenewsadverts@gmail.com or call Jo Tavernor on 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We do not publish defamatory, rude, blasphemous, racial or other inappropriate material.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.



Felsham & Gedding Village Hall



BIG SPRING CLEAN TABLE TOP & PLANT SALE



SUNDAY 12th MAY



10am - 1.00pm

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FELSHAM IP30 0PN



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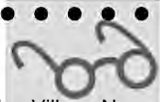
07871015370



Refreshments Available



raising funds for the village hall shop extension





**FELSHAM & GEDDING COMMUNITY SHOP
&
POST OFFICE**

Volunteers Wanted

We are a community shop benefitting from have an integral Post Office but to continue providing these services to our villages both the **Shop** and the **Post Office** need volunteers to cover: opening hours, ordering, collecting goods, shelf stacking etc.

Can you spare an occasional 2hrs or more

Once a week? Once a fortnight? Once a month?

Do you you like meeting and helping people?

Would you like to gain some work experience and gain new skills?

Would you be interested in volunteering in the Post Office?

If you can answer "YES" to any of the above then please contact:

Tricia Wilson; Email: pawilson4@btinternet.com

Tel: 01449736330

No previous experience necessary as all training will be provided. A good sense of humour, lots of enthusiasm, a few spare hours and a warm welcome for customers that's all that's required!



**Felsham & Gedding Community Store Limited
(a Community Benefit Society – The Society)
Church Road, Felsham, Suffolk IP30 0PJ
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS**

Notice is hereby given that the fifth annual general meeting of members will be held at:

Felsham and Gedding Village Hall on Tuesday 7th May 2024 at 7.30pm

The purpose of the meeting is to

1. Receive from the Management Committee the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023
2. Consider plans presented by the Management Committee for the current and next financial year
3. Receive a report on the state of the membership and the membership strategy
4. Re-appoint examiners for the accounts of the Society (currently Churchgates of Bury St Edmunds) who offer themselves for re-election
5. Declare the results of elections of those who are to serve on the Management Committee

By order of The Management Committee

March 2024

Email enquiries@felshamgeddingstore.org

Telephone 01449 736042

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Whether you're a novice wanting to get into growing, or an experienced gardener wanting to expand your veg repertoire, we can offer plots to cater for all.

There is no shortage of friendly faces or knowledge in the allotment association, so why not give it a go and experience the joy of growing and eating your own food!

For all enquiries please contact Jamie on 07894966618 who will happily show you around and explain how it all works



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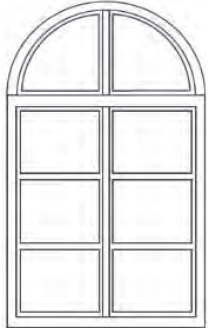
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What's on at the Six Bells In May

1st Curry night



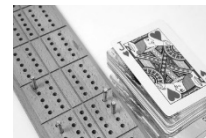
5th Sunday roast

8th Curry

9th Bingo



12th Roast



13th Open crib night from 7.30pm

17th coffee & cake for dementia 12pm-3pm



19th Roast

22nd Curry

26th LAST ROAST DINNER



27th Six Bells First BBQ

27th Open crib night from 7.30pm



29th Curry night

30th Quiz night



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- Networking and Wi-Fi
- Computer setup

☎ Steve – Felsham – 07786 071786

✉ STEVE@DUNNHQ.COM

VILLAGE FRIENDS

The next meeting will be on

Thursday 16 May

2pm at Felsham and Gedding Village Hall

Do come along for tea and a chat plus monthly raffle!

Village Friends is an over 65's friendship group of men and women from various villages who meet once a month

All welcome, no need to book!

If you require transport please contact:

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

Susan Metcalf 07925 867221

st.metcalf@btinternet.com

Organised by the Cockfield Benefice

You are invited to attend the

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

at

FELSHAM & GEDDING VILLAGE HALL

on **TUESDAY 14th MAY 2024 at 7.00pm**

The Parish Meeting is an opportunity for the Parish Council to report on what it's been up to during the past year and for other village organisations to give reports.

It is also for electors to have their say on matters that they consider important to residents of Felsham parish. This will be welcomed and is the whole purpose of the meeting.

The Parish Meeting may, by law, discuss all parish affairs and pass resolutions about them. Anyone may attend but only electors registered in Felsham may speak and vote.

THE STABLE at Mullion Barn



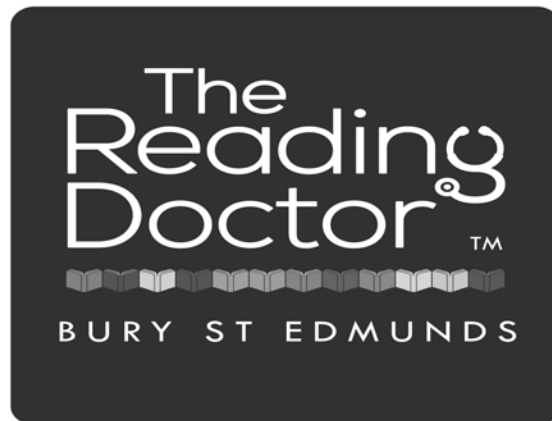
Are your friends or relatives
coming to visit?

Do you need somewhere local
for them to stay?

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CHRISTIAN AID WEEK, MAY 13TH-19TH 2024

We shall again be delivering envelopes to everyone in Felsham and Gedding during the week and ask you if you will kindly return them either to The Community Store or to Beryl opposite, at Blyth Cottage

This year we are helping to relieve Poverty in countries like Burundi in East Africa: Aline was married while still a child but managed to escape with her children from her abusive husband. Facing an impossible situation, she was able to take her first step back from the brink, thanks to a training scheme funded by Christian Aid where she gained knowledge and skills which enabled her to set up a business selling avocados and peanuts grown on her own piece of land. She is now thriving and building a safe nurturing home for herself and her children who are doing well at school and she is also using her experience to help other families to rise from extreme poverty.

Please give as much as you can to support Christian Aid to provide help and training for others like Aline


Thank you

Brian Deards and Beryl Meed.




MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS
		1 Curry Night, Six Bells TABLE TENNIS VH 7.30PM	MERMAID FISH VHCP 5.50 -
6 Bank holiday	7 COMMUNITY SHOP AGM – 7.30PM VH	8 Curry Night, Six Bells CARPET BOWLS VH 7.30PM	MERMAID FISH VHCP 5.50 -
13 Open Crib Night, Six Bells	14 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 7PM VH PARISH COUNCIL, 7.30PM, VH	15 TABLE TENNIS VH 7.30PM	VILLAGE FRIENDS VH 2.00PM MERMAID FISH VHCP 5.50 -
20	21	22 Curry Night, Six Bells CARPET BOWLS VH 7.30PM	MERMAID FISH VHCP -5.50
27 Bank Holiday FIRST BBQ Six Bells Open Crib Night, Six Bells	28	29 Curry Night, Six Bells	MERMAID FISH VHCP -5.50

VH - Village Hall VHCP -Village Hall Car Park

DAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
2 & CHIPS 6.30PM	3 BLACK BIN Library Van: 10.10 Gedding 11.40 VHCP FRESH FISH VHCP 10.30 AM	4	5 Roast Dinner, Six Bells 6pm Celtic Communion - Felsham
9 Bingo, Six Bells & CHIPS 6.30PM	10 BROWN BIN FRESH FISH VHCP 10.30 AM	11 RECYCLING BIN Messy Church 	12 TABLE TOP SALE, 10AM – 4PM VH Roast Dinner, Six Bells
16 & CHIPS, 6.30PM	17 BLACK BIN FRESH FISH VHCP 10.30 AM Coffee and cake for Dementia, Six Bells	18	19 10am Praise God Together, Felsham Roast Dinner, Six Bells
23 BROWN BIN & CHIPS 6.30PM	24 RECYLING BIN FRESH FISH VHCP 10.30 AM	25	26 10am Communion, BCP, Gedding LAST Roast Dinner, Six Bells
30 Quiz Night, Six Bells & CHIPS 6.30PM	31	01 June BLACK BIN	

COCKFIELD BENEFICE SERVICES AND EVENTS - MAY 2024

Sunday 5 May Easter 6	9.30am Communion - Stanningfield 11am Communion - Bradfield St Clare 6pm Celtic Communion - Felsham
Thursday 9 May Ascension Day	8am Songs of Praise at the top of Lavenham Church Tower followed by breakfast at 8.30am 10am Holy Communion at Lavenham Church (for more details go to www.cockfieldbenefice.com)
Saturday 11 May Messy Church	 3-5pm at venue tbc For all children accompanied by parent(s)/guardian(s) (contact Rev Canon Sharon for more details at revsharon2@gmail.com)
Saturday 11 May	7pm The 'Emergers' concert at Cockfield Church (contact Sue Cole on 01284 828212 for more details)
Sunday 12 May Easter 7	10am Morning Prayer - Cockfield 10.30am Communion - Bradfield St George 6pm Praise & Worship - Gt Whelnetham
Thursday 16 May	2-4pm Village Friends - over 65's club at Felsham Village Hall
Sunday 19 May Pentecost	9.30am Morning Prayer - Stanningfield 10am Praise God Together - Felsham 10.30am Communion - Cockfield 6pm Evening Prayer - Bradfield St Clare
Saturday 25 May	10am-12.30pm Plant Sale & Coffee Morning at Cockfield Church
Sunday 26 May Trinity Sunday	9.30am Communion - Gt Whelnetham 10am Communion - Gedding 10am Worshipping Together - Bradfield St George

A service of Celtic 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

A WORD FROM OUR VICAR

Dear friends

May is a wonderful month. We see our countryside alive with so many colours, and the promise of summer on the horizon. May is also a wonderful month in the church as we celebrate both the Ascension and Pentecost.

Ascension Day, which this year falls on 9 May, is the fortieth day of the Easter Season, and is one of the earliest Christian festivals dating back to the year 68 CE. We learn from our Bible that Jesus met several times with his disciples during the forty days after his resurrection to instruct them on how to carry out his teachings. It is believed that on the fortieth day he took them to the Mount of Olives, where they watched as he ascended into heaven.

The disciples were obviously sad to say goodbye to Jesus their teacher, but they had been promised help by Jesus before he ascended, and that help came on the day of Pentecost. This occurred ten days after the Ascension, when the disciples were sat together at the feast of Pentecost (which was traditionally a Jewish celebration of the early weeks of harvest).

There was the sound of a rushing wind and 'tongues of fire' descended on each of the disciples. These tongues of fire were the Holy Spirit and it gave the disciples the confidence to do the things that Jesus asked of them. St Peter, who had denied Jesus three times before he died, was able to stand up in front of the crowd that gathered that day and speak very eloquently about Jesus and why he had lived amongst them. About three thousand were baptised as Christians as a result!

Pentecost is often known as the 'birthday' of the Church and we will once again celebrate this event in all our services on Sunday 19 May. Do come and join us if you can!
with every good wish

Sharon

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



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I recently started a new job where my boss has told me I'll have to work on bank holidays. This was never the case in my old job. Can my employer really make me work on a public holiday, and should I get paid extra if I do?

Unfortunately, when it comes to bank holidays, whether staff have to work is up to their employer, and you don't have to be paid more if you do. The situation will vary from job to job and may depend on several factors such as whether your place of work is open on bank holidays, your hours of work and crucially, what your contract says.

Look at your contract, if you have one, to find out what your personal situation is. Your contract might say you will always get bank holidays off, but it might say you may sometimes be required to work them or will always be required to work. But if your contract says you get bank holidays off you shouldn't be asked to work.

Your contract might say something like: "In addition to bank and public holidays, your annual entitlement to holidays is X days". This means you get public holidays off in addition to your annual leave entitlement, but it might not mean you're entitled to take the specific days off. You may be required to work a bank holiday, in which case you should get another day off instead.

Alternatively, it might say something like: "Your annual holiday entitlement (inclusive of bank and public holidays) is X days" - this means you have to take bank holidays off as part of your annual leave entitlement. Bank holidays will either be deducted from your annual leave allowance (so you'll have to book all bank holidays as paid time off) or counted as additional holiday days.

A common misunderstanding around bank holidays is that employers have to pay you extra for working them. This is not the case. Unless your contract says you'll be paid extra you will just be paid your normal amount. If your contract says you are entitled to bank holidays but you're asked to work, you should be able to take a different day off in lieu. Your employer must follow what's set out in your contract. If they don't, you should raise this with them.

If you don't have a contract, the legal default position is that your employer can tell you when you can or can't take time off. If you'd like to request a bank holiday off, use the normal method for requesting time off.

If you find you need to resolve an issue with your employer, first ask for an informal chat, where you can raise your concerns. If this doesn't get you anywhere, you may need to raise a formal grievance. If you need advice on this, contact Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk.

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.

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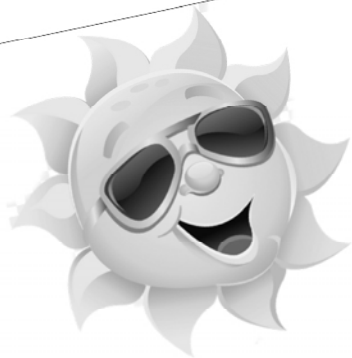
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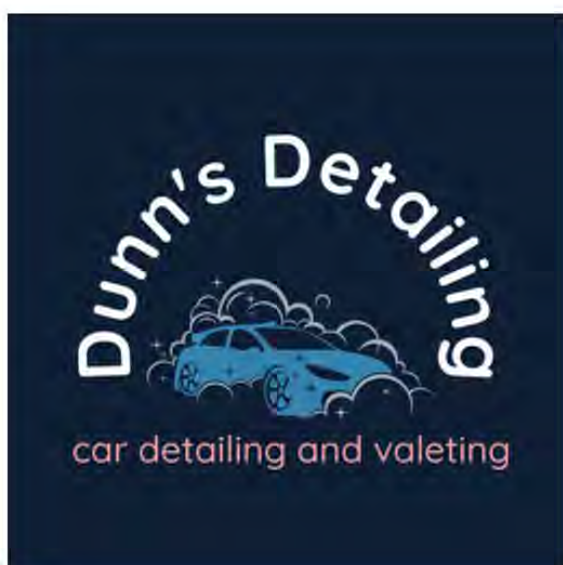
Want your house safe, secure, and lived in while you're away?

I'm an experienced and trusted house-sitter living in Cockfield and now available for long-term house-sits in 2024.

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How to make an insect hotel



the express way!

What you need:

- hollow plant stems, like bamboo canes
- twigs and sticks
- String

1 Collect handfuls of stems, twigs and sticks.

2 Tie the bundles quite tightly in two places.

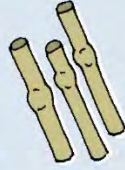
3 Post into a hedge/bush or hang in a sheltered place.



the deluxe way!

What you need:

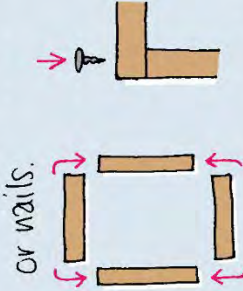
- Small logs or untreated timber
- hollow plant stems, like bamboo canes
- twigs and sticks



An adult to help with tools:

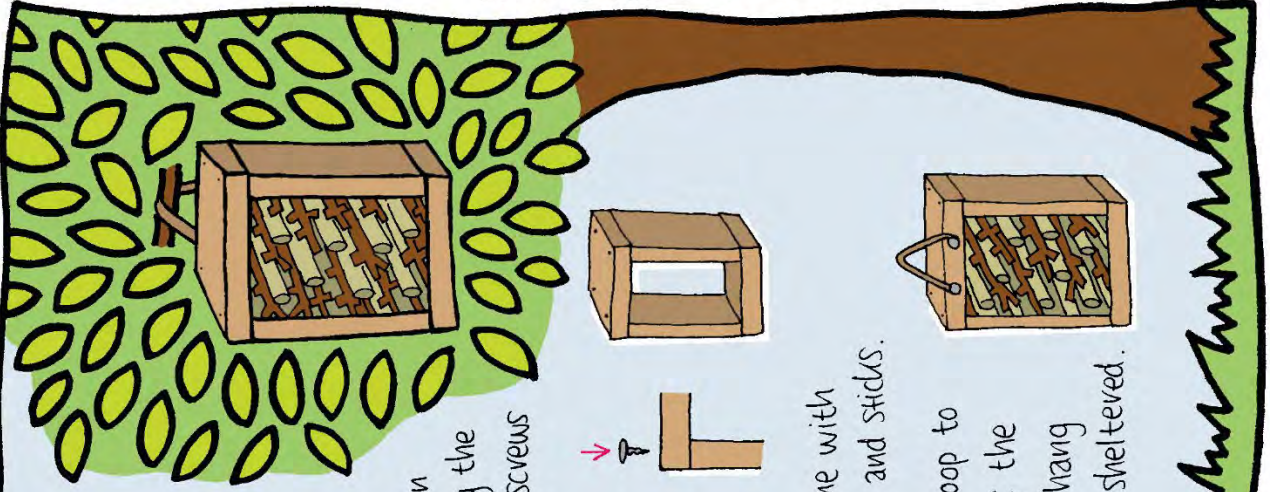
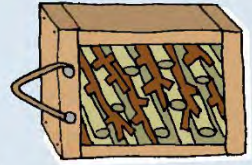
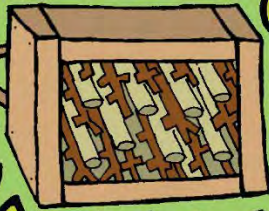
- woodsaw
- nails and hammer or screwdriver and wood screws
- drill and 5mm wood bit

1 Make a wooden frame, fixing the wood with screws or nails.



2 Fill the frame with stems, twigs and sticks.

3 Fix a wire loop to the back of the frame and hang somewhere sheltered.





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Facebook: Beauty by Megan (look for my logo)

Instagram: beautybymegan_suffolk

CHICKEN LEEK & BROWN RICE STIR-FRY



Ingredients

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 250g chicken breast, thinly sliced
- 100g chorizo, chopped
- 1 leek, halved lengthways and finely sliced
- 1 red pepper, deseeded and chopped
- 80g kale, any tough stalks removed, leaves roughly chopped
- 1 tbsp low salt soy sauce
- 1 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 2 x 250g pouches microwave wholegrain rice

Method

• STEP 1

Heat the oil in a frying pan over a high heat and fry the chicken for 3 mins. Stir in the chorizo and cook for 2 mins more until the chicken is light golden and the chorizo has released its fat. Scoop the chicken and chorizo into a bowl using a slotted spoon, leaving as much oil in the pan as you can. Set aside.

• STEP 2

Tip the leek and red pepper into the pan and cook for 2 mins, stirring frequently until slightly softened. Add the kale and fry for 1 min more until the leaves have just started to wilt at the edges.

• STEP 3

Drizzle in the soy sauce and vinegar and scatter in the rice, breaking up any large chunks with a wooden spoon. Stir the chicken and chorizo back into the pan and toss everything together to combine. Cook for 3 mins until the rice is heated through, then serve.



VACANCIES FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS

The recent resignation of some of our councillors have resulted in several vacant seats on Felsham Parish Council.

The Parish Council are now looking to co-opt local residents to fill the vacancies.

NOBODY cares more about your community than you and your local council do!

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Are you over 18?

Do you live within three miles of Felsham or work here?

Are you on the Electoral Roll?

Are you interested in helping to improve the quality of life of your community?

Do you want to be involved in making important decisions in your community?

If you can answer yes to these questions, then Felsham needs you.

Please contact the Clerk if you would like to be considered for a position or need more information.

felshamparishclerk@gmail.com

To / From Bury St Edmunds		Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
379	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			

DO YOU ENJOY READING THE VILLAGE NEWS?

The Village News is currently run by Tricia Wilson (Chair) and Jo Tavernor (Secretary and Treasurer). Tricia and Jo will be standing down at the end of the year.

Our editors are Tricia, Jo, Phil, and Serena. Neil supplies us with awesome covers each month.

We have a fantastic team of volunteer deliverers and are well supported by our advertisers. At present we print monthly on our professional printer at the Village Hall.

WE NEED HELP.

If you wish to see the Village news continue, we need volunteers to take it on, revitalise it and drive it forward into the next decade.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

To discuss, please contact Jo Tavernor on 01449 737793 or email at jsthorticulture@btinternet.com

Village Directory

ALLOTMENTS	BRIAN FRANCIS	01449 736219
ST PETER'S CHURCH, FELSHAM	REVEREND SHARON POTTER	01284 828599
ST MARY'S CHURCH, GEDDING	revsharon2@gmail.com	
CHURCH WARDENS	BRIAN DEARDS (FELSHAM)	01449 737364
	JAMES MORGAN (GEDDING)	01449 737445
DOCTORS SURGERY	WOOLPIT HEALTH CENTRE, HEATH ROAD, WOOLPIT	01359 240298
PHARMACY	WOOLPIT HEALTH CENTRE, HEATH ROAD, 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
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	RICHARD VASS - rvass@burland.com	01449 736731
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	JO CHURCHILL 10 HATTER STREET, BURY ST EDMUNDS IP33 1LZ	01284 752311
MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCILLOR	NICKY WILLHERE Nicky.willshere@midsuffolk.gov.uk	
COUNTY COUNCILLOR	PENNY OTTON penny.otton@suffolk.gov.uk	01449 736482
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@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101 999 (emergency)
TABLE TENNIS	ADRIAN KING	01449 737495
TREE WARDEN	MARK TAVERNOR, mtavernor@btinternet.com	01449 737793
VILLAGE HALL	ANDREW CONQUEST, CHAIR	01449 737619
	VICTORIA DILLON, CARETAKER	07738 405520
	DAVID SIMPSON, BOOKINGS	07830 020287
VILLAGE WEBSITES	FELSHAM: felsham.onesuffolk.net	
	GEDDING: gedding.onesuffolk.net	
WHIST DRIVE	PAT CLARKE	01449 736202