

# The Raynhams' Newsletter - September 2023

- Friday 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> - West Raynham Village Hall Bar open from 7pm to 10:30pm.
- Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> - West Raynham Control Tower open from 10am to 4pm.
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> - Mobile library at West Raynham bus shelter from 9:30am to 9:45am.
- Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Fish and Chip Supper in the Village Hall from 7pm.
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> - Raynhams' Gardening Club meeting in the Village Hall from 6pm to 7pm.

## Church Services

- Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> - St Mary's, East Raynham, from 6pm.
- Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> - All Saints, Helhoughton, from 10:30am.
- Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> - St Martin's, South Raynham, from 10.30am.

To hear about regular services and other events in the local churches, please send an email to: [coxfordbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:coxfordbenefice@gmail.com).

## Village Hall Committee - AGM and Elections

The AGM and elections for committee members and officers will be held on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** starting at 6:30pm in West Raynham Village Hall.

## Solar Fund Committee

Applications are now open for the Solar Fund for projects that benefit The Raynhams. Previous community awards have included funding for: grassland/wildflower management in St. Margaret's churchyard; the fish & chip supper in the Village Hall and supporting the King's Coronation celebration.

Application forms can be obtained by contacting David Sidell, Chair of the Solar Fund by email at [davidsidell@outlook.com](mailto:davidsidell@outlook.com). Completed forms must be returned by **31<sup>st</sup> October** and should be sent to David Sidell (Sid) at 5, The Bowling Green, West Raynham, NR21 7HD.

## Raynham Parish Council

Minutes, agendas and reports of Parish Council meetings are available to view and download from the website at <http://www.raynhampc.info>, which also includes the latest news from Norfolk County Council. Parish Council meetings are held in West Raynham Village Hall starting at 7pm, and the remaining dates for this year are:

- 26<sup>th</sup> September
- 28<sup>th</sup> November.

## Contact Details & Past Newsletters

- Deadline for articles - 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.
- [westray.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:westray.newsletter@gmail.com) - To send in articles or manage subscriptions.
- <https://www.raynhampc.info/documents> - To download previous Newsletters.

## Control Tower - 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> September



## Fish and Chip Supper - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

The fish and chip supper event is being paid for by the Solar Fund and will start from 7pm in the Village Hall on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. The following items are available to order:

- Cod
- Scampi
- Fish cakes
- Burgers
- Chicken nuggets
- Chips
- Mushy peas
- Curry sauce

There are also vegetarian sausages, burgers and nuggets. Gluten-free options are also available. Catering will be provided by Tropics Two from Dersingham who supplied the meals in 2021 and 2022. There will be live entertainment in Village Hall after the meal and the bar will be open for drinks.

Please email your meal requirements to [westraynham.vhc@gmail.com](mailto:westraynham.vhc@gmail.com), also stating whether you wish to eat your meal in the Village Hall. If you prefer, then you can leave your order in the Village Hall post box.

The deadline for meal requests is **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September**. Please note this invitation only applies to residents of The Raynhams.

## The Airman's Arms - The Kiptons

The pub will be back open as soon as possible after the lighting strike that hit the building and blew some of the circuit breakers and internet modem. Please keep an eye on the Airman's Arms Facebook page for more information

There will be a live band called Crossing 55 on **Sunday 1st October** from 2pm to 5pm. On **Saturday 14th October** Tanya King will be performing from 8pm. There is free entry for both events.

## Andy's Pop and Music Quiz - Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October

### Andy's Pop & Music Quiz


Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October  
(Bar open from 7 pm) in the West Raynham Village Hall

Join us for a music extravaganza that will test your knowledge of up to 7 decades of the best music of our time. From the 60s to the present day!

Cost: £5 per team of 4 (payable on the night.)

Book your place by email at [andysmusicquiz@hotmail.com](mailto:andysmusicquiz@hotmail.com) asap

We will be selling raffle tickets on the night to raise funds for the Village Hall.



Raffle prize donations would be greatly appreciated, and please leave items at the Village Hall during bar nights or drop off at Kate Mead's house at 21, The Street, West Raynham. Please **DO NOT** leave any raffle prize donations in the Reading Room.

### The Reading Room

The Reading Room in West Raynham is a communal library. Anyone is welcome to donate books, borrow books or keep a book. But it is only for books - not for: toys, jigsaws, CDs, videos, DVDs or magazines. **JUST BOOKS!**

You can also find the latest issues of Which? magazine (from a grant by the Solar Fund); The Garden magazine by the RHS (from the Gardening Club), and copies of The Raynham's Newsletter.

There are also sunflower hearts to fill up your bird feeders provided by the Solar Fund.

Please try to keep the Reading Room tidy so it can be enjoyed by everyone.



*Françoise Walker.*

## End of Summer Party - 27<sup>th</sup> August

It seemed that most of the village was at the party with over 70 people and a wonderful representation of residents from across the village, with some family and friends thrown in for good measure.

The party kicked off in Seppings Field at 4pm with drinks, courtesy of the Solar Farm Fund, plenty of delicious food, thanks to the generosity of all the guests, and a music playlist painstakingly assembled by the Martin ensemble. We had several large gazebos to protect the food and the crowd from the occasional rainfall. At one point, other than two brave individuals who sat outside in the rain protected by umbrellas, the entire village was gathered under the temporary shelter to escape a particularly heavy shower.



At 8pm the party relocated to the Village Hall where the drink continued to flow, the food continued to be consumed, the good spirits that had not been dampened by the unpredictable weather continued to be in evidence, and the village was treated to several hours of popular tunes by the super band, BandWidth, and many even managed to have a dance!



Thanks to all of you. Without all the wonderful people in our village and the support of the Solar Fund, the event would not have been the great party that it was.

We look forward to a bigger and better version of the event next year!

*Anne-Marie Martin.*

## Tractor Rides

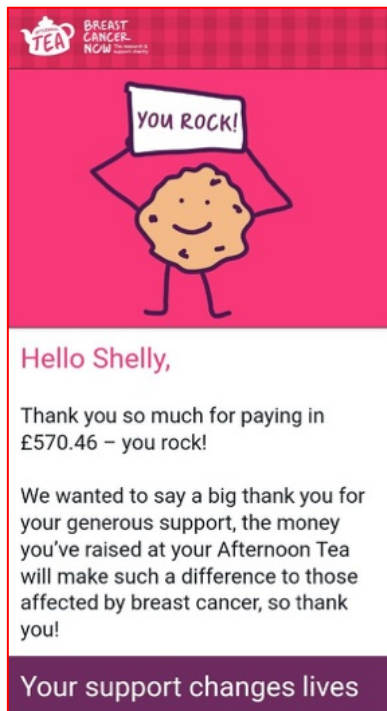
Many thanks to Mick and Ann Chestney for organising and leading the tractor rides this summer. The last one for this year will be on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> leaving the Chestney's yard at 9:30am, and the tractors will go up to Wells and along the coast. The tractor ride on 3<sup>rd</sup> September went to Castle Acre with a stop for lunch at the wonderful West Acre Gardens.



## Supporting Breast Cancer Research - 9<sup>th</sup> August

A big 'Thank You' to everyone who supported the Afternoon Tea at the Control Tower which raised £171.14.

Fundraising outside Tesco supermarket in Kings Lynn contributed to the final total of £570.46 for Breast Cancer Now, a charity providing research and support for breast cancer.



## Table Tennis

Anyone interested in regular games of table tennis?  
Contact Phil Henshaw on 07570 131696.

## Recipe for Plum Jam

<p><u>Jam</u> <u>Plum.</u> 6lb plums 6lb sugar 1 pt water</p> <p>Wash fruit and weigh it the fruit should be fresh just ripe and dry. Wash jam jars dry and keep them warm. Make sure there are no cracks in the jar.</p> <p>Put the fruit in a saucepan with the water bring to the boil and cook gently until the fruit is soft. This will take from 15-45 mins.</p> <p>Add the sugar, stir until dissolved then bring to the boil. Do not allow to boil until the sugar is dissolved or it will crystallise.</p> <p>Boil rapidly until setting point is reached. Test the jam for setting at first 10 minute and then 5 minute intervals</p>	<p>until ready. remove any scum that has arisen and the lips.</p> <p>Pour the jam into a hot jug and from the jug into hot jam jars. Put a spoon into the jar incase it breaks Put almost fill the jar with jam as it shrinks on cooling.</p> <p>Put a piece of waxed paper over the jam and damp a covering to go over the jar. This is secured with a rubber ring. Place a label with the date and type of jam on it.</p>
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Ann's recipe book was written during 1961 and 1962 for her 'O' level in Cookery when she was at Fakenham Grammar School. The first few recipes copied down in October 1961 included 'Preparation of grape fruit', 'Preparation of a tomatoe' and 'Boiled egg for a sandwich'.

Ann recalled "We had a double lesson of cookery each week. That was about an hour and a half. We took home what we cooked. I lived at Holkham so had to walk through Fakenham to the station - near where Cranmer House is now - and cycle from Wells to Holkham with whatever I produced. Not too handy with stew in my bicycle basket!"

If you have a treasured recipe that you are happy to share then please contact: [westray.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:westray.newsletter@gmail.com).

Judy & Paresh.

## Rambles with Rosie

Rosie and I love our daily walks and exploring the beautiful Norfolk countryside. She told me it was about time I started to share some of our adventures and maybe encourage you to ramble with your faithful friend/s, (animal or human). I use the Outdoor Active app which I have on my phone to plan routes rather than carry a paper map (which I am useless at reading anyway!).

### Castle Acre circular from A1065

On my Outdoor Active app I have a male voice (who I have called Arthur) who chats to me every so often to give instructions, some of which I ignore because I want to go another way! The app will track your route and can be saved as an alternative if you go off-piste.

### Directions

Park your car on the grass verge (RHS of road) on the A1065 towards Swaffham near the Lexham turn off. There is a public footpath signpost here.

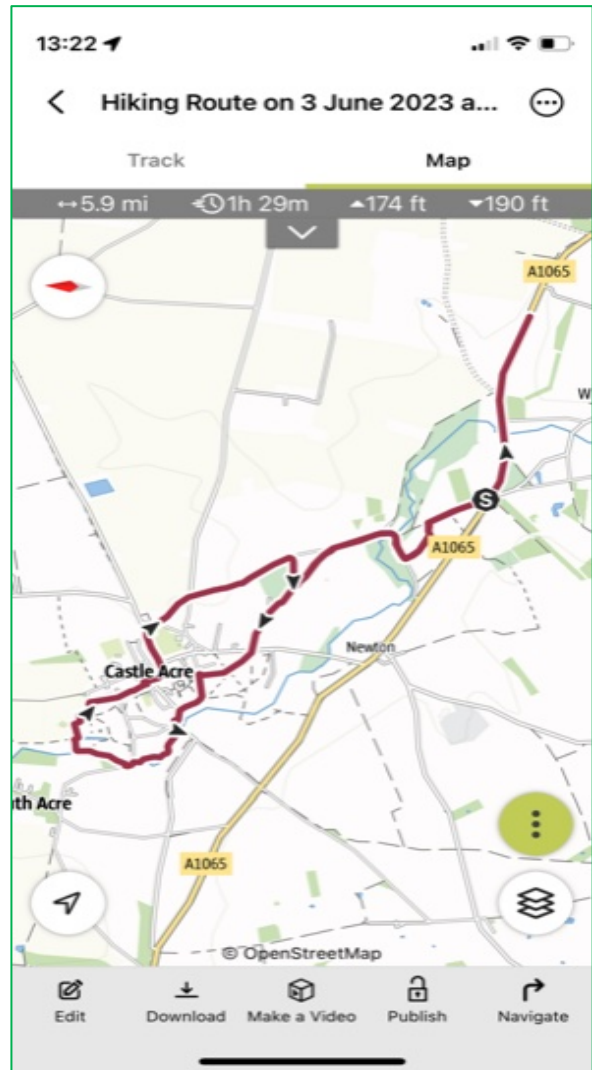
Follow the path in a straight line and then turn left following the signs (this eventually becomes part of the Nar Valley Way). You will pass the old Mill at Newton and eventually cross the road leading from the A1065 towards Castle Acre.

You then follow the path across a field (keep dogs on leads please as can be livestock here) and enter Castle Acre by the back of the castle.

Turn left and skirt round the castle, keeping left to go down to follow the river. The path takes you round the Abbey ruins (on your right) and then back into Castle Acre.

After refuelling in the village, follow the road out of the village turning left by the village shop. After the play park, the route turns right.

Follow the very quiet road until a footpath sign on your right brings you back through the woods to pick up the route you came in on. Or you can carry on along the road and join the path further along. Turn left and you will retrace your steps back to your car.





Rosie sniffing en-route to Castle Acre



At the rear of the abbey ruins

### Important info

- Toilets - at entrance to Abbey ruins
- Refreshments - Castle Acre, pub and coffee shop
- Safety notes - walking alone with Rosie, I always ensure I have a fully charged phone (which also knows where my car is - as does Rosie!), a dog whistle, sensible footwear (walking boots or Muck wellies). Rosie is usually on lead on these walks keeping her and other livestock safe from harm. Most responsible dog owners if they see your dog is on a lead will do the same.

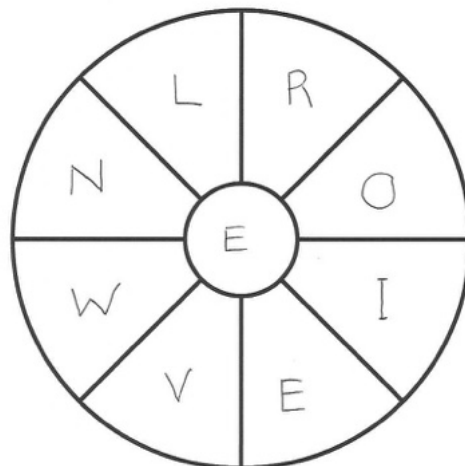
Enjoy the walk, and this is one I will definitely be repeating!

*Debbie Lamont.*

### Word Wheel

How many words, of three letters or more, can you make with these letters. All words must contain the letter in the central circle - no proper names or foreign words. There is at least one word of nine letters.

I have had a go and surprised myself by finding 40 - not including the nine-letter word which is where I started when constructing the wheel; see if you can beat me - I bet there are more words in there that I missed. The words I found are listed on the last page and include the nine-letter word - well done if you got that one!



*Judy Pell.*



## The Raynhams' Gardening Club - Open Gardens 2024

At our monthly meeting in August, we decided to hold an Open Gardens in June next year. We have chosen Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June as the day of the event, and there are a number of things we need to consider for the event.

First, we need some gardens to open for the event! We will be contacting people who took part in the Open Gardens event last year to ask if they wish to have their gardens open again next June. Several people have already agreed, and if you would also like to be involved, then do please get in touch. I think those who opened their gardens felt it was a very good experience.

Traditionally one major thing people look forward to, apart from the gardens, is tea and cakes! We intend to hold the event from 11am to 4.30pm, the same as last year. It would be great if we could get some volunteers to provide cakes and savoury items to sell to the visitors. Again, please get in touch if you are willing to do some baking for the Open Gardens!

The third thing that people will want after walking round different gardens and eating cakes will be plants! So, we are planning for the plant stall to be burgeoning with lots of different plants for the event. If you are digging up plants this autumn in your garden, then we would love to have any spare ones you might be thinking of throwing away, along with the names of the plants.

Finally, we had intended to go on a Gardening Club visit to Beth Chatto's gardens near Colchester in Essex. However, there were only eight people for the trip, so we decided to cancel it as we had a large coach booked for the event. Some people didn't like the thought of the long journey time of nearly two hours each way. So for next year we are looking at the success of the visit to Elsing Hall in June as an example of the type of more local visit we should do for future visits to inspirational gardens and sites.

As we slide into Autumn the number of gardens open under the National Garden Scheme gets fewer and fewer, but one garden not too far away near Shipdham is well worth a visit especially if you like perennial plants. This is **HIGH HOUSE GARDENS** at **BLACKMOOR ROW, SHIPDHAM, IP25 7PU**. It is open on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September** between 12 noon and 5pm, and costs £5 for entry. I enjoyed my visit there some years back.

*Bryan Welton.*

## Raynham Book Club

A small and friendly group meets in West Raynham at the beginning of each month to talk about the books they are reading and their literary likes and dislikes. Members take turns to recommend a set book every two months, and the current one is 'The Viceroy of Ouidah' by Bruce Chatwin published in 1980. For more information about the group please send an email to: [westray.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:westray.newsletter@gmail.com).

Meetings start at 6pm on the first Wednesday of each month and dates and locations for the rest of this year are:

- 4<sup>th</sup> October - Allison Henshaw, 24 Stephenson Close, The Orchard.
- 1<sup>st</sup> November - Paresh Shah, Foundry Cottage, The Street, West Raynham.
- 6<sup>th</sup> December - Debbie Lamont, Park Barn, The Street, West Raynham.

## George Townshend: Army Officer, Politician - and Caricaturist



*The Marquess Townshend by George Romney.*

George, 1st Marquess Townshend (1724-1807) has been described as 'warm-hearted, sensitive and capable of enthusiasms, but unsteady and odd, intermittently ambitious, often disgruntled, quarrelsome, lacking in judgement, and burdened with an insuperable urge to ridicule'. Qualities, perhaps, that may help explain his enthusiasm for the art of caricature.

He was, first and foremost though, a British soldier and politician. He joined the army as a volunteer and served at Dettingen and Fontenoy during the War of Austrian Succession, fought at Culloden during the Jacobite Rebellion and

became aide-de-camp to the Duke of Cumberland. He famously quarrelled with Cumberland though, later attacking him in Parliament, and was particularly critical of his military skills.

During his Army career his skill with a pencil was put to good use sketching topography, fortifications and maps, but from about 1750 he began to draw caricature sketches of officers and political figures; friends and enemies, and share them with his correspondents, often using them to make a political point.

Townshend was elected Member of Parliament for Norfolk in 1747 and was personally responsible for ensuring that the Militia Act of 1757 reached the statute book. He later served as Viceroy of Ireland. In March 1764 he succeeded his father as Viscount and was created 1<sup>st</sup> Marquess Townshend in October 1787.

In 1759 he took command of a brigade in Quebec under General James Wolfe. In a letter to his wife, he wrote: "I never served so disagreeable a campaign as this. General Wolfe's health is but very bad. His generalship in my poor opinion is not a bit better." Caricatures he produced of Wolfe during this time, many now held in the McCord



*Gaetan Vestris' c1780-1 George Townshend. Raynham Hall Archives (All rights reserved).*

Museum of Canadian History in Montreal, drew much criticism at the time but are considered significant today as the first cartoons to have been created in what is now known as Canada.

His military and political experiences provided considerable inspiration for a man who loved to draw, and he was a talented and versatile artist. Leading performers of the time were also



*Duke of Cumberland 1750s by George Townshend. © National Portrait Gallery, London.*



*'Shade of Cromwell - Has England then come to this' 1759. George Townshend. McCord Museum (M19856) (All rights reserved).*

captured, such as the celebrated Italian dancers Gaetan and Auguste Vestris, and the actor James Quin, all three recorded in performance on the London stage.

The National Portrait Gallery holds an album of his work bequeathed by Robert Ketton-Cremer of Felbrigg Hall which contains sketches of prominent Norfolk figures, characters in national politics captured in the House of Commons and images produced during George's campaigns around the British Empire.

The largest collection by far, however, is held at Raynham Hall. Covering a period of about 30 years, the 287 drawings are a mixture of pencil, or pen and ink sketches, occasionally with wash. Herbert Atherton, in his 1985 article 'George Townshend Revisited' commented: "There are dozens of sketches of pompous officers and martinet serjeants, country farmers and ladies of fashion, over-fed clergy, macaronis, North American Indians, and the notorious and celebrated in London's social world."



*An Indian of ye Outawas Tribe & his Family going to War, 1751-8. George Townshend National Portrait Gallery, London, NPG 4855(72) (All rights reserved).*

Townshend has been called "the first great English caricaturist" and his work is important in the study of the development of caricature and political satire. His drawings also provide a fascinating insight into Georgian society in general and a visual record of political culture of the time.



*The Recruiting Sergeant 1757 by George Townshend © Trustees of the British Museum.*

### Sources:

- The History of Parliament: The House of Commons 1754-1790 ed. L Namier, J Brooke, 1964.
- <https://www.artandthecountryhouse.com/essays/essays-index/an-album-of-caricatures-by-george-townshend-at-raynham-hall#figure13>
- <https://www.james-gillray.org/pop/townshend.html>

*Bridget Howarth.*

## Beavers at Sculthorpe Moor Nature Reserve

A male and female beaver were released into a large enclosure in April 2022, and about a year later a pair of kits were spotted with their parents. The kits seem to be thriving and are being closely monitored using trail cams and volunteers. There are lots of images and videos posted on the social media channels for the reserve. The photos reproduced here have been provided with the permission of Tim Suiter, with the two kits in the photo on the right.



## Insects in the Garden

While cutting the long areas of grass in our garden during the last couple of weeks, I noticed quite a few grasshoppers. After examining some of adults, I think the dominant species we have is the Field Grasshopper,



*Chorthippus brunneus*. This species is found in Europe, north Africa, and temperate Asia.

Like most grasshoppers, *C. brunneus* has a simple life cycle starting with eggs laid into soil which undergo a diapause over winter. Grasshopper nymphs can start emerging from the following March, and typically go through four nymphal stages before becoming adults,

which appear from June and may survive until early December.

Grasshoppers and locusts belong to the insect order Orthoptera and are thought to be the oldest living group of plant chewing, or herbivorous, insects having evolved about 250 million years ago during the early Triassic.

Searching for grasshoppers always makes me feel nostalgic, as this was the first group of insects I worked on when I started out in entomology about 35 years ago. For six years I was involved in the development and use of chemical and biological insecticides for the management of grasshopper and locust pests.

### Sources:

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grasshopper>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chorthippus\\_brunneus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chorthippus_brunneus)

*Paresh Shah*

## Tropics Two Fish & Chips

Fish and chips and other meals, including gluten-free options, are available from Tropics Two in the car park of the Airman's Arms in Kipton Green every Friday from 5pm to 8pm, and at the Village Green in Great Massingham on Thursdays, also from 5pm to 8pm. Payment is by cash or card.

## Mobile Library

The mobile library service, provided by Norfolk County Council, is in West Raynham each month on a Friday from 9:30 to 9:45am, stopping by the bus shelter opposite the Village Hall. The dates for visits during the remainder of 2023 are:

- 15<sup>th</sup> September
- 13<sup>th</sup> October
- 10<sup>th</sup> November
- 8<sup>th</sup> December.

## Mobile Post Office

A mobile service from Great Massingham Stores calls frequently in East Rudham, stopping in the car park opposite The Crown pub. The days and times for this stop are:

- Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays - 9:20-10:20
- Wednesdays - 15:10-16:10
- Fridays - 11:00-12:00.

On Fridays the mobile van also calls at Weasenham, Whissonsett and Helhoughton before East Rudham. Check [www.massinghamstores.co.uk](http://www.massinghamstores.co.uk) for more information or phone 01485 520272 (option 3).

## 22A Bus to Fakenham

On Tuesdays the 22A bus goes to and from Morrisons in Fakenham. The service calls at The Kiptons, near The Airman's Arms pub, and West Raynham village (bus shelter opposite Village Hall). The bus arrives at Morrisons at 11am and leaves for the return trip at 12:30. Stopping times and locations for journeys into Fakenham are:

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| • West Raynham, adj. The Kiptons                | 10:35 |
| • West Raynham, opp. Village Hall (bus shelter) | 10:43 |
| • South Raynham & West Raynham Road (o/s 10)    | 10:46 |
| • East Raynham, adj. Lodge Gates                | 10:47 |

A detailed timetable can be found by phoning Sanders Coaches on 01263 712800 or visiting the web page for the route at:

<https://bustimes.org/services/22a-north-elmham-litcham-fakenham>.

## Word Wheel Answers

Lee, Lie, Nee, New, Roe, Vie, Wee, Woe, Leer, Line, Live, Lone, Lore, Love, Oven, Over, Reel, Rove, Veer, View, Vine, Vole, Wile, Wine, Wire, Wore, Wove, Lever, Liner, Lover, Lower, Nerve, Never, Novel, Revel, Riven, Rover, Viner, Woven, Review. The nine-letter word is Wolverine.



**SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 12-3pm**

**Lyng Playing Field, Richmond Place, Lyng NR9 5RF**

**FUN & GAMES ★ FOOD & DRINK ★ STALLS ★ RAFFLE  
 TOMBOLA ★ CAKES & BAKES ★ BOUNCY CASTLES  
 EMERGENCY VEHICLES ★ ICE CREAM VAN ★ SPORTS  
 TRACTORS ★ GO KARTS ★ PETTING ZOO ★ DOG SHOW**



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