

**A Happy New Year
To All Our Readers!**

May we repeat the good wishes in the box above – a very happy and healthy New Year to one and all. It seems hardly any time since we had to learn to write '2017' and now we've got to remember it's 2018. Must be a sign of getting older. We hope that by the time this is printed the weather will still be kind enough for deliveries to be made without too much trauma, despite the threatening snow earlier in December.

While on the subject of deliveries, we owe a very public THANK YOU to all those who regularly deliver this newsletter and other items to your homes. The least you can do in return is read it! (And perhaps occasionally have a bit to say, an opinion, an ad to go in, a 'free to a good home' don't worry about wording – that's what editors are for.)

In Memoriam

*Ann Hardstaff, Stella Harrod, Joan Hume,
Andrew Lilley, Joe Lilley, Susannah Self*

Gone but not forgotten

A prayer for the New Year

Dear Lord, please give me a few friends who understand me and remain my friends; work to do which has real value, without which the world would be the poorer; a mind unafraid to travel, even though the trail be not blazed; an understanding heart; a sense of humour; time for quiet, silent meditation; a feeling of the presence of God; the patience to wait for the coming of these things, with the wisdom to recognise them when they come. *Amen*

Monthly Worship

There will be no monthly worship on Foulness this month but normal service will resume in February – second Sunday, 9am at Hall Farm.

December magazine

I am very grateful to all those who went the extra mile during my absence last month, and especially to the editorial team – thank you.

Denise

Parish Council

Council matters

December meeting: The Parish Council did not hold a meeting in December. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 10th January commencing at the usual time of 7pm, meeting in the staff rooms at Lodge Farm. At this meeting Council will be considering the 2018/19 budget and precept requirements.

QinetiQ Report

There will be a power interruption in January which

will affect only Nazewick Cottages. Notices will be issued to the occupants.

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Foulness Newsletter

As we come to the end of another year of the newsletter standing on its own feet, being funded solely by your voluntary donations, we thank all of you who have supported us and shown your appreciation of our efforts by making a donation, of whatever size, or whatever sort (monetary or tangible assets) towards running costs.

Thanks to a couple of specially generous donations and some judicious buying of print cartridges when they were 'on special' we shall be able to end

the year in the black. An audited balance sheet will be available from Denise later in the New Year if you would like to see the full financial details.

May we remind you that if ever you want anything inserted for publication the space will be made available, so long as you get it to Denise at Hall Farm by the monthly deadline – see back page of the previous newsletter each time. Don't forget the 'free to a good home' advert if you have something others might well make use of.

May we also remind you that the newsletter is delivered to all houses (and further afield) free of charge but all donations are much appreciated, so that this community service may keep going.

Foulness Conservation and Archaeological Society

Now that we are tidied up again we shall set about changing some of our displays ready for the coming season, which will be upon us before we can blink. We shall open again on the first Sun-

day in April – more details nearer the time – but if you want a quick word with Bob, to ask him something or just to have a chat, he's usually in the Heritage Centre during the week – ask Rita or Linda for the date of his next planned appearance.

Foulness War Memorial

Following our recording last month of Historic England's interest in our War Memorial, we ask that if anyone has further information on the War Memorial especially regarding the unveiling ceremony would they please contact Mary at The Rectory, telephoning 219960 or 07901711818.

What happened in 2017

(Answers on the back page)

- 1 *The Apprentice*: how many were recently hired?
- 2 Which supermarket advertised itself as being the only one where Christmas Dinner cost less than last year?
- 3 Who was voted BBC Sports Personality of the Year?

4 Which country house, now a hotel, was at the centre of the Christine Keeler/John Profumo affair?

5 Which celebrity won *Strictly Come Dancing*?

6 Which city has been the UK City of Culture for 2017?

7 We hear so much about Donald Trump, but who is his Vice President?

8 Australia has announced that from next year people will be banned from climbing which landmark?

9 What is the surname of Prince Harry's fiancée?

10 At which ground did England lose the 3rd Ashes Test?

11 What's the title of the 8th *Star Wars* movie?

12 Which former Chancellor took on the job of editor of the *Evening Standard*?

13 What's the title of the panto at the Cliffs?

14 After 37 years Robert Mugabwe stepped down as

President of which African country?

15 What is the number of the Article formally beginning the process of Brexit?

16 Which longest-serving *Blue Peter* presenter died in 2017?

17 Which non-league team became the first for 103 years to reach the last 8 of the FA Cup?

18 In which month was a General Election held in the UK?

19 On what day of the week did New Year's Day fall in 2017?

20 Which TV producer and presenter of *Fifteen to One* died in 2017?

(I could have asked which supermarket already has Hot Cross Buns on sale for Easter, but I refuse to give them publicity! – Ed)

Foulness: Did you know?

Early Owners

The coastal marshes of Foulness and other south-east Essex islands were eagerly sought for

their value as pasture. It is known that at the time of Domesday the eastern end of the island was held by Suene, a Saxon. By his grandson's time Suene's huge estates were forfeited to the Crown and in the 1200s the land was granted to Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent.

The land passed into the de Rochford family and then was acquired by the de Bohun family who owned 51 manors in Essex at the time. At one time it was in the hands of Joan de Bohun, she who established a chantry for worship on here.

In the turbulent times of the Middle Ages, land could all too easily be forfeited to the Crown and then passed on to someone who had done a favour for the reigning monarch. By the middle 1500s, the manor of Foulness was in the hands of Sir Richard Rich, Lord Chancellor of England. Arable farming was becoming more important and the fishing industry off Foulness was also valuable.

A few generations later, there was no male heir and the estate was split several ways, with

Foulness coming into the hands of Daniel Finch who had married a daughter on the Rich family. The name Finch remains in the records until the island was acquired by the War Department.

FoulnessTide Times

January 2018

	AM height		PM height	
Sat 6	02.53	5.9	15.17	6.0
Sun 7	03.40	5.7	16.07	5.7
Sat 13	09.34	5.0	22.06	5.1
Sun 14	10.27	5.2	22.54	5.2
Sat 20	01.54	5.6	14.14	5.6
Sun 21	02.28	5.6	14.48	5.5
Sat 27	07.19	5.1	20.09	5.0
Sun 28	08.40	5.2	21.25	5.2

They didn't mean to say that (the curse of the commentator)

'It's not often you get a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity'

Nick Dempsey

'We're all going to die at least once'

Keith Doyle

'William and Kate will consummate their relationship tomorrow in the Abbey'

Richard Madeley

'He (Tevez) has been in England for five years now. So it's disappointing that his English isn't as good as what it should be'

Graham Taylor

'It's almost been like chess on wheels'

Martin Keown

'You were once voted the greatest living artist, beating Rembrandt and Constable'

Piers Morgan to Rolf Harris

'All weekend I've been struggling with a nervous rear end'

Jensen Button

'There was nothing wrong with his timing; he was just a bit late'

Mark

Bright

Annual Reports

If you have any information that could make the basis of an annual report in any subject dear

to your heart (fishing, weather, gardening?) it would be welcomed at Hall Farm for inclusion in the February newsletter. We know that fishing's not been easily available for various reasons but a weather report or notes on something of interest in the garden would be especially welcome.

Have you tried

Clarence Yard
23-29 Clarence Street
Southend-on-sea
SS1 1EE

☎ 01702 335263

Having read in the *Evening Echo* that these premises had been changed from a drinking bar (where my son and his friends used to go!) to an up-market fish and chip restaurant, one Friday lunchtime late in November (after a shopping marathon) my husband and I decided to give it a try.

On arriving, we were greeted by a nice young man, smartly dressed, who showed us to a table. You are given a

comprehensive menu which covers "Light Bites" (such as Calamari rings, lightly breaded Guernsey Whitebait served with bread and butter, Smoked Haddock Mozzarella and Spring Onion Cake, Figs and Goat's Cheese parcel, Loaded Chips (which are home-made twice-cooked chips with melted cheese and bacon, along with their dipping pots – the Clarence Yard's very own chip shop curry sauce and mayonnaise – and there's also triple sliced Sweet Chilli Chicken Sandwich.

When you come to the mains, there's their signature Beer Battered Cod and Chips (£8.25), Traditional Beer Battered Plaice (£8.25), Good Old-Fashioned Battered Sausage (£6.75), the Clarence Yard's Crust of the day – a pie at £8.45, Land's End whole-tailed Scampi (£8.25) or Burger of the Yard (£7.75). Vegetarian options of some of these dishes are available.

If you want to add sides to any of these dishes you can choose from extra chips (£1.75), curry sauce (£1), jug of gravy (£1), mushy peas (£1), Heinz baked beans (£1), and bread and butter (45p).

There is a small selection of desserts, but we both felt full up. With the fish mains we had had mushy peas and a very small salad with gherkin served in ramekin dishes. Personally I don't like salad with fish and chips, but this salad was quite small. The second time we went there we chose not to have the salad, but I missed the gherkin!

There is a children's menu, and they serve locally brewed Great Wakering ales, soft drinks and the usual hot drinks. Also you can purchase wines, prosecco and a few spirits.

If you have an Adventure Island and Sea Life Adventure annual pass you can save 20% on all prices on the menu.

We have been twice now and the second time a few more people were eating there – the word is getting around. The décor is very pleasing and our bills which included hot drinks came to around £20.

Your reports of any restaurants will always be welcomed by the Editor at Hall Farm.

Answers to the Quiz:

- 1 Two apprentices
- 2 Marks and Spencer
- 3 Sir Mo Farah
- 4 Cliveden
- 5 Joe McFadden
- 6 Hull
- 7 Mike Pence
- 8 Ayers Rock/Uluru
- 9 Markle
- 10 Perth/WACA
- 11 *The Last Jedi*
- 12 George Osborne
- 13 *Jack and the Beanstalk*
- 14 Zimbabwe
- 15 Article 50
- 16 John Noakes
- 17 Lincoln City
- 18 June
- 19 Sunday
- 20 William G Stewart

And finally A man left work one Friday afternoon but instead of going home he stayed out the entire weekend playing golf with the boys.

When he finally appeared at home on Sunday night he was confronted by his very angry

wife and was barraged for nearly two hours with a tirade of abuse.

Finally his wife calmed down and said to him, "How would you like it if you didn't see me for two or three days?"

To which the husband replied, "That would be fine by me."

Monday went by and he didn't see his wife.

Tuesday went by and he didn't see his wife.

Wednesday came and went and he still didn't see her.

Finally, on Thursday, the swelling went down just enough so that he could see her out of the corner of his left eye.

Items for publication (an advert, an opinion, news, 'free to a good home', are always welcomed. For inclusion in the February newsletter, these should be with Denise at Hall Farm by 18th January.