

FOSDYKE MAGAZINE

GRIT BIN PLACED

After a few years of discussions with Lincolnshire Highways the parish council has finally established a place for the second grit bin, just by the village noticeboard.



FALLING GRAVE STONE

Fosdyke Parish Council are seeking anyone who may have an interest in the grave of Sarah Anne Greenaway as the headstone has become unsafe.

It is normal procedure in these cases to lay the stone down. If anyone has any information please contact the PC. Details on Page 9.

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SOMETHING NEW

As a new year begins farmers will be hoping for a productive and profitable 2017. As nobody knows how the UK will fare from Brexit in the long term the short term however looks positive with many companies choosing to invest in the UK. The current weak pound is good news for farmers especially for those who export their goods to overseas buyers. As the exchange rate between the euro and the pound is the biggest determinant of UK farm profitability then the weak pound is good news.

There is however a lot of uncertainty on what will happen to support payments and until Brexit actually happens the support from the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) will remain and farmers will continue to receive basic payment for at least 2017 and 2018.

I think a big worry for 2017 will be the continued rise in labour costs especially in the fresh produce industry which has been compounded by the Brexit decision. Free movement of labour could affect the amount of overseas

workers which we heavily rely upon. The need for automation will be greater than ever and the technology is already in the early development stages.

For instance Broccoli will soon be harvested by machine instead of gangs of people harvesting by hand. The machine will scan the individual broccoli heads by 3D imaging and be able to tell the size and quality of the head. It will then despatch a robotic arm to cut the head with pin-point accuracy leaving any stalk and immature or

unsalable heads in the field which may sound very futuristic but it won't be long before we see them in the area.

Personally I am really looking forward to a new challenge this year as I will be starting a new job in February. After five years in my current job it will be a sad day when I leave but I am equally as excited about the new opportunity. I will be working for CN Seeds who are a family business serving professional growers with a wide range of herb, vegetable and flower seeds based near Ely in Cambridgeshire. I will be working as growing manager responsible for seed production, plant breeding, development trials and also overseeing a beef enterprise and wood chipping business.

BIRD FLU

As you will be aware from recent news bulletins bird flu has found its way onto our shores from Europe. My wife keeps Indian Runner ducks at home and they are normally found wondering around the garden, farmyard or going on a mini adventure down the lane. They are very comical to watch as they waddle around continually eating and foraging. They are equally as mischievous especially when they are digging up my grass or doing things they shouldn't in the gravel.

Due to the outbreak of bird flu and the legal requirement to house all poultry until the 28th February our ducks are kept housed and look far from impressed. Every time my

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wife takes them their favourite snack of garden peas to them they start to quack wildly and stare longingly at the door to let them out. As cruel as this may seem it is at their best interest along with the bio security of commercial flocks that they remain housed. Many backyard poultry keepers don't realise this lock down applies to them and can result in a £5000 fine for those who choose to ignore it.

SUPPLY

January is generally a quiet period for many farmers and I have personally enjoyed having a couple of weeks off over Christmas to spend some quality time with the family.

We are still in the planning and preparation stage for the next season, busy working out budgets, writing drilling programmes and ordering seed. The first lot of plants have been sown at the plant raisers which we will start to plant towards the end of February. As a big supplier to the major retailers we continue to supply salads throughout the winter by trading product from Europe. This has been very challenging lately due to the horrendous weather conditions they have been experiencing.

Continual rain has meant many farmers in Spain, Italy and Greece have been unable to drill or plant crops which has caused massive gaps in continuity of supply. Some parts of Murcia in Spain has had some of the worst rain in thirty years receiving up to 250 litres of rain per square meter. Crops that were in the ground have been damaged and even some have been washed away. Then the weather turned bitterly cold so that crops that were in the ground have not been growing.

DEMAND

This has meant certain crops are very short in supply and crops like spinach are being air freighted from the USA or Australia at the huge expense of the supplier, not the supermarkets.

I just think the world has gone mad when supermarkets demand we have these types of products on their shelves 365 days a year even when there is a crisis that make supply almost impossible and also at the cost to the suppliers. It is especially frustrating when up to fifty per cent of the product will be thrown in the bin once the consumer has bought it.

There is a lot to be said for seasonal and local produce!

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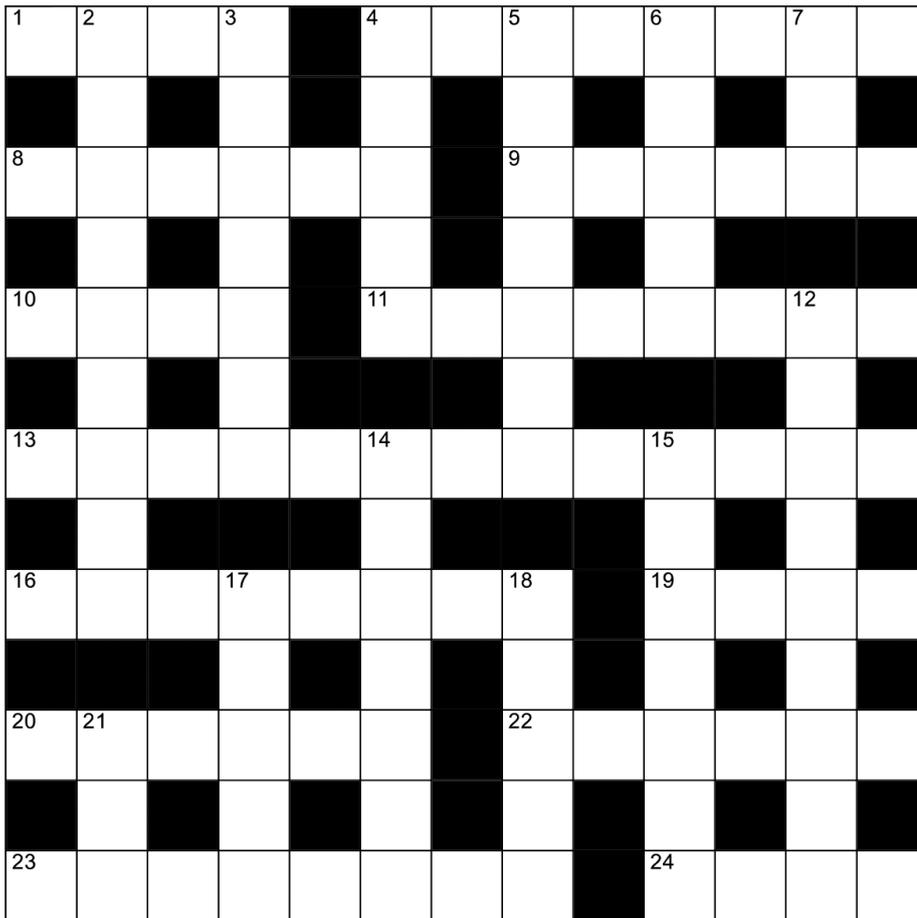
For further information please ring Margaret on 01406370920 margaret.law4@gmail.com



Fosdyke
Village
Hall

PUZZLES PAGE

CROSSWORD



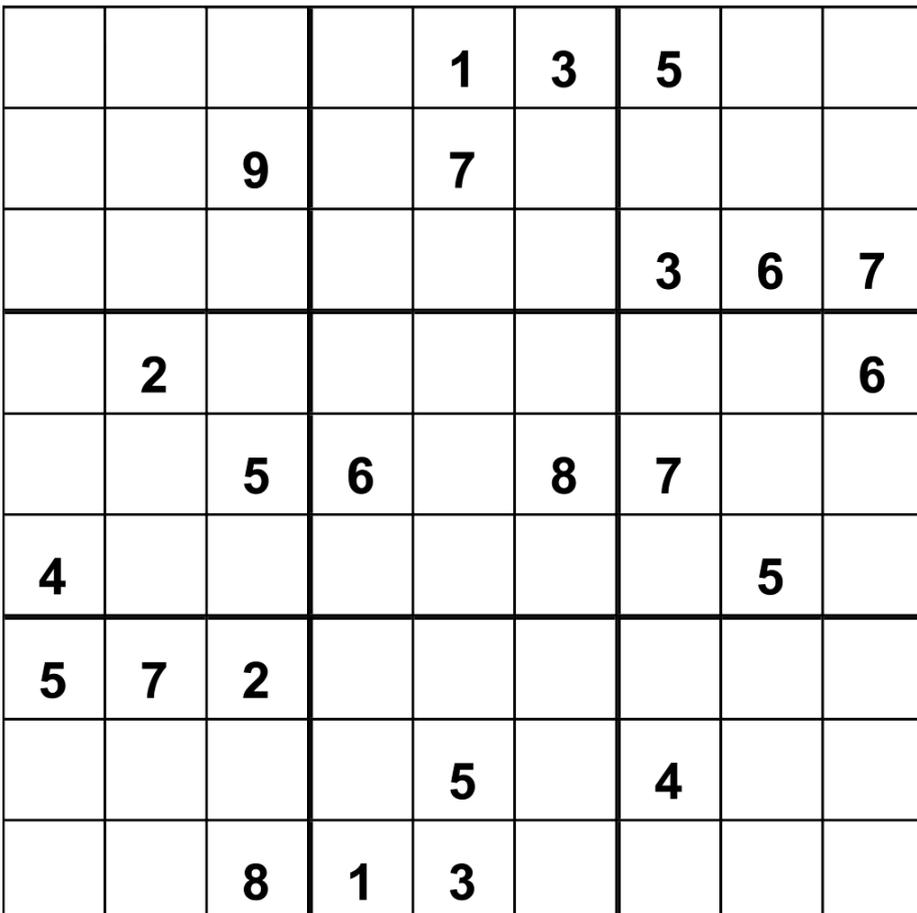
Across

1. 'Rejoice, the Lord is ----! Your Lord and ---- adore;' Hymn. (4)
4. Jewish festival which commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery. (8)
8. Greater Manchester town, famous for its small, round cakes filled with currants. (6)
9. 'Holy Mary, ----- of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.' Angelus (6)
10. Holy ----; Another name for the bible. (4)
11. Surprise or impress greatly. (8)
13. One of Jesus' disciples. (5,8)
16. Elastic (8)
19. 'Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire and lighten with celestial ----.' Hymn (4)
20. A large piece of artillery, not to be confused with a cathedral official. (6)
22. Albinoni, Barber and Mahler all composed a well known one. (6)
23. Form of address given to the Pope, Orthodox patriarchs, and the Dalai Lama. (8)
24. Near in place or time. (4)

Down

2. 'The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised -----ible, and we shall be changed.' Messiah Handel (9)
3. Paul wrote epistles to the people of this area of Turkey. (7)
4. Turkish officer. (5)
5. Relating to the peoples who speak Hebrew. (7)
6. Frequently (5)
7. The day before an important Christian festival. (3)
12. Jesus suffered this before crucifixion. (9)
14. Aromatic religious smoke. (7)
15. Repeating chorus to a hymn or song. (7)
17. Boredom (5)
18. Poet who wrote the 'wedding' poem, including the lines 'I have spread my dreams under your feet; tread softly because you tread on my dreams.' (5)
21. In the past (3)

SUDOKU



CHRISTMAS

It is always good to see folks come along and enjoy the Christmas services of Carols and 'Midnight' Mass. Both services were very well attended indeed, and it was really good to see so many folks in church. A big thank you must go to the decorating team who made All Saints so beautiful for the season.

POP-IN

The next pop-in lunch will take place on 21 February— details will be on notice board and are available by email – just contact margarettofts@btinternet.com soon.

FAMILY NEWS

We send our condolences and prayers to the families of 'Nelson' Nix and Edna Bryant, both recently passed away.



VICAR SITUATION

We said a sad goodbye to Revd. Paul Slater at Christmas, as he leaves to go to a permanent post. His brief stay with us was a breath of fresh air, and he will be sadly missed. I am sure we all wish him and his family the very best for the future.

In the meantime adverts for a new vicar have gone out and we are hoping to interview at the end of February.

CANDLEMASS

Candlemas is a Christian festival celebrated on February 2, or the Sunday next to it. It celebrates the presentation of the child Jesus; Jesus' first entry into the temple; it celebrates the Virgin Mary's purification, and as the last, or 40th. day of the traditional Christmas/epiphany season, it marks the entry of spring, and

hope for the world. Candlemas Bells, aka 'Snowdrops', symbolize hope according to Christian belief, and this is why churchyards such as ours are planted out with snowdrops.

Christians consider Jesus as the "light of the world" so it is fitting that candles are blessed on this day and that a candle-lit procession precedes the mass. It is traditional to eat crepes on Candlemas in some parts of Europe, such as France.

IN BETWEEN

I am writing this letter to you on a cold and wintry January afternoon. This year, the Church's calendar gives a relatively long gap between Epiphany and the beginning of Lent, and I have a real sense of being in an 'in between' time.

Being 'in between' can be an uncertain and even challenging thing – we may be in between jobs, in between school and university, in between work and retirement, in between surgery and recovering to full health. Our nation is also in between, as we wait for outworking of last year's vote to leave the European Union.

Being in between one place and another can be a time to rest and take stock; but it can also be a time of fear and disorientation as the hopes and dreams that have motivated or even driven us thus far – doing well in our last job, getting into university or safely through an operation – no longer apply. We can find ourselves without direction as we wait passively for the next stage to begin.

W.H. Auden, reflects on this in his Christmas oratorio 'For the time being':

But, for the time being, here we all are,

Back in the moderate Aristotelian city

Of darning and the Eight-Fifteen, where Euclid's geometry

And Newton's mechanics would account for our experience,

And the kitchen table exists because I scrub it...

The Time being is, in a sense, the most trying time of all...

In the meantime

There are bills to be paid, machines to keep in repair,

Irregular verbs to learn, the Time Being to redeem

From insignificance.

Redeeming the 'time being from insignificance' is the challenge of living life in between: in between the various stages and conditions that come our way; in between the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and his coming again.

As Christians, we believe that we do not remain 'in between' forever. We believe that in the fullness of time God calls each person, and in fact the whole of creation, into his Kingdom. We redeem the 'time being from insignificance' by asking God to maintain and nourish us on our journey, and to provide us with all that we need to take us on the journey from being in between, to being with God in his Kingdom.

*Rt Revd Christopher Lowson,
Bishop of Lincoln*

**Sunday, 29 January
Group Holy
Communion
Service for
Candlemass**

10am

Sunday, 5 & 19 February

**Holy
Communion**

9.30am

Sunday, 5 March

**Holy
Communion**

**Led by the Bishop of
Richborough**

TBA

Benefits of gardening

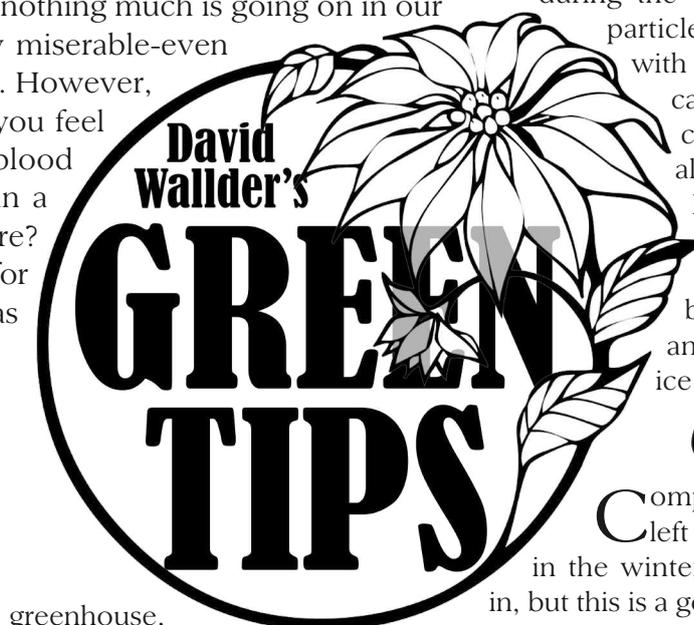
February can be a cruel month, nothing much is going on in our gardens, the weather is pretty miserable—even the birds are shivering in the trees. However, sitting on the sofa will not make you feel better. You need to get the blood flowing and what better way than a bit of high-energy horticulture? Digging a border or raking a lawn for thirty minutes is as good for you as walking or cycling.

It's no surprise that with the current pressure on the NHS, healthcare professionals are taking an interest in the benefits of gardening. Not only is gardening beneficial for you physically, but also, according to a recent report (King's Fund report-gardening and health, available to download online), can be good for your mental health. I know from the work I do for a hospice in Boston that patients find the beauty and tranquillity of a garden can help speed recovery.

But what can you do in the garden in February? As I've mentioned, the weather's not great, but I always feel at this time of the year there's nothing ahead but improvement. Snowdrops, aconites and hellebores appear, blazing a trail for others to follow.

Greenhouses

At the first hint of warmth you can open up the greenhouse or cold frame for a while to avoid mollycoddling anything beyond giving just enough protection to survive winter. For plants, as humans, the new year air is invigorating and the hardier they are grown, the better able they'll be to withstand any real cold weather. While you're tinkering around the



greenhouse, clear out the stray autumn leaves and moss from the gutters, especially important if you've got a water butt attached.

Pruning

It's the best time to cut large branches from apple and pear trees, as they will be fully dormant and the cut will have plenty of time to dry and heal before the sap starts to flow in spring. But avoid pruning plum and cherry trees to prevent them becoming infected with silver leaf fungus. Large branches are best removed in stages, cutting off all the twigs and branches to reduce weight. This will make it safer for you and reduce the chances of tearing the bark. Remove the remaining stump of the branch by first cutting upwards on the underside, then sawing down from above to meet this cut.

Digging

Dig over your beds for flowers and vegetables as long as they're empty of plants whose roots

might be damaged, and as long as the soil is neither waterlogged nor frozen. Dig to the depth of the spade and turn the soil right over to aerate and bury weeds and debris.

There are dangers to digging over in the winter; it opens up the soil allowing frost to penetrate down to the roots. Don't forget the damaging effect of treading on soil during the winter. When soil particles are "lubricated" with moisture, you will cause considerable compaction. You'll also damage your lawn by walking on it in frosty weather, as the blades will snap and be crushed by ice particles.

Compost

Compost beds are best left alone and covered in the winter to keep the heat in, but this is a good time to harvest the fully rotted compost. Dig out the compost and pass it through a course sieve, put the lumps back in the compost heap.

Other Jobs

There are always plenty of other smaller jobs to keep you occupied; particularly important is sharpening and oiling your tools, cleaning and treating your outdoor furniture as well, if you get a good spell of weather. Don't forget your bird feeders and baths need to be cleaned and filled regularly.

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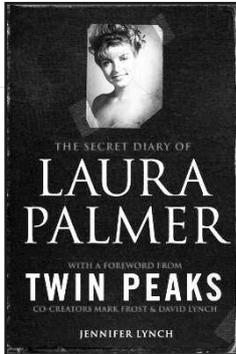
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Elizabeth Wallder's

Book Review

The Secret Diary of Laura Palmer
by Jennifer Lynch



In the late 1980's there was a strange TV show that I wasn't really allowed to watch, but managed to sneak episodes occasionally, called Twin Peaks. It was by the brilliant director David Lynch and I've watched both series through quite a few times since and love it. It starts with a girls' body being found and then proceeds with weirdness, each episode making everything more and more confused.

The girl's secret diary was found half way through the first series and this is that diary. Lynch got his daughter to write it at the time but I've only just read it.

Laura is a well-liked girl who cares about people, especially friends, but we find out that there is a dark side to her life, which has

been going on for years, twisting and perverting her.

At night she is visited by an evil being called Bob and even though her parents are asleep in the next room they never seem to hear a thing or realise that bad things are happening to their only daughter.

We find out who Bob is halfway through the second series, so this book doesn't answer any questions like that. But it gives Laura a previously missing voice. It shows how it all went so wrong for such a well liked and cared for little girl. Some of the Bob scenes are really disturbing, especially as she tries to play him at his own game and especially as we know it doesn't work.

For any fans it's a must read, but for anyone who's never watched the weird and wonderful Twin Peaks, I'm not sure how much you'd actually get out of it. I'd say watch the series if you missed it.

More exciting news is that thirty years later Lynch is making a third series. I personally can't wait.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

H	G	I	N	S	S	E	N	I	L	O	H
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6	8	9	1	4	5	3	2	7
7	6	3	5	8	9	4	1	2
1	2	8	9	7	4	6	5	3
4	9	5	3	1	2	7	6	8

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Fosdyke
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CHURCH RETAINS PC GRANT ... FOR ONE MORE YEAR

The parish council voted at their January meeting to continue paying the grants that they have paid over recent years, which includes the grant to All St. Church. Good news for a church that still needs £10,000 to pay for a cracking wall.

Those residents who were present at the December meeting all understood that the grant would be stopped this year, but it seems the parish councillors understood differently.

The December parish council minutes say "It was suggested that the normal grant paid to the Church would not be paid in 2017/18 as the Parish Council will now be responsible for maintaining the Churchyard." The residents attending that meeting remember a vote being taken on that suggestion, though no mention of a vote appears in the minutes.

FOSDYKE PARISH COUNCIL

<http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Fosdyke/>

Clerk to the Council, Mrs. W. DePear
Ferry House, Old Inn Lane,
Fosdyke Bridge, Boston,
Lincs PE20 2DE
01205 260609

wdepear.clerk@btinternet.com

Councillor Martin Pitt
Tel. 01205 260378

Councillor Denis Glenn
Tel. 01205 260615

Councillor John Cropley (*Chairman*)

Councillor Chris Cropley
Tel. 01205 260226

Councillor Terri Wright
Tel. 01205 260497

BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCILLORS for FOSDYKE

Councillor Aaron Spencer
Tel. 01205 460394

Councillor Mike Cooper

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR for FOSDYKE

Councillor Mike Brookes
Tel. 01205 820616

30MPH EXTENSION

The suggested extension of the 30mph to the junction of Mill Lane and Whitecross Gate near to Villa Farm was brought up again at the January meeting of the parish council but nothing had been heard back from Lincolnshire Highways nor was it expected in the near future.

The proposal had been brought up at the previous meeting as a solution to reducing the dangerous driving of some residents along both Mill Lane and Whitecross Gate where some people had experienced near misses.

ROUNABOUT DISRUPTION

With work about to start on improving the flow of traffic at the Sutterton roundabout (three month's work) it seems likely that there will be an increase of traffic in the village from people trying to avoid the inevitable congestion.

With that in mind we should all be a little more vigilant if we are out walking during the roadworks.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The next mobile library visit will be outside the village hall between 12 - 1pm on Monday, 13 February.

THANKS TO PARISH COUNCIL

Fosdyke Magazine would like to thank the parish council for cheering up the village with their lighting of the tree outside the village hall, echoing the thanks of a resident who attended the January parish council meeting.

DIARY FOR PLANNED MEETINGS OF FOSDYKE PARISH COUNCIL

All Tuesdays at 7.30pm in
the village hall committee
room

7 February, 4 April, 2 May, 6
June, 4 July, 5 September. 3
October, 7 November.

5 December

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Saturday, 17 December

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POSITIVES

Saturday, 17 December

Railway 5 - 1 Fosdyke

At the end of the season Railway will probably be somewhere near the top so Fosdyke set about their task away at the Railway - with a nothing to lose attitude. Having had a number of first team regulars drop out it wasn't looking great but from adversity they managed to pull out a performance that, although they ended up losing 5-1 against a far better team, had many positives.

The first half saw Fosdyke on the back foot for most of the time and it wasn't long before they went 1-0 down to a long-range effort that sailed over the keeper's head and a second wasn't long coming.

Fosdyke were creating chances going forward however and Stuart Boswell was chasing down everything on his first team debut. Unfortunately it was Railway who extended their lead with a penalty and a well taken fourth.

4-0 down at half time and damage limitation was the order of the day for the second yet Fosdyke were really rather good in the second half, taking the game to Railway and the number of shots at goal from the visitors slowly rose as they went close a number of times, forcing saves from the home keeper.

A fifth was added by the home side but setting Fosdyke a target of scoring saw reward when ex tangerine man Luke Smith hacked down James Munn in the box. Leon Marsh belted the penalty home and gave Fosdyke something to cheer about.

The second half was a really even contest and Fosdyke held their own with plenty of positives to report: the back four were rock solid, Leon was great in the unfamiliar position of centre midfield and team spirit was great - Fosdyke really could have had a few more ...

Man of the match? Marv Gadgie lasted ninety minutes of headers and slide tackles, putting in a proper shift, but this week Leon Marsh takes the plaudits for a gritty performance in the middle.

Saturday, 7 January

Spalding Harriers 6 -

0 Fosdyke Res

Saturday, 14 January

Boston College Res 9 -

2 Fosdyke Res

NO FINISH

Saturday, 14 January

Fosdyke 0 - 2 Swineshead Res

A disappointing performance and result. Fosdyke fell to a 2-0 defeat at home to Swineshead Reserves who scored in the first and last minute to bookend a dour game that really was nothing to write home about.

Short of a number of regular players Fosdyke made it difficult after conceding a ridiculously early goal when the Swineshead striker hustled everyone out of the way and poked home. The game then settled in to a tense and at times bad tempered affair with a few rash challenges flying in and very little in terms of quality Football.

Stuart Boswell had the best chance of the half for the home side when a Marv Gadgie flick on was

latched on to by Leon Marsh who played a clever ball to the forward but his finish was wide. That was about it from Fosdyke. Swineshead continued to press but couldn't get beyond Fosdyke's defence and Tristan Thomas Gilbert in goal, who put his body on the line on a number of occasions to keep the score down.

The second forty five wasn't much better and Fosdyke threatened little at the Swineshead end. The visitors were the better team by a long way and were unlucky when a long range effort bounced back off the Fosdyke cross bar.

A red card for the visiting forward and a few yellows for the home side were the main talking points until a lob in the closing minutes drifted over the keeper to double the visitors lead. With a minute on the clock Fosdyke finally crafted a goal scoring opportunity when a glorious ball from Sam Melson put Leon Marsh through on goal but sadly his finish fell wide. Not a great start to 2017.

Man of the Match - Tristan Thomas Gilbert was great in goal today but the plaudits go to Daniel Fletcher who was an absolute warrior in the back four and put us all to shame with his work ethic and tough tackling.

The social club is open for drinks during and after Saturday afternoon games.

HOME FIXTURES

First team:

Saturday, 11 February, 2.15pm
v Fulbeck United

Saturday, 25 February, 2.15pm
v Horncastle Town Res

Reserves:

Saturday, 4 February, 1.45pm
v Old Doningtonians Res

Boston Titans have pulled out of the league so Fosdyke Reserves fixture for Saturday 25 February is off.

Fosdyke Social Club

Saturday, 4 February

WHIST DRIVE

8pm

Cash prize to winners



Thursday, 9 February

OPEN MIC

FREE LIVE MUSIC

Opens 8pm - music 8.30pm

Second Thursday of every month.

Hosted by Phatt Knappii



Saturday, 11 February

DARTS DRAWN PAIRS

8pm



Saturday, 18 February

FREE LIVE MUSIC

featuring Phatt Knappii

from 9pm (doors open 8pm)



Saturday, 25 February

QUIZ

8 pm Chicken/fish/scampi
and chips supper.

Popular event so please book
Members £5.50, guests £6

For bookings and inquiries contact
Jane Bristow 01205 260455

LIVE MUSIC

After last year's residency at The Ship and the introduction of a bigger sound, Phatt Knappii will be playing a free one-off gig at Fosdyke Social Club on Saturday, 18 February, with the possibility of making it a regular monthly event if there is enough interest.

Music will start at 9pm through to 11pm with doors and bar opening at 8pm. If you like seeing live bands this is a great opportunity on your doorstep. Take a walk to the social club (or drive if you're not drinking alcohol) and enjoy the local band's mix of 80s covers - with little deviations either side of that decade - and original self-penned songs

Drinks aren't too expensive with £2.80 for real ale, £3 for lager and a sparkling flavoured water is just £1, so you'll not break the bank.

GOOD NEWS FOR FOSDYKE RESIDENTS

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*The newspapers arrive in various bits on Saturdays and we have to put them together. Added to this, we do collect cash that day, which together, affects our delivery time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
US ON
07776 010488

DOG POO REARS ITS UGLY HEAD

We're sad to have to say that we've noticed an increase in dog poo in the village again.

While some argue that it's no different than an animal's it's still a fineable offence to leave dog poo within a zone under 40mph. Other than being unsightly it's also a health hazard, particularly to children. Please pick it up and bin it.

Serving Friday
nights near you

SCRAPS.

FISH & CHIP BAR

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"Star Wars" jingle
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THE FENNEY MYSTERIES

A Question Of Doubt

by Jack Hard

CHAPTER 7 REVELATIONS

“What’s wrong, Gould?” Catriona asked.

He was staring at the photo of Major Moulson; the first thing he’d seen when opening the Manila folder that she’d pushed across the kitchen table.

“That’s Sam.” Gould pointed at the photo as if it didn’t belong in the folder. “He lives next door.”

“Here? Oh my god,” she exclaimed. “He was the leader.”

“The leader of what?”

“The Cyborg Project.” Her shoulders dropped in exasperation. “Haven’t been looking at the file?”

“I obviously haven’t got to that bit yet.”

Catriona rolled her eyes. “It was a top secret experiment to produce biomechanical soldiers. My uncle found out that King’s original ... err ... products, were a byproduct of the project but King got greedy and started bumping people off.”

“You’ve certainly got a way with words,” Gould said absently as he flipped through the file. Catriona gave him a glare.

“The project closed shortly after King and his cronies were jailed for their body parts business, I think, because the top brass were afraid that someone might look into this a little deeper.”

Gould stopped looking at the file for a minute. As if the penny’s journey had finally ended. “You mean there was a military project to create soldiers that were half human half machine.”

“That’s about it.”

“Come on! That’s science fiction. Robocop and all that.” He went back to studying the file. Mainly the pages on Major Sam Moulson.

“Most science fiction is based on ‘what ifs’. And what if I told you that the project had had some success before it was closed down.”

“I’d say show me the proof.”

“For f ... fudge sake! What’s that in front of you?”

“Give me a chance. Make another tea and be quiet for more than a minute so I can look at this without you interrupting.”

While she banged about with the kettle and

prepared the cups Gould couldn’t concentrate on the file. Eventually she carefully, rather too carefully Gould realised, placed the cup of tea beside the folder.

He held his hand up. “Okay. Sorry. But if you want my help I need a little peace.”

Catriona watched him closely as he read through some pages, discarded others. He had changed a lot since last time she had seen him. From a comparatively handsome middle aged man with a slight paunch he’d become a rather fit looking thirty something. Late thirties but definitely not over forty and certainly not anywhere near the fifty that he must be creeping up to in a year or two. She’d not expected that. Not expected to have any feelings towards him other than business. But she realised she’d been fooling herself. Even as an overweight forty something she’d still felt an attraction to him. Now? If she hadn’t assumed he’d just spent a night with Scully she might have jumped on him straight away. It wasn’t that she was jealous, or didn’t fancy sleeping with a guy after he’d just been with another woman. It was that she had a paranoid suspicion Scully was a product of the Cyborg Project. She doubted that her own stamina could match that of a half robot, or that Gould would accept the woman he had just slept with wasn’t one hundred percent human. She hoped the file would bring that home to Gould. Catriona wasn’t known for being a patient woman. Now though she sipped her tea quietly waiting for Gould to read the bit about the red book. The book that supposedly listed all the cyborg enhanced personnel. The book her uncle had believed was kept by Major Samuel Moulson.

* * *

There was no way Tanya Teggly could see of circumventing the security that surrounded Gould’s neighbour. CCTV cameras were not just fitted on the house but on poles in the front and back garden and also on the locked gates at the entrance to the drive. Given some thick ripstop clothing and padding she was confident she could find some access through the defensive shrubbery that was almost worse than barbed wire. She didn’t know the name of the plant but she’d found out the hard way it’s prickly properties. She needed a legitimate way of gaining access to the house and had been watching the place. In fact she kept an eye on all the families in Fenney, looking out for opportunities, and while she wasn’t much good at school - she hated school - she had an excellent memory. On Tuesdays the Major had a cleaner in. If she could somehow trade places with the woman she could look for the red book that the man she’d met in Burger King wanted. She had no doubts that the man intended to carry out his threats if she didn’t deliver.

* * *

It had been easier than she thought in the end. The cleaning woman had a habit of visiting the Burger King for her breakfast before cleaning the Major's house. She always had her tablet with her and read the news, well that's what it looked like to Tanya, though she wasn't certain what the language was, while she ate her meal. This morning it was porridge and breakfast platter. While a woman of habit in visiting the fast food chain she always varied her meal. Luckily the woman found a quiet corner away from the window so was oblivious when Tanya drove her van out of the car park with the orange air freshener dangling citrus flavours into the air. A half hour was all Tanya had.

* * *

Scully yawned. Blake stretched. While stakeouts were part and parcel of their job and the Lexus was one of the most comfortable cars you could do it in they were still sitting for long periods, and that wasn't good for the body. Blake was too familiar with Scully's methods to ask her how she managed to plant sixteen bugs and three cameras in Gould's house. Not that it had proved much use in the end. About an hour after Scully had joined him in the car a bright yellow Mini, a proper sixties Mini, had pulled up outside Goulds house and the two agents had looked at each other in exasperation. They knew the big man who had somehow managed to squeeze into the tiny car and who now extracted himself in a surprising show of agility. Opening the boot he removed a small flight case which just about fitted in the space. His name was Clancy Jones. An American by birth and probably one of the best sweepers in the Western world.

They'd been so busy watching him that when the cleaning woman drove up almost at the same time and was let into the Major's property they didn't see that the driver wasn't the usual cleaner.

* * *

"Pretty good job," Jones said as Catriona poured him a black coffee from the percolator. "Can't see why they'd put three cameras in the bedroom though." He laughed. A big meaty laugh that came all the way up from his enormous stomach.

Gould ignored the implications. "I really didn't expect you to turn up yourself. You're looking well though."

"Just happened to be in the area. First time in Lincolnshire. Bit like driving through Kansas." And Gould knew that's where this six-foot four African American was from. "As for my health I've just been diagnosed with type two diabetes and a warning that I could end up with type one."

"Sorry to hear that," Gould said.

"I need to lose about six stone." Jone's bright white eyes surveyed Gould. "Now you do look well."

"And feel good too. But I have to work at it."

"You must be working bloody hard then." The belly laugh rumbled through the kitchen again. Gould wasn't sure if Jones was laughing at his statement or the fact he'd used the very British expletive. "Seriously though those bugs are state of the art. Current market value's about ten thousand dollars."

"Christ, S O One have suddenly got a big budget."

"Hey, these aren't government issue. They've only been on the market these last three months. It takes a lot longer than that for any civil service department to tender a contract."

"But they are S O One," Gould said gesturing with his thumb over his shoulder in the general direction of the Lexus they knew was parked along the street.

Jones shrugged, the kitchen chair protested, "Just giving you the facts."

"I'm sure they are SO1," Gould said, frowning. "But it seems they have another paymaster."

* * *

She had it! She had the little red book.

"Leaving already?"

Tanya's heart stopped, then started again in an attempt to catch up with the beats it had missed. Her mind however was as quick as ever.

"Maria didn't put the vacuum cleaner in the van. I'll be back in about fifteen minutes." Her hurried glance back along the hall seemed to assure the Major who stepped back into his office. A good job Marija Prialgauskaite had left her ID on the dashboard.

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places and incidents are either a product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual people living or dead, events or locales is entirely coincidental. © Jack Hard 2017

DATE FOR YOUR TV DIARIES

If your children are fans of the popular CBBC show Art Ninja they'll already know that the new series start date is Saturday, 21 January.

They'll also know that local artist, writer and musician, Terry Martin, plays the starring actor's father and will be appearing in six of the ten episodes. Watch out for Day Of The Spy. It's a cracker!

SPALDING HART MARLER SUNDAY POOL LEAGUE

after four games

Fosdyke	4 22 7
Draymans B	3 19 6
Royal Mail Cart A.	3 18 6
Holbeach	4 16 6
Draymans A	4 19 5
Fishermans	4 18 5
Royal Mail Cart C	4 11 2
Horse groom	4 8 1
Swan B	3 10 0
Swan A	3 8 0
Pinchbeck	4 3 0

Copy Deadline

If something has happened to you or a friend, or is going to happen, we want to hear about it. So, contact Terry - preferably via email: terry@fosdyke.org.uk or phone: 01205 260275 or knock on the door or post your info through the letter box 6 Whitecross Gate

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Fosdyke and is available from the village hall. The Moorings Cafe, The Ship and Fosdyke Social Club.

If you would like to advertise in *Fosdyke Magazine* please contact Terry at terry@fosdyke.org.uk or on 01205 260275.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

We'd still like to find one more volunteer to cover one of the eight rounds that make up the delivery of *Fosdyke Magazine* to the residents of the parish.

If you would like to be a part of the *Fosdyke Magazine* delivery team please let Terry know on 260275 of email him at terry@fosdyke.org.uk.

KNAPP II NAIL IT

After their success opening Framfest last year Phatt Knappii have been asked by the same organisers to play Stumpf, the bigger new two-day event at Princess Royal Sports Arena, still affectionately (or otherwise) known as Dabsi, in Boston, on the August bank holiday weekend.

Fosdyke Village Hall Lottery 250 Draw - Latest Winners

171	Mrs A K Barrand	Spalding	£10
224	Mr S Andrew	Donington	£10
66	Mrs J Thompson	Bicker	£10
52	Mrs M Lindley	Kirkby Sleaford	£10
176	Mrs J Pritchett	Fosdyke	£15
218	Mr R Johnson	c/o Fosdyke	£20
141	Mr D Simpson	Donington	£25

Next draw: Monday 13 February at the Village Hall Bingo Night

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