

HOLT & DISTRICT FARMERS' CLUB

FOUNDED 1948

President: Bill Poortvliet *Chairman:* Pat Cubitt *Vice-Chairman:* Andrew Ross

CLUB MATTERS

November 2019

We live in tumultuous times and this has played Merry Hell with our programme – apologies for the delay in producing this. The calling of the General Election made it less meaningful for *Duncan Baker, North Norfolk's Tory candidate* to come in January and we are delighted that he has agreed to come on *Tuesday* instead. Accordingly **7.30 p.m. at The Feathers** is your chance to see whether or not it's time to turn the constituency blue after almost two decades with Norman Lamb as our M.P. We hope that *Bridget Greenwood* can swap to give her **Bitcoin talk on 14th January** with *Alex Innam from Exeter University* still due on **10th December**.

With **Michael Pollitt** assuming the role of quizmaster our team of three Holt members was under pressure to retain the Challenge Silver Cup we won last year in a joint entry with Stalham in the Norfolk Livestock Clubs' Annual Quiz at Easton on Monday. George Gay from Mautby near Yarmouth was Stalham's sole but doughty member – he has a family farm of 1000 acres and is Chairman of his local parish council. So is our stalwart **Mark Cook** (Edgefield) who with **Ed Stevens** (former councillor for Stody & Hunworth) and your Secretary (once co-opted at Kelling) completed our foursome. A late rally saw us nick an honourable second place which at least means we won't have to set the questions next year – unless Michael wants to which I rather suspect he does judging by his pleasure in impersonating Paxman. Incidentally the answer to the question I posed last month as to which animal, aside from cattle, produces the most milk is... water buffalo.... as mozzarella cheese eaters amongst you might have known.

I now have confirmation that **Edwin Jones's** funeral is to be held at St Andrew's Church here in Holt, also this coming Tuesday 12th at 2.30 p.m. – funds going to Alzheimer's Research UK. It was sad to see England unable to repeat their semi-final performance in the World Cup final although the picture of Ben Youngs celebrating his try that wasn't will linger long in the memory. **Tony Williams** was there for the quarter finals and I think many of us might adopt Japan as our second favourite team. Charlie Graham-Wood, who gave us such an inspirational address at the AGM, completed The Three Peaks Challenge – Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon - within 24 hours the next weekend.

Finally, sorry for mentioning Christmas so early, but I can't wait to share my annual book recommendation with you. Lay Anne Glenconner of Holkham charmed those of you who attended last year's annual dinner when she came with **Robin Combe**. She has just published her memoirs entitled *My Extraordinary Life in the Shadow of the Crown* which has been garnering rave reviews. Her late husband Colin Tenant had a party piece of ripping off paper pants and stuffing them in his mouth; he was once described as behaving like "Genghis Khan with piles".



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