HOLT & DISTRICT FARMERS' CLUB

FOUNDED 1948

President: Peter Perry-Warnes Chairman: Martin Jensen Vice-Chairman: Andrew Ross

www.holtfarmers.club

CLUB MATTERS

mid November 2025

Towards the end of my latest newsletter I hinted at the restorative potential of cigarette smoking while Tim Papworth used gallows humour to describe his remarkable medical history that Michael Pollitt outlines in his accompanying Piece. However Tim is always quick to emphasise the serious nature of his accidents. His ankle injury, suffered when he was only 18, occurred because he followed the advice of an old farmhand who had told him it was OK to clear the blockage on a potato harvester without stopping it. When it came to his fall from a ladder he was merely changing a lightbulb which is the kind of thing most of us have done while scarcely thinking of the danger. Only quite recently a college chum of mine - Joe Darrell from Tacolneston Hall - was merely clearing a gutter from a ladder and he is now in a wheelchair. Tim now spends a good deal of time preaching about farm safety while raising funds for the air ambulance. The nice footnote to his 'near death experience' happened over a year later by when he had made a remarkable recovery after completing a Nelson-like treble over his titanium inducing afflictions. He handed round the saucer-shaped slice of his skull that had been replaced with a plate to add to the reinforced ankle and eight fused vertebrae that he needed after his rugby and riding excesses. The one thing that Tim hadn't recovered was the use of his left arm so that he couldn't drive. While returning from a conference Tim's lady chauffeur stopped for a fag break and offered him a drag. At first Tim declined since he had given up smoking long ago and knew it would be against doctor's orders. However he then succumbed and before long found that the nicotine had triggered some neural pathway so that he regained full use of his arm.



In other news Cranswick, one of the country's largest meat producers, has had its Stow Bedon application to house 7000 pigs rejected. This was in part retrospective after they had erected screens rather than walls and failed to update their Environmental Impact Assessment. Perhaps out of embarrassment Cranswick have now pledged £40 million over the next three years to standardise their widespread production units and improve animal welfare. Finally there are Mark Harrison's Service of Celebration at Binham Priory on Monday, 17th November at 2 p.m. and Janet Sorley on Tuesday, 9th December who is Murphy's Project Director in respect of the Norfolk Offshore Wind Zone, 7.30 at The Feathers as usual.



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