

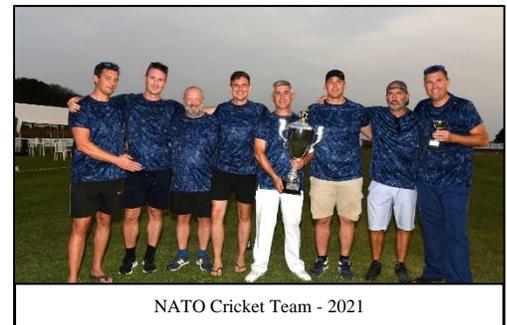


# The Poggio Post

UK Community Newsletter – November 2021  
EJSU - Supporting service personnel and their families

## *Commonwealth Cup Champions 2021*

The Commonwealth Club Cricket Cup is a 6 a-side cricket competition organised by the Italian Cricket Federation which has been held at the Roma Cricket Club, Spinaceto since 2017. The aptly named 'Rome Ashes' typically consists of teams from across the commonwealth including the British, Australian, Indian, Pakistan, Bangladesh Embassies, United Nations and the Commonwealth Cricket Club. This year however, as a result of some excellent resource acquisition and co-ordination by FS Colin 'The Manager' Yeomans, a NATO team entered for the first time.



NATO Cricket Team - 2021

With the competition looming, 'The Manager' set out to select his team of 8 capable and willing cricketers, but how would he make this tough decision from a pool of willing volunteers. Practice sessions were held in some less than conventional areas where bat and plastic ball were the only thing resembling anything to do with cricket. The Manager however, selected his final squad and set about organizing transport and accommodation.



Practice makes Perfect!

Travelling the day prior to the competition, the team arrived at the grounds for their first practice session, with all having the opportunity to face a cricket ball, some for the first time. Following a long drive and a few hours honing their 'skills', the team went on to Rome for a meet and greet and the British Embassy. One or two socials and a bite to eat, it was back to the hotel for a good night's sleep to ensure all were fresh ready for the big day. The draw for the competition had been made with NATO playing the opening match against the United Nations. Wg Cdr

Andy 'Captain Fantastic' Cooper strolled out to the middle for the all-important coin toss returning to inform us we would be fielding first. WO Andy 'Dark Horse' Friel came steaming in to open the bowling getting us off to a great start with WO Jay 'Iron chest' Donohue keeping wicket, literally throwing himself at the task. This combined effort limited the UN team to 39 runs from 5 overs bowled.



Bowler of the competition – Wg Cdr Cooper

Sgt Martin 'Bad hand' Barry opened the batting supported by SAC Graham 'Bouncer' Crosby with an achievable total in sight. Combined they hit 40 runs in 4 overs and promptly retired to allow the rest of the team a bat. Sgt John 'County Level' Mitchell was left disappointed not to have faced a single ball to show off his prowess. The UN team were gracious in defeat and set a great mood for the remainder of the competition.

Our next game was against the self-announced reigning Champions Pakistan. Fielding first, Flt James 'Wides' O'Toole opened the bowling conceding just 23 runs! This set up a more challenging total of 61 for the win. With 'Bouncer' dismissed for a duck, 'Iron chest' stepped up the mark. 'Bad hand' followed soon after so Captain Fantastic stepped in to take part in a dramatic run chase. With 15 runs required off the last over our Captain started to walk off the field. With the Umpire informing him one over remained he promptly swiveled on the spot and returned to lead us on to victory, with a little aid of a bowling action discrepancy! The final Pakistan bowler was throwing as appose to bowling, which is a big no no in cricket. He was replaced with his successor going on to bowl several wides which not only aided in our run chase but cheered our very own 'wides' up. With the win in the bag we were all set for the final, but first, Lunch!

All teams are expected to provide a culinary dish representative of their culture to the Commonwealth food fair. Fortunately, we were an granted an exemption due to the distance travelled, however the British Embassy staff did provide some desserts as our contribution to what turned out to be a feast. The UN team provided pizzas, however the Embassies of Pakistan and Bangladesh provided a gastronomic delight. It was fortunate that we had made the final due to be held several hours later as the team certainly made the most of the excellent cuisine.



With several matches still scheduled in order to determine who would secure second spot in the final, our team sat back and enjoyed an afternoon of entertaining cricket, whilst trying not to seize up. The highest scoring match of the day loomed with Pakistan impressively scoring over 100 in 5 overs to beat the fancied Commonwealth team. The result, a re-match with the undefeated NATO team in the final.

The Final: It would be fair to say all were slightly apprehensive for what was being billed as a grudge match with Pakistan following the first games 'bowler antics'. Lady luck wasn't on Captain Fantastic's side as he went on to lose his third coin toss. Fortunately, each time the opposition won, they did exactly as he hoped and put us in to field. As the Pakistan openers took to the crease so the home supporters kicked into full chorus. Flag wavers, booming music and cheering their team on, the support was excellent if not a tad distracting for us fielders. Nevertheless, an impressive bowling performance and an excellent succession of run outs limited their score to 39 from 5 overs. As the NATO batsmen strode out to polite clapping minus boom box, the nerves set in. Not one of the team dreamt we would make it past the first round let alone the final. Some conventional batting soon quietened the crowd



as the openers eased to 27 from 2 overs. Hitting a winning score of 40 with no loss from 20 balls the NATO team had won the Commonwealth Cup.

The cup was presented to the NATO team by the Italian Federation president Fabio Marabini following a small ceremony.

Traditionally the winners go on to play the Popes first team from Vatican City scheduled for Spring 2022. Watch this space!



## **FERRARA FOOD FESTIVAL**

5th, 6th & 7th November

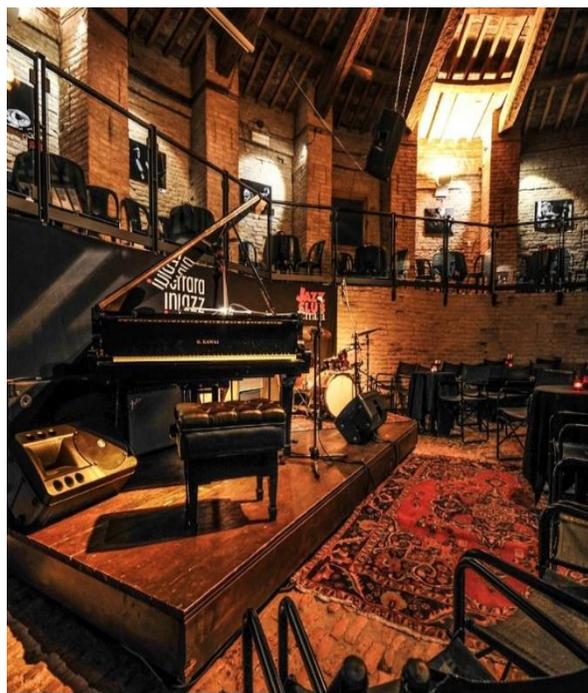
City Centre

[www.ferrarafoodfestival.it](http://www.ferrarafoodfestival.it)

Visit this fantastic food festival in the heart of the historical city centre where you can taste and buy some of Ferrara's most delicious products. There will be locally grown garlic, wine from the Bosco Eliceo forest, rice from the Po delta, pears grown all over the Emilia Romagna region and of course 'Pampepato' – a slightly dry but rich chocolate cake from Ferrara which is said to have been created for the Pope for his visit to our lovely town hundreds of years ago.



There will also be other products and dishes from all over Italy at this event as well as cooking workshops and demonstrations, historical re-enactments, exhibitions and conferences. For the full programme, visit the website.



## **FERRARA IN JAZZ**

Jazz Club Ferrara

Via Rampari di Belfiore, 167

The beautiful tower 'Torrione San Giovanni' is the perfect setting for Ferrara's Jazz Club. It hosts some really exciting and innovative concerts held by some of the most important international and European musicians and bands on the jazz scene.

You need a guest pass in order to enter the club which can be obtained online on the official website beforehand.

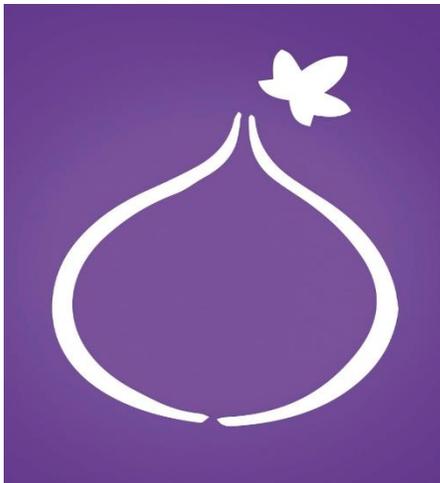
For further information and/or to book dinner at the club, telephone between midday and 10 p.m. every day: 331 4323840 or write an email to [jazzclub@jazzclubferrara.com](mailto:jazzclub@jazzclubferrara.com). There is a full programme of events each weekend available to view on the following website; [www.jazzclubferrara.com/](http://www.jazzclubferrara.com/)

## AUTUNNO SLOW - SLOW AUTUMN

Until 19th December  
Po Delta Park

[www.deltadelpo.eu](http://www.deltadelpo.eu)

The Delta del Po Park has organized a special autumn programme for nature lovers and visitors who would like to take advantage of the remaining warm days with a bike ride, a boat trip, an enjoyable walk or a spot of bird watching. To learn more about the Delta area and the programme of events, visit the website above.



### IL FOLIAGE AUTUNNALE DA FICO AUTUMN LEAVES EVENT

Fico Eatly World, Bologna  
6th & 7th November

<https://feshioneventi.it/prodotto/foilage-fico/>

FEshion Events and Fico are once again joining forces and have created a delightful autumn event for children in the orchards of Fico. Guided by forest elves, the children will take part in an autumn adventure with games, stories and art activities.

Tickets can be bought from the FEshion events address above and cost: €12 children (= entrance to Fico & event), €6 adults accompanying child (= entrance to Fico. Event is free). €8 children under 90cm height (Luna Farm is not included in the ticket). Suitable for children aged 3-12. Duration: 1 hour, Booking times: 3 p.m. 4 p.m. or 5 p.m.

### 13 November and 20 November - SLIME GUINNESS

Ready to overcome the biggest challenge you have ever participated in? The Creation of a Giant Slime!  
Guided by a hunt for ingredients, we will collect everything we need to create our Slime with a bright color and flavored with the citrus fruits of our territory. We will then proceed to combine all the slimes of the other families to create a real giant slime! What length will we reach? Any child can take their own slime home.

WHEN: 4.00 pm

WHERE: meeting point under the Tree of Life (immediately after the main entrance of FICO)



Tickets can be purchased at the following link; <https://www.fico.it/it/eventi/guinness-dello-slime-by-feshion-eventi>



## **CALICE D'AUTUNNO – AUTUMN IN A GLASS**

Friday 19th November: 7 p.m. – 11 p.m.

Saturday 20th: 6p.m. – 11 p.m.

Sunday 21st: 6 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Piazza Trento Trieste

It is time for a taste of autumn! Tickets cost €12 (€10 online if you book in advance. See the address above) and entitle you to a wine glass and holder, an appetizer, a hot first course, a dessert and 3 choices of wine to taste. Each night there will also be live music. Full details and tickets available via the following link; [www.fashioneventi.it/prodotto/calicedautunno2021/](http://www.fashioneventi.it/prodotto/calicedautunno2021/)

## **Ferrara Market**



As always, the weekly Friday morning market continues to take place in Ferrara. This includes the Friday farmers market which takes place in Piazza Travaglio from 0800-1300. Local farms present their best products: wine, fruit, vegetables, meat, cheese, jam, as well as flowers and plants. A good chance to purchase fresh delicious products!

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## Community Updates

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SSAFA Health Visitor

UK Medical Centre – CEP.

Tel: 0032 6544 4643

[UKStratCom-DMS-DPHC-EJSU-CEPGrp@mod.gov.uk](mailto:UKStratCom-DMS-DPHC-EJSU-CEPGrp@mod.gov.uk)

26 October 21

### Central European community - Health Visitor Introduction

Dear All,

My name is Kerry Riley and I am the newly appointed Health Visitor for you and your family. I have 10 years of experience as a Specialist Community Public Health nurse (Health Visitor) and 21 years as a nurse. In this time, I have supported British military families overseas in Cyprus and Kenya and have also been in military service myself. I am excited to be here and am looking forward to meeting you.

Health visitors are specialist nurses who are experts in public health and child development. We are mandated by the government to deliver the [healthy child programme](#).

In partnership between SSAFA and your practice I will be offering support and guidance to you and your family virtually or if required face to face.

I can support with infant feeding, becoming a new parent, behaviour challenges, sleep, diet, nutrition, emotional health and wellbeing for your child and yourself, attachment and bonding, speech language and communication needs and parenting. Although this list is not exclusive so, please do book an appointment with me if you have any worries or questions. I will help if I can and if not, I will find the right person to help in partnership with SSAFA and your DPHC team.

Although my expertise is 0-5 years, I can offer support and guidance across the 0-19 age range so if you have worries regarding an older child, do get in touch too.

I will be running child health drop-in clinics virtually, I will communicate these to you all when they are arranged.

I hope to meet you all soon.

Kerry

## **NSE Update**

### **Christmas Mail**

This year the last box of outgoing mail will be sent w/c 29<sup>th</sup> Nov. If you have any Christmas Cards or letter mail to send, please ensure these have a stamp on and bring them to the NSE by Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November.

We expect the last bag of mail for the year to arrive w/c 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> December. If you are ordering things for Christmas, please ensure you leave enough time for these to be delivered to BFPO.

We expect the first box of mail for 2022 to arrive w/c 13<sup>th</sup> January.

The NSE will close for the Christmas holidays from 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021 until 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.



### **BFPO Christmas Service Update**

As we have progressed through 2021, BFPO has seen a general improvement to mail services across our network, however there are still some locations (specifically Naples, Nepal & Brunei) where services remain inconsistent or restricted. BFPO customers in those locations should be assured that BFPO will continue to seek all possible service improvements as a priority.

It is important that all BFPO customers understand that UK/international logistic supply chains (this includes world-wide mail pipelines) are likely to remain under significant pressure for the remainder of the year, at least, which could further impact service frequencies. BFPO customers can be assured that throughout the run up to Christmas, that BFPO will continue to exploit every opportunity to move mail forward in support of the overseas defence community, however due to the ongoing uncertainty, at this time, BFPO customers are strongly advised to:

Post mail items and place mail orders as early as possible – BFPO overseas customers are also advised to pass this message to family and friends, to avoid disappointment should the world-wide mail pipeline become further disrupted in the run up to Christmas 2021.

All mail items posted to a BFPO address must have a customs declaration form attached which is mandated as part of International mail import/export regulation.

It is also very important that customers ensure that items have a full return address, as items received at BFPO Northolt which do not have a customs declaration attached will be returned to sender. Non-complaint items received without a return address may be disposed of as 'undeliverable'.

Customers are also reminded that BFPO:

- Do not offer a guaranteed timed service and hold no liability for items which are perishable, out of date or unusable at the point of receipt.
- Are unable to advise customers regarding mail import/export tax regulation.
- Are unable to influence local customs process.
- Hold no liability for return/disposal of non-compliant mail items received without customs declarations.

## **Save the Date**



We are organising two events in order to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society. Sgt Barry and I would like to invite you to attend a coffee morning bake sale in order to start the fundraising on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022, further details to follow but please save the date.

Held annually in over 600 communities worldwide, the Alzheimer's memory walk is the world's largest fundraiser for care, support and research.

Whether you are walking for someone you know who has had Alzheimer's, or simply walking in memory of someone you loved and lost, the walk brings people together for a great cause.

This will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022 starting at 1300.

Typically the walk is 5km therefore a route around the North side of the Ferrara wall has been planned. Covid regulations will be reviewed prior to the walk.

If you would like to partake in the walk, help on the day, donate or simply find out more, please contact Sgt Martin 'Baz' Barry.

More information available via the following link; <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/memorywalk>



## COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

**The British community is looking for volunteers to join the EJSU Registered Activities Group, Poggio. You will get the opportunity to learn transferable skills, obtain safeguarding training, acquire an up to date DBS check and most importantly bring the community together for Guaranteed Fun! Contact the CLO to express interest or learn more!**