

## **\*LAKENHEATH PEACE MEMORIAL HALL and BRITISH LEGION.**

\*Also known as the Village Hall.

The site of the Hall was donated by Mr. Walter J Salmon in 1920, to honour the dead and injured in the First World War, and for the benefit of their descendants. The building was erected in 1922, as a social place for people to go after the end of the First World War and it opened in June of that year. There is a plaque on the outside, bearing the Hall's full name and the year 1922. Inside there are two plaques dedicated to the fallen of Lakenheath and Sedge Fen. When it was first built it was heated by three cast iron 'tortoise' stoves. Over the years it has been added to and revamped with a complete refurbishment in the 2000's and another update in 2021/22.



*The Peace Memorial Hall entrance.*



*The interior of the Peace Hall circa 1950's.  
A Christmas Party?*

The opening was covered in the press.

### **“The New Parish Hall.**

#### **Success of a Popular Scheme.**

.....For years efforts have been made to provide a public hall for the parish, but until now these have never materialised.  
..... The sale early in the summer at the Feltwell Aerodrome enabled the committee to purchase at a comparatively small outlay

sufficient material to build a hall. The work was commenced last June on a plot of land given by Mr. W J Salmon of 'The Retreat' and the new building stands within a few yards of the war memorial. ....”

*Edited extracts from the Bury Free Press Saturday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> 1922.*

In 1935 a large hut which was to act as a Royal British Legion ex-servicemen's club ('The Legion'), was purchased from RAF Feltwell and erected on land adjacent to the Peace Memorial Hall which had been leased from Sir Charlton Briscoe at a peppercorn rent of one shilling per year. Over the years the hut was extended and modernised with the majority of work carried out by the members until the branch was closed.

Edited introduction to the lease agreement from the original Deed.

THIS DEED made the *twenty second* day of *February*

One Thousand nine hundred and thirty five

BETWEEN JOHN CHARLTON BRISCOE of The Hall Lakenheath in the County of Suffolk, Baronet of the one part and *George Peachey*

*Sarjeant Coleman*

*George William Rutterford*

(herein after called "the Trustees" for and on behalf of the Lakenheath Branch of the British Legion) of the other part WITNESSETH as follows :-

- 1. ....
- 2. ....



*An early photo of 'The Legion'.*

By 1956 the British Legion had established a branch in the village, and it was later determined that the whole enterprise should be deeded to the Royal British Legion. The Royal British Legion closed the Lakenheath Branch in about 2013, and the building was left empty until it was put up for sale. In 2015 the then trustees of the Village Hall purchased the building. Over the years it has seen many changes as it attempts to meet community needs.

The re-opened hall was given the name of 'The Brendan Fulham Centre' in memory of Mr Brendan Fulham, who spearheaded the campaign to secure the site for the village. Mr Fulham sadly passed away before he could see his dream become a reality and in September 2018 the name was changed to "Lakenheath Community Centre".