

Felpham

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Coordinates: 50°47′26″N 0°39′14″W﻿ / ﻿50.79046°N 0.65394°W﻿ /

Felpham



Felpham shown within [West Sussex](#)

<u>OS grid reference</u>	SZ949998
<u>District</u>	Arun
<u>Shire county</u>	West Sussex
<u>Region</u>	South East
<u>Constituent country</u>	England
<u>Sovereign state</u>	United Kingdom
<u>Police</u>	Sussex
<u>Fire</u>	West Sussex
<u>Ambulance</u>	South East Coast
<u>European Parliament</u>	South East England
<u>UK Parliament</u>	Bognor Regis and Littlehampton

List of places: [UK](#) • [England](#) • [West Sussex](#)

Felpham (sometimes pronounced locally as *Felf-ham*) is a village and civil parish in the Arun District of [West Sussex](#), England. Although sometimes considered part of the greater [Bognor Regis](#) habitation it is a village and [civil parish](#) in its own right, having an area of 4.26 km² with a population of 9611 people and still growing (2001 census). The hamlet of [Flansham](#) although connected to the eastern edge of the Felpham built up area, is actually part of the administrative parish of Yapton^[*citation needed*].

The [A259](#) Coastal Road passes through the Village, this road runs along the south coast from Havant in Hampshire to Folkstone in Kent.

The 16th century [Anglican](#) parish church is dedicated to St Mary. There is also a [Methodist church](#) close to the three-way junction of Felpham Way, Flansham Lane and Middleton Road to the east of the village.

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History

[William Blake](#) lived here for three years, writing his epic poem *Milton* in Felpham. The poem contains his famous words about England's "green and pleasant land", which were inspired by Blake's "evident pleasure" in the Felpham countryside.^[1] The cottage where he lived is depicted in the illustrations for the poem. It lies within the original village, close to "The Fox" public house. It was in Felpham that Blake had his altercation with the drunken soldier John Scofield, who was trespassing in his garden. This led to Blake's trial for sedition because of Scofield's allegation that he had cursed the king. Blake has a road named after him, Blakes Road, the road on which his former residence is sited.

Blake had been invited to Felpham by local resident [William Hayley](#), also a noted writer. Hayley was so famous in his day that he was offered the position of [poet laureate](#) in 1790, but turned it down.



A 1947 [Ordnance Survey](#) map, showing Bognor Regis with Felpham to the right

The village has both a [village hall](#), called the Memorial Hall, built in remembrance to the fallen from [World War I](#) and a [Church hall](#).

Great expansion of the village took place between 1930 and 1960 when three (nominally) [gated housing estates](#) were developed and again in the 1970s when two (public) housing developments took place on farmland between Felpham and it's neighbouring village of [Middleton-on-Sea](#). In December 2006 planning permission was granted for further development, this time on farmland to the north ^[2].

Local facilities

Felpham has three primary schools, Bishop Tufnell CE Infant and Bishop Tufnell CE Junior Schools (both Church of England Aided Schools) and Downview Primary (Infant and Junior)School. A third Infant & Junior school is planned to be added as part of the current housing plans.

Felpham Community College, the main school in the area, operates its own Youth Wing. It is situated next door to the Arun Leisure Centre which has extensive playing fields.

Felpham has [King George's Field](#) in memorial to [King George V](#).

Predators Youth and Blue fc

Predators started in 1994 with only a few players and has grown to become one of the biggest clubs in west Sussex. Many clubs will tell you they offer football to all regardless of ability but with the original tigers its true.

Predators play and train within the Bognor Regis area

Felpham Colts Football Club (including mixed teams, boys teams and girls teams) is the largest youth football club in West Sussex. The club is completely independent and not attached to any of the large local senior football teams. It has 26 teams competing in local football leagues and has been in existence since 1973. The club's teams can be found training at King George V Field on Saturday mornings and playing at Shrubbs Field in nearby Middleton-on-Sea and King George V Field on Sundays.

The Felpham & Middleton Country Dance Club is one of the oldest extant [English Country Dance](#) clubs in England.

Felpham Church hall was also the starting point for the 2008 Scout Overland Hike.

Predators Youth Green FC is a small youth football club whose aim to to offer football for everyone, regardless of ability. Based in Felpham, they train at Larks field, the Arun Leisure Centre or Bishop Tufnell school, and play their matches at King Georges or Larksfield.