

Isleham Informer

No.2 July 2003

www.isleham-informer.org.uk

e-mail: mail@isleham-informer.org.uk

Published by the Isleham Parish Council

Editorial Comment

Here we are again. The first issue was a bit of a fight but we made it in the end. The old distribution network has crumbled to some extent and, a bit like our church, is in need of some renovation work. It took us just over two days solid work organising the delivery of copies and another two days doing most of it ourselves. Even so, a few places were missed. We apologise to our Islehamites at the Marina for the confusion over delivery. We thought that the copies would be delivered to all your letterboxes and not to that big one in the sky that most of you don't even go to. Stuart Vass has kindly offered to pop the Informer through letterboxes in future when walking the dogs. We need more people to help out. If you are prepared to deliver copies in your road, do please contact Paul Chaplin on 01638 781745.

We have all received a lot of comments about the first issue that have made us all feel that it was worth the effort. We did however receive one complaint that our Spot the Difference competition was unsuitable for children. The point was valid and we apologise for any offence caused. I'm afraid that we saw it as a funny cartoon that we could use and put it in as a competition for the kids without thinking. Let's hope that there are no witch doctors in Isleham – see this month's cartoons!

As we predicted, we missed out a couple of groups that are active in the village. Don't ask how it was possible for us to forget about "The Isleham Society" and "The Under Five's Association". That is corrected in this issue. Don't forget to let us have any information that you would like published.

Our Informer website has now been up and running for the last three weeks. It will be updated each month close to the time that you receive your copies. The current and previous copies of the Informer will be there. Therefore, if you missed something you can always check back. Other pages will be added to with each issue and so there will be a lot of interesting reading if you get bored. The website will also contain full fixture information for the village's sporting activities. Its address is:

www.isleham-informer.org.uk

All advertising enquiries should be directed to Paul Chaplin at Jay-Jay Lodge (just before the Marina), Tel: 01638 781745. All articles should be sent to Tony Ferrige at 9 Church Street (opposite the church), Tel: 01638 780973. E-mail is preferred as that saves an awful lot of typing! Please e-mail to:

mail@isleham-informer.org.uk

Smile

Our American friend, Nelly, has an amazing collection of jokes. Of course, they are not all suitable for publication but we thought this was a pretty good one. She calls it The Dead Dog.

Dead Dog

A lady awoke one morning and discovered her dog was not moving. She called her vet who asked her to bring the dog in. After a brief examination, the vet pronounced the dog dead.

"He can't be dead. Are you sure?" the distraught woman asked. "He was a great family pet. Isn't there anything you can do?"

The vet paused for a moment and said, "There is one more thing we can do." He left the room for a moment and came back carrying a large cage with a cat in it. The vet opened the cage door and the cat walked over to the dog. The cat sniffed the dog from head to toe and walked back to the cage. "Well, that confirms it" the vet announced. "Your dog is dead."

Satisfied that the vet had done everything he possibly could, the woman sighed, "How much do I owe you?"

"That will be £330." the vet replied.

"I don't believe it!!!" screamed the woman. "What did you do that cost £330????"

"Well", the vet replied, "it's £30 for the office visit and £300 for the cat scan."

Don't forget that we are always looking for amusing jokes and stories. Thanks to Nelly we have a few in reserve but do please send us any good ones that are suitable for publication. Don't forget those funny quotes, comments and signs.

Attempted Abductions

On Thursday 22nd, in Soham, and Friday 23rd May, in Wicken, attempts were made to entice a young girl into a car. The car was a grey Ford Escort - no number plate reported - the driver described as white male, 50/55 years old, bearded, with earring in right ear.

Keep your children safe and please report any sighting to Ely Police on 01223 358966 or to 'Crimestoppers' on 0800 555 111.

ECDC News

We have received the following information from ECDC about pensions.

The Pension Service

Introducing The Pension Service

- The Government has set up a service - The Pension Service - which is part of the Department for Work and Pensions
- The role of The Pension Service is to provide you with the service you deserve, delivered in a way that is convenient to you whether you are already a pensioner or are planning for your retirement, no matter how far off it might be.

Most Business Will Be Dealt With Via A Pension Centre

- The Pension Service will handle all telephone / postal claims, processing and enquiries about Retirement Pension, Minimum Income Guarantee (later Pension Credit) and related entitlements in 26 centres to be rolled out nationally. For Cambridgeshire the centre will be in Norwich (Operational 2004).
- Primary contact with the Pension Service will be by telephone. The call will cost no more than a local telephone call for land based calls

Current Contact Numbers:

FOR CUSTOMERS IN CAMBRIDGE CITY, EAST CAMBS. AND SOUTH CAMBS RING: 01223 545200. FOR CUSTOMERS IN FENLAND PETERBOROUGH, AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL AREA RING: 01733 297600. Pension Service Staff will refer any customer with particular needs onto the Local Service.

The Local Service

There are 2 key areas for the Local Service

Direct Local Service

- This will provide face-to-face contact for customers unable to transact business on the telephone, by post or electronically.
- We will provide this face-to-face service where it is needed. We will make these arrangements based on your specific needs.

Partnership Services

- The Local Service will work in partnership with other local and national organisations to deliver pension-related service. We aim to publicise information about benefit entitlements and the Pension Service by setting up information points for leaflet display, by initiating regular 'drop in' events i.e. in libraries round the county or by offering presentations to Pensioner and other groups. If you would like to know more about events in your area or would like to work in partnership please ring as above and ask for one of the Local Pension Team.
- The Pension Service is part of the Department for Work and Pensions

Useful Phone Numbers

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Emergency for Police, Fire, Ambulance | 999 |
| Police (Cambs.) | 01223 358966 |
| Neighbourhood Watch (Ian Powys) | 01638 780519 |
| Accident & Casualty (Addenbrooke's) | 01223 217118 |
| Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cambridge) | 01223 245151 |
| Newmarket Hospital | 01638 665111 |
| West Suffolk (Bury St Edmunds) | 01284 713000 |
| Staploe Medical Centre (Soham) | |
| Appointments | 01353 624121 |
| Prescriptions & Dispensary | 01353 624122 |
| Enquiries, Home Visits, Emergencies | 01353 624123 |
| Electricity Emergencies | 0800 7838838 |
| Gas Emergencies | 0800 371787 |
| Water & Sewage Emergencies | 0345 145145 |
| Social Services - office hours | 01733 561370 |
| - out of hours emergency | 01733 561370 |
| Refuse Collection | 01353 863864 |
| RSPCA | 01223 364455 |
| Citizens Advice Bureau - Ely | 01353 661416 |
| - Mildenhall | 01638 712094 |
| - Newmarket | 01638 665999 |
| Isleham Village Hall (Jo Almer) | 01638 780934 |
| Mobile Library | 01223 712000 |
| Parish Council (Yvonne Bishop: Clerk) | 01638 780256 |
| Member of Parliament (Jim Paice) | 01954 211450 |
| Isleham Informer (Paul Chaplin) | 01638 781745 |
| (Sam Clifton) | 01638 781531 |
| (Tony Ferrige) | 01638 780973 |

Mick

Arthur Houghton has sent us some jokes that we will publish over the next few issues. How about this one for a taste of what is to come.

Mick was painting white lines down the middle of the road. He painted 10 miles on his first day, 5 miles on the second day and only 1 mile on the third day.

Mick's boss spoke to him the next day and asked him what was wrong.

Mick said, "The paint pot kept getting further away!"

Contact the Informer

You may contact the Informer and send letters, articles, information, etc. through our website at:

mail@isleham-informer.org.uk

All advertising enquiries should be made to Paul Chaplin, Jay-Jay Lodge (just before the Marina) or call him on 01638 781745.

All articles should be taken to or sent to Tony Ferrige at 9 Church Street (opposite the church), Isleham. Tony may be contacted on 01638 780973.

You may also fax us articles, information, letters, etc. to 01638 780962.

The River Lark

Arthur Houghton has sent us the following article that we are sure you will find interesting. We hope that Arthur will write for us on a regular basis.

When I was a boy, the river Lark came up as far as opposite the Swan Inn which was close to the top end of Waterside. It came from where Jay-Jay Lodge is today to the Swan Inn and I remember German prisoners of war in the 1914-18 war cleaning it out from the corner of Jay-Jay Lodge right up to the Swan. John Robins had a boathouse just a little way from the Swan and my father had the timber when it was dismantled. At that time, William and Billy Curtis kept a shop where the post office is today and they also had a boathouse on the corner by the Swan Inn.

Around 550 years ago the river came along where the allotments are today and to Coates Drove where the first quay was and where boats tied up and unloaded. The river then proceeded along Coates Drove to the bottom of Church Lane where there was another quay. It then went on to the bottom of Little London Drove where there was yet another quay.

Around 1460 Christopher Peyton, the son of Thomas Peyton, cut a lode from Bernards Manor to the river at Little London Drove so that his boats could sail down to King's Lynn.

The Lark was navigable right through to Bury St Edmunds in the 1700's. Sugar beet was also transported by barge to Ely sugar beet factory on the river Lark until it closed. The most famous happening on the Lark was when Spurgeon, the famous evangelist, walked from Newmarket to Isleham Ferry and was baptised by the Reverend Cantlow in the river on 3rd May, 1850 at Isleham ferry. When Spurgeon died it was the biggest funeral ever seen in London at that time.

In my time, E.W.Diver had barges that took clunch and chalk to March, Wisbech and King's Lynn. The barges were pulled by a gang horse and could pull up to 60 tons. The horses were trained to jump over the stiles on the top of the bank. Nearly all the houses in the village were built of clunch in bygone days. Clunch or chalk was excavated in the village. Houses were later built in the old clunch pits and, when I was a boy, there were over 40 houses in what is now known as The Pits. If you take away Malting Lane, it was just one large quarry from the Dunstal Allotments to the Griffin Hotel. Limestone Close is built in the quarry and there were quarries all over the village and Albert Frost had a quarry at the entrance to Chair Drove. Sadly, years ago a young man named Beckett was killed by a clunch fall.

Do Please.....

When you respond to advertisements, do please let the person or business know that you saw their advertisement in the Isleham Informer.

This will tell them that their advertisement has had a positive effect and encourage them, and others, to advertise. We need as much advertising as we can get if we are to secure the future of the Informer.



Priory Garage

Your Local Used Car Dealer

Church Street, Isleham

Tel: 01638 780625

***Service & Repairs for All Makes & Models,
MoTs***

**Opening times: 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday - Friday
7 a.m. – 4 p.m. Saturday**

Used Cars in Stock NOW

2002 52 Renault Laguna 1.9 DCI Dynamique 5DR hatch. 6 speed in Xerus Grey Metallic. Alloy wheels, Half leather, Air con., Front fog lamps, ABS, Air bags, Electric windows, Radio/CD player. 12000 miles. One owner. **£11995**

2002 02 Renault Laguna 1.8 Dynamique Sport Tourer in Iceberg Silver metallic paint. Alloy wheels, Air con., Roof rails, Electric windows, PAS, ABS, Front fog lamps, Half leather. 11000 miles. One owner. **£11695**

2001 51 Renault Laguna 3.0 V6 Initiale Auto Sport Tourer in Iceberg Silver metallic. Full leather with heated seats, Satellite navigation, Radio/CD multi player, Cruise control with Traction control, Roof rails, Sunroof, Parking sensors, Xenon double optic headlamps. Alloy wheels with tyre pressures monitor. 12000 miles. One owner. **£13695**

2000 W Peugeot 206 1.4 LX 5DR in Silver metallic. Full service history. PAS, Air con., Electric windows, Radio cassette, Central locking, Air bag. Low mileage at 12500 miles. **£6995**

2000 W Renault Scenic Sport Alize 1.6 16v in Cherry Red metallic. Air con., Alloy wheels, Front fog lamps, Radio/CD player, Twin sunroofs, Electric windows, Front and Side air bags. Low mileage with full service history at 16000 miles. **£8995**

2000 W Renault Scenic Sport Alize in Platinum silver metallic. 1.6 16v ABS, PAS, Air con., CD/Radio, Air bags, Alloy wheels, Electric windows, Central locking, Full service history. Only 26000 miles. **£4995**

2000 W Peugeot 306 1.4 LX 5DR in metallic Silver. Air con., PAS, Central locking, Electric windows, C/Radio. Service history. 28000 miles. **£5895**

2000 W Honda Accord VTEC SE 2.0 Saloon. Manual in Titan Silver metallic. ABS, Sunroof, Air con., Electric windows, Central locking, Air bag, PAS. Full service history. 30000 miles. **£7595**

1999 T Renault Megane Alize 1.6 hatch in Goodwood Green metallic. Air con., Sunroof, Electric windows, Central locking, Radio cassette, PAS, Air bags. Full service history. 33000 miles. **£5295**

1976 P Triumph Bonneville 750cc.

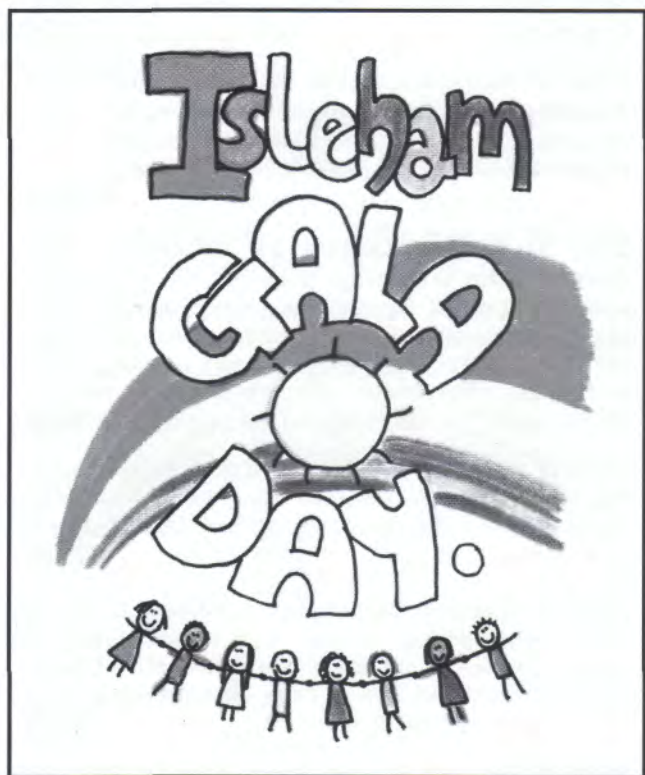
Black and Green. MOT and Taxed
Road Usable Classic British Motorcycle
£1995

Isleham Gala 2003

In the Village, For the Village, Children First

Roll up, roll up! Here are some more details for Gala Day on **Saturday, 5th July**. Don't forget to wear your wellies, thick pullover and raincoat. Leave the brolly behind because it will be blowing a blizzard and will be turned inside out. Actually, it is time we had some wonderful weather for a change – damn global warming! Anyway, regardless of the weather, do come along and support the Gala. There will be entertainment and stalls to suit all ages and we guarantee that you will have a great day.

Our congratulations to Sarah Burbidge who won the Gala Logo Competition and the £25 prize. Her winning logo is below. Unfortunately we can only print in gungy old greys instead of the glorious technicolour of the original.



Below is a fully updated list of the entertainment and attractions.

The main attractions are:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Grand Parade and Floats | Classic cars and vehicles |
| Circus entertainments | Craft Marquee |
| Children's Games & Races | Fancy Dress |
| Thomas the Tank Engine | Baby Show |
| Bouncy Castle | Line Dancing |
| Remote control car racing | Cycle races |
| Beer Tent | Fancy Dress |
| Isleham Performing Arts | Reptile Tent |
| Mini Mr and Miss Isleham | Wheelbarrow Races |
| Fun Run | Egg Throwing |
| BBQ | Children's Fun Fair |
| Dog Show | Teas |
| Raffle | Plenty of Stalls |
| Pipe Band | |

Of course, there could even be more than this but you will have to come along to find out.

Timetable

MAIN RING

- 1.00 Parade of Floats led by the Gala Queen, Princess and Prince
- 1.30 Judging of Floats followed by the presentation of the Tony Danks Memorial Trophy
- 2.00 Line Dancing
- 2.20 Isleham School of Performing Arts
- 2.45 Band
- 3.00 Presentation of Trophies
- 3.10 Running race:
 - Isleham Boys under 16; Isleham Girls under 16
 - Isleham Boys under 10; Isleham Girls under 10
- Cycle race:
 - Isleham Boys under 16s
 - Isleham Girls under 16s (New This year)
- 3.40 Childrens Fun Races
- 4.00 Wheel Barrow Races - Adults and Children's (ages 13-16 years old)
- 4.20 Circus Entertainer
- 4.45 Childrens Fun Run Approx 1.3 miles.
 - Boys and Girls 5-12 years, 13-16 years old

Finish 5.15

*Please note: Enter on the day between 2.00 and 3.00.
Maximum of 100 runners*

- 5.20 Presentation of the Fun Run Winners

SMALL RING

- 2.0 Children's Fancy Dress Competition.
 - Pre-School to age 7 years, 8-10 years, 11s and over
 - Followed by the Baby Show Girls and boys 0-2 yrs
 - Followed by Mini Mr and Miss Isleham 2 years to Pre-School
- 3.00 Circus Skills

Cooking Recipes:

Short Bread Recipe for Adults

5 oz plain flour; 2 oz caster sugar; 4 oz butter

Mix flour and sugar together. Rub in the butter until fine breadcrumbs and it starts to cling. Form into a ball and knead until smooth.

Roll, shape or cut dough to desired shape. Bake on tray at 150° for 25 to 30 minutes.

Chocolate Chip Cookies Recipe for Children

UNDER 12 years of age as on 31/8/03

4 oz butter; 4 oz plain flour; ½ tsp baking powder; ½ tsp baking soda; 4 oz caster sugar; 4 oz soft brown sugar, 4 oz porridge oats (blitzed); 6 oz chocolate chips; 3 Cadbury's Flakes (crumbled); 1 egg; ½ tsp vanilla extract

- Cream together butter and both sugars until fluffy
- Add the egg, vanilla, flour, oats, baking powder and baking soda
- Mix together well
- Add the chocolate chips and Flakes
- Roll into 2" balls and place on a baking tray
- Bake at 175° for 10 minutes

ISLEHAM SOCIETY

Whoops, this is another village group we forgot about and we received this from Ian Powys.

No news whatsoever about the "Isleham Society". Our Chairman is Roynon Howes down Waterside, email: roynonhowes@tesco.net, phone: 01638 780530. Vernon Place is Vice Chairman. Beryl Powys, my wife, is the Secretary. The Society is a group of friends interested in our village and its history, its traditions and its preservation – and development. We meet in the Village Hall, usually on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 8.00 pm for a talk and / or slide show.

During July and August, there are arranged outings – this year to Giffords Hall (**coach leaves at 5 pm on 17th July**) and the Stretham Steam Engine (**21st August, 6 pm. Make your own way there**). The next meeting in the Village Hall is on **18th September** – a talk on "**Tudor Times and Kentwell Hall**".

Arthur Houghton's "Archive" – the Society has the collection of slides which Arthur Houghton has collected over his life in the village. They have been catalogued and are arranged in rough groupings by subject matter – buildings & places – events – people & groups – the school and so on. They may be borrowed by prior arrangement with the Secretary or Chairman.

The Society has already had one talk, by Vernon Place, using some of the slides and he will be giving another one. The first meeting was advertised around the village as open to anyone and everyone who wanted to come, not restricted to Society members – and probably the next one will be, as well. Vernon knows the folk and the events and had a tale about many of them – which caused further tales from members of the audience! We had a wonderfully enjoyable, nostalgic evening. Make sure you don't miss the next one!

The Society also has copies of Arthur Houghton's book "Memories of a Fenland Village" and copies of a map of village footpaths. **Walks** are arranged during summer months – contact **Alwyn Clements** on **01638 780252**.

See separate article on the "Isleham Angel" and "Your Letters" about an offer from Ian about getting your group mentioned in the local papers.

Next CMs

The various Committee meetings will be held on the following dates:

Parish Council: Monday, Monday 7th July & 4th August.

Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings. Parishioners may raise any issue between **7.30-8.00 p.m.**

Comrades Club: 8.00 p.m. on Monday, 14th June.

Anyone including non-members is welcome to attend the meeting from **8.00-8.30 p.m.** to raise any issue.

Gala Committee: Mon 21st July; 8 p.m. at the Comrades Club. All welcome.

In the Garden

We are still looking for a knowledgeable gardener to provide us with a regular column on what we should all be doing throughout the year. There must be someone who can help us!

Maintenance

We are now into the summer period where everything is growing fast. However, there is not that much to plant and much of the time will be spent on maintenance. Without this essential activity the garden or allotment will soon become an unmanageable jungle.

Early sowings and planting of vegetables should now be bearing fruit and ready for harvest. Early potatoes and peas should be ready and full of flavour. Onions that are ready should be harvested and allowed to dry out before they start going to seed. Root crops develop quite slowly and that you will always find a few beetroot, turnips, etc. that are large enough to pull up. They will be very tender and by harvesting them regularly it will allow the rest more space to grow. Don't forget that you can keep sowing salad vegetables such as lettuce, radish and spring onions as these will develop fast. The onions will take longer but they will be ready by the autumn.

Runner beans and French beans will soon be cropping. Remember to pick them small so that they are not stringy. Keep picking them as soon as they are ready to encourage new flowers. Carefully turn large marrows and remove leaves to expose them to the sun so that they ripen and start earthing up leeks and celery to extend the blanching. Also, start sowing spring cabbage and hardy onions for early crops next year.

Raspberries and strawberries are now producing fruit. Keep harvesting to extend the cropping period and make sure that heavy-cropping raspberries are properly supported. Similarly, make sure that heavily laden fruit trees are supported to prevent the weight of crops breaking branches later on.

Now is the time to weed and feed lawns while the grass is growing vigorously but do keep it watered. Care now will produce a much better lawn next year. In the flower garden it is time to start taking cutting for next year – carnations, pinks, fuchsias, geraniums, etc. Keep any hanging baskets fed and watered and don't forget to dead-head them.

If you have a greenhouse or cold frame, plant some winter lettuce and harvest tomatoes and cucumbers as soon as they are ready.

The next two to three months will be hard work just keeping things tidy but you will enjoy the result!

Top to Toe

In the comfort of your own home

**For all your waxing requirements,
facials, manicures or pedicures + more.**

Phone Annaliese to find out more or to book
Ring: 01638 780903 or 0776 1655434

Church News

Services & Youth Groups

St Andrew's Parish Church

1st Sunday of each month:

8.00 a.m. Prayer book communion

10.00 a.m. Family service

All other Sundays:

10.00 a.m. Common worship communion

If you need to contact the (Church of England) Priest at Isleham, contact Christopher on 01638-780284. You may also call at 102 The Causeway, Isleham. CB7 5ST.

Pound Lane Free Church

Every Sunday:

Sunday Worship: 11.00 a.m. & 6.30 p.m.

Church Night: Weds 7.30–9.00 p.m.

Tuesdays: 7.30 p.m. Fellowship

Children and Young People's groups

Kingdom Kids (3-7 yr old) Sunday 10.00–11.15 a.m.

All Stars (8–11 yr old) Sunday 10.00–11.15 a.m.

and Monday Evening Club 7.00–8.00 p.m.

Covies (12–18yr olds) Sunday 9.45–10.45 a.m.

and Thursday Evening Club

There is a hearing loop installed and signing for the deaf is available. We have a comprehensive child protection policy and a CRB check has been made on all children's and young people's workers. Further information on any of the above can be obtained from:

Phone: 01638 781343 (church office)

01638 780002 (anytime)

email: secretary@plfc.co.uk website: plfc.co.uk

Isleham Baptist Church (High Street)

Every Sunday:

10.30 a.m. Morning Worship. Creches are available for 0-3 year olds, and Junior Church for 3-7 year olds have their own session from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

6.30 p.m. Evening Service

Tuesdays: 3.00 p.m. Over 50's "Rendezvous".
Transport available.

Wednesdays: 7.15 p.m. Midweek meeting

Thursdays: 7.45 p.m. Midweek meeting

Fridays: 9.15 a.m. "Little Lambs" for babies to pre-schoolers and their carers.
7.00 p.m. Prayer Walk & Youth Groups
11-14 and 14-21's.

If you would like to attend any of the above, you would be most welcome, and if you need any more information, or help at any time, please contact the leadership team on

01638 780985 (church office)

islehambap@aol.com (e-mail)

01638 721291 / 07713 465787 (anytime)

News

St Andrew's Parish Church Appeal

Every little helps and the Comrades Club Bingoites are holding a raffle in aid of the restoration fund. If you have any ideas that will help raise a few pounds, either do it or pass them on to Christopher, Tel: 01638 780284. Let's all do our bit.

St Andrew's Events

Sat, 5th July **Black & White Stall** at Gala Day

Wed, 23rd July **Coffee Morning**, 10 am at 5 Church Lane, Isleham. Proceeds to the Restoration Fund.

Sun, 27th July – **Afternoon teas and boat trips**. 3 pm at 68 Nightingale, The Marina. Proceeds to the Restoration Fund.

August Bank Holiday – 23-25th Aug. **Wedding Dress Exhibition** at **St Andrew's**. 10am – 6pm daily. If you have a wedding dress to exhibit or know of someone who has one, please contact **Janice Pope** on **01638 780380**.

Refreshments, tombola, raffle and bric-a-brac will also be available. Sunday 6.30 pm – Songs of Praise

Pound Lane Free Church

Dave Hall has informed us that there are no special functions or events in July.

High Street (Isleham Baptist Church)

High Street hosts a **Luncheon Club** each month for retired Isleham residents. The next will take place on **Wednesday, 9th July** in the chapel at **12 noon**. There will be a cooked two-course dinner with coffee, and an after lunch speaker. The cost is £1.20 and we can arrange transport. The chapel has facilities for those with mobility problems and a hearing loop. Please phone **Kathryn** on **01638 780652** if you would like to come.

It has been great to see some new faces at our "Little Lambs" toddler group, which now regularly caters for over 30 children and their carers. This year's run will finish with an **outing to High Lodge** for a **picnic** on **Tuesday 22nd July**. The coach leaves the Village Hall at 9.15 a.m. and will return for 3 p.m. It costs **£1.50** per seat and for booking forms, or further information about Little Lambs, please contact **Vanessa** on **01638 781708** or **Kate** on **01638 781068**.

Early Photo of the Priory – c.1840



SMALL ADS.

For sale

Pine dining table 57" x 36". Extendable by 16", £20. Tel: 01638 780478.

Renault Laguna tow-bar with all fittings. £25. Tel: 01638 780478.

Industrial Singer sewing machine. Offers around £80. Tel: 01638 780994.

Bench two-wheel grinder. £25 o.n.o. Tel: 01353 675350.

Large self-propelled petrol mower. Almost new. Cost £400. Will accept £250 o.n.o. Tel: 01353 675350.

Super Six corrugated fibrecrete concrete sheets. 9'x4'4". Ideal for shuttering, water boards, etc. Can be cut to any length. £14 per sheet including local delivery. Tel: 01638 781745.

Vauxhall 1.5TD turbo Diesel Corsa 1993 K reg. Good little runner. 4 months tax. 10 months MOT. £995 o.n.o. Tel: 07753 460114.

Boys clothes: Jeans, shirts, T-shirts, tops, etc. Age 7-9 yrs. All in vgc. Prices: £1.00-£1.50 per piece. Tel: 780903.

Oak drop leaf table, barley twist legs and small oak writing desk/cabinet. £60 each. Tel: 780407.

Bicycle. Man's 3 speed with dynamo. £12. Tel: 780407.

Cycle tyres and tubes. Two of each, 20" x 1.75". New mountain tread. £8. Tel: 0779 9805766.

Pram – Flame red. Carrycot, cosy toes and sun parasol included. £20. Tel: 01638 781512.

Nursery wardrobe. White with two hanging rails, 3 drawers and cupboard. £15. Tel: 01638 781512

Wanted

Old stamp collections. Anything considered. Tel: 781745.

Clean hardcore. Footings excavation. Soil. Tel: 781745.

To place your lineage ad., please call Paul Chaplin on 01638 781745 or leave it with Tony at 9 Church Street.

The Rising Sun

Sun Street, Isleham. Tel: 01638 780741

Home cooked food served Tuesday-Sunday

No smoking dining area

Bar Snacks & Daily Specials Available

Disabled Facilities

Try our Wednesday evening super value menu in a nice friendly atmosphere

Regular live music

ISLEHAM POST OFFICE STORES

Sun Street, Isleham; 01638 780256

BAKE 'N' BITE (delayed a little!)

*Coming early in July an all new exciting range of Fresh Bread, Cakes & Savouries.
All baked fresh daily on the Premises. Thornhills will still be available.*

VIDEO RENTAL

For two weeks from 7th July 2003 all rentals "Rent one, rent one free". Top ten rentals and New Releases available at £2.50 per night. Chart Titles £1.50, Children's £1.00

BITS, BOBS & FOOD

Wide range of Gifts, Toys, Stationery, Greeting Cards, Sweets & Groceries available.

POST OFFICE

On-line banking with Alliance & Leicester and Barclays. All you need is your card & PIN number. Personal banking with Lloyds TSB, Barclays, Co-op, Smile & Cahoot.

0% commission on all foreign currency & foreign travelers cheques.

Travel Insurance and all major Mobile Phone Cards available.

OPENING HOURS

Open until 8 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday

Your Letters

Our policy is that we will print anything that does not get us into trouble. If you wish to make a point, ask a question or share an opinion, please write to us. The only rule is we will not publish anonymous letters, so make sure that you print your name.

The following is from one of your editors.

Good Old Ian

Thanks to the Post Office Stores advertisement I was able to order Canadian dollars from Ian at short notice without the aggravation of going to my bank in Newmarket. I even forgot to go round to collect them and I received a phone call asking if I had forgotten about them and the dollars were ready for collection.

Brilliant service. Thanks, Ian.

Tony Ferrige

And this one from Ian Powys. Hopefully the Informer will help publicise groups and events.

Publicity

When I first arrived in the village and became involved in 'publicising' church events with roadside signs, a general 'moan' was that none of the local papers ever seemed to feature Isleham events. Vernon's mum used to do this, but now there is no one.

I approached one paper and sent the occasional item to them but there still seems to be little co-ordinated effort, village-wise. Maybe nothing appears in print because the papers don't get regular contacts? The magazine "Venue" which comes with the Cambridge Evening News is another outlet for village news and events.

I am retired, have computer and e-mail and time available! Maybe not an 'original inhabitant', but with a network of folk putting in their individual 'penn'orth' of information, I would be willing to put regular reports together along the lines of what appears in these attached publications.

But it does need a network of *all* groups within the village who feel the need for their activity or event to be widely publicised – and in good time!

Ian Powys

David Cansick has asked us to ask you.....

Poppy Appeal

I have been appointed by the Royal British Legion to develop the Poppy Appeal, its major fundraising arm, throughout the Cambridgeshire County. Donations raised by our community volunteers during the Poppy Appeal are used to provide welfare and support to local residents and their families who have served in the Armed Forces.

The Poppy is one of the best known charity emblems in the UK, and has become something of a national institution and therefore, part of this country's heritage. For many years, the Poppy Appeal has relied on the same volunteers for support during Remembrance time. Due to age and infirmity those volunteers are now declining and it is essential that

new ones are recruited to continue the good work. We cannot allow this legacy to diminish and we are asking Parish clerks for their assistance to recruit volunteers for the Poppy Appeal (October 25th to November 11th).

I would be very grateful if you could raise the issue of volunteers at your meetings and also if you could advertise for volunteers in any publications that you distribute.

As you read this, we have already been at war with Iraq and, as a result, the demand on our limited resources will increase significantly. Thus, the raising of funds during the Poppy Appeal is increasingly important to ensure that the injured and bereaved are cared for, and those who make the ultimate sacrifice are not forgotten.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on 01954 715725 (mobile 07900 991836) or you can e-mail to dcansick@britishlegion.org.uk. Thank you so much for your support.

David Cansick

And this from Kate Germany.

Sad News for Playgroup Children

Brenda Morley, who has worked at Isleham playgroup for over twenty years, will be leaving at the end of term. There must be many people in the village who remember her from their own playgroup days.

To give her a good send off, and to say thank you for all the fantastic work she has done, there will be cream-teas at the playgroup unit/school field on **Friday July 18th from 4:00pm. till 6:00pm.** Everybody who knows Brenda through playgroup: Mums, Dads, Grandparents or ex-playgroup children, is very welcome to come and say goodbye!! Please come along between 4 and 6pm on the 18th July and help make it a special day for Brenda.

For further details, or if you would like to contribute to a leaving present for Brenda please contact Kate Germany on 01638 781068.

Kate Germany

And finally, a reprimand and a pat from Geoff Jones.

Reprimand & Pat

May I say how particularly inappropriate I found your 'Spot the Difference' Competition for the under 14 age group which you targeted.

By its nature this sort of competition is very analytical not just a smutty cartoon to be lightly passed over and is likely only to cause sniggering among the older end of the age bracket and confused questioning amongst the younger.

Please take care in your presentation of items directed towards children.

For the rest of the magazine please take a pat on the back, the size, feel and general layout all encouraged me to view the majority of articles, news items and advertisements to be found there.

Geoff Jones

Point taken – please see Editorial Comment. Ed.

Competitions

Spot the Difference

Here's another "Spot the Difference" for you. There are 10 differences between the cartoons below. Mark them on one of the cartoons and send your entry to us by 20th July. The competition is open to anyone up to the age of 14. The winner will and will receive £5.

Witch Doctor at Work



Not many sent in an answer to last month's Spot the Difference. However, we have received a lot of comments that it was a bit of fun to do it. Our winner is 10 year old **Joseph Jordan** and he wins the £5 cash prize. In case you did not spot all the differences, here they are, comparing the bottom cartoon with the top one.

1. Beach brolly lines removed.
2. Swimming trunks fro black to white.
3. "Wobble line" missing on bikini top.
4. Dogs tail the other way round.
5. Black panels on central beach brolly.
6. Button from black to white on beach attendant.
7. Badge on beach attendant missing.
8. Beach attendant sweating more.
9. Dark edge on notice board to white.
10. Fat man vanished.

Anagrams

Have a go at this one. How many words of 4 or more letters can you make from our newsletter name:

"INFORMER"

It's not such a long last as last time and you will be doing very well to get to 25.

There are no prizes for the winner. No proper nouns but plurals are allowed if there is an 's' in the word. If you send us your list, no computer printouts as we consider this cheating!

Last month we gave you "**Isleham**". For those that want to know how well they did, there are 113 acceptable words but here are 54 of the most common ones: Ahem, Ails, Aims, Ales, Alms, Amis, Elms, Haem, Haems, Hail, Hails, Hale, Hales, Hams, Heal, Heals, Heil, Helm, Helms, Hems, Isle, Lame, Lames, Lase, Lash, Leas, Leash, Lies, Lime, Limes, Mail, Mails, Male, Males, Mash, Meal, Meals, Mesh, Mile, Miles, Sail, Sale, Same, Seal, Seam, Semi, Shale, Sham, Shame, Shim, Slam, Slim, Slime, Smile.

Riddle

What is black and white, black and white, black and white?

Answer: A nun rolling down a hill!

OK, that's this month's competitions and puzzles. However, do please let us know what type of puzzles and competitions you would like and we will try to include them.

There was no kind soul prepared to sponsor cash prizes for our competitions and so we will do it ourselves.

FARM FRESH EGGS

1 Fen Bank, Isleham

Farm on the left opposite the road leading to Isleham Marina

Visit our stall

£1.50 per dozen/80p a half dozen

Twinning News

ISLEHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Diana Jones has sent us the following information about the Twinning Association.

Twinning in Isleham has been going for about 9 years and I have been Secretary for most of that time. In the first instance we knocked on every door in Isleham to canvas and had a very poor response which has improved only slightly over the years. We found people very reluctant to show interest and even our children at the school were not positively encouraged to write to the children of Nesles' school. Some time ago a note was put in the Informer asking for Isleham teenagers to exchange emails with Nesles' teenagers but we had no response. Another request from Nesles to exchange sports teams never got off the ground.

Last year we made Isleham Twinning Committee into an Association at the AGM and now charge £5 per year per family. Members do get their fares slightly cheaper to make joining the Association worthwhile. We exchange visits twice a year, one each way. Anyone can come on these visits and we have arranged a coach for the past few years although originally we went by cars. The coach is usually slightly subsidised by the Association as we never fill all the seats and don't feel we can charge too much as it would get expensive for families. If we could get more people interested in the visits the coach fares would get even cheaper.

There are some very positive aspects to the twinning. The French are very friendly and welcoming and are extremely good hosts. Visiting France and staying with a French family is a good way to see the real France and different from being just a tourist. The French also get to see what it is like living with an English family and they thoroughly enjoy their visits here. We would welcome more members of our Twinning Association and anyone interested should contact one of the Committee members listed below for more information.

We have our Annual General Meeting on 15th September 2003 in the small room of the village hall, at 8.00pm. We hope to see all our members there. Even if you are not a member you will be welcomed at the meeting where you can learn a little more about the twinning.

Committee contacts:

Terry Carter (Chairman): 780800
Diana Jones: 780634
David Styman: 780533
Bryan Wynn: 780802

Website: www.geocities.com/islehamtwinning

Editors Comment

Well that's a bit of a blast! However, we guess that we all know we are a pretty apathetic lot but that is a sign of the times and the way we now live – bring back the horse! There are therefore a relatively small number of people that have the time and commitment to work for the betterment of our village. So, if you have a bit of time to spare, get involved with at least one of the groups in our village and do your bit to make it a better place to live.

Notice

This amusing sign was seen recently.

Sign outside a car exhaust replacement centre

**No need for an
appointment. We
hear you coming!**

Isleham WI

Brenda Downey has sent us this update.

Beware the electricity will be on low on 4th July. Yes, the WI ladies will be busy with their wooden spoons and mixing bowls to bake their lovely homemade refreshments for Gala Day. Please come along and give them a try. I can assure you they should not be missed!!

Also look out for the posh hats in the parade.

Are you any good at **Bowling for a Pig**? Come and join us at our games evening on **10th July at 7.40 pm** in the **Village Hall**. Cup of tea, and yes, more yummy cakes, and a competition for the prettiest small tablecloth.

Also don't forget our wheelchair which can be hired.

For further information, please contact **Brenda Downey**, WI Secretary on **01638 780338**.

Please remember that the WI meet at 7.45 p.m. at the Village Hall on the 2nd Thursday of each month except in August when they have their annual outing. Also, don't forget that you will be welcome to attend a couple of meetings without a commitment to join.

COPY DEADLINES

The deadlines for copy are as follows. Anything arriving later than the dates below will be held over to a later issue.

Non-advertisers

Articles, contributions and letters: 14th of the month
Prearranged articles/features: 18th of the month

Advertisers

Changes to regular adverts: 23rd of the month

Your Informer will normally be sent to the printer on the working day nearest to 24th of the month. This will give just sufficient time for it to be distributed within a day or two of the end of each month. By special arrangement changes can be made to advertisements even later but please try to conform to our deadlines.

Please help us by sticking to our above deadlines. We have had articles and information arriving up to 24th June for the July issue with pleas that they be included. Every addition means that several pages require reformatting and it takes hours.

We really need your co-operation if we are to get to the printer in time and distribute your Informer at the end of each month.

INFORMER ADVERTISING

Our advertising rates for boxed adverts are as follows. A 10% discount is offered for a run of 12 advertisements.

We will set and lay out your advertisement at no charge. For advertisements that are provided already laid out, we may change font sizes and styles to fit the space required.

Advertisements up to 3/16th page will be one column wide. Advertisements from 1/8th to 1/2 page may be one or two columns. Larger advertisements will be two columns wide.

| Size | Height (mm) | Width (mm) | Cost (£) |
|------|-------------|------------|----------|
| 1/32 | 17 | 83 | 2.75 |
| 1/16 | 34 | 83 | 5.00 |
| 3/16 | 51 | 83 | 6.75 |
| 1/8 | 68 | 83 | 8.50 |
| 1/4 | 135 | 83 | 15.00 |
| 1/3 | 180 | 83 | 19.50 |
| 3/8 | 213 | 83 | 22.50 |
| 1/2 | 270 | 83 | 27.50 |
| 1/8 | 34 | 179 | 8.50 |
| 1/4 | 68 | 179 | 15.00 |
| 1/3 | 90 | 179 | 19.50 |
| 3/8 | 107 | 179 | 22.50 |
| 1/2 | 135 | 179 | 27.50 |
| 2/3 | 180 | 179 | 35.00 |
| 3/4 | 203 | 179 | 39.00 |
| 1 | 270 | 179 | 50.00 |

Please note that for a run of advertisements they may be changed on a regular basis at no charge. Lineage ads (unboxed) are charged at 5p per word. The telephone number is FREE.

LOOK!

The June Informer contained the following lineage advertisement:

Narrow boat. All steel, 45 ft long. Sleeps 2-4. 3 years BSC ticket. Diesel engine, mahogany/cedar interior, fitted carpets, gas cooker, shower, bath, electric flushing w/c, TV/video, double glazed windows, fridge. Live aboard? No problem. £23,000 ovno. Tel: 781745.

The Informer was the only place where the boat was advertised. Word obviously got around and it was sold on Tuesday, 24th June for the full asking price of £23000.

Wow! If the Informer can sell that it can sell anything.

Medical Blunder

Some Americans know how to put their foot in it, like Dr Steven Swanson from Corvallis, Oregon, USA. He relates the following story.....

While acquainting myself with a new elderly patient, I asked, "How long have you been bedridden?" After a look of complete confusion she answered "Why, not for about twenty years - back when my husband was alive!"

Dotty Ditty

We have received another ditty from Billie Moore.

*We all love little doggies
For they are man's best friend
So why is it when my neighbour's
bark
It drives me round the bend
He is only doing his duty
Letting us know who's near
But if I were behind him
I'd kick him up the rear*

Jim the Roof

**All types of roof work
undertaken including:**

**Slate – Tiles – Felt
Guttering – Painting
Pointing – Stacks – etc.**

30+ years experience

New – Maintenance – Repairs

Call Jim on 01638 561361

Isleham Comrades Club

Church Street, Isleham. Tel: 01638 780884

Activities & Functions for July

| Bar & Regular Functions | Special Functions |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mondays Bar: 12.00-3.00pm & 8.00-11.00pm | Friday 4th July Quiz Night |
| Tuesdays Line Dancing: 7.00-10.00 pm Bar: 7.00-11.00pm | Saturday 5th July Rock 'n' Roll night Rocking Revival |
| Wednesdays Bingo: 8.00-9.30pm Bar: 7.30-11.00pm | Friday 11th July Rock & Roll / Popular Push Me-Pull Me |
| Thursdays Bar: 7.30-11.00pm | Saturday 12th July Karaoke |
| Fridays Bar: 7.30-11.00pm | Saturday 19th July Country & Western Dick & Heather Hide |
| Saturdays Bar: 7.30-11.00pm | Saturday 26th July Country & Western P & P Country |
| Sundays Bar: 12.00-3.00pm & 7.00-10.30pm | Sunday 29th July Jazz at Lunchtime |

**Always an Excellent Selection of
Malt Whiskies and Real Ales**

Support your local village club.
Why not have a party at the Club.
New members always welcome.

Joyces's Corner

Joyce Drayton's poetic contribution this month is titled "A Senior Citizen". Brilliant!

A Senior Citizen

*A Senior is one who was here
Before TV frozen food or lager beer
Credit cards, ballpoint pens and the pill
Or a suspect plant on the window sill*

*For us "Time sharing" meant being together
"Grass" was for mowing whatever the weather
"Pot" was something you cooked your food in
"Aids" meant a beauty care to put on your skin*

*"Software" wasn't even a word
Of Kentucky Fried Chicken we never had heard
No computers, a chip was a piece of wood
And smoking a fag we all thought was good*

*Teenagers never wore slacks or jeans
And we'd never ever eaten baked beans
We were before pizzas, instant coffee and a blue smartie
Being gay was the life and soul at a party*

*We were before dishwashers, dryers & panty hose
Electric blankets and drip dry clothes
We thought "cleavage" was something butchers did
And our knees were something we always hid*

*We came before Batman, Jeeps and disposable nappies
Tin foil, microwaves and plastic snappies
We married first, then lived together
Mattresses were made from flock or feather*

*We were here before teddy boys, bovver boots,
battery hens
Rock and roll, bikinis and contact lens
"Winkle pickers" caused us aches and pains
Now lots of us suffer from varicose veins*

*We're today's senior citizens, a hardy bunch
We've adjusted quite well when it came to the crunch
When you think of how much the world has changed
We're lucky we've lived to this ripe old age*

*We come through a war that lasted for years
There were good times, sad times, laughter and tears
When you think what youngsters today can attain
I'd love to be a teenager again*

Big Shock!

We are gob smacked! We have had so much material come in for this issue that we have had to increase the number of pages from 12 to 16. That was a major shock, particularly when we originally thought that 8 pages would be enough.

We have therefore decided to set the size according to the amount of information that we receive, providing the Parish Council cough up the dosh to pay the printer.

Having persuaded us to do this, we are sure they will so please keep sending us your articles, letters, etc.

Re-enactment News

As stated in the previous issue, a number of people from our village are involved in two groups – The Dark Ages Society (Vikings and Saxons) and Venta Icenorum (1st to 4th centuries). Don't forget that the next local "living history" DAS event will be at the **Littleport Show on Saturday, 19th July**. One of their members who lives in Isleham is currently in Denmark learning how to sail a Viking ship. More on that in the next issue.

Venta are mainly involved in education and they give demonstrations at schools, museums, fairs, etc. They are very active and have been rebuilding an Iron Age site at Hinchbrook, particularly the building of a roundhouse for all to enjoy. **Vandals have twice burned it down!** However, undeterred they rebuilt and it was completed at the end of May. It has now been vandalised again with thatch being pulled from the porch and supporting posts ripped out. **It will be rebuilt!**

By popular demand, Venta have agreed to extend their coverage and include the 5-6th century Anglo-Saxon period. They are now busily having costumes made for the period. Their next events are at:

- July 20 Romano-British people - Wimpole Hall
National Archaeology Day
- July 27 Burwell Museum Fete
- August: 4 Hinchbrook. (Special event)

*For confirmation of the above,
please phone Terri on 01638 605187*

As we said at the beginning, Venta are primarily involved with educating us and our kids about what life was like in Britain way back in Roman times. They are well equipped with costumes and gear and frequently take a load along to their events and shows. As can be seen below, they are in a position to turn you loved one into a Roman or Briton of the period. There is no charge but a donation is always welcome.

Do please check with Terri on 01638 605187 that they are prepared to meet your request. Go along to their events and have a fabulous day out.



Sorry about the blurred photo but it was the best we could do in the time. We will have better ones next time.

ISLEHAM UNDER FIVES

Yes, we forgot all about the Isleham Under Fives in the last Informer. They have sent us the following article.

NEW BUILDING PROJECT

Many of you may have noticed that we have set up a committee to look at the provision of a new pre-school building in Isleham. Our present building is now in urgent need of replacement and we have begun the large task of fundraising and working towards this. We would like the replacement to be a brick built building with space for up to 24 children per session. There will be full facilities for all, including the disabled and those with special needs. We would hope to include a covered outdoor area for wet days, full kitchen, two separate rooms for the children to use as well as a staff room/office. This will enable us to provide pre-school services for more children – we currently cannot meet the demand for places. It will also give us the facilities to meet all the requirements OFSTED now place on us.

We are going to seek lottery funding but securing this means we have to provide services for the community. We are undertaking a questionnaire to assess the demand for before and after school clubs. They are being distributed through school, pre-school, toddlers, Little Lambs and the Health Visitor. The better response we get the stronger our position is likely to be with regards to funding. If you haven't already completed a questionnaire, please do. The before and after school clubs will be available to children attending Isleham Primary School as well as pre-school.

As a first fundraising effort, we are undertaking a series of cryptic quizzes. Our next quiz is now available from the pre-school, Post Office, Paper Shop and Comrades Club for £1. (Copies of the answers to these quizzes will also be on display at these places). Pick up a copy now and support this important community project. Look out for other fundraising events in the next few months, including a Duck Race and Barbecue, Quiz Night, Race Night, Ladies Gourmet Evening.

We really do need more help as our Committee is small. Would you be interested in joining us? Or could you help at fundraising events?

If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact either **Kathy Carver** on 01638 781116 or **Julie Porter** on 01638 781390.

Many thanks to everybody in the community who has taken the time to support us so far!

Did you know....

Did you know that in the early part of the last century that the river Lark was very much wider than it is today. In fact, there used to be a "ferry drawbridge". It was a simple floating platform that could take a horse and cart/carriage and was pulled from one side to the other by a rope.

The photo (above right) is of baptisms in the river Lark and was taken by the old ferry. The drawbridge rope can be seen towards the bottom of the photo. A much larger print, along with many other old photographs, are on display at the Comrades Club.

River Lark Baptisms in 1909



Qualified Holistic Therapist

Reflexology, Reiki & Indian Head Massage

These holistic therapies assist relaxation, and may be beneficial for stress, shoulder & neck tension, headaches, insomnia and minor ailments, or just as a special treat.

Thermo-auricular Therapy (Hopi Ear Candles)

May be helpful for blocked ears, sinus congestion, headaches, stress relief and assist relaxation.

Gift Vouchers available

Contact **Joanne Duffy** MRPHARMS, MIGHT, T.A.Th
01638 721386

B C T

Your local supplier of all Motorised/mechanical garden equipment:

Lawn mowers – Strimmers
Hedge cutters – Ride on mowers
Chippers – Log splitters
Chain saws – Garden tractors
Rollers – Trailers – Tippers
etc., etc., etc.

All garden equipment repairs
undertaken in our own
specialised, well-equipped
workshop by highly skilled,
professional engineering staff

Our hydraulic service will
Repair worn or burst piping
on any hydraulic equipment

We run a mobile on-site service and
pick up & deliver where required

For a fast, efficient, friendly service,
call Tess on: **01638 716220**

Parish Council News

There is not a great deal this time due to holidays and copy not being received. However, there are now some new working parties and the leaders and contact numbers are given below. I wish we knew what "Wash" is. Are we all dirty?

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Allotments/Wash | Derrick Beckett | 01638 780476 |
| Finance | Ian Bishop | 01638 780256 |
| Burial | Terence Carter | 01638 780800 |
| Planning | Lionel Neal | 01638 780066 |
| Recreation/Sports | Ronald Pammenter | 01638 780471 |

Village Hall Committee

Please note that the Hall can be booked by phoning Ian Bishop on 01638 780256.

The Committee is also looking for a person to unlock and clean the Village Hall in August for 2 weeks at £60 per week. Please phone Janet Houghton on 01638 780385 if you can help.

On 8th June between 10.30 pm and 12 am, we had two windows broken and rain guttering pulled off the wall of the Hall. Did you see or hear anything? Also the Pavilion had 7 windows broken and a lot of mess inside. New rubbish bins were put in on Thursday – two in the field and one near the School. These were broken on Saturday. These costs are being added onto your Rates. Please help us stop this!!

On a positive note, new curtains have been put up in the hall thanks to Molly Human who left an amount in her will, Isleham Parish Council, the WI and the PTA.

The following people may be contacted:

| | | |
|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| Chairperson | Janet Houghton | 01638 780385 |
| Secretary | Joe Almer | 01638 780934 |
| Treasurer | John Aves | 01638 780273 |

Charity News

Three Volcano Challenge

Isleham resident Kathanne Bell has been accepted as one of a team selected by national magazine "Woman and Home" to take part in a Three Volcano challenge. The team will climb Vesuvius, Stromboli and Etna over 4 days in October, to raise money for the charity Breast Cancer Care.

Kathanne is a relief Learning Support Assistant at our Primary School as has started training in earnest over the last month. The fens aren't great for specific practice but you will see her jogging, cycling and walking with a pack around the village just to increase her fitness generally. (As if having 3 kids isn't enough exercise!). She has raised two thirds of the amount needed through sponsorship by family and friends, but would love to hear from any individuals or businesses who would consider sponsoring her. (The trip will be getting national media coverage). Kathanne's phone number is 01638 781228.

Kathanne says, "I've been getting some weird looks for striding about with a backpack, so perhaps this will provide an explanation."

Whisky Galore for Sick Kids

At last we have some preliminary information about the auction of the whisky collection built up in aid of the Great Ormond Hospital Children's Charity and the Sick Kids Friends Foundation of the Royal Edinburgh Hospital for Sick Children. You must all be aware by now that at the end of August 2002, two Comrades Club members and their support teams visited every distillery in Scotland on classic British motorcycles to collect and purchase bottles of whisky for the charities.

The auction is now set for a star-studded sports dinner at the Savoy Hotel in London on Friday, 8th August. Celebrities from football, tennis, formula 1, etc. will be there along with well-known entertainers like Frank Skinner.

The auction will take place at the end of the evening, after the dinner and after dinner speaker when everyone is well tanked up and ready to spend!! We will let you know what happened in the September issue.

Isleham Angel

Who knew about the "Isleham Angel"? We didn't but we do now, thanks to Ian Powys.

Imagine yourself back in the year of Our Lord 1495. Three hundred years of glorious Plantagenet rule came to a violent end just ten years ago when King Richard III went down in a fighting charge at Bosworth Field – and has been much maligned by Tudor 'spin doctors' ever since. Be that as it may, the battles between the Red Rose of Lancaster and the White Rose of York are still fresh in people's minds, but we have a new King. The Lancastrian Duke of Richmond is now King Henry VII and he has taken to wife Elizabeth of York, daughter of our late sovereign, Edward IV.

The King's avowed intent is to restore peace and prosperity to our war torn land and to heal old wounds and rivalries. In a climate of increasing prosperity, the succession seems secure. The King has two sons, Arthur and Henry, Little Prince Arthur was betrothed to Catherine of Aragon when he was but two years old and we look forward to rejoicing at their wedding in a couple of years. Our alliance with Spain has made the French think twice about their constant friendship with the Scots. If the King's offer of his daughter Margaret's hand to James IV of Scotland is accepted, then we should at last have peace on our northern border and across the Channel.

Now is a time for us all to give thanks to God. New architectural fashions are coming in – aisles are being built, churches enlarged, chantries and chapels endowed.

A.D. 1495. Here in Isleham **Crystofe Peyton** has decided to raise the nave roof of our village church, which his Bernard predecessor had founded 160 years earlier. Local craftsmen have been called in to build the lofty clerestory and carve the tiebeams and hammerbeams of the wooden roof as a fitting memorial to his father and brothers and to Crystofe himself. The hammerbeams are to be enriched by sixty angel figures, some carrying the instruments of

Our Lord's Passion. The shields of the Peyton family and their wives and mothers – Bernards, Lillings and Mallorys, Cleres, Hydes and Calthorpes – decorate aisle and clerestory, all supported by little angel figures.

A.D. 2003. As we enter the new Millennium, many of the larger angels have disappeared, but today's worshippers are still one with "*angels and archangels and all the company of Heaven*" – even if the Heavenly host is somewhat reduced in size! One small angel head had long surmounted the Peyton, Bernard and Lilling coat of arms, where tower and south clerestory meet. The craftsman who carved it cared not that, once in position forty feet above the floor of the nave, few, if any, would ever see his work close up again, yet eyebrows, nostrils and lips are accurately carved. Damp and woodworm overcame the little carving – in 1998 it fell and was damaged but was skilfully restored and repaired by a local wood carver. Copies were commissioned and cast in resin. In Isleham, villagers and lovers of the church have bought them, as have many descendants of the Peyton family in the United States, Australia and elsewhere.

You too, can have one of these unique "Angel Heads"

Whether or not you have any family connection with Isleham or the Peyton family, this little head will always remind you of just one unknown craftsman, who helped to build just one of England's parish churches and the skill and love he lavished on his personal contribution "**Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam**". You will also have helped us to finance the maintenance and repairs to our lovely parish church – a heritage which it is our duty to hand on to those who come after us.

Some twenty casts can be taken from each mould, so with mould costs, casting and packaging each head now costs us just over £30.00. Will you help, by buying one for at least £40.00? (Cheque to Isleham P.C.C.). This is, after all, a fundraising endeavour.

Contact Ian Powys: 5 Church Lane, Isleham – No. 5 is one of a group of three houses on the left, some fifty paces down the lane.

Inscription above the Clerestory, St Andrew's Isleham:

Pray for the good prosperite of Crystofer Peyton and Elizabeth the hys wyf and for the sowle of Thomas Peyton sqwyer and Margarete hys wyf, fader and moder of the seyd Crystofer Peyton and for the sowles of al the awncestre of the seyd Crystofer Peyton qwyche dyd make thys rofe in the yere of owr Lord M CCCC LXXXX V beyng the X yere of King Henry VII.

More Notice

Here's one from a restaurateur with a sense of humour!

Seen in a restaurant window:

**Don't stand there and
be hungry, come on
in and get fed up**

Don't forget to send us any amusing signs that you have seen. Not the signs – just let us know!

August Feature

Isleham is a village for of interest and full of interesting people. We have therefore decided to run a series of features on some less well known but interesting village activities and people. Of course, it is rather difficult finding out about something that is not common knowledge! By chance we found out about Will Taylor who has been pretty well self-sufficient for quite a long time. "The Good Life" comes to mind.

Will has agreed to write something for us for the August issue about how he got started and Karma Farm, where everything he produces is home grown.

We are looking for about a column including a photograph. So, if you know of anything or anyone that we should be including in your Informer, do please write to us and let us know.

Karma Farm

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No smoking dining area

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Disabled Facilities

Try our Wednesday evening super value
menu in a nice friendly atmosphere

Regular live music

Sports News

If we have missed your sporting activity, please contact us so that we can include your news.

Badminton

The club meet at the **Primary School** in Maltings Lane every **Thursday evening from 7.30-9.30 p.m.** but **only during term time**. The club is not in any league and all matches are friendly. The club is small and new members looking for a bit of fun are always welcome. For further details please telephone **Pat Houghton** on **01638 780789**.

Bowls

Bowls fixtures for the next few weeks are as follows. All times are p.m. Confirm details with **Pat Houghton** on **01638 780789**.

| Date | Opponents | Venue | Time | Key |
|---------------|----------------------|-------|-------|-----|
| July | | | | |
| Tue 1 | Ely Beet 'B' | H | 6.30 | L |
| Fri 4 | Mixed KO Cup | | 2.15 | |
| Fri 4 | Lancashire Hon VPs | H | 6.30 | F |
| Sun 6 | Invitation Cup | | 2.30 | |
| Mon 7 | Bottisham 'B' | H | 2.15 | M |
| Tue 8 | Littleport | A | 6.30 | L |
| Thur 10 | Cottenham | A | 6.30 | L |
| Fri 11 | Ely Beet 'B' | H | 2.15 | M |
| Sat 12 | Manchester | H | 2.15 | F |
| Sun 13 | Manchester | H | 10.30 | F |
| Mon 14 | Haddenham 'B' | A | 2.15 | M |
| Tue 15 | Soham 'B' | H | 6.30 | L |
| Wed 16 | Norton Cup | H | | |
| Thur 17 | Highams | A | 6.30 | L |
| Fri 18 | West Row | H | 2.15 | M |
| Sat 19 | Invitation Cup | H | | |
| Sun 20 | Cambs. Vs Norfolk | H | | |
| Mon 21 | Stretham | A | 2.15 | M |
| Mon 21 | Gilbert Cup | | | |
| Thur 24 | Newmarket | H | 6.30 | L |
| Mon 28 | Newmarket 'B' | A | 2.15 | M |
| Mon 28 | Gilbert Cup. R'nd 2 | | | |
| Tue 29 | Ely Beet 'A' | A | 6.30 | L |
| Thur 31 | Haddenham | A | 6.30 | L |
| August | | | | |
| Sun 3 | Invitation Cup Final | H | 2.30 | |
| Mon 4 | Mildenhall | A | 2.15 | M |

*L = Ely & District evening league;
M = Mixed afternoon league; F = Friendly*

Cricket

The village has three cricket teams. There is a 1st and 2nd XI plus a Midweek XI. Fixtures for the next couple of months are shown below. There are still no match reports but they will be included as and when we receive them.

1st XI (all matches start at 2.00 p.m.)

| Date | Opponents | Venue |
|---------|--------------|-------|
| 12 July | Histon II | Away |
| 19 July | Lode I | Home |
| 26 July | Somersham II | Home |
| 9 Aug | Littleport I | Away |

2nd XI (all matches start at 2.00 p.m.)

| Date | Opponents | Venue |
|---------|---------------|-------|
| 12 July | Needlingworth | Home |
| 19 July | Newmarket | Away |
| 26 July | Doddington | Away |
| 2 Aug | Wilburton | Away |
| 16 Aug | Fordham II | Away |

Midweek XI (all matches start at 6.00 p.m.)

| Date | Opponents | Venue |
|--------|-----------|-------|
| 2 July | Burwell | Away |
| 9 July | MCC Arabs | Away |

Football

Not much happens at this time of year but we do have a number of football teams. We will keep you updated with their activities and progress when the new season starts.

Help! We are able to get sporting fixtures without any problem. However, getting results, reports and league tables has proved to be impossible. If there is anyone out there who can supply this information, do please send it to us for inclusion in the next issue.

Private Hire & Taxi Service

Nial Murphy from Freckenham is pleased to offer a quality private hire service at reasonable cost. All work undertaken. No surcharges for local work. Non-smoking.

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Read your Informer to find out when