

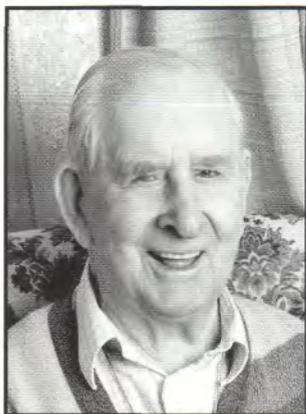
# Isleham Informer

No.7 April 2004

www.isleham-informer.org.uk e-mail: mail@isleham-informer.org.uk  
Published by the Isleham Parish Council

## Mr Isleham

*Ian Humphreys has been to visit Arthur Houghton. As most of you know, Arthur spent many years as the Village's Archivist. He built up an incredible collection of photographs of Isleham and its people. A number of restored photographs are on display at the Comrades Club. Photographs by Kate Coe.*



At the age of 92, Mr Arthur Houghton could be said to be "not getting about too well"- the compensation for that is that he is still very mentally alert and will talk the hind leg off a donkey if permitted to do so! He has given us permission to print any items from his book "Memories of Isleham" (an English Fenland Village) and we offer him our thanks. It is intended to use various

excerpts that we hope you will find interesting.

Arthur was born in 1911 at the family home in Sun Street. His father was a farm worker at that time, earning about 12 shillings per week (60p). He often kept a pig or two that were slaughtered at the right weight and sold off to neighbours in smaller portions. This helped the family budget considerably. He also did a bit of shepherding. If a sheep got on its back and stayed there too long, it would die. To use Arthur's words "My father had a good understanding with the farm foreman so our pot and the foreman's pot were always full of mutton!" (Well, you had to eat).

His mother made clothes, sewed rugs and went gleaning at harvest time – gleaning was picking up the small grains of corn strewn on the ground after the main harvest had been cut. Nobody was allowed to start gleaning before the 'starting signal' – the sexton rang the church bell at nine o'clock in the morning and ended the days gleaning by ringing it again at six o'clock at night. If anyone 'gleaned' out of these hours, it was confiscated and scattered on the land. It did not pay to cheat! Arthur's father used to go to March at harvest time to earn extra money and he reckoned to pay the years rent from these earnings – about six pounds a year! By the way, the house is now number 44 Sun Street.

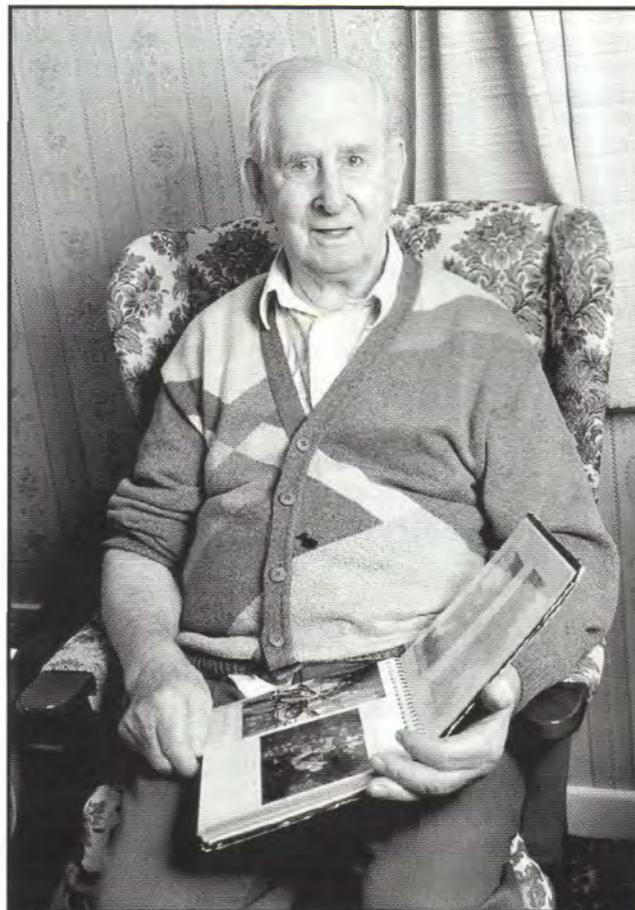
New clothes generally came in time for the Sunday School Anniversary, if his parents could afford them. With 7 children there would have been a fair bit of 'handing down'. One year they all went to Jude's Ferry pub at West Row by barge. They were placed in the barge near the

sluice gate at Isleham and a man put a hefty rope round his shoulders and pulled them down to the gravel gardens where they would picnic and perhaps swim. The new clothes were bought in Soham but there was no road there then and so they had to walk across the fields by footpath and stiles.

In the summer, Arthur and his friends would go swimming at the "Overfall". It is off the Waterside where the new road leads to the Marina, across the River Lark. Incidentally, the Marina is actually in Suffolk-which is one reason they have wheelie-bins and we have plastic bags!

The young lads also used to explore the Fordham windmill in the Isleham Road. This mill was working until about 1940 when it and the surrounding cottages were pulled down. About 100 years before that, there was an old post mill that burnt down when a gale took control of the sails and turned them so fast the heat generated set fire to the whole thing – that must have been a spectacle to witness!

Not many of the comforts that we are so used to today but somehow it seemed very satisfying.



*Arthur with one of his numerous Isleham photo albums*

*Arthur's book is available from the Post Office at £2.*

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## Contact Information

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

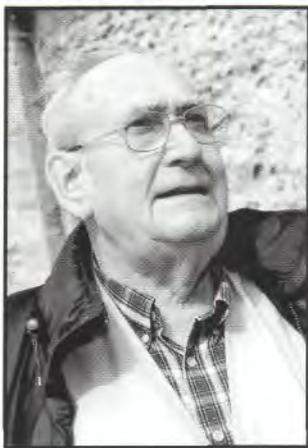
*mail@isleham-informer.org.uk*

Complaints may also be sent to the IPC via Yvonne Bishop at the Post Office. Advertising enquiries should be made to Ian Humphreys on 01638 781796. Articles should be taken to or sent to Tony Ferrige, 9 Church Street (opposite the church). Tony may be contacted on 01638 780973. You may fax us on 01638 780962 but please try to send material by e-mail to reduce our burden of typing.

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## Humph!

Ian Humphreys joined the editorial team a couple of



issues back. Ian was born in 1930 in Leicester and left school at 14 with no exam qualifications at all. He worked in engineering factories until National Service at 18 and went into the RAF. Ian was on the Berlin Air Lift for a short time and then spent the rest of his service in Egypt. He could not settle after his de-mob and spent a year as a 'supertramp' in Eastern Europe with no money but lost a lot of

weight! On his return to the UK he worked in a hosiery warehouse and then opened a market stall before going to London working for a retail company as buyer of textiles. (Hosiery etc) Following 5 years in a bachelor flat in Marylebone, Ian married and lived in Harrow. He later returned to Leicester and opened three shops of his own but got fed up after 5 years and went to a large retailer as chief hosiery buyer. Ian has travelled extensively, particularly to the Far East. He retired at the age of 59. His wife died 18 months later and he got bored in Leicester after 14 years on his own and came to Isleham where one of his daughters lives with her husband and his two grandchildren. Another daughter lives in Mildenhall, also with two grandchildren. Ian is very happy and feels settled here in Isleham but good beer has something to do with that! *Photo: Kate Coe*

# More on Dog Fouling

Since the last issue of the Informer we have received more complaints about dog fouling, in particular concerning the Alms Houses. Unfortunately, a lack of space prevents their being published. However, we have received the following response from Isleham Parish Council.

In reply to the articles in the Isleham Informer, with regards to the problem of dog fouling and litter in the village, the Council is aware of these problems, but unfortunately cannot do much more than report the problem to the Environmental Health Department and the dog warden at ECDC, which has been done on many occasions.

The Council's Dog Warden does patrol the district, however, her time is limited, as this is only part of her job. The only solution is to try and educate residents of Isleham to be responsible dog owners. The Council also encourages residents to notify the Dog Warden when dog owners allow their dogs to foul the pavements or other public areas. Once information has been passed onto the Dog Warden, she can investigate the complaint. As a further link in the chain ECDC have now authorised a number of officers to issue **£50 fixed penalty notices** to dog owners who allow their animals to foul on designated public land. On this latter point, Veronica Avory, the Council's Dog Warden, has the power to issue fixed penalty tickets to dog owners who allow their animals to foul footpaths and other public areas, where evidence of the offence and the identity of the person responsible is provided by a member of the public. The Council's Dog Warden, assisted by other Environmental Health staff, will also carry out a number of campaigns each year to promote responsible dog ownership and highlight this enforcement action.

Mrs Veronica Avory can be contacted at ECDC, telephone number 01353 616285. Please remember **dog waste bags are also available free of charge at the Post Office and Pattersons**. Another thing to remember is that regular litter bins can be used for dog waste as well as doggy bins.

With regards to the litter problem in the village, the ECDC have provided a significant number of conventional litter bins throughout the district, including Isleham, and a budget is provided each year for repair or replacement, unfortunately it is not possible to obtain any more. The situation has also been made more difficult by the frequent vandalism to public bins. It is therefore, once again, down to the responsible village resident to dispose of litter in the rightful way. The Council hastens to add at this point that the dumping of rubbish in the Drovers is also a concern at the present time. Again this has been reported several times to ECDC for collection.

## Informer Comment

We have been doing a little research and many councils take dog fouling very seriously. One is Rushcliffe in Nottingham and they had a large poster campaign to make dog owners aware of the consequences. In addition, the government's advice to the public to report every incident of dog fouling that they witness. What you need to do is:

- note the exact location of the incident.
- the type of dog.
- description of the person with the dog (if present)

**Report the incident!**

**THE DOGS (FOULING OF LAND) ACT 1996**  
**£25 and/or £1000 FINE**



"IT'S A LEGAL REQUIREMENT TO CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG IN PUBLIC AREAS"

"THE COUNCIL HAS SUCCESSFULLY PROSECUTED OFFENDERS FOR FAILING TO CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR DOG"

"22 FINE PENALTY TICKETS HAVE ALSO BEEN SERVED SINCE THE SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED"

**DON'T PUT YOUR FOOT IN IT - ALWAYS CARRY A POOP SCOOP**

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE AT:  
 RUSHCLIFFE BOARD OF COUNCIL CIVIC CENTRE  
 AVONDALE ROAD WEST BRIDGEMARSH  
 NOTTINGHAM N11 5PE  
 TEL: 0115 954 0902  
 www.rushcliffe.gov.uk



This is the Rushcliffe poster that advertised the fines shortly after the Act became law.

Dog owners please note that repeated offences can mean a fine of up to £1000. Is it worth the risk when dog waste bags are FREE?

On the subject of litter, we have received a number of comments following the last Informer.

The overwhelming comment has been that litterbins are useless because the uncaring litterlouts never use them even if they are standing next to one. In fact, most comments centered round the younger members of our community that park in the Priory car park at night and simply throw their cans and rubbish out of the car windows for others to pick up.

One question that has been asked more than once is, "Can IPC introduce a bylaw to fine people that litter?"

*Now that is an interesting and loaded question! We will ask IPC and report back. Ed.*

### Rising Sun Comment

Following the general comments on litter in the last Informer, we feel it unreasonable to tar all pubs and watering holes with the same brush.

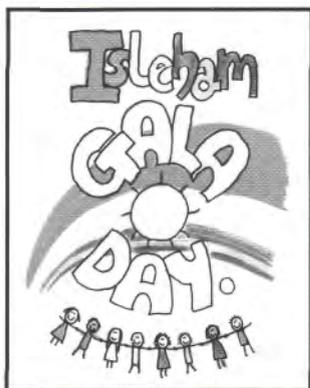
As the longest serving landlord and landlady in the village – for 19 years – we take pride in our property and police it for litter and rubbish. We also keep the footpath from the Post Office to our neighbours clean, neat and tidy.

*Edna Pammenter*

## Isleham Gala 2004

*In the Village, For the Village, Children First*

The Gala Committee want as many stalls as possible at this year's Gala to help make it even better and more interesting. They would therefore would like to hear from anyone who would like to book a stall.



Whether you are a club, society, association, etc. or an individual, they would like you to give them a call.

At last year's Gala, many stall holders sold out really quickly and, especially for the Clubs and Societies, it was a great way to raise funds.

If you are interested in renting a stall or pitch on

Gala Day, please contact **Roseanna Allan** on **01638 780994** for a booking form.



## 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

**2003 03 Renault Laguna Dynamique 1.9DCi Sport Tourer** in Flame Red metallic. Air con, Radio/CD player, Air bags, PAS, Alloy wheels, Electric windows, Front fog lamps, Half leather interior, 6 speed gear box. 13000 miles. **£12650**

**2003 03 Renault Laguna Dynamique 1.9 DCi 5 dr hatch** in Flame Red. Alloy Wheels, Air con, Half leather interior, PAS, Twin air bags, Radio/CD player, 6 speed gear box. Electric windows with central locking, Front fog lamps, ABS, only 13000 miles. **£11995**

**2003 03 Renault Clio 5dr 1.5DCi Expression +** in metallic Silver. Air con, Electric windows, Central locking, Twin air bags, Electric mirrors, PAS, ABS. Low mileage at 9000 miles. **£7995**

**2002 52 Renault Megane 1.4 Dynamique 16V 5dr** in Ink Blue metallic. Alloy wheels, PAS, ABS, Air con, Radio/CD player, Central locking. Low mileage at 7500 miles. **£9595**

**2002 52 Renault Laguna 2.0 16V Dynamique 5dr** in Odyssey Blue metallic. Central locking, ABS, PAS, Sunroof, Electric windows, Radio/CD player, Air con, Alloy wheels, Half leather. 24000 miles. **£9995**

**2001 Y Renault Laguna Privilege Sport Tourer** in Goodwood Green metallic. Alloy wheels, Sunroof, ABS, PAS, Climate control, Electric folding mirrors, Radio/CD player and multi-player, Front fog lamps, Rear parking sensors, Full service history. 48000 miles. **£9250**

**2000 X Citroen Belingo Multispace 1.4** in Metallic Blue. PAS, Air bags, Load liner. Service history with only 26000 miles. **£5995**

**1998 S Toyota Landcruiser Colorado GXTD 5dr** in Silver metallic. Alloy wheels, Air con, PAS, ABS, 8 Seats, Electric windows, Tow pack, Radio/Cassette/CD with 10 Disc multi-changer, Side steps and Roof bars. FSH, 90000 miles. **£12695**

**1998 R Daewoo Nubria CDX estate 2.0 5 speed** in Blue metallic. PAS, ABS, Air con, Low mileage with full service history. 60000 miles. **£2295**

**1997 R Renault scenic 1.6** in White. Twin sunroof, Air con, Electric windows, PAS, ABS, Radio cassette, Central locking, Front fog lamps. Full service history. 77000 miles. **£4995**

**2003 53 Italjet Millenium 100cc super scooter** in Gold metallic. Delivery Mileage only ex display stock. Cost new £2495. **Our price £1600**

# Smile ☺

Dan Herney, a Park Ranger at the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia, USA, has sent us the following story. Perhaps the Americans know more about our politicians and our humour than we think they do! Dan calls it "The Dead Donkey"

## The Dead Donkey

A city boy, named Tony, bought a smallholding and moved to the country. He had always wanted a donkey and he bought one from an old farmer nearby for £100. Tony handed over the money and the old farmer agreed to deliver the donkey the next day.

The next day the farmer drove up and said, "Sorry son, but I have some bad news, the donkey died."

Tony replied, "Well, then, just give me my money back."

The farmer said, "I can't do that. I went and spent it already."

Tony said, "OK, then, just unload the donkey."

The farmer asked, "What are you going to do with him?"

Tony said, "I'm going to raffle him off."

Farmer, "You can't raffle off a dead donkey!"

Tony, "Sure I can. Watch me. I just won't tell anybody he is dead."

A month later the farmer met up with Tony and asked, "What happened with that dead donkey?"

Tony told him, "I raffled him off. I sold 500 tickets at two pounds each and made a profit £898."

The farmer was staggered and asked, "Didn't anyone complain?"

Tony replied, "Just the guy who won. So I gave him his £2 back."

Well, with skills like that, Tony eventually went on to become the UK Prime Minister!

As always, we need jokes. If you know any that we can use, please send them to us.

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## More on Vandalism

At a recent meeting between the Informer team and the IPC Councillors responsible for the Informer, we were advised that the problem with vandalism is that Isleham residents will not report acts of vandalism that they witness. The solution is to report literally *anything* to the police that could be classed as vandalism. If enough of these generally minor crimes are reported it will force the police to sit up, take note and patrol Isleham on a much more regular basis.

At present, it is a very rare occurrence to see a policeman or a patrol car. The number to ring to report incidents is **01223 358966**. Do your bit to make Isleham safer!

## Useful Phone Numbers

Emergency for Police, Fire, Ambulance	999
Police (Cambs.)	01223 358966
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
Minor Treatment Centre, Ely	01353 652162
NHS Direct (for advice)	0845 4647
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 (Geof Garbett)	01638 780863
Mobile Library	01223 712000
Parish Council (Yvonne Bishop: Clerk)	01638 780256
Member of Parliament (Jim Paice)	01954 211450
Isleham Informer (Paul Chaplin)	01638 781745
(Kate Coe)	01638 780115
(Ian Humphreys)	01638 781796
(Karl Bates)	07711 306147
(Tony Ferrige)	01638 780973

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## Next CMs

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

**Parish Council:** *Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2004.*  
*Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2004.*

Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings. Parishioners may raise any issue between **7.00-7.30 p.m.** All meetings take place in the room at the back of the Village Hall.

**Comrades Club:** 8.00 p.m. on *Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> May.*  
8.00 p.m. on *Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June.*

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

**Gala Committee:** 8.00 p.m. on *Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April*  
8.00 p.m. on *Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> June*  
8.00 p.m. on *Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> June*

All Gala Committee meetings are held at the Comrades Club. Anyone is welcome to attend. If you think you can help us with this year's Gala Day, do please come along to one of the meetings. It will not be difficult finding something for you to do!

## COPY DEADLINES

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

### Non-advertisers

Articles, contributions and letters: 14<sup>th</sup> May  
Prearranged articles/features: 19<sup>th</sup> May

### Advertisers

Changes to regular adverts: 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Your Informer will normally be sent to the printer on the working day nearest to 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Regular Advertisers

Ian Humphreys is currently contacting all our advertisers. You may contact him on 01638 781796 to discuss future advertising and rates.

Please remember that for non-business advertising **Lineage Advertisements are FREE!** Please contact Ian Humphreys on 01638 781796 to place your ad.

## ISLEHAM SOCIETY

*Ian Powys has sent us the following update.*

The Society usually meets on the third Thursday of the month at 8.00 p.m. in the Village Hall. The next meeting is on **Thursday 29th April** will be the **Annual General Meeting** and will be followed by a social evening with drinks & refreshments. Come and meet us then - we will be welcoming new members (but you may join at any time throughout the year). Subscriptions for 2004-2005 remain at £10 per person. The programme for this season will be arranged and published by then. Already planned are two outings this summer: July to the Imperial War Museum at Duxford and in August to Moyses Hall Museum in Bury St Edmunds. Among the many exhibits of local interest in Moyses Hall is the Bronze Age Hoard found by Arthur Houghton here in Isleham. There is also an interesting display of the history of the Suffolk Regiment.

Among our speakers we will have talks by Robin Page, Terry Holloway of Marshalls Aerospace and Helen Ridout with a 'Beginners' Guide to Family Histories'. Other talks will be on "The Waterways of England", "English Coinage" and "The Climb to Base Camp - Everest"

All meetings are held in the Village Hall and start at 8 pm. Visitors are welcome, on payment of £2.00 a meeting. Further details from the Secretary, Mrs Beryl Powys.

### CHAIRMAN

Mr Roynon HOWES

☎: 01638 780530

Fax: 01638 780530

e-mail: roynonhowes@tesco.net

### SECRETARY

Mrs B.M.POWYS

☎: 01638 780519

Fax: 01638 780519

e-mail: powys169@enterprise.net

## Karma Farm

8 Fen Bank, Isleham

**Home Grown Natural Beef & Pork**

Please call **01638 780701**

or e-mail [taylorfamily@freezezone.co.uk](mailto:taylorfamily@freezezone.co.uk)

See our website: [www.karmafarmisleham.co.uk](http://www.karmafarmisleham.co.uk)

## FARM FRESH EGGS

**1 Fen Bank, Isleham**

*Farm on the left opposite the road leading to Isleham Marina*

**Visit our stall**

**£1.80** per dozen/**90p** a half dozen

## 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.

*A pre-booked service only; 9 am to 6 pm*

To get in touch, please ring **01638 720047**

## The Griffin

Church Street, Isleham. Tel: 01638 780447

*Friday night from 6pm is.....*

## Curry Night

**Our homemade curries are great**

**Only £5 including a pint!!**

## Homemade Lunches and Evening Meals

**Including lasagne, steaks,  
Isleham steak & ale pie, etc.**

*We are now doing.....*

## Sunday Roast

from 12.00 to 3.00 pm

at only **£6.95!!**

*Only the best fresh produce is used in our meals*

Call us to book your table and avoid disappointment

# Evergreen No More

*How many people knew about the Evergreen Club? We didn't know about it until we received the following information from Vernon Place and 95 years young Gladys Reed. Unfortunately, the Evergreen Club is no more as it had its last meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> February this year.*

First, from Vernon.....

## **Isleham Evergreen Club Final Meeting 19 Feb 04 Formed in 1957**

The final meeting of the Evergreen Club took the form of a cooked lunch shared by 36 members & guests on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> February 2004. The guests included former members Mrs Peggy Diver, Mrs Pearl Peck, Mrs Gladys Draper, Mrs Nellie Place and Mr and Mrs Ken Stebbeds.

The Chairman, Mrs Phyllis Fuller, welcomed everyone to this memorable occasion, after an excellent lunch she read a letter from a founder member and secretary, Mrs Gladys Reed (see below) in which she recalled the first meeting of the Club on 17<sup>th</sup> January 1957 and praised various office bearers and participating members including those who have been running the Club to this present day. Mrs Reed also sent a Newmarket Journal report of the first meeting (Jan 1957) which was read out. It included the fact that "one hundred and five members were enrolled by paying an annual subscription of one shilling" (5p!).

Mrs Reed has supplied additional information that is relevant to the forming of the club as follows: "The original idea of forming an Over 60's Club came from a group of British Legion ladies, whose leader was the late Mrs Ena Woollard. They circulated letters throughout the village and convened a meeting to discuss the project. This was held in the Village Hall in December 1956 and was well attended. The officers were appointed and the first meeting was arranged for 17<sup>th</sup> January 1957". (The officers of 1957 are detailed in Mrs Reed's letter to the Isleham Evergreen Club).

The final office bearers were:

President — Mrs Margaret Mason,  
Chairman — Mrs Phyllis Fuller

Secretary — Mrs Beryl Human  
Treasurer — Mrs Beryl Human

And from Gladys, dated 6<sup>th</sup> February 2004.....

Alas! the closing day of our Evergreen Club has arrived and we are all very sad. But we knew it was coming. It was inevitable. Praise is due to all those who have been carrying on in recent years and our sincere thanks are due to them.

My thoughts go back to the early days. I realize now that it was an honour and privilege to be in the Leadership Team, although mine was an office I was reluctant to fill. But with a supportive husband and committee we were able to launch our first meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup>. 1957. Mr. E. W. Diver was our gracious President with Mr. J. W. Aves — an active Vice President. Mr. J. Ellwood undertook to keep our finances in order and we were never in debt. I remember the inimitable Mr. Dick Wells who wrote the words of our opening song. Also we had the staunch support of Mr. Petchey Drayton. Oh how he loved "His 60's". Invaluable service was given by Miss Ivy Leonard, Mrs. Ada Kilby and "Aunt Ret" with her chiropody appointments in the back room. All through the years we had many other helpers who brought joy and pleasure to hundreds of Isleham senior citizens, but mention must be made of the two existing ladies who were with us at the beginning, Mrs. Gladys and Mrs. Dot Draper.

My parting word to you all is

"God be with you till we meet again  
Guard and keep you till we meet again  
Though we may not see around the bend  
He'll guide you to your journey's end.  
Love's sweet promise will not be in vain  
There's a rainbow through the rain  
God will light your way through darkness and pain  
And keep you till we meet again".

*Gladys states the closure of the Club was inevitable but we have not been told why. Perhaps someone will write to us. Isleham has a very large number of people over 60 and it seems odd that the Evergreens have been forced to a premature end. Ed. Photo: Vernon Place*



## SMALL ADS.

### For sale

**Four tyres, Goodyear 195/65 R-15.** Under half worn, 5-6mm tread. New tyres cost between £45 & £85 - you can collect these four for £80.00 cash. Phone 01638 780519.

**31 ft Westerly Longbow Yacht Sloop.** Good inventory. Recent epoxy on hull. Life raft and dinghy. £17,500. Telephone: 01638 781796.

**Tricity Bendix Dishwasher.** 3 yrs old, vgc, selling due to house move, one lady owner. £85 ono. Tel 07876 677883.

To place your lineage advertisement, please call Ian Humphreys on 01638 781796 or leave it with Tony at 9 Church Street. Lineage adverts are FREE to non-commercial readers. It will not be possible to include very long ads at no charge.

## Charity News

### Better Health for Women & their Babies

To raise funds for this appeal to help fund medical research, Sophie Turner will be taking part in a 400 km (250 miles) cycle ride along the banks of the River Nile in Egypt from 18-25<sup>th</sup> October this year. All expenses are privately funded and so all donations go directly to the charity.

The aim of the charity is to support research into devastating diseases affecting women and their babies, including cancer, miscarriages, genetic diseases, still birth, polycystic ovary syndrome, etc.

If you would like to make a donation to support this work or even pledge an amount per mile (let's make sure Sophie pedals for those donations!), please contact Sophie on 01638 780965 and she will provide a pledge form and full details.

## Twinning News

### ISLEHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION

*Diana Jones has sent us the following update about the Twinning Association.*

The visit by our friends from Nesles this year will be the weekend of 22/23<sup>rd</sup> May. As yet numbers coming have not been confirmed but most of our regular hosts have been contacted. If you have not been contacted and would like to host or to join in with the weekend please contact one of the Committee members below.

All newcomers are welcome. The programme for the weekend will be similar to last year whereby guests spend much of the weekend with the host family and on the Saturday evening everyone will gather together for a three-course meal with entertainment.

#### Committee contacts:

Terry Carter (Chairman): 780800

Diana Jones: 780634

David Styman: 780533

Bryan Wynn: 780802

Website: [www.geocities.com/islehamtwinning](http://www.geocities.com/islehamtwinning)

## The Rising Sun

Sun Street, Isleham. Tel: 01638 780471

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

## Riverside Island Marina

Tel: 01638 780663 Mobile: 0797 9865157

### Supplies & Services

Bottled gas and marine diesel sales

Holiday narrow boat hire

Sale & purchase of all types of boat

Lodge sales and holiday rentals

Moorings with electricity

New moorings available shortly

Transportation of boats by land or water

Please note that we deliver  
LPG bottled gas locally

### New Service

Boat valeting comprising of:

Lift out, Power spray-off,

Polish hull and top, Full

Interior Clean and Service

### Small Repairs Undertaken

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**01638 781796**

# Parish Council News

*The following is an abbreviated and incomplete version of the IPC minutes for the 2<sup>nd</sup> February meeting. Please remember that any parishioner may request a copy of the full minutes from IPC.*

**Police Matters:** PC Humble addressed the meeting. Between the period 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2003 to 5<sup>th</sup> January 2004, there were eleven reported crimes in the Isleham area. Five domestic assaults or neighbour disputes, three of criminal damage, two of thefts of a motor vehicle and a number plate from a motor vehicle and one residential burglary. During this period there were 31 calls received relating to the Isleham area.

Between the period 6<sup>th</sup> January 2004 to 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2004, there were thirteen reported crimes in the Isleham area. Seven of criminal damage, of which four were motor vehicles, one residential, one wall and the school. Two of thefts from motor vehicles, one a theft of a motor vehicle, one of a burglary, and one of an assault. During this period there were 19 calls received relating to the Isleham area.

**D Cllr Report:** D.Cllr. D. Beckett informed the Council, that the Jointly Funded Minor Highways Improvement Scheme bids that had been submitted by Isleham Parish Council, would not stand a very good chance of being approved, due to the points system being so low for Isleham. Other areas within the region were considered a much higher priority, therefore the bids for two speed activated signs and extension to footway/cycleway in East Fen Road may not be successful.

**Highways & Footpaths:** Various matters were discussed with Mr E Thornton on 12<sup>th</sup> January, including the issue of the missing signs in the village, which was causing major problems. Mr. Thornton explained that a discussion was due to take place at Cambridgeshire CC on the manufacture of signs using cheaper materials that had no scrap value. Mr. Thornton will attend to the matter of new signs for the village.

It had also been reported to the Council that centre white lines were required in Knaves Acre Drove but Mr. Thornton explained that it was the policy of Cambridgeshire County Council not to do this for C class roads. Another major issue involved the missing give way signs leading up towards the junction of Chippenham/Fordham crossroad. A spate of accidents involving cars coming off the road had happened at the sharp bend. It was agreed that chevrons or rumble strips and an advance Give Way sign was needed.

Other issues included the yellow lines needing reinstating in Malting Lane, the dropped drains needing attention in Croft Road, a road sweeper needed in the village on a much more regular basis, and the road surface needing attention in Little London following a complaint by a parishioner.

IPC was informed the meeting that, with regards to the matter of Chippenham/Fordham crossroad, the matter was currently being investigated for possible solutions.

**Parish Paths Partnership:** A grant of £600 has been requested for work on footpaths in the village. This was to replace stiles and provide drainage. IPC would also like to achieve a circular footpath route around the village at a future date.

**Recreation Ground Matters:** Report of Recreation Ground and Sports Association Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> January: After an initial discussion with regards to how to progress forward, it was agreed that the first priority should be the laying down of

the new area of recreation ground itself. The proposed plans that have been produced for the new pavilion, at a cost of about £750,000 were considered too costly at the present time. The plan needed further investigation but it would be a longer term project. Mr. C. Fennell (ECDC) informed the meeting that with regards to the proposals for a new car park, grant aid from his Council for this project would be doubtful.

It was of the opinion of the Council, that an emergency entrance onto the Recreation Ground should also be incorporated into the grant application, although this may be considered a requirement for health and safety reasons. It was also suggested, that monies could be raised over time towards the costs of a new pavilion, by the new central body in operation.

Letter of request from Mrs. H. Garbett, Isleham Pre School, for approval of the use of the playing field for pony rides on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2004 between 2 and 4pm for the spring fayre. Permission required for the field at the back between the Village Hall and Cricket Pavilion. It was proposed that approval be granted, subject to current health and safety regulations. Carried.

**Cemetery Matters:** The Clerk informed the meeting that the easibin in the New Cemetery had been stolen, and a replacement had been purchased from Cleanaway. A discussion took place with regards to the future use of the Cemetery land and whether it should be valued as building land or horticultural. It was felt that IPC had a duty to look after the finances of the community, and therefore investigate all avenues of how the land could be used.

**Correspondence:** NHS Primary Care Trust. Re the provision of emergency medical services: Letter received dated 14<sup>th</sup> January 2004, with regards to a new contract for GPs being introduced by the Government, giving them the opportunity to 'opt out' of giving emergency medical care outside normal surgery hours. Providing emergency medical services will be the responsibility of the Primary Care Trusts from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2004.

Letter from BT received dated 18<sup>th</sup> January 2004 from Mr. R. Thompson. BT Pay phones is currently reviewing the provision of public pay phones throughout Great Britain. The pay phone network has been reviewed to identify those pay phones that are losing money due to low usage and have an alternative pay phone nearby. This will enable them to 'thin out' the loss making pay phones whilst ensuring that pay phone services are still provided to the community. The initial survey of pay phones in the Cambridgeshire area has recently been completed. It is proposed to remove the pay phone in Isleham at The Causeway.

It was of the opinion of the Council, that losing this valuable asset would be a blow to the community as a whole. It was proposed to write back to Mr. R. Thompson, making our views known, with a copy to OFTEL. Carried.

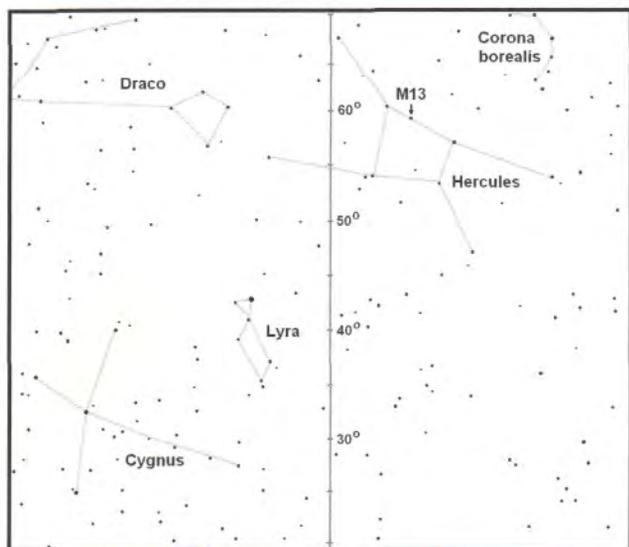
**Graffiti Project:** Letter received dated 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2004 with regards to a graffiti project that has been set up, which includes removing graffiti from public areas and private premises (business and domestic) adjoining public areas. This service is being offered free of charge. The Council will obtain more information.

**First Aider:** It was proposed that as Miss Wick was now formally a Parish Councillor, she be appointed as First Aider for the Council. Miss Wick will make all necessary arrangements for training purposes, and will be reimbursed accordingly for any costs incurred. Carried.

## In the Sky

Here we are again with an update of what you might be able to see at night. We have been persistently bugged by cloudy or windy nights and, when they have been clear, the Moon has been there to spoil everything. Saturn is racing on its journey behind the sun and is therefore an early evening object in Gemini. Jupiter is still a splendid object in Leo.

The Lyrids meteor shower has its maximum on the night of 21<sup>st</sup> April. It is not particularly spectacular but the anticipated rate is around 10 meteors an hour. Look east around midnight for the best chance of seeing some. The map below shows the sky looking east at midnight on 21<sup>st</sup>. The radiant (the point where the meteors appear to come from) is almost exactly half way between Lyra and Hercules. The scale shows the number of degrees above the horizon to look. The Great Globular Cluster (M13) is marked for those with binoculars.



Map for finding the Lyrid meteor shower

It is also predicted that there will be a reasonably bright comet visible after sunset from the middle to the end of May. It will then rapidly lose brightness. Look to the west at twilight during this period and you might be lucky.

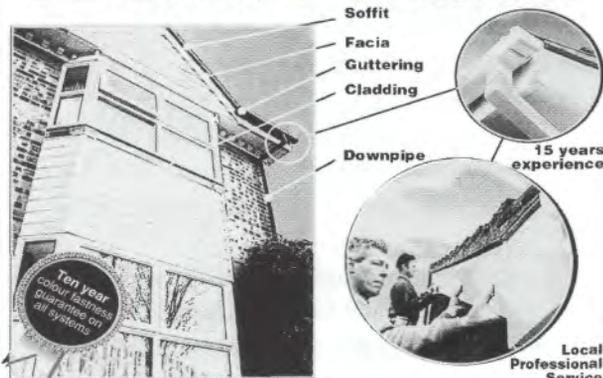
The Perseids meteor shower is in early August. It is a very rich display and the Moon is favourably placed. More information in the next issue.

## Forced.....

As you have gathered, this issue is 16 pages instead of the anticipated 12. We have received so much village news, plus additional advertising, that our editorial team have been forced to take unilateral action and increase the size of the Informer.

We desperately tried to reduce the size of articles received but found that we were no longer editing but crucifying. The result was virtually unreadable and was taking an endless time to put together. We will discuss our problems with IPC before the next issue and report back.

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# Isleham's Churches

## Services & Youth Groups

### St Andrew's Parish Church

#### *1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month:*

- 8.00 a.m. Prayer book communion
- 10.00 a.m. Family service
- 10.00 a.m. Junior Church

#### *All other Sundays:*

- 10.00 a.m. Common worship communion
- 10.00 a.m. Junior Church in Social Centre.

*Please note that there is a crèche every Sunday*

### Special Services

- Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> April: Maundy Thursday  
7.30 p.m. Holy Communion and feet washing
- Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> April: Good Friday  
2.00 p.m. Last Hour
- Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Day  
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
10.00 a.m. Family Holy Communion with special gifts for the children

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 7.30-9.00p.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

### Special Services

This Easter we will be hosting a combined churches service on **Good Friday (April 9<sup>th</sup>) at 10.30am**. This will last approx 1 hour and provide a time for reflection and thanksgiving for the death of the Lord Jesus Christ.

On **Easter Sunday (April 11<sup>th</sup>) at 10.30am**, we have a special all age Family Service when we will join together to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

A crèche will be available at both services for young children and refreshments will follow both services. Why not join us this Easter as we celebrate what Easter is really all about?

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

You may contact Dave on 01638 780636 or by e-mail at CE@plfc.co.uk.

### High Street Church

#### *Every Sunday:*

10.30am. Morning Worship. Creches are available for 0-3 year olds. Junior Church for 3-7 year olds from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Junior Church for 7-11 year olds from 10.00am to 12.30pm.

6.30pm. Evening Service

**Tuesdays:** "Rendezvous" for the over 50's is back at 3.00pm. Contact the office for details.

**Fridays:** 9.15am. "Little Lambs" for babies to pre-schoolers and their carers.  
7.00pm. 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 Events

**Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May** – Trivia Evening at the Social Centre at 7.30 p.m. £5 per team of 4 and refreshments provided.

### Bell Ringing

Bell ringing practise every Friday at 7 p.m. New members welcome. Come along and clear the village!

For full details contact **Janice Pope on 01638 780380**.

### High Street Church

Don't forget our planned new Alpha course. This is a 'jargon-free' introduction to what Christianity is all about, with informative videos but without any pressure. To find out more, please contact the Office on 01638 780985.

## Very True

No man or woman is worth your tears, and the one who is won't make you cry.

A true friend is someone who reaches for your hand and touches your heart.

Maybe God wants us to meet a few wrong people before meeting the right one, so that when we finally meet the person, we will know how to be grateful.

# Isleham WI

*Brenda Downey has sent us this update.*

At our recent AGM Gill Aspland was voted our new President, Carolyn Bird our Secretary, Pauline Wilkes the Minute Secretary and Jane Grant our Treasurer. Our next meeting is on 8<sup>th</sup> April when Jean Oldman will be sharing her holidays with us. The competition is "A homemade Easter card".

On 13<sup>th</sup> May our speaker is Margaret Haynes with her talk on "4000 Years of Tourism at Ely" The competition is an old postcard.

On June 10<sup>th</sup> the speaker will be Karen Richardson – Weekender Fashion. Come along and treat yourself. The competition is a self-made corsage.

All meetings start at 7.45 p.m. Please do come along and join us at any time. There will always be a friendly welcome, a good cup of tea, slice of cake, chats and social time. We look forward to meeting you. For more information, please phone the WI Secretary, Brenda Downey, on 01638 780338.

## Village Hall

We have been informed that the Chairperson, Secretary and 7 committee members have resigned from the Village Hall Committee for personal reasons. A contributing factor for the resignation of some of the Committee is the persistent vandalism of the Village Hall. The new Chairperson is Geof Garbett and the Treasurer is John Aves. Another 6 committee members are required. The Committee meet on a Wednesday every two months. If you are prepared to help by serving on the Committee, please contact Geof on 01638 780863.

## The Way It Was

Have a look at this motley crew from 1890, with their enormous scythes and sandstone sharpening rods. They were taking a break from their corn cutting to have history recorded using one of those new fandangled things called a camera. Yes, life was different then.

The photograph is from the Arthur Houghton Collection and was restored by Tony Ferrige.



*Isleham Corn Cutters in 1890*

If you have any old, interesting photographs, do please let us borrow them so that we can add them to our collection.

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- All your business is conducted over the internet and telephone
- You receive full training and support
- You will have access to the same exact ads and websites that I use every day to earn my income

Log into my personal website right now and take FREE tour to see for yourself just how this opportunity works.

[www.work2freedom.co.uk](http://www.work2freedom.co.uk)

# Competitions

## Spot the Difference

We had a few correct entries but Emily McGreavy was first out of the hat. Amy is still waiting for her £5 but we will deliver when Emily get hers. There are **12 differences** between the cartoons below. Mark them on one of them and send it to us by 20<sup>th</sup> May. The competition is open to anyone up to the age of 14. The winner will receive £5.



The differences last time were: 1. Clock face; 2. Shelf under clock; 3. Aircraft windows filled in; 4. Departure from PM to AM; 5. Shadow under desk; 6. Rope missing; 7. Barrier base different; 8. Badge on bag filled in; 9. Wiggle line missing for woman's leg; 10-11. Woman wearing gloves (2 differences); 12. Woman's hair different; 13. Sleeve button missing on desk man.

## Anagrams

See how many words of 4 letters or more you can make from the words "Church Lane". This is pretty easy and you should get at least 50.

Last time we asked you to make words from "Rising Sun". You will have done well to get 20. How about: these: grin, gurn, insuring, iris, issuing, nursing, ring, rinsing, rising, ruin, ruing, ruining, rung, sign, sing, sinus, siring, snug, suing, sung, using.

## Serious Question

We asked you for the main differences between butterflies and moths. Here are a few.

Butterflies have long, thin antenna, while moths have shorter feathery antennas. Butterflies usually rest with

their wings closed, while moths rest with their wings open. Butterflies generally feed during the day while moths are seen more at night. Moths tend to have fat hairy or furry bodies, while butterflies are slighter and smoother.

Now to our serious question this time. **Why are recipes different for cooking with chicken and duck eggs?**

## ISLEHAM UNDER FIVES

The new building project has now been running for a whole year! This is a long term project but we do seem to be making slow progress. We have decided to use the Architect that Fordham Pre-school used and he has drawn up some sketch drawings. In the last few weeks these have been available at Playgroup, School, The Spring Fayre and Easter Fun Day. If you have not already seen them and would like to, you would be very welcome to contact Kathy Carver or Julie Porter and we will arrange this for you. We hope that we will be in a position to have some proper plans drawn up in the next few months and will then start to look at applying to the National Lottery.

We do still desperately need more help. There are only four of us on this committee trying to get a mammoth project off the ground. We would like somebody to join us who actually has a child at Playgroup as this would greatly improve communication between us and parents. If there is anyone out there who does not have links to Playgroup at the moment and could spare us some time, please consider joining us. We do hope to provide facilities within the new building such as before and after school clubs and holiday clubs which will potentially benefit all children at Isleham Primary.

We have several fundraising events coming up before the summer holidays including a Duck Race and Bingo Night. The first event is a Pampered Chef evening on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April to be held at the Bowls Club. Tickets will be on sale a bit nearer the time and will include a glass of wine. Please come along and join us for some culinary fun and sample the delicious and simple recipes that will be demonstrated. We will get 10% of all orders made on the night. The next in our series of cryptic quizzes will be available at the end of April.

Finally a big thank you to Clare Cooper who did a sponsored run for us back in September. We managed to raise £92 towards our New Building Fund. If you are one of the sponsors who forgot (!) to pay up, it's never too late!

If you would like any more information about this project you can talk to Kathy Carver on 781116 or Julie Porter on 781390. We look forward to keeping you up to date with all our news and enjoying your continued support for our fundraising activities in 2004!

## Golden Jubilee Mugs

Please note that Queen's Golden Jubilee mugs (2002) are on sale at the Post Office at a reduced price of one pound. If you missed out on the chance to buy one at the time, they are now available to buy.

## Profound Thought

To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world.

# ECDC News

We have received the following information on pensions. Make sure that you claim for what is rightfully yours!



Part of the Department  
for Work and Pensions

## PENSION CREDIT

**"PICK IT UP,  
IT'S YOURS"**

### What is Pension Credit?

Pension Credit is a new entitlement for people aged 60 or over. This could mean extra money for you every week.

### How much could you get?

Pension Credit guarantees everyone aged 60 or over an income of at least:

**£105.45 a week** if you are single.

**£160.95 a week** if you have a partner.

For the first time, people aged 65 or over who have made modest arrangements for their retirement may also be rewarded. In the past, those who had managed to save a little were no better off than those who had not saved at all. Pension Credit changes this by giving new money to those who have saved. This could be up to:

**£15.51 a week** if you are single.

**£20.22 a week** if you have a partner.

### How will you be able to apply?

**Call FREE on 0800 99 1234**

### Examples:

Mrs C **£35.63** per week better off.

Mr and Mrs F **£113.02** per week better off.

## Air Ambulances

As you all know by now, Linda and Ken at The Griffin organise events to support the Air Ambulances.

Linda is thinking of organising a car boot sale at The Griffin some time towards the end of May or at the beginning of June. However, it is important to know in advance how many people would be interested in hiring a pitch. As always, all proceeds will go to the Air Ambulance charity.

If you are interested in taking part, please either drop into The Griffin or call Linda at the number below.

**01638 780447**

## Apprenticeship Grants

The IPC have sent the following information with respect to their support for students.

### Dunstall Student Apprenticeship Grants

If there are any students out there, on an apprenticeship, Isleham Parish Council can help financially towards apprenticeship or educational expenses up to the value of £200 as of 15<sup>th</sup> March 2004. Please see the criteria below to see if you qualify.

### Criteria for Applications

1. Applicants must have been resident in Isleham for one year, and submit a letter of application to the Clerk.
2. Applicants must have spent the money first, up to a maximum of £200, and send in original receipts.
3. Applicants must be serving an apprenticeship, for example chef, mechanic, engineering, or a university student or student of further education at university level studying for a specific career, for example geologist, computing, law.
4. Applicants can only claim for books, uniform, protective clothing, tools, computer accessories etc, but not stationery, office supplies, travel expenses, etc.
5. Applicants must have already started the university, college of further education or job.
6. Applicants are required to submit a letter from the course tutor or employer, stating they are attending the course, or they have commenced employment.

If you feel that you meet the criteria, please write to the Parish Clerk, **Mrs Y. Bishop** at:

**17 Sun Street, Isleham, Cambs. CB7 5RT**

Remember to enclose the information required as per the criteria, and your grant application will be processed.

## Books Wanted

### Unclutter your home of books

We will collect them from you for a small fee of £1 for petrol. Any amount considered.

Contact: Frances or Mark on **01638 780235**  
or email [brewgirl@fgrant22.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:brewgirl@fgrant22.fsnet.co.uk)

Do you have hardbacks with covers intact, or paperbacks in good order? We can act as your agent. Fee negotiable to cover handling, postage, etc. Any monies realised will be sent on to you as soon as the sale has been completed. Contact details as above.

## Joyces's Corner

We now have room for another of Joyce Drayton's poems. She calls this one Our WI.

### Our WI

*We meet once a month in our village hall  
And we usually have a "Bring and Buy" stall  
When we arrive at the hall we will see  
Jane selling tickets for a draw and tea*

*Membership is the highest it's ever been  
Ladies are tall, short, some plump, some lean  
They're a really nice crowd of workers and "toilers"  
With several young chicks and a few "Old Boilers"*

*Our AGM was coming along fast  
Without a new President we wouldn't last  
With not much hope of a new Committee  
For the club to fold would have been a pity*

*But to our delight stepped in lovely Gill  
The post of President she offered to fill  
We should say thanks to her for the way  
She gets things done in her own quiet way*

*We all sing Jerusalem in very good voice  
Our speakers all vary, we have plenty of choice  
Talks vary a bit, some helpful some funny  
Could be about bats, or bees and their honey*

*Carolyn goes round with her birthday list  
We each get a present, no one is missed  
Someone will visit those who aren't well  
It might make them sicker, you never can tell*

*We provide the refreshments on Gala Day  
When debating a float, each has a say  
Then there's "Social Half Hour", it's always good fun  
It comes at the end when the meeting is done*

*We do have some good times, in fact quite a lot  
And we finish at 10, right on the dot  
They're a jolly nice crowd, they really must be  
'Cos for 51 years they've put up with me*

Joyce Drayton

## Isleham Gala 2004

### *In the Village, For the Village, Children First*

The Isleham Gala Committee are looking for sponsorship for this year's Gala Day. This year, the Committee would like to have an attraction that the teenagers and adults would enjoy. The problem is that the attraction will cost around £400 and they are therefore asking if anyone would like to help by sponsoring it or even making a donation towards the running of the Gala.

If you would like to help in anyway, please contact the Gala Committee Chairperson, **Emily Radcliffe** on **01638 780831**.

The Isleham Gala is a non-profit making organisation and any money raised is used to fund the following year's Gala. The accounts for 2003 are show at the top of the next column.

Income		Expenditure	
Stalls and Pitches	£62.50	Hire of Stalls	£112.50
Donations	£230.50	Donations	£80.00
Sponsorship	£1,175.00	Trophies, Medals, Prizes	£1,016.74
Draw	£903.00	Draw expenses	£50.40
Fun Run	£92.00	Insurance	£262.50
Gala Queen Entries	£30.00	Band	£375.00
Commission from Bar	£100.00	PA system	£150.00
Competition Entries	£100.00	Marquee Hire	£160.00
Craft Stalls	£218.00	Circus Entertainer	£170.00
		Misc.	£246.66
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,911.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,623.80</b>

Excess income over Expenditure **£287.20**

## Isleham Primary School

Julie Porter has sent us the following request for help.



**CALLING ALL  
CROSS-STITCHERS!**

**ISLEHAM  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
NEEDS YOU!**

**Could you volunteer one lunchtime a week to help me run a Cross-Stitch club for year six children?**

Linda Wilding and myself have been running this popular club for several years. Now that she has returned to work, I would like somebody new to come and help me. The children really enjoy this club and get a lot from it. The club runs on Thursday lunchtimes from 12.15pm to 1.00pm, although I would be able to change days to suit.

If you enjoy Cross-Stitch, please consider helping me. I am sure you will find it very rewarding.

For further details please contact **Julie Porter** on **01638 781390** or call in at the School Office.

### **ALSO REQUIRED...**

Do you have a skill that you would like to pass on to the children at Isleham School? We are always looking for people to run lunchtime clubs for our older children. In the past we have had French, Chess, Art Clubs, etc. If you think you have something to offer us we would be very pleased to hear from you.

For further details please contact **Julie Porter** on **01638 781390** or call in at the School Office.

**Please note that you do not need to have any connections with the school to volunteer your help. However, we would need to have a police check carried out.**

## Buggy Challenge!

Offie (Arthur Whitehand) has challenged Ian Humphreys to a buggy race on Gala Day. Gala Committee, look out!!!

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Fresh Cream Cakes**

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Give them a Try!**



# SPORTS INTERVIEW



Following the Tony Weston article in the last issue, Karl thought that it would be interesting to interview Colin Sheldrick who is keenly interested in football in our village.

## Interview with Colin Sheldrick

**Profile:** Colin Sheldrick, age 53.

**Occupation:** Bricklayer and Foreman.

**Career** (football wise of course): Only Isleham on Saturdays but on Sundays I played for Fordham Greyhounds, Newmarket Co-op, Centre who were a great side and mainly full of Newmarket town players and Exning Road club. (*Editors Comment: Colin played anywhere along the back four and also played as a old fashioned wing half.*)

**Highs:** Various promotions and I felt a real sense of joy winning local trophies (Cambridgeshire FA).

**Lows:** Having to hang up my boots due to injury.

**Regrets** if any: Not one to be honest, not one, just happy to be involved in the game

**Ambitions** left in the beautiful game: To carry on enjoying my football and help encourage the community of Isleham to be involved in the team

**Funniest Footballing Moment:** What is the funniest thing I have seen on the football pitch? Isleham were in with a real chance of promotion and, due to a heavy frost and snow, their match on the particular Saturday looked like it was going to be called off. So they decided to use a RED dye to mark the pitch out and a brown ball so you could see the ball against the snow and the referee agreed that it was good enough and the game went ahead. (*Editors comment: Good idea huh huh, nope they lost 0-1 ☹*).

Enough about football now to Colin as a person and Islehamite.

*Were you born and bred in Isleham or are you originally from afar?*

Isleham born and bred.

*What are your fondest memories of Isleham as a child or as an adult and has Isleham changed much?*

The village has completely changed. As a child I used to know everyone and everyone knew me, but now the village has really expanded. As a consequence, the village has lost some of that special close knit community edge but, none the less, it is still a wonderful place to be.

*Favourite Film?*

I'm Not really a film buff, so I can't really say.

*Favourite Foods?*

Indian and Chinese food.

*Hobbies (apart from football)?*

At this stage in my life I am growing to appreciate what I have and I am really enjoying spending as much time as possible with my family (*Editors comment: Yeah, I am amazed he has other interests than football as well ☺*)

*What are your 3 favourite things about Isleham?*

The community spirit that we still have, The Fen and its beautiful surroundings and, of course, the people.



## THE SEASON SO FAR

*Summary on Footy Season so far?*

Well, at the moment I am covering for Adie Sheldrick (*Editors Comment: I mean, granted he has just had his first child with Katie but where is the commitment to the club, Adie? Just kidding and congratulations to you both*) and the first team are doing OK. They are 6<sup>th</sup> in division 2B of the Cambridgeshire League and we are hoping to consolidate our position. We want to build on this next season and hopefully gain promotion to 1B.

The second XI, run admirably by John Marks, are more than holding their own in division 4B. They are placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the table and are hoping for a strong run in to improve their position.

The Isleham Sunday Side, which I also manage (*Editors Comment: I told you he loves his football*), are in with a great chance of winning the league. If we win our last 3 games the title is ours. So keep your fingers crossed for us.

Well there you have it, Colin Sheldrick in a nutshell. What a jolly nice bloke. If you would like to meet Colin, he is the one shouting and screaming at us on a Saturday and Sunday up at the recreation ground!

## 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

We will keep you fully up to date with the Bowls fixtures and how well the teams do. However, details should always be confirmed with **Pat Houghton** on **01638 780789**.

## Cricket

Cricket will be underway by the time the next Informer is published and we will keep you updated with fixtures and results.

*Editor's note: I apologise for not having a update on the pool leagues, etc., but as some of you may know, I have just moved house to Littleport and I have not had time to collate all the information on all the other sport in our community. But never fear, in the next issue of the Informer there will be an in depth round up of all the other things that make Isleham great!*