

Isleham Informer

No.8 June 2004

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

Litter Rules, OK?

Ian Powys has been taking a few photographs of the centre of our village. The photographs speak for themselves.

Isleham would never win a prize for the best kept village. On the other hand, we stand a good chance of being awarded with the dirtiest village prize. The Informer has received quite a lot of comments thanking us for highlighting the dog fouling problems in Isleham and that following our articles there has been a very substantial improvement. How long it will last is a different matter. Remember that if you see a dog fouling or an owner letting it foul, REPORT IT to the police or the Parish Council so that action may be taken. The law will hit the owner where it hurts – their pocket.

Following receiving a number of complaints about litter we hope that a feature on this problem will raise awareness and cause the messy individuals to think about what they are doing. To put the issue into perspective, a few weeks ago a couple of Islehamites went to Germany for a few days. On crossing the border from France the difference in litter was almost unbelievable. France was pretty dirty but, in Germany, there was no litter. On passing through small German villages there was not even a sweet wrapper to be seen. It was obvious that the Germans take a pride in the cleanliness of their villages in a way that Isleham does not. How's this for a postcard photo of our village green?



Isleham Village Green

The disgusting mess has nothing to do with the new "Bamboo Garden" owners. It is symptomatic of lazy litter louts in the village - but then maybe their own living rooms and bedrooms look like these photographs? What the hell is the matter with the parents of these folk? How about this photo taken on a different day? The black thing is the litter bin on the Village Green. How is it possible for people to be so bone idle?



Litter bins are alien to litter louts

We can expect that the warmer weather and lighter nights over the next few weeks will encourage the litter louts out and about and so we can expect even more mess. Litter bins in the village are often surrounded by garbage that people are just too lazy to scrunch up and put in the bin!

So, what is the answer to these slob? Why should it be necessary for Priory Garage to regularly clean up the mess left by others outside their premises?

We asked IPC for a response on the litter issue but we have yet to receive a reply. When we are informed of what we can do about this depressing matter we will let you know.



Village Green bench

Warning!

Many of you will be visiting Spain this year. Do not take loads of cash. Spain is currently suffering from a serious theft problem. The Spanish police claim that eastern European immigrants are going round pubs, clubs, restaurants and bars in pairs and stealing wallets, purses and handbags. They do not distract people and then steal since they would be recognised too often. Instead, they wait for people to be distracted and then steal from them. We know because one of your editors was a recent victim while paying at a restaurant.

Remember that holiday insurance normally only covers you for up to £250 cash!!!!

Contents

1. Cover article. Litter Rules, OK?
3. Brownies and Rhinos; Isleham Society
4. Smile
6. Re-enactment feature
7. Chris Goodwins retires
8. IPC News
9. In the Sky. An update on what to see
10. Isleham Churches News; The way it was
11. Paul Chaplin's stolen stamp collection
12. Competitions; Isleham Under 5's
13. Your Letters
14. St Andrew's roof restoration
15. Joyce's Corner; Buggy challenge
16. Sports Report

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.

Arthur's Snippets

Arthur has provided the following snippets.

Shrewsbury Manor at Little Isleham was situated on the West side of Isleham near the boundaries of Fordham and Isleham. A Mr Lane and his Wife came to see me, from Victoria, British Columbia, where they have a hotel. He bought the title of Lord of the Manor from Kings College, Cambridge and he paid £5500 for it.

Little Isleham is where my brother Bill and I found the largest Bronze Age hoard ever to be found in Western Europe. The hoard was over 3000 years old. My brother and I gave the hoard to Moyses Hall Museum at Bury St Edmunds as a gift. There was a Church there called St Nicholas and the last preacher to serve there was a Christopher Green who was buried inside St Andrews Church in Isleham in 1523. I don't know what happened to Little Isleham and its villagers. They could have moved to higher ground or maybe they were wiped out by the plague. Nobody knows.

Lost!

On April 23rd this year (St. George's Day if you are English), a Cuckoo was heard sounding its tune. Later on that day, a police car was spotted in Mill Street. Obviously both had lost their bearings.

A Child's View

What do you think your mum and dad have in common?

"Both don't want any more kids." – Lori, age 8

Did You Read....

Did you read the following note in the Daily Telegraph?

Commenting on a complaint from a Mr Arthur Purdey about a large gas bill, a spokesman for North West Gas said, "We agree it was rather high for the time of year. It's possible Mr Purdey has been charged for the gas used up during the explosion that destroyed his house."

Desperate for Help

The Isleham Informer is desperate for some more help on the editorial team. The reason for the very late arrival of your Informer is that other urgent commitments have delayed putting it together for the printer by more than a week.

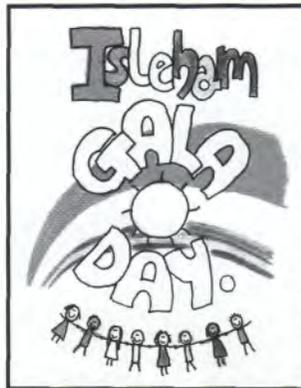
We need someone that is very familiar with Microsoft Word to help with getting the articles together and the editing. You will even be asked to take over this role at times of crisis. Fortunately, crises are rare! If you can help us, do please contact either Ian Humphreys on 01638 781796 or Tony Ferrige on 01638 780973. Alternatively, you may email us at: ***mail@isleham-informer.org.uk***.

Isleham Gala 2004

In the Village, For the Village, Children First

It is not too late.....

...for you to rent a stall or pitch. 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.

Disclaimer

Whilst every effort is made by Isleham Parish Council and the Informer Editorial Team to ensure that the interpretation and content of the information contained in this publication is correct, the Isleham Parish Council and the Informer Editorial Team cannot be held liable for any consequential action based on this information.

1st ISLEHAM BROWNIES

Linda Ellis reports that the 1st Isleham Brownies recently went on a trip to Woburn Safari Park that turned out to be quite an adventure. A report of that eventful day, written by some of the Brownies, is as follows:

RHINO RAGE

On our trip to Woburn we all had an adventure, it started when our coach got stuck in the mud near to the rhinos.

The rhinos wanted to charge at the coach with us inside it, but the rangers were there to help us. After several attempts to get us out of the mud the rangers decided that it would be safer for us all to get off the coach.

They drove a lorry right up to the side of the coach and we all got off and onto the lorry, then we were driven past the rhinos and elephants, just like on a real safari, up to the restaurant where we were treated to a cup of hot chocolate. We were treated like V.I.P's. It was a great day.

Luckily they did manage to get the coach out of the mud and we did manage to have a drive around the enclosure before we left for home.

ISLEHAM SOCIETY

Ian Powys has sent us the following update. Please note Ian's plea for more members. Help keep the Society going.

We have a new programme for the year May 2004 to April 2005. It is very varied and we hope that it will attract more members because a society such as ours cannot long survive if more younger members do not become interested in their village and life around us.

Visitors and guests are welcome – come and attend an evening meeting – or an outing?

On **June 17th** we have a talk by **Terry Holloway** on the History of Marshalls of Cambridge.

In **July** we have a coach outing and a conducted tour of the **Imperial War Museum at Duxford**.

There will possibly be another trip to the **Moyses Hall Museum** in Bury St Edmunds to see, among other exhibits, the Bronze Age hoard discovered by Arthur Houghton here in Isleham. We may also visit the Museum of the Suffolk Regiment.

Our speaker for **September** will be **David Chambers**, talking with his slides of a recent trip to Nepal.

For further information, please call the Secretary **Beryl Powys** on **01638 780519**.

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



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, 6 speed. 13000 miles. **£12650**

2003 03 Renault Laguna Dynamique 1.9 DCi 5 dr hatch in Flame Red. Alloys, Air con, Half leather, PAS, ABS. Twin air bags, Radio/CD. 6 speed. Central locking, Electric windows, Front fogs. 13000 miles. **£11995**

2002 52 Renault Scenic Fidii RX4 1.9DCi in Crystal Green. Half Leather and cloth seats, Sunroof, Radio/CD, Air con, ABS, Alloy wheels, Central locking, Electric windows. Low mileage at 17000 miles. **£12995**

2002 52 Renault Megane 1.4 Dynamique 16V 5dr in Ink Blue metallic. Alloys, PAS, ABS, Air con, CD, Cent locking. Low mileage at 7500 miles. **£8995**

2002 52 Renault Laguna 2.0 16V Dynamique 5dr in Odyssey Blue metallic. All the extras inc. ABS, PAS, Air con, Alloys, Half leather. 24000 miles. **£9995**

2002 02 Renault Megane Scenic Expression + Dci in metallic Gold. PAS, ABS, Front fog, Radio cassette + CD changer, Electric windows, 29000 miles. **£9995**

2002 02 Renault Clio 1.2 16v Expression + 3dr in metallic Silver. PAS, Central locking, Air con, Radio cassette. Only 12000 miles. **£6495**

2001 51 Renault Espace Grand The Race in metallic Silver. 2.2 Turbo Diesel 5sp. All the extras + 7 seats. FSH. Low mileage at 25000. **£14650**

2001 Y Renault Scenic 1.6 Auto Dynamique in metallic Silver. Half leather, Alloys, Climate Control, ABS, PAS, Front fogs., etc. Low Mileage at 16000. **£8250**

2001 Y Renault Megane 1.4 16v Expression in Ascort Green metallic. Air con, ABS, PAS, Central locking, Electric windows. FSH. Only 19000 miles. **£5750**

2000 V Ford Focus Zetec 1.8 5dr hatch in metallic Blue. ABS, PAS. FSH. 50000 miles.. **£6250**

1997 R Renault Scenic 1.6 in White. Air con, Electric windows, PAS, ABS, Radio cassette, Central locking, Front fog lamps, FSH. 77000 miles.. **£3995**

1997 P Fiat Punto 55s 3 dr hatch in White. **£1795**

1996 P Land Rover Discovery XS TDi 2.5 in metallic Red. 7 Seat's, Half Leather, Alloys. 62000 miles. **£7995**

2003 53 Italjet Millenium 100cc super scooter in Gold metallic. Ex display stock. **Our price £1600**

Smile

This time we have received two "dumb blonde" jokes from Mike Kenny and Louise Doyle. We hope that our Isleham blondes, who do not fall into this category, will find them amusing.

Trip to Melbourne

A plane was on its way to Melbourne when a blonde in economy class got up, moved to first class and sat down. The flight attendant saw her do this and asked to see her ticket. She told the blonde passenger that she'd paid for economy and that she had to go back.

The blonde replied, "I'm blonde, I'm beautiful, I'm going to Melbourne and I'm staying right here!"

The flight attendant went into the cockpit and told the pilot and co-pilot that there was some blonde bimbo sitting in first class that belonged in economy and would not move back to her seat. The co-pilot went back to the blonde and tried to explain that because she had only paid for an economy seat she would have to leave and return to her original seat.

The blonde replied, "I'm blonde, I'm beautiful, I'm going to Melbourne and I'm staying right here!"

Exasperated the co-pilot told the pilot that it was no use and that he probably should have the police waiting on landing to arrest this blonde that won't listen to reason. The pilot said, "You say she's blonde? I'll handle this, I'm married to a blonde, and I speak blonde!" He went back to the blonde, whispered in her ear and she said, "Oh, I'm sorry - I had no idea." She got up and moved back to her seat in the economy section. The flight attendant and co-pilot are amazed and asked him what he had said to make her move without any fuss.

The Pilot replied, "Simple, I just told her that first class wasn't going to Melbourne."

Blonde Cop

A blonde female police officer pulled over a blonde woman speeding in a convertible sports car. She walked up to the car and asked the blonde for her driver's license. The blonde convertible driver searched through her purse but couldn't find it. Finally she asked, "What does it look like?" The blonde police officer told her, "It's that thing with your picture on it."

The blonde driver searched for a few more seconds, pulled out her compact, opened it and, sure enough, saw herself. She handed the compact to the blonde police officer. After a few seconds looking at the compact, the blonde cop rolled her eyes, handed the compact back to the blonde convertible driver and said, "If you had told me you were a police officer when I first pulled you over we could have avoided this whole thing."

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

Useful Phone Numbers

Emergency for Police, Fire, Ambulance	999
Police (Cams.)	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 (Paul Chaplin)	01638 781745
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

Next CMs

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

Parish Council: *Monday, 5th July 2004.*
Monday, 2nd August 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, 14th June.*
8.00 p.m. on *Monday 12th July.*

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, 21st June*

All Gala Committee meetings are held at the Comrades Club. Anyone is welcome. If you can help us with this year's Gala Day, even if it only for the day, please come along to the meeting on 21st June.

Included with this Informer should be a copy of the GALA Program. If yours is missing, please collect one up from the newsgents or post office.

COPY DEADLINES

The deadlines for copy for the *August* 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: 14th July
Prearranged articles/features: 19th July

Advertisers

Changes to regular adverts: 23rd July

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.

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.

Sometimes Bigger

We are pleased to report that your Informer will occasionally have more pages. IPC have said that the Informer can have as many pages as we like providing we obtain extra advertising to cover the additional printing costs. Watch out for Ian Humphreys as he will be bending the arms of all potential advertisers!

RESTORATION THANKS

Nick Carver has written to us about the St Andrew's restoration work. See our feature on page 14.

Who can have failed to miss the appearance at the end of February of scaffolding both outside and inside the church and its recent removal? The discovery of a permanent colony of protected bats meant that work had to proceed earlier than expected, but this has brought the benefit of the work being finished earlier than expected.

On behalf of everybody at St Andrew's, I would like to thank all the organisations and individuals in the village that have helped us both financially and by providing moral support. Until all the bills come in we will not know the final cost of the project, but we believe we are within £5,000 of our revised target of £147,000. To raise that amount of money in such a short space of time is an outstanding achievement and we hope our architect is right when he tells us that the roof should now be secure for the next 100 years.

The work has brought some conservation experts to the village who have marvelled at the mediaeval craftsmanship on display and we plan to have a permanent record of what they found available shortly so that everybody can see these wonders for themselves."

Karma Farm

8 Fen Bank, Isleham

Home Grown Natural Beef & Pork

Please call 01638 780701

or e-mail taylorfamily@freezezone.co.uk

See our website: 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

Mallow Fencing

All types of Fence erecting
and refurbishment undertaken

Verandas & Decking
Garden Features, Ponds
Patios, Loose stone & block drives
Custom built timber barns & sheds
Pergodas, Decorative steel work

Walnut Tree Farm, Prickwillow Road
Isleham. Tel 01638 781794

All major credit & debit cards taken

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

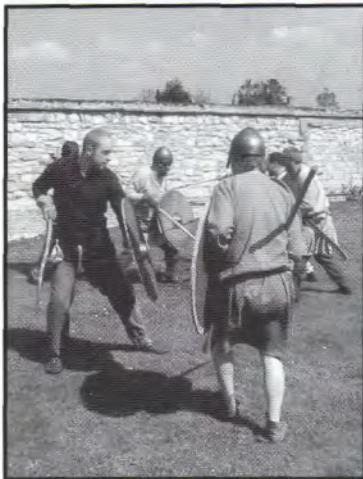
Regular live music

Re-enactment News

Our re-enactors have been very busy over the past few weeks. There are two groups – Venta, who now cover the 1-6th century concentrating on Romano Britain and DAS who specifically cover the 870-890 Viking period.

On 27th April the DAS group (Dark Ages Society) were given permission by English Heritage to use the Priory for a day of fighting and games to be followed by a traditional banquet in the evening. The weather was glorious and 25 people turned up from all over the UK of which 7 were from Isleham.

Spears, swords and axes were in abundance and following some standard practise two sides were formed for an unscripted general free fight as shown in the photo below. No humans were hurt in the making of this event!



Traditional games of the period were played during the afternoon. One was Kubb which is a very early form of skittles from which current versions are derived. The game is played from both ends of a pitch and ends with the King being knocked down. There is an annual competition held in Gotland in the Baltic that some of the Isleham re-enactors

attend and they actually reached the semi-final two years ago. Another game, Kingie, is a bit like tag. A beanbag is used to throw at people. If it hits someone they become part of that team. The idea is to make everyone the same team. The Vikings were also famous for their board games that many of our present games are derived from.

The Priory was an ideal place to hold their traditional banquet in the evening. All the dishes and drinks are authentic for the period and, of course, the drinking horn is little short of mandatory. It would seem that the banquet ends when everyone is very happy but no one ever quite seems to remember!



Inside the Priory

The Venta group have been giving exhibitions all over the local area, demonstrating and educating on braiding, spinning, writing, weapons, cooking and making coins, pottery and oil lamps. Many of their events are at museums, fetes and at restored sites such as those at West Stow and Hinchingsbrooke. Venta displays are always very popular with visitors and you always have to queue to see what they are doing and to talk to them. Each member specialises in a particular aspect of life at that time and they have all become experts.



The Hinchingsbrooke site

There is no doubt that what these people don't know is not worth knowing.

One thing they are particularly fussy over is their dress, weapons and accoutrements. It all has to be dead right, even down to the type of material used for their clothes. Trainers are a definite "No" and footwear is often made to order from re-enactors markets and fairs. Venta has members of all ages from Isleham and the surrounding area.



Relaxing at Hinchingsbrooke

Forthcoming Venta events and displays are:

Saturday, 19th June: Godmanchester Roman themed fun afternoon.

Saturday and Sunday, 26-27th June: Hillside Farm at Freckenham. It is hoped that DAS will also be there and the forge will be operating.

Sunday, 4th July: Celts and Romans at Stonea Camp near March. Cambs. Archaeological Unit open presentation.

Friday and Saturday, 16-17th July: Beck Row.

Sunday, 18th July: Wimpole Hall with Cambs. Archaeological Unit.

Sunday, 31st July: Hinchingsbrook Iron Age Farm open day.

Contact the Informer if you are interested in attending any of the events and we will provide you with full details.

At Long Last!

Christopher Goodwins, our priest at St Andrew's, has written to us about his forthcoming retirement.

Dear Friends,

In a few months' time, on September the 20th I shall have been Ordained for 40 years. I will also have served here for the past five years as Priest at Isleham, and will have reached the age of 68.

Accordingly, I need to inform you that I have written to the Bishop of Ely to tender my resignation, with effect from the 30th of September 2004.

The Bishop will continue to license me, and I will of course serve here and there occasionally.

However, Doreen and I want you to know that we are very happy here, and we will still live at 102 The Causeway; but many of you will recall that we did actually come here *to retire*, and while we have life and strength we want to be able to do just that!

We would therefore like to thank you all, for your enormous encouragement and support, and look forward now to the sort of retirement that we had originally planned, when I gave up Tamerton Foliot six years ago in 1998.

Christopher Goodwins

What many of you will not know is that Christopher is also an author and broadcaster. He has written two books. The first, published in 2001 is "The New Testament in Limerick Verse". Many years ago he had put the parables of Jesus into limerick form, but in the five weeks before Easter Day 2001 he had "translated" the entire New Testament into limerick verse.

The copy that he sent to "The Church Times" so impressed the editor, that it received unprecedented front-page treatment. As a result, the Daily Telegraph followed suit. From then on, the Press Association ensured that every major regional and national paper in the world featured the work. Dozens of Radio and Press interviews, from Australia to Canada, took place in the three weeks that followed, culminating in Christopher and Doreen being invited as special guests on Channel 4 TV's "The Big Breakfast."

Many people suggested that the Old Testament and The Apocrypha should also be published in the same sort of format. This part of the bible took Christopher three weeks to "translate" into limericks, between the 23rd July and the 15th August 2001.

Both books are in print and available from Amazon and other bookshops.



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

Oil changes, filters, etc., etc.
Prices on application

Mumford Roofing

Mumford Roofing

Roofing, Tiling & Slating

Free Quotation & Advice

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

Mark Mumford

7 Malting Lane
Isleham, Cambs. CB7 5RZ

Tel /Fax: 01638 781252
Mobile: 07976 619560

Parish Council News

The following is an abbreviated and incomplete version of the IPC minutes for the 5th April meeting. Please remember that any parishioner may request a copy of the full minutes from IPC.

Police Matters: PC Humble did not attend the meeting and no police report was submitted.

C.Cllr Report: The Clerk had received a copy letter from C. Cllr. Powley, on his reply to Cambridgeshire County Council of his opinion of the draft recommendations on the future electoral arrangements. It was the view of Isleham Parish Council that the previous comments made by the Council on this issue still stand. i.e that Soham should not be divided, and all the surrounding villages be together.

D Cllr Report: D.Cllr. D. Beckett informed the Council, that funding is now available for the housing development at Station Rd, Fordham Road.

The plans by ECDC to move to other premises due to lack of space in the existing building, was still ongoing. It was the opinion of the Council that the new premises would be more beneficial in the Soham area.

Highways & Footpaths: Letter received dated 9th March 2004 with regards to the Four Cross Bridge, Worlington. Due to the costs involved, it is very unlikely that a safety barrier will be erected in the foreseeable future. The reflector posts have been put in place, and should help identify the potential hazard to drivers.

Letter from Mr. D. Groom dated 22nd March 2004, informing the Council that the potholes in the village will be filled and the lining will be arranged in the new financial year starting in early April.

Letter received dated 19th March 2004 regarding various streetlights that need attention in the village. The faults listed in a letter by the Clerk will be actioned, and their contractor will remove the old columns in Sun Street.

Recreation Ground Matters: The Clerk had received an inspection report from Wicksteed Leisure with regards to the Play Area. Works were required to the Fun Buggy Tow Truck on Tiles, at a total cost of £84 plus VAT. It was also considered necessary that the Play Area be cleaned, as there was excessive tree and leaf litter on the impact surface, which could cause potential slip and trip hazards. It was also suggested that a sign be provided listing emergency and owner/operator details that may provide assistance in the event of an accident or damaged equipment, the location of the nearest pay phone would be beneficial. Work to the Fun Buggy approved. The Clerk was also instructed to obtain a quote for cleaning/pressure washing the Play Area from Truelink Ltd.

The Clerk informed the meeting that Mrs. Josie Bocking would be leaving her job as grounds person in approximately one months time, due to moving to Fordham. The Clerk was instructed to advertise the vacancy for a new grounds person.

Isleham Cricket Club requested permission to use the Recreation Ground for Cricket matches for the 2004 season. Approved.

Village Hall Matters: At the last Committee meeting of the Isleham Twinning Association, discussion took place as to the next visit by Nesles to Isleham in May or June 2004. Each year, since the twinning nearly ten years ago, families from

Nesles have visited Isleham annually and on these visits the Committee provides a full meal for them and their host families. This social occasion has regularly taken place in the Village Hall where a meal is provided for around eighty people, sometimes more, by each member of the Committee doing preparation and cooking at home and carrying food to the Village Hall or alternatively using outside caterers. Both of these options are very unsatisfactory, as, apart from cooking larger quantities of food at home and taking it to the hall, the food cools in transit. Outside caterers are expensive for the Association as the only funds available are what have been raised throughout the year. The Committee asked if there is likely to be any improvement in the near future to the kitchen facilities at the Village Hall. The cooker has only four hot plates and there is no oven. Upgrading the kitchen cooker to one with six or eight rings and an oven together with a couple of microwaves would make a big difference. It was the opinion of the Council that there was, at present, a lack of funds to carry out improvements to the Village Hall kitchen facilities. At the present time, the cooker is used very little in the Village Hall, and having extra equipment to create a food prep area could cause problems with regards to health and safety issues.

Due to the resignation of almost all of the Village Hall Committee, it was felt by the Council that they should play a more active part in the control of their assets, to administer them more strictly, and therefore oversee any **problems or difficulties** as they arise from each individual Committee. Cllr. P.Chaplin was therefore appointed new Chairman of the Village Hall Committee.

Correspondence: A meeting will be arranged for Mr D.Robertson, Cambs. Fire & Rescue Service, to give a presentation to IPC on the new Integrated Risk Management Plan.

Letter received from E.Hoggart, ECDC, concerning standards of conducts for members covering declaration of membership of Freemasons, membership of potential party council associations and declaring interests at meetings.

Letter received from Mr. Styman, with regards to a reply he had received from Mr. G.Tickner about the litter bins in Isleham. He had informed Mr. Styman that there is no finance available to do anything about the bins this financial year, but finance will be available in the year starting 6th April next. Sometime before the end of March he intends placing orders for larger bins. Mr. Styman suggested that perhaps an extra bin could be positioned against the West Street wall of the Co-op, as many customers leave the shop in that direction. Mr. Tickner will make enquiries to that effect.

Plea to IPC

In Isleham there is very little to do if you're aged between 11-16. We're too big for the park on the rec. and the Astroturf costs money. So the only thing left is sitting in your house watching T.V. or biking around the streets. There are skateparks in Newmarket and other villages but they are not so easy to get to. I propose for the second time that we have a mini-ramp built on the rec or the new land that has been bought. It would cost around £6000, but in the long run you will give us something to keep us occupied and we would be doing something we enjoy. I have found a company that will come to Isleham to do it. Please put some money towards it and we will try to fund-raise the rest. If you can't help who can I write to?

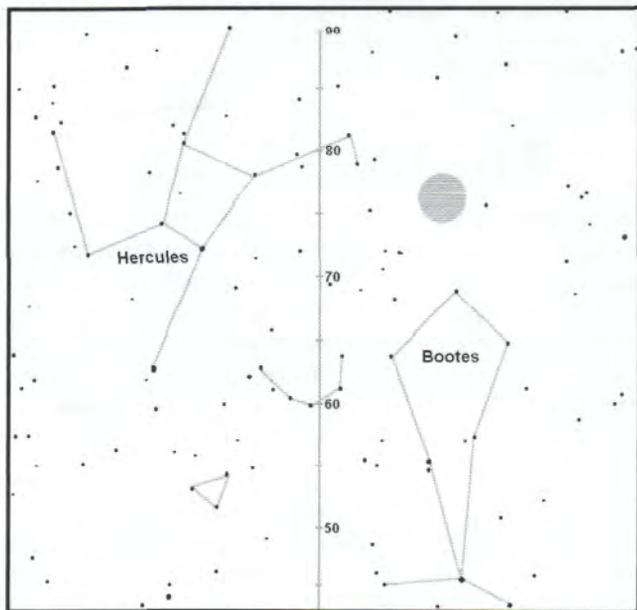
Patrick Tapley

In the Sky

Due to other pressures we are too late to inform you about the transit of Venus that occurred on 8th June from around 6.40 a.m. to 12.00 noon. A planet transit is when a planet crosses the face of the sun. Sky and Telescope quotes:

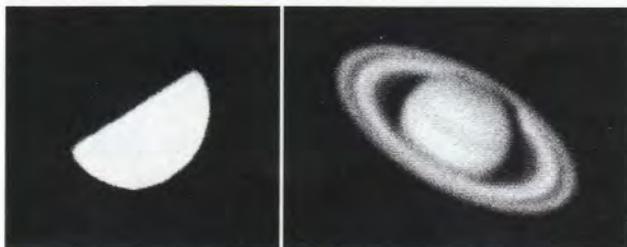
"No one alive today has seen this sight, and it happens only twice this century. For the first time since 1882, Venus will glide across (transit) the face of the Sun on June 8, 2004, taking a little more than 6 hours to complete its journey." If it is clear on 8th June, we should be able to take a photo for the next issue of the Informer.

Mars and Saturn are now low in the western sky at dusk but Jupiter is still high and bright and its moons are worth looking at through binoculars. The Lyrids meteor shower on the night of 21st April was disappointing because of cloud and mist but that seems to happen only too often in Isleham. However, the June Bootids might be better. This periodic shower produced an outburst in 1998, and might again in 2004. Or, it might not! We'll just have to see. The maximum is expected on **Tuesday evening/Wednesday morning, June 22/23**. It is not particularly spectacular but the anticipated rate is around 10 meteors an hour. Look high to the southwest from around 11 p.m. onwards. If you see any and trace the trails back they will all appear to have come from the shaded area on the map.



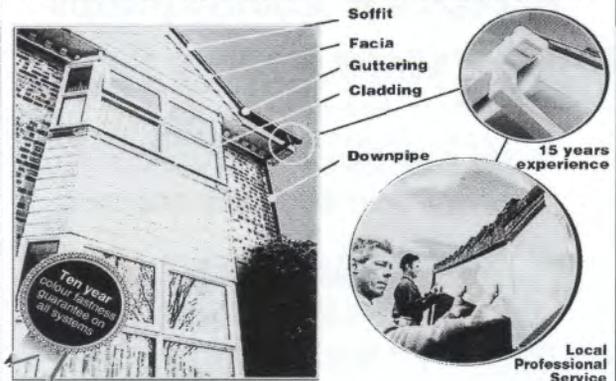
Map for finding the Bootids meteor shower

The predictions for the supposedly bright Neat comet were completely wrong. It has just about been visible to the naked eye on very clear nights. The only really good bit of news is that quite respectable photos of Venus and Saturn were taken on March 30th from Isleham.



Venus & Saturn. Photos taken on 30th March

FED UP PAINTING YOUR ROOFLINE?



NOW YOU CAN REPLACE IT ONCE AND FOR ALL

- We offer a professional local service with 15 years experience
- All materials are guaranteed plastic products
- Available in the following colours... black, white, mahogany and light oak

CALL NOW FOR OUR UNBEATABLE PRICES!



WHITEHALL PLASTICS



Freephone: 0800 0749 653 Tel: 01353 723799

Taxi Service

Personal service by fully qualified drivers

Home – to – Airport
Airport – to – Home

Stansted, Gatwick, Heathrow, Luton, etc, etc
£40 £85 £85 £60

Long distance journeys at special rates

To book, phone 0795 2277236 (mobile)
or 01638 781400 (answer phone)

Please book 24 hrs in advance for long distance

Look no Further...

All your plumbing needs **Satisfied!**

All general plumbing from Boring old Dripping Taps to Central Heating Installations

Free quotes on all plumbing work

CORGI registered

Call Darren on:

01842 860788 (answer service)

or **07768 076348** (mobile)

Isleham's Churches

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
- 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

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 Service

On **Sunday 20th June at 10.30am** we will be remembering our dads in our special **Fathers' Day Family Service** which will last approx. 1 hour and be followed by refreshments. As always, a crèche will be available for the younger children. Why not make a date to come and worship our great God and at the same time remember and give thanks for the men in our lives who have that difficult and responsible role of being a dad!

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

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.**

Pound Lane Free Church

As you will see as you go by, work continues to go well on our new church extension. As we write, the roof should soon be completed and we can really begin to see what a lovely and useful building our Lord is enabling us to have. We continue to be grateful for the co-operation of the folk who live around plfc and the users of Pound Lane as the project continues.

The Way It Was

St Bernard's Manor was one of the centrepieces of the village a few hundred years back. It is still there but it is tucked away at the back of West Street. It is less imposing now because the main part was destroyed by fire many years ago. The reproduction of the old etching below shows what it looked like before the facing wing was destroyed. Trees that have grown up over the time that the old manor has stood standing make it a little less easy to recognise now.

The photograph is from the Arthur Houghton Collection. It was in a very poor state with a hole in the middle, missing emulsion and sellotape down one edge. It has been restored by Tony Ferrige.



St Bernard's Manor before the fire

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

Village Hall

It seems as though everything is all change at the Village Hall – again! We have now been informed that Geoff Garbett is no longer the Chairperson of the Village Hall Committee and that this has now been taken on by Paul Chaplin. If you have any queries concerning the Village Hall, please contact him on 01638 781745.

More committee members are still required. If you are prepared to help by serving on the Committee, please contact Paul on the above number.

Stamped Out!

Whilst visiting a friend in Scotland recently, Paul Chaplin of Jay Jay Lodge, Waterside, Isleham came home to find his complete stamp collection had been stolen. The collection consisted of a complete Great Britain set of four books from the Penny Black right through until April of this year's latest issue, all but eight of which were unused Mint Stamps. This part of his collection was estimated last year to be worth in excess of £150,000.

Along with this, he also lost a new complete collection of King George VI Empire & Commonwealth in one book, and a collection of Queen Victoria, Edward VII and George V, Empire & Commonwealth. This incomplete collection contained some very rare stamps from the early Victorian period, made up of two very large, red covered books. He also had stolen a multitude of other stamps, but these were not part of his main collection.

The estimated weight of what was taken was in excess of 170lbs, so it is assumed that more than one person was involved. Although Mr Chaplin has had some very generous donations of collections from all over the country, he has said that having taken 50 years to reach the level that his collection was at, he really appreciates those peoples' generosity, but doesn't think he will collect stamps again (as he said that he hasn't got another 50 years to play with!).

Paul has offered a reward in excess of £5,000 for the return of any sections of his collection. If you have any information at all, please telephone Ely Police Station.

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

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.

TIRED OF STRUGGLING TO LOSE WEIGHT?

Find out how you can lose
excess pounds and inches:

Still Eat the foods you love

Exercise optional

No meetings or calorie counting

FREE personal coach

Login Today and get your FREE
personal weight loss profile and find
out what we can do to help you.

www.loselbsandinches.co.uk

You can work from home on your PC

The beauty about this opportunity is
that you can be a computer novice
and still earn money:

- Earn up to £500-£1,900/month part time around your existing schedule or earn up to £2,000-£4,500/month full time
- No experience required. Suitable for computer novices also
- Full training and support available
- Proven step by step success system
- Option to start part time and develop into full time income

Successful candidates must:

- Be willing to learn new skills
- Be self-motivated and able to work alone
- Have a desire to become self employed and financially independent

Visit my website today to find out
how you can take control of your
financial future and start earning
from home tomorrow!

www.work2freedom.co.uk

Competitions

Spot the Difference

We had a lot of correct entries last time but Michaela Farr, East Fen Road was first out of the hat. This time we have made it a little more difficult and there are **15 differences** between the cartoons below. Mark them on one of them and send it to us by 20th July. The competition is open to anyone up to the age of 14. The winner will receive £5.



The differences last time were: 1. Bus side light; 2. Bus door window; 3. Bus exhaust gas; 4. Height of bus stop; 5. Stone in road; 6. Satchel patch moved; 7. Skateboard design at back filled in; 8. Front of skateboard different; 9. Grass tuft on left missing; 10. Girl's folder different length; 11. Girl's purse larger; 12. Bush missing.

Anagrams

See how many words of 4 letters or more you can make from the words "Post Office". This is a little more difficult and you will be doing pretty well to get 50.

Last time we asked you to make words from "Church Lane". Here are 67 of the most common words. Accrue, acer, acne, acre, allure, arch, cache, cancer, cane, care, chancel, char, church, churn, clan, clean, clear, clench, clue, clunch, crane, cruel, crunch, cure, curl, each, earl, earn, hale, haler, hare, haul, hauler, haunch, heal, hear, hula, hunch, hurl, lace, lance, lancer, lane, larch, launch, launcher, lean, learn, lucre, lunar, lunch, lurch, lure, near, race, ranch, real, renal, rule, rune, ulcer, ulna, uncle, unclear, unlace, unreal, urea.

Serious Question

Last time we asked you why recipes are different for cooking with chicken and duck eggs. If you've tried you will know all about failures! The reason is that the proteins in chicken and duck eggs are very different. The way the ingredients blend and the chemical processes that occur on baking are quite different and a new recipe is required.

Now to our serious question this time. Why is today's meat tough compared with 50 years ago?

ISLEHAM UNDER FIVES

Janice Gee brings us fully up to date with what has been happening at Isleham Pre-school.....

Today my son arrived home with a biscuit covered in red icing and sweets. He proudly announced that he was going to share his handiwork with his younger sister and so, as teatime ended, I had a completely satisfied son, beaming with pride and a daughter with a face full of red icing that took a good scrub in the bath to erase - but then these are the moments that we parents cherish and were nowhere to be found in the Ofsted report!!! Talking of which.....

In February of this year, Isleham Pre-School underwent their Ofsted Inspection (yes and the chair forgot to publicise it - hence the tenuous link!). After a couple of days with our children (very brave) the Inspector granted us a rather pleasant report. Much of the information given about the education that the children are receiving was to be expected. It appears that our children are receiving the 'Very Best' in nursery education! So now all we need is a new building but that's not something that we can change overnight - unless someone out there has a few thousand going spare! However, may we thank everyone who has helped to raise funds so far and encourage anyone who hasn't already to support our New Building Fund which we so desperately need.

This term, one of the highlights for the children was the purchase of the butterfly pavilion. This was a great success and, as one child commented, "The colours on the butterflies were all those found in the flowers and fruit that they ate". Talking of food.....

After half term, the Pre-School will be trialing a lunchtime club which will hopefully give the children who are about to start full-time education one less hurdle to cross when they start "Big School", and also give all the parents a little less indigestion when trying to get their child to the group on time.

Fund raising is always a struggle but our co-ordinator hasn't faltered and continues to do us proud. As you may be aware, our fundraising not only helps to provide the facilities that the pre-school needs, but also the educational trip this year which is going to Ely Cathedral on June 24th. Aside from be able to see this magnificent piece of architecture, the children will also be doing the shape trail.

Our final summer outing for both the pre-school children and the toddlers will take place on July 13th when all the children and parents are invited to join us on our trip to Banham Zoo. Oh, and talking of toddlers.....

"Toddler Time" which is also under the umbrella of Isleham Under Fives Association is run by some of the mums on Tuesday mornings from 9.15 a.m. to 11.15 a.m. in the Village Hall and is now looking for someone new to take over the reins in September. The job isn't too time consuming especially if there are two or three to help out. It is a valuable facility for new mums. For further information please contact **Alison Marsh, Jackie Taylor or Leanne Dunsmuir.**

On a final note, I'll leave you with two of the many observations made by the staff which help to make their time with the children more meaningful.....

Child whisking bubbles in a water tray. "I'm making sausage rolls"

Child sequencing on the computer Star, Square. Star, Square, Star, Square..... Teacher: "What comes next?" Child: "DOG".

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.

We have received many comments about litter in the village. However, we have only received one formal letter on the subject from Chris Ginn. We are sure that Chris is not alone and that his view is shared by most of us.

With a little hope that this letter might make a difference, most mornings I have been clearing up the litter that gets left outside the Priory before I open the Garage. I do this to try and make the environment look as attractive as possible for people visiting the village that I have become very attached to. I don't somehow see the need to explain why they have just stepped into somebody's take a way meal that was left the night before or, as this morning, vodka bottles have been left with the beer bottles that have been broken in the grass, or why the curry was tipped over the seat next to the rubbish bin that is still empty!

What do I say about the three girls that spent their day eating pre-packed sandwiches and smoking and then leave a ring of litter for someone else to clear up. I don't think it takes much working out your parents don't know you smoke, yet as every car that drives pass you hide your fag that's on the go until you know it wasn't someone who might let them know! There are those that leave their little plastic sealed bags there that I have to stop my kids picking up and then have to explain that the substance that was in the bag was some form of drug.

I pointlessly asked the person with the Ford if, when he is out there with his friends at night, could they please put their rubbish in the bin. Oh yes, I have picked up your missing mud-flap off your car when I cleared up the rubbish the next morning from where you had been parked. Are you still going to blame the others?

As I'm writing this I can see that someone else has just started to clear this mess up who is a resident of the village so that, once again, the Priory can look clean and tidy. I'm sure that there must be others who feel the same so please just ask your kids to put their rubbish in the bins provided around the village as they are usually empty and have plenty of room in them.

Chris Ginn

When Helen Ginn was clearing up the mess one Sunday morning with her daughter, Lucy, they found a £20 note. A just reward!!!! Ed.

Top to Toe

In the comfort of your own home

**For all your waxing requirements,
facials, manicures or pedicures
+ more, including ear piercing**

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



01638 781800



**11 Church Street
ISLEHAM
Cambridgeshire CB7 5RX**

**(Rear of the GRIFFIN pub
with large car park)**

**INDIAN HOT FOOD
TO TAKE AWAY**

SOFT DRINKS AVAILABLE

EXTENSIVE MENU

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

including all Bank Holidays

**Monday to Thursday
5.30pm - 11.30pm**

**Friday to Saturday
5.30pm - 12.00pm**

**Sunday
5.30pm - 10.30pm**

Last orders taken 15
minutes before close

Cheques are accepted with
a valid Bankers Card ONLY

TELEPHONE ORDERS WELCOME



Saint Andrew's - ISLEHAM

Restoration of the Church Roof

Ian Powys has been making a record of the restoration of the church roof. We will spread his account over this and another two or three issues but the next issue will be reserved for Gala Day. Ian writes.....

Back on a cold February morning, with snow on the ground, G & H Scaffolders started work inside and outside Saint Andrew's Church. For years the small congregation has raised money, little by little – coffee mornings, flower festivals, the Gala stand and latterly by the sale of resin casts of one of the 'angels' that fell from the roof back in 1998. At last, with the help of grants from English Heritage and East Cambridgeshire and donations from the Peyton families and Societies in America and elsewhere, work was able to start. It all had to be squeezed into a 'window' between early March and mid-May, by decree of English Nature who say there is a roost of pipistrelle bats in the church, though not a sign or a squeak has been seen or heard of a bat over the past three months.



The clerestory and roof were raised by Crystofer Peyton back in 1495 and were last inspected and repaired four hundred and sixty years later, in 1955. We know this because a workman left his sandwich packet on one of the beams, together with a bottle of Coke and a copy of the Bury Free Press supplement on the Earls Court Motor Show, 1955.



Scaffolding in place

Work started on the removal of the slates on 8th March as the church architect, the contractors and members of the Parochial Church Council gathered on the north nave roof for a site meeting. Over the next days a 'fen blow' raged and nearly removed some of the plastic sheeting from the scaffolding. But it was well fixed and after a few repairs the masons got to work repairing dodgy stonework along both nave parapets. In mid-March a team of specialist wood conservers arrived to examine, record and preserve the beams and



carvings. They came up from Exeter, bringing with them many combined years of expertise on working in cathedral and church roofs in Britain and the United States. It has been a privilege not granted to many to be able to examine close up the intricate tracery, the carved angels and roof bosses which have been up there since 1495.



The church roof

Tiny details, never visible from the floor of the nave, were carved into figures and faces – nothing but the best was good enough for the House of God for those 15th Century craftsmen. For those of you who may want to have a reminder of the work, the 'Isleham Angel' which has been on sale in aid of church funds since 1998 is still available and we now have an 'Isleham Green Man' as well. Have a look, those of you who surf the web, at www.greenmaneastanglia.co.uk.



Two of the angels carved into the woodwork of the roof

Isleham's Green Man is shown on the right. There are also two other wonderful grotesque masks up in the roof and we have taken a mould of one of those as well as the 'Green Man' and will soon have copies for sale.



Inside the roof old rusted iron screws and nails, medieval, Victorian as well as some from 1955, were replaced by stainless steel. Blocks were inserted between rafter and roof boards where subsidence had caused gaps (and leaks) to appear. Where damp and woodworm had caused carvings to become unstable, these were consolidated with injections of epoxy resin.

Practically every beam up in the roof is peppered with bird shot. It does not seem that Cromwellian musketeers had used the angels as targets, but rather that a succession of vicars had called in local help to discourage pigeons!

Our grateful thanks to Ian for providing this feature on the restoration of St Andrew's roof. His account, along with many photographs, will continue in the October issue of your Informer.

It is hoped to have a DVD of the restoration work available for sale at the Isleham Gala.

Joyces' Corner

More wonderful stuff from Joyce Drayton about the past.

Days of Long Ago

*We often talk of the days of long ago
Men worked long hours and wages were low
No telly, no radio, no bath, times were hard
Just a pump or a well and a "loo" in the yard*

*On a visit at night they would rattle a tin
Cos during the day a rat might have crept in
A candle and matches were under a pail
Newspaper squares all hung on a nail*

*Grandad told of working away in the Fen
Come home weekends, work Monday again
His friend was the cock nearly every day
But Grandad filled in if his friend was away*

*The fire was outside and cooking was slow
The men couldn't agree what should go in the dough
Grandad made up his mind so there'd be no bother
He'd put onions in one end and jam in the other*

*No holidays then, no carpets on floors
They burned wood and coal and never locked doors
Gran had nine children, no pill in those days
And she brought them all up, without the state aids*

*Stew and dumplings were always a must
Or a nice meat pud with a good suet crust
Rabbit pie was a treat at the end the day
Then myxomatosis came our way*

*Milk fetched in a can had a nice frothy head
Granny made wine and baked her own bread
Her fruit pies were lovely, most days she would bake
But we hated the taste of her weekly "seed" cake*

*When you were sick, you were treated at once
No filling in forms, or come back in a month
Most families had troubles, most families had strife
But they all had to face them because that was life*

Joyce Drayton

Buggy Challenge!

All Comers Electric Buggy Race

All of you know Offie (Arthur Whitehand) and you should all know by now that he has challenged Ian Humphreys to a buggy race on Gala Day.

The Gala Committee have set the time for the challenge between Arthur and Ian for about 4 p.m. A trophy will be presented to the winner called "The Isleham Mid-Life Crisis Trophy". Thinking that this award should be more open, the event now invites other electric buggy users to enter. The Gala Committee also think that there should be a bit more of a challenge and so they are inventing a type of obstacle course. Entry is on the day – be very afraid!!

Come along all you buggy users and join the fun!

BED AND BREAKFAST

THE MEADOW HOUSE

2A High Street, Burwell, Cambridge. CB5 0HB

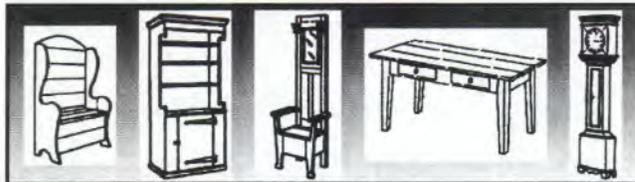


Open all year. En-suite rooms available with colour TV and tea making facilities. Family rooms, children welcome. Large car park and grounds. No smoking. Fire certificate. English Tourist Board 4 Diamonds

Brian & Hilary Marsh

Tel: 01638 741926 Fax: 01638 741861

Website: www.themeadowhouse.co.uk



Mallow Furniture & Gifts

All furniture is hand crafted
and can be made to the
customer's requirements

Hand crafted furniture & Gifts

Giftware Cards Objet d'art
Tableware Knick-nacks
Trinkets & Boxes Clocks
Candles Aroma oils & Burners
Photo Albums Picture Frames

Now open at
Walnut Tree Farm, Prickwillow Road
Isleham. Tel 01638 781794

All major credit & debit cards taken

Private Hire & Taxi Service

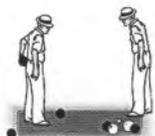
Nial Murphy from Freckenham is pleased to offer a quality private hire service at reasonable cost. All work undertaken. No surcharges for local work. Non-smoking.

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

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

SPORTS REPORT

Our thanks to Karl Bates who has been threatening nasty things to people so that we can keep you informed and updated with details of the Village's sporting activities. Well done, Karl – it worked!



BOWLS

As yet we have no fixtures or results for the bowls. As and when we receive them we will keep you up to date. In the meantime, please contact **Pat Houghton** on **01638 780789** for details and confirmation of matches.



FOOTBALL SEASON

Well the football season is finally over and it has been a very up and down season for both Isleham sides on a Saturday and also the Isleham Sunday side. Although they all showed in flashes the potential each side has, the Saturday sides both finished mid table and the Sunday side ran out of gas and came in 3rd in their respective leagues.

The player of the year function was held at the Isleham Comrades Club on the 28th of May. There was a good turnout from both players and supporters alike and here are the award winners.

1st Team Manager's Player of the year: **Chad Mitchell** (The worlds quickest changer)

2nd Team Manager's Player of the year: **Jason Timmins** (Seahorse)

Most Improved players: **Simon Leverington** and **Jack O'Keefe** (Snorkle)

Young Player of the Year: **Kevin Driver** (The Big Man)

Top Goal scorer: **Neil McKnight** (Neezer)

Top Reserve Scorer: **Ben Osler** (Sonic)

And now for the Sunday Side.

Manager's Player of the Year: **Jody (Ydoj) Bowman**

Top Goal scorer: **Jody (Ydoj) Bowman**

Player's Players of the Year: **Stuart King** (Bart) and **Jody (Ydoj) Bowman**

And last but by no means least, clubman of the year goes to **Jason Timmins** (Seahorse)

Also as a separate note, it has been a real plus this year to see the development of the youth teams in Isleham. We now run teams varying from under 5's up to under 14's and a huge amount of thanks must go to the likes of Dave Fitchett and Bob Wade for putting in hours and hours on the training field.

Finally a big thank you goes to everyone involved in making Isleham the team it is and that is everyone from Colin Sheldrick and John Marks running the two teams down to Bill Lyles making the tea at half time (lovely cuppa Bill).



CRICKET

As one season ends another begins and as football is put on the backburner, here are a few details on the Isleham Cricket Club.

OFFICERS

Chairman – Mark Goldsack

Vice Chairman – Phillip Aspland

Secretary – Alan Webber

Treasurer – Jo Cant

1st Team Captain – Dave Fitchett

2nd Team Captain – Leighton Sheldrick

Midweek Captain – Stuart Dunsmuir

Unfortunately due to bad weather and the season only in its first few weeks, no results have come our way at the informer. However, with the help of Daniel Cant I will be able to tell you how the team is fairing in the next issue. If anyone would like details on any aspect of the cricket club, you may send an email to islehamcc@ukgateway.net.



POOL LEAGUE

This has been a great year for the Isleham sides in the Mildenhall and District Pool League with the Griffin A runaway champions of Division Two with the Rising Sun runners up and Griffin B finishing in 6th place.

But that's not all, here are the results of the Division Two Player of the Year Awards.

1. Tom Long (Griffin A) – 92% win rate
2. A Quinn (Griffin A) – 87%
3. R Smalley (Rising Sun) – 84%

Notice anything? That's right the 1, 2, 3 in the league are all Isleham players. Well done lads (well apart from Quinny, just kidding mate, top stuff).

I bet you thought the celebrating was over. Oh no, as in the Captains Cup tournament, Tom Long, Skipper of the Griffin A team claimed the trophy with a success rate of 87.5%. So overall Mr Long has done rather well and with the final of the singles to come he could be on for an unprecedented treble. Fingers crossed buddy.

Well that's just about it from me for this issue. If you have any comments, thoughts, etc. please don't hesitate to contact me on 07711306147 or email me on karl.bates@amec.com.

If you would like your sport covered on a regular basis, please let me know.