

# Isleham Informer

Issue 16 March 2006

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## *From the log of "Birdsong"*

**F**or three years we cruised the canals and rivers of England and Wales on our 60' narrowboat Birdsong as 'live-aboards'. In that time we travelled as far North as York, as far west as Bristol and Llangollen and we reached the southern most point of the navigation at Godalming. During our first year though we explored the waterways of East Anglia and the many towns and villages alongside them. Some of our more memorable experiences and encounters follow:

**19/10/01** Birdsong arrives on a truck at Priory Marina in Bedford. She looks massive and a little ungainly when she is launched, dangling in the straps, but pretty and elegant once she is in the water. We feel proud and excited that our dream is finally a reality. However, enthusiasm is slightly tempered when we discover 32 snags on her 'test' cruise and both inside and out need a full house cleaning. This we do the next day, after which we feel we have cleaned and polished at least eight cars.

**22/10/01-29/10/01** We take a week to ferry Birdsong to our winter mooring at the "Pike and Eel" near St Ives, negotiating the locks with care. Although we previously owned a 45' narrowboat as a holiday boat and are familiar with locking through, it is different when this vessel is going to be your future home, is brand new and another 15' long. Having cured some of the snags, we discover others: the waste tank is only half the capacity we specified, there is no oil in the gearbox and the propeller is the wrong size to mention but a few! Still, she is a handsome boat, basically sound and well laid-out.

**December 2001 – May 2002** During these months we get most of our snags fixed and clear out our house in Saffron Walden. We give away or sell what we don't need and organise what we do need and want to keep. We gradually reduce our possessions to a minimum. It is surprisingly liberating and easy once we get going.

Spent New Year's Eve on board with friends. It's cosy and warm with the central heating roaring and the stove glowing, despite freezing temperatures outside. When we wake up the next morning and open the side hatch a Labrador without ears is poking its head out of the water! It must be last night's champagne we reckon, but we then realise it is a seal! Apparently it lives in these waters, having come down from the Wash via the Bedford Drain.

**18/1/02** We need a pump-out and the nearest one is in Hartford Marina, so we set off clad in woolly hats, mittens, thermal underwear and several more layers, since the cold spell is persisting. The trip turns into something of an obstacle course, only relieved with numerous hot toddies. A yellow buoy wraps itself around the prop in St Ives, we have to do some ice-breaking when coming into Hartford Marina, I slip off the icy landing stage at St Ives lock and whilst trying to rescue me Kevin gets blown onto the wire of the weir. Not good at the time, but we have dined out on this adventure quite a few times.



*Birdsong leaving her winter mooring at Little Hallingbury for our final summer cruise*

**1/6/02** Our new life on board Birdsong starts today. Somehow we stow away three huge carloads, including a bike, at least three tool boxes (you never know, it might come in handy says Kevin), tons of crockery, pots and pans, clothes, and our 'office'. By some miracle we still have plenty of room to move about in. Exhausted but very pleased with ourselves, we have dinner on deck and a cooked breakfast in the blazing sun the next morning.

**2/6/02** Ready to go at 11 am, heading East on the "Old West River", on towards the Fens. We point out each goose, swan, grebe and their babies to each other and when we spot the blue flash of a Kingfisher, we are even more excited. (Over the years we will see an abundance of water wildlife and some beautiful scenery, but those first few days will always be special.)

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## Why Are We Here?

It is said that the great Philosopher Ly Tin Wheedle was once at a party and was asked "Why are you here?" The reply took three years. (With apologies to Terry Prattchet.) I don't think we need to go into the question quite that deeply but: why Isleham? Why do we choose to live here? In this issue of the Isleham Informer two correspondents let us know why they came to this part of the world and — perhaps more importantly — why they love it so much they have decided to stay. So we have another poetic masterpiece from our most regular contributor, Joyce Drayton, this time about how wonderful our village is; and Hanneke Keegan, a recent arrival in the area, both singing the all too-rarely heard praises of Isleham.

I hope that you'll agree that all this makes for a more upbeat Informer than we might have produced recently. Even everyone's favourite curmudgeon, Ian Humphreys, has been pondering on more positive issues this time. To reflect this more forward-looking approach your village magazine has been dragged into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with a new look that I hope you will not consider to be a triumph of style over content. (And if you do — remember who's responsible of content!)

You will read in the minutes from the January Parish Council meeting that the Informer should be "more

geared to the needs of the community, with more information about upcoming events". We certainly do not argue with that and to that end a new calendar is opposite. But, of course, we can not include such information if we don't have it. So if your club/society/church etc. has something coming up that everyone should know about, let us know and we'll do the rest.

Finally can I repeat Richard Turner's requests for assistance in delivering the Informer around the Marina and thank Kate Germany for volunteering to take care of Station Road. If you can help, call Richard on 780 965. Contributions for the June issue should be emailed to emayall@onetel.com or delivered to 94 The Causeway by 9<sup>th</sup> May. New advertisers should ring 781 796.

## Isleham Parish Council News

### Dunstall Apprentice Grant

Do you qualify for help with the cost of further education text books, uniform, protective clothing, tools, instruments or computer accessories? If you are serving an apprenticeship such as a chef, mechanic or engineer, or are a university student or student of further education at university level studying for a specific career such as a geologist, nurse, doctor or in computing or law then you may be entitled to up to £220 to help with your costs. Your course must have already begun at the time of applying for a grant. For further details contact the Clerk at Isleham Parish Council: Diane Bayliss 01638 781 093.

### Isleham Parish General Meeting

To be held in Isleham Village Hall on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2006 at 7.30 pm. Everybody Welcome! Why not come and catch up on the latest information concerning your village?

The Recreation Ground Committee have proposed that the Parish Council investigate the possibility of a new Community Centre for Isleham.

Isleham Parish Council have allotments to rent grow your own fruit and vegetables. Contact the Parish Clerk for details on 01638 781 093.

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March.



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# Calendar of Events for Isleham 2006

## Parish Meeting

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March

## Village Pantomime at Isleham Village Hall

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April 7.30pm  
(Saturday Matinee 2.30pm)

## Isleham School Spring Term Closes

31<sup>st</sup> March

## Premier Soccer Recreation Ground 10-3 pm

12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> April

## Combined Church Service & Easter Pageant

Good Friday (14<sup>th</sup> April)

## Isleham School Professional Training Day

18<sup>th</sup> April

## Isleham School Summer Term Opens

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April

## 'Here to Help' Workshop at Isleham Village Hall

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April

## High Street Litter Pick

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

## Twinning Weekend Trip to Nesles

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April

## Isleham School Year 6 SATs Week

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May

## Isleham School Years 5 & 6 residential visit to Aylmerton

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May

## Isleham School Professional Training Day

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May

## Isleham School Half Term

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

## Gala Day

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July

## Perretts Fair

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July

## Isleham School Summer Term closes

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July

## Summer Holiday Activities Roadshows for ages 6-12

Fridays 4<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> August 1-4pm Recreation Ground

## Isleham School Autumn Term Opens

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September

If you have any events already planned for the rest of the year, we would be pleased to include them in in the diary.

## Ely Mobile Library Route E104

	Location	Arrive	Depart
	Isleham		
1.	Church Street	10.15	11.55
2.	Beck Road (near Maltings Lane)	12.00	1.00
3.	Mill Street (corner of Limestone Close)	14.45	15.45
4.	Stuntney	16.15	16.45

Stops: alternate Thursdays

Next visits 2006: 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 6<sup>th</sup> April, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 4<sup>th</sup> May, 18<sup>th</sup> May, 1<sup>st</sup> June, 15<sup>th</sup> June, 29<sup>th</sup> June.

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<http://hipweb.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/mobiles/index.html>



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16000 miles £ 6 2 5 0 . 0 0

**2003 53 Renault Clio 1.2 Dyn Billibong 3dr**  
in Metallic Black, A/C, P.A.S, A/W, F/lamps, R/CD,  
22000 miles. £ 6 1 5 0 . 0 0

**2003 03 Renault Clio Expression 1.2 16V 3dr** in  
Saffron A.B.S, P.A.S, E/W, C/L, Radio C/D, S/R  
29000 miles. £ 5 1 9 5 . 0 0

**2002 52 Renault Scenic Fidji 1.9 DCi 105 bhp**  
in Metallic Silver, A/W, P.A.S, F/lamps,C/L, E/W,  
48000 miles. £ 6 6 5 0 . 0 0

**2001 51 Renault Laguna Dynamic 2.0**  
**IDE hatch** in Cosmic grey metallic, A/  
W, A/C, E/W, P.A.S, S/R, Radio C/D, 30000  
miles £ 5 9 9 5 . 0 0

**2000 W VW Bora V5 2.3 4dr saloon** in metallic red A/  
W, E/W, A/C, C/L, Radio/cassette, service history, 85000  
miles £ 4 6 9 5 . 0 0

**2000 V Renault Megane Monaco Cabriolet**  
**2.0IDE** in metallic Silver, A/W, Radio cassette  
C/D, P.A.S A.B.S, E/W, A/C, Full Leather Trim  
71000 miles £ 6 4 9 5 . 0 0

**1999 T Renault Megane Coupe 1.6 Sport** in Metallic  
RedE/W, P.A.S, A/W, Radio C/D, C/L, F/S/H, 1 owner  
80000 miles. £ 3 2 5 0 . 0 0

**1995 M Mazda MX-5 1.8 Is** in Brooklands  
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miles £ 3 9 9 5 . 0 0



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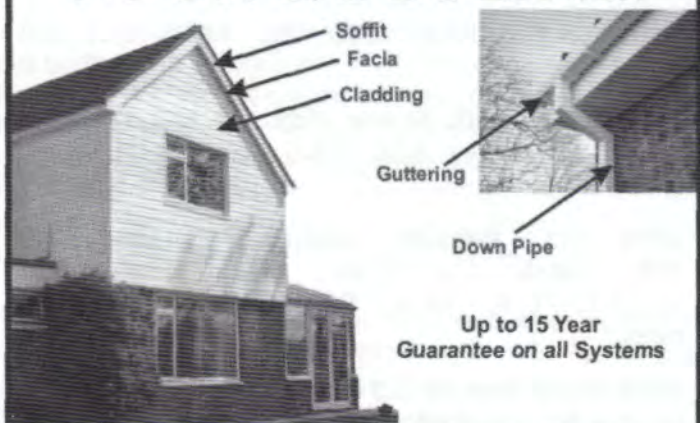
	Opening hours:
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Thursdays	4pm-7pm
Fridays	4pm-7pm
Saturdays	10am-4pm
Sundays	10am-12noon

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## Useful Phone Numbers

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Police (Cambs..)	0845 456 4564
Accident & Casualty (Addenbrooke's)	01223 217 118
Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cambridge)	01223 245 151
Newmarket Hospital	01638 665 111
West Suffolk (Bury St Edmunds)	01284 713 000
Staploe Medical Centre (Soham)	
Appointments	01353 624 121
Prescriptions & Dispensary	01353 624 122
Enquiries, Home Visits, Emergencies	01353 624 123
Minor Treatment Centre, Ely	01353 652 162
NHS Direct (for advice)	0845 4647
Electricity Emergencies	0800 7838 838
Gas Emergencies	0800 371 787
Water & Sewage Emergencies	0345 145 145
Social Services	
- office hours	01733 561 370
- out of hours emergency	01733 561 370
Refuse Collection	01353 863 864
RSPCA	0870 555 5999
Citizens Advice Bureau - Ely	01353 661 416
- Mildenhall	01638 712 094
- Newmarket	01638 665 999
District Councillor (Derrick Beckett)	01638 780 476
Isleham Village Hall (Jeanette Malkin)	01638 780 283
Mobile Library	08450 455 225
Parish Council (Diane Bayliss: Temp Clerk)	01638 781 093
Member of Parliament (Jim Paice)	01954 211 450
Isleham Informer	
(Ian Humphreys)	01638 781 796
(Ed Mayall)	01638 780 839
(Glenda Preece)	01638 780 734
(Ian Powys)	01638 780 519
(P. Skye)	01638 780 990
(Richard Turner)	01638 780 965

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## GALA QUEEN COMPETITION

The Gala Queen Competition this year will be held on  
Friday 12 May 2006  
at Isleham Village Hall

There will be prize money for the Gala Queen, Prince and Princess and the competition is open to children aged between 5 and 14 living in Isleham or attending Isleham School.

Entry fee of £1 payable at time of collection of entry forms, which will be available nearer the time from Roseanna Thompson, 1 Fen Bank, Isleham. Tel: 01638 780 994.

Isleham Gala Day: Saturday 1st July 2006



(Birdsong: continued from page 1)

**10/6/02** By now we feel we 'belong' on the water. It is becoming our way of work and life, like journeymen; very different from when we spent weekends and holidays boating. Like the river life all around us, we go about our business, working the locks, mooring, eating, sleeping, cleaning and caring for the boat. Arrive in Cambridge. I unfold the bike and cycle through the City in search of milk, bread and the pump-out facility. Definitely the best way to get around in Cambridge. After passing an amazing miscellany of floating homes, boats and other water structures (most in a fairly sorry state, I believe the locals call it DSS alley), we pump out our waste, get rid of our garbage and fill up with water. Birdsong feels balanced, clean and happy once more, she is beginning to take on a real personality of her own, living up to her name!

**17/6/02** Ely. We spend a week moored up in this beautiful city. Visit the glorious cathedral, stock up and catch up with bills and correspondence. Friends come to visit, we watch the passers-by while they watch us and comment on the petunia filled flower boxes on our roof, which by now are in full flower and seem to thrive on river water. Kevin complains they block his view from the steering position, I reckon it's a good excuse for him to bump into the bank occasionally.

**2/7/02** Set off up the Lark. Lunch stop in Prickwillow, a sleepy village hiding behind the banks. No pub, no shop but the Drainage Engine Museum is very interesting and well laid-out. Our engine is hesitating, but we make it to Isleham Marina. We manage to manoeuvre all of our 60' around the bends to the little lake at the end, where we moor up in front of our friends' quaint lodge, taking up a lot of space! What an idyllic setting! A barbecue on the lawn that evening completes a perfect day.

**3/7/02** A cycle ride to and through Isleham reveals a large village with a most useful supermarket, a wonderful old-fashioned shop full of just about everything one could ever need (except a fuel filter for our coughing engine) and an even more old-fashioned post office. There are some beautifully restored warehouses and wharf-style buildings. It is very obvious Isleham must once have been a prosperous and important port. We leave Isleham after a few days to continue our cruise on the quiet waterways of the East of England, but not before promising ourselves that we'll come back here one day.

Three years and many water adventures later our circumstances changed and we were forced to come back on land. Having lived so close to nature and watery surroundings we felt we would not be able to settle away from it, but where and how could we find somewhere to satisfy our needs? I woke up in the middle of one night last February and thought: ISLEHAM.

That's where I want to be, that would be the ideal compromise for us, living in a lodge on land, but with water right outside, a mooring or a little boat, shops nearby, nice towns also and still being able to 'get up and go on the water' whenever we fancy. So that's what we did and here we are.

Hanneke Keegan

# Riverside Island Marina

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# Roll of Honour

Once again, Isleham's Act of Remembrance in November was very well supported, with over 250 people watching the parade of Cubs, Guides and Brownies to the memorial, the laying of poppy wreaths and a poignant sounding of The Last Post. Hearing the list of the fallen and the words "We will remember them" is deeply moving.

It was that phrase "We will remember them" that has inspired me to write this article. As time goes by, the number of those people who served in the two great wars of the last century grows smaller and smaller and I think that it is very important for the whole community to be aware of the ultimate sacrifice made by 45 Isleham men in WWI and a further 14 in WWII. When the Roll of Honour is read out each year, as time goes by those men will become just names, with fewer people left who can remember any of them. Even now, there are a number of names of whom nothing is known. I think this is a real shame and that it would be a fitting tribute to their sacrifice if we can, as a community provide enough information (and possibly even photographs if they exist) so that these men become more than just names and it becomes possible to get a sense of who they were.

There is an excellent website ([www.roll-of-honour.com](http://www.roll-of-honour.com)) that features the Isleham memorial and lists the fallen together with some information about the men. Reading it, I get the sense that the details for some of the men may have got confused with others of the same name in amongst the millions of men who served and the hundreds of thousands who gave their lives. If you know that any of the information that follows is incorrect, please let me know and I will ensure that the information is corrected on the website and also saved so that we can look to put together a suitable memorial for these men. In some cases the connection with Isleham is not obvious, although many men transferred to different regiments as reinforcements so an exotic regiment does not mean there is no connection to the village.

## World War I

**AVES** Stanley, Private 6<sup>th</sup> Bn Northants Reg, born Isleham, died 29/9/1918

**BALLS** Arthur, Private 8<sup>th</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, died 17/2/1917 aged 25, son of Mr & Mrs Arthur Balls of The Pits

**BROWN** David, Private 11<sup>th</sup> Bn Sherwood Foresters, died 24/2/1917, son of Mr & Mrs Robert Brown of Isleham Fen

**BROWN** David, L/Cpl 2<sup>nd</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Bn Manchester Reg, died 13/10/1917 age 23, son of Mr & Mrs Elijah Brown of Isleham

**BUTCHER** David, Private 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Northants Reg, died 26/9/1916 age 29, son of Mr & Mrs Jonathan Butcher of Fenbank, Isleham

**BUTCHER** Harry, Private 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Norfolk Reg, born Isleham, enlisted Norwich, died 3/3/1915

**BUTCHER** John William, Private 9<sup>th</sup> Bn North Lancs Reg, born Isleham, died 10/4/1918

**CLARKE** George, Private 7<sup>th</sup> Bn E Surrey Reg, died 30/11/1917 age 26, son of Mr & Mrs Robert Clarke of Hall Cottage, Isleham

**CLARKE** Herbert, Private 75<sup>th</sup> Bn Machine Gun Corps, died 1/12/1918 son of Mr & Mrs John Clarke of Isleham

**CORNWELL** Cecil E (MM and Bar), Cpl 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, died 8/10/1918 age 24, son of Mrs Annie Cornwell of Lyndhurst, Church St, Isleham

**CORNWELL** Percy, Private 6<sup>th</sup> Bn Northants Reg, born Isleham died 30/10/1918, son of Mr & Mrs George Cornwell of Lea Farm Freckenham

**CORNWELL** Walter David, L/Sgt 8<sup>th</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg died 20/7/1916 age 32 son of Ann Cornwell of The Grove Isleham and husband of Mercy Cornwell of Cambridge

**CURTIS** Cecil T, Private 1/8<sup>th</sup> Bn Middlesex Reg, born and resident in Isleham died 17/9/1916,

**DRAYTON** Victor, L/Cpl 8<sup>th</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg born Isleham died 15/5/1917

**FENN** Albert (Bertie), Private 7<sup>th</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, born Isleham, died 15/3/1917

**FLEET** Charles Tilby, Private 2/4<sup>th</sup> Bn Royal Berks Reg, died 19/7/1916 age 31 son of Mr & Mrs Walter Fleet of West St

**FLEET** Robert (W), Gunner Royal Field Artillery died 22/12/1918 age 27, son of Mr & Mrs William Fleet of Blacksmith Yard, West St

**FLEET** Walter, Private 6<sup>th</sup> Bn Royal West Kent Reg, born Isleham died 7/10/1916

**GOODCHILD** Arthur, Private 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, born Isleham died 8/5/1915

**GOODCHILD** Edward, Private 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn Royal W Surrey Reg died 4/5/1917 age 35, son of Mr & Mrs James Goodchild of Isleham, husband of M Goodchild of The White Lion, Isleham, Village blacksmith, who left 3 children

**HALL** John, Private 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Northants Reg, born Isleham, died 8/11/1918

**HARVEY** Herbert, Private 11<sup>th</sup> Bn Royal Fusiliers, born and resident in Isleham, died 10/8/1917

**HARVEY** James, information needs confirmation, believed to be a Private Suffolk Reg, died 1915 aged 49, husband of Hannah nee Bird and father of Lily

**HARVEY** William, Private 11<sup>th</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, born Isleham, died 10/12/1918 age 34, son of Mrs Elizabeth Harvey

**HOUGHTON** Christopher, Private 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, born Isleham died 26/8/1914

**HOUGHTON** William (Victor) Private 11<sup>th</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, born Isleham, died 1/7/1916

**HUMAN** Clark (William), Private, 7<sup>th</sup> Bn Royal W Surrey Reg, son of Mr & Mrs Josiah Human of Pound Lane, died 10/8/1917 aged 22

**HUMAN** Percy, Private 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, born Isleham, died 8/2/1915

**HUMAN** Victor, Private 13<sup>th</sup> Bn Royal Sussex Reg, died 1/8/1917. Note: the record shows him to have been born in Impington and to be the son of Mrs A Human of Newmarket. Why is he on the Isleham memorial? Is this information wrong?

**NEWLING** Sidney, not known for certain, but thought to be Corporal 7<sup>th</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, born Paddington, died 8/10/1915 - what was his connection to Isleham?

**PAYNE** Arthur E, Private Machine Gun Corps, son of Mr E J Payne of Isleham, died 15/11/1917 aged 23

**PLACE** Arthur E, Sgt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, born Isleham, died 7/12/1914

**PLACE** Thomas, Cpl 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, born Isleham, died 3/10/1915

**PLACE** Vernon I, thought to be Private, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Western Ontario Reg, died 13/6/1916



**RAYMENT** Alfred George, Bmdr, Royal Field Artillery, died Sept 1918 aged 28, husband of Agnes Louise Fleet of Isleham

**REED** Arthur, Private 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, Suffolk Reg, son of Mr & Mrs Frederick Reed of Mill St, died 4/5/1915 aged 18

**REED** George Frederick, Private 15<sup>th</sup> Bn London Reg, son of Mr & Mrs Frederick Reed of Field Farm, died 26/10/1918 aged 18

**REED** James Robert, Private 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, son of Joseph Reed, husband of Kate Honor Reed of Coal Yard Drove, died 27/3/1917 aged 23

**RUITERFORD** Herbert, Private 7<sup>th</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, son of Mr & Mrs J Rutterford of Beck Rd, died 24/7/1917 aged 31

**SEABER** James, Bmdr Royal Field Artillery, born Isleham died 11/6/1916

**SHELDRIK** Bertie, L/Cpl 8<sup>th</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, born Isleham son of Mr & Mrs E Sheldrick, husband of Gertrude Sheldrick of E Dereham, died 21/9/1915 aged 24

**TURNER** Hills, Cpl 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, born Halifax, died 30/8/1918, what is his connection with Isleham?

**WEBBER** Frederick, nothing known

**WEBBER** John, Private 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, son of Mr & Mrs David Webber of East End, died 5/3/1915 aged 21

**WHITEHAND** William, Private 8<sup>th</sup> Bn Cameronians, son of Mr & Mrs Robert Whitehand of The Pits, died 11/9/1918 aged 39

#### World War 2

**BAILEY** John Henry, Private Pioneer Corps, son of Mr & Mrs Edgar Bailey and husband of Ethel Bailey of Isleham, died 26/4/1944 aged 41

**BROWN** Edmund John, Private 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Cambs. Reg, son of Mr & Mrs Sidney Brown, died 28/1/1942 aged 25

**COOKE** Harry W F, thought to be Sgt RAFVR, died 27/9/1943

**CLARKE** Kenneth Frederick, Private 8<sup>th</sup> Bn Suffolk Reg, son of Mr & Mrs Frederick Clarke of Isleham, died 25/12/1940 aged 22

**COLLEN** Desmond Owen, Sgt 426 Squadron RAFVR, son of Mr & Mrs Joseph Collen of Isleham, died 22/10/1943 aged 21

**CORNWELL** Leslie, Private 4<sup>th</sup> Wiltshire Reg, son of Mr & Mrs E J Cornwell of Isleham, died 17/3/1945 age 20

**CORNWELL** Sidney Walter, Cpl RASC, son of Mr & Mrs Lewis Cornwell of Isleham, husband of Bertha Beatrice of Tilney All Saints, died 18/6/1943 aged 25

**GOODCHILD** Frank, nothing known

**HARDING**, Stanley Sgt RAFVR, son of Mr & Mrs A Harding of Isleham, died 25/11/1944

**REEVE** Arthur, Trooper 46<sup>th</sup> Reg, son of Mr & Mrs Frederick Reeve of Isleham, died 17/1/1945 age 22

**REED** William, Driver RASC, son of Mr & Mrs William Reed, husband of Charlotte, died 1/2/1944 aged 30

**RADFORD** Robert Arthur, nothing known

**SHELDRIK** Bertie, thought to be Sgt RAF died 29/12/1940

**STARLING** Cyril, L/Sgt Royal Engineers, son of Mr & Mrs Royal Starling of Isleham, died 26/10/1944 aged 25

If anybody can provide any information at all about these men such as the names of their parents, siblings, war service, photographs, or to correct information given here that is incorrect, please call me on 781116 or drop a note through the door of 15 Jubilee Close.

Nick Carver

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## ***Sleeping Beauty***

This year *Sleeping Beauty*, by David Swan is to be performed at the end of March, and will be the 22nd consecutive Pantomime produced by the PTA. As usual those taking part in this family entertainment include Malcolm and Doreen Speirs, husband and wife; Richard Drayton and Pauline Wilkes, brother and sister; Liz Serjeant, Jane Moulton, and Trisha Graham, sisters; and Bill Brown, Angela Osborn-Brown, and Cedric Osborn-Brown, husband, wife and son. Mick Bartlett has stepped down as the musical director and Tim Washtell has gallantly, and magnificently filled the breach. He is working valiantly to make this year's production especially funny with multiple sound effects.

You can purchase tickets from March 12th at 4pm at the Isleham Primary School. There will be other times that you can obtain tickets; please keep a look out for posters around the village for details.

Performances are at 7.30 pm from Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March to Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April with a matinee on Saturday at 2.30 pm. Tickets are £6 adults and £3 for concessions (children and OAPs).

There are a few things of which you must be aware. There is no video recording allowed during the performances due to copyright laws. An adult must accompany all primary school aged children. Group bookings are available only for Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March.

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## ***St Andrew's Church Environment Events***

Inspired by recent talks from Nigel Cooper — chaplain to Anglia Ruskin University — members of the congregation at St Andrew's Church in Isleham are getting together to think of ways we can collectively protect and improve our local environment. We'll be looking at a broad range of activities, from saving energy and reducing waste, to the products we use — at home and in the church — and finding ways we might contribute to safeguarding and enhancing the wildlife in our local area.

Finding out about the wildlife that lives on our doorstep is an important part of this. So a series of guided (but very gentle) walks are being planned to some of the more important local sites for wildlife. A group of around 40 members of St Andrew's congregation and others — including lots of children — spent a warm afternoon in September on Isleham Washes. At that time of year, and depending on the water levels, the Washes are used as a feeding stop for a wide range of migrant wading birds, en route from their breeding areas in the arctic tundra, to wintering areas in southern Europe and Africa. Ruff and green sandpiper were on show, as well as lapwing, snipe and redshank, to those who reached the telescope in time. Others watched a grass snake slide over the mud, whilst two microscopes, set up in Karma Farm (thanks again to the Taylors for hosting us) enabled children to look at water scorpions close up, and to watch microscopic rotifers capture and digest single-celled animals in a drop of water from the River Lark.

Our second event, on December 4<sup>th</sup>, introduced a number of us to Chippenham Fen National Nature Reserve (linking St Andrew's with others of the "Three Rivers" partner churches). Chippenham Fen is surprisingly little known, hidden in a peat filled depression between Fordham, Chippenham and Snailwell, and fed by springs from the underlying chalk. It is one of the best areas of original fen vegetation in Cambridgeshire, with a range of rare plants and insects, some of which occur nowhere else in Britain. A group of around a dozen members of Chippenham, Fordham and Isleham St Andrew's Church enjoyed the tranquillity of a winter afternoon at the reserve. The sharper eyed members spotted the half dozen or so water buffalo, which are used to graze the vegetation, half concealed among the reeds. Our thanks also to Mike Banyard who organised tea for us in Chippenham Village Hall.

Other trips are in the offing — look out for notices about future visits, in the Post Office and St Andrew's Church.

Please contact Alastair Burn (01638 780553), Nick Carver (01638 781116) or Nigel Cooper (01223 363271, extension 2398) if you'd like more information about future activities — or if you have suggestions yourself.

*Alastair Burn*



# Puzzles

## Spot the Difference

There were several correct solutions last time, but the winner (selected at random by an independent adjudicator) was Joe Jordan of The Causeway. So congratulations to you Joe; your £5 will be with you shortly. The differences were: 1. Girl's hand is hidden behind snowman. 2. Branch on snowman's arm is missing. 3. Pattern on jacket is missing. 4. Snow on mountain peak is missing. 5. Cabin door is coloured in. 7. Snowman's arm has moved. 8. Tree has moved. 9. Snowball on ground has moved. 10. Pipe on cabin roof has moved. 11. Snowman's hat is taller. 12. Icicle on roof is larger.

Have a go at this one with 12 differences again. Answers from anyone aged 14 or less to 32 East Road. The winner will earn themselves £5.



## Anagrams

I had a list of several of the most common words that can be found in "Comrades" all ready to put in this issue and then realised I had neglected to set that particular homework. It's probably a good job I never made it in teaching. So do it for next time and I'll let you have the solutions then!

## Bible Puzzle

This puzzle has caused quite a few headaches. We had but one correspondent who had managed to find all 17 books of the Bible hidden in the paragraph, so many

congratulations (and thanks!) to Daniel Stone who identified the mysterious 17<sup>th</sup>. Here's the paragraph again with the hidden books in bold type:

I once made a **remark** about hidden books in the Bible. Merely by a **fluke** it kept people **looking** so hard for the **facts** and for others it was a **revelation**. Some were in a **jam** especially since the names of the books were not capitalised but the **truth** finally struck home to **numbers** of people. To others it was a real **job**. **Yes, there** will be some really difficult ones to spot. You may **judge** some to be easy. I admit **it** usually takes a minister to find one of them. There will **be** loud **lamentations** when it is found. One lady says **she brews** a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can **compete**. **Relax** now but for all **those** at sea, there really are seventeen books of the Bible hidden in this paragraph. One preacher found sixteen in twenty minutes but it took him three weeks to find the other one.

The book that caused such loud lamentation, (not to mention wailing and gnashing of teeth) was "Bel". As our winner said, "Bel is a shortened name for Bel and the Dragon which is a deutercanonical book of Daniel. It is not a separate book on its own, but Catholics, Protestants, and Greek Orthodox each view it differently. So since Protestants do not normally consider it as inspired, it is referred to as the book of Bel and the Dragon. I hope this helps and this is right answer; as I can not find another book!" We also hope that this is right, Daniel, and get in touch for your free drink.

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Wednesdays: **Bingo** 8.00-9.30pm

First Friday of each month: **Quiz** 8.30-9.30pm

Third Sunday of each month: **Jam Session** 3.30-6.30pm

Last Sunday of each month: **Jazz** 12.00-3.30pm

11<sup>th</sup> March: **Tequila Sunrise** Country & Western

25<sup>th</sup> March **Akimbo**

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## Joyce's Corner: To a Visitor

Joyce knows where she belongs!

Come to Isleham village, you could make it your home.

You could put down your roots here, and never more roam.

In the middle of the village lies the village green,  
When cricket is being played there it makes a lovely scene.

Our old church of St Andrew's has stood for many-a-year.

The bells on Sunday morning welcome you in there.  
The pubs have quite a homely feel; each could tell a tale.

They are both such friendly places to down a pint of ale.

The village school has grown since we learned to read and write,

Most children come by bus or car, and parking's very tight.

Walk up Mill Street and you'll find our lovely Village Hall.

There's always something going on, much fun is had by all.

At the village shops you'll find all you wish to buy.

A chocolate bar, a first class stamp, or perhaps an apple pie.

Best of all I must relate, it really is quite true,  
The kindly hand of friendship is always there for you.

Now I'm from "Silly Suffolk" where I was born and bred.

I moved over the border on the day that I was wed.  
From a county well-known for its wit and for a well-told joke,

To another that is full of hospitable folk.

When an old country cousin takes from you his leave,  
He'll never say just "cheerio"

But "Don't be late in the morning boy"  
And "Be sure you bring your hoe".

## FROM OLD ARTHUR...

I thought you might like this little bit of history of Isleham around 600 years ago. To my mind, the most interesting man looking back in history was Thomas Peyton's son, Christopher. He built the Great barn (or Warehouse) at Bernard's Manor. He also lifted the Church roof to the height it is today. Previously, the roof was very low and he did this 600 years ago.

He also cut a lode from the Manor to the end of Little London lane, where he built a quay. He then cut through Coates Drove to Riverside where he built a third quay and his boats were unloaded there. The three quays from the Manor to the Riverside were (1) at the bottom of Little London lane, (2) at the bottom of



Church Lane and (3) at the entrance to Coates Drove from Riverside. I find it extraordinary that boats sailed down Coates Drove all that time ago. Yes, Christopher Peyton did a lot in the Village at that time. His boats went up to Kings Lynn and down to Bury St Edmunds on a regular basis.

He also built small rooms inside the warehouse for guests when the Manor was overloaded and those rooms are still to be seen today. I suppose it was the first 'Bed and Breakfast' in Isleham! I spent a lot of time at St Bernards Manor (now called 'The Hall') with Professor Wright of London University, also we visited the Church and Prof Wright gave me a lot of information.

Peter Clarke, the owner of Bernards Manor filled the big pond in where Christopher Peyton used to moor his boats. My Mother used to say to me 'if you go to the Hall to play, don't go near that pond!' So when I was a boy it had plenty of water still in it at that time. Peter Clarke built a big Dutch barn over the spot where the boats used to be moored. I hope you liked this little bit of history from 600 years ago.

Arthur Houghton 2006

## ISLEHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION

**Visit to Nesles** - 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> April 2006. If you are not on our circulation list and would like information on the Twinning visits please contact one of the Committee members.

**Jumble Sale** at the Village Hall - 25<sup>th</sup> March 2006

**Coffee morning** - David and Gill Styman will be holding a coffee morning on 4<sup>th</sup> March between 10 am and 12 noon at 1 Mill Street. There will be a Bring and Buy stall, cake stall and raffle: all contributions will be very welcome.

**Bingo session** coming soon - look out for date and time.

**The Paper Quiz** was won by Daniel Cant and raised £91 for the Twinning Association.

**Committee contacts:** Diana Jones: 780634 and Bryan Wynne: 780802.

One of our friends in Nesles has asked us if we can help with the following: Julie Gavelle is enrolled on a two-year technical course at A-level in the Lycee in Boulogne and as a compulsory part of her course she must find work in England for eight weeks. She seeks employment in an office where she can use her skills in telephoning, mailing, market research, customer research and management. She already has some experience in the above and will not require payment for her work experience.

If you have a business and would be able to use her skills and enable her to gain experience for the period from 16<sup>th</sup> May to 11<sup>th</sup> July 2006 please contact Diana Jones on 780634.

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# ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The following are very abbreviated versions of the IPC minutes for the last two meetings. Remember that any parishioner may request a copy of the full minutes from the IPC.

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

Present:- Cllrs, Carter, Mrs Malkin, Garbett, Borok, Cave, Puckey, Beckett; Fred Langford (Dial-a-Ride); Five Parishioners

**PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME:** The Chairman announced that each parishioner would be limited to 3 minutes question time.

Mr Fred Langford addressed the Council about the organisation Dial-a Ride. Funding is to finish in June 2006. Would the Parish Council be able to help financially?

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies were received from Cllrs Chaplin, Neal, Mrs Gannon, Bishop and CC Mrs Broadway.

**MATTERS ARISING:** A letter has been received from Cambridgeshire Constabulary in reply to the letter from Mr Bishop regarding the traffic situation in Sun Street, informing us that they are unable to divert any additional attention to this area. They suggest that we contact the District Council to seek further advice. This has been done and a reply is being awaited.

**POLICE REPORT:** PC Humble attended the meeting and submitted a detailed report of the last three months. Between 4/9 and 3/10 2005 there were 7 crimes reported and 19 calls made to the police relating to the Isleham area. Between 4/10 and 7/11 2005 there were 7 crimes and 33 calls made to the police that related to the area. Between 8/11 and 2/12 2005 there were 5 crimes and 26 calls made to the police that related to the area. PC Humble's main point of contact with the Parish Council should be the Clerk however he would personally try to attend as many PC meetings as possible. There may be a police surgery in the village once a month which would include speed checks. He also made it clear that he was aware of various issues relating to the village including the parking situation around the Co-op and in Sun Street, and the dropping of litter on the Priory Green. It was noted that parking outside High Street Chapel on weekdays can be very dangerous.

**DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:** Cllr Beckett informed the Council of a recent meeting regarding the new look of neighbourhood policing. There is to be a shake up at the call centre and the police will be relying on the PCSOs. The main point of contact with the PC will be via the Clerk once per month.

**REPORT FROM VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE:** Mr Bettony carried out the work required to the village hall heaters, and all are now in working order. The cord matting has been put down in the entrance and the painting has yet to be completed owing to the weather.

**HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATH MATTERS:** The necessary work has been carried out at the bottom of Church Lane. One new grill has been put in by the ramp on Mill Street; if this is not sufficient then the Clerk will contact the County Council. It is uncertain whether the work in the Priory field has been completed. The street light is not working outside the Old Fire Station; the Clerk will report this. The grit bins have yet to be installed; the Clerk is waiting to hear back from Chris Elmer who will be laying the concrete bases for these.

The reason for the Isleham ramp being not as high as the Fordham ramps is that the Isleham ramp is a stand alone as part of the safer routes to school program, whereas the Fordham ramps are part of a bigger road calming scheme funded by the by-pass scheme.

**CEMETERY AND CHURCHYARD MATTERS:** The privet hedge between the cemetery currently in use and the new land on The Causeway is getting very high. It had been kept cut to the height of the cemetery wall. This will be looked into by the next meeting. It was agreed that the Council send a donation of £100 to the CAB.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** It was proposed by Cllr Beckett and seconded by Cllr Garbett that the council maintain their original objection to permission being granted for a full 12-month occupancy of the lodges, and that the Parish Council ask ECDC for their backing in this matter. The original agreement, which was before Mr Cave bought the Marina, was that the properties be sold as holiday homes with a maximum occupancy of 11 months. CARRIED

**PLANNING APPROVALS:** Erection of single storey dwelling at rear of 8 Hall Barn Road. Reserved matters for 1 dwelling between 45 and 49 East Fen Road, Reserved matters for 2 4-bedroomed two-storey dwellings at 18 Waterside, Isleham.

**PLANNING REFUSALS:** Erection of 1 3-bed dwelling at land adjoining 3 Croft Road, Isleham.

**TO REVIEW PETROL PUMP SITE RENT AND ANGLING FEES:** It was agreed that the petrol pump rent be increased by 10% and reviewed every year. It was agreed that the angling fees be increased from £2.50 to £3 per peg.

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY

Present:- Cllrs Carter, Mrs Malkin, Garbett, Puckey, Beckett, Mrs Gannon, Neal, Bishop; Ian Bowers (East Cambs District Council); Four Parishioners

**PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME:** Can the Clerk find out the policy for unlocking the car park on bank holidays as it has remained locked over the Christmas period? The Clerk will ask Mr Hurst if he is willing to unlock the car park at the same time as he unlocks the play area. Mr Cox raised a concern over the positioning of memorial headstones and the too early digging of



graves, he is concerned over who would be liable if there was an accident while the grave is open. It was agreed that the wall in the cemetery be repaired. The Clerk will write again to the relevant companies regarding the memorial headstones and also approach CALC to find out if there is adequate or appropriate insurance cover if anyone were to have an accident in the graveyard or at the entrance to the Three Tree Allotments where a hole has been dug behind a mound of earth to keep vehicles off the land.

In answer to a question Cllr Garbett confirmed that a grant offer of £19,910 had been made by the Football Foundation for the works to be carried out to the new recreation ground; there is no other information available. He also confirmed that the work on the cemetery land will still go ahead as a temporary measure as the recreation ground will not be ready until around September 2007.

The manhole cover by the pavillion is rusted through, the Clerk will look to see which manufacturer it is from and then get a replacement.

The bottle bank on Coates Drove is overflowing and the Clerk will contact the relevant company to sort this out.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies were received from Cllr Chaplin and Cllr Cave.

A letter has been received from David Groom at East Cambs District Council regarding the parking situation in Sun Street. No action is to be taken at this time.

**POLICEREPORT:** East Cambs. Neighbourhood Newsletter received. It was agreed that an open meeting for the village be arranged and Inspector Adam Gallop attend to inform parishoners of the neighbourhood policing policies. It was also agreed that the Parish Meeting be held on March 20th and if possible Inspector Gallop attend this meeting.

**COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:** County Cllr Mrs Broadway informed the councillors that there will probably be a 5% increase in council tax. The new chief constable for Cambridgeshire has been appointed – Julie Spence.

41 of the police forces do not wish to amalgamate. Cllr Mrs Malkin asked if the double yellow lines around the Co-op could be reinstated. The houses on Station/Fordham Road should have some kind of screening, the original plans need to be looked at to see what the arrangements are for this.

**RECREATION GROUND/PLAY AREA:** Thanks to the grant from the Football Foundation, the Recreation Ground Committee are now in a position to go ahead and the first work to be carried out will be the burying of the overhead cable.

The Parish noticeboard is in need of repair. The Clerk will obtain quotes by the next meeting.

**CEMETERY AND CHURCHYARD MATTERS:** A concern has been received about the position of the new bench in the old cemetery.

**PLANNING APPROVALS:** Change of use of land at Beck Road, Isleham to football pitch.

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Reserved matters for 4 dwellings and garages at Church Farm, Isleham.

Single storey side extension, pitched roof to existing extension and internal alterations to 53 Waterside. Walnut Tree Farm: Notification of Enforcement notice issued concerning this address. This notice requires the use of land for the sale of horse and animal feeds etc to cease by the end of July 2006.

**ISLEHAM INFORMER:** Cllr Mrs Malkin suggested that it would be good if the Isleham Informer be more geared to the needs of the community, with more information about upcoming events, with the relevant issues being out in plenty of time so that the parishoners are well informed. Suggestions such as a village diary with a list of events and also such things as the school holidays for the coming year. Cllr Puckey will contact the editor to discuss these issues.

**DUNSTALL APPRENTICE GRANT:** It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Gannon and seconded by Cllr Mrs Malkin to approve the payment of £50.50 to Marc Sheldrick from the Dunstall Apprentice Grant Fund.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Several boats have been unloaded on the wash without permission. The clerk will refuse permission for any further requests made and the matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr Beckett informed the council that Linda Homan is hoping to start a youth club in the village and would like to tell her that the Parish Council will back her in this.

*Diane Bayliss, Temp Parish Clerk*

## A POSITIVE PONDERING!

Constant dripping wears away a stone! For the past few weeks, the Police Force has been observed several times in and around Isleham. Even in Malting Lane at the school leaving time, ushering away the 4X4 vehicles that litter the double yellow lines. Reading the latest Parish Council minutes it appears that the Police Authority will now make regular contact with the Parish Clerk by way of a newsletter every month and that there is a possibility of a monthly surgery being held in the village. The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on March 20<sup>th</sup> and it is hoped that Inspector Gallop will attend this event. If he cannot make this meeting then he will appear at some future date to explain the new Policing Agenda for Isleham and surrounding villages. It would be a tragedy if this meeting were not well attended, if, after all the moans and groans people showed disinterest so please try to make the Parish Meeting your business. PC Humble said that the Police were aware of the problems in the village, such as parking problems around the Co-op, Sun St and High St Chapel, speeding areas and the dropping of litter on the Priory Green and other places so hopefully some of the problems may well be resolved soon.

PC Humble will also try to attend Parish Council Meetings when he has time available, bearing in mind that he attends these meetings in his own time we feel he should be given a vote of thanks for doing so and the Parish Council duly approved this.

*Ian Humphreys*

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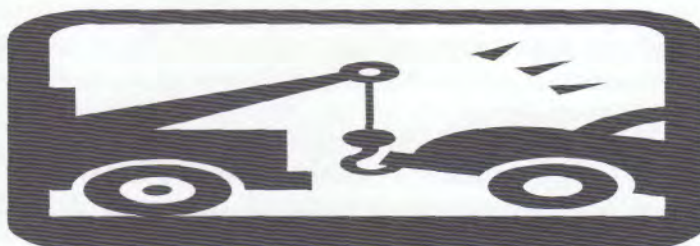
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# Isleham Women's Institute

It seems a long time now since our Christmas party on December 8<sup>th</sup>. One thing can be said about the WI: we do know how to put on a good feast and sing-along.

Some members were asked to join in with the group on backing vocals or playing the bells. One member in particular certainly hadn't forgotten how to shake, rattle and roll.

January's meeting saw a quiz set by our members Denise and Jackie and helped by myself on the night. Janet Houghton was in charge of social time and was hoping everyone "had their taste buds in tip-top condition" when she revealed four bottle of her husband's home-made wine. We were asked to guess the flavour. It caused lots of fun and giggling. The winning team was sent home with a bottle to try. (Did I hear that the Co-op had a run on paracetamol the next day?)

Our AGM will be on February 9<sup>th</sup>. President, Secretary and Treasurer and committee members all stand down, and new or old people are elected to serve Isleham WI for the coming year. Refreshments will be served by Peggy and social time has been changed to two WI members and one extra. The competition is a Home-made Heart.

We will be starting our bring-and-buy stall at this meeting do please support this it helps to pay for the bus for our summer outing.

Our annual Jumble sale will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup> at the village hall we open at 2 pm. Please do join us.

9<sup>th</sup> March will see our new committee in place and the speaker for the evening will be Tony Rosella, "Consultancy work with retailers". Margaret and Sylvia will serve refreshments, social time Janice, and the competition is anything hand-knitted.

Our 13<sup>th</sup> April meeting will not be at the Village Hall, but we will be travelling to Hats Hire in Fordham, where we will be given an insight in to Sue's collection of wonderful hats, which believe me if you have not seen it before it is out of this world. Transport will be sorted out at the March meeting. The competition will be the prettiest scarf. Hats Hire will serve refreshments.

Please come along to any of our meetings; we are always happy to see new faces. Our membership at the moment is heading towards 50 again. So if you feel alone or fed up or bored of telly come and join us. We will try to ensure that you have a laugh and a good time. If you have a problem getting to the village hall, please contact me and I will try to arrange a lift for you.

Brenda Downey 01638 780338

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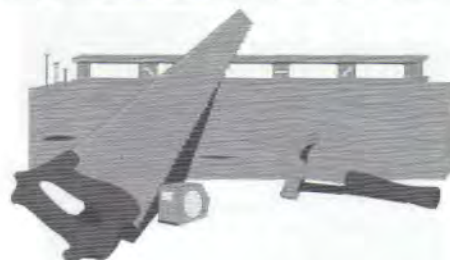
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## Rising Sun Charity Night Hike

Isleham saw the resurrection of a long forgotten tradition in the form of the Night Hike, organised by the Rising Sun for the benefit of the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

The Challenge took the form of teams of four people being dropped off at a 4.5 mile radius of the Rising Sun, to make their way back without being spotted by teams of strategically placed spotters. Along the way they had to collect items and answer questions.

All together, a total of £400 was raised by the teams, in conjunction with local sponsorship from Universal Doors, Universal Garage, Mr John Delaney, Mr Phillip Aspland, Clover Leisure and the Rising Sun.

A thoroughly good night was had by all and many congratulations to the winning team 'The Warriors', pictured below with the organisers.



## St Andrew's Parish Church

### Services

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March Ash Wednesday Service 7.30pm  
Family Eucharist  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March Mothers' Day Service 10am  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April Easter Day Family Communion  
All Welcome  
Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April Confirmation Service 5pm

### Functions

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March Coffee Morning  
10 – 12 noon Social Centre  
In aid of Church Restoration  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April Coffee Morning  
10 – 12 noon Social Centre  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May "Pudding Club"  
7pm Social Centre  
Bring a pudding, donate £1. Come and join us for a mouth-watering evening.  
Sun 4<sup>th</sup> June Cream Teas  
3pm Social Centre  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March Soham Books  
10 – 4pm Social Centre

If you need to contact us please call one of our Churchwardens:

Wendy Garbett	Nick Carver
16 Croft Road	15 Jubilee Close
Isleham CB7 5QR	Isleham
01638 780863	01638 781116

### Bell Ringers

Please use Richard May 01638 780249 as contact.



# High Street Church

All are welcome to our Sunday services throughout the year:

**10.30 am morning worship** All ages are very welcome from the very young to the very old. The children have their own activities.

**6.30 pm evening fellowship** – a less formal service usually with opportunity for individual sharing. Come and hear about God's goodness!

Tea, coffee and good conversation are available after both the morning and evening services.

On Sunday mornings the following children's facilities are available:

**Crèche** is available for babies and tots up to 3 years old: the crèche workers are very experienced and provide a safe, fun playtime for the little ones.

**Junior Church** for those who are aged 3 to 7 is a fun-filled session with singing, crafts, drama and stories.



At the Village Hall the older **Junior Church** meets — children who are 7 to 11 years old. (That's the noise you've heard from the hall on a Sunday morning!) Their morning starts from 10.00 with a craft followed by a wide

range of activities encouraging the children to discover the Christian faith for themselves. We would love to see some new faces and visitors would be made very welcome!

**Nikao** is the name for the 11 to 14 year olds and on a Sunday morning they receive teaching that is relevant to pre-teens/teenagers. On a Friday night this group meet socially and have a lot of laughs!

## Other Activities during the week:

Our **Rendezvous** group — for the more mature amongst us — meets every Tuesday afternoon at 3 pm. Between 60 and 70 of us enjoy this time together each week but new faces are always welcome.



**Luncheon club** is going well too with good food and a chance for a chat — why not turn up early and give yourself time to greet all your friends as they arrive! At the moment we are fully booked but you are welcome to join our reserve list so that you can be invited when we are able to expand.

**For anybody who would like to come along to either of these groups there is free transport available where necessary.**



**Little Lambs** caters for the other end of the age range. This mums and toddlers group takes place on Friday mornings during school terms. (9.15 – 11.15 am). All are welcome and it's free! Mums/carers come and chat over a coffee while the children play.



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**Alpha** is well known throughout the country as an excellent course for those wishing to learn about the Christian faith. This term's Alpha course is under way but will be available again after Easter. This is the perfect opportunity to ask all the questions you've wanted to ask but have never dared — the evening sessions are relaxed and open with conversation over a good meal as well as discussion groups. Why not give it a try?

There is a host of other midweek activities taking place. Contact us on the number below for more information.

#### **Forthcoming events...**

##### **Easter Passion Play**

On Good Friday (14<sup>th</sup> April) we will be performing scenes from Holy Week as told in the Bible. We will start by portraying Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday as we process from High Street Chapel to the Priory. Other events of that first Easter will be depicted at the Priory. You are warmly invited to come and watch as we enact the events of that week. Details of the time will be publicised soon.



##### **Village Spring Clean: Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 10.00am**

You are invited to come and help us clean up the village footpaths and droves by picking up litter that has accumulated over the winter months. This is not an onerous task and, in fact, is an enjoyable way of spending a couple of hours on a Saturday morning. The necessary equipment is provided but you are advised to wear strong shoes. Children are welcome but an adult must accompany those below the age of 12. Please stay and enjoy a light lunch provided after all your hard work!



##### **May Bank Holiday: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May**

We are planning to have a community Celebration during this bank holiday weekend. There will be events for people of all ages to enjoy, including a tea dance and much more, which proved so successful last year. We will also be doing jobs for the elderly again. Full details of this special weekend will be displayed nearer the time.



For more information about any of the events at High Street Church or general advice call Steve in the church office on 01638 780985 or Paul Hedger (Church leader) on 01638 721291.

### **Karma Farm** **8 Fen Bank, Isleham**

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## **ISLEHAM (uniting the village) YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB**

**A**s co-manager of the U8 Football team, I am not qualified to comment on the performance and progress of every team making up Isleham United Youth Football, but there is certainly an air of great enthusiasm around the village at the moment when it comes to football. We now have in excess of 140 registered member players and that figure will almost certainly grow over the next few years as new teams are formed. The details pertaining to the Club, its Teams and Participants can now be obtained simply by visiting our new website **[www.iuyfc.co.uk](http://www.iuyfc.co.uk)**.



The longer-term objective of the Club is to expand in both stature and size and this will necessitate the development of appropriate infrastructure to meet the needs of this expansion. Discussions are already afoot with the relevant Council members and all other interested parties in order to ensure that the needs of this growth are adequately met.

Funding is always at the core of any ongoing and future proposed development and whilst Grants and Sponsorship have been very gratefully received from various sources (foundations, companies and private individuals), there is always a need to augment these contributions in order to develop the club and its facilities on the one hand and to ensure a healthy cash flow for the day to day operations on the other.

It is therefore of utmost importance that everyone, including the players, parents, family and friends become actively involved in the Club and whilst some parents are doing their best to actively contribute and participate there is still a lot more that needs to be done "behind the scenes". We therefore would encourage and invite any person who feels that they have something to offer or can arrange and manage fund raising sessions, not to hesitate in contacting our Committee Vice Chairman (Mark Goldsack on the contact numbers at the end of this address). We certainly have a dynamic and highly motivated Committee Team at the moment that would embrace any offers for help with open arms.



### **The U8 Team**

Since the formation of our U8 Team last August (2005) I am delighted that the Boys have all eagerly and enthusiastically attended both training evenings and Saturday games — their progress has been significant and whilst the results are not coming our way yet, the skills and general understanding of Football is improving fast. I am sure that with continued dedication, the results will become more positive.

What is particularly pleasing, however, is that from a very low base, both in terms of physical numbers and in skills ability (a large number of new players had never kicked or run with a ball before!), we have now developed cohesion and skills appreciation in the Team with everyone working in a safe and structured environment in which everyone has fun, meets and makes friends and develops a higher level of fitness - all at the same time!. The skills are not only aimed at Football, but we hope that they will become better adults eventually, with improved social skills as a result of learning tolerance, courtesy, sportsmanship and an appreciation of fair-play.

Sponsorship form a very important part of any Club and our heart-felt thanks go this month for the invaluable contribution made by **Thompson's Farm Meat** for their sponsorship to the U8 Team of all weather jackets, which will be extremely useful on these cold winter mornings.

In December 2005 we received a Grant from the Local Network Fund to develop the Mini Football fields on

Beck Road in Isleham, the land for which has been given by the Parish Council .The picture opposite shows our U8 Team celebrating this award and everyone is looking forward to sharing in the enormous benefits which will be derived from these new facilities.

Let us ALL make Football and Sport a wholly enjoyable experience for everyone and not forget that parents and Committees give up their time as volunteers for the benefit and well-being of the children. The reward at the end of the day is having a local football club whose members enjoy the game in a safe environment and learn football and social skills which ultimately make them better members of society and makes ISLEHAM really UNITED in Football.

### **For The Diary:**

Kindly note that at the last Committee Meeting it was agreed that the End-of-Season Football awards (yes, we too can have our own BAFTA!) will be held by all teams at the same time this year. The venue is likely to be the recreation ground in Isleham and subject to confirmation will be held on **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May**. A final announcement will be made on this in due course.

We hope to make this a super occasion for all and again any ideas and volunteers for fund raising events (let's make this a big event!) should again be forwarded to the Committee vice Chairman Mr Mark Goldsack Tel. 07831 168 899 or [mark.goldsack@elyvate.co.uk](mailto:mark.goldsack@elyvate.co.uk).

**HAPPY FOOTBALLING!**

**Jonathan Sykes U8 Team Coach**

# **ISLEHAM PRE-SCHOOL LUNCH CLUB**

**Isleham Pre-school are pleased to announce a 16 place lunch-time club**

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<b>Where</b>	<b>Isleham Pre-school unit</b>
<b>What Time</b>	<b>11:15 to 12:45</b>
<b>Cost</b>	<b>£2.00 per child, payable with booking</b>

**Packed lunch to be provided by the parent.  
All children attending pre-school are welcome.**

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**Isleham Under 5s Association. Registered Charity No: 294978**



## Bowls Club Report

Whilst most outdoor bowling clubs lie in hibernation during the winter, it is very different at Isleham. The two teams that play in the East Cambs Carpet Bowls are having contrasting fortunes this season. Team 1 were promoted to the top division last season, for the first time in the club's history, and have performed remarkably well. At the time of writing, they are 4<sup>th</sup> place in the league and looking for a top half finish. On the other hand team 2 have struggled all season with only one win out of 12 matches thus far.

Isleham was represented in the East Cambs fours and pairs qualifiers in January at the Ross Peers centre in Soham. The four of Ivan Hymus, Barry Grimwood, Jeff Marsh and Robert Burling finished second in their group and have qualified for the county finals to be held at Milton. In the knock out competition 5 of the 6 teams entered have been eliminated, but Diane and Robert Burling, and Margaret and Jeff Marsh have reached the East Cambs play off for a place in the county final.

On the social front, there have been a number of functions, some of which are open to non-members to attend. Please check for posters that are displayed around the village for any future events and contact details. For fund raising purposes, we will be holding a 'Jumbo Jumble' on the 18<sup>th</sup> March. Whilst talking about fund raising reminds me of the 'difficult' era the sport is now going through. Decreasing membership is

a national trend and rising establishment costs makes running a non profit organisation very taxing!

The club is an asset for the village and we welcome new interest from Isleham folk. Do you answer 'yes' to any of the following questions?

- 1 Do you enjoy a relaxing drink with some friends?
- 2 Do you need some exercise?
- 3 Do you like a challenging activity?
- 4 Are you aged between 11 & 100?

If the answer is one or more 'yes' then the bowls club is the place for you! In the summer months we play in various leagues and competitions that you could easily attain to, but we also play a number of less formal matches that are aimed at everyone. You do not need any experience at bowls and initially the equipment can be provided.

During the winter months we play carpet bowls during the week and arrange a number of other events. To become a social member starts from £25 (reduced for juniors) for 52 weeks membership, that's good value at less than 50p per week!

Fed up of same old television, little good news in the papers? Why not give a new social activity a try; it would be great to see you.

If you have any further questions please ask:

Barry Grimwood (Club Captain)  
01353 722781

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