

# Isleham Informer

Issue 17 June 2006

emayall@onetel.com 01638 780 839

## A new "Royal Family" for Isleham!



In the Village,  
for the Village,  
Children First

Murfit on 01638 780373. For details about the dog show please contact Jackie Riley on 07939003681.

Keep a look out for posters around the village and in the village shop windows with details of all the competitions you can enter. Keep your copy of the Gala Programme which you should find inside this issue of the Isleham Informer. Other programmes will also be available from Roseanna Thompson.

If you are available to help on the morning, during the day or the evening of Gala Day please contact Roseanna Thompson.

We look forward to seeing you on Gala Day.

The final of the competition to find the 2006 Gala Queen, Prince and Princess was held on Friday 12 May 2006 at Isleham Village Hall. A disco was organised for the evening, which the children (and parents) thoroughly enjoyed. 26 children entered the competition and 86 people came to the disco.

Congratulations to Lilly Coe aged 10 who was crowned the 2006 Gala Queen, to Lola Harris aged 6 the Gala Princess and to Caleb Long aged 6 the Prince. All the children attend Isleham Primary School. The winners will lead the procession of floats through the village to the Recreation Ground at the Gala which will be held on Saturday 1 July from 1.00pm.

Thank you to The Young Guns Line Dancing Group run by Sophie Turner for sponsoring the disco. Classes run on a Tuesday night at the Comrades Club, Mildenhall Football Club on Thursday night and at Isleham Primary School after school on a Thursday afternoon. Also thank you to Graeme and Angela Wells who generously always sponsor the prize money presented to the winners. Our independent Judges were Pauline Cook and Ian Shooter of the Garden Design Centre at Scotsdales Garden Centre, Great Shelford, Cambridge.

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Once again there will be lots of events on Gala Day, including the various competitions, children's fun games and amusements, stalls and craft marquees, BBQ and a real ale bar, dog show, children's fun run and much, much more.

Further details about the Gala are available from Roseanna Thompson on 01638 780994. To book a stall or a table in the craft marquee please contact Barbara



We are most amused! Caleb, Lily and Lola



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## Ah! To be in England now that Summer is Here!

When we first moved to Isleham some seven years ago, we were told that the one thing you could always count on was that the sun would shine on Gala Day. It hadn't rained in living memory. Since then, it seems that it has rained on every Gala Day. (It is of course possible that I am equally guilty of hyperbole — not entirely certain that it rained last year, but neither was it a 'scorcher'.) One thing you can be certain of: Gala Day will be fun! Try as it might Good Old English Summer Rain seems incapable of ruining things. Details of events you can dodge showers to this year are on the front page and in the enclosed leaflet. And remember (in the words of Billy Connolly): there's no such thing as bad weather: just the wrong choice of clothing.

Elsewhere in this issue, among the usual rag bag of church, council and club news, you'll find our first ever contribution from a canine correspondent, and news of good works in Sri Lanka and how you can help.

Hanneke Keegan has volunteered deliver the Informer to the Marina (with some help from Ollie...), but extra help is always welcome. Call Richard on 780 965. Contributions (oh go on, you know you want to!) for the September issue should be emailed to emayall@onetel.com or delivered to 94 The Causeway by 9<sup>th</sup> August. New advertisers should ring 781 796.

## Joint Partnership Environmental Action Day

This will be held in Isleham on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June. Representatives from various organisations will be in the village investigating what improvements can be made.

For information on fire safety, smoke alarm fitting or arson prevention contact Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service on 01353 660 025.

Questions about your tenancy or problems with other tenants should be addressed to Hereward Housing on 0845 850 5757.

Isleham Parish Council will be on hand dealing with play areas and the cemetery; call 01638 781 093 or [diane.bayliss@btinternet.com](mailto:diane.bayliss@btinternet.com).

East Cambridgeshire District Council will be looking into community safety issues, anti-social behaviour and graffiti removal (01353 616 391).

In addition, Cambridgeshire Police will address law and order issues (0845 456 4564), and the County Council will be here to investigate highway maintenance (01353 667 826).

If you would like to put any suggestions forward for this even please contact Kate Kent on 01353 656 643 by **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June**.

## Car Amnesty

For free removal of unwanted vehicles you own, under a car amnesty for residents of East Cambridgeshire, please contact 01353 616 286 quoting 'car amnesty' with details of the make, registration number, your name and phone number etc. You will need to show the log book and have some form of identification.



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# Calendar of Events for Isleham 2006

## Joint Partnership Environmental Action Day

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June

## Play Area Meeting

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June, 7.30 pm, Village Hall, small room

## Gala Day

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July

## Freckenham Flower Festival

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July, 1.30–5.00 pm,  
Freckenham, refreshments, plants and Traidcraft stalls

## 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

## Premier Soccer Recreation Ground 10am–3 pm

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August

## Isleham School Autumn Term opens

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September

## Isleham School Half Term

23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> October

## Isleham School Autumn Term closes

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

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

## Joyce's Corner: The Two of Us

"It's getting late," to my husband I said,  
"I think it's time we got ready for bed".  
I go to the kitchen, a few jobs to do,  
Tomorrow I think we will have a beef stew.

I take meat from the freezer to put on a plate,  
Go outside to make sure I have fastened the gate.  
Throw out some flowers that look nearly dead,  
Put out the 'moggy' and lock up the shed.

Put his wellies inside, in case of some rain,  
Check the back door is locked with a chain.  
Make sure that the phone is put on the hook,  
Tomorrow I must change my library book.

Sort out the bills that we need to pay,  
Then make some sandwiches for the next day.  
Get the cups ready for our morning drink.  
Make sure the taps are turned off at the sink.

Next upstairs I go and switch on the light,  
Draw all the curtains for the night.  
Go to the bathroom and wipe round the bath,  
These jobs have taken an hour and a half.

He'll come straight upstairs with never a care.  
There's no net or cap to go on his hair.  
It's hard for him to switch off the telly –  
Or pick up his socks that are usually smelly.



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**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. **£ 5 8 9 5 . 0 0**

**2003 53 Renault Laguna 1.8 16v Dynamique** Auto Sport Tourer (EST). 1 owner, F/S/H, A/W, E/W, C/L, A/Bags, Radio CD, Leather Trim, 33000 miles **£ 7 2 9 5 . 0 0**

**2003 03 Renault Clio Expression 1.2 16v** 3dr in Ottoman Blue Metallic, E/W, C/L, P.A.S, Radio CD only 11000 miles **£ 4 9 9 5 . 0 0**

**2003 03 Renault Clio Expression 1.2 16v** 3dr in Metallic Silver. E/W, C/L. P.A.S, Radio CD player F/S/H, Only 13000 miles **£ 4 9 9 5 . 0 0**

**2003 03 Renault Clio Expression 1.2 16v** 3dr in Saffron A.B.S, P.A.S, E/W, C/L, Radio CD, S/R 29000 miles. **£ 4 9 9 5 . 0 0**

**2002 52 Renault Laguna Privilege Sport Tourer 1.8 16v** in metallic Grey, A/W, C/C, Radio CD, P/Sensor S/R, E/W, F/S/H only 43000 miles **£ 6 2 9 5 . 0 0**

**2001 Y Renault Espace Grand Expression 2.2 DCi** in Metallic Silver, A/W, E/W, Captains Chairs, Radio CD, multi changer, F/Fogs, A/B, A/B/S. F/S/H 44000 miles **£ 9 9 9 5 . 0 0**

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

**1999 T Renault Megane Coupe 1.6 Sport** in Metallic Red E/W, P.A.S, A/W, Radio CD, C/L, F/S/H 1 owner 80k. **£ 2 9 9 5 . 0 0**

## Vans

**2005 55 Renault Master LM35 DCi 120 LWB** A.B.S, P.A.S, Radio CD, Ply Lined C/Locking, 24000 miles **£ 9 9 9 5 . 0 0 + VAT**

**2003 03 Renault Traffic LWB, LL29 DCi 1.9** 100bhp in white, C/L, A.B.S Ply lined, Low mileage 26000 **£ 7 9 9 5 . 0 0 + VAT**

## Motorcycle

**2005 05 Husqvarna TE450 Enduro** rd reg. **£ 3 9 9 5 . 0 0**





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## Useful Phone Numbers

Emergency for Police, Fire, Ambulance	999
Police (Cams)	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

## Play Area

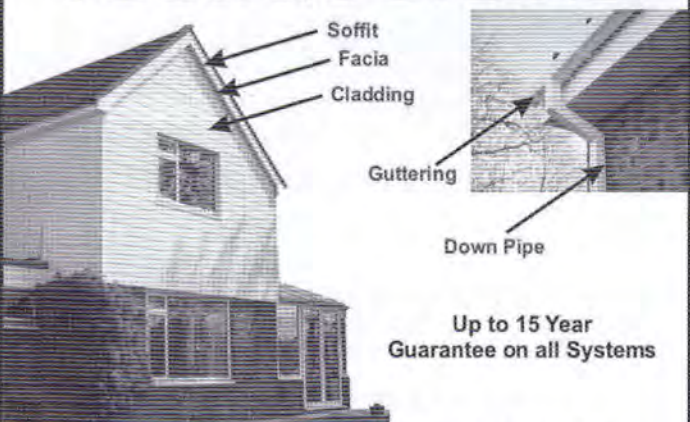
A meeting will be held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June to  
discuss replacing or refurbishing the children's play  
area. This will be in the small room of the Village Hall  
at 7.30 pm.

## Ollie Walks in Isleham

**H**allo, I am Ollie, a little Jack Russell type dog, but  
painted like a Dobermann! Some people call  
me a "Black & Tan". I am just over a year old  
and arrived in Isleham last May, when Mum and Dad  
moved into the Marina after having travelled on their  
narrowboat Birdsong for some years. I reckon this is a  
great place to live with lots of interesting things to see  
and do and I would like to tell you about some of my  
adventures and encounters with other wild animals  
since I've been here.

Most mornings Mum takes me around the island. To  
me, this is like reading the newspaper is to you. I catch  
up on the new smells and familiar places and I have

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*Your correspondent poses for the camera*

a brilliant time chasing the geese and ducks off the banks. These are really mock attacks because when I do get close to them, they are very noisy and flap about a lot, which is a little scary. Right now, Mum keeps me on my long lead though, since some of the geese have goslings and they're not very fast and I am!

Sometimes we come across Kevin the Cat. Although I normally hate cats, this one is different. Kevin ambushes me and will all of a sudden appear from behind a bush and then he calmly waits for me to come up to him. I'm not sure what to think of this, he doesn't move an inch and I think he wants to play with me, but I don't know how to! So I whimper a little, but then retreat when he starts hissing. He lives with an Alsatian called Jake. Now he is more my cup of tea, I love his fur and we will chase the odd ball together. All Jake is after though are my Mum's doggie treats. My best mate in the Marina is Bertie, the lurcher. We just hit it off and have fantastic runs together. Often, our Mums will take us to the Washes where we can really let rip. We splash in the mud there, play hide and seek around the bog plants and generally get filthy. On our way back, we will hurry to the slipway where we get washed. Very satisfying.

In the afternoon we mostly venture out of the Marina. The first animal we encounter is Woody, a horse belonging to Thompson's Farm. I'm not sure what to think of him and I don't think he is too sure what to think of me, so we just observe each other. Woody is not in his meadow at weekends (he would get too fat on the grass) so then we explore his patch. The other day I caught a live fish on the bank there, it flapped about a lot so I reluctantly let it go. I prefer them dead and rotting, wonderful to roll in. Unfortunately, Mum doesn't and she makes me have a shower. I hate showers and shampoo, definitely non-U for dogs.

We might turn left and into the village, a trip I love: all those doggy smells I need to investigate, so many red elastic bands to snatch up, tissues and other bits of litter to chew on, a really enjoyable experience. I like exploring the many paths in and around the village, they lead between houses and alleyways and are almost hidden when you don't know them. The one I like best is behind the Priory; there is a path of carrots there for the horses in the field. Recently we saw a

very hairy foal there, but it didn't want to play with me and to be truthful, it looked a bit fierce and Mum had me on a very short lead so that I wouldn't eat all these carrots. The other one I like is opposite the strawberry farm, a wide strip of grass where I can run on off the lead. I also love the one alongside the allotments, for some reason there is a lots of pig manure around there, a delicious smell (and taste!).

On other occasions, we turn right out of the Marina, along the river bank. If you carry on far enough, you come across all sorts of animals: lots of cows and calves in all colours, an animal sanctuary with a huge bull standing on a midden, chickens I would love to get my paws on and there even is a noisy donkey. If I'm lucky my friends Petroushka and Scheherazade (Petra and Sherry to me) will come out to play. They're black and white lurchers, very boisterous and woofy, but I love friends like that. Their owner has asked to borrow me as he has a few rats on his plot, but Mum is not too keen on the idea (and neither am I really, although I am supposed to be a 'ratter'). I love the digging bit, but I prefer moles. There are loads of moles in the Marina and even in my garden, and although I try ever so hard, I have yet to catch one!

We explore the area in many other directions and I also get to cruise on our lovely little boat Tarka. I have just been to Holland and France, so if you like to read more about my adventures, maybe Mum will write about them another time. Till then,

Ollie

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## A SPRINGTIME PONDERING!

'T is said "In spring, a young mans fancy turns to love" – if only it were true!. In the olden days — that's even before Arthur Houghton was born — early in the morning of May Day, the village maidens would arise from their slumbers, run down to the nearest meadow and roll around naked in the early morning dew. This was supposed to make them more beautiful! Of course, the lads of the village arose even earlier, scurried to their hiding places and observed whether or not this was true. No doubt after this, they went and danced round the Maypole – the reasons why are obscured but it was all obviously very healthy and improved the mind etc. Today of course they get it all from television and some of them don't even have to get out of bed!

It is a lovely time of the year though, everything seems to bloom at once, the bright yellow of the rape fields, blossom of every description and all these were on view as I watched some of the first Saturday's cricket on the rec. Traditional Maytime weather, candles on the chestnut trees, daffodils doing their thing, trees blossoming everywhere, a slight drizzle coming down and the players whites gathering traditional green stripes from the wet grass as they were fielding! It wouldn't be England if it were not so.

To other matters: it appears the the Government want to close over 1000 sub post offices. Of course they are not letting on which ones are going but usually by the time we find out it is too late. There is a petition going round the village, in the Post Office and the Rising Sun asking for signatures in protest against the possible closure of ours. It would seem to be a good idea to sign it when you get the chance.

It will be Gala Day shortly, I hope to participate in the buggy race this year and would ask every buggy user to join in this fun event – you can enter on the day but it would be helpful to have some idea of numbers beforehand, contact either the Gala committee or even me at a pinch.

No more to ponder, enjoy the summer whatever the weather

Ian Humphreys

## FARM FRESH EGGS

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leading to Isleham Marina*

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# Puzzles

## Spot the Difference

There were several correct solutions last time, but the winner (selected at random by an independent adjudicator) was Benjamin Edwards of The Causeway. So congratulations to you Benjamin; your £5 will be with you shortly. The differences were: 1. Tree branch is shorter. 2. Water drop by wave is missing. 3. Snow on mountain is missing. 4. Pompom on hat is coloured in. 5. Heel on sock door is coloured in. 6. Pocket on shirt is coloured in. 7. Bandage on leg has moved. 8. Design on shorts has moved. 9. Arm opening in swimsuit is larger. 10. Icicle on sign is different. 11. Valve on tube reversed. 12. Peak on cap is upside down.

## Wordsearch

By way of a change this time, we've got a Wordsearch. This has 22 words associated in some way with Isleham and to make it difficult we're not going to tell you what they are. Because it is so hard (we think it is, anyway), £5 will be awarded to the person (under 14) who gets the most words. Good luck!



## Anagrams

Last time you were asked to see how many words you could make out of **Comrades**. There are over 300, but here are 60 of the more common:

ace aced acme acre adores aero arcs armed arose  
cameo card cares cars cedar coarse coda codes  
coma comers cored cram credo dames dare dears  
decor demo derma does dome dose dram ears era  
macro made mare mead modes more oar odes orca  
ores raced roads roam rode rose sacred scam scare  
score scram seam smear soared soda some sore

For the next issue, have a go at **The Griffin**.

# Pooley & Bendall Watson

## SOLICITORS

### All Legal Work Undertaken

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## Sri Lanka Update

Eighteen months ago our Christmas television viewing was punctuated by news footage from south east Asia of a devastating tsunami that had been generated by the world's second largest recorded earthquake. Walls of water up to 60 feet high hit the western shores of Sumatra, killing in excess of 100,000 people. As the wave spread out from the epicentre it struck the coastline of Thailand where foreign tourists, including many British holidaymakers, were drowned. Sri Lanka, India, the Maldives and eventually the east coast of Africa were to be hit.

Since June of last year I have made two visits to the badly devastated region around Galle on the southern tip of Sri Lanka. This is an area with a population about half that of Cambridge where over 7000 men, women and children died and nearly 22,000 were made homeless as a result of this catastrophe. In total, over 38,000 have died across Sri Lanka to date.

I have spoken to parents who have lost children and vice versa, wives and mothers with no means of support now that their husbands are dead, and orphaned children now being raised by family friends or relatives who have been given no official help.

Around Easter 2005 I was asked if I would like to join a group going to help in Thailand. This trip unfortunately did not go ahead but the idea gave me the impetus to make my own arrangements to work on a rebuilding project I had learned about in Galle. With the generosity of a number of friends and by raising funds through car boot sales and raffles, I was able to take nearly £1500 to Sri Lanka. My intension was to buy building materials to help the project I was to work on.

Unfortunately I realised within a few days that the local management of the project were not the philanthropists they portrayed themselves as. A number of the volunteers, including myself, made protestations to the appropriate authorities in Britain and the USA and there is now a police enquiry into the dealings of the management.

This was my first experience of the widespread corruption within Sri Lanka, which is an endemic part of life, but this

embezzlement of money given by well meaning donors in the west who only wanted to help in some way, took the practice to a more sinister level.

For the first two weeks of the trip we built four roomed, single storey houses and during this time I had been visiting a refugee camp on the outskirts of Galle. Here I met a 21 year old girl, Chaini Patabandige, who because she spoke good English, had assumed the role of camp leader. She showed me the plight of the 194 people in the camp who were living in tents with access to one hastily dug well for their water. The sanitary provision for the camp consisted of one squat toilet and one shower fed from the same well – all for 194 refugees and all supplied by private volunteers. Government help for these people had been minimal.

By November they had all been "re-housed". Not permanent housing but wooden huts, measuring about 15 feet x 10 feet and all again supplied by private



*Nasif and her children*

donations from abroad. Chaini herself was living in such a "temporary accommodation" when I returned in February. Also in the hut, which was kitchen, living room and bedroom all in one, lived her husband, mother, father, younger sister and grandmother. With only one bed between they took turns sleeping on the bed leaving three or four to sleep on mats on the dirt floor.

At present there are around 8000 refugees in the area still living this way. Some have been lucky, as almost 3000 have been re-housed permanently, but the remainder still live with friends or relatives.

In certain areas of Galle the devastation by the water was almost total. But life has returned to some sort of normality over the months. The majority of fishermen have returned to the sea, having had their shattered fishing boats and nets replaced, again with the help of private donors. Boats carry the names of the donors in many languages from English to Korean, from Spanish to Afrikaans. However, there remains a sizable minority of fishermen who will never return to the sea out of fear of a future tsunami. These men have to try to integrate into the local economy and earn a meagre living as there are no "government benefit schemes" to help them re-

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train or set up a small business. To officialdom these are a forgotten people.

The wave literally stripped the poorest of what little they possessed. Most survivors escaped with their lives, nothing more.

In eight weeks spent in Sri Lanka I heard many disturbing stories. Nasif, who lost three of her five children and still living in a hut. Riza, who lost eleven of his immediate family and now raises his only remaining child alone. The child was born one month before the tsunami. The Sudharma school which lost over 250 of it past and present pupils and the disabled orphanage at Sambodhi where the most severely disturbed children were locked in a room. Seventeen of the eighteen in that room died!

I have received a great deal of help from others and been able to deliver nearly £5000 to Sri Lanka for various projects. This a very small drop though in a very large ocean but the fund raising will continue.

The Church has kindly agreed to host a concert by the Aquarius Ladies Choir from Bury St Edmunds on July 8th, for which I thank them most sincerely. I shall be arranging other events during the coming months, including a concert by the Bury Male Voice Choir on a date to be arranged.

Not long ago the word "tsunami" was not part of our vocabulary. Is there anyone who cannot define it now?

Robert

## Kids, eh?

1. You spend the first two years of their life teaching them to walk and talk. Then you spend the next sixteen telling them to sit down and shut up.
2. Grandchildren are God's reward for not killing your own children.
3. Mothers of teens now know why some animals eat their young.
4. Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said.
5. The main purpose of holding children's parties is to remind yourself that there are children more awful than your own.
6. We childproofed our homes, but they are still getting in.

**ADVICE FOR THE DAY:** Be nice to your kids. They will choose your nursing home one day.

**AND FINALLY:** If you have a lot of tension and you get a headache, do what it says on the aspirin bottle:

"TAKE TWO ASPIRIN" and "KEEP AWAY FROM CHILDREN"!

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Secretary 01638 780893 Chairperson 01638 780111

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Wednesday 7.30-11.00pm	Thursday Closed
Friday 8.00-11.00pm	Saturday 8.00-11.00pm
Sunday 12.00-3.00pm and	8.00-10.30pm

### Regular Functions

Tuesdays: **Line Dancing** 7.30-9.00pm

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

25<sup>th</sup> June **Jazz**

15<sup>th</sup> July **Stateside** Country & Western

30<sup>th</sup> July **Jazz**

12<sup>th</sup> August **Incline** Country & Western

27<sup>th</sup> August **Jazz**

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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 6th MARCH**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Carter, Cllr Mrs Malkin, Cllr Garbett, Cllr Puckey, Cllr Beckett. Cllr Mrs Gannon, Cllr Bishop, 4 Parishoners.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** from Cllr Chaplin, Cllr Neal, Cllr Borok and County Councillor Powley.

**PARISHONERS QUESTION TIME:** Thanks were received that the water has been sorted out at the Almshouses. Is it possible for a light to be fitted along the driveway. The Clerk will contact Hereward Housing about this. A representative of Isleham Senior Football Club expressed his concern over the state of the pavilion after it has been used by certain parties. The matter was deferred until Recreation Ground Matters. There is still broken glass around 2 Church Lane, also there are bricks that have come out of the wall.

**MATTERS ARISING:** With regard to the unloading of boats at the Marina, it was agreed that the Clerk write to Mr Thompson asking him to erect a permanent fence on the left hand side of the roadway to the river and also on the right hand side leaving sufficient area for cars to park. Cllr Beckett is to investigate the possibility of erecting posts on top of the bank with the environment agency.

**POLICE REPORT:** East Cambs Neighbourhood Newsletter received. PC Humble did not attend the meeting

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** Council Tax will rise by 5%. The yellow lines by the Co-op have been reinstated. The proposals by Charles Clarke to amalgamate the police forces have not yet begun in Cambridgeshire. Some changes have begun across the country although they have not all been well received. Cllr Beckett asked that C Cllr Broadway speak to John Richards about having a barrier put up outside the school, possibly in the Easter holidays.

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** Cllr Beckett reported that the District Council have passed a motion to investigate the possibility of a car park near the railway station.

**REPORT FROM VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE:** Cllr Mrs Malkin asked the Council to consider making a contribution towards the cost of portable toilets for Gala Day. The Clerk will contact the Gala Committee to find out how much they would be willing to pay towards the cost. The total cost will be about £350. The Village Hall Committee will remain the same except that Donna Madgwick will no longer be the secretary; this will now be Linda Gannon.

**RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE:** The cricket fencing is under construction. Karl Hogg, the project manager from EDF will be coming out to visit the site on Tuesday and all being well the work should commence week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> March. A site visit by Bleck will be arranged as soon as possible, and the land will be sprayed as soon as the weather is suitable.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Hereward Housing Open Day – Councillors to attend. ECDC Vehicle Amnesty – Posters to be placed on noticeboard and in Post Office Mrs Jane Darley has written on behalf of the community group 'Inside Out' asking the Parish Council if they have any projects that can be undertaken by the group during their outreach weekend 28<sup>th</sup> April-1<sup>st</sup> May 2006.

**PLANNING APPROVALS:** Fascia Sign for Priory Garage, Isleham. Addition of single storey garden room to 18 Waterside for Prestige Builders. Construction of two storey side extension and single storey front porch at 48 Beck Road for Mr & Mrs Hensby. Construction of a conservatory at 9 Robins Close for Mr & Mrs Beckett. Additional external windows and doors at 29 Hall Barn Road, Isleham for M Fordham. Addition of conservatory and chimney to dwelling approved under previous application at 41 Hall Barn Road for Mr & Mrs Howe.

**PLANNING REFUSALS:** Construction of team building and tournament style paintball facility at Prickwillow Road for Mr Dominic Longhurst.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** Representation of no objection was made to the following planning applications: Construction of extension to existing cold storage and packaging area at White Hall Farm, Temple Road, Isleham for Isleham Carrot Growers. Two storey rear extension at 11 West Street, for Mr M Capp

**COVERED SHELTER AT ISLEHAM SCHOOL:** The Clerk has spoken to Tim Marks at Cambridgeshire County Council and he has assured her that the Parish Council will be notified of any change in the planning application for the covered shelter at Isleham School

Two stiles are required on one of the village footpaths; the clerk will find out if this is something that can be done by the group.

**AGENDA FOR PARISH MEETING:** The agenda for the parish meeting as laid out by the chairman and the clerk has been approved by the meeting. It was agreed that the Parish Council accounts be shown as a whole instead of being broken down into separate sections. The Clerk will invite Inspector Adam Gallop to address the meeting with regard to changes in neighbourhood policing.

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL**

**Present:** Chairman Cllr Carter, Vice Chair Cllr Puckey, Cllr Chaplin, Cllr Neal, Cllr Mrs Malkin, Cllr Mrs Gannon, Cllr Garbett, Cllr Beckett, 2 Parishoners.

**Apologies for Absence** from Cllr Bishop.



The Chairman read out the motion to exclude the public and press.

**POLICE REPORT:** PC Humble will be leaving – it was agreed that the clerk write a letter to PC Humble's divisional officer thanking PC Humble for all his hard work as he moves on to a new area. PC Humble attended the meeting and gave a police report for Isleham for February and March. Between 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb and 6<sup>th</sup> Mar there were 2 crimes reported (1 burglary and 1 criminal damage) and 21 calls made to the police from the Isleham area. Between 7<sup>th</sup> March and 5<sup>th</sup> April there were 5 crimes reported and 14 calls made to the police from the Isleham area. 1 burglary, 1 theft, 2 criminal damage.

**POLICE SURGERIES:** The next local police surgery will be held in Isleham at the Priory Green on Wed 18<sup>th</sup> April 6.15 – 6.45 pm. These will be held on a monthly basis and will be advertised on e-cops and in the local press. The Clerk will contact Inspector Gallop to request his attending a P.C. meeting in the near future.

**REPORT FROM RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE:** The cricket fencing is completed and will hopefully be put up in the next week or two. The trench is dug and the cable laid, and the trench should be refilled shortly. The transformer will be replaced on the 18<sup>th</sup> April and the electricity connected on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS:** It was agreed that the play area is in very poor condition and needs to be upgraded. Brochures are being acquired and enquiries are being made to find out what grants are available.

**CCC HIGHWAY MATTERS:** Yellow lines in the village are to be repainted. It was noted that there is an ongoing problem with dog fouling in Maltings Lane and Coates Drove. The question about the provision of dog litter bins was raised, however the council have looked into this previously and have found the cost to be prohibitive; also Cleanaway have confirmed that they have no problem with ordinary bins being used.

**ALLOTMENT MATTERS:** Application for permission to erect 12' x 8' shed and keep chickens on the allotment for Mr Clarke. It was agreed that the shed be approved however that more information is needed before a decision can be made about the chickens. Application to erect 6' x 4' shed for Mrs Alison Oliver.

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** The school has withdrawn its application for the covered shelter. New Police officers taking the place of PC Humble. Police have voted not to amalgamate with other forces so this should not take place until 2008.

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** Here to Help Fair on April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Village Hall. Rural Mentoring Program – Cllr Beckett will be involved in this 15 month project as will Defra and the office of the deputy prime minister. Mrs Julie Barker: Letter of complaint re: parking in Isleham. The Clerk will write to the police enclosing a copy of this letter and a letter to Mrs Barker.

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**BENDALL & SONS: LAND REGISTRATION:** It was agreed that the clerk write to Mr Bendall to say that as no progress has been made with regard to this work for the last year, we wish to no longer retain his services in this matter and request the return of all related papers. Pooley Bendall & Watson: Registration of Council Land – the clerk will write to Ms Pooley to ask her to deal with the land registration. All deeds including the papers that are to be returned by Bendalls will be handed over in order that the work is carried out as soon as possible. The council will request that the matter be dealt with in the next three weeks.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** No objection was made to the following: Construction of oak framed garden room to rear of 5 Priory Gardens for Dr & Mrs Corbin. Single storey rear extension at 16 Mill Street for Mr & Mrs D Walsh. Single storey side extension at 47 Beck Road for Mr & Mrs Carroll.

**PLANNING APPROVALS:** Single storey rear extension at 1 Goodchilds Gardens for Mr & Mrs Jaggard. Insertion of windows and internal alterations at 21 Hall Barn Road for Mr P Clayton-Smith.

**PLANNING REFUSALS:** Erection of car port at 48 Pound Lane for Mr D Rutterford. Change of use from function room to dwelling at The Griffin Cottage, Mill Street, Isleham for Mr & Mrs Day. Alterations (retrospective) at The Griffin Cottage for Mr & Mrs Day.

**TO RECEIVE RECOMMENDATION OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:** That the Parish Council look at the

possibility of providing play equipment: Accept. That the Apprentice Grant remain the same for the ensuing year: Accept. To form a sub-committee of the Parish Council Recreation Ground and Village Hall committees and any other villagers who are interested in the proposed new Community Centre. It is suggested that at least 4 Councillors be on the committee: Accept. Suggested that a questionnaire be sent out to all parishioners regarding the proposed new community centre facilities: Accept

## *The Phoenix Players,*

The Spring offering of the Phoenix Players included two short plays, *Pastiche* and *Last Tango in Soham*. Both comedies were very well received in Soham and Fordham, and congratulations must go to the producers – Anne and Pam Harris, as well as the casts.

The next production will be *The Bench*, written by Ian Bedford, to be performed at Freckenham Village Hall on Thursday 29th June and at Isleham Comrades Club on Sunday 2nd July. So please put those dates in your diary.

**Phoenix Players' AGM:** A quick reminder that this will be held at Isleham Comrades Club at 7.30 pm on Monday 5th of June. And there will be snacks and a free drink for all - so let's have a good turnout!

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## Isleham Women's Institute

**S**ue, Hannah and John Taylor hosted our April meeting at Hats Hire, Fordham, where we were warmly welcomed. We were given an interesting insight in to the making and buying of their hats. Several hats were modelled by our ladies, who previously believed that hats didn't suit them – I think many were pleasantly surprised. After a look round the shop the Taylors invited us back to the barn where we were served tea, coffee and light refreshments made by myself. The competition was then judged and our draw took place. Finally I thanked the Taylors, and presented them with a donation for The Children's Hospice.

May's meeting saw the return of a favourite speaker – Wayne Bailey. To a packed hall Wayne showed us many different flower arrangements, one of which even included the use of a Tesco's carrier bag. He made it look so easy, at least until we tried to put it into practice! Wayne kindly presented all his evening work to our draw, where the ladies who won were spoilt for choice. Later Wayne judged the competition and our refreshments were served. Social time was something completely different. Hanneke gave us a small insight into Yoga sitting in your chair. It really woke up some of those lazy parts!

For our Summer Outing on June 20<sup>th</sup> 34 ladies will be going to the Cambridge Corn Exchange to see Seven Brides for Seven Brothers. The bus will be picking up at 6.30 pm from the usual stops.

The WI are once again serving refreshments at the Gala on 1<sup>st</sup> July. We are entering a float is being entered, so after last year keep your eyes peeled (or maybe hidden!). WI wishes the Gala Committee every success for the day.

Our July meeting will be held on the 13th, when our speaker will be Chloe Aldam talking about The Bowen Technique. The competition is 'A health remedy'.

On 10th August the speaker will be Paula Dolan talking about Hairdressing. She will answer any question on hair problems. The competition is 'hair accessories'.

I hope this has given you all a look into your WI, we are not just knitting and jam making. Everybody is welcome to come along to our meetings which are held in the Village Hall at 7.45pm every second Tuesday.

For further details please contact Brenda Downey on 01638 780338.

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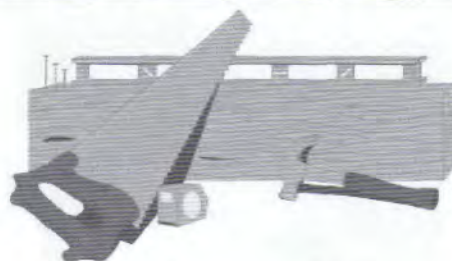
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# High Street Church

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 babes 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 for those of retirement age and happens once a month on the second Wednesday from 12–2 pm. An excellent meal for just £1.20 not to mention the great company! Numbers are limited for this but please contact us if you are interested.

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

Perhaps you'd like to be kept informed of any outings we arrange, or you need help to complete some paperwork such as benefit forms, or perhaps you don't know who to ask for help with transport for hospital visiting. Please don't hesitate to ring — we'd love to help if we can. Contact Kathryn 01638 780652 or the church office.

**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. New mums/dads/grandparents/carers are always welcome — come along and join in the fun. If you'd like to know more contact Sharon on 01353 720399.



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Christian faith and we plan to have a new course starting in September. 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.

Thanks to those of you who watched our re-enactment of the Easter events. We hope that you enjoyed the presentation and perhaps had the opportunity to think again about what really happened all those years ago in Jerusalem.



## Forthcoming events...

We are polishing up our bows and arrows, dusting down our fur coats (fake of course!), talking to the animals and looking beyond the wardrobe in preparation for Gala Day. We look forward to seeing you there!

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.



# St Andrew's Parish Church

## Services

3rd Sunday of each month:

8.00 am	Prayer Book Communion
10.00 am	Family Service
10.00 am	Junior Church

All other Sundays

10.00 am	Common Worship Communion
10.00 am	Junior Church in Social Centre

*Please note there is a crèche every Sunday.*

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

Anna Chataway 7 Docking Lane Isleham CB7 01638 781486	Robert Savage    01638 780218
--	---

July 1st	Gala Day	Red, white & blue stall
July 15th	Gift Day	10 am–6 pm

August 26th, 27th, 28th	Flower festival
Daily 10 am–6 pm	Theme 'The Musicals'
Refreshments, Grand Draw	

At the A.P.C.M. on the 24th April 2006, Robert Savage was elected Church Warden, and Wenda Savage has stood down. A big 'thank you' to Wenda for her many years as Churchwarden.

St Andrew's environmental group have been out and about again with a trip to Fordham Nature Reserve on Sunday 7th May. The rain held off, and everyone had a very enjoyable afternoon, checking out bird songs and plant life, led by Nigel Cooper & Dr Alistair Burn.

Moor walks are planned for the near future, and all are welcome.

## Pound Lane Free Church

Everyone is very welcome to our Sunday worship Services. **11.00 am Morning Service:** An all age worship service with crèche available for young children. **6.30 pm Evening Service:** A service of worship centring on God's Word with times of testimonies, focus on world mission and topical issues. This service is followed by refreshments. We would like to give you a special invitation to our Fathers' Day Family Service on Sunday 18th June at 10.30 am

Youth Activities: **Kingdom Kids** 3–8 years Sunday 10.00–11.15 am: The children enjoy exploring God's Word, singing, praying and taking part in the craft activities, joining with the Morning Service for the first 15 minutes. **All Stars** 8–11 years Sunday 9.45–11.00 am: Quizzes, singing, prayer and activities are all a part of the sessions as the youngsters learn from God's Word of His love for them. Monday Fun Nights see the All Stars having an enjoyable time together. **Covies** 12–19 years Sunday 9.30–10.30 am: The teenagers have time



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to study God's Word, covering topics that are relevant to them together with quizzes, singing and prayer. On Thursday evenings the Covies meet together for a range of activities. The highlight of the year for many of the young people is the Annual Summer Camp held on the South Downs near Chichester.

Weeknight Activities: **Fellowship** Tuesday 7.30 pm: Catering for the older members of our church family the Fellowship meeting is popular and well supported. A range of speakers and social events are organised in the year and the Outing in the Summer is greatly enjoyed. **Church Night** Wednesday 7.25 pm: Starting with refreshments we study God's Word together in a friendly atmosphere where questions and sharing are encouraged. We share needs and pray together in small groups. **Women's Meeting** alternate Fridays 2.15 pm: Meeting together in members' homes gives a chance to worship, study and pray together in an informal and friendly atmosphere.

Please be sure of a very warm welcome at any of the meetings detailed here, if you would like more information please contact:

Pastor Dave on 01638 781343.

## ***Bowls Club Report***

Spring denotes the finish of the carpet bowls season and the migration to the 'sunny & warm' outdoors season. Well actually it hasn't been such a bad start to the season with some pleasant sunshine.

A disappointing set of results to start the season, but I must just gloat over two matches against the 'auld enemy' Fordham. Usually these matches are very close but a score of 103 – 45 in the league match followed by a 67 – 36 victory in the national cup match has put our tails up in the local rivalry stakes. However what comes around usually goes around!

The carpet bowls season concluded with a highly successful club competition for Ivan Hymus completing the Grand Slam.

### Winners

Singles	Ivan Hymus
Pairs	Ivan Hymus & Sheila King
Fours	Eric Plested, Ann Cant Diane Burling & Ivan Hymus

### Runners Up

Singles	Peter Doe
Pairs	Margaret Marsh & Herbert Beckett
Fours	Diane Beckett, Doreen Raven Heather Munns, Barry Grimwood

In the East Cambs league Team 1 had a good first attempt in the top division finishing in a creditable 5<sup>th</sup> position. By contrast Team 2 struggled in division 3 only winning a couple of matches and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> from bottom.

Thanks to any folk that supported a number of fund raising events since Christmas. A jumble sale, trivia evening and bingo night has helped raise valuable funds to keep the club functional.

Barry Grimwood, Club Captain

## ***Mallow Fencing***

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*Tel 01638 781794*

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*All major credit & debit cards taken*