

# Isleham Informer

Issue 22 • August 2007

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## Silver Gala is Golden!

This year was the 25th anniversary of Isleham Gala Day and it proved once again to be a great success. We were very fortunate with the good weather after all the rain – many saying perhaps it was the beginning of the summer!

The Gala started with the parade of floats and walkers led through the village by the Glenmorrison Pipe Band and the Gala Queen, Holly Hermance, Prince, Jake Hoskin and Princess, Heidi Gatter.

Continued on page 6



With a 'Buzz Buzz' here and a 'Buzz Buzz' there... Congratulations to the Busy Bees



A Tug-of-War was reintroduced to the Gala this year, with four teams taking part. The 'Isleham Warriors' and 'Diesel' teams won through to the final. A good pull took place with both teams looking winners at times. 'Team Diesel' finally proved to be worthy winners. It is hoped to make this a yearly event.

Thanks to Mr Aves for the use of the rope.

**GALA DAY PICTURE EXCLUSIVE! See pages 4,5,6 and 7**



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## From the Editor

This is the first August issue of the Isleham Informer for a few years, reinstated to allow us to cope with the increased contributions that we have been receiving recently. The first issue post-Gala is always guaranteed to be chock-full of Islehamy Goodness, but as the next one is only two months away and there is no equivalent event for us to report on, we are going to have to solicit contributions from villagers. Articles for the Informer should have some relevance to Isleham, but often this can be as tenuous as their being written by an Isleham resident (or former resident) who thinks they have something that may be of interest to villagers.

By all accounts (I was absent due to a subsequent engagement) this year's Gala was among the best yet. The weather was near perfect – the brief shower shortly before the start of the parade only serving to 'freshen' the floats – and there wasn't the spectre of the inevitable England-Exit-on-Penalties that we had last year hovering over proceedings. New (or reintroduced) features such as the Tug-of-War and Scarecrow competition proved popular and look like being permanent additions to the programme. And to cap it all, the Informer's very own Ian Humphreys finally managed to find his way round the field in the Electric Buggy Race to take the Arthur Whitehand Memorial Trophy. I'll make sure I'm able to be there next year. ■

### Contacts

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### Advertising

Contact Ian Humphreys on 01638 781796 for details of the ludicrously reasonable rates for advertising in the Informer.

### Next issue

The next issue will be published 1st October 2007. The copy deadline for all editorial and advertising is 9th September 2007.

### Disclaimer

The Isleham Informer would like to point out that we have neither tried nor tested all of the products and services advertised in these pages and therefore cannot accept responsibility for the veracity of any claims made.



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## VILLAGE NOTES

### New playground equipment

**T**he Parish Council has received a grant from the District Council for equipment for the play area, to be match-funded by the Parish Council. Following a consultation in the school a piece of equipment has been chosen for the 5-12 year olds. However we are £2000 short, which means we can only provide a modified version: if anyone would like to contribute towards the cost it would be much appreciated. Please contact the Parish Clerk (Diane Bayliss: 01638 781687) if you are able to help.

### St Andrew's August 'Collections'

**A**re you a collector? Come and see the wonderful 'Collections' in St Andrew's Church over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Open 11 am to 6 pm Saturday 25th, Sunday 26th and Monday 27th. Refreshments available plus Grand Draw, tombola, books & bric-a-brac stall. For more information contact Janice Pope 01638 780380.

### Parish Plan meeting

**T**he next Parish Plan meeting will take place on Monday 23rd August at 7.30 pm in the back room of the Village Hall.

### Scoop your poop please

**D**og-walkers – please clear up after your dog: it is your responsibility to the community to make sure that you do not leave a mess on the streets of Isleham. (Ordinary litter bins can be used for dog waste.)

### Pavilion expense

**A** break-in at the pavilion has meant extra expense for the Parish Council to make it secure, as well as a sizeable claim on insurance, which may mean premiums going up. Please be vigilant and report suspicious behaviour to police or the Parish Clerk.

### Church Gift Day record

**T**he St Andrew's Church Gift Day, held on Saturday 28th July, raised a record £2500.27. Janice Pope would like to thank everyone who donated, and especially those who were able to 'Gift Aid' as this makes a big difference to the total. ■

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BIRTH

**BORNSHIN-SMITH** Sonia and Mark are delighted to announce the birth of Solomon Brennan, born 4th June 2007 at the Rosie Maternity Hospital, weighing 6 lb 3 oz.

### ANNIVERSARY

**WOOLLARD** John and Lynn celebrated their Pearl wedding anniversary on 2nd July 2007 ~ best wishes from all their family.

*If you would like a birth, marriage, anniversary or death announcement included please contact any of the Informer staff members (see Contacts on page 2). We are happy to print information about Isleham residents or people with Isleham connections.*



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# Isleham Gala Day

25TH ANNIVERSARY • SATURDAY 7TH JULY

*'In the village, for the village, children first'*



Isleham's Royal Family

Even Elvis showed up!



The W.I. took second place



A portable swimming pool!



Wacky races...

*Continued from page 1*

Our thanks to all the clubs and organisations that entered, it is a big commitment but one that is really appreciated.

Although the layout on the field had to be altered because of the soft conditions underfoot we were able to provide a full programme of events, stalls and displays. We also introduced some new ones as well, including the Chocolate Fountain, the Punch and Judy Show and the birds-of-prey stand by the Raptor Foundation.

The new tug-of-war competition was a success, and will be back next year; perhaps we could have a ladies competition as well?

The High Street Baptist Church took over the refreshments in the Village Hall this year after many years of excellent work by the WI. It is a huge undertaking to organise the food, drinks and the people to run it, and our thanks go to them for doing a superb job.

We were pleased to welcome back the Isleham Primary School Brass Band this year assisted by some former pupils and ably conducted by Miss O'Reilly. It was standing room only in the Village Hall!

The children's races and wheelbarrow races were again very popular and well organised by Mark Goldsack and Ivan Cox, and they were followed by the Children's Fun Run around the village. Our thanks to the volunteer marshals for ensuring it was run without any incidents.

A special thank you must go to Dave Sennitt for carrying out the compering and announcing so well throughout the day, and also for helping the Police Community Support Officers recover their missing No Parking bollard! PCSO Allie Myers said they thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and we are pleased they stayed so long.

Elsewhere on the field the Fun Dog Show was well attended. Our thanks to Jackie Riley for organising the event and to all the owners for looking after their dogs.

The Handwriting Competition for Children at Isleham Primary School and the Art Competition were displayed in the Village Hall and well done to Isleham PTA and to Barbara Murfitt and Pauline Wynne for organising and judging this year. The standard of entries was



again extremely high.

The Fruit and Veg Show, the Flower Arranging, the Home Baking Competitions and the new Scarecrow competition were on display in the Competitions Marquee. We had a lot of very good entries this year, especially for the Scarecrow competition. Thanks also to our judges, Wayne and Ian.

Finally we would like to gratefully acknowledge all those who helped set up and clear away on the day itself and to the members of the Gala Committee who have planned and organised the event in the months beforehand. We are always looking for new ideas and new faces on the Committee; if you would like to help with next year's Gala then please contact Russell Milne on 01638 780186 or come along to our AGM which will be held in The Comrades Club at 8 pm on Monday 15th October 2007.

Russell Milne

### Sponsors and Prize Givers

Gala Day would not be possible without the generous support of our many sponsors and those who donate prizes to our Grand Draw. The Gala costs a considerable amount of money to stage and our thanks go to all of those who are involved with the fundraising. Below is a list of the many people and companies who have helped. Our apologies to any we have missed.

#### Gala Programme

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#### Draw Prizes

The Antrium Club Ely • Bamboo Garden Isleham • Mr and Mrs Bird • Bowls Club Isleham • Cambridge Building Society, Soham • Cambridge United F.C. • Mr and Mrs J Carpenter • Mr F. Cockran • Mr and Mrs C Ellwood • Mr and Mrs P. Flatt • Gas Heating Services • The Griffin • Hamerton Zoological Park • Mr and Mrs G Hobbs • Jack Hurrells Butchers, Burwell • Imperial War Museum Duxford • Isleham Co-Op • Isleham Post Office • Heather Tatum • National Horseracing Museum • Simpsons Nursery, Fordham • Sunrise Blinds • Tesco, Newmarket • Mrs M Thompson • Waitrose, Newmarket ■

We have compiled a DVD of previous Gala Days starting from 1992 and covering most of the years up to 2006 which lasts about 60 minutes. If you would like to buy a copy for only £5.00 then please contact Russell Milne on 01638 780186 or e-mail [russell.milne@talktalk.net](mailto:russell.milne@talktalk.net)



Everyone's favourite: the cake stall!



Bathing beauty



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Bam-Bam was a smasher



Young musicians thrilled the packed hall



The Red-Tailed Kite

Pictures: Glenda Preece and Zoe French



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# Gala Day RESULTS

**Floats** 1st Busy Bees Toddlers 'Old McDonalds Farm'

2nd WI '25 years of Gala Day'

3rd Cubs 'Celebrating 100 years'

**Fun Run Girls U12's:** 1st Maisie Vince 2nd Chloe

Gimblett 3rd Megan Jordan **Boys U12's:** 1st Jamie

Eavis 2nd Josh Marks 3rd Jacob Rattle **Girls U16's:** 1st

Jessica Haw 2nd Lydia Vince 3rd Grace Tarver **Boys**

**U16's:** 1st Shawn Avis 2nd Josh Darley 3rd Lewis Mokler

**Running Race U10's:** 1st **Girls** Ella Cummins

**Boys** Kieran Lock: **U16's:** 1st **Girls** Libby Milne

**Boys** George Cummins

**Buggy Race** 1st Ian Humphreys 2nd Betty Palmer;

3rd Roy Clarke

**Wheelbarrow Race** 1st Andrew Quinn and Dale Clarke

**Baby Show Girls** 1st Myah Coulson 2nd Mya Davies

3rd Cara Guest **Boys:** 1st Daniel Taylor

2nd George Brown 3rd Freddie Cadman-Carpenter

**Children's Fancy Dress Pre-school:** 1st Max Timmins as

Bam-Bam 2nd Elysia Bishop in the Austrian National

Costume 3rd Anna Palmer as a sheep

**Up to 7years:** 1st Joe Timmins as the Tin Man

**8-10yrs:** 1st Shannon Roberts as a Spanish Lady

**Mini Mr & Mrs Isleham Girls:** 1st Molly Harvey 2nd Ella

Cummins 3rd Aaliyah Mulhall **Boy:** 1st Owen Jones

**Children's Art Competition Under 5 yrs:** 1st Chloe

Boneham 2nd Ruby Christie 3rd Paul Carroll

**Special prize** Ruth Taylor

**Scarecrow Competition Winners:** Joe & Max Timmins

**Best in Show** Anna Thompson, Jake Hoskins, Michaela Farr

**Children's Baking Competition**

**6 Decorated Fairy Cakes:** 1st Charlotte McGreavy

2nd Jenny Goldsmith 3rd Ellie Richards

**A Biscuit Face:** 1st Kea Haw 2nd Michael Germany

3rd Ellie Richards

**Small Plate/Container of Cress** 1st Annabelle Riley

2nd Annabelle

Riley 3rd

Charlotte

McGreavy





**A Country Garden on a Plate 1st** Kieran Pawson  
**2nd** Phoebe Fallon  
**3rd** Jack Cummins

#### **Flower Arrangement in a Decorated Jam Jar**

**1st and Best in Show** Anna Thompson  
**2nd** Phoebe Fallon **3rd** Jenny Goldsmith

#### **Home Baking**

**Wholemeal Bread Rolls:** **1st** Kathy Carver  
**2nd** Alison McGreavy **3rd** Michelle Haw  
**1lb White Loaf of Bread:** **1st** Richard Radcliffe  
**2nd** Sheila Roberts **3rd** Kathy Carver  
**6 Fairy Cakes:** **1st** Alison Drinkwater **2nd** Kathy Carver  
**Apple Crumble** **1st** and **Best in Show** Alison Drinkwater  
**2nd** Doreen Rutterford **3rd** Kathy Carver  
**Chocolate Cake:** **1st** Louise Richards **2nd** Elaine Riley  
**Joint 3rd** Michaela Farr and Alison Drinkwater

#### **Fruit and Vegetable Competition**

**4 Potatoes:** **1st** and **Best in Show** Richard Radcliffe  
**2nd** Clive Hall **Joint 3rd** David Aves and Charlotte McGreavy

**4 Broad Beans:** **1st** Ray Graham **2nd** David Aves  
**3rd** Clive Hall

**4 Carrots:** **1st** Clive Hall

**4 Sticks of Rhubarb** **1st** Richard Haw **2nd** Clive Hall  
**3rd** Mr Doggett

#### **A Basket of Produce from My Garden/Allotment**

**1st** Mr Doggett **2nd** Clive Hall  
**Joint 3rd** Alison McGreavy and John Thompson

#### **Flowers**

**An Arrangement Entitled 'Gala Day':** **1st** Hazel Thompson  
**2nd** Janice Pope **3rd** Doreen Rutterford

#### **A Vase of Flowers from My Garden**

**1st and Best in Show** Hazel Thompson  
**2nd** Helen Hall **3rd** Janice Pope

**Vase of Mixed Herbs** **1st** Alison McGreavy **2nd** Kate Germany  
**Joint 3rd** Helen Hall and Ginette Hawes

**6 Stems of Sweet Peas** **1st** Ray Graham

**2nd** Mr Doggett

**Single Rose Stem:** **1st** Ray Graham **2nd** M Harris  
**3rd** Maureen Aves

**3 Pansies:** **1st** Helen Hall **2nd** Ginette Hawes ■

## **Ely Maltings cinema listings: August**

**Thurs 2nd:** 3 pm & 7.30 pm **Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End** (12A) Starring: Geoffrey Rush, Orlando Bloom, Chow Yun-Fat, Johnny Depp, Keira Knightley. 170 minutes

**Thur 9th:** 3 pm **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Starring: Robert Patrick, Zooey Deschanel, Josh Hutcherson. 95 mins.

**Thur 9th:** 7.30 pm **Tell No One** (15) Starring: Kristin Thomas, Francois Cluzet. English subtitles. 131 minutes.

**Sun 12th:** 7.30 pm **The Flying Scotsman** (15) Starring: Brian Cox, Laura Fraser, Billy Boyd, Jonny Lee Miller. 103 minutes

**Thur 16th:** 7.30 pm **Jindabyne** (15) Starring: John Howard, Stelios Yiakmis, Gabriel Byrne, Laura Linney. 123 minutes

**Tue 21st & Wed 22nd:** 3 pm **Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer** (PG) Starring: Ioan Gruffudd, Jessica Alba, Chris Evans, Michael Chiklis. 92 minutes.

**Tue 21st & Wed 22nd:** 7.30 pm **La Vie En Rose** (12A) Starring: Sylvie Testud. 140 minutes. English subtitles.

**Wed 29th & Thur 30th:** 3 pm also **Sun 2nd September:** 7.30 pm **Shrek the Third** (U) Starring: Eddie Murphy, Cameron Diaz, Antonio Banderas, Mike Myers. 93 minutes.

**Wed 29th & Thur 30th August:** 7.30 pm **The Hoax** (15) Starring: Alfred Molina, Hope Davis, Richard Gere. 116 minutes.

Tickets on sale now. For more details and September listings go to [www.adec.org.uk/what/cinema.html](http://www.adec.org.uk/what/cinema.html)

## **Mobile Library**

Stops alternate Thursdays. Next visits: August 9th and 23rd, September 6th and 20th.

Stop	Arrive	Depart
Church Street	10:15	11:55
Beck Road (near Malting Lane)	12:00	13:00
Mill Street (corner of Limestone Close)	14:15	15:45

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Accident & Casualty (Addenbrooke's)	01223 217118
Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cambridge)	01223 245151
Newmarket Hospital	01638 665111
West Suffolk Hospital (Bury St Edmunds)	01284 713000
Staploe Medical Centre (Soham)	
Appointments	01353 624121
Prescriptions & Dispensary	01353 624122
Enquiries, Home Visits, Emergencies	01353 624123
Minor Treatment Centre, Ely	01353 652162
NHS Direct (for advice)	0845 4647
Electricity Emergencies	0800 7838838
Gas Emergencies	0800 371787
Water & Sewage Emergencies	0345 145145
Social Services	
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- out of hours emergency	01733 561370
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- Ely	01353 661416
- Mildenhall	01638 712094
- Newmarket	01638 665999
District Councillor (Derrick Beckett)	01638 780476
Isleham Village Hall (Jeanette Malkin)	01638 780283
Mobile Library	08450 455225
Parish Council (Diane Bayliss: Clerk)	01638 781687
Member of Parliament (Jim Paice)	01954 211450



## Community Centre Update

**T**he two months since my last up-date is only a short time span in what could be at least a two and a half year project. Nevertheless, I can report further progress.

We have held constructive meetings with some of the village's young people, and as a result two have joined our fund-raising sub-committee.

Our architects were briefed to ascertain the viability of including in a Centre all of the desired facilities (as detailed in my previous report) within a set budget. From outline plans drawn up the answer seems to be probably yes (we await more precise costings) but of course we need to obtain hoped-for grants, donations and fundraising support.

As stated previously, we have applied for a Big Lottery Grant, and on the basis of 'if you don't ask you don't get' we have sought the maximum sum of half a million pounds. We should learn the outcome of our Stage 1 application by September. Our advisors suggest our chances (which are hindered by the 2012 London Olympics) to be slightly less than 50:50. If we are successful we have to submit a Stage 2 application. Most who overcome the Stage 1 hurdle are successful in Stage 2. If unsuccessful in Stage 1 we will need to reconsider our plans.

We are applying to several other grant sources, mostly sports-related, and it is fairly realistic to expect nearly half a million pounds from these sources. This excludes any European monies that we are also

exploring. If you add to the above a 'significant' contribution from the Parish Council (see last report), and our own essential fundraising, then you can see how this has become a major project!

I will conclude this report by giving an intended sequence of events in the coming weeks/months:

1. Make further Grant applications (The minimum requirement remains to replace the Sports Pavilion)
2. Form an Isleham Community Association Charitable Trust (Local children are taking part in a competition to design us a logo)
3. Receive the result of our Stage 1 Big Lottery application
4. Obtain two or three alternative plans for a Centre within various budgetary constraints
5. Present our recommendations to the Parish Council and obtain their views
6. Compile and distribute an informative brochure
7. Present our recommendations at a Public Meeting/s to receive and take into account your views
8. If we get the 'green light' from the above, initiate the planning procedure, seek personal and business donations and arrange/commence fund-raising events.

I would stress that still, to date, no public money has been spent on this project, nor will it until at least Stage 7 above has been completed. Sundry expenses have been absorbed by the Committee, who continue to work extremely hard on this very exciting and worthwhile project.

*Philip Aspland*



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# Twinning Association

Another very successful weekend in Nesles took place during the first weekend in June, and and this was one of the best yet! As most people travelled independently this year and were able to be in Nesles on the Friday evening, an early start was made for a trip on Saturday. The visit to the Abbey, gardens and mill proved to be both interesting and beautiful. The food and company on both days was fantastic, and our gift of rose bushes was much appreciated. The people of Nesles put much time and effort into the organisation and fundraising events which enable them to be such great hosts. We now look forward to their return visit in 2008, probably in June when the weather should be quite good!?

The Tombola stall at the Gala proved very popular, and thanks must go to all of those who gave of their time and donations, to make it so. The funds raised will go towards entertaining our friends from Nesles... we have so much to live up to!

We are always happy to see new members of the Association, especially those with children, who on previous visits have thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and may even have had the opportunity to practice their French. The A.G.M. will take place in the Autumn so do come along and find out more about us.

Terry Carter (Chairman): 07905 705302

Ann Cant (Secretary): 01638 780703

Bryan Wynn (Treasurer): 01636 780802

## Isleham Village Hall

*Looking for a venue...*

*look no further!*

*With the summer holidays upon us, why not have some fun with your family and friends...*

Our village hall is the place to hold your function, whatever the occasion. The rates are very competitive at just £10 per hour for the large hall and £5 per hour for the small hall. Please contact the bookings clerk Mrs D Madgwick on 01638 781186 who will be happy to inform you of the availability of the hall along side any other information you may require

*Don't delay, book it today*

Calling upon all ye village people....we need you! We are desperately seeking four volunteers to be village representatives for our village hall to assist us in the management and upkeep of the building. If you feel able to help or would like an informal chat about what being a village representative may involve please contact Donna Madgwick on 01638781186 or Elaine Hobbs on 01638781681 and we will be pleased to take your call.

## Isleham Comrades Club

*Church Street, Isleham (opposite the Priory)*

*Telephone (when open) 01638 780884*

*Secretary 01638 780893 Chairperson 01638 780111*

### Bar opening hours

Monday Closed	Tuesday 8-11 pm
Wednesday 7.30-11 pm	Thursday Closed
Friday 8-11 pm	Saturday 8-11 pm
Sunday 12-3 pm and 8-10.30 pm	

### Regular Functions

Tuesdays: **Line Dancing** 7.30-9 pm

Wednesdays: **Bingo** 8-9.30 pm

### Coming up

Saturday 1st September: Total Recall

Friday 28th September: Glam R Us

Saturday 20th October: Rockin' Revival

Last Sunday of every month: Jazz 12.30-3.30 pm

Always an excellent selection  
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Why not have a party at the club?

– a lot of people do!

New members always welcome.

## W.R. PARR

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# Parish Council News

The following are the abbreviated and incomplete versions of the IPC minutes for the May and June meetings. Any parishioner may request a copy of the full minutes from the IPC.

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD MONDAY 14th MAY 2007

**Present:** Cllrs Carter, Mrs Wilkes, Garbett, Mrs Thompson, Neal, Puckey, Beckett, Mrs Malkin, Mrs Hobbs, Mrs Thompson, five Parishoners.

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr Bishop, C.C. Mrs Broadway, C.C. Powley.

- Cllr Beckett was elected as the chairman of Isleham Parish Council for the forthcoming year. Cllr Carter was elected as vice-chairman.

## WORKING PARTIES AND COMMITTEES

The following appointments have been made:

**Village Hall Committee:** Cllrs Mrs Malkin, Mrs Wilkes, Mrs Hobbs, Mrs Thompson.

**Planning Committee:** It was agreed that the whole council would be on the planning committee that will meet on the third Monday of the month subject to plans having been submitted to the clerk.

**New Community Centre Committee Representatives:** Cllrs Garbett, Neal, Mrs R Thompson, Beckett.

**Recreation Ground Working Party:** Cllrs Garbett, Carter.

**Burial Working Party :** Cllrs Carter, Neal, Puckey, Beckett, Mrs Hobbs.

**Wash Working Party:** Cllrs Beckett, Neal, Bishop, Carter, Puckey.

**Finance Working Party:** Cllrs Beckett, Carter, Puckey, Garbett, Bishop, Mrs Hobbs.

**Allotment Working Party:** Cllrs Bishop, Mrs R Thompson, Mrs Wilkes Carter, Mrs Malkin.

**Parish Plan:** Cllrs Mrs Wilkes, Mrs Thompson.

**Policy Review Working Party:** Cllrs Puckey, Garbett, Neal, Mrs Hobbs, Mrs R Thompson.

**Neighbourhood Panel Representative:** Cllr Garbett.

## POLICE REPORT

- Concerns that we are not getting the police cover that the village requires. Surgery Wednesday 16th May 3.15 – 3.45 pm.

## HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATH MATTERS

- Letter from Soham Town Council Re: East Fen Drove Soham Town Council will consider our letter at their next finance meeting.
- Speed reduction works to Maltings Lane will be carried out during the summer holidays.
- There is a problem with ivy overhanging The Causeway in several places making it difficult to walk along the footpath.
- Dog fouling in Maltings Lane – the clerk will see if it is still possible to put something in the Informer about this.

## CEMETERY & CHURCHYARD MATTERS

- A committee was formed to meet with Mr Ambrose to discuss the sale of the cemetery land, as two of the original members are no longer on the council so two new members are required – Cllr Neal and Cllr Mrs Hobbs will stand with Cllr Beckett and Cllr Carter.

## ALLOTMENT MATTERS

- Water Supply – previous allotment chairman proposed a water supply and offered to do the necessary pipe work; it is no longer certain whether he would be prepared to undertake this work.
- It was proposed by Cllr Garbett and seconded by Cllr Mrs Malkin that Mr Chaplin be contacted to see if he is still prepared to do the work for the village then it proceed, if he is not then the matter will be referred to the finance committee.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- New vehicular access at Trelander, 18 Prickwillow Road – Object on the grounds that the council consider that this looks as if it could be the beginning of a business. A previous application for

a property was refused on this site because the flood risk assessment was not satisfactory. The clerk will contact Susannah Dyer to ask whether this may affect this application.

## PLANNING APPROVALS

- Two storey side extension at Concord Farm.
- Alterations and improvements at 2 Sun Street.

## SCHOOL GOVERNORS

- Cllr Cave is entitled to serve out his term of office as a school governor so at the moment the Parish Council are not in a position to appoint anyone else to the post.

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD  
MONDAY 4TH JUNE 2007**

**Present** Cllrs Beckett, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Malkin, Bishop, Garbett, Neal, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Wilkes, four Parishioners.

**Apologies for absence** from C.C. Mrs Broadway, Cllrs Carter, Puckey, Mrs Hobbs.

**WORKING PARTIES**

Chair –

**Village Hall:** Cllr Mrs Malkin.

**Burials:** Cllr Carter.

**Wash:** Cllr Beckett.

**Finance:** Cllr Beckett.

**Allotments:** Cllr Carter.

**Policy Review:** Cllr Puckey.

**POLICE MATTERS**

- Police report – there was no police report.
- Crime report – there was no crime report.
- Car stickers – the cost of the car stickers is £120 for 250 or £170 for 500. It was agreed by the council that the clerk will order 500 stickers to be distributed around the village.

**HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATH MATTERS**

- CCC Bidding Round – It was agreed that the council apply to have a footpath along the Fordham Road to the junction with Hall Barn Road.
- It was agreed that the council also apply for a flashing sign on the Fordham Road.

**CEMETERY AND CHURCHYARD MATTERS**

- Wall at the Social Centre is in a dangerous condition and has been roped off. The Diocese are dealing with this.
- Affordable housing – priority to get affordable housing for young people in the village.
- The County Council have been contacted about the Three Tree Allotment potentially being used as a rural exception site and in principle they would be favourable to this suggestion although more discussions still need to take place.

**WASH MATTERS**

- Information – following the recent flooding of the little wash Mr Cave asked if he could raise the roadway.

**ALLOTMENT MATTERS**

- Mr Chaplin says he is still willing to do the necessary work for water to be laid on at the allotments at a maximum cost of £200 if required.
- The question was raised as to whether tenants could be encouraged to use water butts as most of them have sheds. How will the council monitor the use of the water?
- A meeting will be arranged with the allotment committee and the allotment holders to discuss this, costings will need to be found out and reported back to the full council.
- Gate on the allotment – this was a suggestion made at a previous meeting and it is a matter for the allotment committee to look into.
- It was agreed that the council approve the application for an 8' x 5' shed on the Dunstall allotment for Mrs Tapley.

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- A request by John Harvey as to whether the council would contribute to cutting the hedge adjoining the Dunstall allotment at a cost of £200. The council agreed work to be carried out but not before July.
- Hedge on the front of the Dunstall Allotment needs cutting – allotment committee.
- Three Tree Allotments – Mr Burroughs. A letter has been received from the County Council suggesting that the Parish Council are in breach of their agreement because someone is using the allotment as part of their garden. This is not the case and the clerk will write to the County Council confirming this.
- The Three Tree Allotment is in need of cutting as soon as possible.

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- Single storey side extension at 18 Little London for Mr T Drayton – no objection.
- First floor side extension at 12 Waterside for Mr & Mrs Hall – no objection.
- Single storey side extension at 2 Elderberry Farm for Margaret Jackson and Derek Martin – no objection.
- Two storey extension to rear of house and extend conservatory at 7 Robins Close for Mr & Mrs Ainge – no objection.

#### PLANNING APPROVALS

- Insertion of windows and internal alterations at 23 Hall Barn Road for Mr Sykes.
- Construction of two-storey extension at 15 The Pits for Mr J Bendall.

#### PLANNING REFUSALS

- Construction of a two-bed bungalow and garage

also new double garage at land rear of 15 Church Street for Mr & Mrs Newman.

#### PLANNING APPEALS

- Larks Nest, Fen Bank, 11 Prickwillow Road, Isleham. The appeal is allowed and planning permission is granted. ■

### Parish Councillors address list

<b>Derrick Beckett</b> (Chairman)	Appleyard Farm, 1 Houghtons Lane, Isleham CB7 5SR Tel: 01638 780476
<b>Terry Carter</b> (Vice Chairman)	5 Old School Close, Soham CB7 5WD Tel: 07905 705302
<b>Steven Puckey</b>	Emmanuel House, 8 East Fen Road, Isleham CB7 5SW Tel: 01638 780406
<b>Jeannette Malkin</b>	17 Little London, Isleham CB7 5SE Tel: 01638 780283
<b>Lionel Neal</b>	104 Beck Road, Isleham CB7 5QP Tel: 01638 781066
<b>Geoff Garbett</b>	16 Croft Road, Isleham CB7 5QR Tel: 01638 780863
<b>Ian Bishop</b>	17 Sun Street, Isleham CB7 5RT Tel: 01638 780256
<b>Elaine Hobbs</b>	49 Hall Barn Road, Isleham, CB7 5QZ Tel: 01638 781681
<b>Hazel Thompson</b>	9 Limestone Close, Isleham CB7 5RP Tel: 01638 780633
<b>Roseanna Thompson</b>	1 Fen Bank, Isleham CB7 5SL Tel: 01638 780994
<b>Pauline Wilkes</b>	6 Limestone Close, Isleham CB7 5RP Tel: 01638 780640
<b>Diane Bayliss</b> (Parish Clerk)	37 Croft Road, Isleham CB7 5QR Tel: 01638 781687

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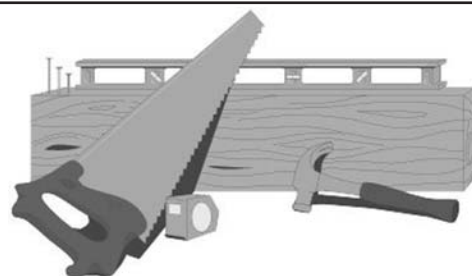
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## The Phoenix Players

Our local drama group has now been running for two years and we seem to be making a good impression in the village with our format of one major Christmas production, some light comedy for our summer production plus various activities to involve the youth of the village in drama. Following on from the great success of last Christmas's production of 'A Christmas Carol', we are now preparing for the 2007 Christmas production of 'The Snow Queen', which will be staged in the Village Hall on Friday 7th and Saturday 8th December (two evening performances and a matinee performance on Saturday).

The Snow Queen has a large cast, with parts for both adults and children. While the adult parts have now mainly been cast, we will be holding auditions for the children's parts at the Church Social Centre at 7.30 pm on Monday 3rd September. Any child in Year 7 or above is welcome to audition – please contact our director, Doreen Speirs, on 01638 780783 or simply turn up on the day. Those children who are given parts will be expected to attend a one-day workshop during the half-term week in October and after that at selected rehearsals leading up to the performances in December. For any adults who would like to have a go at acting – there are still one or two minor parts available – contact Doreen quickly and she should be able to find a part to suit you.

As a final reminder – at the time of writing there are

still a few places available for the Phoenix Juniors' 'Summer Academy'. This is a three-day workshop that will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 16th to Friday 18th August between 10 am and 3 pm each day. The workshop costs only £20 and aims to give children a good introduction to many aspects of drama - e.g. acting, singing, dance, sound, lighting. At the end of the workshop, the participants will give a live performance to parents and a selected audience. Any child who has completed Year 6 at school can apply, with parent's approval. *Malcolm Spiers*

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## JOYCE'S CORNER: Arthur's Shed

(by special request)

On the allotments, they all gather there,  
Ben, Denny, Tony, sometimes Tim and Fred.  
My husband's up there, most days as usual.  
Sitting in Arthur's old shed.

There are seats inside made from bales of straw,  
An old mattress from someone's old bed.  
They can cure all ills, and put the world right  
When they sit in Arthur's old shed.

The carrots are drooping for lack of some rain,  
Potatoes are dying in bed.  
Where is the one who should water them all?  
You can bet he's in Arthur's old shed.

Here come the pigeons, they're landing in pairs.  
It's a good time for them to be fed.  
For where is the scarecrow for shooing them off?  
He's yapping in Arthur's old shed.

They're well up on village gossip you know.  
They know who's sick and who's ill in bed.  
They're like the 'Last of the Summer Wine' cast  
As they joke in Arthur's old shed.

Politics and Councils mean nothing to them,  
They worry more about a cauliflower head.  
The Green Party they are as they discuss the veg  
And swap tales in Arthur's old shed.

"I'll bring home some cabbage and spuds today  
And some plants for my old mate Ned."  
I didn't get veg, nor did Ned get his plants,  
'Cos he'd left them in Arthur's old shed.

They're all retired now, time means nothing to them.  
Most days late getting home to be fed.  
It may hail, rain, thunder, the sky could fall in –  
They're happy in Arthur's old shed.

They look forward to meeting up there every day,  
The truth just has to be said.  
It gets them away from their nagging old wives  
When they're up there in Arthur's old shed.

Joyce Drayton

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## Women's Institute Summer 2007 report



In June our Summer outing was to Peter Beale's Roses at Attleburgh. It was a horrible night, but the staff at the Nursery were so welcoming and friendly that we all enjoyed ourselves despite the rain. We had a lovely meal, followed by a very interesting talk about the Nursery. We were shown some beautiful roses, many with wonderful scent, and learned how to graft new roses onto root stock. Amazingly, Peter Beale's produce a quarter of a million new plants each year! Thanks go to organisers Jill and Eve.

The Gala saw us 'Celebrating 25 years of Gala'. Our float showed many of the events in the Gala over the years, including the Gala Queen, wheelbarrow race, fun run, bike racing, dog show, refreshments, fancy dress, and fruit & veg stall. Margaret Plested was MC and encouraged (bullied!) spectators to throw their coins in our buckets. We won second prize, which pleased us all. Congratulations to Janice who thought it all up and to the rest of the committee who put it all into practice.

At our July meeting a representative gave us an informative talk about the Citizen's Advice Bureau.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 9th August when Edward Chivers is to talk about painting.

If you would like to come along, new members are very welcome. We meet on the second Thursday of each month in the Village Hall, at 7.30 for 7.45 pm. For details contact Glenda Preece on 01638 780734. ■



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# High Street Church

**Gala Day:** For many years the WI have provided the Gala Day refreshments, for which we thank them – they are a hard act to follow. This year the gauntlet was thrown down to us here at High Street and our team set to work. Thanks to all who helped make this part of Gala Day a real success. Over 400 people were served and £230 was raised for Tearfund, a Christian organisation that helps needy people all over the world.

**New church:** As many will know we are planning to build new church premises along Beck Road, just outside the village. Having had our consultation/open evening to ask you, the village, to come and view the plans and make your comments, for which we were very grateful, we are now at a very exciting point. Our plans are currently at the 'planning permission' stage and we hope to bring you news once we hear back.

**Finally:** our thanks to Kate Germany, who compiles the news and details on our behalf for the Informer. Kate, husband Bryan and the children will shortly be flying out to Zambia where they will be taking up a teaching post in a Christian school. Our love, prayers and support will be with them as they go. Thank you.

**Sunday Services:** 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.

**6.30pm 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 am 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.

**Alpha** is well known throughout the country as an excellent course for those wishing to learn about the Christian faith: it provides the perfect opportunity to ask all the questions you've wanted to ask but have never dared! If you are interested in joining an Alpha course please contact Steve in the church office for more info. Tel: 01638 780985

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

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

**Priest** The Rev'd Mike Banyard, who lives in Chippenham, is available to all in the village as a listening ear and for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Tel: 01638 721616 or email: [mike.banyard@threerivers.org.uk](mailto:mike.banyard@threerivers.org.uk)

Mike is assisted by the Rev'd Kate Peacock (shortly to join us), the Rev'd Dr Peter Debenham, the Rev'd Nigel Cooper (Chaplain of Anglia Ruskin University), Canon Tim Elbourne (Diocesan Director of Education) and the Rev'd Christopher Goodwins (formerly priest-in-charge at Isleham, and author of *The Bible in Limerick Verse*).

For more information on St Andrew's Church please visit our website at [www.islehamchurch.org.uk](http://www.islehamchurch.org.uk)

## Weekly activities

**Sundays** 10 am Junior Church in Social Centre (in church 3rd Sunday).

The Junior Church needs teachers/helpers, please contact us if you can offer your services.

**Tuesdays** 9 am to 12 noon: Coffee Morning in Social Centre. Everyone welcome!

A short (15 to 30 minutes) Evening Prayer service will be held every Tuesday at 4.30 pm in the Limestone Close community room.

**Wednesdays** 7.30 pm Bible reading and discussion group at the home of Georgina and Bob Freestone, 103 Lakeside, The Marina.

**Fridays** 7 pm Bell ringing practice - beginners welcomed! Please email Ruth Ogden, the Tower Captain, for more information: [ruth.ogden@islehamchurch.org.uk](mailto:ruth.ogden@islehamchurch.org.uk)



## Future events and activities

**August 19:** No 8 am Holy Communion. 10 am Family Service as usual for a third Sunday.

**Aug 25-27:** 'Collections' in Church – Grand Draw and Tombola.

**Aug 26:** 8 am Holy Communion, 6 pm Songs of Praise.

**September 8:** 10 am to 6 pm Churches Trust Cycle Ride.

You must be on the Church Electoral Roll to vote for, or to be a member of the PCC. A new Roll is required this year; if you wish to join or remain on the Roll you must complete a registration form. Forms are available at the back of the Church. Please hand completed forms to Nick Carver or Robert Savage.

## Church wardens

Robert Savage tel: 01638 780218 or email:

robsav@oneservice.co.uk

Nick Carver email: nick@carverfamily.org.uk ■

# Pound Lane Free Church

**Pastor** Mr. Dave Hall tel: 01638 781343 or 01638 780636

**Elder** Mr. David Brown tel: 01638 780410

**Secretary** Sue Hall

**Sunday School** Hazel Fleet tel: 01638 780677

**All Stars** John and Abby Martin tel: 01638 780662

**Covies** Steve and Helen Neale tel: 01638 780717

For more information on Pound Lane Free Church please visit our website at [www.plfc.org.uk](http://www.plfc.org.uk)

As we write this we are preparing the **Annual Covie Camp** for our teenage group. We camp each year on the South Downs near Goodwood. It's a beautiful setting and the young people enjoy the chance to be away together and do things you can't do at home – toasting marshmallows on the camp fire for instance! Yes, this year we are likely to make very good use of our wellies and waterproofs but we'll still have a great time enjoying God's wonderful creation and learning much more about Him.

**Michael and Janice Gee** with Daniel and Miriam have arrived safely back in Isleham and we are looking forward to hearing all the Lord is doing through them with street kids in Brazil. Watch this space for a full report in the next Informer.

Our **Harvest Family Service** will be held on Sunday 16th September at 10.30 am. All are very welcome as we come together to celebrate God's goodness in His provision for us over another year. The service will be followed by refreshments.

**Sunday worship** 11 am and 6.30 pm.

**Celebration of the Lord's Supper** First Sunday following evening service and third Sunday following morning service. A crèche is available for babies to Year 3 during the morning service. Refreshments are served after the evening services, except the first Sunday of the month. Fellowship Lunches are served after the morning service on the third Sunday of the month.

**Kingdom Kids** 3 years – Year 3: 10 am – 11.15 am Mr. Karl Yellop tel: 01638 780637

**All Stars** Year 4 – Year 6: 10 am – 11.15 am Mr. John Martin

tel: 01638 781747

**Covies** Year 7 – 19 years: 9.30 am – 10.30 am Mr. Steve Neale tel: 01638 780717

There is a hearing loop installed and signing for the deaf is available as well as Braille songbooks. We have a comprehensive Child Protection Policy and a CRB check has been carried out on all children's and young people's workers.

**Monday** All Stars Fun Night: 6.45 pm – 8.15 pm.

**Tuesday** Fellowship: 7.30 pm – 8.45 pm.

**Wednesday** Church Night: 7.40 pm – 9 pm

**Thursday** Covies Club Night: 7 pm – 9 pm

**Friday** fortnightly in members' homes:

**Women's Meeting** 2.15 pm- 3.30 pm

**Christianity Explored** courses are run regularly – please ask for dates of next course ■

## Dial-a-Ride

For a free copy of the Community Transport Guide for 2007 which includes details of your local Dial-a-Ride service, telephone Gavin Moulton on 01233 717755, write to him at Cambridgeshire County Council, ET 1015, Castle Court, Shire Hall, Cambridge CB3 0AP or email: [gavin.moulton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:gavin.moulton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

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# Our first Open Farm Sunday

**As part of National Open Farm Day the Thompsons of Fen Bank invited the village round to see what they do**

Open Farm Sunday on 10th June was a great success. Over 400 people came through the farm gates from 12 noon until 6 pm. Our visitors enjoyed seeing and hearing about our pigs and piglets, and the cows and calves. We had a small display of our own farm machinery including our own very modern John Deere tractor, another from Philip Boon of Fordham, and a vintage John Deere from Peter Clark of Isleham for people to see how the machinery has changed over the years.

After the farm guided tour there was an opportunity to join another tour along the Isleham Washes. Alastair Burn gave a talk about the importance of the Washes and its wildlife, which he has studied for many years, and about the work that we are doing to encourage wildlife and maintain the beauty of the Washes through a Defra Environmental Stewardship Scheme. Children also had the chance to pond dip and I have been told they caught some very interesting creatures!

After all the walking, our visitors had a sit down and enjoyed a cup of tea or coffee, a piece of cake, a glass of wine or soft drink, a Thompson Burger or Hot Dog from the BBQ and ice cream. Children coloured in pictures supplied by the RSPB and filled in a questionnaire about what they saw as they walked round the farm.

Here are some of the comments we received:

*'Thanks for such an interesting time on your farm, it was a great success, well done! My daughter really enjoyed it and still talks about the piglets (a lot!).'*

*'Thank you for the opportunity to visit your farm on Sunday. It was very informative, enjoyable and extremely well organised. I took my family and they really enjoyed it... and hopefully learnt something about the farming industry!'*

*'Well done, I think it was a great day and did a lot of good for you and farming generally.'*

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our friends who came and helped on the day, as without their help the day would not have been such a success and we hope (because it was so busy!) it hasn't put them off helping next year – see you on SUNDAY 8th JUNE 2008.  
Roseanna Thompson



Four hundred people and MP Jim Paice turned up



Farm Sunday is a National Open Farm Day event coordinated by LEAF (Linking Environment and Farming) for people to see and hear the positive steps farmers are taking to look after the fabric of our countryside while producing safe, wholesome and affordable food.



# The Isleham Society

## AGM, May & June speaker report

At the AGM in April the following officers were elected: **President** Arthur Houghton; **Vice President** Dr John Dixey; **Chairman** Vernon Place; **Vice chairman** Peter Flatt; **Secretary** Beryl Powys; **Treasurer** Bryan Wynne; **Speaker Finder** Angela Stubbins; **Committee Members** Betty Ashley, David Aves, Barbara Brown, Alwyn Clements, Pam Martin, Janice Pope, Ian Powys.

The speaker at the May meeting was a young Isleham mother, Dr Julie Bond. She gave an excellent slide presentation of her experiences carrying out scientific projects in the Antarctic and the analysis of her findings on returning to Cambridge.

The July meeting was addressed by archaeologist Andrew Newton, who gave the results of the dig on Fordham Road in 2005 prior to the building of new houses on the site (see page 20). The meeting was very well attended by a large cross section of the village.

There is no meeting in August but a guided tour of Waitrose at Newmarket will take place on the evening of 20th September. If you would like to attend please see the notices that will be displayed before the event or see one of the members for details.

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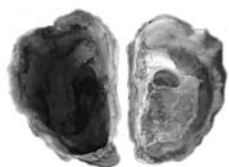
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# 'Medieval' Isleham



Before the houses went up opposite the recreation ground and on the corner of Fordham Road, the County archaeologists had to have a chance to see what might have been there in the past. They didn't call in 'Time Team', but a commercial company that surveys, trenches and explores potential building sites before the developer gets the all clear to start work. Andrew Newton came to tell us what they had found.

The work was carried out between January and March so, rather like some of the 'Time Team' programmes, there were many slides of rather soggy holes in the ground – and much speculation as to their function.

There may have been a small early Anglo-Saxon building with its suspended timber floor over a shallow depression. Over several centuries there appears to have been local exploitation of the clunch as building material – was the Priory, founded in around 1090, built from clunch dug from these pits? Could the small semicircular feature with fragments of broken Roman tiles pounded into a chalk floor, perhaps be identified as the apse of a small early chapel?

There were fragments of early and medieval pottery. There were one or two fairly deep holes that could

have been wells. Who was throwing away the mussel and oyster shells that were found in fair numbers across the site? There were also cattle and sheep/goat bones with knife cuts, showing evidence of butchering. But there were not enough larger deposits of what might be realistically described as 'domestic' rubbish to claim that anyone was actually living on site. Perhaps the small building was where the clunch diggers ate their dinner or sheltered from the rain.

There was just one Henry II silver penny, cut in half to make a halfpenny, an accepted act in those days when a silver penny was worth the equivalent of well over £6.00 today. 'Clipping' coins for tiny shavings of silver, however, debased the value – and reputation – of the currency. Henry called in all the coins and introduced new silver coins with a design of a cross right up to the edge, making it instantly obvious if a coin had been clipped.

Much of the interpretation and dating of the finds will probably remain conjectural. There was no hoard of bronze weapons and harness fittings, like the one found near Isleham many years ago by our Society's President, Arthur Houghton – and now in the Moyses Museum in Bury. There were no Celtic golden torques – but fairly clear evidence that The Pits and Limestone Close were not the only clunch workings in medieval Isleham. ■



An example of a Henry II silver penny, and the later 'Long Cross' penny

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