

Isleham Informer

Issue 44 • April 2011

ed@islehaminformer.org.uk • 01638 780839 • www.islehaminformer.org.uk



The magic of the panto returned to the Village Hall in March when Isleham PTA presented their own version of "The Wizard of Oz".

The show opened with a performance by five newcomers, all 16 and 17 year olds - Michaela Farr, Tilly Burns, Sarah Bailey, James Wilkes and Dorigen Bell, who sang 'I'm Yours' to a ukulele accompaniment.

Dorigen was also an enchanting Dorothy helped by Prince Boz played by Tilly.

In the rest of the cast were many familiar faces; Ray Goodwin played Wavy Wanda the Good Witch, Dan Bell was the Tin Man, Richard Drayton the scarecrow and John Bedford the Lion.

The 'baddie' this time was Leanne Dunsmuir, who as Evil Eva, kept the audience hissing and booing.

The chorus is always an important part of the panto, and this year they excelled themselves. Also worth a mention was Zizzy the Monkey played (did you guess?) by Pauline

Wilkes, who had everyone laughing, and the dancers from Ruth Bendall's School of Dance, dressed as poppies, who performed beautifully.

The success of the panto is due to the backroom 'staff' as much as to the performers, so many thanks to Neil Wilkes, Pauline Thompson, David Bailey, Barbara Murfitt and the crew of PTA helpers.

This was the 28th PTA pantomime, and once again it was a performance not to be missed.



Photos by Ed Mayall



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From the Editor

It is often the case at the start of the new financial year, we have suffered a drop in advertising. This allows us to print a higher proportion of articles and information, and you will notice that this issue is pretty much utterly crammed with good stuff.

However, there is one major aspect of village life that is consistently and woefully under represented in the *Informer*: where is all the sports coverage? I therefore wish to appeal for any budding sports writers to report what goes on at the Rec every Saturday.

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NEXT ISSUE: The next issue will be published 1st June 2011. The copy deadline for all editorial and advertising is 9th May 2011.

DISCLAIMER: The *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

Isleham Parish Council is looking to employ someone for 5 hours per week, to keep the village pavements and footpaths clear of litter, leaves and rubbish. Tools and equipment will be provided.

For further information contact the Parish Clerk – 01638 781687.

Band – B.B.Q. and Blossom

Newmarket Town Band

St Andrew's, Isleham, Sunday 22nd May 2011

2pm at the Social Centre

Price of tickets to be announced.

Dates for Your Diary

APRIL

Every Tuesday: Coffee Morning at the Social Centre
9.00–12.00

Monday 4th Isleham Parish Council 19.00

Thursday 7th Mobile Library Church Street 14.15–15.00
Mill Street 15.05–17.00

Saturday 9th WI Coffee Morning 10.00–12.00 17 Church Lane

Thursday 14th WI 19.30 Village Hall

Friday 15th Mobile Library Church St. 09.30–10.30

Monday 18th Gala Committee 20.00 The Griffin

Tuesday 19th Isleham Gardeners 19.30 Village Hall

Thurs 21st Isleham Society AGM 19.30 Village Hall

MAY

Every Tuesday: Coffee Morning at the Social Centre
9.00–12.00

Thursday 5th Local Elections Village Hall

Thursday 5th Mobile Library Church Street 14.15–15.00
Mill Street 15.05–17.00

Saturday 7th Spring Plant Sale 10.00–12.00 Priory Green

Monday 9th INFORMER DEADLINE

Thursday 12th WI 19.30 Village Hall

Saturday 14th Isleham Gardeners Social Centre "Tea at the Ritz" 15.00–17.00

Monday 16th Isleham Parish Council 19.00

Monday 16th Gala Committee 20.00 The Griffin

Tuesday 17th Isleham Gardeners 19.30 Village Hall

Thurs 19th Isleham Society 19.30 Village Hall

Friday 20th Mobile Library Church Street 09.30–10.30

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Through the Informer, we would like to thank all who gave generously to East Anglia Air Ambulance (Christmas Lights) at 43 Waterside. A total of £431.61 was raised.

We would also like to thank the Informer, who did such a wonderful job of advertising for us.

Ivan and Roberta Houghton

INFORMATION

Thursday bus from Isleham to Ely Market

Circular route: 9:15am Limestone Close – Malting Lane – Beck Road – The Causeway – East Road – Sun Street – Church Street – West Street – Hall Barn Road – Fordham Road – arrive Ely 10:00am; Return 12:00 noon.

Fares: Adult Bus Pass Holders £2.50 Return

Adults £5 Return

Our buses are accessible to all; however, to improve customer service, wheelchair users and those with small children requiring booster seats are advised to contact Ely/Soham Dial-a-Ride in advance: Ely Soham Dial-a-Ride 01353 661161

This service is financially supported by Isleham Parish Council.

Mobile Library

1st Thursday of the month:

Church Street

Mill Street

3rd Friday of the month: Church St

Arrive Depart

14:15 15:00

15:05 17:00

09:30 10:10

Child Health Clinic

Soham Child and Family Team Child Health Clinic will be in Isleham Village Hall with the Tea & Toast group on the second and fourth Thursdays every month from 10–11am. For more information phone Naomi Greener on 01353 624411.

Useful phone numbers

Emergency for Police, Fire, Ambulance 999

Police (Cambridgeshire) 0845 4564564

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 - office hours. 01733 561370

- out of hours emergency 01733 561370

Refuse Collection 01353 863864

RSPCA 0870 5555999

Citizens Advice Bureau 0845 130 6442

Ely 0845 130 6442

Mildenhall 01638 712094

Newmarket 01638 665999

District Councillor (Derrick Beckett) . . . 01638 780476

Isleham Village Hall (Jeanette Malkin) 01638 780283

Parish Council (Diane Bayliss: Clerk) . . . 01638 781687

Member of Parliament (Jim Paice) . . . 01954 211450

ALLOTMENTS AVAILABLE IN ISLEHAM



2011 - a New Year!

Why not start a new hobby, keep fit, eat healthily and grow an A to Z (Asparagus to Zucchini) of Vegetables?

RENT AN ALLOTMENT!

The village of Isleham has a number of Allotments available. Many Isleham Residents keep plots, but we are hoping enthusiasts from surrounding villages will be keen to take up the opportunity of having one of their own.

In many parishes, allotments are in short supply and you would need to put your name on a waiting list. Isleham is very fortunate to have large areas of land, and plots of 10 rods or more are available to rent at a very reasonable rate.

This year there are a number of improvements planned for our Dunstall Allotments along Station Road. The roadway through the land is to be improved and water will be put on. We are also looking into putting some of the land into a Community Orchard.

In 2010 a group of local people started the 'Isleham Gardeners'. As members of the National Society of Allotment & Leisure Gardeners, Isleham Gardeners are able to purchase quality seeds more cheaply. They hold monthly talks on gardening topics given by professionals in their field, and a variety of other social occasions provide a pleasant opportunity to meet with like-minded people.

If you are interested in finding out more, please do not hesitate to contact the Isleham Parish Clerk, Diane Bayliss on 01638 781687 or Roseanna Thompson on 01638 780994.

Fun at the Farm Day



at the Strawberry Farm,
Isleham
Sunday 15th May 2011
12-4pm



Inflatable Slide
Tractor/trailer rides
Have a go at driving a tractor

Barrel of Booze raffle
Tombola
BBQ
Tea and Cakes



Kenyan Craft stall
Football Game
Face Painting

and much more

Pollyanna Auditions

Sky Blue Theatre are presenting a new Musical "Pollyanna" at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (19-26th August) and at the Cambridge Corn Exchange (9-11th September). Auditions are open to anyone. We are looking for enthusiastic actors with good singing voices. There are adult singing and non-singing parts, and a large chorus is also wanted. These auditions will be by special appointment. If you have never been to the Edinburgh Fringe this is a great opportunity for a fantastic week of Drama. This new show, based on the popular, classic novel by Eleanor Porter will enthral the whole family. All ages will love this story and the way that Pollyanna triumphs over all her problems.

With libretto by Frances Bartram, music by Geoff Page and directed by Frances Brownlie. Get in touch with Frances for more information Tel: 01223 832288 or Email : frances@skybluetheatre.com

Oxfam walk 2011

Come and spend an enjoyable day with the family at the Oxfam Walk on Sunday 15th May, raising money for Oxfam's Emergencies Fund.

The start and finish point of the walk is at Wimpole Hall, where you can choose a 4, 9, 13, 17, 22 or 26-mile marathon route for the really energetic. There really is something for all the family! All the walks are well signed with marshals, and there are convenient checkpoints offering refreshments and toilets for a well-earned break. If you enter as a team (which can be a family team) of four or more people of any age, you'll have the chance to win the Oxfam Team Trophy, if you raise the most sponsorship.

The individual raising the highest amount in sponsorship will also win a fabulous walking holiday for two in the Lake District, thanks to Ramblers Countrywide Holidays.

Gill East, of Cambridge says: "The first time I took part in the Oxfam Walk was in 1991! It's now something we regularly do as a family. It's definitely on the yearly calendar. My husband isn't a great walker so tends to do the shorter routes, and I do the 17 mile route with my daughters. We all enjoy the lovely cakes en-route at the checkpoints and the weather during the Walk for the last couple of years has been fantastic!"

This year, the Oxfam Walk aims to raise £50,000 for Oxfam's Emergencies Fund helping communities affected by natural and manmade disasters, including the thousands of people in desperate need of assistance, following the tsunami in Japan. To help us reach this target we ask each adult walker to pay a registration fee of £8 beforehand, or £15 on the day (children under 16 walk for free) and to raise at least £50.

For more information and to register online visit www.oxfam.org.uk/walk or pick up a registration form from your local Oxfam shop.

Village clubs: information

CLUB	CONTACT	TEL	DAY/DATE	TIME	PLACE
Angling Society	Ivan	01638 780333			
Board Games	Alison Young	01638 780351	Last Thursday	2–5pm Sept–June	High St. Church
Book Club	Deidre Deller	01638 780544	2nd Friday	2pm	Social Centre
Brownies	Caroline Zwierchowska-Dod	07766 336694	Thursdays	6–7.15pm	Village Hall
Busy Bees	Kelly Chawner	01638 781098	Tuesdays	9.30–11.30am	Village Hall
Craft Club	Hazel Thompson	01638 780633	Tuesdays	1.30–4pm	Social Centre
Cubs	Angela Dann	01638 781947	Tuesdays	6.30–8pm	Village Hall
French Conversation	Francine (All levels, beginners welcome)	francine@the waytofrance.com	Monday	6–7.15pm	1 Mill St
Gala Committee	Fred Preece	01638 780734	3rd Monday	8pm	The Griffin
Guides	Janine Taylor Caroline Hinitt	islehamguides@ yahoo.co.uk	Tuesday	6.30–8.30pm	Social Centre
Isleham Gardeners	Jenny Hodd	01638 780729	3rd Tuesday	7.30pm	Village Hall
Isleham Society	Vernon Place	01638 780449	3rd Thursday	7.30pm	Village Hall
Keep Fit	Kathryn Kyte	01638 780652	Mondays	2–3pm	Top Chapel
Jhoom! Fitness	Hayley Crawford	01638 721522 www.justjhoom.co.uk	Mondays Fridays	6.30–7.30pm 9.15–10.15	Village Hall Bowls Club
Line Dancing	Andrew Palmer	01354 696063	Mondays	7.45–9.15pm	Village Hall
Paper, Patch & Sew	Julie Porter Victoria Rattle	01638 781390 01638 721128	Saturday Bi-monthly	10–4pm	High St. Church
Ruth Bendall School of Dance	Ruth Bendall	01638 780260	Wednesdays Saturdays	4.30pm 9am	Village Hall Village Hall
Tea & Toast	Claire Freeman	07827 234442	Thursdays	9.30–11.30am	Village Hall
WI	Glenda Preece	01638 780734	2nd Thursday	7.30pm	Village Hall
Yoga	Jill Bercovici	01638 510801	Thursdays (term-time only)	9.15–10.15am	Bowls Club
Zumba Fitness	Michelle Jacobs	07842 112190	Fridays	7.30pm	Village Hall

Sure Start Children's Centres



What's on for FREE for families with children under five at Soham Children's Centre, next to Weatheralls Primary School

Baccy Busters Need help to stop smoking? Come along for some free help and advice. Every other Monday, 3–4pm. Free crèche available. Call 01353 727188 to book a place.

Blissful Babies Every Tuesday 1.30–3.00pm. A relaxing sensory experience for babies with lights, music, toys and more. To book your place and more information call 01353 727188

Breast Friends Breastfeeding support group meeting every Tuesday 11.30–12.30pm. For new and pregnant Mums. Pop in for some free advice and support from the Lactation Consultant.

Baby Clinic Every Tuesday 9.30–11.30am. Weigh the baby and have tea and a chat with the Health Visitor about any worries or concerns.

Time Out Tuesdays For parents under 25 years. Every Tuesday 9.30–11.30am. Come along and make friends, have a chat and get support and information.

Isleham Tea & Toast Every Thursday at Isleham Village Hall, 9.15–11.30am. Pop along for some tea and toast, a play session for the under 5s and a chance to meet other mums.

For more information call us on 01353 727188

sohamchildrenscentre@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

www.cambridgeshirechildrenscentres.org.uk

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estimate that Cambridgeshire has lost 80% of its orchards in the last fifty years.

In order to reverse this trend "Common Ground", a national charity, has pioneered the Community Orchard Scheme. As the name suggests, community orchards are planted and maintained by volunteers from within the community. Such orchards offer a way of saving vulnerable old fruit trees and provide opportunity to plant new ones.

The benefits of these orchards are many. In addition to the production of local varieties of apples, they can provide educational opportunities for children, a rich habitat for wildlife and a place to walk or have picnics. Community orchards are

Community Orchards

Orchards were once widespread throughout the British Isles; almost every farm and suburban garden had its own fruit trees. Pressure on land for new houses has caused the loss of many of these small orchards. The National Trust and Natural England

therefore open and accessible to the public at all times.

Isleham has many vacant allotments. Creating a community orchard would be a sensible way of keeping some of them cultivated and productive. Isleham Parish Council has agreed that an area of unused land on the Dunstall Allotments site, Station Road, could be set apart for this purpose.

The project would be run by a volunteer management group. The East of England Apple and Orchard Project provide appropriate training courses and workshops. Grants are available for the purchasing of equipment and trees.

The success of a community orchard lies in the strength of the local commitment to it.

If there are enough enthusiastic volunteers, we could plan and prepare to plant an orchard this winter.

Anyone who is interested in this scheme and would like more information should contact the Parish Clerk on 01638 781687 or Jeanette Malkin 01638 780283.

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Isleham Community Skate Park



"Get Some Air"



As you may be aware the skate park has the go-ahead from the council. Here is our new logo designed by the children and adults on the committee. We are now looking for new members willing to volunteer to help us as we now need to start fundraising. Volunteers or any ideas for fund raising will be very much appreciated.

Please contact:

Pauline Dunbavin	01638 781179 / 07721 988164
Marc Bowers	01638 781707 / 07818 422776
Chrissy Millar	01638 780159



Gala Queen, Princess and Prince Competition 2011

**Sponsored by
Isleham School
PTA**

Traditionally, it is the Gala Queen and her attendants, the Prince and Princess who lead the parade through the village on Gala Day.

This year, the competition to select the Gala Queen, Prince and Princess is being run by Isleham PTA, and winners will receive a number of fantastic prizes, including a tiara, hair-up/styling and a manicure or make-up for the Queen. The Prince and Princess will each receive a goodie bag packed with exciting treats.

This will be a postal competition open to all children aged 5 to 16 years who live in Isleham or who attend Isleham Primary School. Girls aged 11 to 16 on the day of the Gala will be eligible for the Gala Queen. Girls and boys aged 5 to 10 will be entered for the Princess/Prince competition. It costs just £2 per entry. To enter, you need to complete the form below, and on a separate sheet(s),

provide your response to the questions asked. Send or email your entry to Alison Oliver, 13 Beech Close, Isleham, alison.oliver7@virginmedia.com. Tel: (01638) 781232.

Please make sure you have read the terms and conditions carefully, as by submitting your entry, we will assume that you agree with them.



Competition Terms and Conditions

1. Winners must be available to participate in the Parade and to make presentations throughout the day on Saturday 2nd July 2011.
2. Winners are asked to jointly organise their transportation to lead the procession of floats on Gala Day.
3. You must live in Isleham or attend Isleham Primary School.
4. All forms must be signed by a parent or guardian and accompanied by the entry fee of £2 per child. Photographs are not required for this competition; entrants will be judged on their responses and artwork.
5. All entries must reach Alison Oliver by Monday 9th May 2011 for selection by a panel of independent judges.

Winners will be notified in writing and published in the next edition of the *Informer*.

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Entry Form

Name: _____

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School: _____

Phone: _____

Signature of _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

On a separate sheet(s) of paper:

1. Tell us about your favourite things e.g. food, sports, books, clubs, people and pastimes.
2. Imagine you are the Queen or King of Isleham. What changes would you make?
3. Design, draw and colour a float for Gala Day to a theme of your choice.

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Marathon Man

It's that time of year again when the London Marathon is soon upon us. This year, Isleham-born Peter Dabrowa has set himself the task to attempt the 26.2 miles around the City of London in support of the British Heart Foundation. Having experienced health problems of his own only a few years ago whilst in his late twenties, Peter has battled against heart issues and high blood pressure to be back fighting fit and is now pounding the local streets clocking up the miles with now only weeks to go.



Now living in Chippenham, Peter is often seen along with his brother Timothy, running around Isleham during week nights and over the weekend as the long runs extend themselves to in excess of 20 miles in preparation for the big day.

If you would like to support Peter, along with The British Heart Foundation, please visit www.justgiving.com/dabrowa where any donation, no matter what the size, would be hugely appreciated!



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Disabled Children's Access to Childcare (DCATCH)

**Disabled
Children's
Access
To
Childcare**



The Cambridgeshire County Council Disabled Children's Access to Childcare (DCATCH) project is aimed at supporting parents/carers of disabled children in accessing suitable childcare; enabling them the chance of returning to employment and/or training. It is part of the Cambridgeshire Childcare Information Service (CIS).

The aim of DCATCH is to highlight that "a child with a disability and his/her family should have access to the full range of childcare options that are open to other families" Sure Start, 2005.

"A lack of information about the childcare services that are available, and confusion about the quality and potential benefits of using childcare, continue to create barriers for some parents". Department for children, schools and families, December 2009.

The aim of the project is to work closely with parents, childcare providers and professionals, embedding the principles of DCATCH; ensuring inclusion into early years and childcare settings for

all. A referral service for parents shows where to go for support and guidance with their childcare options via the Childcare Brokerage Service.

Once a family is identified we can then, through the CIS Childcare Brokerage Service, enquire about suitable childcare. This will include information on provision of childcare from providers, funding options, costs, specialist care and specialist facilities, if required by the provider.

The DCATCH project provides a service to families, which is free of charge and completely impartial.

If you would like further information on DCATCH then please ring 0845 04 54 014 and ask for Denis Green or send an email to denis.green@opportunitylinks.co.uk

Alternatively check our website www.familiesandchildcare.org.uk and click on the DCATCH link.

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Parish Council News

The following are the abbreviated and incomplete versions of the IPC minutes for the January and February 2011 meetings. Full minutes are available from the IPC and on the Isleham Village Website at www.isleham-village.co.uk/pcminutes.html.

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 10TH JANUARY

Present Cllrs Beckett, Carter, Baines, Earl, Garbett, Malkin, H. Thompson, R. Thompson, Wilkes, Clerk: D. Bayliss, 150+ parishioners

Apologies C Cllr Powley, Cllrs Neal, Hobbs

OPEN FORUM

Mr. Clark asked how much money had been raised by the sale of the cemetery land. The meeting was told the Council were bound by an agreement not to disclose the amount until after completion of the sale; if a solicitor advises that they are now free to disclose the sum, it will be included in the agenda for the February meeting.

7.06–8.09pm Questions pertaining to the new Community Centre.

At 8.10pm the meeting was adjourned whilst some members of the public left.

MATTERS ARISING

Dunstall Allotment has been closed and locked to stop vehicle access until the weather improves and the roadway dries up.

Parish Councillors address list

Derrick Beckett (Chairman)	Appleyard Farm, 1 Houghtons Lane, Isleham CB7 5SR Tel: 01638 780476
Terry Carter (Vice Chairman)	5 Old School Close, Soham CB7 5WD Tel: 07905 705302
Steven Baines	Emmanuel House, 8 East Fen Road, Isleham CB7 5SW Tel: 01638 780406
Martin Earl	83 The Causeway, Isleham CB7 5TA Tel: 01638 780766
Jeannette Malkin	17 Little London, Isleham CB7 5SE Tel: 01638 780283
Lionel Neal	104 Beck Road, Isleham CB7 5QP Tel: 01638 780066
Geoff Garbett	16 Croft Road, Isleham CB7 5QR Tel: 01638 780863
Elaine Hobbs	Portman House, 7 The Birches, Soham CB7 5FH Tel: 01353 725818
Hazel Thompson	9 Limestone Close, Isleham CB7 5RP Tel: 01638 780633
Roseanna Thompson	Fenrose Farm, 1 Fen Bank, Isleham CB7 5SL Tel: 01638 780994
Pauline Wilkes	6 Limestone Close, Isleham CB7 5RP Tel: 01638 780640
Diane Bayliss (Parish Clerk)	37 Croft Road, Isleham CB7 5QR Tel: 01638 781687 islehampc@btinternet.com www.isleham-village.co.uk

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

The possibility of a new school for Isleham is now on the list of schools to be considered for the District.

It was agreed that a sum of £130 be made to Isleham Citizens Advice Bureau.

COMMUNITY CENTRE

Discussion took place about whether the PC should keep direct control of the Centre. This has yet to be decided. It was proposed by the Chairman that the Council take out a loan of £500,000 for a period of 25 years. Concerns were expressed about the length of the loan, also whether it can be paid back at an earlier date, if appropriate.

A paper vote was then taken, the result being six votes in favour and three against. The motion was therefore carried. A copy of the contract will be given to each Councillor, and one kept with the minutes.

HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATHS

It is likely that money to pay for work to be carried out on Parish paths will no longer be available from CCC, so PC will have to look to work parties of councillors and parishioners to do this.

CCC has stated that salt supplies are very low and they are looking for alternative materials to fill the grit bins.

PLANNING MATTERS

Proposed single storey rear extension at 11 Coates Drove for Mrs E. King – no objection.

Barn Conversion at 18 Little London for Mr Tim Drayton – no objection.

Garage Conversion and internal alterations at 19 East Fen Road for Mr and Mrs Rogerson.

ECDC Tree Works to be carried out at The Old Vicarage, 7 Church Street.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 28th March at 7.30pm.

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 7TH FEBRUARY

Present Cllrs Beckett, Carter, Baines, Neal, Malkin, H. Thompson, Wilkes, Hobbs, R. Thompson, Clerk: Bayliss, 10 parishioners

Apologies C.Cllrs Palmer, Powley, Cllr Earl

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs Clarke addressed the Council with a number of questions related to the Community Centre project, which the Chairman agreed to have minuted:

1. Is the PC now in a position to confirm the total proceeds from the sale of the cemetery land?
This matter will be addressed later in the meeting.

2. There are concerns regarding the business plan and the uncertainty shown over some areas. Could we have assurances that the business plan: a) is in two parts covering the capital project and the ongoing revenue items? b) independently audited and found to be fit for purpose, and therefore did the Parish

Councillors get full (independent) assurance that the plan worked? The business plan seemed to be based on the successful Over model. However, Over is located on the outskirts of Cambridge, whereas Isleham is a small fenland village – how was this factored into the calculations?

What margin is there in the plan for over-estimates of revenue income and under-estimates of running costs? What assurances can the PC give us that further funds will not be asked from us if (a) the initial building project over-runs on budget? And (b) the estimated running costs and income generation are wrong?

These points will need to be replied to at another time as the PC has not had any direct input into the business plan.

3. Will all grants and funding be in place before the project starts?

Obviously £1m will be in place and most of the other grants should be as they usually have to be applied for before the project commences.

4. Vote: the village vote was compromised – at the meeting one lady (who was speaking against the project) said that she did not get a voting paper, but managed to “pick one up at the Co-op”. How did that happen and what assurances do we have that non-council tax payers did not get one - or that multiple votes were cast?

Cllr Wilkes addressed this matter as she works at the Co-op and personally gave a form to the lady in question. All photocopied forms were disregarded in the count either for or against the project.

5. We would like a village referendum on such an important issue as this.

The Parish Council are under no obligation legally to carry out a referendum on this matter.

VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

The budget has overrun this year, so any expenditure must be kept to essentials. New smoke alarms and a

mop will be purchased. A new PPL licence called is now required and will affect all groups who play music.

RECREATION GROUND

The PC congratulated Mr Ray Sheldrick who has been given a Groundsman of the Year award. It was agreed letters be sent to the churches and local interest groups if they are interested in holding an event for Poppy Weekend in June.

OTHER BUSINESS

It was reported that the final sum received for the Cemetery land was £764,929, including £36k, which is to be reclaimed from ECDC.

It was agreed that £400 be paid to the Staploe Transport Association.

The Parish Council election is to be held on 5th May.

PARISH PLAN

CCC will arrange for the installation of bollards on Malting Lane.

More dog bins are to be installed.

Footpaths will be checked in March, and remedial work carried out.

Leaves of footpaths will hopefully be cleared next winter by the village maintenance person in between visits from Veolia.

ALLOTMENT MATTERS

The possibility of setting up a Community Orchard is being looked in to.

Work has begun on the borehole.

PLANNING MATTERS

Applications Erection of dwelling (existing dwelling to be demolished) at Chalk Farm, Temple Road for Mr and Mrs Pammenter – no objection.

Amendment to proposal at 44 East Fen Road for Mr Mayes – no objection as long as clunch wall is retained. It was agreed that the name ‘Orchard Close’ is put forward as first choice for the new development in Beck Road, and ‘Millennium Close’ is second choice. ■



Photo by Vernon Place

Jim Paice MP with young members of Isleham United at the official opening of the Multi-Use Games Area on Saturday 19th March



2010 Christmas Lights Display

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Isleham Nature Reserves

We have been busy over the past few months with various

activities including scrub clearance at the old railway reserve – we are trying to encourage the spread of chalk grassland plants and to ensure the right conditions for food plants for a range of butterflies – and keeping on top of the Warden's duties while Andrew Garbett is out of action. We also now have a logo, so wherever you spot this long-tailed tit you'll know it's the Friends of Isleham Nature Reserves!

Unfortunately due to Council cuts we will be losing Charlotte Lowry, the Greenspace and Community Officer, so the group will be even more important in taking care of our nature reserves - and especially the railway cutting Local Nature Reserve (LNR) here in Isleham. We have really appreciated Charlotte's support in helping to set up our group, to spread the word about the LNR, and to arrange a number of events for children and adults at the reserve over the summer. Charlotte will be taking on a new role with RSPB, and we wish her well in the future.

We will continue to have the support of the County Council for the rest of the year, but after that we will be more dependent on our own resources – people and money – to continue the work Charlotte has started.

To keep up to date with what's going on, why not visit our Facebook page? You'll see there's a photo competition to guess the sparrowhawk's rare meal (first record for the reserve - a Mars bar has been promised for the first correct answer!). You can also look up our blog and find out what's going on with wildlife in Isleham by going to this website: <http://friendsofislehamnr.blogspot.com/>. Our next group meeting is on Monday 9th May, 7.30pm and will be at the nature reserve, so come and join us if you can – learn about wildlife in Isleham and help maintain an important area for dog walkers and nature!

Charlotte Lowry
Greenspace & Community Officer
Environment Management and Climate Change
Cambridgeshire County Council
Tel: 01223 715557

Green Tip: Recycling can help save materials and energy, but cutting down on waste in the first place is even better. Try to repair broken items and offer unwanted items to family and friends. Remember you can post details of items others may want on the staff bulletin board.

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Environmentandgreenerliving/Wasteandrecycling>

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The Isleham Society

20th January David White, the RSPB Information Officer, gave a very interesting illustrated talk entitled "17 years at Lakenheath Fen" He showed how the fen has been developed. The following useful information for potential visitors has been copied from their website:

"At Lakenheath Fen, the RSPB has converted an area of arable farmland into a large wetland, consisting mainly of reed beds and grazing marshes. The new reed beds have attracted hundreds of pairs of reed warblers and sedge warblers, as well as bearded tits and marsh harriers.

Bitterns have been seen increasingly in all seasons of the year. In early summer, hobbies catch insects high over the marshes. Golden orioles breed in the remnant poplar woods on the reserve, along with blackcaps, garden warblers and woodpeckers. Barn owls and kingfishers are regularly seen during the winter months.

There is a new visitor centre where you can find out more about the reserve, its wildlife and history. An events programme is run throughout the year, and family explorer backpacks and trail guides are available.

The reserve is open from dawn to dusk every day. The visitor centre and toilets are open from 9–5 every day 1st March–31st October and open from 10–4 every day 1st November–28th February. The visitor centre is closed from Christmas Eve until New Year's Day.

Entrance charges: Non-members £2 per motor vehicle. Members can park for free, please display your membership card on your dashboard on arrival."

17th February Vernon Place gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Old Isleham Photos (no.4)". These were of Isleham school, village sports and social events. He used some of Arthur Houghton's collection plus others of his own, including photos from Peggy Woodroffe and a selection of pictures of Isleham's celebration of the Queen's Silver Jubilee taken by Michael Kelly in 1977. The large number of people in attendance showed their interest in our past village life.

17th March The subject and speaker was changed from the published programme and was an illustrated slide show and talk given by one of our village residents, architect David Alberry-King. Entitled "East Meets West" he compared the two communities of Isleham and St. Kilda, which historically, had many similarities despite being 850 miles apart. Only one was destined to survive!

Future Meetings

21st April The AGM followed by a talk by Editor Ed Mayall on "Producing and Publishing the *Informer*".

19th May "Isleham Air Crash - 13th October 1949"

Stewart Evans and Guy Bettley-Cook will jointly present an illustrated talk on their investigations into this disaster. They will reveal many facts and details of this crash that have not previously been published. N.B. This talk was one planned for 17th March, but had to be postponed.

We welcome all visitors to our meetings – you don't have to be a member!

Vernon Place
Chairman of The Isleham Society

*Lyn Kiernan and her team extend
a warm welcome to you at their*

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Poetry Corner

A selection of poems submitted by children in Year 6 at
Isleham Primary School

The Storm

The outraged storm
orders up a tornado
which screams across
the landscape, causing
the wildlife to flee.
With a loud groan and a
vicious rumble rain is torn
from the sky and poured
over the thousands of
people in their houses.
Then thunder charges
across the land followed
by a rattle of sprinting



light which flashes over the suffering land.
Then lightening, like yellow adders, strikes the ground and
makes every animal tremor in its skin.
Suddenly... the storm calms and only rain remains.
Gentle patters on the exhausted ground.

Jack Cummins

The Snow Storm

The snow storm wickedly laughs as she drifts
down to Earth.

"You better watch out!" she cries as she hits the floor.
Once settled down on the road, she sneaks
along, trying to find the perfect spot for you to
slip on her icy back.

She roars and clutches your Mum's car wheels, so that
your car won't move.

She cackles as she freezes the pipes on Christmas day,
so that your dad has to unblock them.

She sneers as the traffic on the motorway gets longer –
all because of the snow lying in the way.

But then she sheds a tear for her treacherous
time is over.

The sun starts to shine and she starts to fade away.

But beware, for next year she will be sure to
come again.

Natasha Malkin

The Rain Storm!

Whipping against the window,
the rain demands to be let in.

Snarling clouds pound at the door,
while torrential gusts claw at the chimney.

The storm thunders at the cracks,
smashing with force at weakness.

Above all this, is the wild call
which screams in your blood
"Let me in!"

Kris Dunbavin



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JOYCE'S CORNER

You Decide!

After 60 years in this village of ours
I look back and sometimes feel sad
When I think of old neighbours and shops that I knew;
Of the changes, some good, some bad.

There were many tradesmen we had in those days,
And vans that called round every week.
Delivering the groceries, fruit, veg and oil
Fresh fish from the coast so to speak.

We'd a barber, two bakers and sweet shops as well,
And a garage supplied our bike parts.
We'd a blacksmith, a carpenter; each had a shed.
They shoed horses and made the farm carts.

Back then I worked in Mildenhall,
And would have to cycle home.
Des would meet me on the Four Cross bridge,
So I wasn't on my own.

I'm glad the steam train came to Isleham.
So when the weather was rough
My cycle would go in to the Guard's van
And I'd pay one and six – quite enough!

At seven every evening we'd sit down in a chair.
First we had to tune our wireless in.
Dick Barton, Special Agent, next instalment came on
And we always hoped that he would win.

I like listening to the radio
And read lots of books, that is true.
Have things really got much better?
I'll leave that thought with you.

Joyce Drayton

Open Farm Sunday

at Fenrose Farm, Isleham, Sunday 12th June 2011



We will open from 12noon until 5.30pm. Entry is FREE.

Walk through the Farm Yard to see our Pigs – from the newly born to finished to leave the farm. Take a trip on the Tractor and Trailer along Isleham Washes –

hear about the Environmental Stewardship Scheme we Manage for the Washes and continue through our Hereford Cattle to see Billy the Bull, the cows and their calves. On the return journey, hop off and enjoy Pond Dipping with the Children.

Back on the farm, say "Hello" to our Connemara Mares and their foals and our free range poultry that lay the eggs.

Take part in the competition and see if you can get the tennis ball on the cone using our JCB Teleporter! Guess the weight of the pig as you walk past and find out how the Farm Machinery works.

After all that fresh country air, relax and enjoy the BBQ. We will be selling only our own quality beefburgers, sausages and hog roast. For desert there will be homemade cakes, tea and coffee and cold drinks for the children.

Be there on 12th June to see what a real farm looks like. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear.

See our website and pictures of last year's Open Farm Sunday: www.thompsonsfarmisleham.co.uk

ANY MONIES RAISED FROM THE COMPETITIONS WILL BE DONATED TO THE EAST ANGLIAN AIR AMBULANCE

Women's Institute



Our Annual General Meeting was held in February. This year all members of the Committee indicated their willingness to stand again, and were joined by one new

addition – Sally Norrington-Smith. The election of President was organised by Wenda Garbett, and Janice Pope was re-elected. Thanks go to Wenda for overseeing the proceedings.

Following the elections our Rose Bowl was awarded – this year to Christine Hewitt. Well done Christine!

After the meeting we took part in an game of 'Isleham Dominoes', then were entertained by Carolyn Bird and Pauline Wilkes who performed several comedy sketches that sent us all home chuckling.

Bev Biggs came to our March meeting to tell us of her experiences as a Personal Shopper. For the shopaholics amongst us this might seem like the perfect job, and Bev explained how she loves her job helping women to find clothes and accessories to make them look good and feel confident. She helps choose clothes for everyday and for those more special occasions; clothes that suit an individual's shape and colouring. She says she wants this service to be affordable.

Bev has worked in retail and the fashion industry for 20 years – many of those as a Personal Shopper.

If you would like to join the WI or simply come to a meeting to see what it is like, please do come along. We meet on the second Thursday of each month in the Village Hall, 7.30pm for 7.45pm, and new members are always welcome.

For further information contact:

Glenda Preece 01638 780734
gjpreece@aol.com



A major project has been undertaken over the winter months to help protect and conserve the rare wetland plants communities found on Wicken's ancient Sedge Fen. Historically the fen periodically flooded with calcium-rich river water, which had filtered through the chalk of the Newmarket Hills before flowing towards Wicken. Today flooding has diminished, primarily due to shrinkage of the surrounding land following its drainage for arable use, so rainwater is the fen's main source of water, which is more acidic and has led to a decline in its delicate plant communities.

To help the plant communities recover, the Environment Agency has created a new watercourse to carry the calcium rich water to the fen. The most noticeable part of the works is a new wind pump, which will lift this river water up onto the fen, where it will gradually spread out, recharging the watertable.

It is perhaps ironic that Wicken's historic wooden wind pump was originally used to drain nearby Adventurer's Fen for peat cutting, whilst its modern counterpart is designed to replace rather than remove water.

Spring is breaking out all over the fen – many of our over-wintering birds have left and we await the arrival of our summer visitors. Hopefully one of the first migrants will be the cuckoo, which normally arrives in the middle of April. A documentary on the cuckoo recorded by the BBC Natural History Unit at Wicken Fen is scheduled to be broadcast on BBC Radio 4 on Tuesday 5th April at 11.02 and repeated on Thursday 7th April at 21.02.

Planting has begun on the Lode with Longmeadow Community Woodland on White Fen, near Lode. The woodland is one of five being created as part of the Planting Parishes initiative organised by East Cambs District Council and the Woodland Trust aimed at eventually increasing tree cover in East Cambridgeshire by 5–10%.

Easter Holiday Events

The Wicken Fen Easter Trail runs from Good Friday to Easter Monday, 10am–5pm each day. Follow the trail and solve the clues around the Boardwalk to claim your delicious chocolate Egghead – there will also be free face painting on Easter Sunday and Monday. The trail costs £1.50 per child (normal admission applies). Fairies and Pixies – discover the magical secrets of the fen, Monday 11th April 10.30 or 2pm; Pond Dipping for All – a 30 minute pond dipping session £1.50 with optional minibeast hunt 75p, Tuesdays 12th and 19th April from 12.00;

Other Events

Willow Birds Workshop on Saturday 2nd April 10am–4pm £55; Spring Walk with the Wardens on Sun 10 April 2pm £6.50 includes tea and a slice of cake.

Springtime Arts and Crafts, Wednesdays 13th and 20th April 10.30 or 2pm;

Mud Glorious Mud – the perfect chance to get really mucky!, muddy art, construction and games, Friday 15th April 10.30am or 2pm;

Wicken Warriors – Tracks and trails, wildlife detection and wild skills, Monday 18th April at 10.30am or 2pm. Tickets for children's events are £4.50 – advance booking is essential.

May: For early risers we have a Dawn Chorus Walk on Sunday 1st May 4.45am £10 includes coffee and a bacon roll;

Frame Basket Making – learn traditional willow basket techniques with local weaver, Nadine Anderson, Saturday 14th May 9.45–5.30 £60;

Konik Pony Walk – Learn about our resident of Konik ponies on a guided walk with our Grazing Warden on Saturday 21st May 10.30am £6.50 adults £3.25 child;

Dusk Chorus Walk – enjoy a evening stroll with the warden listening for birds as they come into roost, Friday 27th May 7.30pm £6.50 adults £3.25 child;

Pond Dipping for All – Tuesday 31st May - a 30 minute pond dipping session £1.50 with optional minibeast hunt 75p from 12.00.

Advance booking for all events is essential – please contact the Wicken Fen Visitor Centre on 01353 720274 for further information/tickets.

Hope to see you at the fen soon.

Howard Cooper, Wicken Fen

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Paper, Patch and Sew



Bi-monthly, 2nd Saturday in the month, 9.30am – 4.30pm, High Street Church, Isleham

We are a group of like-minded craft ladies of all ages (not all from the church) who like to get together and share our love of craft. At the moment we have scrapbookers, card makers, cross stitchers and quilters but would welcome anybody with a crafty hobby who would like to come and spend time with us

We all bring our own equipment - although of course the fun is in sharing materials and ideas and inspiring each other. We have plenty of scrap materials available for papercrafters!

Please come and join us for the whole day, or just the morning or the afternoon, we would love to see you. If you have always wanted to 'have a go' at papercraft (scrapbooking or cardmaking) but never had the chance we would love to see you and show you what we do.



For further details contact:

Victoria Rattle 01638 721128

Sandra Blatch 07535 114522

Julie Porter 01638 781390

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Don't Just Sit There...Just Jhoom!



New Bollywood-inspired exercise comes to the Newmarket area!

Inspired by the glitz and glamour of Bollywood, Just Jhoom! is a brand new form of dancercise that's energetic, sexy... and a great way to keep fit! Bored of the gym? Want something fun and inspiring? Then Just Jhoom! may be just the thing! Using Indian dance moves, Bollywood music and strengthening yoga-based exercises, we'll make sure you get a really good workout without even realising that you are working out!

Just Jhoom! which means Just Dance! is now available in the Newmarket area, courtesy of Hayley Crawford, a qualified dance/fitness professional offering classes in various village locations in Cambridgeshire.

This form of dance-fitness routine is the brainchild of Shalini Bhalla, who trained in Bharata Natyam, one of the oldest forms of Indian dance. Shalini draws on classical, folk and film dance styles as well as on her training in Pilates and Exercise to Music. Working with Surrey-based fitness instructor, Beccy Matthews and yoga teacher, Sarra Whicheloe, Shalini has created a series of lively, aerobic workouts, each with a warm-up, dance routine, strength and flexibility training and a cool-down.

Hayley Crawford has completed a training course run by Shalini Bhalla and is really looking forward to introducing Just Jhoom! to the local area.

"Just Jhoom! is a really fun way to keep fit," says Hayley. "I keep the Bollywood-style steps and routines really simple so classes are suitable for all abilities. Just Jhoom! is perfect because it provides an all over body workout and it's so much fun that you don't even realise that you are working out!"

Hayley is also looking for new venues so if you'd like Just Jhoom! classes on your doorstep on a regular basis, get in touch and provide Hayley with details of village halls or dance studios. Hayley is also happy to provide taster sessions for groups who're interested in trying Just Jhoom! for themselves.

For further information on current and future classes and on taster sessions, please contact Hayley Crawford on 01638 721522 or email her on hayley@halohf.co.uk. Further information on Just Jhoom!'s classes or instructor courses can be found on www.justjhoom.co.uk

Parish News

I have recently been asked what Easter means to me, both as a Christian and as a Priest – I hope what follows may answer! It is hard trying to sum up all that it entails but here goes!

I once described Easter, in a sermon, as that glorious moment when the fizz of the tonic hits the gin in the bottom of the glass and the aroma of lime and juniper hits you – made all the more special from a period of abstinence during the long weeks of Lent.

Easter is the climax of the year – where all our expectations and needs, all our prayers (said and silent) are answered in abundance by God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter morning. For me Easter is about life and love, it is about generosity beyond our wildest dreams, it is about life in the face of death and darkness – it is about us never being separated from the love of God whether we know it or not.

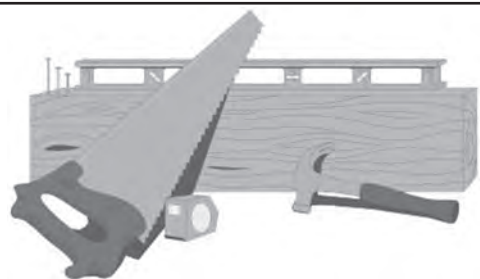
For me this is the reality of all that I see in the ordinariness of people's lives and in the life of the parish where I minister. It is part of being human to seek God, it is part of our make-up to be spiritual; all of us see and experience awe at the enormity of the universe, we are overwhelmed with its mystery and beauty – we all let the tears fall at new life and at the end of life. Jesus lived and died and lives again to continually pour his love into our world, and yet such unfailing and unjudging love can be such a hard thing to accept. And for me,

while as a vicar telling people about God's love is what I do, I continually seek to understand it for myself as well. This is deep and tough on occasions, and an enormous privilege and honour on others.

This Easter message of life and love, of a glass that's not only half full but full to overflowing, also translates itself for me into a crazy service schedule, sermons to write and an enormous amount of work and preparation. There are also the unwell and housebound to visit, those with a new and young faith to encourage, those who are trying to encourage their children and families to uphold. This all happens alongside a parish for whom any of the 6000 inhabitants can ring at any time of day and night and you respond – all the while trying to teach and witness to God's love. Sometimes nerves get frayed! Sometimes the frustrations overwhelm and my family suffer. Sometimes I seek some 'me' time in the practice of yoga or at the Grand Arcade, sometimes some light relief is necessary – and I don't think that's ungodly either! For me there is joy in my shoe collection, there is fun and laughter in my home and around my dinner table, there is God's gracious abundance in my wine rack! For me faith and Easter are about unbounded joy – deep happiness that God loves ME – little old me, with all my peculiarities and doubts. And that God loves each of us the same – deeply and wholly, enough to give us all life forever. Do raise a glass and have a very Happy Easter!

Kate Peacock

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High Street Church

Beef stew and dumplings, toad in the hole, chicken pie, all freshly cooked and delicious! Interested? We have some vacancies at our monthly lunch club held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 12–2pm and you are very welcome to join us for a meal and chance to catch up with friends old and new. Contact Kathryn 780652 or the Church Office 780985.

Toys, crayons, stories, friendship and coffee – all free! Over 80 parents and toddlers meet every Friday morning from 9.30am and you are welcome to join us. Contact Sharon 781120 or the Church Office 780985

On Sunday 2nd January we launched our new midweek care structure called High Street Life – a whole range of fresh initiatives to care, support and venture out into the community. It includes: new Life groups, plus Men's and Ladies' groups; a new Media and Creative Arts group using modern technology to convey the message of hope; a Healthy Living group; practical DIY advice and much more.

Are you new to the village? High Street Life is more than just Church on Sunday so why not contact us? We'd love to get to know you and tell you what makes us tick.

Alpha (the relevance of the gospel in today's world) and the Marriage Course (designed to help strengthen marriages) will also continue to run from time to time.

The second change was the new revamped High Street website. Why not take a look at what we do on www.highst.org.uk. If you would like to know more then please contact our church office on 01638 780985.

SUNDAY SERVICES: All are welcome to our Sunday services throughout the year.

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

Evening fellowship: 6.30pm A less formal service usually with opportunity for individual sharing. Come and hear about God's goodness! Tea, coffee and good conversation are available after both the morning and evening services!

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

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

Junior Church, for those who are aged 3 to 7, is a fun-filled session with singing, crafts, drama and stories. The older Junior Church meet at the Village Hall. This is for children who are 7 to 11 years old (that's the noise you've heard from the Village Hall on a Sunday morning!). Their morning starts from 10am

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!

Impact 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 meets socially and they all have a lot of laughs!

OTHER WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Are you interested in how to stay active in later life? If so, we are running an exercise class for the more mature on Monday afternoons at 2pm at the Chapel.

Our **Rendezvous** group – for the more mature among us – meets every Tuesday afternoon at 3pm. Around 60 to 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 12–2pm. An excellent meal for just £2 not to mention the great company! For further details on any of the above, please contact Kathryn on 01638 780652 or the Church Office.

Little Lambs is our parent/carer and toddler group which runs term time Fridays from 9.15–11.15. Parents/carers can relax with a coffee while the children play. Each week we have a craft activity, juice time and end the morning with singing. All welcome!

So whether it's on a Sunday or midweek, we would love to see you. Why not come along or give us a call to find out more.

For more information about any of the events at High Street Church or general advice, call Jane or Sharon in the Church Office on 01638 780985 or Paul Hedger (Church leader) on 01638 721291 or go to www.highst.org.uk. ■

Pound Lane Free Church

Pastor: Dave Hall (01638 781343 or 01638 780636, email pastor@plfc.org.uk)

Elder: Mr Michael Gee (01638 552805)

Every Sunday:

Sunday worship: 11am and 6.30pm.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper:

1st Sunday following evening service

3rd 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): 10–11.15am (Mrs Janice Gee 01638 781343)

All Stars (Years 4–6): 10–11.15am (Mr John Martin 01638 781747)

Covies (Year 7–early 20s): 9.30–10.30am (Mr Steve Neale 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:

Music Mayhem: 9.30–10.30am.

(Mrs Sue Thompson 01638 781343 Preschool children during school term only)

A fun time for your pre-school children – action songs, musical instruments and the ever-popular “Sockeroo”. Followed by refreshments and a time to relax with friends whilst the children play. New members always welcome.

All Stars Fun Night: 6.45–8.15pm.

Wednesday:

Fellowship: 2.15–3.15pm.

(Mrs Sandra Rampley 01353 624733)

This caters for the more mature. They enjoy meeting together for a Bible talk, spiritual songs and prayer. Various fun evenings and meals are also organised during the year. New members are always welcome.

Church Night: 7.40–9pm.

Bible study, prayer and fellowship; for mid-teens upwards.

Thursday:

Coffee Morning: 10–11.30am.

Turn up any time between 10 and 11.30 for free tea, coffee and cakes. Chat with friends and make new friends. Open to any age. Includes an 8 minute “in the news this week” slot in the middle.

Covies Club Night: 7–9pm.

Friday (fortnightly in members' homes):

Women's Meeting 10.30–11.45am (Sue Hall 01638 780636). Christianity Explored courses are run regularly – please ask for dates of next course.

For further information on any of the above, or if you would like to speak to Pastor Dave:

Phone: 01638 781343 (Church Office)

01638 780636 (Pastor's Home)

Email: pastor@plfc.org.uk

secretary@plfc.org.uk

Web site: www.plfc.org.uk & www.isleham.com

You are warmly invited to join us on Sunday 24th April as we celebrate our Lord's resurrection in our Easter Day Family Service at 10.30am the service will be followed by refreshments. A crèche will be available for very young children.

If you have any spare time on a Thursday morning between 10.00am and 11.30am why not come along to the plfc Coffee Morning? We enjoy a good chat with friends both old and new, a cup of tea or coffee and a selection of sweet and savoury items to tempt our taste buds! A topical news item is looked at from a Christian perspective in the eight minute “In the News” slot then some of the gentlemen enjoy a game of dominoes.

We'd love to see you and you will be sure of a very warm welcome.

Three Rivers Group St Andrew's Parish Church

Regular Church Services

Sundays: The main service is at 9.30 am. Junior Church is in the Social Centre, and in church the third Sunday of each month for All Age Worship.

Midweek services

Mon–Weds: 9am Morning Prayer, Fordham

Thurs, Fri: 8.15am Morning Prayer, Fordham

Monday: 3.30pm Evening Prayer, Kennett (in school in term time)

Tuesday: 4.30pm Evening Prayer, Limestone Close (Last Tuesday of the month, Holy Communion)

Wednesday: Evening Prayer 4.15pm Snailwell, Holy Communion 5.30pm Chippenham

Weekly Activities

Tuesday: 9am–12 noon: Coffee Morning in Social Centre

Friday: Choir Practice 6.30pm in church. All welcome. Contact Mark Liversidge 01638 781696. Bell ringing practice 7.30pm – beginners welcome! Contact Ruth Ogden, the Tower Captain, for more information

Sundays@6

Our Youth group meets twice a month at the Old Vicarage in Isleham; we hope that many other young people will join us. Details from Rev'd Kate or Rev'd Mike.

Priests The Rev'd Mike Banyard 01638 721616 banyardmg1@yahoo.co.uk. The Rev'd Kate Peacock 01638 723960 kate.peacock@btopenworld.com

Churchwardens Rob Savage: 01638 780218, robert.savage@islehamchurch.org.uk; Nick Carver: 01638 781116, nick.carver@islehamchurch.org.uk

Tower Captain Ruth Ogden: 01638 780646, ruth.ogden@islehamchurch.org.uk

Choir Director Mark Liversidge: 01638 781696, mark.liversidge@islehamchurch.org.uk

Webmaster Andrew Stephens: 01638 781468/780229

Service Sheet Editor Rob Savage: 01638 780218 robert.savage@islehamchurch.org.uk

For more information about the Group and St Andrew's please visit our website at www.islehamchurch.org.uk.

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spring is coming

Although it might not feel like it, the summer days will soon be upon us, and we want you to be able to get as much as possible out of your garden. Whether that's having somewhere to amuse your children during their summer break, somewhere for you to catch the last glimpse of sunshine as it disappears on those late evenings or maybe somewhere that you and your friends can leisurely enjoy a glass of your favourite tipple, we have the ideas and inspiration to make this happen for you.

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