

# Isleham Informer

Issue 45 • June 2011

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

## From West Street to Westminster



The Co-Op is fund raising, and our Charity of the Year is MENCAP. To kick start our efforts we decided to 'cycle to London' to celebrate the Royal Wedding, and according to our calculations it is 77 miles. We brought in a Keep Fit Cycle and all of us took turns to cycle in half hour stints. For a small fee we asked our customers to estimate the time it would take us.

Some were very pessimistic, saying it would take us a WEEK. Others were rather too optimistic, faster than Chris Hoy! However, there were two customers who were very close, and they shared the prize money.

The time taken was 4 hours and 25 minutes. Thanks to our very generous customers we raised a massive total of over £500.

At the beginning of June we will

be asking our customers to write out their oldest favourite recipe. They should include their name, why it is such a favourite and what memories of the past it recalls.

We shall be hoping to print the final collection at the end of the year, all the proceeds going to MENCAP.

Saturday 11th June: "Soak the Server" 10am-2pm.

Adults and children alike can throw water bombs at the staff (outside, of course).

Saturday 2nd July: We shall be joining in with the Gala festivities, working in Fancy Dress

The Co-Op has been established in Isleham since 1911. We shall of course be celebrating this Centenary, so on Monday 5th until Saturday 10th September we shall all be in period costume.

(Just a foot note: The products will not be at 1911 prices!)

Pauline Wilkes



Photos by Kim Downey

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## From the Editor

I have spent much (maybe too much) of the intervening period since the last issue updating the *Isleham Informer* website (with many thanks to Zoë French for setting it up in the first place). This involved scanning every page of every issue from 2006 back to the beginning of time (well, June 2003 at any rate) using an Argos Special scanner/copier/printer/fax (ONLY £49.99!) and a roughly Edwardian computer (hamster powered, it seems). I then had to teach myself (amongst many self-inflicted references to Old Dogs) to use web design software and work out how to upload the scanned pages.

The end result of all that scanning and repeated wall/head interaction is now available for the entire planet to view at <http://www.islehaminformer.org.uk/>. Should anyone feel up to having a glance at this and randomly clicking on any links, please let me know if there are any that don't go in the intended direction (or indeed anywhere).

One thing I've noticed while scanning in the pages is all the stuff that's changed from earlier issues. Just about all the ephemera we used to publish has disappeared – no appalling jokes, no borderline racist/sexist Spot-the-Difference, no competitions, no free lineage ads (strange this one – sell something at no cost to yourself. What's to lose? I sold a car! Someone sold a BARGE!). In short, we used to have FUN! Where did the good times go?

Oh dear. I'm starting to sound like half of a weary couple. Best leave it there.

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

# VILLAGE NOTES

## Coffee Morning

at

The Old Vicarage, Church St, Isleham  
Wednesday June 22nd 10am–12noon  
Tea, coffee, cakes, raffle and chat!  
All welcome!

## PTA Summer Social

As another school year draws to a close, it's time to celebrate the successes of the year with the PTA Summer Social on 11th June at the Bowls Cclub. Tickets are £10 and available from the School Office. Everyone is welcome – you do not need to have a child at the school.

## Dates for Your Diary

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

### JUNE

Monday 6th Isleham Parish Council 19.00  
Thursday 16th Isleham Society 19.30 Village Hall  
Monday 20th Gala Committee 20.00 The Griffin  
Tuesday 21st Isleham Gardeners 19.30 Village Hall  
Thursday 30th Gala Festival: "Isleham's Got Talent"

### JULY

Friday 1st ICA Grand Summer Gala Ball  
Saturday 2nd ISLEHAM GALA  
Saturday 2nd Isleham Gala Family Fun Night  
Monday 4th Isleham Parish Council 19.00  
Saturday 9th INFORMER DEADLINE  
Thursday 14th WI 19.30 Village Hall  
Tuesday 19th Isleham Gardeners 19.30 Village Hall  
Thursday 21st Isleham Society 19.30 Village Hall

## Obituary

Professor Leslie Audus, born in Isleham almost 100 years ago and died on 5th May, was clearly a remarkable man. He used his knowledge of botany to create vitamin-rich broths to nourish and frequently save the lives of fellow PoWs of the Japanese in Malaya. Read more of his fascinating life at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/science-obituaries/8513051/Professor-Leslie-Audus.html>

## 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

	Arrive	Depart
1st Thursday of the month:		
Church Street	14:15	15:00
Mill Street	15:05	17:00
3rd Friday of the month: Church St	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 . . . . . 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



# Obituary

**Irene Willis: 6th December 1922–23rd April 2011**

Irene Willis was a well-known and well-loved member of our community.

She moved to Isleham in 1981, with her husband Les, to live the 'Good Life' on their smallholding on Fen Bank. Here they were surrounded by their plants and animals and Rene spent many happy years caring for everything and everyone in her life. Their garden was a magical place for their grandchildren to visit with ducks, sheep and dogs that Rene lavished love and attention on. Rene was very creative and used the wool from their sheep to spin and weave. She was always busy making things and sharing her food and produce with friends and neighbours.

When Les passed away she moved up to the village to join in more fully with village life.

Throughout her life Irene was guided and strengthened by her strong Christian faith and many village children have fond memories of being taught at Sunday School by her, making puppets, crafts, Easter Gardens and eating the popcorn she bought to every social event. Even when she was in hospital and drawing close to the end of her life she saw the hand and love of God in everything and she died peacefully knowing that she had lived a full and happy life following God's way.

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# Royal Wedding Fever Hits Isleham School

On Thursday 28th April 2011, Isleham Primary School celebrated the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton in style. The

school hall was an explosion of colour with handmade bunting, hats and Union flags. Pupils gathered around white table cloths, enjoying freshly prepared food and drinks they had made earlier. As the school sang the National



Anthem, there were shocked expressions on the pupils' faces as Prince William and Kate Middleton entered.

Here are some quotes from Year 4:

"I was surprised when I saw Kate and William dressed up as I didn't know what they were going to look like!" exclaimed Luke.

"I thought the hall looked really colourful", thought Joseph.

"I found it really interesting when we were learning about the flag, especially which way up it had to be," said Eve.

"I liked it when we all designed our flags because it was challenging to do," replied Jake.

Lydia said, "It was really fascinating when we were learning about the royal family tree – my family tree is really hard to explain."

Georgia mentioned that she found the games that Year 6 had organised really enjoyable.

"I enjoyed the party food which Year 5 made, they were very yummy!" said Imogen.

It was a great day for Isleham School. Everyone enjoyed it and wished the new Duke and Duchess of Cambridge great happiness in the future.

*Isabella and Charlotte, Year 4*



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# 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 Zwierzchowska-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
Gentle Armchair Exercise	Kathryn Kyte Lorraine Buchnall	01638 780652 01638 780699	Mondays	2–3pm	High St. Church
Guides	Janine Taylor Caroline Hinit	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
Just Jhoom! Fitness	Hayley Crawford	01638 721522 www.justjhoom.co.uk	Mondays	6.30–7.30pm	Village Hall
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 provided. Ring to book your 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.

**Dig It** A chance for you and your children to learn how to grow your own fruit and veg on a Soham allotment. Every Wednesday 9.30–11.30am. Meet at Soham Children's Centre. Ring to book a place.

For more information call us on 01353 727188

sohamchildrenscentre@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

www.cambridgeshirechildrenscentres.org.uk



# Keep Britain Tidy

**O**n Sunday 5th June, Keep Britain Tidy invites you to get together with your neighbours and members of your local community to have a 'Big Lunch' celebration followed by a 'Big Tidy Up'.

We want to get as many of the 61 million people in the UK as possible to get together and enjoy lunch with their neighbours. And why not spare some time to take part in a Big Tidy Up litter pick?

Take this opportunity to make the most of your local area, while fostering community spirit, by holding an event for everyone to join in.

It couldn't be easier to take part: simply register for your free Starter Pack today at The Big Lunch and don't forget to register your Big Tidy up too at [www.thebigtidyup.org](http://www.thebigtidyup.org).

To find out more about the Big Lunch visit [www.thebiglunch.com](http://www.thebiglunch.com) or call 0845 850 8181 to speak to a member of the team.

## Isleham Community Skate Park



**A**s you may already be aware, the children and adults representing Isleham Community Skate Park accomplished the challenging 15 mile bike ride on Saturday 9th April.

We would like to say a very big 'Thank You' to everybody who sponsored us in this event. A grand total of £598.112 was raised towards the skate park.

*Pauline Dunbavin 01638 781179*



On yer bikes! From left to right it is Euan and Ted Miller, Shane and Kris Dunbavin, Alistair Carver and Gavin Dunbavin.

# Have your say on the future of Isleham

**H**elp to produce a 'Vision' for your village. East Cambridgeshire District Council is looking for your views on how your village/parish should change or improve in the future. What sort of place would you like Isleham to be? What are your priorities for the village and the wider parish? For example, do you want more school places, better local facilities, new homes or more employment opportunities?

The District Council wants to work in partnership with local people and the Parish Council to draw up a long-term Vision for Isleham. The Vision will set out how Isleham should develop/improve over the next 20 years. It will look at issues such as:

- local housing needs
- employment opportunities
- sites for development
- the quality of the local environment
- infrastructure and facilities – whether to protect and/or improve.

The Vision will be used to guide decisions on future development and planning applications. It will also help ensure that key infrastructure and facilities are retained and enhanced. The Vision will be included in the statutory development plan for East Cambridgeshire - known as the 'Core Strategy'.

A questionnaire will be available for people's comments from 27th June 2011. The questionnaire can be viewed on the District Council's website at [www.eastcambs.gov.uk/core-strategy-review](http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/core-strategy-review); or paper copies can be obtained by phoning the Forward Planning team on 01353 665555. The website will also have questionnaires for other settlements in East Cambridgeshire (which you are welcome to fill out), as well as other background documents.

Comments should be returned by 18th July 2011.

The District Council is keen to get your views, and would like as many people to get involved as possible. Your comments will help to shape a draft Vision for Isleham. The draft Vision will be published early next year, when there will be a further opportunity to make comments. The final Vision should be published in late 2012, and should hopefully reflect the needs and priorities of the local community.

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Michael Siggs MA FRICS, Clerk to the Charity  
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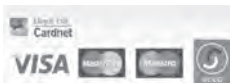
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# BECKen Farm Fun Day

On Sunday 15th May, we held our second Farm Fun Day, raising money to build a new school for children in Ukunda, Kenya.

Among the attractions we organised were: tractor trailer rides, which many children, mums, dads etc. enjoyed despite the cold wind; and have a go at driving a modern John Deere tractor – this was very popular with the men (boys and their toys!). As well as these we had pony rides, an inflatable slide, wang-a-wellie, hook-a-duck, guess the weight of the cake, face painting and much more.

We had a Kenya craft stall, selling wooden animals, necklaces and handi-bands, made by local Kenyans in the Ukunda area. Alongside this we had our buy-a-brick chart, where people can buy a brick for £1 to build the school. This is an on-going project. If anyone would like to buy one or more bricks please contact us.

We were very kindly sponsored by Ben Burgess, who donated a John Deere petrol lawn mower for a raffle.

Spearhead Turf donated a pallet of turf, of which you had to guess the weight. This caused people



to do a lot of calculations: it's not easy to guess!

It was a very successful afternoon, despite the cold wind. Many enjoyed a nice cup of tea and a slice of cake, a burger or hot dog, or sometimes all of the above.

Every one had fun and at the end of the afternoon we had raised £1,300. The BECKen committee was very pleased, as we need to raise approximately £60,000 to build the school. We have already purchased the land with monies raised.

If you would like to support us by buying a brick, or making a donation, please contact Chris Mahoney (Chair) on 01638 780257/07990 542872 or email us at becken@hotmail.co.uk.

A big 'Thank You' to every one who came along.  
*Chris Mahoney*

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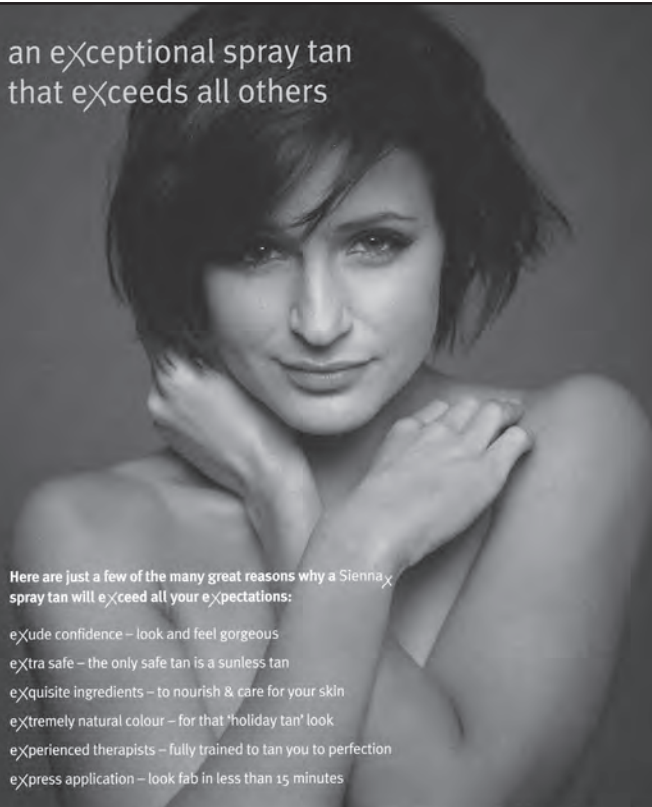
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Photo by Vernon Place

Walter Gunston's house on Mill Street all dolled up for Royal Wedding Day.



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# ICA Gala Festival

Tickets are available now for the fabulous 2011 Gala Festival Nights. Don't miss *Isleham's Got Talent*, the glamorous Summer Ball and the fun and entertainment at Family Night...



It is very much hoped that by next year we will have our new Community Centre, making this year's Gala Festival the second and hopefully the last that we need to hold in a marquee. This year's Festival builds on and learns from the successes of last year's events, and we are pleased to present three nights of enjoyable entertainment.

## Thursday 30th June *Isleham's Got Talent*

ICA presents a show for anyone that would like to share their special talent! Do you sing, play an instrument, tell a good yarn, juggle, act the fool? Whatever your talent why not share it with the village in the wonderful marquee on our recreation field. If you are interested in entering please contact Mark Goldsack on 01638 780350. Entry is free and positively encouraged for all ages!

Tickets to see *Isleham's Got Talent* are £5 per adult, £2 per child, pre-schoolers free. There will be a licensed bar and a Grand Draw on the night.

## Friday 1st July *ICA Gala Summer Ball*

A big success last year, the Gala Summer Ball is an evening of quality dining and entertainment from start to finish: included in your ticket price is a fabulous three course sit-down dinner with wine; a table magician entertains you during your meal, and then there is dancing to the amazing Other Commitments band. In addition there will be a three table casino and Heads & Tails competition, and a Grand Charity Auction will complete



a very glamorous night - do dig out your smartest suits and best evening dresses!

Tickets available from Mark Goldsack on 01638 780350. Tables only! So why not get together with your friends and family and take a whole table? Tickets are £40 each; and this event is strictly for over 18s only.

## Saturday 2nd July *ICA Family Fun Night*

After what will hopefully be another fabulous Isleham Gala Day, join us in the Marquee at 7pm for an evening that begins with some great children's entertainment and is followed by music from two fabulous local bands. Hot food will be available and there will be a fully licensed bar.

Tickets are £5 per adult, £2 per child, pre-schoolers free.

I look forward to seeing you at one, two or all three events as well as during the Gala Day celebrations.  
**Mark Goldsack**  
For all information please contact Mark Goldsack on 01638 780350 or email [mgelyvate@aol.com](mailto:mgelyvate@aol.com)



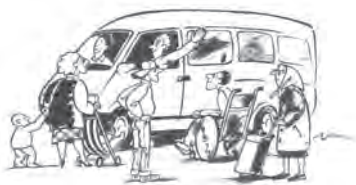
Some scenes from last years ICA Gala Festival; dancers and the compere Tim Washtell from the Theatre Night, and the excited and very glam guests hit the gaming tables at the Summer Ball "D\c h:gVm7 "j Y 'DUlHY fg:b"





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**F**irstly the Friends Group would just like to say a huge THANK YOU to all of you who have been supporting us over this past year. The BAG IT AND BIN IT campaign is doing really well and the site is looking great.

The one thing that did let the Reserve down was the fly tipping that took place in the car park. Thankfully this has now gone, but I would like to ask that if you do see any fly tipping at the Reserve to contact the Warden on 07903 092899 (this is our new mobile number).

If you do see any fly tipping, the Council has asked that we DO NOT touch it but to just ring the warden and also call the District Council at Ely, who will then arrange for it to be dealt with, because hazardous objects – needles etc. – might be hidden.

Interesting wildlife recently spotted at the Reserve includes Orange Tip, Common Blue, Brimstone and Speckled Wood butterflies, lizards and various birds

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such as warblers. Please do keep your eye out for these and more.

A couple of things to look forward to this year are a stall at this year's Gala Day, a Fun Day that we have organised with the Children's Centre (if you don't know, this is the group that do Tea and Toast at the Village Hall) that will also have 'The Big Butterfly Count'. This will be in July, in the field at the Reserve.

If you would like to join our little army of volunteers who look after the Reserve, whether it's helping at our work parties, helping with fundraising or if you would just like to have your say at our meetings then please do get in touch.

Contact the warden on our mobile 07903 092899.

There is also a Facebook page called 'Friends of Isleham Nature Reserves' and a blog: [Friendsofislehamnr.blogspot.com](http://Friendsofislehamnr.blogspot.com) where you can add photos and any sightings you have seen while you have been there.

Lastly there is another big THANK YOU from me, for everyone that has helped me and the Reserve while I am out of action.

*Andrew – Warden on behalf of Friends of Isleham Nature Reserves*

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# The Isleham Society

Photo from www.aircraftinformation.info



**17th March** – At short notice, one of our village residents, Architect David Alberry-King gave an illustrated slide show entitled “**East Meets West**” in which he compared the two communities of Isleham with St. Kilda which is the name given to group of three main islands located in the Atlantic Ocean in the middle of the Gulf Stream. The Isle of Hirta was the only one of the group that was inhabited – the last inhabitants were evacuated in August 1930. It became a National Trust property in 1956 and a world-wide heritage institute in 1987. It is now home to thousands of puffins, fulmars and gannets.

**21st April – The AGM** The chairman, Vernon Place reported on the activities and meetings over the last year and thanked all who had given their support in making our year a successful and interesting one. Our membership is being maintained and we have many non-members who are always welcome additions to our meetings.

There had been little activity on the CCAN website, however, we do have material we can include and would value support from anyone who is interested in preserving the history of our village on the World Wide Web.

Several photos relating to our village have been received by the Society, all of which were allowed to be copied, with the originals being returned. We have also dealt with enquiries regarding people's past relatives or friends.

Michael Kelly and Vernon Place have been involved with the project regarding evacuees and the Jews coming to this area – Mike Rouse has written a play about the evacuation for Viva (Soham) to perform plus there will be a display of photos etc. (hopefully coming to Isleham and other venues).

Vernon Place attended the Annual Parish Meeting to report on the Society's activities during the past year.

Appreciation was expressed for the help given by

Clive Patterson for entries of our activities into the village website.

The committee was elected as follows: President – Arthur Houghton, Chairman – Vernon Place, Vice Chairman – Peter Flatt, Secretary - Mrs Rosemarie Evans, Treasurer – Bryan Wynn, Programme Secretary – Mrs Betty Ashley, plus Committee members Mrs Barbara Brown, Mrs Pam Martin, Mrs Beryl Powys and Ian Powys.

A special mention was made regarding the 100th Birthday of our President Arthur Houghton later this year.

After the AGM an interesting talk was given by Editor Ed Mayall on “**Producing and Publishing the Informer**”. He illustrated the progress of the publication since its inception and emphasised how it much relied upon support of the sponsors and the contributions of reports from the various village organisations plus those who helped in the production and distribution of the magazine. He was thanked by the Chairman for his talk and his work as Editor.

The evening was rounded off with refreshments provided by the members.

**19th May:** This talk was the one planned for 17th March, which had to be postponed. “**Isleham Air Crash - 13th October 1949**” An illustrated talk by Stewart Evans and Guy Bettley-Cook. They described how a USAF B50 Superfortress (similar to the pictured above) on a training mission to Heligoland in the Baltic Sea took off from a foggy Lakenheath at 0930 and shortly later came down in a field to the north of Beck Road.

The crash resulted in the detonation of the aircraft's payload of sixteen 500 lb bombs, killing all 12 crew and shattering windows and cracking plaster throughout Isleham. Fortunately, the blast was directed away from the village and no-one on the ground was injured, despite the crash site being barely half a mile from the village centre. Stewart and Guy speculated, from (often contradictory) eye-witness accounts and research into the safety records of B50s, that the crash followed an engine fire.

The evening concluded with memories of villagers, from the horror and excitement of those in the school at the time, to the relief of the Aves twins that the explosion they heard was not a tyre bursting on the tractor-load of sugarbeet they were taking to the station!

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

*Vernon Place, Chairman of The Isleham Society*

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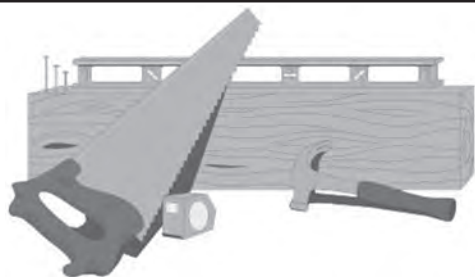
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# Isleham Gardeners

First of all a word of thanks to all who supported our plant sale on the 7th May. We made a total of £54.20, which, considering it was our first effort, I don't think was too bad.

Our next guest speaker, on 21st June, will be Ellen Carvey of Barcham Trees who will give us advice on 'Choosing Trees For Your Garden'. This will be held in the small room at the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

On Sunday 12th June we shall have a stall at Fordham Car Boot Sale. Any donations to sell at the car boot can be passed to Howard Copestake on 01638 780340.

On Saturday 2nd July we will be selling plants and garden produce at the Isleham Village Gala. Once again any offerings to sell on our stall will be gratefully received. Please contact Jenny Hodd 01638 780729 or Chris Maxfield 07703 336250.

I hope that by the time this edition of the *Informer* is issued we shall have had some rain and all your lawns are green, your flowerbeds a riot of colour and your vegetables are flourishing.

Happy gardening.

Phil Adelphus



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Photo by Zoë French



Isleham School PTA is pleased to announce the winners of the 2011 Gala Queen competition. Anna Thompson (age 14) will lead the Gala parade as Queen. Her two attendants will be Eve White (age 10, right) and Annalise French (age 5).

with her a large collection of quilts, some more than 100 years old, to demonstrate the difference between the two types, and members were amazed by the work involved in the hand-stitched quilts.



## Women's Institute

At our meeting in March we were entertained by Jerry Dodd, who came to talk about "What's that smell in the kitchen?" Jerry started off in the catering industry where he worked in many top establishments before branching out first as a trainer and later as an examiner. His interests seemed to be endless! He has fitted so much into his life, and could have talked all night.

In total contrast, in May we welcomed Mrs M. Browne to our meeting. Her subject was "Show and Tell of American and Norfolk Quilts". Mrs Browne brought

Recently, several members went on a Federation-arranged visit to Oxford. It was a lovely day, with time in the morning to wander freely, then a tour round some of the colleges with a Blue Badge Guide. We finished the afternoon in Exeter College, which was established in 1314, and is opposite the Bodleian Library. We were treated to a lovely cream tea in the dining room, and then spent time looking around the beautiful chapel, where we were able to admire works by William Morris who was a student at Exeter. It was a most enjoyable day.

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 (not June) of each month in the Village Hall, 7.30 for 7.45pm, and new members are always welcome.

For further information contact:

Glenda Preece  
01638 780734; gjpreece@aol.com

# JOYCE'S CORNER

## Memories

I like to go down Memory Lane  
To the days when I was young.  
We had so much freedom in those days  
And the games were always fun.

We could paddle in the river,  
Look for birds' nests in the lane.  
Pick blackberries from the hedgerow;  
And it never seemed to rain.

'Hares and Hounds' was a weekend game,  
Though we didn't wander far.  
We collected frogspawn in a pail,  
And caught tiddlers in a jar.

We had to fetch milk from the farm  
Always twice a day.  
And gather wood for kindling  
So dad could light the fire next day.

We did have church assemblies,  
Part of our school life.  
We were fond of our blind rector –  
But we didn't like his wife!

Naughty things we sometimes did,  
So the school bell couldn't ring.  
The boys would climb up on the porch  
And tie it up with string.

Such happy days of childhood  
When we think of days gone by.  
We cannot get them back again,  
But memories never die.

Joyce Drayton

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# Parish Council News

The following are the abbreviated and incomplete versions of the IPC minutes for the March and April 2011 meetings. Full minutes are available from the IPC and on the Isleham Village Website at [www.isleham-village.co.uk/pcminutes.html](http://www.isleham-village.co.uk/pcminutes.html).

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 7TH MARCH

**Present** Cllrs Beckett, Neal, Baines, Earl, H. Thompson, Malkin, Wilkes, R. Thompson, 6 parishioners

### FORWARD PLANNING

A presentation was made by Katie Child and Brendan Troy from ECDC regarding a new Village Plan for Isleham

### OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Cox raised the matter of the cars being parked on the bend in front of the Priory.

Mr Boneham addressed the Council about the Youth Football Festival to be held in May.

### VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

The flat roof on the front of the hall has been repaired in line with Financial Regulation 3.4 (Budgetary Control) at a cost of £850.

### RECREATION GROUND MATTERS

The new trees are in place.

It was agreed that the Youth Football Club can put additional toilets on the recreation ground for the football festival to be held on 7th/8th May 2011. It was agreed that the recreation ground would be inspected nearer the time to see if it would be in a suitable condition to allow car parking for the event.

## Parish Councillors address list

Derrick Beckett (Chairman)	Appleyard Farm, 1 Houghtons Lane, Isleham CB7 5SR Tel: 01638 780476
Steven Baines	Emmanuel House, 8 East Fen Road, Isleham CB7 5SW Tel: 01638 780406
Paul Chaplin	Jay Jay Lodge, Waterside, Isleham CB7 5SH 01638 781745
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
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 <a href="mailto:islehampc@btinternet.com">islehampc@btinternet.com</a> <a href="http://www.isleham-village.co.uk">www.isleham-village.co.uk</a>

The Clerk attended a meeting of the Isleham Community Skate Park Group and reported that the group have opened a bank account; the first company is coming out to quote on 22nd March and that the committee will liaise with the ICA regarding grant seeking.

### ICA REPORT

A meeting has been held with the Architect and the Quantity Surveyor. Final amendments to the plans have been agreed and drawings are to be drawn up so that the project might be put out to tender. It was agreed that Steve Baines and Rosie Thompson will meet to discuss the details of any lease agreement to be put in place with the ICA. It was agreed in principle to lease the centre to the ICA however this will need to be ratified at a later date once the lease documents have been properly considered.

### CEMETERY AND CHURCHYARD MATTERS

It was agreed that the oak bench that was in the old cemetery will be kept in the cemetery shed (after restoration by Sid) until the new community centre is built when it will be sited on the recreation ground or in the garden area.

It was proposed that a London Plane tree is purchased for the Old Cemetery to replace the Beech due to resistance to the *Ustilina deusta* fungus.

### COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

There was no report from the County Council.

A negative verbal response was received from the County Council regarding the plans for a new school for the village; however, the matter will continue to be pursued.

### HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATH MATTERS

County Highways have confirmed that the Parish Council would not be responsible should there be an accident on the footpath outside No 2 Church Lane. Budgets allowing, in the new financial year the kerbs and footway outside 34 Beck Road will be raised. If the parish council wish to have anything more substantial done they should contact Gavin Wiseman or Kevin Hall at the County Council. It was agreed that the PC would approach the County Council with a view to possibly having a railing along the road and that Beck Road is added to the gritting network.

Mrs Wilkes will ask the school for a letter asking the PC to support their application for a railing on Malting Lane; under the new localism agenda, it may be possible to source the work locally and get it approved by the County Council, keeping the cost down.

It was agreed that an advert shall be placed in the *Informer* and on the Notice Board advertising for a Litter Collector for 5 hours per week at £7 per hour. Small maintenance jobs will continue to be carried out by Mr Cox and Mr Wilding.

### PLANNING MATTERS

**Applications** Replacement of existing bungalow with a two-storey dwelling at 10 East Fen Road, Isleham for G. Bruyneel. It was resolved to object to the application.



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY 4TH APRIL**

**Present** Cllrs Beckett, Baines, Neal, Earl, Carter, Garbett, Malkin, Wilkes, R. Thompson

**OPEN FORUM**

Mr C. Sheldrick expressed his disappointment that the Youth Football Festival is being played on a day when there is an adult football fixture.

Mr R. Sheldrick went to the Rec yesterday to sort out the lock.

Mr Alberry-King – Cracks in pavement along from the Co-op to Priory Gardens.

Council Tax – how many houses in the village and how many in each band (A-H)

**RECREATION GROUND**

There have been a number of incidents at the MUGA, repairs have been made, measures have been taken to prevent unlawful access and the police have been notified of the problems.

**ICA REPORT**

In order to proceed with the Community Centre Project a number of consultants need to be appointed so drawings can be prepared for tender. The architect has obtained quotes for the structural/civil engineer, M&E Consultants, and has revised his own quotes to give the Council an accurate quote for works up to going out to tender. The Project Management Committee are working towards a fixed price for the construction, and so the drawings have to be as accurate as possible in order to get an actual costing.

**CEMETERY AND CHURCHYARD**

A complaint has been received about the proximity of the new houses on Beck Road to the cemetery. It was agreed that the Council ask Bloor Homes to extend the current fencing to 2 metres high for the whole length of the cemetery.

**COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

The option of a new school for Isleham has been raised with the lead member for schools receiving an instant rebuttal because the CC cannot afford it.

**PROPOSALS FROM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

The PC purchase the additional land at the rear of the Rec for parking. PC will look into this.

When tenders for the new Centre are received, the PC should audit the project to make sure it is affordable – YES

Once tender prices are received, another public meeting will be held so that questions can be properly answered. – YES

# PROBLEM WITH A FLAT ROOF OR GUTTERING?



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That the yellow lines on Pound Lane are extended from Church Street – YES

Roadway/track on the Rec should be sorted out – *Next meeting*

Trench on Rec not properly back-filled – *Soil from ASWA to fill trench*

The amount of Dunstall Apprentice Grant remain the same – YES

Obtain quote for refurbishing Village Hall to compare with building new Centre – NO

Annual Parish Meeting next year – bear in mind the noise from the dance group when the date is set. Contact ECDC to ascertain how many houses in the village are in each band – YES

**PLANNING MATTERS**

Barn conversion at 18 Little London for Mr T. Drayton – no objection

Single storey rear extension at 8 West St for Mr and Mrs Flynn – no objection

**WASH MATTERS**

Can dogs be kept on a lead on the washes during the breeding season, and restricted to the footpaths only? Mrs Thompson will make enquiries.

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY 18TH APRIL**

**Present** Cllrs Beckett, Baines, Carter, Garbett, Neal, Malkin, Wilkes.

**ICA REPORT**

All consultant appointments have been made.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Proposed two storey extension at 28 Mill St for Mr and Mrs Mills – no objection

4 bedroomed detached house for existing house at 4 Croft Rd for Mr Harlow – Council objects ■

## 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](http://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](http://www.highst.org.uk). ■

## Pound Lane Free Church

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

[secretary@plfc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@plfc.org.uk)

Web site: [www.plfc.org.uk](http://www.plfc.org.uk) & [www.isleham.com](http://www.isleham.com)

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

**Monday–Wednesday:** 9am Morning Prayer, Fordham

**Thursday, Friday:** 8.15am Morning Prayer, Fordham

**Monday:** 3.30pm Evening Prayer, Kennett (in school during 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](mailto:banyardmg1@yahoo.co.uk). The Rev'd Kate Peacock 01638 723960 [kate.peacock@btopenworld.com](mailto:kate.peacock@btopenworld.com)

**Churchwardens** Rob Savage: 01638 780218, [robert.savage@islehamchurch.org.uk](mailto:robert.savage@islehamchurch.org.uk); Nick Carver: 01638 781116, [nick.carver@islehamchurch.org.uk](mailto:nick.carver@islehamchurch.org.uk)

**Tower Captain** Ruth Ogden: 01638 780646, [ruth.ogden@islehamchurch.org.uk](mailto:ruth.ogden@islehamchurch.org.uk)

**Choir Director** Mark Liversidge: 01638 781696, [liversidge@islehamchurch.org.uk](mailto:liversidge@islehamchurch.org.uk)

**Webmaster** Andrew Stephens: 01638 781468/780229

**Service Sheet Editor** Rob Savage: 01638 780218 [robert.savage@islehamchurch.org.uk](mailto:robert.savage@islehamchurch.org.uk)

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

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# Isleham United FC – League Winners!

**W**e would like to inform the village that Isleham United FC Senior First Team came TOP OF THE LEAGUE in Cambridgeshire Division 3B this year.

It came down to the very last game where Isleham United only needed a draw to win the league. However, we went one better, winning our final game 3-2 against Bluntisham Ranger Reserves FC to claim the top spot.

A determined effort by all the players and staff throughout the season has seen Isleham United Senior side claim their first 'top spot' in 40 years!

*Danny Stackhouse*

*On behalf of Isleham United Football Club*

## Football Festival Success

Isleham Utd Youth FC hosted their third Festival of Football over the weekend of 7th and 8th May. This year we had Bloor Homes as our main sponsors. The Bloor Group has over 35 years' experience in building houses and is one of the largest privately owned house building groups in the UK, building in excess of 2,000 homes each

year. It's nice for a company to put something back into community and for this we thank Sandra Harboard and her team.

Over the two days we had 70 teams playing in seven different age groups and our little tots playing on the Sunday amongst themselves, with over 500 children playing football. There were several stalls and a great BBQ and for once the weather stayed fine.

The winners and runners of each age group were as follows:

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| U9s:  | Winner- Newmarket Town<br>Runner-up- Newmarket Town A/1 |
| U10s: | Winner-Soham Utd A<br>Runner-up- Cottenham              |
| U11s: | Winner- Isleham Utd A<br>Runner-up - Ely Crusaders B    |
| U12s: | Winner- Isleham Utd A<br>Runner-up- Newmarket B/1       |
| U13s: | Winner- Isleham Utd C<br>Runner-up- Mildenhall B        |
| U14s: | Winner- Soham Utd A<br>Runner-up- West Wrattling.       |

But everybody who took part was a winner!

We would like to thank all our sponsors and everybody who helped make the festival such a success for a small village youth football club.

*Craig Boneham*



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