

Isleham Informer

Issue 48 • December 2011

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Rising from the Ashes: Gala Saved!

Next year's Gala WILL go ahead



At the Gala's AGM in October, six members of the Committee indicated they were to stand down. They were Fred Preece, Chairman, a member since 2005 and Chairman since 2008, Chris Elmer, a member for numerous years and involved with the Field set-up, also his wife Jo who stepped in last year to run the Grand Draw; Richard Haw,

Vice-Chair and Fun Run organiser, who has also been a member for a number of years, and his wife Michelle who stepped in last year as Treasurer; and David Human who has been on the Committee for the longest of the six. David was involved with the Field set-up, and was helped by his sons Andrew and Philip. Their contribution to the Gala is much appreciated and they will be missed.

The Committee circulated that the Gala may not go ahead next year if there were no new members willing to join. Only one new volunteer, Will Taylor, turned up. The Committee felt that they

could not run the Gala with insufficient members. An Extraordinary Meeting was then held on 14th November, to see if support could be rallied.

At this meeting three more people attended – Steve Rust, Lynette Gray and Sally Chaplin. Steve was elected Chairman, Lynette Treasurer and Sally took on the Grand Draw. The Committee felt that they could put on the Gala next year, which will be on Saturday 7th July.

More help needed

Additional support is needed, as the posts of Vice Chair, Fun Run organiser and Fancy Dress Competition organiser are still not filled. If you can help, please contact the new Chairman or attend the next meeting on Monday 16th January 2012 at 8pm in the Griffin. Monthly meetings take place between January and June, and last about an hour.

Next year will be the 30th Gala, as well as the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympic Games. We can celebrate with a successful Gala, but your help is needed.

I am sure most people will be happy that the Gala will not be lost. It is a great family day for the village.

If you can help please contact:

Steve Rust, Chairman

Tel: 01638 780104, email rusts@medimmue.com



Photos of 2010 Gala by Vernon Place

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Contents

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Gala | 13 Skate Park; Gardeners |
| 2 Contacts; Next issue | 14 Isleham Nature |
| 3 Poppy Appeal; Diary | Reserves; WI; |
| 4 Cable Theft | Recycling Centre |
| 5 Village Clubs | 15 Primary School; |
| 6 Re-ablement | Shed Security Advice |
| 7 Community Orchard; | 16 Press Relief; |
| Isleham Society | Joyce's Corner |
| 8 Archaeology | 20 Parish Council News |
| 9 Community Governor | 21 Bowls Report |
| 11 Wreckers | 22 Churches' News |
| 12 DVD Reviews | 24 Isleham Ladies FC |

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Poppy Appeal

When the Women's Royal British Legion folded in Isleham several years ago, Ann and Sid Cox took over the work of poppy and wreath selling, and have continued with this ever since. Thanks go to them both for their work over the years.

This year, the work has been done by Pauline Wilkes and Gill Savage and they will continue next year.

They would like to thank the individuals who collected for the appeal: Brian Challis, Marilyn Beckett and Doreen Raven.

The organisations that had poppy boxes included Isleham Primary School, Limestone Community Centre, Pattersons, The Co-Op, The Post Office, Priory Garage, The Rising Sun, The Griffin, The Merry Monk, Universal Garage and The Tharp Arms at Chippenham.

At the Remembrance Service on Sunday 13th November, wreaths were laid on behalf of the Cubs, Guides, Isleham Primary School, the Women's Institute and the Parish Council.

From the donations for poppies and the collection at the service we were pleased to be able to send the Royal British Legion Appeal £1031.86.

A huge thank you.

Sid and Ann would like to send a thank you message to the people of the village for their good wishes and prayers. Sid continues to make good progress and is getting better.

Pauline Wilkes

Dates for Your Diary

Let us know if there is anything you would like included here for future issues.

Every Tuesday Coffee Morning at the Social Centre 09.00–12.00

December 2011

Thursday 1st	Mobile Library	Church Street Mill Street	14.15–15.00 15.05–17.00
Monday 5th	Isleham Parish Council		19.00
Thursday 8th	WI		19.30pm
Saturday 10th– Sunday 18th	Festival of Light	St Andrew's Church	15.30–18.30
Friday 16th	Mobile Library	Church Street	09.30–10.10
Tuesday 20th	Isleham Gardeners		19.30

January 2012

Thursday 5th	Mobile Library	Church Street Mill Street	14.15–15.00 15.05–17.00
Monday 9th	Isleham Parish Council		19.00
Monday 9th	INFORMER DEADLINE		
Thursday 12th	WI		19.30
Monday 16th	Gala Committee		20.00
Tuesday 17th	Isleham Gardeners		19.30
Thursday 19th	Isleham Society		19.30
Friday 20th	Mobile Library	Church Street	09.30–10.10

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:	Arrive	Depart
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)
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- Prescriptions & Dispensary 01353 624122
- Enquiries, Home Visits, Emergencies 01353 624123
Minor Treatment Centre, Ely 01353 652162
NHS Direct (for advice) 0845 4647
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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 (Diane Bayliss) . . . 01638 781687
Parish Council (Diane Bayliss: Clerk) . . 01638 781687
Member of Parliament (Jim Paice) . . . 01954 211450



Isleham
Christmas Services
St. Andrew's Church
Three Rivers Group

25th November - 3rd December
The Big Crib Festival

~
Friday 2nd December
Isleham School Christingle
2pm

~
Sat 10th & Sun 11th December
Sat 17th & Sun 18th December
Festival of Light
3.30pm to 6.30pm
with refreshments in Church

~
Sunday 18th December
Family Carol Service 4 pm

~
Christmas Eve 24th December
Carol & Crib Service 4pm
Midnight Mass 11.30pm

~
Christmas Day 25th December
Holy Communion 9.30am

~
Sunday 8th January 2012
Epiphany Carol Service
6.30p.m.

~
We look forward to welcoming you

Communication cut in Isleham – *Rest of World Isolated!*

Many Isleham residents awoke on the morning of Monday 7th November to discover that the remainder of the civilised world were unable to contact them through normal channels (telephone landline or Internet – mobile phones were unaffected). Some 250 villagers called BT to report a fault, although it is certain that rather more households than this were unable to contact the company.

It came to light that the reason for the fault was that more than one kilometre of cable had been stolen on Sunday night from the Sheldrick's Road/Beck Road area. There were assurances that BT were doing their utmost to replace the cable and restore the village's communications as soon as possible, although these did not always get through. Vernon Place was told to check for updates on the Internet, without an explanation of just how he should do that. Karl Dunn was forced to take a day off work as an engineer had to come and fix the fault at his house, despite his protestations that his neighbours were also without a phone service.

Despite these failures in communication (less than ideal from a company who specialise in nothing but communication!), much of the village was successfully reconnected by the afternoon of Wednesday 9th, albeit with someone else's phone number in a few cases. At the time of writing, it seems that there is still a significant number of residents waiting for the return of their telephones.

BT and Crimestoppers have offered a £1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the perpetrators: "We would appeal to local residents to be vigilant and report any suspicious behaviour in or around street cabinets or manhole covers immediately." Anyone concerned about suspicious behaviour should report it directly to the police or to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

So far, more than 400 people have been arrested in the UK for stealing cables from the BT network, but with the ever-increasing price of scrap metal barely balanced by the risks of being convicted of this crime, there is not enough being done to ensure that this does not happen again. If I may editorialise for a moment (I AM the editor after all...), what is required is a change of law preventing scrap merchants from paying cash for metal. If all payments have to go directly into a bank account, the thieves will have a far less easy time of it. I urge all villagers to write to Jim Paice MP demanding this!

Ed Mayall

Village clubs: information

CLUB	CONTACT	TEL	DAY/DATE	TIME	PLACE
Angling Society	Ivan Houghton	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	6.15–7.45pm	Village Hall
French Conversation	Francine (all levels)	francine@the waytofrance.com	Monday	6–7.15pm	1 Mill St
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
Paper, Patch & Sew	Victoria Rattle	01638 781301	Saturday Bi-monthly	10–4pm	High St. Church
Tea & Toast	Claire Freeman	07827 234442	Thursdays	9.15–11.30am	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	Wednesdays Fridays	7.30–8.30pm 6.30–7.30pm	Village Hall





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

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 11.30am–12.30pm. For new and pregnant Mums. Pop in for some free advice and support from a 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.

Stay & Play Every Monday 9.30–11.00am at St Andrew's Extended School Unit. A free play session with lots of activities and fun. Just turn up!

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 parents.

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

Re-ablement

Being independent following an operation or illness

If you or someone you care for requires social care support following an illness or operation, this would traditionally have been provided by a care assistant providing direct care to the person in need.

Since September 2010 a new service, re-ablement, has been providing support to enable older people who have poor physical or mental health following illness or an operation to live in their own homes.

Re-ablement programmes can last for as little as a few days and generally don't exceed six weeks. The ethos of re-ablement is to encourage people to do things for themselves rather than having things done for them. There is no charge to the individual as long as they are participating in the programme.

Re-ablement is now being offered to a wider client group including new service users with a physical disability and new occupational therapy referrals. Future development of the service will look at assisting older people who already have a care package but due to illness or physical issues may now require a higher level of support.

You can find out more about re-ablement at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/social



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Isleham Community Orchard

The Parish Council have kindly allocated approximately one-third of an acre on the Dunstall allotments for use as a Community Orchard. We have a small group of volunteer helpers, some of who have attended a training workshop on the creation, management and care of orchards. The task now is to design our orchard.

Many people have already expressed an interest in this community project and we would like to invite you to consider tree sponsorship. A tree could be purchased and planted in order to celebrate a special occasion, as a memorial for a loved one or simply for your family to enjoy. Each tree would be specifically recorded in the sponsor's name and will be cared for by the management team.

The optimum time for tree planting is November; so we aim to have everything prepared to hold a Community Orchard planting day in November 2012.

If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Jeanette Malkin on 01638 780283 for more information.

The Isleham Society

20th October: We had a return visit of Trevor Burlingham from Thetford, a photographer by profession as well as a very keen naturalist, his combined skill and interest in his subject resulted in a most interesting evening as he showed us slides entitled "With a Camera around Breckland". Not only did he talk about the things he had captured on film he also pointed the way for all budding photographers to get the best from their camera - a very enjoyable and worthwhile evening.

Future Events

17th November: Dr Alistair Burn - "Fenland Washes and Other Places of Interest"

No meeting in December

19th January: Peter Jackson from Scotsdales Nursery - "Grow your own Fruit and Vegetables"

16th February: Vernon Place - "Old Isleham Photos (5)"

15th March: Mike Petty - "Fenland Floods in 1947"

We extend a warm welcome to all visitors to any of our meetings.

Vernon Place
Chairman of The Isleham Society

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Archaeology in Isleham



Photo by Vernon Place

Carenza Lewis with a group of students from Mildenhall College of Technology looking at finds from a test pit on Little London

On Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th October, some 13 pits, each 1m square and up to 1m deep appeared in a variety of locations around Isleham. These 'test pits' were the work of Year 10 history students from Mildenhall College as part of a project organised by the Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA) in association with Access Cambridge Archaeology.

HEFA is run by Carenza Lewis, best known for Channel 4's *Time Team* and combines building the confidence and team skills of children in secondary education with allowing residents to learn more about the history of their property.

I hope that a fuller write-up of the outcome from the digs will be seen here in the coming months, but for the full pottery results have a look at <http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/isleham.html>.

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Community Governor Vacancy

Isleham Church of England Primary School

- Do you live or work in the community served by Isleham Primary School (Isleham and Chippenham)?
- Could you be committed to the good government and the success of the school and able to attend meetings once or twice a term?

If you are interested in more information about becoming a community representative on the governing body of Isleham Primary School, please contact the Clerk to the Governors, Andrea Barrett, on 01638 780336, email office@isleham.cambs.sch.uk or Terry Malkin, Chair of Governors on 01638 780283.

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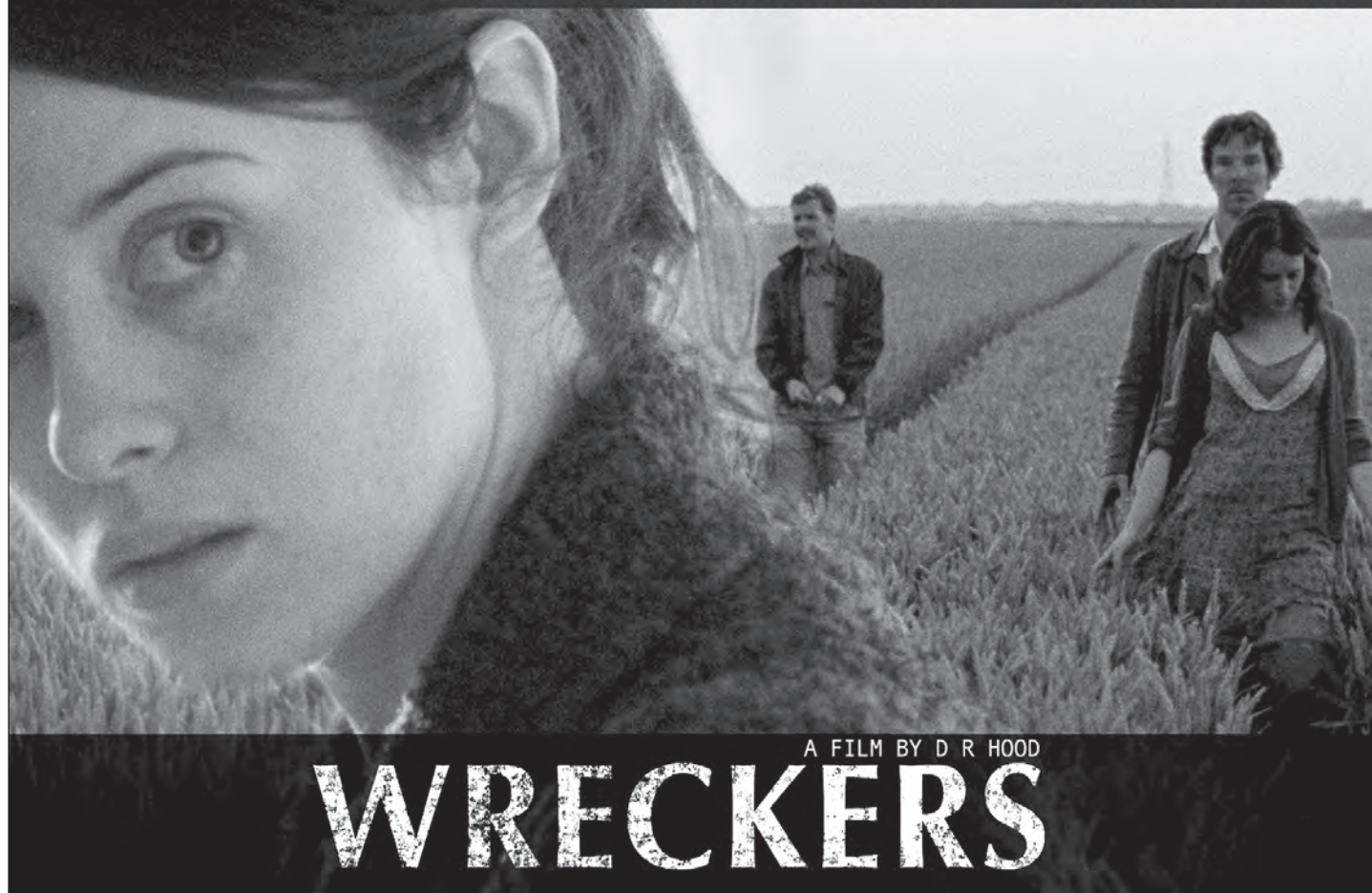
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SHAUN EVANS



The screening of *Wreckers* on Saturday 12th November at the Jubilee Centre in Mildenhall was organised by the film's director as a 'thank you' to all locals – mainly from Isleham – who helped in some way with the making of the movie. The screening was well attended, with perhaps 100 villagers and members of the Mildenhall Film Club (who staged the event) there to see the eventual outcome of all the effort of more than two years ago.

Introducing the film, Director Dictynna Hood apologised that so much of the footage of local extras was left on the cutting room floor. This is an inevitable tragedy when editing down to a manageable length. Perhaps we should keep our fingers crossed for deleted scenes on the DVD!

I am not going to write a full review here, but while this is not a film for everyone, I think all readers should be prepared to give it a go, if only for the beautiful photography: I don't believe Isleham has ever looked better! Add to that the ambient sound – the shrieks of swifts and the summer rain were truly evocative. Not to mention the magnificent performances by the three key players, Claire 'Little Dorrit' Foy as Dawn, Benedict 'Sherlock' Cumberbatch as her husband David and Shaun Evans as David's brother Nick. I was especially impressed by Shaun – funny but often disturbing – but mainly because I have never encountered his work before. Definitely an actor to look out for.

The biggest tangible criticism I heard from neighbours at the screening was that the sound was not terribly clear.

Dictynna tells me that this is down to technical issues with the hasty transfer to DVD for this showing. In the cinema the sound quality and sound design is something people remark on as rather wonderful, and this quality will transfer to home DVD screenings. The same goes for some of the night scenes, which should come across better on home screens where any action was all but invisible.

Wreckers will be on limited cinema release on 16th December for a week, as well as available for 'on demand' streaming through the Curzon website: http://www.curzoncinemas.com/film_on_demand/. DVD release is due from Artificial Eye on 12th March 2012, and the film has been sold to the BBC with possible broadcast later in the year. Dictynna will keep us posted about further screenings in Cambridgeshire

Ed Mayall

From Dictynna:

The collection for Combat Stress netted £172.56. That's a wonderful collection and I shall send a cheque to the charity. Combat Stress is a charity that specialises in the care of veterans' mental health and we have supported it in our cast and crew, and now this screening. Please do thank everyone in the next issue of the *Informer* for their generous contributions. Please also send a 'big thank you' from me to all who came along and supported the screening. It was wonderful to see so many there. And again, thank you to all, for hosting us in the village back in 2009!

DVD Reviews

As Christmas is approaching the biggest films of the year are being released on DVD to fill the stockings of some lucky people. There two films I'm hoping will be in MY stocking, as they were among the biggest films released this year. These great films are *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2*, and *The Hangover Part II*.

Everyone was talking about the final film in the Harry Potter saga and there was a lot of hype about its release,



along with some debate from the fans of the books saying that it wouldn't be able to match their standards. I'm a huge fan of the books and I'm more than happy with this film; of course there are parts missed out the film has everything the other films have: action, love, fright and laughter as well as a grand finale that will just keep you smiling. Harry Potter shows all of his best traits in this film as he saves

the day but it also shows a surprising hero who helps him. If you have missed some people from the past films then

you may get a surprise visit from them. This is a must-see film and I loved it but if you do watch it make sure you have your tissues handy as things get pretty heavy at times.

If you need cheering up after *Harry Potter*, then *The Hangover Part II* is your cure. In fact, whatever kind of mood you're in, this film is great. The Wolfpack is back and better than ever. This film is hilarious from start to finish and I couldn't stop smiling. It was the talk of the town when it was first released in cinemas and now on DVD even more people are going to be talking about it. The narrative behind this film is very similar to the first one, but this did not stop it from being better and funnier than the first. The boys have once again drunk too much and lost someone important.

They have to find him before the wedding but they can't remember again and the trouble they get into is ridiculously funny. Luckily everything ends well and the wedding carries on as normal and I, for one, am hoping for another wedding and another film.



Michaela Farr

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Isleham Community Skate Park



We would like to thank those who supported our last car wash: it went well. We will be doing a car wash on the first Sunday of each month at Priory Garage from 10am to 1pm.

We are planning a Car Maintenance evening at Priory Garage, for which we need 10 people booked in to run the evening. This will last about two hours and only costs £10.00. Please call for more information.

We would like to thank Jo and Chris Harvey for allowing us to use their premises to do the car washes in the past.

We still need more people on the Committee and to help us raise funds.

Please contact Marc Bowers 07818 422776 or Pauline Dunbavin 01638 781179 / 07721 988164

Isleham Gardeners

This is the time of the year when we gardeners start reading through our seed catalogues, planning for next year's bumper crop – or that special bloom we have seen on TV and want to reproduce in our garden. If you are anything like me, you'll end up with a plan so big that you need a garden twice the size, and more staff than they have at Kew.

Speaking of seeds, members of Isleham Gardeners have the opportunity to buy seeds at greatly reduced price through our affiliation to the National Allotment Society: well worth thinking about!

Isleham Gardeners now have a web log site that can be accessed through the Isleham Village website, and I intend to post a monthly blog with tips and comments, and hopefully answers to your questions.

There isn't a meeting of Isleham Gardeners in December, but we are planning to have an evening out on Saturday 17th December at the Chequers in Fordham. If you are interested in joining us please contact Howard Copstake 780340, or Jenny Hodd 780729.

On 17th January 2012 our AGM will be held in the small room at the Village Hall, when officers and committee members will be elected for the coming year.

New members are always welcome, and it would be nice to see some new faces at our meeting.

Happy Gardening!

Phil Adelphus



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As you may know, the site of the old railway track off Fordham Road, is a designated Local Nature Reserve, and a County Wildlife Site for its chalk grassland, which supports wild flowers unique to this habitat, as well as many species of butterfly, bird and even a few reptiles...

The Friends of Isleham Local Nature Reserves are working to maintain and improve this important habitat, and we are very keen to involve the local community so that the Isleham folk can feel a part of this project, and have an active role in its upkeep.

Now that autumn is here, we have arranged a series of work parties so that we can carry out seasonal tidy up work on the reserve, and to encourage biodiversity by increasing the habitats available.

The work is varied, and there is no experience needed, just a willing pair of hands!

We are a friendly bunch, so do come along, even if it's just to say hello, and to see what we do. You are welcome to stay for as long or as short a time as you wish. Please wear stout shoes, thick trousers (there are brambles!) and bring some gloves, together with a packed lunch.

One work party was held on Thursday 24th November, cleaning out brambles and other unwanted brush. Another clearing session is planned for Saturday 18th February 2012.

Why not follow us on Facebook and see what is happening right now (search for 'Friends Of Isleham Nature Reserve') or follow the blog on (friendsofislehamnr.blogspot.com)

We have interests in other sites around Isleham – the pond in East Fen Road is being refurbished, and a Community Orchard is being set up.

For any further information please ring:

Andrew (Warden) on 07903 092 899

Alastair (Chairman) on 01638 780533

Women's Institute



In October we held an Open Evening, which was attended by representatives from local WIs, Flower Clubs and our own members and friends. The demonstrator was Nicholas

Godfrey-Cole who owns a flower shop 'Scent with Love' in Hunstanton. Nick produced six wonderful arrangements, using the most beautiful flowers, which he later donated to our raffle. Whilst he worked Nick gave us information about the flowers and foliage he was using, and also entertained us with amusing anecdotes about his life and work. It was a lovely evening, and I hope everyone who attended enjoyed it as much as I did.

In November Barrie Stevenson came to talk to members about the items they had brought from home. Many were things that had been passed down through the generations, which makes them even more precious. Barrie has a wealth of knowledge and this made the evening both informative and entertaining.

In December we have our Christmas Party, and our first meeting in 2012 will be held on Thursday 12th January when Georgina Pharoah is coming to talk about the 'History of Addenbrookes'.

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.

Glenda Preece

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Witchford Recycling Centre

As you will be aware, the recycling centre at Grunty Fen in East Cambridgeshire has been replaced by a brand new, indoor recycling centre at Witchford near Ely, which opened to the public on Thursday 3rd November. Grunty Fen closed at midday on Wednesday 2nd November.

Simon Lacey, Community Engagement Manager

Tel: 01223 715452, Mob: 07748 633839

Isleham Primary School

As the result of a foolish error, these poems were omitted from the last issue of the Informer. We apologise for any disappointment this may have caused.

As the summer has come to an end and the new term has begun, the children in Year 5 have been putting some of their ideas and feelings into verse. Here is a small selection of our 'Back to School' poems.

School is Here by Eve and Beth



Let's get some new clothes,
Holiday is done.
Let's go back to school
And have some fun!

We're going back to school
Scared but excited.
I can't wait!
I might even like it.

Back to School by Emily

Starting school is so much fun,
Changing classes has begun.
Helping children find their way,
Old friends now have gone away.
Oranges, apples, bananas for snacks
Looking for new friends to play games



Back to School by Joseph

Holidays are over, school is back again.
It's raining all over, I guess it's more wet play.
Now school is back again I think I'm getting nervous.
I'm home sick already – wait, it's actually quite fun!

Shed/Allotment/Tool Security Advice

- Ensure sheds are of a strong structure and in good repair.
- If possible avoid having windows. Existing windows should be boarded up from the inside; alternatively metal grilles can be installed.
- Contact alarms are easily available through various websites and are cost effective. The alarms are battery operated; once the magnet is broken the alarm is activated. PIR (sensor alarms) are also available on the internet or DIY stores from £5–30.
- Display signage to sheds indicating that all property is security marked and the Police telephone number is displayed 0345 456 456 4.
- Remember to always put away tools and equipment.
- If the allotment is to be left unattended for some time e.g. winter months, remove tools all together.
- Mark your property with your postcode and house number (punching kits are available from hardware stores.) Or use a permanent marker pen.

- Register your property on *Immobillise*, a free property registering system used nationwide by Police forces (visit www.immobillise.com). Door and window stickers are also available from this website indicating that the property is registered and traceable.
- Personalising tools with paint will make them less appealing to thieves.
- Consider a floor or wall locking device that works by linking tools together with a strong chain threaded through the handles, the chain is then locked to the wall or floor.
- Consider joint funding a perimeter fence for the allotment site.
- A lower cost and ecologically more beneficial method is to plant a hedge. Shrubs such as Hawthorn and Pyracantha have nasty thorns creating a good deterrent to the unwanted visitor.
- Clear signage is essential to convey the message to members of the public that the allotment site is private property.
- Lighting is always a good deterrent to criminals and should be installed if practical.
- Communication is essential to the community's well-being, if problems are being experienced on an allotment use local news letters, neighbourhood watch schemes and other initiatives to raise awareness and encourage a sense of community.
- Use E-cops. This is an interactive email scheme from Cambridgeshire Constabulary and a great way to keep up to date with community news and share information. For further information please visit www.cambs.police.uk/signup/ecops
- Consider social inclusion. Since most of the problems are likely to come from local children it may be beneficial to involve the local youths and community. Ownership may dissuade children from vandalism against the allotment and encourage them to report any suspicious activity.
- Be mindful to keep the allotments free from rubbish as this attracts interest for thieves to have a look to see if there is anything of value to them.

As always if you see a crime occurring then please call 999.

If you see anything suspicious then please either call 0345 456 456 4 or you can contact me on 07736 0868701 or barb.neill@cambs.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Barb Neill

Family Tree Help Wanted

Dear Editor,

I wonder if any of your readers can help me in finding any information on James Gammon who married Phoebe Fletcher. Both were born in 1826 and lived in Isleham Fen. They are my great-great-grandparents and I would be grateful for any info possible.

Yours hopefully, Joyce Clarkson

If anyone is able to help Joyce with her quest, please get in touch with the editor via the number or email on the front page.



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So far Press Relief has raised more than £350,000 and has made awards to a whole range of groups and individuals.

How can you apply for help?

Go to www.pressrelief.org where you will find guidance notes and a downloadable application form. Alternatively contact Press Relief on 01223 434378

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JOYCE'S CORNER GOODBYE TO SUMMER

It's getting time for hot mince pies,
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And chilblains on your feet.

We'll miss the lovely butterflies
As they fly from shrubs and flowers,
But welcome them again in spring
Along with April showers.

The ants have gone for winter,
They'll be back again next year.
Bees and wasps will soon depart,
But squirrels have re-appeared.

Spiders are getting much bigger,
They try to get in the house.
I won't have them living with me.
I'd rather be friends with a mouse.

Don't make friends with an earwig,
They hide under bins or a skip.
And if you try to pick one up
They'll give you a nasty nip.

Have you ever had mice in your attic?
Not very nice, I know.
But for all their squeaking and scratching
You'll miss them when they go.

Joyce Drayton

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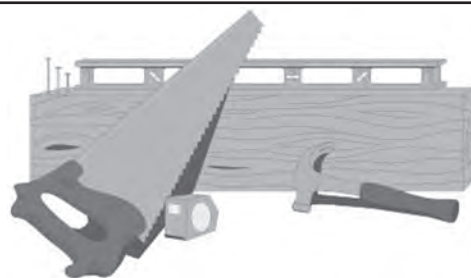
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Parish Councillors address list

Steven Baines	Emmanuel House, 8 East Fen Road, Isleham CB7 5SW Tel: 01638 780406
Derrick Beckett (Chairman)	Appleyard Farm, 1 Houghtons Lane, Isleham CB7 5SR Tel: 01638 780476
Vanessa Bruyneel-Smith	115 The Causeway, Isleham CB7 5ST Tel: 01638 781708
Paul Chaplin	Jay Jay Lodge, Waterside, Isleham CB7 5SH Tel: 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
Clive Patterson	21 West Street, Isleham CB7 5SD Tel: 01638 780669
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

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ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

The Parish Council normally meets on the first Monday of every month at 7pm in the Village Hall (Back Room). Members of the public are invited to attend the meetings and 15 minutes is set aside each month for public question time. Full copies of the minutes are available on the Website, the Notice Board and from the Parish Clerk Tel: 01638 781687 islehampc@btinternet.com

Village Hall Report

- A number of remedial works need to be carried out on the hall to keep it in a reasonable state of repair.

Recreation Ground Report

- The cricket square has been moved to accommodate the new community centre.
- Some remedial works have been carried out on the trees in the play area to remove the deadwood.
- Mud bike ramps have been made from the excess soil on the recreation ground and the Council resolved to leave these as they are for the time being.
- Please note dogs are not allowed on the recreation ground or in the children's play area.

ICA Report

- Tenders for the New Community Centre are in and range between £1.65 and £1.9m. Due to the figures being over the budget the Council had anticipated we are in the process of evaluating the tenders to look for possible savings and also looking for extra external funding sources. At the moment the project is under threat of not continuing and when there is more information and answers to questions we will hold a public meeting.

Cemetery & Churchyard Matters

- Following the resignation of Mr Sid Cox because of ill health, Mr Tim Wilding has been appointed as the new Cemetery Keeper.
- Cemetery Fees have been increased by 5% for the year 1st September 2011 – 31st August 2012.
- The Parish Council are arranging to have the floodlights in the churchyard cleaned and repaired.

Police Matters

- New non-emergency contact number for Police - 101.
- The Neighbourhood Panel meetings are held 4 times a year at Beechurst Soham Village College. The next meeting is on Wednesday 11th January 2012.
- Following the theft of BT cable and the subsequent disruption to the phone and internet connections in the village would anyone seeing anything suspicious please inform the Police.

Highways Matters

- A further dog waste bin is to be installed at Hall Barn Road Industrial Estate and the bin on Sun Street by the footpath is to be moved up between the post office and the Rising Sun public house.
- The Council have resolved to adopt the BT kiosk on The Causeway.

- Parking problems have been highlighted at The Priory and the top of Little London on West Street.
- A new grit bin has been ordered for the top of Malting Lane.
- The Isleham Community Skate Park group have been given permission to hold a car wash on The Priory on the first Sunday of each month.

Allotment Matters

- A portion of the Dunstall Allotment Land has been set aside to be used as a Community Orchard – for further details please contact Mrs Jeanette Malkin 01638 780283.
- There are a number of allotments still available to rent – please contact the Parish Clerk Mrs Diane Bayliss for more information.
- The County Council are proposing a market housing scheme on the Three Tree Allotment Site on Beck Road; the Parish Council are not in favour of the proposal but have met with representatives of the County Council to discuss this and are awaiting further information from them.
- The ash tree on the verge by the Lady Maynard's Allotments will be removed on 16th November because it is diseased and not safe to be left overhanging the road.

Financial Matters

- The Annual Return has been approved and signed by the external auditor Moore Stephens.

Planning Matters

- The council considered and raised no objection to planning applications at 18 Prickwillow Road; 6 Mill Street; 9 Dockings Lane; 27 East Road; 23 Prickwillow Road and 8 Orchard Close.
- The results of the Isleham Vision Survey are in and are being collated by East Cambs District Council. The results will come back to the Parish Council for further consideration.
- Planning Applications are available for viewing on the East Cambs District Council Website.

Street Lighting

- If your street light is not working please contact the Parish Clerk with the light number, she will then report it to the County Council.

Dog Fouling

- Although a number of dog bins have been installed around the village, there are still a number of incidents of dog fouling. The dog warden can be contacted on 01353 665555 or you can file a report on the website www.eastcambs.gov.uk

The Parish Council continues to support the Ely/Soham Dial-a-Ride Bus Service to Ely on a Thursday morning and the Fenland Elite Youth Bus that visits The Priory on a Thursday evening (term time only). ■

Bowls Report

Autumn is usually a quiet period for the club apart from the constant attention by our green staff to keep the green in 'tip top' condition. This includes the continual clearing of the tree leaves and worm cast, both OK in their own right, but not on our green!

The Wednesday evening bingo is now in full swing and, as I said in the last issue, welcomes anyone to come and take part: you may be surprised. Why not try one week to see? It is fairly straight forward to learn to play!

We held a Jumble Sale in October and a Quiz Night in November. A Christmas prize bingo is planned for 12th December: a must for self-financing organisations that rely on the goodwill of volunteers in order to survive.

Both teams in the East Cambs carpet bowls have made a 'sluggish' start, although Team 2 have just recorded their first win over Little Downham. Team 1 are probably concentrating on the KO Cup; next up: Witcham 1 away!

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November also sees the AGM of the club. As in all clubs, I guess it will be the same few that will ensure that we continue for at least another season. A big thanks to all those who do give up their time on behalf of others.

*Barry Grimwood,
Club Captain*



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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 (Sue Thompson 01638 781343)

All Stars (Years 4–6): 10–11.15am (Mr John Martin 01638 737212)

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: 7.00–8.15pm.

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 11.30am 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

18–30s this is a new group for all those aged between 18 and 30 years. It's held each week, meeting in homes and once a month going out for a social event e.g. bowling or the cinema. If you are in this age range, would enjoy finding out more about the Christian life and would enjoy meeting other people of your age, why not come along and give it a try? Details from Alison or Suzi on 01638 781343.

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.

Our pre-school group Music Mayhem meets from 9.30–10.30am. Anyone is welcome to come along, the sessions are free and are held in the hall of the church extension. We have a 30 minute singing time, including the M.M. "Hello" song, some action songs, musical instrument songs, parachute songs, Sockeroo the sock puppet makes an appearance and helps us choose a song and we finish with the M.M. "goodbye song". Each child receives his or her own Sockeroo sock puppet on the first birthday they are with us. From 10.00–10.30a.m. We have a play time for the children and refreshments. One of the highlights of our year is always the Christmas Nativity with the children coming dressed as angels or shepherds and the story of the birth of Jesus is told in words and pictures.

As I write this we are just beginning Operation Christmas Child 2011. The boxes are going to Kyrgyzstan again this year. The country is located in central Asia, it is very beautiful with snow capped mountains for most of the year but it is very poor. If you prepared a box this year thank you very much – you can be sure it will make a great deal of difference to disadvantaged children in that country. If you helped us process boxes thank you too. We are so glad to be a part of this work as it shows God's love in action.

If you live in Isleham or the Marina watch out for our Christmas edition of Islehamdotcom with a free gift inside!

Our Christmas services this year are:

Candlelit Carol Service Sunday 18th December at 6.15pm

Christmas Day Family Service Sunday 25th December 10.30am

You will receive a warm welcome at these services as we meet together to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. ■

High Street Church

Christmas is coming! Our Christmas services, dates and times will soon be available. We will let you know these very soon but would love to see you all to share the wonderful message of Christmas together. In the meantime as this is the last edition for this year, we would like to take this opportunity to wish each and everyone a very blessed and safe Christmas and a great New Year.

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. 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 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

Our midweek care structure called **High Street Life** gives a whole range of fresh initiatives to care, support and be involved in the local community. It includes: a quilting group, papercraft group, Life groups, plus Men's and Ladies' groups; a 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 – will start in the New Year. The **Marriage Course** (designed to help strengthen marriages) will also continue to run from time to time.

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 of any of the above, please contact Kathryn of 01638 780652 of the Church Office.

Little Lambs is our parent/carer and toddler group which runs term time Fridays from 9.15–11.15am. 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, give us a call or 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. ■

Three Rivers Group St Andrew's Parish Church

Regular Church Services

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

Third Sunday 8am Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer. All welcome.

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)

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, 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 ■



Isleham Ladies FC

Isleham Ladies are currently doing well this season as they are sitting mid table with a couple of games in hand. We have a large age range within the team – between 17 and 40 – and quite a few of them are mums. All the girls show great commitment and they are quite competitive when they need to be. But the main focus is having fun and enjoying the games

(www.gingerpusspictures.com). In this home match on 9th October, the team was beaten 2-1 by Haddenham, but they are higher than us in the league so it was actually quite a good result for Isleham. Above is player of the match, Philippa Timmins (left), and Captain Michelle Pearson is in the right of the photo below.

Shane Woodcock



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