

Isleham Informer

Issue 58 • October 2013

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



Lloyds Bank Community Fund is helping local people across England and Wales by giving grants to over 1,300 local good causes in villages, towns and cities across England and Wales. There are four local good causes in each community and each will receive an award. Two local good causes from each community will receive £3,000 each, with the other two receiving awards of £300 each.

Isleham Community Association has been short listed for the Lloyds Bank Community Fund 2013 in our area and we need your vote. By encouraging everybody in Isleham to vote we have a chance to be awarded a £3,000 grant from Lloyds Bank to enable us to continue furnishing the Centre.

We have been working for more than 7 years to raise the money to build the Centre and many residents have given their time and expertise to help bring this wonderful building to our village. Grants have been obtained, funds raised and donations given, and with the support of the Parish Council our new Community Centre is almost complete. The old and rickety pavilion will soon be demolished and this will be replaced by state of the art facilities within the Centre for the benefit of the many children and adults who play football and cricket on the Recreation Ground. We are now looking to furnish the Centre, and we do need your help.

The Centre will be a multi-purpose, sustainable community centre providing a meeting place for young and old; rooms for large and small meetings, community social events, family celebrations and conference facilities. Hopefully we will be able to establish a Youth Club, the Cubs and Brownies will have the space they need, and young and old will be able to enjoy the café.

LLOYDS BANK



The Lloyds Bank Community Fund will make a huge difference to Isleham Community Association by helping us to get essential items for the First Aid room and to furnish the café/bar. All of this will contribute to the comfort and safety of residents of Isleham and the surrounding villages.

In our area we are competing with Lakenheath Youth F.C., Mildenhall Speedway Supporters Club and Brandon Full Gospel Job Club.

Please vote for Isleham Community Association to benefit for the Community Fund Award.

Lloyds Bank are inviting votes in branch, online and by SMS text messaging from now until 30th October.

Online voting

You will be able to search and view our group's profile on the Community Fund website.

www.lloydsbank.com/communityfund

View the group's profile then share the link with friends, families and colleagues to encourage them to vote for us.

Texting

Vote by SMS text message. You will need to text the word VOTE and the code KDTC to 61119

In Lloyds branches

We will be one of the four good causes promoted in Lloyds branches. They will be inviting customers to cast their vote when they visit the branch. You and your friends can visit the branch to vote.

Support Your Village and Vote for The Isleham Community Centre

• YOUR COMMUNITY CENTRE NEEDS YOU! PAGE 8 • BOWLS PAGE 20 •

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

Stay & Play Play and chill session for parents/carers and under fives. Every Monday 9.30–11.30am at St Andrews Primary School, Soham.

Breast Friends Breastfeeding support group meeting every Tuesday 11.30am–12.30pm, for new and pregnant mums. Come along for some free advice and support from a Lactation Consultant.

Well Baby Clinic Tuesdays 9.15–11.15am. Weigh your baby and have tea and a chat with the Health Visitor about any of your concerns.

Time Out Tuesdays For parents under 25 years. Every Tuesday 9.45–11.30am. Come along and make friends and get support.

Fordham Tea & Toast Every Thursday at Fordham Victoria Hall, 9.30–11.30am. Play session for the under 5s and a chance to meet other parents and carers. Just turn up!

Sensory Saturdays A free play session for families of children with additional needs of any age. First and third Saturday of the month, 2–3.30pm at Soham Children's Centre.

Call or email Soham Children's Centre to book your place.

For more information call us on 01353 727188
sohamchildrenscentre@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
www.cambridgeshirechildrenscentres.org.uk

or follow us on Facebook at Sure Start Children's Centres –
Bottisham, Burwell and Soham areas



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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.

A Load of Rubbish

As the October issue of the *Isleham Informer* nears completion, I find myself facing an empty quarter of a page, when inspiration lands on the doorstep. Two shiny(ish) new(ish) Wheelie Bins! At last, we will not have to put up with black bags left out on the street all weekend to be torn open by cats, dogs and foxes, with litter thereby strewn to the four winds. A major improvement for all.

But, no! The new bins are to save us from the unbearable chore of having to sort glass and plastic bottles from cans and papers by putting them into separate containers. Now it all goes in together, saving each household possibly as many as 10 seconds every fortnight. I can only assume that this is some kind of employment initiative – someone will have to sort it all.

One minor but significant improvement in the regular rubbish collection is that a roll of bags is now delivered to each house. This replaces the somewhat misguided previous method of chucking a bundled up bag in the vague direction of each house in the often forlorn hope that it would be rescued by a householder before being whipped away in a gale.

All this reminds me that I should be getting on with my paid job of picking up all that litter left by the attentions of the aforementioned beasties. Not to mention the not inconsiderable quantities dumped by rather more human (or not?) animals who clearly think their cars are temples never to profaned with used burger boxes and Coke bottles. So out the window it goes. The roads, verges and car parks may be a mess, but at least the interior of your beautiful Ford Escort is unsullied.

Take your litter home! And then you can have the great pleasure of chucking it all (where recyclable...) into your shiny(ish) new(ish) Wheelie Bin.

Ed Mayall

VILLAGE NOTES

Thank You

The wife and family of the late William Coleman (Bill) wish to thank friends and neighbours for all their cards and kind words of support during Bill's illness.

We would also like to thank the NHS for the first class care and support, especially Dr Burnford, Emily and Claire (District Nurses), all the Doctors and Nurses on ward D8 at Addenbrookes, the care workers at Manorcourt Home Care and the Nurses and HCAs at Arthur Rank Hospice at Home, especially Jane, and Rev Dr Jenny Gage

You have all helped make a very difficult time bearable.

Many thanks and God Bless You All

Beryl Coleman and family, Bowers Lane, Isleham

Dates for Your Diary

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

PYO PUMPKINS Strawberry Farm
Every weekend during October 10.00–16.00
Halloween goodies, hot chocolate, teas & coffees and more.
Call Chris (07990 542872) or Jo (07947 205480) for more information.
Every Tuesday Coffee Morning Social Centre 09.00–12.00

October

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Thursday 3rd | Mobile Library | Church St | 14.15–15.00 |
| | | Mill Street | 15.05–17.00 |
| Saturday 5th | Isleham Gardeners | | 14.00–16.00 |
| | Cream Teas, Social Centre | | |
| Sunday 6th | Car Wash, Priory Green | | 10.00–13.00 |
| Friday 9th | Book Club | Social Centre | 14.00 |
| Thursday 10th | WI Limestone | | 19.30 |
| Tuesday 15th | Gardeners Club | Marina | 19.30 |
| Thursday 17th | Isleham Society | Social Centre | 19.45 |
| Friday 18th | Mobile Library | Church St | 9.30–10.05 |

November

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Sunday 3rd | Car Wash, Priory | | 10.00–13.00 |
| Monday 4th | Isleham Parish Council | | 19.15 |
| Thursday 5th | Mobile Library | Church St | 14.15–15.00 |
| | | Mill Street | 15.05–17.00 |
| Saturday 9th | INFORMER DEADLINE | | |
| Thursday 14th | WI | | 19.30 |
| Friday 15th | Mobile Library | Church St | 09.30–10.05 |
| Tuesday 19th | Isleham Gardeners | | 19.30 |
| Thursday 21st | Isleham Society | | 19.30 |

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 12.00noon. Fares: Adult Bus Pass Holders £2.75 return, Adults £5.50 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 |

Useful phone numbers

Emergency for Police, Fire, Ambulance. 999
Police (Non-emergency). 101
Accident & Casualty (Addenbrooke's). 01223 217118
Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cambridge). 01223 245151
Newmarket Hospital 01638 564000
West Suffolk Hospital (Bury St Edmunds) 01284 713000
Staploe Medical Centre (Soham)
- Appointments 01353 624121
- Prescriptions & Dispensary. 01353 727695
- Enquiries, Home Visits, Emergencies. 01353 624123
Minor Treatment Centre, Ely. 01353 656675
NHS Direct (for advice). 0845 4647
GP Out-Of-Hours 0330 1239131
Electricity Emergencies 0800 7838838
Gas Emergencies 0800 111999
Anglian Water Leaks 0800 771881
- 24 hour 0845 7145145
Social Services - office hours. 0345 0455202
- out of hours emergency 01733 561370
Refuse Collection. 01353 665555
RSPCA 07599 522716
- Cruelty line. 0300 1234 999
Citizens Advice Bureau Ely 0845 130 6442
Mildenhall 01638 712094
Newmarket 01638 665999
District Councillor (Derrick Beckett). 01638 780476
Parish Council (Diane Bayliss: Clerk). 01638 781687
Member of Parliament (Jim Paice) 01954 211450

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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 | Doreen Spiers | 01638 780783 | 2nd Friday | 2pm | Social Centre |
| Brownies | Bridget Clements | 01353 624103 | Thursdays | 6-7.15pm | High St. Church |
| Craft Club | Hazel Thompson | 01638 780633 | Tuesdays | 1.30-4pm | Limestone Centre |
| Cubs | Angela Dann | 01638 781947 | Tuesdays | 6.15-7.45pm | Chippenham Village Hall |
| French Conversation (all levels) | Francine | francine@the waytofrance.com | Monday | 6-7.15pm | 1 Mill St |
| Isleham Gardeners | Jenny Hodd | 01638 780729 | 3rd Tuesday | 7.30pm | Isleham Marina |
| Isleham Society | Vernon Place | 01638 780449 | 3rd Thursday | 7.30pm | Limestone Centre |
| Paper, Patch & Sew | Victoria Rattle Julie Porter | 01638 781301 01638 781390 | Saturday Bi-monthly | 10-4pm | High St Church |
| UFOs (Crafting) | Suzanne Hall | 01638781805 | 1st Friday & 3rd Wednesday | 7-9pm 9.30-11.30am | Pound Lane Free Church |
| WI | Glenda Preece | 01638 780734 | 2nd Thursday | 7.30pm | Limestone Centre |

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Web: www.isleham-cattery.co.uk

Tel: 01638 781367

email: lorraine@isleham-cattery.co.uk

Carers Away Day

Friday 11 October 2013

10 am to 3.30 pm

Venue: The Holiday Inn Lakeview, Bridge Way, Histon,
Cambs CB24 9PH

To book your place contact: Nancy Voak

Tel: 01480 373282

Email: nancy.voak@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

In the morning we will have expert speakers hosting informal discussions on subjects such as:

- The Mental Capacity Act, Lasting Power of Attorney and Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults
- The GP Carer Services Prescription for free information, support and a break, provided by Carers Trust Cambridgeshire (Crossroads Carer Services).
- Self Directed Support for adult social care and how this can help you to stay independent.
- Welfare Benefits.
- Balancing paid work and caring and accessing training for employment.
- Finding good quality care.

Information stands available from 12 noon onwards.

Refreshments served all day and a buffet lunch.

Fun in the afternoon, including:

- Hand & neck massage
- Music Therapy
- Art
- Swimming/Aqua Fit
- Gym
- Pedicure/toe nail paint
- Pilates/Yoga

Booking is essential as spaces are limited.

There may be support for you to attend the event so please ask for any assistance you might need to come.

Ely Foodbank

Ely Foodbank opened last November having been called to serve an area of a 15 mile radius of Ely – including Littleport, Chatteris, March and Soham. Initially, as you may expect, the focus has been the Ely area but the Foodbank has already served more than 300 people from the 2 wards in Soham and several more from the villages in the area, including Isleham. To date, more than 1,500 people have been served by Ely Foodbank (with the equivalent of 15,000 meals)

Local people have been astonishingly generous by buying additional items of food, with more than 15 tonnes having been given in the first eight months ! This generosity, the teamwork of the Foodbank's volunteers and considerable development work behind the scenes has led Ely Foodbank to make further significant steps in seeking to fulfil its remit.

A Foodbank, backed by Churches Together in Soham, the Town Council, the Children's Centre and local traders working in partnership with Ely Foodbank (a Trussell Trust Foodbank) opened in Soham on 11th July at the Salvation Army centre in Bushel Lane, Soham. People who are in food crisis are able to collect their food in Soham on production of a Foodbank Voucher on Thursdays 1000 - 1100, or in Ely from The Lighthouse Centre on Tuesday afternoons or from The Forum, in Barton Road on Friday afternoons., so clients can make their choice.

The Foodbanks aim to serve people in food crisis in our local towns and villages, and more Foodbanks (in partnership with Ely Foodbank) are planned in Chatteris and March in the near future. In this way agencies, organisations and all of us as individuals can play our part in working together to ensure that we can look after local people who are going through difficult times, and enable them to get the help they need to get through their crisis with revived hope and dignity restored.

Gifts of non-perishable food, finance and time by volunteers are always needed (and appreciated !)

To find out more, please come to the Soham and East area Neighbourhood Panel meeting on 9th October 7.00 – 9.00pm in the Performing Arts Centre, Soham Village College (Beechurst site) when a provisional agenda item will be 'Foodbank Developments'.

In the meantime, for further information:

<http://www.elyfoodbank.org.uk/>

info@elyfoodbank.org.uk

t: 01353 662396 (to speak to Karl Relton, Chairman of Ely Foodbank)



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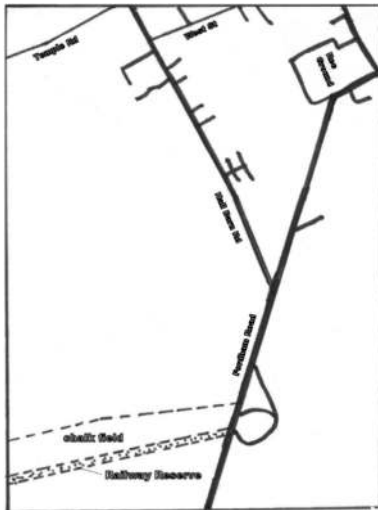
Have Your Say



The Friends of Isleham Nature Reserves group has been going for several years now and we are keen to expand the range of activities we do and to encourage others to join us. Although we are involved in a range of different wildlife sites and

initiatives in and around Isleham, our main responsibility (by agreement with Cambridgeshire County Council) is the management of the Railway Local Nature Reserve (just outside the village on the Fordham Road – see map) to maintain and improve its attractiveness for wildlife, and to encourage others to use and enjoy it.

We are very aware of the importance of the Reserve for people who want to enjoy a quiet walk or watch some of the wildlife and especially for people exercising their dogs. As a result the site –including the adjacent chalk field (also marked on the map), which is also managed for wildlife under an Environmental Stewardship Scheme – attracts lots of local (and not so local) visitors. We have been discussing improvements to the entrance to the reserve with the County Council; hopefully we'll see some work to make good the track to the car park soon.



We are looking at other ways to improve what we can do for the village and surrounding area, and we would appreciate your filling in the separate questionnaire in the Informer if at all possible. This will help us get a better idea about your concerns and interests. Completed forms can be placed in the box in the Isleham Co-op over the next few weeks.

There will be spare sheets at the Co-op if you forget yours.

In the next few months we will be running a Bat Hunt in the evening, also an Astronomy evening when the evenings get dark. Watch out for announcements at the Reserve entrance.

If you would prefer a more immediate contact, you can do any the following...

- Telephone our Warden, Andrew Garbett on 07903 092 899
- Telephone our Chairman, Alastair Burn, on 01638 780553,
- Look on Facebook for 'Friends of Isleham Nature Reserves'
- Email Andrew at cambeth@tesco.net

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e-mail: info@greenwoodtreesurgery.co.uk

Parish Councillors address list

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 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 |
| Jeannette Malkin | 17 Little London, Isleham CB7 5SE Tel: 01638 780283 |
| Bob Mitchell | 10 Sparkes Close, Isleham CB7 5RR Tel: 01638 780707 |
| Lionel Neal | 104 Beck Road, Isleham CB7 5QP Tel: 01638 780066 |
| Clive Patterson | 21 West Street, Isleham CB7 5SD Tel: 01638 780669 |
| Glenda Preece | 94 The Causeway, Isleham CB7 5ST Tel 01638 780734 |
| Richard Radcliffe | 45 Sun Street, Isleham CB7 5RU Tel: 01638 780831 |
| Hazel Thompson | 9 Limestone Close, Isleham CB7 5RP Tel: 01638 780633 |
| 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 |

ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

The Parish Council normally meets on the first Monday of every month at 7.15pm. Until the New Community Centre opens the meetings will be held in the LIMESTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE. 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



The vacancy for a Parish Councillor has been filled by Mrs Glenda Preece

Police Matters

- New Contact No for Police – 101.
- The next Neighbourhood Panel meeting will be held on 9th October 2013 at Soham Village College

Recreation Ground Report

- Concerns have been raised about a cricket ball which knocked two tiles off of a roof on Windmill Terrace. The Council are currently looking into insurance responsibilities on the Recreation Ground.
- The Council have agreed that the MUGA can be hired for tennis during the day for £5 per hour including VAT

Play Area

- The Parish Council and the ICA are currently looking at funding options for the play area.

ICA Report

- On Gala Day the Council launched a 'Sponsor a Shrub' scheme for the Community Centre, anyone interested in sponsoring a shrub please contact the Parish Clerk.
- Work on the Centre continues to progress it has been confirmed that the completion date will be delayed by 2 weeks until 29th November.

Cemetery & Churchyard Matters

- Burial Fees will rise by 5% as from October 1st 2013.
- Non-Isleham residents who wish to be buried in Isleham Cemetery will be charged double fees.

Planning Matters

- Planning Applications have been considered for 9 Dockings Lane, Floral Farm, 23 The Pits and 3 Little London.
- Planning Approvals were received for Floral Farm, 51 Hall Barn Road and 106 Beck Road.
- Planning Refusals were received for 15 The Pits.

Highways Matters

- A number of matters have been forwarded on to the County Council for consideration but unfortunately the new highways contact for Isleham is not responding to our requests. A letter will be sent to Leader of the Council seeking to address the Council's concerns about this.
- 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

- PLEASE REMEMBER TO CLEAR UP AFTER YOUR DOG!
- A number of dog bins have been installed around the village although 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.

Allotment Matters

- Allotment Rents on the Dunstall and Three Tree are to be increased from £1 to £1.20 per rod from October 1st this year.
- There are still a number of plots available on the Dunstall Allotment site. Please contact the Parish Clerk for details.

The Parish Council continues to support the Ely/Soham Dial-a-Ride Bus Service to Ely on a Thursday morning.

Your Community Centre Needs YOU!

As we near the end of the build the internal designs are being sorted and one thing we'd very much like is a picture, momento, piece of furniture, etc. that is totally synonymous with our village. Therefore, does anyone have a bench that use to be in Mill St, or a picture from way back when, or perhaps a photograph of Isleham over 100 years ago. The centre may be a new design, and will look fantastic but we thought that to decorate it, and pay homage to the village would work well. So, if you have anything that you think people would like to see, that commemorates the village from the past, and you'd be willing to donate it to the centre for public viewing please contact Mark Goldsack or Clive Patterson and we'll arrange for collection when the time is right.

There is a secondary need for some furniture and general items, such as hardwearing sofas, filing cabinets, office chairs, or even coat hooks, broly stands, notice boards etc. It seems daft to spend money on new such items, if we do not have to, so if anyone would like to donate suitable such items again please let us know. One last thing is that it is never too late to donate towards the centre, fixtures and fittings are very expensive and we are trying to do the best we can with as little spend as possible. The village and surrounding area has been so generous already but if anyone can further assist it would be most welcome.

There will be a commemorative book in the centre listing the names, if agreed to have them inserted, of all those that donate. If that donation is a chair or £10, we thank you for it. We are approaching local businesses for sponsorship and/or donations. If you work for, or run a local business and would be interested to know more about what the centre may be able to offer you, in terms of meeting and function rooms, then I would love to discuss this with you or your business owner. Please let me know and I will come to you for a chat.

Thanks and we look forward to welcoming you soon to the new Community Centre.

Mark B Goldsack – mgelyvate@aol.com – 01638 780350



Sun Street, Isleham. Tel: 01638 780471

FOOD SERVED

Friday and Saturday 12 noon to 2pm
and 7pm to 9pm
Sunday 12 noon to 2pm

ENTERTAINMENT

- OCTOBER -

Saturday 12th: Band: Menu Miteno

- NOVEMBER -

Friday 8th: Band: Rock B*st*rds

Quiz to be Arranged

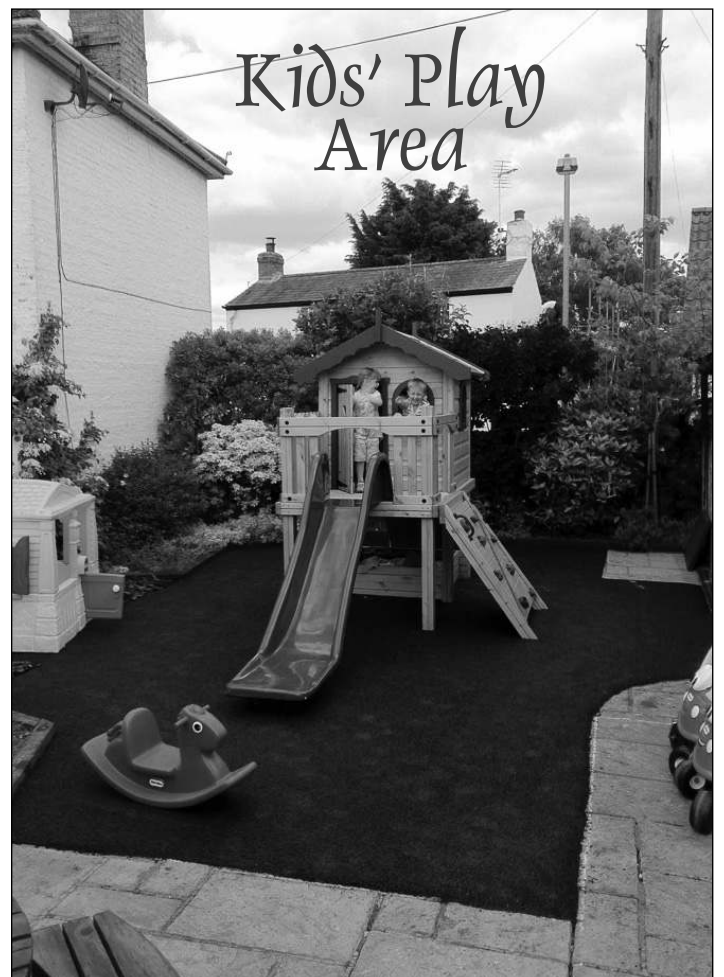
OPENING TIMES

Monday: 7pm to Close

Tuesday to Thursday: 12 noon to 3pm, 7pm to Close

Friday, Saturday: 12 noon to Close

Sunday 12 noon to 10.30pm



PYO Pumpkins

Our fairy godmother has been hard at work transforming our strawberries into pumpkins!



Come and visit us at our Halloween Hovel at Lidgate Farm (Strawberry Farm) 1 Prickwillow Road, Isleham CB7 5RG every weekend during October between 10am – 4pm.

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Check online at www.becken.co.uk and on Facebook at PYO Strawberries for more information.

BECKen Bakes

We realise no-one wants to think about it yet but, Christmas is only round the corner and, before you all rush out to do your Christmas shopping, BECKen Charity would like to let you know that we are baking Christmas cakes again this year and we are taking orders whenever you are ready.

Our rich fruit cakes can be topped with fruit and glazed or fully covered with marzipan and iced or even left completely plain if you prefer; it is your choice.

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| 8" | £20.00 |

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Chris: 07990 542872 or Jo: 07947 205480



St Andrew's Gift Day

Many, many thanks to all those in the village have once again supported St Andrew's so generously in response to our request for Gift Day 2103. We rely on individual giving and receive no funding from anywhere else. Keeping our fabulous building at the heart of the village, available for everyone, is a task which calls for vision and much hard work. So thank you once again for your support.

The Rev'd Michael G Banyard

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- Is there something it would help to talk over with a minister?
- Worried about a family member or neighbour?
- Thinking about a wedding or christening?
- Interested in knowing more about what we do in church?

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Festival of Light

2013

Saturday 7th December
3.00 – 6.30

Tree Display and Christmas Fayre
Sunday 8th December
3.30 – 6.30

Saturday 14th December
3.30 – 6.30

Tree display and refreshments in church
Sunday 15th December
3.30 – 6.30

Including a Family Carol Service 4.00
All welcome

If you would like to display a tree or wreath this year contact:
Sheila Taylor on 780701 or
sheila_karma_farm@hotmail.com

If you would like to have a stall at the fayre on Saturday 7th please contact:
Kathy Carver on 781116 or
Kathy@carverfamily.org.uk

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Isleham Gardeners

One day after digging I sat down to rest
And I wondered if I could grow a world's best.
The fattest, the longest that had ever been seen;
A marrow, potato or even a bean.

So I started to plan just what I would grow
And decided a carrot was what I would sow.
I'd feed it and nurture the best that I could
To make sure it grew strong, straight and good

Well within days of sowing it started to show
Little green shoots springing from down below.
And after a month it was still going fine
This wonderful, world-beating carrot of mine

It continued to grow at alarming speed
To such an extent that I cut down its feed
But that didn't stop it and there was no knowing
How to stop this great carrot from growing and growing.

It was then time to harvest this humongous beast
The size of which would make many a feast.
But I pulled and I tugged with no luck at all;
It was then I decided to give others a call

Dougie and Clive, two Tonies, Big John
With block and tackle for us all to pull on
But this blooming carrot just got bigger and bigger
There was only one answer; get Tim with his digger!

Well we toiled in the sun to get this thing out.
We were nearly there when I heard someone shout
Ann was shaking my arm, I came up from the deep
She said "you silly old fool, YOU'VE BEEN FAST ASLEEP!"

I hope you're all having a good harvest
Happy gardening,

Philadelphus



At the beginning of May our President, Jane Grant, and Mary Stack represented our Group – Isleham, Chippenham, Soham and Fordham, at the AGM, which was held in Cardiff this year. Jane gave a report of this at our last meeting.

We celebrated our June meeting at the Twentypence Nursery in Wilburton. Members and friends enjoyed a meal followed by a talk by their Head Gardener, then time to look around the Nursery and spend our money. It was a very pleasant evening enjoyed by all.

We took part in Gala Day with a 'walking float', marching as Suffragettes. Although it was not quite the same as riding on a trailer we all enjoyed it, and money collected on the way, and from the third prize, is a welcome addition to our funds.

In July we welcomed Chris Clarke from Bottisham. Chris

originally trained as a hairdresser with Vidal Sassoon and she brought along the dress that had been her uniform. This was made by Mary Quant and was so short that Chris said her dad got upset whenever she left home in it. It was a true reminder of the 60s and well remembered by members. After qualifying Chris went to work with a theatrical make-up artist, and used this training in film and theatre. She used several members as models to demonstrate how make-up can be used. The results were amazing, and it made for a very good meeting.

After enjoying our Jubilee Tea last year we decided to make it a tradition, so held a tea party on the afternoon of 20th July, at the Social Centre. The weather was much better this year and it was a very pleasant occasion.

In August Peter Carter, the eel man came to our meeting and entertained us with stories from his life. I think Peter could talk for hours, and we all loved listening to him

September was our Harvest Supper when we enjoyed lovely food prepared by members. Doreen Rutterford won the competition of an Autumn Flower Arrangement.

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 Limestone Community Centre, 7.30pm for 7.45pm, and new members are always welcome.

For further information contact:

Glenda Preece

01638 780734, gjpreece@aol.com

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CHURCHES

Three Rivers Group St Andrew's Parish Church

Welcome to St Andrew's, the Parish Church here in Isleham. All are welcome in this community of faith in Jesus Christ. St Andrew's is part of the Three Rivers Group, including the villages of Chippenham, Fordham, Kennett, Snailwell & Isleham. Do join us for worship and fellowship on Sundays and during the week.

Rector: The Rev'd Mike Banyard: 01638 721616, banyardmg1@yahoo.co.uk

Curates: The Rev'd Dr Jenny Gage 3rivers.jenny@gmail.com;
The Rev'd Becca Gilbert 01353 665420 becgilb@gmail.com

Licensed Lay Minister: Mrs Helen Banyard

WORSHIP

Sundays. The main service is at 9.30 am. Junior Church meets in the Social Centre. On the third Sunday of every month we worship together at an All Age Holy Communion service.

Midweek.

Monday: 9.15 Morning Prayer at 7 The Close, Kennett

Tuesday: 8.15 Morning Prayer, Social Centre Isleham

Wednesday: 8.15 Morning Prayer, Chippenham
4.15 Evening Prayer Snailwell

Thursday: 8.15 Morning Prayer, Fordham

Friday: 8.30 Holy Communion (BCP) Fordham

Tuesday Coffee Morning 9am – 12 noon Social Centre

Fridays

6.30 pm Choir practice. All welcome. Contact Mark Liversidge 01638 781696

7.30 pm Bell Ringing, beginners especially welcome. Contact Ruth Ogden 01638 780646

Sundays @ 7 Our Youth Group meets twice a month, alternating between Soham and Isleham, (usually in the Social Centre). Details from Rev'd Becca or Mike

Churchwardens:

Nick Carver 01638 781116, nick.carver@islehamchurch.org.uk;

Ruth Ogden 01638 780646, ruth.ogden@islehamchurch.org.uk;

Rob Savage 01638 780218 robert.savage@islehamchurch.org.uk

Tower Captain:

Ruth Ogden 01638 780646 ruth.ogden@islehamchurch.org.uk

Choir Director:

Mark Liversidge 01638 781696 mark.liversidge@islehamchurch.org.uk

Webmaster:

Andrew Stephens 01638 781468/780229

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

High Street Church

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 3–7 years, is a fun-filled session with singing, crafts, drama and stories. The older Junior Church meet at the School. This is for children who are 7–11 years old. Their morning starts at 10am and offers 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 11–14 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 which is just what is needed after a busy week at school!

OTHER WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Our midweek care structure called **High Street Life** gives a whole range of fresh initiatives to care, support and involvement in the local community. It includes: Life groups, plus Men's and Ladies' groups; Bible Studies; a Media and Creative Arts group using modern technology to convey the message of hope; a Quilting group, Papercraft group and much more.

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 £3.00 not to mention the great company! Why not come and eat with us? Please contact Kathryn via 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!

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.

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? Please contact our church office on 01638 780985.

If you are interested in finding out more about our new Church building on Beck Road, visit arkproject.org.uk ■

Pound Lane Free Church

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

Elder: David Brown (01638 780410)

Sunday: Sunday worship: 11am and 6.30pm.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper:

First Sunday following evening service

Third Sunday following morning service

A Crèche is available for babies to Year 3 during the morning service. Refreshments are served after the evening services, except the first Sunday of the month.

Fellowship Lunches are served after the morning service on the third Sunday of the month.

Kingdom Kids (3 years–Year 3): 10–11.15am (Sue Thompson 01638 780030)

All Stars (Years 4–6): 10–11.15am (John Martin 01638 750481)

Covies (Year 7–18 years): 9.30–10.30am (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.

(Sue Thompson 01638 780030 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.

Tuesday: 18–30s: 2pm.

(Suzanne Hall 01638 781805) Meeting in homes with monthly social events.

Wednesday: Fellowship (fortnightly) 2.30–3.30pm.

(Church 01638 781343) Meeting on alternate Wednesdays

and catering for the more mature in age. They enjoy meeting together for a Bible talk, spiritual songs and prayer. Various fun events and meals are also organized during the year. New members are always welcome.

UFOs (third Wednesday of month) 9.30–11.30am (Suzanne Hall 01638 781805).

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 eight minute "In the News this Week" slot in the middle.

Covies Club Night: 7–9pm

Friday: Women's Meeting (fortnightly) 10.30–11.45am (Sue Hall 01638 780636).

UFOs (first Friday of month): 7–9pm (01638 781343).

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 sites: www.plfc.org.uk; www.isleham.com

Wow! Can you believe it's the October edition already! which means we need to be encouraging you all to take part in Operation Christmas Child again this November. Last year gift filled shoe boxes from this region went to Serbia and Kyrgyzstan to show disadvantaged children and their families the love of God and the love of fellow people from this country. We were so encouraged that even in the difficult economic climate the number of shoe boxes processed went up slightly on 2011 (3297 from postcodes CB6, 7 and 8) and we had several new volunteers from Isleham and the nearby area come to help us process the boxes. If this is something you would like to be involved with this year please contact us on the plfc phone number or email or look at the website for details nearer the time.

If you can't prepare a whole box don't worry we can take individual items that are on the leaflet and make up boxes on your behalf.

We are also going to focus on shoebox related crafts in the next few UFOs Crafting times – we have some great ideas to try – please feel free to come along and help. ■

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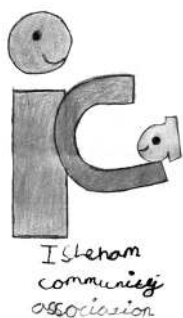
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Isleham Community Centre

Approaching Completion



Whilst the weather has been good and the work on site has been progressing well the builders have been unable to make up some of the delays. This delay has now been confirmed at our latest site progress meeting held in August where progress was reported at being 68% complete, and now means the hand over will now take place on the 29th November.

Considering the size of the project, this is only a minor delay and we are all pleased with the overall progress and await the day

of completion.

We are hoping that the centre will be open early December 2013 with a formal opening in 2014.

By the time you read this update the internal build should be nearing the final stages which will include, completion of second fix electrical and mechanical, fitting out of the bar/cafe and laying of vinyl flooring.

The internal decorating will have also been started and is planned to be finished the first week in November.

External works will also be well under-way with the inclusion of the demolition of the pavilion in the week commencing 7th October. The Parish Council will be providing two Portaloos for use of the clubs from the closing of the pavilion until opening of the centre.

May I remind all of the request in the last Informer for pictures of old events held in the old hall and with that in mind if anyone has pictures of past events, in the old hall or on the recreation ground please forward them so that they can be scanned for inclusion on our Facebook page, the village website and with a bit of work the creation of an album to be held in the new centre.

The formal hand over of the finished building from CJ Murfitts is now planned for the 29th November.

The Sponsor a Shrub fund raiser now stands at £550, which will go towards the funds needed for planting up the landscaping on site. It has been decided that most if not all the planting will take place in the New Year when the weather is more suitable. Towards the end of build we will be looking for volunteers to assist with the planting in the New Year so if you are able to lend a hand please let us know. We will be arranging and finalising some dates closer to the time and will advertise these in the Informer.

We are still taking sponsorship for Sponsor a Shrub; all sponsors names will be in a book to be held in the centre once completed. The rates are still held at: Hedges £3, Shrubs £5 and trees £25 contact Clive on 01638780669.

The proposed open weekend dates are now under review and should be available for the next Informer.

If you run or belong to a local organisation that will be using the Centre when completed and you want to have an input into the Centre's facilities, or even if you just want to help please contact either Mark Goldsack 01638 780350, or the Parish Clerk 01638 781687 for an informal, no obligations discussion.

Please continue to watch this space, Facebook or the village website www.isleham-village.co.uk for details of fund raising etc. Photographs are being uploaded on a regular basis, to give everyone a view of the progress on site.

Many Thanks for all the positive feedback.

Clive Patterson for the Parish Council/
ICA Management Committee

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Last year we published a poem by Mrs D. Goodwins, which had been published in the poetry book *Homelands*. Here is another poem included in the book, by John Aves.

Isleham, Remember When

When in Maltings Lane
The primary school was ruled by shout and cane.
The Headmaster then, you see,
Looked at us children like we were military.

The school was very old and bare,
With wooden floorboards everywhere.
In winter our fingers were often cold and white
Making it difficult to write.

With pen and ink we toiled away
Looking forward to the day
When at fourteen we could get away.
But then if you did not want to end up just a fool
You took notice of what was taught at school.

Trips to the church down the lane now gone
Echoed as we ran along.
Religion, just another subject be;
After all the school is C of E.

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Parish Clerk Vacancy

Snaillwell is looking for a new Parish Clerk. This is an interesting and varied post supporting an active community focused Parish Council. Duties include arranging meetings, taking minutes, managing communications.

Basic administration, note taking and IT skills would be useful. A knowledge of local government procedures would be an advantage, but is not essential.

The role is mainly home-based, up to three hours a week on average. The Parish Council meet bimonthly on the last Wednesday of the month, additional site visits and the occasional special meeting attendance is also required. We're looking for a cheerful, friendly, competent part-time administrator to share in our passion for this small rural village.

To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter to Snailwellparishcouncil@hotmail.com

or to the following address by Friday 18th October.

Joe Pattison, 22 The Green, Snailwell, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 7LS

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New Deputy Chief Constable "passionate" about policing

Cambridgeshire police's new Deputy Chief Constable has said he will not shrink from the difficult issues facing the force in coming years.

Alec Wood, 48, formerly Temporary Deputy Chief Constable for Lincolnshire Police, became deputy to Chief Constable Simon Parr on 27th August.

Mr Wood, who replaces John Feavour, said, unlike many other forces, the constabulary had identified a clear way of dealing with funding cuts but, like his predecessor, he would be open about the challenges.

He said: "The fundamental purpose of policing is to deliver the best possible service to the public to keep them safe and protect the most vulnerable.

"I am passionate about the service we provide and my role as DCC is to enable the force to provide that service in the most efficient and effective way it can."

Mr Wood said the force's drive to save time and money by making the best use of currently available technology would be vital to meeting the financial challenges it faces.

"We need to do business differently while preserving the front line", he said. "The force's programme to find technological solutions has been properly thought out and I will be looking for ways to support its delivery, making sure it continues to head in the right direction.

"I do not see many other forces with similar funding issues identifying such a clear and transformational way of solving the funding problem and that makes Cambridgeshire Constabulary different."

Mr Wood, who is married with two grown-up children, a daughter and son, was born in Lincoln but his parents quickly moved to Buckden, where they lived for a time before moving to Wyton where he attended Houghton and Wyton Primary School.

"I lived in Cambridgeshire until I was nearly 12 so it has a sense of home and it is still an important county to me.

Mr Wood is the ACPO lead for Behavioural Science. He has an MA in Criminology.



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Photo by Sonia Foreman

Bowls Report

Apart from the club finals weekend (results next issue), the season had now reached its conclusion. We have had some ups and some downs, hosted a county match and the Ely and District League Finals.

In the Ely and District leagues, the men finished mid table but the ladies achieved more success and finished in second place, their highest position for a number of years. In the Cambridge and District league we have played in division 3 for the first time and finished in mid table.

The highlight of the team cup competitions came along in the Bowls Cambridgeshire mixed fours competition. After defeating Soham, March Conservatives, March Town and Meldreth, we then played the 'auld enemy' from Fordham in the final at St Neots. Rink 4 saw Bob Cole, Pat Houghton, Carol Wells and Barry Grimwood lead from the start and despite being pegged back, held on to win by two shots. On Rink 5, Darren Dunbavin, Sheila King, Celia and Barry Clarke dug deep and hung on only to lose by four shots. But on Rink 6, the four of Doreen Raven, Rowland Wells, Robert Burling and Sylvia Pinder had a commanding performance and won by 10 shots. Therefore overall with the three rinks scores added together meant that we had won by eight shots, a very satisfying afternoon.

As reported in the last issue, a team comprising of (above: left to right) Barry Grimwood, Darren Dunbavin, Shane Dunbavin and John Foreman, qualified for a date at Worthing in August, representing Cambridgeshire in the English National Championship. We played a team from Wootten Bassett, Wiltshire in the first round eventually losing 15-26 but the score doesn't portray how well we played. We all had some good shots and if we had enjoyed some of that little bit of luck associated with any sport, we could have won the match. Still, a memorable occasion for all players and spectators.

So now thoughts turn to the winter season and the onset of the carpet bowls season.

Also just a reminder that every Wednesday we host a bingo evening that is open to anyone to come along and play, just come to the clubhouse at 7.30 pm. You never know, you may enjoy it.

Barry Grimwood, Club Captain



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