

Isleham Informer

Issue 66 • February 2015

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

Fabulous Festival of Light



Thank you to everyone in Isleham and the wider community who supported The Festival of Light in St. Andrew's Church during December. We opened the event with a very busy and successful Christmas Fayre followed by two more reflective sessions when people enjoyed the splendour of the Church, its architecture enhanced by the lighting provided by Walter Gunstone and the beauty of the trees. The Carol Service by tree light was a fitting finale to the Festival with more than 200 people gathering to see if their favourite carol was in the final top five! The Festival raised a fantastic sum of more than £1600 which will help with the maintenance of the building. We are already looking forward the 2015 event and to seeing you all there. *Kathy Carver*

Right: Houghton's Christmas Lights raising funds for East Anglian Air Ambulance.

All photos Vernon Place



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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.

Village Notes

'Beating the Bounds' The Isleham Society has copies of 'Beating the Bounds' - a guide to public rights of way in Isleham. If you would like a copy then please contact Vernon Place 01638 780449 •

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Open Monday-Friday 07.30-17.30
Saturday 07.30-13.00

Village clubs: information

CLUB	CONTACT	TEL	DAY/DATE	TIME	PLACE
Angling Society	Ivan Houghton	01638 780333			
Ballet & Dance	Lisa Nixon	07512 717758	Tuesday	from 4.30pm	The Beeches
Ballroom Dancing	Cynthia George	01954 202095	Friday	7pm	The Beeches
Board Games	Alison Young	01638 780351	Last Thursday Sept-June	2-5pm	High St. Church
Book Club	Doreen Spiers	01638 780783	2nd Friday	2pm	The Beeches
Bowls Club	Terry Pinder	01638 720875			
Bridge Classes	Barry Lowe	01353 658358	Wednesday	10am-noon	The Beeches
Brownies	Bridget Clements	01353 624103	Thursday	6-7.15pm	High St. Church
Busy Bees	Pre-School	01638 781212	Wednesday	9.30-11.30am	The Beeches
Craft Club	Hazel Thompson	01638 780633	Tuesday	1.30-4pm	Limestone Centre
Cubs	Emily Yellop	01638 780637	Tuesday	6.15-7.45pm	The Beeches
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	The Beeches
Isleham Society	Vernon Place	01638 780449	3rd Thursday	7.45pm	The Beeches
New Age Kurling	Lisa Milne	01638 780186	Friday	2-3.30pm	The Beeches
Paper, Patch & Sew	Victoria Rattle Julie Porter	01638 781301 01638 781390	Saturday Bi-monthly	10-4pm	High St Church
Pilates	Jo Simcock-Simms	07974 653775	Monday Wednesday	7-8pm, 8-9pm 12 noon	The Beeches
Tania Fitness	Tania McQuilkin	07983 440187	Tue: Powerhoops & kettlebells	9.30-10.15am	The Beeches
Twinning Association	Keith Woollard	01353 723010	Annual visits to and from Nesles		
WI	Glenda Preece	01638 780734	2nd Thursday	7.30pm	The Beeches

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Sunday 10am - 12 noon
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Isleham VIP meets Duke of Cambridge

In May 2014 Ruth Diver received a surprising and slightly mysterious phone call, informing her that she had been nominated for an honour, but that she would have to wait for publication of the Queen's Birthday Honour's List in the national press for confirmation in June. Her name duly appeared, and on 26th November she set off for Buckingham Palace, dressed up to the nines, very excited and a little nervous about meeting a member of the Royal family. Her taxi driver informed her that it wouldn't be the Queen herself as the flag wasn't flying at the Palace that day! After practising the official terms of address and rehearsing her curtsy, she was presented to HRH Prince William, our own Duke of Cambridge, and given her MBE.



Ruth Diver, MBE
Photo Vernon Place.

'We chatted briefly about schools in Norfolk, as the Duke seems to have a specific interest,' said Ruth. 'He was charming and very knowledgeable, and so kind and considerate to everyone he met at the ceremony. It was a fantastic day, and I'd like to thank everyone who made it so special. It was lovely to have such a warm reception back home at The Beeches, it topped off a very memorable day for me and my family and friends.'

Ruth was nominated for her dedication to her career of teaching at Sheringham Woodfield School for Children with Severe and Profound Learning Difficulties and Complex Needs. She worked there for 39 years in a variety of roles, after qualifying in 1974, teaching children from ages 3-19 years, with varying degrees of special needs. Ruth retired in 2014 to Isleham after decades of commuting weekly to her cottage in Sheringham. All at The Informer would like to congratulate her and thank her for bringing a spot of Royal glamour to a cold and wintry night last November. *Zoe French*

Dates for Your Diary

Let us know if there is anything you would like included here for future issues: contact Glenda Preece, see page 3.

Every **Tuesday** Coffee Morning Social Centre, 9am-noon

February

Mon 2nd	Parish Council	The Beeches, 7.15pm
Thur 5th	Mobile Library	Church St. 2.15-3pm Mill St. 3.05-5pm
Thur 12th	W.I.	The Beeches, 7.30pm
Fri 13th	Book Club	2pm The Beeches
Tue 17th	Gardeners Club	7.30pm The Beeches
Thur 19th	Isleham Society	7.30pm The Beeches
Fri 20th	Mobile Library	Church St. 9.30 -10.05am

March

Mon 2nd	Parish Council	The Beeches, 7.15pm
Thur 5th	Mobile Library	Church St. 2.15-3pm Mill St. 3.05-5pm
Mon 9th	INFORMER DEADLINE	
Thur 12th	W.I.	The Beeches, 7.30pm
Fri 13th	Book Club	2pm The Beeches

Useful 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

	Arrive	Depart
1st Thursday of the month:		
Church Street	14.15	15.00
Mill Street	15.05	17.00
3rd Friday of the month: Church St	09.30	10.10

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 (non-emergency).....	111
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



Grants for WWII Commemoration

Next summer marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. In celebration, Cambridgeshire County Council is pleased to announce a Small Grants Fund to encourage community activity.

It is an opportunity for communities and Cambridgeshire residents to come together to remember the wartime effort, celebrate peace, reminisce about the 'unforgettable forties' era and capture some of the celebratory mood of the time. Whether it be a community tea dance, the researching and sharing of stories of the time, a lindy hop event, raising morale through music or sport, a 'make do and mend' community craft

project, creating a 'Dig For Victory' garden or giving your fete or festival a forties theme, we would like you to design and deliver activities within your community that motivate and encourage people to get involved.

Small grants will be awarded to local groups and organisations to support community activities linked to and inspired by the 70th anniversary, wartime Britain and the 1940s. Each grant will be up to a maximum of £500 and additional funding or support in kind will be expected. The grants will be awarded in two rounds. The deadlines for applications for each round are 9th February and 9th March. To request an application form and for details on how to apply for a Small Grant, please email ww2commemoration@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or call 01954 284615 •



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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



1st Isleham Scouting Group

What an exciting time over the past couple of months in 1st Isleham Cubs & Scouts. Our Cub pack is now at 30 boys and girls, and Scouts have eight boys and girls in their Troup, soon to become 15 with a new intake before Easter.

Over the past couple of months we have enjoyed a guided tour with the tour-guides in costume at Oliver Cromwell's house in Ely, a ten-pin bowling night in Ely, the 'Cubs Got Talent' show, a nine mile hike followed by a sleepover at The Beeches. We also have a new Cubs & Scouts allotment which has been prepared by the Cubs and Scouts with the volunteer help of AC Tree Surgery & Garden Care.

The Cubs had a sleepover inside the London Science Museum, which was fantastic! Not only did they get to sleep inside the Science Museum amongst the exhibits, they also learned a lot doing fun experiments, including the use of a leaf-blower and balloons to show how our blood works to heal our bodies, and how to make a fake but convincing wound!

The Isleham Co-op kindly invited our Cubs and Scouts to bag pack on two Saturdays in December 2014. The Cubs and Scouts loved being involved with the local community and also raised over £300 in donations for the Group!

1st Isleham Scout Group will shortly be starting a Beaver Colony for boys and girls aged 6-8 years old, so if you are interested in your child joining Beavers, or becoming a part of the Team yourself, please contact either Alison Oliver on 01638 781232 or Emily Yellop on 01638 780637.

We have an exciting programme planned for 2015, with Cubs Year of Adventure this year heading into the Cub Scout Centenary next year. There will be some great camps and events for all groups, including water-zorbing, wall-climbing, rifle shooting, archery, fire-lighting, and backwoods cooking, as well as weekly fun activities towards Badges at our fun weekly meetings.

If your child is aged between 10½ and 14 years old and would be interested in joining 1st Isleham Scouts, please contact Alison Oliver on 01638 781232.

We would like to thank the local community for all of your continued support, and wish you all a very Happy New Year for 2015!

Karl Yellop



Top: Cub Ruby helps at the Co-Op Bag Pack



Right: Ruby and Archie perform on their trumpets at Cubs Got Talent



Below left: At the Science Museum sleepover, learning about haemoglobin with a leaf blower and balloons!



Below right: fake but very convincing wounds and bruises



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Isleham United Youth Football Club



Isleham United Youth FC will be holding their Festival of Football on the weekend of May 16/17. This will be the 6th year that the Festival has been held. Last year's Festival was a great success for a small village football club where we had 120 teams with nearly 1000 children playing football over the two days. This year we have age groups from under 7s–under 16s for boys and under 10s, 12s and 14s for girls.

If you would like to sponsor an advert in the programme, offer any support, enter a team or would like more information please contact me, Craig Boneham by email: craig@cpbelectrics.co.uk or phone: 07789930171.

Isleham Youth FC Under 12s Girls have had a good season so far. After losing their first game they were unbeaten to the end of 2014! They had a great cup run, beating last year's South League winners Comberton 7-1 in the first round, and then had a tough game against Bourn in the second round, winning 3-2. In the quarter finals they beat last year's North League winners Hampton 4-2! We now wait to see who we will play in the semi-finals.

In the League they are the highest scorers and also have the League's leading goal scorer, Amy McLean. Credit goes to the manager Lee Irvine for all the hard work he puts in with the team – keep up the good work, girls, for 2015.

Isleham United Youth Under 5s 'Football for Fun' is on Sunday mornings, 10–11am inside at The Beeches. Please come along if you are interested (children must be at full-time school).

Craig Boneham



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Local tree surgeons – a cut above the competition

AC Tree Surgery & Garden Care has been announced the 2014 East Cambridgeshire New Business of the Year Award Winners, after impressing judges with their IT set-up and staff training. The judges said: 'It is a new, forward looking business. With its integration of IT into an industry not normally associated with it, this company is delivering a quality service to all its customers.'

AC Tree Surgery & Garden Care was also Highly Commended Runner-Up in the Best Customer Service category at the Awards. Managing Partner, Karl Yellop, added that the business was also committed to employing local apprentices, providing quality on-the-job training and professional qualifications. The business is also spreading its roots in the Community by helping 1st Isleham Cub and Scout group get their allotment up to scratch. The staff freely gave up their time to help clear the site ready for planting in Spring. It

is also sponsoring the local Isleham under 9s Football Team •



Isleham Gardeners



A few thoughts and quotes from famous people:
Gardening is the art that uses flowers and plants as the paint and the soil and sky as the canvas. Elizabeth Murray
Nothing is more completely the child of art than a garden. Sir Walter Scott

Keep love in your heart. A life without it is like a sunless garden when the flowers are dead. Oscar Wilde

If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need. Marcus Tullius Cicero

There were apples that rivalled rubies; pears of topaz tint, some purple as the amethyst, others blue and brilliant as the sapphire; an emerald here, and now a golden drop that gleamed like the yellow diamond of Genghis Khan. Benjamin Disraeli

Our England is a garden that is full of stately views, of borders, beds and shrubberies and lawns and avenues. Rudyard Kipling

My neighbour asked if he could use my lawnmower and I told him of course he could so long as he didn't take it out of my garden! Eric Morecambe

- Our 2015 programme includes talks on A Nature Photographer's Garden, keeping chickens, herbs, and in June, an evening trip to The Plantsmans Preference Nursery at South Lopham, Diss.
- Please note that our 17th March meeting will start at the earlier time of 7pm in order to hold our AGM before a talk on Hardy Geraniums.
- Isleham is fortunate to have a surplus of allotments that other towns and villages would die for, so why not take on a small plot, get some exercise, fresh air and lovely tasty veg. You never know you may come to love it.
- Isleham Gardeners meet on the third Tuesday of the month, membership is only £10 per annum and this entitles you to good discounts at our local garden centres.

Wishing you all happy gardening.

Phil Adelphus

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Wednesday February 11th & 25th

Wednesday March 11th & 25th



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Everyone is welcome.

The Isleham Society

We started the New Year with an open meeting which was free for anyone to attend and had a good attendance despite the bad weather. Starting with a short introduction by Vernon Place about the work of the late Arthur Houghton in copying a collection of old photographs of people and events that took place in the village over many years and how he wrote a book *Memories of Isleham*. The second edition of his book was published in 1995, edited by Gillian Styman and Margaret Williams and printed by Paul and Sally Chaplin who donated their services free of charge. Copies are still available at the Post Office or the Isleham Society.

Arthur was born in Sun Street in 1911, and his first recollection of his life was sitting on his mother's knee singing old Sankey hymns on a Sunday evening when he was three or four. He lived to celebrate his 100th birthday with his family and friends. He bequeathed his collection of slides, photographs and written material to the Isleham Society for safekeeping for our community. Our President, Ian Powys, has spent many hours in cataloguing Arthur's collection and adding his own written material and photographs to the collection; also we have been able to acquire much information from those who have kindly allowed us to copy their items (which we always return to them). The Society receives requests for information from all over the world about Isleham and the people or families who once lived here (or still do). After the talk everyone was able to examine much of Arthur's collection as well as some of the newer collections we now possess. Also on view were some excellent copies of old maps of the village brought by one of our members, David Alberry-King who was on hand to discuss the various changes that have taken place since they were first published,

- Future dates: 19th February. A presentation by the staff of a village industry from Dullingham about the ancient craft of distilling, entitled *English Spirit Distillery*.
- 19th March. An illustrated talk entitled *The Role of a Police Wildlife Crime Officer* by Barry Kaufman-Wright.
- April 16th. The AGM we will also have a speaker (to be arranged) and finish the evening with refreshments brought by the members, are welcome to attend any of our meetings, the cost to non-members is £2/person.

Vernon Place, Chairman



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Isleham Parish Council Update

The Parish Council meets on the first Monday of every month at 7.15pm. Meetings are held in the main meeting room of The Beeches. Members of the public are invited to attend the meetings and 15 minutes is set aside each month for public question time. (No food or drink to be brought into the meeting room, please.)

Full copies of the minutes are available on the Parish Council website, the Notice Board and from the Parish Clerk, Diane Bayliss: tel: 01638 781687, email: islehampc@btinternet.com

ADVANCE NOTICE

Parish Council Elections take place on 7th May, 2015. Nomination papers are available from East Cambs District Council, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely; telephone 01353 665555.

POLICE MATTERS

- Non-emergency Contact No for Police – 101

RECREATION GROUND REPORT

- There are a few slots available on the MUGA in the evenings and it is also available at weekends and during the day. Please contact the Parish Clerk for further details.
- Please remember no dogs are allowed on the Recreation Ground or on The Beeches car park and footpaths.

PLAY AREA REPORT

- The Zip-Wire has been installed although it is currently not running freely. Wicksteed are coming out to inspect it on Tuesday 20th January.

SKATE PARK REPORT

- Unfortunately the Skate Park installation has been delayed owing to unsuitable access. It is hoped that once the road is re-instated to the rear of the Centre that this will take the necessary concrete lorries to the site.

THE BEECHES

- The final snagging list for the Centre has been compiled and the work should be carried out the week beginning 26th January 2015.
- The road way still has to be re-laid and this also should take place the week beginning 26th January 2015.

PLANNING MATTERS

Planning Applications have been received for:

- 14/00966/FUL New Conservatory at 33 Waterside, Isleham for Mrs Beckett.
- 14/01093/FUL Single and two storey extension to rear and erection of new separate garage at 10 Station Road, Isleham for Mr and Mrs Frost (amendment)
- 14/01365/FUL Garage conversion and separate cart lodge at Poppies, 23 Prickwillow Road, Isleham for Mr and Mrs Mesher.
- 14/01344/FUL Two-storey extension, single storey extensions and cart shed garage at 10 Little London, Isleham for Mr and Mrs Flynn.
- 14/01345/LBC Two-storey extension, single-storey extensions and cart shed garage at 10 Little London, Isleham for Mr & Mrs Flynn.

- 14/01336/FUL Remove existing single storey extension and replace with a two-storey extension which incorporates existing outbuilding at 14 Pound Lane, Isleham for Mr Jamie Stevens.

Planning Approvals have been received for:

- 14/00853/FUL Proposed stable block to replace existing buildings at 9 Prickwillow Road, Isleham for Mr Carl Rutterford.
- 14/01093/FUL Single and two-storey extension to rear and erection of new separate garage at 10 Station Road, Isleham for Mr and Mrs M Frost.
- 14/00966/FUL New Conservatory at 33 Waterside, Isleham for Mrs Beckett.
- 14/01187/VAR to vary conditions 4 and 12 (Parking and turning area) of previously approved 12/00398/FUL for construction of 3 dwellings with garaging and separate garage for No 27 Sun Street at GF Harvey Builders Ltd.
- 14/01104/FUL Demolition of Existing Conservatory & Erection of New Single Storey Lean-to Rear Extension at 8 Pound Lane, Isleham for Mr and Mrs Dale Clarke.
- 14/00935/FUL Retrospective application to extend existing cold-room at the rear of the store, relocate condenser units and for the shop-front frames to be sprayed traffic grey b Matt finish RAL 7043 at Co-Operative Retail Services Ltd 2 West Street, Isleham for the Co-Operative Group.

Other planning matters:

- 14/01018/CLP Siting of a mobile home within curtilage of dwelling at The Oasis 21 Prickwillow Road, Isleham for Mr Stephen Peers (Appeal).
- 14/01181/TRE & Trees/Isleham/CA Tree Work Approval at 19 The Causeway, Isleham.
- TPO/E/03/71 Isleham & 14/01304/TPO Consent for Tree Works at 54 & 56 West Street, Isleham.
- Schedule of certification of street numbering – removal of property name (Botany Bay)
- 14/01126/TRE & Trees/Isleham/CA Tree Work Consent at 8 The Pits, Isleham

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

- The footpath at the entrance to the Church Social Centre has been repaired.
- Keeley Russell of Balfour Beatty will be attending the February Parish Council Meeting to discuss the new street lighting that is to be installed this year.
- If your streetlight is not working please contact the Parish Clerk with the light number, she will then report it to the County Council.

ALLOTMENT MATTERS

- Please note that organic waste only may be burnt on the allotment sites.
- There are still a number of plots available on the Dunstall Allotment site. Please contact the Parish Clerk for details.

ORCHARD MATTERS

- Concrete benches have been installed at the Orchard. The benches were supplied by JKH Drainage Units, installed by SP Landscapes and the lettering was done by Mildenhall Monumentals.

WASH MATTERS

- The remaining fishing rights on the Wash have been let to the Lark Angling Society for £300 per year.

OTHER MATTERS

- The Dial-a-Ride AGM is to be held on Tuesday 17th February at 11am at Witchford Village Hall.
- The Parish Council continues to support the Ely/Soham Dial-a-Ride Bus Service to Ely on a Thursday morning.

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 w-bsite www.eastcambs.gov.uk



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PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Parish Council Elections take place this year on 7th May. If you wish to become a Parish Councillor and work for the welfare of the residents of Isleham please read on:

If you are over 18, a British subject or Euro-national, a registered local elector, in the whole of the 12 months preceding the day of election have your principal or only place of work in the parish, or in the whole of the 12 months preceding the day of election have resided in the parish or within 3 miles of it you may stand for election.

There are two forms that need to be filled in and these are available from East Cambs District Council after 1st February 2015 at www.east-cambs.gov.uk/elections-voting/election-forms-candidates

1. Nomination Paper – This gives your details and has to have a Proposer and a Seconder.

2. Candidate Consent to Nomination – This gives the conditions that allow you to become a candidate and must be signed in the presence of two witnesses.

The forms have to be delivered in person at the District Council offices between Monday 30th March and Thursday 9th April at 4pm. An interview room will be made available for people to be seen without making an appointment. Any nomination papers that are received by post will not be valid under the new legislation.

All candidates that stand for election will need to complete expenses forms and return them by no later than Thursday 4th June 2015; any elected candidate shall not sit or vote in the council until the election expenses forms are submitted. If the elected candidate sits or votes the penalties are £50 for every day on which they sit or vote. Failure by any candidate to complete their election expenses is an illegal practice. •

The Big Litter Pick

Isleham Parish Council is organising a litter pick on Saturday 7th March, 10am–12noon. If you, or a group to which you belong, would be willing to take part in this to improve our village then please contact the Clerk, Mrs D Bayliss on 01638 781687•

Speedwatch

Community Speed Watch is a locally driven initiative where active members of the community join together with the support of the Police to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices. Vehicles exceeding the speed limit are referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speed.

Volunteers receive appropriate training, and are supported by neighbourhood policing team (NPT) staff. Speed Watch activity is not about interfering with neighbours' behaviour; it is a proactive solution to improve the safety and quality of life for everyone in the community.

A Community Speed Watch team was created in Isleham several years ago, but unfortunately it is now short of members. If you are interested in contributing to this initiative then please contact our Parish Clerk Mrs D Bayliss 01638 781687.

Parish Councillors address list

Derrick Beckett (Chairman)	Appleyard Farm, 1 Houghtons Lane, Isleham 01638 780476
Vanessa Bruyneel-Smith	115 The Causeway, Isleham 01638 781708
Paul Chaplin	Jay Jay Lodge, Waterside, Isleham 01638 781745
Jeannette Malkin	17 Little London, Isleham 01638 780283
Bob Mitchell	10 Sparkes Close, Isleham 01638 780707
Lionel Neal	104 Beck Road, Isleham 01638 780066
Clive Patterson	21 West Street, Isleham 01638 780669
Glenda Preece	94 The Causeway, Isleham 01638 780734
Richard Radcliffe	45 Sun Street, Isleham 01638 780831
Hazel Thompson	9 Limestone Close, Isleham 01638 780633
Pauline Wilkes	6 Limestone Close, Isleham 01638 780640
Diane Bayliss (Parish Clerk)	37 Croft Road, Isleham CB7 5QR 01638 781687 islehampc@btinternet.com www.isleham-village.co.uk

Isleham Gala 2015

From Margaret Davies of the Gala Committee: I do realise that it has been said many times before, but never more earnestly than now. We need more people to come forward to plan but more importantly, help with the many tasks that go into Gala Day.

On the day, a great team of helpers turn up but it would be good to know in advance who will be coming to help. We need a van or trailer to move equipment from store to the field; and help to erect the stalls. There are other jobs, such as placing black bags onto stakes around the field, marshalling the Fun Run, etc.

SPONSORSHIP is perhaps the most important job as without money from Sponsors we cannot run the event. We have records of contacts and what has been given in past years and this provides a base from which to work. New ideas for raising sponsorship money would of course be a huge boost.

GRAND DRAW Again, we have contact numbers for previous prize donators and all necessary records and paperwork to help make the task easier.

BABY SHOW There was much criticism that this was not held last year. If yours was one of the critical voices then PLEASE come forward to help. There is little to do ahead of the day and it is not the most onerous of tasks on the day. Perhaps the biggest challenge is to find two independent judges.

GALA QUEEN and Attendants competition. A much missed presence last year. We had several suggestions and offers of help which did not come to fruition and this year it is a priority for us to find someone or organisation to take this on.

We are a small, friendly, easy-going Committee and would warmly welcome new people to join us. Just one evening a month – the third Monday, 7.30 pm at the Rising Sun and you don't even have to turn up every month as long as you give us a progress report.

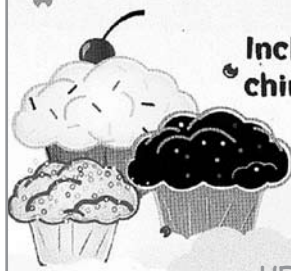
PLEASE, if you love your Village and Gala Day – get involved.

Margaret Davies, Isleham Sports & Gala Day Committee

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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, The Vicarage, 24 Mildenhall Road, Fordham CB7 5NR Tel: 01638 721616 email: banyardmg1@yahoo.co.uk

Associate Priest: The Rev's Dr Jenny Gage email 3rivers.jenny@gmail.com **Curate:** The Rev's Sue Potts, The Vicarage, Chippenham CB7 5PP

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.

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 6.30pm Choir practice. All welcome. Contact Mark Liversidge 01638 781696. 7.30pm Bell Ringing, beginners especially welcome. Contact Ruth Ogden 01638 780646.

Churchwardens: Ruth Ogden 01638 780646, ruth.

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Parishes

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Tuesday Feb 17th

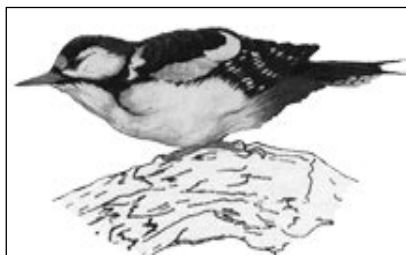
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ogden@islehamchurch.org.uk; Rob Savage 01638 780218 robert.savage@islehamchurch.org.uk

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

Pound Lane Free Church

Pastor: Dave Hall (01638 781343 or 01638 780636, email pastor@plfc.org.uk) **Elder:** David Brown (01638 780410)

Sunday worship: 11am and 6.30pm.

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

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

All Stars (Years 4-6): 10-11.15am (Suzanne Hall 01638 781805). **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 terms. 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.

Tuesday: 18-30s: 7pm. (Suzanne Hall 01638 781805) Meeting at PLFC 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.

Church Night: 7.40-9pm. Bible study, prayer and fellowship. Age from 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).

Saturday: Men's Fellowship (2nd Sat of month) 8am (Paul Rogerson 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

• For the third year running we will be welcoming children and parents to our Children's Easter Celebration on Saturday 4th April from 1-3pm. This will be for

children from 2 years upwards and their parents. There will be a variety of events including an Easter egg hunt and each child will receive a goodie bag to go home with. We had so much fun at this event last year – don't miss out, aim to join us!

- We give you a very warm welcome to our Easter Day Family Service on Sunday 5th April at 10.30am followed by refreshments.

- From Thursday 23rd of April to Sunday 26th April our friend Roger Carswell will be joining us for a series of events sharing the good news about Jesus Christ.

- Further details of all these events will be in our next Isleham dot com.

- Details about the Children's Easter Celebration can be found at: www.plfc-easter.com

High Street Church

Family Time

I have just spent the evening with a friend from church who had enormous family problems over Christmas. It made me reflect that families can give us the greatest joy but also the greatest worry and sometimes the greatest pain.

God is interested in families; He is delighted when we are good fathers, sons, mothers and daughters. When we nurture, care, lead and are a blessing to our children and in turn when our children grow into responsibility and are pleased to see their parents taking delight in them.

God is keen not to just see a closed nuclear family but to see us open up our families to those on the outside who in turn feel they have been adopted as new grandparents or new sons.

Maybe this is a bit of a rosy picture; it ignores the problems, disputes, break-ups and disappointments. Divorce and unhappiness in families is evident wherever we look. I think there is nothing sadder than hearing that a mother or father has lost contact with their son or daughter.

As we look back on a another year I reflect on my own family and see that through the good times and bad it's great to have a family to live life with, so we can laugh together, cry together, put an arm round each other and together thank God and ask for His help.

God describes the church as His family, sometimes we could do better, but I am so pleased that people that do come along to church very quickly feel part of the family. You are welcome to come along share life, hopes, fears and failures – that's what families do!

- We have lots going on in the

week from book clubs to youth groups, groups discussing parenting teenagers to learning to drum or working with migrant workers, you could come along to little lambs toddler group or enjoy Rendezvous, our group for those who are retired – there is too much to list. We also do great Sunday get-togethers at 10.30am and 6.30pm – the door is open.

Catch us on Facebook – High street church Isleham – or our web site www.highst.org.uk

Martin Wells

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 •

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The Beeches Update 2015

December 13th was the first anniversary of The Beeches opening its doors to the residents of Isleham and surrounding villages. The first year has flown by and has seen The Beeches grow into a meeting place for all ages, groups and activities. I couldn't have asked for a better first year and would like to thank everybody for their support, help and dedication which has enabled us to get to where we are today! I look forward to a fantastic 2015 with new events, new faces and improving reoccurring events held last year.

We continue to have a fantastic team on our committee albeit a small one, who help us plan events and support us in any way they can. However, we are always looking for new faces and fresh ideas. If you enjoy planning and organising events, or have office and business experience, marketing ideas or are just looking to be involved in any way shape or form with the centre, then please don't hesitate to contact us. We (the committee) meet once a month and work hard, but have fun in doing so!

Major events at The Beeches

We held our first Sportsman's Dinner in October which saw us seat 174 people in the hall for a fantastic night of food, comedy and sporting history, and which has led to more dates for your diary: up and coming events at The Beeches this year are as follows:

- 2nd May - VE Party 1940's Theme
- 27th June - Summer Ball
- 5th July - Gala Day and Family Night
- 5th September - Ladies Night
- 30th October - Sportsman's Dinner
- 20th December - Family Christmas Disco
- 31st December - Beeches New Years Eve Party with Macca.

The Beeches is looking to expand the café by having more days where you can come and enjoy some home-made food in cosy settings. We have a new addition to our kitchen team, Jason, who joins Angela to bring more locally sourced and new, varied cuisine over several dates in the next few months. These will include theme nights and any special occasions you may have coming up. We recently catered for 36 guests in the main hall for a 2 course dinner, which meant that a large family could all get together and enjoy a family meal.

Coming up in the next few months..

- Friday 20th February - Half Term Family Feast - come along and try The Beeches Burger and let the kids make their own pizzas!
- Friday 6th March - Curry Night - tingle your taste buds!
- Sunday 15th March - Mother's Day - we are taking bookings for afternoon cream teas, so spoil the ones you love!
- Good Friday 3rd April - Steak Night with all the trimmings!
- Easter Monday 6th April - Come along at midday for Hot Cross Buns and a cuppa plus an easter egg hunt for the kids
- 1st May - Italian Night

We will publish prices as soon as possible. Please book in advance to avoid disappointment! Keep an eye on the notice boards in and around the centre, the Beeches website and our FaceBook page for more information nearer the time.

Many thanks for your continued support, we hope there is something coming up in our events that will suit all ages and look forward to seeing you soon!

Louise Hounscome, Centre Manager
Tel: 01638 780097 Mobile: 07742 832300

Isleham WI

We ended the year with a Christmas Party when members, friends and representatives of Fordham and Chippenham joined us for the celebration. A group of members have formed a choir, and they led the singing of carols, which everyone joined in.

At our January meeting we were visited by a member of staff from the Animal Health Trust, which exists to fight disease and injury in animals. Thanks to their pioneering work improving diagnosis, treatment and prevention, horses, dogs and cats are living healthier, happier lives - in the UK and across the world. This was an informative talk which interested all our members.

Our programme for 2015

February AGM and a short talk by Ruth Diver who was recently awarded the MBE

March *Life as an International Airline Pilot*: a talk by Mark Linney

April *Traditional Toys*

May *A woman's life in the Army*

June Summer outing

July *'Life as a film extra*

August The Cooking Cannon entertains

September Harvest Supper

October Members Evening

November Making Christmas baubles

December Christmas Party

If you would like to join the W.I. 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 Beeches, 7.30pm for 7.45pm, and new members are always welcome. For further information contact: Glenda Preece on 01638 780734 or email gjpreece@aol.com



February & March 2015

Mondays	7-9pm Pilates
Tuesdays	9.30-11am PowerHoops & KettleBells 4pm-9.30pm Ballet/Cubs/Scouts/ Your Body Class
Wednesdays	9am-12 Busy Bees 9am Bridge 10-11.30am Needles & Natter 12-1pm Pilates 6-7pm Hour of Power
Thursdays	7.15-8.15pm Hour of Power 7.45-8.45pm Your Body Class
Fridays	2-3.30pm New Age Kurling 7-8.30pm Ballroom Dancing
Saturdays	9-10am Hour of Power 11.15-12.15am Your Body Class 10am-1pm Breakfast 9am-close Café & bar open
Sundays	10am-1pm Breakfast 9am-close Café & bar open

**OPEN FOR BREAKFAST
EVERY SATURDAY & SUNDAY
10am to 1pm**

Contact Louise Hounscome

Tel: 01638 780097 • Mobile: 07742 832300

Amended rates for hire and conditions of use at The Beeches will be published on the website, at the Centre and on local noticeboards in the near future, and also in the next edition of the Informer.

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Congratulations to Ruth!

Ruth Diver MBE and friends gathered for a reception at The Beeches in her honour. See page 5 for more about her trip to the Palace...



New library opens at Isleham Primary School

After a great deal of hard work by school librarian Miss Drayton and staff at Isleham Primary School, and some fantastic artwork by teaching assistant Mrs Loureda, the new library was opened in January by Louise Aldridge, the Children's Community Engagement Librarian for Cambridgeshire •

Right: Miss Drayton, Year 1 teacher and school librarian;
far right: Louise Aldridge and pupils of Isleham School.

Photos courtesy Isleham School

Below: more festive lights from St Andrew's Church



Photos of the Festival of Light (above) and Ruth Diver and company (top) by Vernon Place