

Under 13s Girls win League & Cup double again!

I sleham Utd Under 13s Girls ended the season on a fantastic high after completing a League and Cup double for the second year running. They clinched the League by winning nineteen games and only drawing one. In their Cup Final against Cambridge City, Isleham came back from 2-0 down with goals scored by Amy McLean (2) and Cerys Kirby-Cook.

Isleham scored an incredible 176 goals this season, with Amy McLean on 83, Talia Irvine on 32 and Mia Yearn on 29 finishing as the top three goal scorers of the League. The team conceded only 15 goals in both League

and Cup games!

In between winning the League and the Cup, Isleham took part in the SCI Tournament in Great Yarmouth, and came away winners from that too, winning all six games, scoring 30 goals and conceding none!

Ex-England player and I m a Celebrity... tv star Kieron Dyer presented the girls with their winning trophies and Cup. Well done again girls! Craig Boneham

Right: Isleham Under 13 Girls team and staff with their trophies at The Beeches

• Football Festival 2016 see page 14



Isleham Preschool: officially 'outstanding'!

t's been quite a year for our village Preschool so far: our various fundraising events (the Christmas Fair in December, the pancake races and bake sale on Shrove Tuesday, and our fabulous Easter Egg raffle) have all been incredibly well supported by the local community and have raised considerable sums that have gone directly into making improvements at the Preschool. Thank you so much to everyone who has helped us! We have bought new balance bikes, colourful rugs for the main room, new books, sand timers and, last but not least, we have managed to replace our aging outdoor play equipment with some superb brand new Playdale equipment that rivals any children's playground! We now have a rope ladder, slide, sensory bridge, tunnel

and climbing wall, as well as activity stations including an interactive clock, a weather station and chalk board. The children are thoroughly enjoying exploring their newly developed outdoor area.

Continued on page 15. More photos on back page





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The Isleham Informer is published six times a year, every other month.

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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.

Useful Information

Mobile Library		
1st Thursday of the month:	Arrive	Depart
Church Street	2.15pm	3pm
Mill Street	3.05pm	5pm
3rd Friday of the month: Church St	9.30am10.10am	
Useful phone numbers		
Emergency for Police, Fire, Ambulan	ice	999
Police (Non-emergency)		101
Police (Non-emergency) Accident & Casualty (Addenbrooke's	s)01	223 217118
Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cambridge	e)01	223 245151
Newmarket Hospital	01	638 564000
West Suffolk Hospital (Bury St Edmi	ands)01	284 713000
Staploe Medical Centre (Soham)		
- Appointments	01	353 624121
- Prescriptions & Dispensary	01	353 727695
- Enquiries, Home Visits, Emergence	ies01	353 624123
Minor Treatment Centre, Ely	01	353 656675
NHS Direct (for advice)		
GP Out-Of-Hours (non-emergency).		111
Electricity Emergencies		00 7838838
Gas Emergencies	0	800 111999
Anglian Water Leaks	0	800 771881
- 24 hour		45 7145145
Social Services - office hours		45 0455202
 out of hours emergency 		733 561370
Refuse Collection	01	353 665555
RSPCA		599 522716
- Cruelty line	030	00 1234 999
Citizens Advice Bureau	Ely 084	45 130 6442
	Mildenhall 01	638 712094
	Newmarket 01	
District Councillor: Derrick Beckett		
Parish Council Clerk: Diane Bayliss	01	638 781687
MP: Lucy Frazer		

Dates for Your Diary

If there is anything you would like included here for future issues: contact Glenda Preece, T: 01638 780734 E: gjpreece@aol.com.

RECHIARS

Tuesdays: Coffee Morning at the Social Centre, 9am-noon Saturdays & Sundays Brunch at The Beeches 10am-1pm

lune

Thursday 2nd	Mobile Library	Church St. 2.15-3pm
		Mill St. 3.05-5pm
Monday 6th	Parish Council	The Beeches, 7.15pm
Thursday 9th	W.I. Summer Out	ting The Beeches, 7.30pm
Tuesday 14th	Gardeners Club	The Beeches, 7.30pm Thursday
Thursday 16th	Isleham Society	The Beeches, 7.30pm
Friday 17th	Mobile Library	Church St. 9.30-10.05am
Friday 24th	Quiz Night	The Beeches, 7.30pm
Saturday 25th	Summer Ball	The Beeches, 7pm for 7.30pm

July		
Friday 1st	Mobile Library	Church St. 2.15-3pm
		Mill St. 3.05-5pm
Saturday 2nd	Gala Day	
16	Gala Family Disco	The Beeches, 6pm
Monday 4th	Parish Council	The Beeches, 7.15pm
Saturday 9th	INFORMER DEADLINE	
Thursday 14th	W.I.	The Beeches, 7.30pm
Friday 15th	Mobile Library	Church St. 9.30-10.05am
Tuesday 19th	Gardeners Club	The Beeches, 7.30pm
Thursday 21st	Isleham Society	The Beeches, 7.30pm
Friday 29th	Quiz Night	7.30pm, The Beeches

Newly elected Police & Crime Commissioner

n 6th May 2016, Jason Ablewhite was elected Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire. Jason took over from Sir Graham Bright on Thursday 12th May.

Police & Crime Commissioners have responsibility for delivering an efficient and effective police service in their area. They set police and crime objectives, the police budget and issue grants to tackle crime and disorder. They are elected by the public



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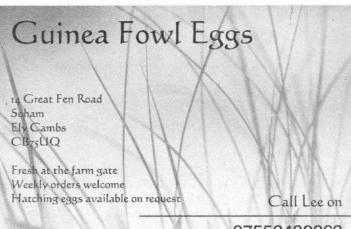
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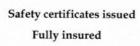
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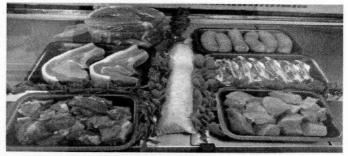
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Isleham Gardeners

A Gardener's Poem

Alan Titchmarsh, Monty Don, Jeffrey Smith and Percy Thrower We all have our favourite one to show us how to use our mower. Dairmuid Gavin, Carol Klein, Chris Bairdshaw and Joe Swift All experts in garden design; oh how I wish I had their gift. Bob Flowerdew and his reclaimed freezers, Charlie Dimmock and her water features

Pippa Greenwood's advice on plant diseases, and aphids, bugs and crawling creatures

Christine Walkden and James Wong, experts in the gardening field Tell us how to make our plants grow strong to improve our crops and increase our yield.

Tuning in to get gardening advice brings me to the end of my tether All the plants look really nice but none of them can tell me HOW TO CONTROL THE WEATHER!

It's been a very strange Spring with late frosts and very little rain but now it looks as though we could be in for some better weather. I know of some people who bought tub and basket plants only for them to be frosted overnight. We should still be careful with young tomato plants as it is possible to get a short sharp frost overnight. Speaking of tomatoes, in my last article a line was missed out which contained the variety of tomatoes I use for grafting. If anyone is interested the variety is Arnold Rootstock, available from Moles Seeds of Colchester.

We're always pleased to see new members at Isleham Gardeners. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at the Beeches. Membership is £10 per year, which entitles you to a discount at Scotsdales nurseries, and our meeting hosts varied and interesting speakers. Find us on Facebook at Isleham Gardeners.

Wishing you a happy and successful gardening summer.

Phil Adelphus



Isleham WI

In April Peter Cresswell addressed the meeting, and told members of his 'Life in Entertainment'. He started at Great

Yarmouth, then worked in many places round the country, finally finishing in Cambridge where he organised a variety of events.

Our speaker in May was Anne Datsun who demonstrated the art of serviette work that she had learned when staying in France, where it is very popular. She brought with her a selection of the work she had done, then demonstrated the craft before encouraging members to decorate items themselves. Amidst much laughter we set to work, and the results were really pleasing. It was a very pleasant evening.

We have no meeting in June as it is our summer outing, but on 14th July we have an OPEN EVENING when the speaker is a Flower Demonstrator, Sandra Jaina. All are welcome.

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 01638 780734 gjpreece@aol.com •

• If you would like your club, society, organisation's news and photos, or anything you (and the *Informer* team) think is of interest to the village to appear in the *Isleham Informer*, please contact any member of *Informer* staff - see page 3 for contact details. Please supply your article and photos by March 9th for our April issue (but we may be able to accommodate copy after that date, do check with Zoë). We also need the photographer's name where necessary and details of photos for captions: please do ask subjects to give their permission to appear in the *Informer* - children should have parents' permission.

Village clubs: information

CLUB	CONTACT	DAY/DATE	TIME	PLACE
1st Isleham Beavers (boys & girls 6-8 yrs) 1st Isleham Cubs (boys & girls 8-10 yrs)	Sue Harrison 781837	Tuesday Tuesday	5.15-6.15pm 6.30-8pm	The Beeches The Beeches
1st Isleham Scouts (boys & girls 10–14 yrs)	4	Tuesday	6.30-8pm	The Beeches
Angling Society	Ivan Houghton 01638 780333	+		
Ballet & Dance	Lisa Nixon 07512 717758	Tuesday	from 3.30pm	The Beeches
Ballroom Dancing	Cynthia George 01954 202095	Friday	7pm	The Beeches
Board Games	Alison Young 01638 780351	Last Thursday	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
Gala Committee	Margaret Davies 01638 781175	3rd Monday	7.30pm	The Beeches
Isleham Gardeners	Alison Moughton 07894 473977	3rd Tuesday	7.30pm	The Beeches
Isleham Society	Vernon Place 01638 780449	3rd Thursday	7.45pm	The Beeches
Isleham United Youth FC	Steve Isaacson 07545 395573			
New Age Kurling	Lisa Milne 01638 780186	Friday	2-3.30pm	The Beeches
Pilates	Jo Simcock-Simms 07974 653775	Monday	7–8pm, 8–9pm Wednesday	The Beeches 12 noon
Tania Fitness	Tania McQuilkin 07983 440187 Powerhoops & kettlebells	Tuesday	9.30-11am	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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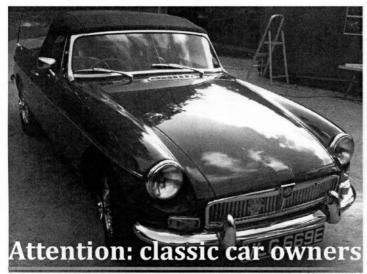
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A letter from Ivan Cole

Thilst I was having some work done in my home by a local tradesman the conversation turned to classic cars which we both own. We believe there are several other classic owners in the village, so we came up with the idea of a trip to the coast one weekend during the summer. If any other owners would like to join us and take their classic out for a run please get in touch and we can arrange to meet up to discuss the trip. You can contact me, Ivan Cole, by email to gardenbarber@yahoo.com or tel 01638 781412, 07500 967233.

Church bells ap-pealing...

Rew people can have failed to hear the bells of St Andrew's church ringing out on Sundays and on other special occasions; they are after all the loudest musical instruments in the village! Ringers are only too happy to ring for special occasions and this year, they will be marking 500 years since two new bells were installed to take the peal up to three bells. A number of quarter peals will be rung over the course of the year to mark this special anniversary and it is hoped that one such quarter peal can be rung by a band consisting entirely of Isleham residents. As far as is known, this feat has not been attained since the sixth bell was added in 1968. As we build up to this, members of the band will be increasing their personal expertise by attempting increasingly complex feats, so watch out for notice of these efforts on social media – and by some more traditional means of sharing information.

Bellringing is an enjoyable pastime suitable for anybody sufficiently mobile to ascend the staircase to the ringing room. Beginners are always welcome and can take advantage of the opportunity to be taught by qualified instructors. There is no charge for learning or practicing bell ringing just turn up at the church on a Friday evening at 7.30pm. *Gill Pederson*

Isleham Post Office vacancy

As you may know, Gary is leaving our village Post
Office in August. We are looking for an interested
person or persons to take on the Post Office
either solely or in partnership.

More details of exactly what is involved from:
Rev'd Mike Banyard 01638 721616
Peter Pederson 01638 780095
Rob Savage 01638 780218

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VASEEM KHAN author of The Perplexing Theft of the Jewel in the Crown

7.30pm Wednesday 8th June

JILL DAWSON with her latest novel *The Crime Writer* 7.30pm Thursday 9th June

JO BAKER author of Longbourn with her latest novel A Country Road, A Tree 7.30pm Tuesday 14th June

FRANCIS SPUFFORD author of *Golden Hill* 7.30pm Thursday 16th June

FIONA REYNOLDS former Director-General of the National Trust, author of *The Fight for Beauty* 7.30pm, Tuesday 21st June

BARNEY NORRIS author of Five Rivers Met on a Plain 7.30pm Thursday 23rd June

SIMON ARMITAGE poet and author of *Pearl* 7.30pm Tuesday 28th June

SARAH PERRY author of *The Essex Serpent* 7.30pm Thursday 7th July

LUCIE WHITEHOUSE author of Before We Met with latest novel Keep You Close 7.30pm Monday 18th July

BEN MACINTYRE author of Operation Zig Zag with SAS: Rogue Heroes 7.30pm Monday 26th September

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Gala Day: Saturday 2nd July

hanks to the hard work of a dedicated Committee, plans for this year's Gala Day are well under way. All we need now is a lovely sunny day – and lots

and lots of people to turn up at 8am to help set up, and just as importantly again at 5pm to help clear up. Just an hour or so of your time at each end of the day makes all the difference.

We start the Gala with the Parade, led as usual by the Pipe Band. Don't forget, anyone, any group or club can join in. You don't have to have a decorated vehicle – walking groups are becoming very popular.

The Parade sets the atmosphere for the entire event. After that, on the field will be all the attractions you have come to

look for, and much more!

The Fun Run returns – with a special track (safer than on the road) and new race categories to include everyone – tots, teens, and seasoned runners. It will be held at about 2.45pm, earlier than the old time of 5pm when everyone was heading for home – see details below.

Look out over the next few weeks for details of a Gala Queen competition – with a difference! Unfortunately the P.T.A. are unable to organise the Gala Queen competition this year but we have a plan...

Come along and enjoy a fun family day!

Margaret Davies, Isleham Sports & Gala Association

Glassic Car Display

at

Isleham Gala

Saturday July 2nd 2016

Once again we are trying to arrange for a display of classic cars, camper vans, motor bikes etc at Isleham Gala. If anyone would like to bring their vehicle along, kindly contact Malcolm Speirs (Tel: 01638-780783 email: ianmalcolmspeirs@btinternet.com) who is organising the display. Please aim to have vehicles parked by 12.00 (latest 12.30pm) on the day.



Would you like to join in the Fun Run at Isleham Gala on Saturday 2nd July?

Classifications & distances

Under 5s, Under 12s, Under 16s: two laps of the course on the recreation ground

Adults, Overs 50s, Elite: three laps

Start 3.30pm Entrance fee £1

Registration

Before the day with Les Wightman: lesmarywightman@btinternet.com/01638 781022/07581 668777

On the day look for the bright green camper van! Please register before 3pm.

You're already doing the hard miles - its time to show the World ...

GALA DAY COMPETITIONS 2016

All categories qualify for rosettes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

There are also prizes for:

- · Best in Show
- · Bird Feeder or Bird Scarer
- Decorated Garden Tool

PRODUCE CATEGORIES Fruit & Veg

- Three potatoes
- Three broad bean pods
- Three pea pods
- · Three carrots
- · Three beetroot
- · Three spring onions
- · Three sticks of rhubarb
- Six gooseberries
- · A container (basket, tray or box) of produce from your garden or allotment
- · A bowl of cherries
- · A bowl of soft fruit (single or mixed)

All must be free range (garden or allotment) and freshly laid

- · Six matched hens eggs
- · Six eggs from mixed poultry

Floral Category

If used, staging should be a maximum of 2'6" high. Accessories may be used but no artificial flowers or foliage permitted. Fresh foliage acceptable.

- An arrangement to depict 'The Spirit of Isleham' OR Rio Olympics 2016
- · A vase or bowl of flowers from your garden or allotment (foliage may be used)
- · A vase of fresh mixed herbs
- 3 or 5 stems of sweet peas single or mixed colours
- 3 or 5 pansies single or mixed colours
- · A single rose
- 3 or 5 roses single or mixed colour

MISCELLANEOUS CATEGORY

Children may enter

- · A garden photograph
- An allotment photograph
- · A gardening tip

THE GREAT ISLEHAM BAKE-OFF **Bread**

Breadmakers may be used

- · Six white rolls
- · Six wholemeal rolls
- · A loaf of white bread
- · A loaf of wholemeal bread

Cakes

- A Victoria sponge
- 4 scones fruit, cheese or plain: please label
- Fruit pie double crust plate pie
- · A plate of shortbread
- Devil's Food cake see recipe*

Jams, pickles and chutneys A jar of...

- Jam fruit of choice: please label
- Marmalade

- · Pickled onions or shallots
- Tomato chutney
- · Mint jelly
- · Redcurrant jelly

ARTS & CRAFTS CATEGORIES

Open to all ages including children. Entries from children to be clearly marked with age.

- · A quilted item (please bring your own stand if you wish to exhibit a quilt)
- · A tapestry, embroidery or cross stitch
- · An item created with yarn
- · A painting any medium
- · A drawing any medium
- · An item created in wood
- · An item modelled in clay; pottery; or other material.
- · Photographic art
- · Handmade jewellery
- · Hand or machine finished home made garment
- · An item of feltwork
- · Papercraft item
- · An arrangement of silk or artificial fabric: flowers, foliage, feathers, etc.

COMPETITIONS FOR CHILDREN

This category is open to children who are under 16 on 31 August 2016, and will be judged in two sections: up to 12 years on

the specified date and 12 to 16 years. N.B. All children may enter into adult sections but clearly mark entry with age.

Garden competitions

- · Mixed flowers in a hand decorated container
- · A garden on a plate
- · A container of home grown cress

Other creations

- · Pasta on a plate
- · A hedgehog potato
- · A crown for the Queen's 90th birthday
- · Three decorated cup cakes
- Three jam tarts
- · Gingerbread figures
- · Any type of bread product

NOTES

Entries for all categories will be accepted from 9.30am to 12 noon. In special circumstances entries may be accepted outside these times if a prior arrangement is made by calling 01638 781175 before 8am. Entries may not be removed from marquees until after 3.30pm but must be taken no later than 4.45pm. It is appreciated that these timings may cause inconvenience but are set to give all visitors the opportunity to view exhibits. DISCLAIMER: Whilst every possible effort is made to avoid damage or removal of items by unauthorised persons, the Gala Association

cannot accept liability for loss or damage.

*RECIPE FOR DEVIL'S FOOD CAKE Ingredients

For the cake mix: 90g plain chocolate, chopped; 115g unsalted butter; 90g dark muscovado sugar; 1 tablespoon golden syrup; 175g plain flour; 25g cocoa powder; half teaspoon bicarbonate of soda; 2 large eggs beaten. For the chocolate icing: 150ml whole milk; 100g golden caster sugar; 60g plain chocolate chopped; 60g unsalted butter, at room temperature; half teaspoon real vanilla essence.

Method

You will need two 18cm sandwich tins, greased and base-lined.

- Put the chocolate, butter, sugar and syrup in heavy saucepan. Heat very gently, stirring frequently until melted. Remove pan from the heat and leave to cool.
- Sift flour, cocoa and bicarbonate of soda into a large bowl and make a well in the centre. Pour in the melted chocolate mixture, stir gently, then add the eggs, vanilla essence and milk. Beat very gently with a wooden spoon until well mixed.
- Now spoon the mixture into the prepared tins and spread evenly. Bake in a preheated oven at 170C (325F)Gas3, for 15-20 minutes until just firm to the touch. Remove from the oven and let cool in the tins for 5 minutes, then turn out and transfer to a wire rack to cool completely. To make the icing:
- Put the milk and sugar in a saucepan and heat gently stirring frequently until the sugar has dissolved, then boil rapidly for 1 minute until syrupy.
- Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the chocolate. When melted and smooth, stir in the butter and vanilla essence. Let cool, stirring occasionally. then beat well until very thick.
- · Spread one-third of the icing onto one of the cakes.
- · Set the second layer on top.
- Spread the rest of the mixture evenly over the top and sides.
- · Leave in a cool spot (not refrigerator) until set. Store in an airtight container and eat within 5 days.

Good luck!

1st Isleham Beavers



st Isleham Beavers have had a busy time celebrating their own first year and 30 years of Beavers across the country! In April we visited Twin Lakes Adventure Park as part of the County birthday celebrations, and in May we went to Bradfield Combust for a District birthday celebration camp. Beavers have been learning how to build a campfire, put up tents, and fire catapults and crossbows. In our weekly meetings they have been busy as usual with team-building and working on their Challenge badges. Emma Bucknall









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Isleham Society AGM 21 April 2016.

n Thursday 21st April, Bryan Wynne presented a very favourable Treasurer's report. Details were distributed to those present.

Vernon Place gave a brief Chairman's report on the meetings and activities of the past year and thanked the committee and members for their hard work and continuing support.

The officers elected for 2016 are:

President: Ian Powys Chairman: Vernon Place Secretary: Glenda Preece Treasurer: Bryan Wynne Programme Secretary: Ann Cant

Book Sales: Betty Ashley,

Committee Members: Peter Flatt, Pat Houghton and Beryl Powys.

Clive Patterson has joined the committee and was also elected to the vacant position of Vice Chairman.

Vernon Place thanked Clive for all the support he had given the Society over many years, which was greatly appreciated.

After consulting our Treasurer the committee has agreed to subsidise the cost of our two coach outings planned for coming year by the sum of £100 for each trip to encourage more people to join us on our outings. The outings are to Bressingham Steam Museum and Gardens on 16th June, and Wisbech to Elgood's Brewery and Gardens and additional places of interest on 15th September. In addition there will be an evening walk at Chippenham Fen at 6.30pm on 6th June. Programmes of all the 2016 meetings will be available.

After the business meeting Brian Challis gave a very interesting talk about his experiences as a 'Gamesmaker' at the Olympics with the evening ending with refreshments brought by the members.

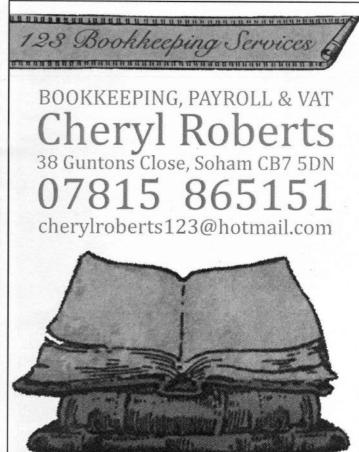
Visitors are welcome any of our meetings - the cost to non-members is £2 per person. Vernon Place, Chairman.



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Isleham Nature Reserve News

Spring has truly bloomed in the last few weeks. The Nature Reserve has woken up after the long winter, and the scars of the recent hedge-laying by the entrance gate are being softened by new green growth and flowers in the ditch from all the new light and water.

We had a most interesting talk from Norma Chapman at the recent AGM. She gave an informative, illustrated talk on the deer found in East Anglia, and brought a selection of skins, hooves

and skulls to display.

We hope to take advantage of another expert, Louise Bacon, on Saturday 2nd July (Gala Day), or the day after, Sunday 3rd July. She is an expert on butterflies, and on National Meadows Day she will lead a walk over the large grass field next to the Nature Reserve, catching and identifying butterflies.

The Guided Walk leaflet has been a great success, and we keep replacing the ones 'liberated' from the dispenser in the Reserve car park. We are also going to leave some at the Beeches for those who feel the need to walk off a beer or two...

For more details of our work and interests, you can find us on Facebook: Friends of isleham Nature Reserve, or by contacting me directly avinashostacey@gmail.com or tel: 01638 780023.

Our friend Tony has produced another fine tale of Phoebe's walks...

Phoebe's Spring River Walk

It has been some time since I wrote about Phoebe's Walks, as she has had hip problems. She is now two years old and fighting fit. This is the story of our regular walk. I get dropped off with Phoebe at the top of the Fenland Boats Drove. We wander down the Drove to the river passing a lovely old chicken shed. We turn right towards Isleham along the Lark embankment. By this stage Phoebe has stopped to look for little owls, pheasants and had a quick scan of the rooks, which seem to gather in ten pairs per rookery. We pass the old Bargees pub (now a house), through the metal gate and along the grandstand that is the flood defence bank. This is Lark Angling Preservation Society's waters, and a hundred paces down from here is where I found a mammoth vertebra. But from now on I am looking for the white pheasant that lives around the Wash.

Phoebe trots along eating grass and cow dung... a Labrador on a diet is very opportunistic!

We pause to view the new irrigation lake with several types of duck and a fleet of cormorants with wings spread to dry.

They always look so prehistoric. In the fields there are a couple of small herds of roe deer, and rabbits and hares. The wrens are singing their loud and complex song from the brambles. How can something so small make such a long loud song? Sometimes Phoebe and I sit and wait for the birds turning up. A sit down gives me a view of the newly arrived migrant birds; swalls

newly arrived migrant birds: swallow, house martin, cuckoo, common whitethroat with a mini skylark flight, lesser whitethroat and the melodious blackcap (brown head on female birds). This whole Wash area is under Natural England's stewardship.

A noise from the sky and we look up to see a buzzard mobbed by rooks. As we near a bend a party of canoeists head towards Prickwillow, and boats are on the way to Judes Ferry for lunch. A new sound comes out of the smaller Wash as the black and white avocets dibble for lunch – whilst Phoebe hoovers up the nutritionally-empty twice-digested rabbit poo. (Phoebe uses face-licking to keep her humans under control!)

We follow the blue, longtail and great tits in the hedgerow up to the big Wash, and the smell of a barbecue coming from Karma Farm's campers. The nesting teal, oystercatchers, shovellers and geese add to the sounds of the 25 avocets. You should keep to the top of the bank top to avoid disturbing birds: anyone walking by the river can easily put up the birds, and this is a waste of energy they can ill-afford at this time of year. Carry on through the gate looking out for the kingfishers on the river. You will not see otters but they are around at times in the Marina. Down the lane now to Isleham weir. Take a look at the weir: it not only washes tennis balls in the stopper wave but it also has an elver ladder. The rare eels are at last making a comeback and we even get lampreys in the Lark! Looking upstream from the weir bridge you can look down on the roach and gudgeon waiting for food to come down to them in the current.

Final observations are sea trout coming over this weir. One weighing nine pounds was caught this year thanks to the Environmental Agency putting a fish pass in at Denver sluice. By journey's end I had logged 43 species of birds including common terns, on my old bed which is now an island in the Wash! *Tony Weston tonyisleham@yahoo.co.uk*

Steel Bones Charity launched in Isleham

■ TEEL BONES is a new organisation for civilian amputees and their families and friends, providing news on stump health; signposting useful services, therapists and personal trainers; and providing flexible careers opportunities. We will connect our community with a Facebook group, and hope to also arrange holidays and meet-ups for amputees and their families to encourage communication. We are also campaigning to increase and improve NHS services for amputees. These are early days for us, but we intend to become a global organisation, with groups providing social and support hubs internationally. Contact Emma and Leigh Joy-Staines of Isleham on 07809 244885 email leighjoystaines@ vahoo.com

Chicken Shed Community Café

After a successful first year, The Chicken Shed is now taking bookings for the summer months from anybody who would like to do some fundraising. Last year around £2000 was raised by local people for local charities. Every week a different group hosts the Friday morning café and by running a cake stall in the gardens, keeps the donations for the day. Coffee is provided by The Chicken Shed café. Visitors can stroll around the smallholding and see chicks hatching, rare breeds of poultry, pigs, goats and cows. This year we have a brand new play area for the kids to enjoy.

The Chicken Shed is a community space and we welcome any volunteers and new ideas. We are planning to set up a simple 'doodle poll' so that volunteers can go on a rota. We encourage local producers and small businesses to come along and sell their goods or take a space in the shed for display and sale. We also promote support groups, so if you would like to raise awareness of a project we would love to hear from you. We are also looking for any small tables (card-table size).

Find us on FaceBook at The Chicken Shed, and online at www.fordhamchickenshed. weebly.com where you can also see the animals in our photo gallery! For bookings please email or phone Laura: laura1978watson@mac.com tel: 07974409228. For more informationcontact Cilla 07715 908024 or call in at Click-Cluck, 78 Mildenhall Road, Fordham •

Isleham Utd Youth Festival of Football 2016

ver the Festival weekend we played host to 168 teams more than 1400 children and women playing football on our recreation ground! There were teams in all age groups from Under 5s to Under 16s and Women's.

Norwich City staff held a coaching session with our under 5s Football for Fun team and also with our new September

On the day results: Isleham Under 16s Boys won their tournament, which is fantastic as this is their last season with Isleham before going on to adult football.

The Under 10s Red team reached their final and were just beaten by Littleport.

The Under 9s Boys White and Red teams both reached their finals, and both were declared winners!

The Under 13s Girls teams also met each other in their final; the Black team beat the Blue team 3-0.

This year's festival was sponsored by Manchetts of Newmarket. Thank you to Chris Ginn and Amanda at Manchetts - always great when a local company helps out with sponsorship.

Thank you also to all the other sponsors who kindly donated: and to The Beeches manager Louise Quinn, and especially to the Isleham cricket team for moving their cricket fixture - again! - so that we could hold the event.

It was a great weekend for the village; thanks to all those who took part, and thanks to everyone in Isleham for your patience with the car parking situation. What a great village we have! Craig Boneham

e at Manchetts would like to say a big thank you to Isleham Football Club for the opportunity to sponsor the Isleham Utd Youth Festival of Football. We were well received by such a superbly supported tournament, and the sun shone on the football and our new range of LDV vans and trucks,



with prices starting from £13,950. We offer a large range of vans and trucks to suit all your needs ranging from short wheel base vans to long wheel base tippers.

Manchetts would also like to welcome our existing and new customers to our new Renault approved workshops on Studlands Industrial Estate in Newmarket for servicing repair and MOTs on all makes and models. Collection and delivery is available, just call our service reception on 01638 674487.

Once again thank you to Isleham Football Club, as it has been a great success for us at Manchetts and we are pleased to be able to support such an important community event.

1 Victoria Way, Studlands Park Ind Estate, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7SH



School children given Queen's birthday coins



Preschool news continued

continued from front page - more pictures on back page This was on Thursday 21st April as the Preschool held a garden tea party to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. The children enjoyed singing and dancing along to music (with bubble machine!) and tucking into their party food. Our baby and toddler group, Busy Bees, is also proving to be a very popular group for mums, dads and little ones to meet and play. It's held every Wednesday morning at the Beeches and is also attended on a regular basis by the local Health Visitor.

As if all this excitement wasn't enough, we have also very recently been inspected by Ofsted and are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the highest grade, 'Outstanding,' in all areas! The feedback from the Ofsted inspectors was very positive indeed and is a well deserved recognition of the commitment of the Preschool staff who aim to provide the best possible environment and care for our little ones.

There are more exciting events to come in the form of a Preschool open evening on Monday 13th June, a fundraising Pimms night on July 14th and, of course, our Gala day float, which the kids are already getting very excited about. We are also collecting the Sainsbury's active kids vouchers which will go towards providing new toys and equipment for the Busy Bees baby and toddler group. As many of you are aware, Isleham Preschool is a registered charity which is managed by the Preschool staff alongside a parent committee. We always welcome new parent committee members so if you would like to learn more about what we do, and how you might be able to get involved, please do come along to our next AGM on Thursday September 15th 2016. Isleham Preschool team

Isleham Pre-School



Previous inspection date 11 March 17 Nove		1 2016 mber 2011	
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Good	1 2
Effectiveness of the leadership and ma		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and asses	sment	Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and	welfare	Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Bowers Lane clunch cottage demolition

he demolition and removal of a clunch cottage on the corner of East Road and Bowers Lane last March was notable, as it was the last remaining clunch-built cottage on Bowers Lane. A photograph from 1900 shows almost all the cottages were clunch-built; many were semi-detached and had cellars. Gwen's house was probably built in the 1800s as a semi-detached cottage, using clunch extracted from one of our village pits.

It was demolished by Isleham-born Craig Nicholas with a very large Volvo machine, expertly operated: it was as though it was an extension of his own hands, he so carefully selected the pieces for removal. He had been warned there was a cellar adjacent to Bowers Lane but discovered another one, even larger, when he was clearing up afterwards!

It's sad to see a house that was once a family home with so many memories cherished by families and friends, demolished in such a short time space of time, but it is a reality of modern life, and we hope this empty space will soon become a home again. *Vernon Place*



Above Clunch cottages in 1900, looking south towards The Causeway (no houses there then). The driver of the donkey and cart is Billy King

Left top View from East Road – just starting demolition **Left middle** View from Bowers Lane. The newer rear extension removed

Left bottom The reed insulation in the roof, full of dust **Below** Chimney removed – and saved **Bottom** Damp clunch walls with plaster fallen off *All photos supplied by Vernon Place*









Mum2mum Market coming to Isleham

As seen on Dragons Den...

um2mum Market organises nearly-new sales of babies, and children's clothes, toys, books and equipment. Mums can book a stall through the website mum2mummarket. co.uk and sell their outgrown kids' stuff to other parents. Buyers can expect to find a huge variety of secondhand baby and children's clothes, toys, books and equipment, in great condition and at a fraction of the high street price.

The sale is at The Beeches, Isleham on Saturday 11th June from 11.30 - 1.30pm and entry is £2 on the door.

To book a stall or to get your 2-for-1 entry voucher visit www.mum2mummarket.co.uk. For further information contact Lynne@mum2mummarket.co.uk

Spurgeon Trundle

The annual Spurgeon Trundle took place on May 7th and was arranged by Ruth Ogden. The group met at the Pond in East Fen Road and walked to the entrance of the Ferry roadway where they were welcomed by the farmer Garry Aves who owns the Ferry Inn site where the commemoration stone is situated. Facing the River Lark, it was placed there in remembrance of the Baptism of Charles Haddon Spurgeon on 3rd May 1850.

Then a young school teacher at Newmarket, he walked all the way to his baptism by the Rev Cantlow of Pound Lane Baptist Church; afterwards he stayed the night at the Manse and walked back to Newmarket in the morning. Later in his life he was well known as 'The Prince of Preachers'.

Next year the date of the Trundle is planned for Saturday 6th May, at 3pm from the Pond. All walkers welcome, dogs too, on leads. See colour photo on back page. Vernon Place

Isleham Bowls Club

Isleham Bowls indoor competitions finished in April with the following results:

- The Friday Night League was won by Roger Brunning, Margaret Marsh and Jeff Marsh.
- Singles Winner: Andy Human; Runner-up: John French
- Pairs: Thelma French and Doreen Raven beat Andy Human and Robert Burling
- Fours: Doreen Raven, Chris Wills, Andy Human and Robert Burling beat Glenda Preece, Thelma French, Diane Burling and Ivan Hymus.

Well done to all concerned. Barry Grimwood



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For more information call and ask to speak to the Energy Officer on: 01353 665555 or email: energy@eastcambs.gov.uk





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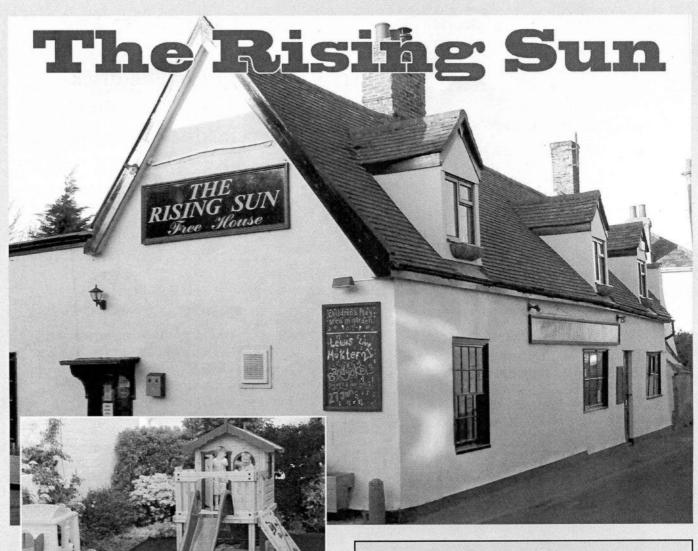
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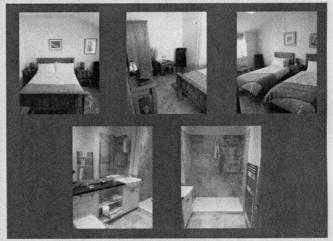
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Isleham Parish Council Update



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

POLICE MATTERS

• Non-emergency telephone number for Police: 101

RECREATION GROUND REPORT

- It was agreed that Youth Football Annual Festival could be held on the Recreation Ground on 14th and 15th May 2016.
- The Council were pleased to hear that the ground is in good condition considering recent wet weather.
- · Please note no dogs are allowed on the Recreation Ground or on The Beeches car park and footpaths.

PLAY AREA AND MUGA REPORT

- · The MUGA is now locked at weekends
- The light beside the MUGA has been repaired and is now working.
- Youth Football have hired a machine to clean the MUGA at their own expense.

CHURCHYARD REPORT

• The beech tree in the old cemetery requires maintaining. Quotation from Greenwood Tree Surgery was accepted.

PLANNING MATTERS Planning applications

Les Wightman

(Parish Clerk)

- 15/01394/FUL Replacement building 31 East Road. Mr S Beavis: Objection.
- 15/01367/FUL Propose 2 No. 1 & 1/2 storey dwellings,

garaging and new access drive. Location: Land rear of 52-56 West Street. Mr D Clarke. Objection.

• 15/01394/FUL Replacement dwelling, 31 East Road - revised plans. No objection.

Planning approvals

- 15/01121/FUL Four bedroom dwelling. following demolition of the barn for Mr Colin Ellwood.
- 15/01121/FUL Four bedroom dwelling for Mr Derrick Beckett.
- 15/01246/FUL External wall insulation to front, side and back. 19 Station Road for Mrs Samantha Spillane.
- 15/01379/FUL Rear extension and internal alterations with replacement garage. 44 West Street for Mr Joshua Warden.
- 15/01453/FUL Replacement dwelling 22 Little London for Mr Richard Turner.
- 15/01305/LBC Replace 6 wooden sash windows to rear of property for Mr Fred Preece.

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 eastcambs.gov.uk •

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Parish Councillors address list

Derrick Beckett Appleyard Farm, 1 Houghtons Lane, (Chairman) Isleham Tel: 01638 780476 Vanessa Bruyneel-Smith 115 The Causeway, Isleham Tel: 01638 781708 Paul Chaplin Jay Jay Lodge, Waterside, Isleham Tel: 01638 781745 Jeannette Malkin 17 Little London, Isleham Tel: 01638 780283 **Bob Mitchell** 10 Sparkes Close, Isleham Tel: 01638 780707 Clive Patterson 21 West Street, Isleham Tel: 01638 780669

Glenda Preece 94 The Causeway, Isleham Tel: 01638 780734

Richard Radcliffe 45 Sun Street, Isleham

Tel: 01638 780831

Pauline Wilkes 6 Limestone Close, Isleham

Tel: 01638 780640 3 Sun Street, Isleham

Tel: 01638 781022 Diane Bayliss 32 Mill Street, Isleham, CB7 5RY

Tel: 01638 781687

Email: islehampc@gmail.com Website: www.isleham-village.co.uk

CHURCHES

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@ vahoo.co.uk

Associate Priest: The Rev'd Sue Potts, The Vicarage, chippenham CB7 5PP. Tel: 01638 721662. Email: revd.sue@icloud.com

Curate: The Rev'd Duncan Dulais.

Licensed Lay Minister: Helen Banyard, Carol Taylor 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: 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 .

St Andrew's Parish Church Pound Lane Free Church

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

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): 10am-10.30am (Steve Neale 01638

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.

Mondays fortnightly: 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.

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: Once a month, on the Thursday after the first Sunday of the month, 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 .



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High Street Church

Things are going well up at the New Church site. Work has started on the outside of the building, like the car park and the driveway... we certainly want the place to be as accessible as possible so that as many as want to, can come. Church is so much more than meeting together on a Sunday and we are hoping to create a welcoming and friendly place where anyone is able to pop in and feel at home.

For now, it's business as usual at High Street and you are more than welcome to come along and join in with whatever's happening. As I write this article this evening, there's a Bible study on the book of Ezekiel taking place in the main Church and a Drama workshop going on in the extension. Last night the Musicians were rehearsing downstairs, a ladies exercise group were meeting upstairs (I'm not fit enough for the stairs, let alone the exercises!) and there is a German conversation group going on as well. Tomorrow evening there will be various activities going on for our Youth, and then we'll be looking forward to all being together on Sunday which is always a time to really celebrate God's goodness.

If you would like to know more about who we are and what we believe, contact us on our website www.highst.org.uk or ring the Church office 01638 780985.

If you would like a visit or you would like us to pray for you... we would be only too pleased to do so. *Kathryn Kyte*

• Catch us on Facebook – High Street Church Isleham – or our website www.highst.org.uk

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 •



PAINTING AND DECORATING

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True stories: Peter, Paul, and Mary.

Our local FoodBank helped these people.

Peter worked for an engineering company all his adult life, until being made redundant in his mid-forties. He had a wife, a house with a mortgage, three children – one at university – a dog and a cat.

He qualified for Job Seekers' allowance. Then his wife was diagnosed with a serious illness, and was admitted to Addenbrookes. His car broke down, and the dog needed to go to the vet. Life became difficult, but he tried, with the help of neighbours to keep life for his children as normal as possible. But he became depressed. He came to the FoodBank, and we supported him for a few weeks, helping him get back on his feet.

Paul was beaten by his stepmother when he was a child, to the point of brain damage. He grew up in various foster and care homes, then in his teens moved in with his grandparents. He succumbed though to drink, drugs and petty crime, and when his grandparents were no longer able to cope with him he became homeless, sleeping rough on the commons and allotments.

The first time he appeared at the foodbank, in his mid-twenties, he stood in the corner shivering, mumbling, and would not make eye contact. He only took what he could eat out of packets or tins (we gave him a tin-opener). Over a few weeks we got to know him, and he would sit down and have a cup of tea – and an occasional wash. Eventually he went to the Citizen's Advice Bureau: they organised a flat for him, and helped him get social support and benefits. He still stops to chat. He once said the FoodBank is the only place that he can go where he doesn't get 'aggravation'.

ary was in her late fifties, but looked older. In poor health, unkempt and severely depressed, she became a regular of the FoodBank, coming nearly every week for several months. When she stopped, we worried that she had died.

A couple of months later she came skipping into the foodbank, a different woman, and gave me a big kiss! For the previous two and a half years she had been on the wrong band of the benefit system, resulting in her getting into debt. Her allowance was corrected and she got a £4,500 back-dated rebate: her life changed, and when I asked what she did with the money, she said her order of priority was to get her hair done, buy a refrigerator, and pay off the debt.

The above stories (and there are many more) about our local FoodBank are all true, although names have been changed. Makes you think, doesn't it? So thank you all for your continuing support. We hope that this article will help you look upon the work of the FoodBank in a new light. Christopher Goodwins, with thanks to Mr Howard Laver, Organiser at Soham Foodbank.



Beeches Diary Dates 2016

Mum2mum Market

Saturday 11th June 1130am - 130pm Entry £2

• Shakespeare Shorts •

(see ad opposite) Friday 17 June

Summer Ball Saturday 25 June Gala Weekend Saturday 2 July Family Hallowe'en Disco Saturday 29 October Sportsmans' Dinner Saturday 11 November New Year's Eve Party Saturday 31 December



Last Friday of the month

NB: Dates may be subject to change

24 June • 22 July

26 August • 23 September

21 October • 25 November

at 7pm for a prompt 7:30pm start

Tables limited so please make sure you arrive early.

Keep an eye out for posters, check the website thebeechesisleham.co.uk and FaceBook for details of upcoming events



June & July 2016

Monday -

10am – 11am Pilates

• 6pm-9pm Pilates

Tuesday -

4:00pm-8pm Ballet/Cubs/Scouts

Wednesday -

9am -12 Busy Bees

9am -12 Bridge

· 10am -11:30am Needles and Natter

• 12-1pm Filates

• 6:30pm - 7:30pm Hour of Power

Thursdays -

• 6pm-6:45pm Power Hoops

• 6:45-7:30pm Your Body Class

Friday -

• 7pm-8:30pm Ballroom Dancing

Saturday -

• 9am -10am Hour of Power

• Breakfast Baps 9am - 1pm

Cafe open from 9am until close event depending
 Sunday –

Sunday -

· Cafe open from 9am - close event depending

· Breakfast Baps 9am - 1pm

CONTACT LOUISE QUINN

* Tel:01638 780097 * Mobile:07742832300

