

## The Beeches Entertainers made Time for Killing



*The Beeches Entertainers were on fine form again at the start of November in the comedy Murder Mystery “Killing Thyme”.*

Set in the 1920s, the story took place in the grounds of Rothersfield Hall and saw the return of Detective Harry Moody (Richard Drayton) and PC Joe Sullen (Jerome Keen) who, with the help of the audience, tried to make sense of a murder amidst a vegetable show. Victoria Rothersfield (Marie Bowker) was the show judge, despite not knowing her marrows from her melons, and had to decide a winner between the competitors, widow Olive Bosely (Nikki Farr), local postie Alfie Swadling (John Bedford), expert herbologists Ivy & Violet Mulford (Cynthia Sheldrick and Pauline Wilkes), ultra-competitive Horace Flitter (Ray Goodwin) and village newcomer Rose Woodley (Vanessa Smith).

A spokesperson for the group said “We were delighted to see so many people laughing and enjoying the evening, with many new faces in the audiences from Isleham and the surrounding villages, and of course our friends and supporters from previous shows.”

“The audience comments were amazing, with people saying they’d had a brilliant evening, a really enjoyable night, a very funny play, and some even said it was our best Murder Mystery to date – so no pressure on us to beat it next time!”

Cont’d on page 4





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# Isleham Informer

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

<b>Mobile Library</b>	<b>Arrive</b>	<b>Depart</b>
2nd Wednesday Church Street	11.15am	1.00pm
3rd Thursday Mill Street	3.30pm	4.15pm
4th Wednesday Church St	3.30pm	4.15pm
<b>Post Office</b>	<b>Mon - Thurs</b>	<b>9.00 - 11.30</b>
<b>Useful phone numbers</b>		
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	Mildenhall	01638 719111
	Newmarket	0300 330 1151
District Councillor: Julia Huffer .....	01638	720013
Deputy Council Leader: Joshua Schumann.....	07841	524007
Parish Council Clerk: Richard Liddington .....	01638	781687
MP: Lucy Frazer.....	lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk	

## Dates for Your Diary

If there is anything you would like included here for future issues: contact Glenda Preece,

T: 01638 780734 E: gjprece@aol.com.

### December 2022

Mon 5th	Isleham Parish Council	7.15 pm
Thur 8th	Fenland Friends	7.30pm
Fri 9th	Book Club	2.00pm
Wed 14th	Christmas Bingo at The Bowls Club	7.30pm
Wed 14th	Mobile Library, Church St.	12.15-1pm
Thur 15th	Isleham Society	7.30pm
Sat 17th	Beeches Ckristmas Party	6-8pm
Sun 18th	Kids Christmas Party	6-8pm
Thur 22nd	Open air carols at St Andrews Social Centre	

### January 2023

Mon 9th	Isleham Parish Council	7.15pm
Wed 11th	Mobile Library, Church St.	12.15-1pm
Thur 12th	Fenland Friends	7.30pm
Fri 13th	Book Club	2-3.30pm
Thur 19th	Isleham Society	7.30pm
Wed 25th	Mobile Library Mill St	3.30-4pm

**Community Pantry at The Ark every Wednesday 10-12noon**

### Parish Councillors address list

Richard Radcliffe (Chairman)	45 Sun Street, Isleham Tel: 01638 780831
Dr Chris Corbin (Vice Chairman)	5 Priory Gardens, Isleham Tel: 01638 780221
Derrick Beckett	Appleyard Farm, 1 Houghtons Lane, Isleham Tel: 01638 780476
Vanessa Bruyneel-Smith	115 The Causeway, Isleham Tel: 01638 482410
Jeannette Malkin	17 Little London, Isleham Tel: 01638 780283
Bob Mitchell	10 Sparkes Close, Isleham Tel: 01638 780707
Marco Caferelli	22 Maltings lane CB7 5RZ,, Tel: 07971 335193
Glenda Preece	94 The Causeway, Isleham Tel: 01638 780734
Pauline Wilkes	6 Limestone Close, Isleham Tel: 01638 780640
Alan Dennis	2, Nursery Close, Isleham Tel: 01638 781902
Christopher Elmer	30 Limestone Close, Isleham Tel: 01638 780934
Richard Liddington (Parish Clerk)	Parish Office, The Beeches Tel: 01638 781687 Email: islehampc@gmail.co
Website: www.isleham-village.co.uk	

### Notes from The Editor

Another great show the Beeches Entertainers with plans for a Panto in March/April 2023, looking forward with anticipation.

Many thanks must go to all that contribute articles and pictures and to all that help to put all the various pieces together and then distribute the *Informer*, Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

Next issue in February, see you then. Clive Patterson





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## Village Notes

### Village Website update

Some of you may have noticed that the village website [isleham-village.co.uk](http://isleham-village.co.uk) was taking a long time to get updated especially the council agendas and minutes.

This was due mainly to our existing hosting provider transferring to a different hosting site. This has now been addressed.

The existing hosting site also has a very limited capacity, and is not secure. The site has also become dated is not suited to mobile devices

With these issues in mind over the next few months as time permits we will be reducing the site content temporarily.

A newly designed website is under construction We are also going to move to a new hosting site with greater capacity and improved security.

Apologies in advance for any disruption, we are hoping to keep this to a minimum.

After the transfer we will reintroduce much of the old content albeit in a slightly different format.

Clive Patterson

### Killing Thyme continued from front page

Friday evening's audience proved to be the super-sleuths with one team correctly guessing the murderer/s and the motive, but Saturday's audience maybe could have watched an extra episode of Mid-somer Murders to realise it isn't always the most obvious person - but it didn't stop everyone having a lot of fun.

Behind the scenes the production was written and directed by Lesley Gunn. Stage Manager was Barbara Murfitt, and Steve Evans was in charge of Sound and Lighting. Front of House was Jo Elmer and Sarah Wills. The catering was provided by The Beeches team.

Next up for The Beeches Entertainers is the annual Isleham Pantomime on March 31 and April 1, 2023. Details will be announced on their Facebook page (details below), Isleham News Facebook page, and in The Isleham Informer.

The panto is great fun for the team and of course those who watch it, but needs a lot of people both on stage and behind the scenes to make it the success it is, so anyone who is interested in joining the team either on or off stage is asked to contact the Beeches Entertainers through their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/beechesentertainers> or Twitter @BeechesEnt.

Casting will be in early December with rehearsals starting in January.

# Village clubs: information

CLUB	CONTACT		DAY/DATE	TIME	PLACE
<b>1st Isleham Beavers (boys &amp; girls 6-8yrs)</b>	Emma Bucknall	07807 349754 gsl@islehamscouts.org.uk	Tuesday	5.15 - 6.15pm	The Beeches
<b>1st Isleham Cubs (boys &amp; girls 8-10yrs)</b>	"	07807 349754 gsl@islehamscouts.org.uk	Tuesday	6.30 - 8.00pm	The Beeches
<b>1st Isleham Scouts (boys &amp; girls 8-10yrs)</b>	"	07807 349754 gsl@islehamscouts.org.uk	Tuesday	6.30 - 8.00pm	The Beeches
<b>Beeches Entertainers</b>	Barbara Murfitt	07510 173412 / 01638 780373			
<b>Book Club</b>	Irene Brown	irene.c.brown@gmail.com	2nd Friday	2.00pm	The Beeches
<b>Bowls Club</b>	Rowland Wells	01638 780191			The Bowls Club
<b>Busy Bees</b>	Pre-School Zara King	01638 781212 zara_covington@hotmail.co.uk	Wednesday	9.30 - 11.30pm	The Beeches
<b>Craft Club</b>	Margo Towley	01638 781524	Tuesday	1.30 - 4.00pm	Limestone Centre
<b>Fenland Friends</b>	Fiona Jones	01638 780440	2nd Thursday	7.30-9.30	The Beeches
<b>Friends of Isleham Nature reserve</b>	Avi Stacey	01638 780023	2nd Thursday Bi-Monthly	7.30pm	Various Please ring
<b>Gala Committee</b>	Lisa Alderson	07947 642333	3rd Monday	7.30pm	The Beeches
<b>Isleham Joggers</b>	Agnieska Beswick	07840 141694 agakardys@hotmail.com	Monday & Wednesday	6.30pm	The Beeches Car Park
<b>Isleham Performing Arts</b>	Ruth Bendall	07894 118801 ruthbendall@yahoo.co.uk	Wednesday Thursday	7pm - 8.30pm 9.30am - 10am 4pm - 5.30pm	The Beeches
<b>Isleham Society</b>	Mark Fletcher	isleham.society@gmail.com	3rd Thursday	7.15 for 7.30	The Beeches
<b>Isleham United Youth FC</b>	Steve Isaacson	07545 395573			
<b>Isleham United FC</b>	Russ Boneham	07867429051/01638 780830 russ@innovoic.co.uk			
<b>Isleham Tennis Club</b>	Clint	07946 441351			
<b>Isleham Cricket Club</b>	Jamie Saunders Adrian Sheldrick	07872 507989 (Chairman) 07775 522765 (vice chairman)			
<b>Pre-school Isleham Under Fives Ass. (IUFA)</b>	TBA	01638 781212 islehampreschool@btconnect.com			
<b>Pilates (Booking Essential)</b>	Jo Simcock-Simms	07974 653775	Monday	10 - 11am 6.00 - 9.00pm	The Beeches
<b>Pilates (Booking Essential)</b>	"		Wednesday	12.00 - 1.00pm	The Beeches
<b>Pilates (Booking Essential)</b>	"		Friday	12.00 - 1.00pm	The Beeches
<b>Salsa</b>	D Miller	07825955971	Thursday		The Beeches
<b>Tai Chi</b>	Dave Cogan	01638 781705	Tuesday Wednesday	7.00 - 8.00pm 1.15 - 2.15pm	The Beeches
<b>The Beeches</b>	Finn Blair	enquiries@thebeechesisleham.co.uk			
<b>Yoga</b>	Natasha	07738477746	Friday	10am - 11am	The Beeches

• 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 January 9th for our February issue. 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.



## ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE –November 2022

Parish Council Meetings are generally held on the first Monday of each month at The Beeches. Members of the public are invited to attend the meetings and 15 minutes are set aside each month for public questions. (No food or drink to be bought into the meeting room, please.)

Full copies of the agendas and minutes are available on the Parish Council website, the notice boards outside The Beeches and at the junction between Church Street & Pound Lane and from the Parish Clerk, Richard Liddington: tel 01638 781687, email islehampc@gmail.com. Summarised agendas are also posted on the Isleham News Facebook page. If you would prefer a copy of the agenda emailing directly to you then please contact me at the email address above.

Forthcoming Parish Council meeting dates include:  
Monday 5th December 7.15pm      Monday 9th January 2023  
Monday 6th February 2023 7.15pm  
Sunnica The deadline for written representations by Interested Parties has now passed and IPC submitted both our general responses as well as a specific response to a question regarding the USAF crash site on Beck Road.

We would like to express our thanks to everyone who contributed to these responses.

**Priory Car Park** We hope that you've had the chance to view the new historical information board on The Priory mound and that this will become a valued part of our village street scene.

We are most grateful to the vast majority of people using the Priory Car Park for adhering to the new rules. Some concerns have been expressed however that some residents are still failing to park in the designated bays and this is affecting access to / exit from the site and setting a precedent for other drivers to do likewise. We have and continue to invest in improving this area if the village and we would therefore appreciate your cooperation on this matter.

**Police Matters** - Reporting Crime. Although it can be extremely frustrating or even deemed a waste of time the Parish Council have been reliably informed that police response does increase if the same type of incidence is reported on three separate occasions within the period of a month. Please do call 111 or submit details via the following website [https://www.cambs.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/?fbclid=IwAR1bqJ9OABmJvIdcdeCn4iNvy4D54\\_nu26IEsexu-MSFoWBSa54OuTxtARg](https://www.cambs.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/?fbclid=IwAR1bqJ9OABmJvIdcdeCn4iNvy4D54_nu26IEsexu-MSFoWBSa54OuTxtARg) if you have been affected by any type of crime.

### **Planning Applications (October – November) \***

Appeal to The Secretary of State  
22/00282/FUL The High House 41 Mill Street Isleham. Proposed change of use of a curtilage-listed annexe to a separate 2-bed dwelling house and alterations to front boundary walls including repair works, reinstating of coping stone, railings and entrance

gate. Mrs R George.

Resubmit our previous objections

18/01736/DISC To discharge condition number 11 (Biodiversity Scheme) of Decision dated 20.4.2020 for Residential development of 10 dwellings as 3no. 4 bed detached with single garage for private sale, 3no. 3 bed detached with single garage for private sale, 2no. 3 bed and 2no. 2 bed semi-detached with on-site parking affordable housing Land West Of 4 Coates Drove Isleham TLC Groundwork And Construction Ltd.

No Comment

22/00316/RMM Reserved matters for appearance, landscaping and layout of previously approved 16/00629/OUM for the erection of buildings to accommodate up to 4,160 square metres for B1, B2 and B8 uses and associated development on land allocated by Policy ISL6 of the adopted Local Plan, adjacent to Hall

Barn Road Industrial Estate. Site South East Of Hall Barn Road Industrial Estate Hall Barn Road Isleham Re-iterate previously raised objections

22/00837/FUL Proposed replacement dwelling. 25 The Pits Isleham. Mr Walker

Objections

22/00837/FUL Proposal: Proposed replacement dwelling. An amended plan/additional information has been received for this application on 18th October 2022. The additional information received includes an additional statement from the applicants, clarifying the land ownership together with revised drawings with the elevational labels clarified 25 The Pits Isleham

Resubmit our previous objections

22/00867/ERN Change of use to dwelling house 4A – 4B Church Street Isleham Mr Paul Chaplin

No objection

22/00921/FUL Retention of livestock barn, stable building and portacabin, and completion of implements store in association with the agricultural use of the land –

Retrospective. Land North East Of 29A Prickwillow Road Isleham Mr & Mrs MacKinnon

No comment

22/00984/FUL Extension above existing single storey extension to rear, garage conversion and part car port conversion. 11 Jubilee Close Isleham Mr & Mrs Marrazo

No objection

22/01062/VAR Variation of condition 1 (Approved plans) , 3 (Road construction), 4 (On-site Parking / Turning Areas), 7 (Street Maintenance), 8 (Boundary Treatments), 10

(Lighting), 11 (Phasing), 12 (Landscaping & Implementation) and 13

(Landscape Maintenance) of previously approved 20/01594/RMA for Reserved

matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of previously approved

18/01482/OUT for residential development of nine single storey dwellings, garaging, parking, access road and associated site works – phased

development. Site North Of 4 Fordham Road Isleham

No comment



22/01064/FUL Single storey side extension, partial conversion of existing garage

27 Robins Close Isleham Mrs G Paulley

Objections

22/01070/CLP The fitting for 20 solar panels to roof to the front south facing sloping roof, side east and west facing roof and the east facing roof of the garage

. The Walnuts 23 Limestone Close Isleham

No objection

22/01098/TRE T1 Horse Chestnut – Reduce back to previous pruning points around 1.5-2m reduction to allow more light and to keep the tree maintained.

T2 Beech – Reduce selectively (photo attached) to allow for a more

aesthetically pleasing shape.

T3 Hawthorn – Remove due to poor health.

Manor House 2 Pound Lane Isleham

No objection

22/01158/FUL Proposed detached 3 Bedroom, one and a half storey dwelling and detached double garage. 45 East Fen Road Isleham. Mr & Mrs Earl

Objection

22/01185/FUL Proposed new porch, remove the existing front door and widen the old entrance. 2 Croft Road Isleham Mr C Grove

No objection

22/01187/FUL Enlarge window opening to create bifold doors with Juliette balcony

4 Priory Gardens Isleham Mr D Fitchett

No objection

### **Planning Approvals**

22/00459/FUL Demolition of existing extension and erection of single storey extension and associated works. 47 West Street, Isleham,

22/00461/FUL Proposed decking/jetty – Retrospective. River Lark To Front Of Larkhall Farm 38 Prickwillow Road Isleham

22/00537/ARN Change of use of agricultural building to three dwelling houses

3 Sheldricks Road Isleham

22/00839/FUL Proposed single storey rear extension and associated works, replacement of windows. 53 Hall Barn Road Isleham

22/00901/TRE T1 green x Acer reduce by removing 1-2meters in height

T2 yellow x Robinia reduce by removing 1-2meters in height

T3 red x Fox glove tree Remove 1-2meters in height

T4 blue x Box elder remove 1-2meters in height

5 Church Lane Isleham

22/00950/FUL Proposed extension above existing single storey extension + single storey rear extension: 17 Station Road Isleham

22/01098/TRE T1 Horse Chestnut - Reduce back to previous pruning points around 1.5-2mreduction to allow more light and to keep the tree maintained.

T3 Hawthorn - Remove due to poor health. Manor House 2 Pound Lane Isleham

22/01099/TRE T1 Walnut - Reduce back from building and undertake safety prune removing any dead dying or dangerous branches crown raise to allow better access and to brighten up the area

T2 Cherry - Reduce by up to 1.5m to make a more aesthetically pleasing shape and allow more sunlight

T3 Cherry - Remove the tree to protect wall and barn. Photo to indicate attached

T4 Hornbeam - Crown raise to allow better access under tree for grass maintenance etc. 2 Sun Street Isleham

22/01256/TRE T2 Beech - Reduce selectively to allow for a more aesthetically pleasing shape. 2 Pound Lane Isleham

Planning Refusals:

22/00462/FUL Erection of four market dwellings, garages, parking spaces, hard and enhanced soft landscaping, access and all other associated infrastructure (see 21/01636/FUL) (part retrospective). Land Accessed Between 2 And 4 Fordham Road, Isleham

### **Other Planning Matters:**

Application withdrawn 22/00770/FUL & 22/00771/LBC Internal & external alterations and two storey extension. 7 Church Street Isleham

22/00726/FUL Application withdrawn Proposed balcony. 14 Hall Barn Road Isleham

For information purposes only 22/00839/FUL Proposed single storey rear extension and associated works, replacement of windows. 53 Hall Barn Road Isleham

Amendment made to include annotations for proposed replacement windows to entire dwelling.

22/00837/FUL Proposed replacement dwelling 25 The Pits Isleham

An amended plan/additional information has been received for this application on 11th October 2022. For information purposes only

22/00950/FUL Proposed extension above existing single storey extension + single storey rear extension. 17 Station Road Isleham. Amendment The reduction in the depth and height of the first-floor side extension. Mr & Mrs Browning. For information purposes only

Planning Enforcement Pound Lane Caravan. No longer in residential use – Matter closed

\*Details for the reasons for objections and reasons for refusal can be found on the minutes of meetings and on ECDC /WSDC planning website: <https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/planning/current-planning-applications>

**Fly Tipping** Incidences of fly tipping should be reported directly to ECDC via their website: <https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/waste/fly-tipping>

**Recreation Ground** We would like to thank local residents for adhering to the rule of not bringing their dogs onto the recreation field

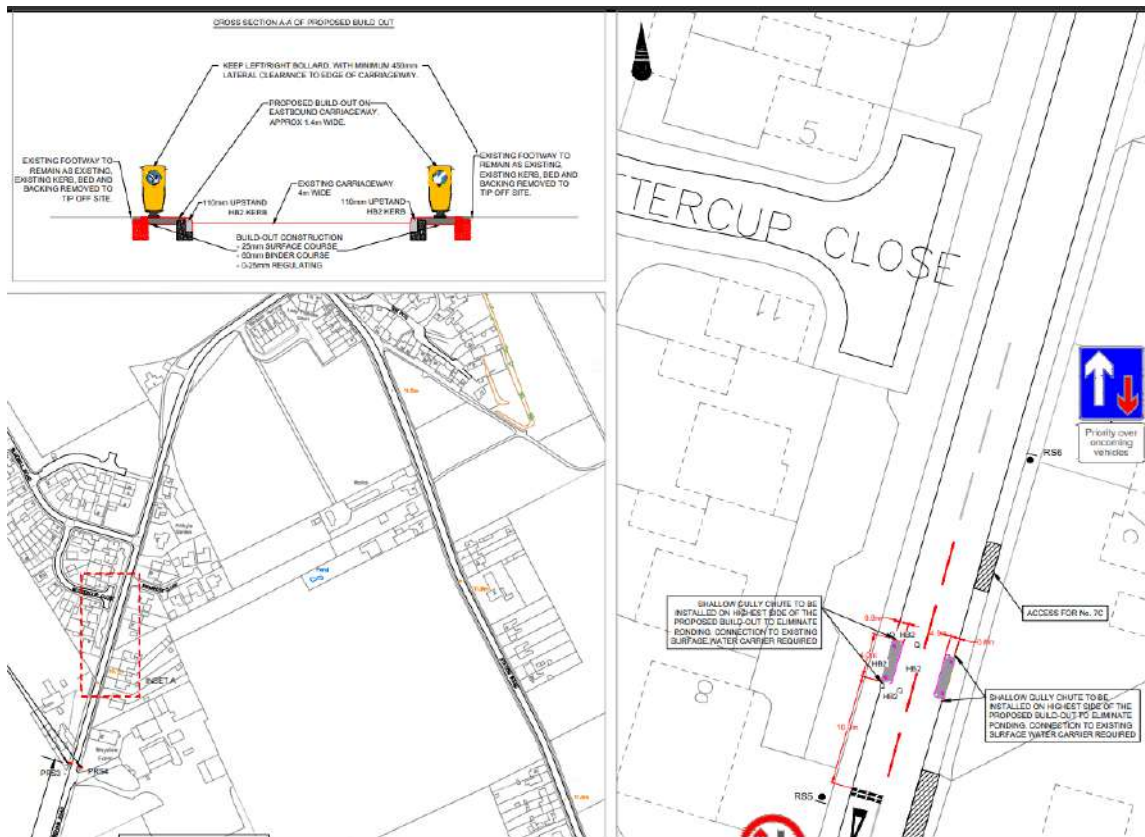
**Cemetery Wall** We are pleased to report the completion of the rebuilding of a large area of boundary wall around the new cemetery.

**Financial Matters** I'm sure that you will want to join us in thanking our Financial Officer Mrs Jeanette Borderick for her four years of service in this role. Her expertise and diligence have made a significant contribution to the functioning of the Parish Council. We also welcome Mrs Victoria Bright as our new Responsible Financial Officer.

**Allotment Matters** There are currently a small number of plots available on the Dunstall and Three Trees (Beck Road) site. Please do contact me if you are interested in taking a plot. The cost of a 10 rod (approx. 250m2 plot is just £17.00 per year Dunstall Charity Grant Applications for a £400 grant for those starting apprentices or certain further edu-

cation courses are open. Please contact the Parish office for more details

**Highways** I'm pleased to copy below details of a speed reducing 'build out' on Fordham Rd, which will be installed in the near future. 80% of the funding for this project comes from a successful grant application to CCC.



## Mark Goldsack

When reading this I expect the days are short and the nights long and cold but winter is to be enjoyed nit endured. I'm a cost of living crisis if you need support please call 01353 665555 and they will direct you. There is a household support fund and more to help those that really need it. But help doesn't have to be council driven. During the pandemic this Village stood out as an example of All that is good and looked after neighbours, family and friends. Let's do so again.



On the council front for Isleham we've seen this last year the full implementation of the 40-30 buffer zone on Beck Road and I believe it has made a huge improvement in lowering speed. I would remind everyone that Maltings Lane, by our school, is 20mph and parking restrictions exist around that area and Croft Rd for the safety of children and parents. Those that abuse such parking rules to collect their children show scant regard for the safety of others so please stop!

Now we have Tuesday rubbish collections things appear much smoother each week, and added to this we seem to see but weekly use of bollards on Saturday

mornings to negate the parking difficulty of those involved in junior football. Weekly would be great and I know the Parish are looking at how they could increase safe parking to allow free flow through Mill St, Fordham Rd and surrounding streets. I love seeing and hearing the joy of football but taking some responsibility for safety and regulations of when and where one parks is down to the drivers.

We have lost a few good people this year, but I'd like to say a few words about John Carrington. As good a man as you will find, a gentleman, once full of hard work and compassion. John loved a laugh and adored his family. I shall think of John laughing again now with his mates Graham Wells and Barry Clarke whilst Ivan Cox repeats tails of travels and fun. RIP John and thanks for enriching the lives of all you met.

Lastly, it's good to see The Beeches busy with a full programme of events. I'm sure that the Rising Sun, The Griffin and the Merry Monk would most welcome your patronage this winter, and where would we be without our amazing CO-OP store. So in summary, please support the village, be neighbourly and know that you are lucky enough to live in such a special village as Isleham.

Seasons Greetings Cllr Mark Goldsack



# ICA Chair's Report

**Isleham Community Association/Isleham Community Enterprise held their AGM on 9th November.**

## Chair's report

I have been Chair of ICA for three years, and each year has seen many changes and challenge Mark Goldsack, our previous chair retired, after many years of hard work, as did Paul French. Both have been involved with The Beeches since it opened, indeed Mark was one of the main instigators of a new Community Centre. My grateful thanks go to both of them for everything they have done. Also, Neil and Paul Wilkes decided recently to stand down, thank you to them too.

Happily we do have three new trustees, all of whom are enthusiastic, full of ideas, and very able to help take The Beeches forward. However, I think more help is still needed, and the charity has more work to do encouraging members of the public to become involved. New trustees with accountancy or legal skills would be of particular value.

During the year the charity has been able to improve facilities in the building. The bar was updated with new flooring, decoration and furniture, plus a recent purchase of a large television. All have helped to make the room more attractive to visitors, and it will hopefully be improved by new lighting. We have also bought a glass washing machine, and very importantly a new till system that links in with our accounting system.

I would like to express my thanks to Donna Woodcock, our accountant, who has been a great help to Finn as he has become accustomed to our new accounting system, and an enormous support to me; also to Isleham Parish Council for their continuing support, and to the Beeches Entertainers for their generous donations.

As I stand down from the Trustees I wish everyone the very best as the ICA, the ICE and the Parish Council work together in the best interest of our whole community.

Glenda Preece

## Isleham Parish Council updates

*Some of the completed projects carried out by the parish council*

We hope that you've had the chance to view the new historical information board on The Priory mound and that this will become a valued part of our village street scene.



Emily Stevens worked with the Parish Council and some members of the public to design the board.



The cemetery wall had become dangerous in places, but the long section along The Causeway has now been rebuilt, and is greatly improved.



# THE BEECHES CHRISTMAS PARTY



After a successful Christmas Party last year, The Beeches will be hosting the event again this year on Saturday 17th December 2022.

Doors open at 6pm where you will be greeted with an arrival drink, a festive three course meal, including after dinner chocolates and mince pies will be served at 7pm. Live DJ starts at 9pm with last orders being called at 11.30pm.

£45 per person and all profits on tickets will be used to contribute towards new bar and kitchen equipment. We hope that you can attend and support the development of our community centre

We appreciate that not everyone has someone to attend with so we are making tables available for those who want to come alone but to meet new people

For a booking form, or more information please contact Finn at [thebeechesisleham@gmail.com](mailto:thebeechesisleham@gmail.com) or on 01638 780097

## CHRISTMAS PRIZE BINGO

Isleham Bowls Club  
Wednesday 14th December  
7.30pm for 8pm start



## Fenland Friends

Fenland Friends continue to enjoy their Thursday evenings at The Beeches with plenty of participatory events and friendly chatter. Our latest meeting was with the make-up artist Chris who transformed certain volunteers into famous characters from film and stage.



Newcomers are welcome to join us on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm



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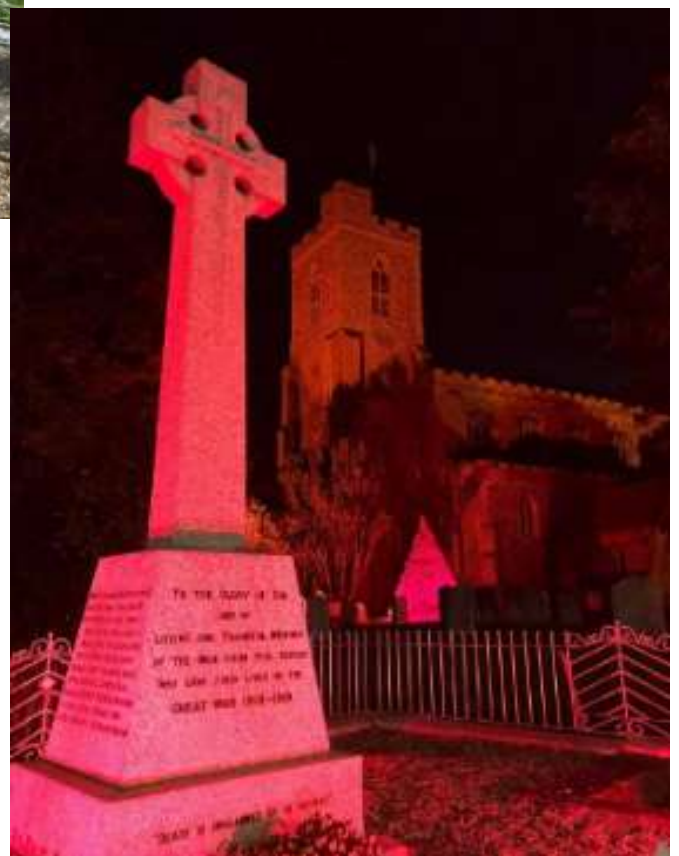
# Armistice Sunday and Remembrance



In the picture you can see Mrs Ivy Rutterford doing what she has done for many many years, tidying and weeding the War Memorial in preparation of the Act of Remembrance ceremony on Armistice Sunday.

This year Armistice Sunday fell on the 13th November.

A big thanks to Mrs Rutterford for all her hard work.



Thanks also for those who work to display the poppies each year, and to Walter Gunston who lights up the display



# Isleham Primary School

The first half term came to an end, after a busy time with a variety of whole school events and individual class celebrations. The next few weeks are no different, with a Christingle service, Diwali day, trips and outings as well as the highly anticipated Christmas Production, that is performed by the children in the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes.



One of the fun whole school sessions, was the visit from the Witchford Sports team who held speed stacking activities with each class across the school. For those of you who are not aware of this sport then I would suggest looking at a clip online. The speed that some expert, and well-practiced, sports people can stack and take down their cups in different formations, is truly inspirational. The pupils used their hand, eye coordination and dexterity to play a variety of games and some of the older children were incredibly speedy and skilful. In fact a small team of children attended an interschools competition just after this fun session and came second, at the event!

The school also have children in each class attending regular School Council and Eco Council meetings. The Eco Council members were incredibly excited and pleased to receive some bird, bat and bug boxes from the Environment Agency. During the election process some children expressed the desire to increase the number of animals visiting and living on the school site. The addition of these new habitat boxes will certainly achieve that outcome.

'Thank you, we will have more birds and nature coming to our school,' from Leia.

'It will be better because we will have more places for the animals to live,' from Harry.

'Thank you because we will have more nature and wildlife,' said Aria.



For the community, the school have now set up a food larder, with the intention of providing a meal, for those who are not able to feed themselves. If you are in need of a meal, then please use this food provision, which is on the edge of the school building and always accessible. Thanks to all of the parents and carers who have provided this food, from the harvest festival collection and also throughout the weeks. From Dawn Deacon  
Headteacher

## Food Larder update

Isleham C of E Primary School are pleased to have created a food larder for those who are need of a meal. It's placed on the outside of the school so everyone can gain access to the food whenever it is needed.

There's a temporary box with a new one kindly being made by a parent but it's ready for anyone who need it. Please 'Take what you need,' choosing from pasta and sauce, meals in tins and other tinned food, all kindly donated by parents and staff.





# CHURCHES

## The Ark Church



### Christmas at The Ark

There are always teething problems with new buildings, and we have a handful with our new building The Ark. A couple of rooms have smooth surfaces and so a lot of echoes. These means they are great for singing but not so clear for speech and on occasion a couple of rooms become very loud very quickly. This isn't always great when we have a busy toddler group or lots of people at a wedding.

We are looking to install acoustic attenuation panels which is a posh way of saying increasing our sound absorption. This will make speech clearer and allow the rooms to feel more comfortable.

This problem reminded me of Christmas, we can hear so many voices echoing around the room, some positive, many distracting and some unwelcomed. Our prayer is that you would put yourself somewhere where clambering voices are stilled, and you can hear the clear voice of Jesus who came to be your Prince of Peace and give himself for a world that still needs to



hear His voice clearly. You will be very welcome to join us over Christmas and focus on what Jesus said and did for a needy world.  
Martin Wells

## Pound Lane Free Church

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

Elder: Mr. Matthew Hall

Every Sunday:

Sunday worship: 10.30a.m. & 6.30p.m.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper:

1st Sunday during evening service

3rd Sunday during morning service

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

Kingdom Kids (3yrs. - Yr3): 9.45a.m. - 10.30a.m.

Youth a.l.i.v.e. (Yr.4 - 18yrs.): 9.30a.m. - 10.15a.m.

There is a hearing loop installed 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.

For further information on any of the above or if you would like to speak to Pastor Dave:

Phone: 01638 781343 (Church Office)

01638 780636 (Pastor's home)

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

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

Full details of all our services, events, core beliefs and contact details are on our website: [www.plfc.org.uk](http://www.plfc.org.uk)

We will be holding our Candlelit Carol Service on Sunday 18th of December starting at 6.15am, also watch out for us Carol singing on Monday evening 19th Dec. We also warmly welcome you to our Christmas Day Family Service on Sunday 25th December, children are invited to bring a toy to show.

## St Andrews Church

St Andrew's Church updates and Christmas plans

It's an exciting time here at St Andrews as we approach Christmas again, and what feels very much like normal for the first time in a couple of years. It also comes at the end of a period of great change for us as a church, with our rector David Cleugh and our vicar Sue Potts and curate Anna Jones all now having moved on either to retirement or to pastures new. But, while the search for our next rector continues, we continue to remain open to all through our services and our regular programme of seasonal events.

Following the Festival Of Light, taking place as usual at the start of Advent, our Christmas services will also feature our usual crib service on Christmas Eve at 4 p.m., when we would encourage children of all ages to come dressed as angels, shepherds, wise men, donkeys, sheep and anything else that will help tell our Nativity story. There will be a Midnight Mass service at 11:30 p.m. and a service of Morning Praise on Christmas Day at 9:30 a.m., and again all are welcome to these services. At other times we continue to worship together every Sunday at 9:30 a.m., with either a communion service led by a visiting minister or a Morning Praise service

led by either Carol Taylor or Mark Walsh (on the left of the picture above), our licensed lay ministers, and other members of the congregation. We also meet together for Morning Prayer each Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. in the social centre opposite church, followed by a coffee morning and bacon rolls served on the veranda.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year  
and hope to see you soon.

## Sunnica Update

Both West Suffolk County Council and East Cambridgeshire District Council have voted unanimously to reject Sunnica's plans to build a vast solar Industrial Farm and will convey their findings in their written Representation to The Examining Authorities.

An open floor meeting was held on 1st November, followed by accompanied site visits on 2nd and 3rd of November.

Written Representations were submitted by the 11th November, and should now be published on the Planning Inspectorate website.

Further subject specific hearings will take place Tuesday 6th December to Friday 9th  
Deadline 3: You must register by 22nd November 2022 If you intend to participate in or observe the hearings

There are 9 Deadlines in total. The Ex. A. is under duty to complete the Examination by Sunnica by the end of the period of six months. Tuesday 28th March 2023. The final decision is expected to be made by The Secretary of State by May/June time.

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact Sunnica Community Action Group Facebook page.

## Festival of Light

St Andrew's Festival of Light  
**Saturday-Sunday 3rd-4th December and  
Saturday-Sunday 10th-11th December,  
3pm - 6pm**

The start of Isleham Christmas-cheer is always marked by St Andrew's annual Festival of Light. Come see the church beautifully illuminated, and full of Christmas trees from individuals and businesses from the village. They'll be carols, mince pies, mulled wine and hotdogs, as well as local stalls to buy your Christmas gifts. The event takes place on Saturday-Sunday 3rd-4th December and Saturday-Sunday 10th-11th December. The Christmas market stalls are open on Saturday 3rd December, and the event is finished-off on Sunday 11th with a festive concert at 4pm. Bring your family, meet old friends; and make new ones. It's a wonderful way to get into the spirit of Christmas.

## Remembering your Faithful Friend this Christmas



Christmas may be a time to remember family and friends - but Dogs Trust Snetterton is also asking local dog owners to remember their four-legged friends this festive time, with a Canine Care Card.

The Canine Care Card is a free service, which helps to ensure your dog's future, in the event of you either passing away, receiving a life-changing diagnosis or moving into a care home. This can often be a great concern to some people, who perhaps do not have a family member or friend in a position to look after their dog, should the worst happen. Therefore, by signing up to the service, Dogs Trust can offer peace of mind, reassuring you that your faithful friend will be well cared for by the charity.

It is easy to sign up to the service, which simply asks for some information on your dog, including their likes and dislikes, as well as your dog's medical history and your vet details. It also asks for you to confirm who you would like as your Dog Guardian. This should be someone you trust, like a friend, family member, solicitor, neighbour or vet, who can sign over ownership of your dog to Dogs Trust on your behalf, should you become seriously ill or pass away.

You can register online by going to [www.dogstrust.org.uk](http://www.dogstrust.org.uk) and searching for 'Canine Care Card' - or if you do not have access to the internet, you can request a paper version of the application form. Once the form is submitted, Dogs Trust will then write to you, to confirm when your application has been processed.

Once signed up, should your card ever need to be activated, Dogs Trust will then arrange with your Dog Guardian for your dog to come into the rehoming centre or into foster care. With a team of vets, trainers and behaviourists on hand if needed, your dog will then be welcomed, loved and well cared for by the charity, who will work tirelessly to find a loving new home for your much-loved canine companion.

If you would like further information about the Canine Care Card, or to request a paper application form, please contact Dogs Trust Snetterton's Supporter Relations Officer, Paige Pope, at [paige.pope@dogstrust.org.uk](mailto:paige.pope@dogstrust.org.uk) or phone 01953 497912.



# Isleham Community Pantry



Life at the Pantry has been delightfully busy with many people living in Isleham or Fordham, being able to collect a free bag of food or ask for a delivery. We have also been able to support people receive longer term help, in these days of uncertainty and know with your generosity have made a real difference. Our aim is to be able to support and contribute to our communities of Fordham and Isleham, in a practical way and also to redistribute food that would ordinarily go to waste.

We are so grateful for donations and support from Isleham and Fordham Co-op's and the amazing food gifts we have been given from the Isleham and Fordham schools and churches, following their Harvest Festival services. We have also had some extra fresh food from Explore Outdoor, part of Abbeycroft leisure, and hygiene products from the local Hygiene bank.

Thank you all so much this is wonderful!

In addition, last month we have been blessed by a financial donation from Grant Berry Estate Agent and a set of stacking shelves from a family in Isleham, to store the food more effectively. Thankyou.

We also give thanks to all the individuals who have supported us with gifts of food and financial donations, your generosity is a real encouragement.

If you have any contributions, you can leave them in the Coop crates in both villages or bring them to The Ark Church, Sunday or Wednesday mornings. Please contact us directly at the email address below if you want to donate a financial gift.

As always our special thanks go to the Ark Church for the donations they have given and for providing the space to store and distribute the food safely, so that the wonderful volunteers can operate this service on Wednesday morning (10-12) so effectively.

In other news, we have started to purchase food from a charity called FareShare. You may have heard about them on the news recently. They are a national network of charitable food redistributors, that take good quality surplus food from across the food Industry, and sell it on at a reduced rate to local food banks and projects like ours. This has helped to keep the Pantry well stocked.

If you, or someone you know would benefit from a food bag please be encouraged to contact us by Facebook (Isleham Community Pantry) or email us at [Claire.Gillett.communitypantry@thearkisleham.co.uk](mailto:Claire.Gillett.communitypantry@thearkisleham.co.uk) or alternatively, turn up on Wednesday morning between 10 and 12noon.

All requests are handles with discretion and dignity. We will be delighted to see you.

We are hoping to provide Christmas boxes again this year, so if you would like one email us and we will order them appropriately.

With all our thanks for your generosity.  
Claire Gillett and the Community Pantry Team.

## Isleham Society



As we hoped, the October 'Just Connect' evening of long-term residents relating anecdotes about life in the village and more recent arrivals sharing impressions proved fascinating and entertaining.

After discussion, and being a Society particularly concerned with heritage issues, we submitted a written representation stating widely held concerns about the Sunnica proposals to the Examining Authority. At the November 17 'Vinyl Celebration' meeting we indulged in some musical nostalgia in the Beeches bar. There was a spectacular play list on offer as members gave a bit of background to favourite tracks from LPs of the '60's and '70's.

Music of a different sort on December 22 with open air carols at the St Andrew's Social Centre (and look out for our tree at the Festival of Light earlier). Time travel... the Isleham Tardis village history project is taking off...and the Society programme for 2023 is shaping up nicely. Happy Christmas everyone.  
Mark Fletcher (Chairman)

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# Lucy Frazer

---

As we near the end of the year and Christmas approaches, I wanted to reflect on 2022 and let you know a few of the matters I have been working on, on your behalf.

This year has not, so far, been without its challenges - whether that is the spiralling energy costs or the war in Ukraine. We have also recently sadly mourned the death of our late Queen Elizabeth, who served us with grace and dignity throughout her reign. I was pleased to attend the proclamation both in Westminster and in Cambridgeshire to welcome King Charles III as our new monarch.

I know constituents across Cambridgeshire are concerned about the war in Ukraine. And I have been humbled by the response of so many families who have supported Ukrainian refugees. Many families across our area have opened their homes to those fleeing conflict, and I was pleased to hold an event in the summer to bring together some of the volunteers, organisations and families who have been involved in supporting those who have come to the UK.

I know that cost of living is a real concern, and I am committed to helping constituents across South East Cambridgeshire find the support and advice they need. In my previous role as Financial Secretary to the Treasury, I was proud to work with ministerial colleagues to introduce a package of measures to help tackle the cost of living crisis. These included a £400 discount off energy bills. Since then the Government has gone further with the introduction of the Energy Price Guarantee which caps the price per unit of electricity / gas from 01 October 2022 for at least six months. This price guarantee will save the average household £1,000 per year compared with the previous energy price cap announced by Ofgem in August. In the coming months, the Government will consider how it supports households with energy bills beyond April 2023.

I know that residents continue to be concerned about the Sunnica solar farm proposal. In November I spoke in opposition to the scheme at the East Cambridgeshire District Council planning meeting. The next step is written submissions to the Planning Inspectorate triggering the final stage in the process. As part of the Examination, residents who registered as 'Interested Parties' earlier in the year have the opportunity to submit a 'Written Representation'. This is a more detailed assessment of the application than the 'Relevant Representation' from earlier this year, and permits supporting evidence or documents if appropriate.

I will be making my own submission by the 11 November deadline, and I invite all who are eligible to do the same by uploading their submission to the designated Planning Inspectorate website.

For those who have not registered to take part in the Examination, it may still be possible, at the discretion

of the Examination Authority, to submit a representation, especially if you have only recently moved to the area. You can write to the Examining Authority if you would like to make a personal enquiry via the following email address: [sunnica@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:sunnica@planninginspectorate.gov.uk).

In addition to the Planning Inspectorate, I continue to represent my constituents' concerns about the proposal to other relevant authorities. I recently wrote with Matt Hancock MP to Natural England to ask that they review their verdict on Sunnica's land appraisal after the Say No to Sunnica Action Group identified problems with Sunnica's methods.

I look forward to continuing my close work with the Say No to Sunnica action group, who have been tirelessly campaigning since the application launched before the pandemic. I hope that together we can avert this scheme.

Finally, I was delighted to open Asynt's new international marketing facility in Isleham in July. The opening of the new facility was partly possible thanks to the availability of grant funding, including from Innovate UK and Growth Works, and coincided with the business' nineteenth anniversary.

I wish you all the best for the rest of the year. And, as always, if I can be of help or assistance please email me on [lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:lucy.frazer.mp@parliament.uk).

Lucy

Office of Rt Hon Lucy Frazer KC MP  
Member of Parliament for  
South East Cambridgeshire

## Bowls Report

---

Not too much to report from the bowls club as the winter nights approach. We have 2 teams that participate in the East Cambs leagues and these have just started in October with both teams in division 2.

We have a couple of dates to which anyone is most welcome to attend so the dates to put in your diary are:

Wednesday 14th December at 7.30 pm for a Christmas prize bingo

Friday 24th March for a trivia quiz evening

For further information you can contact either:

Secretary	Sylvia Pinder 01638 720875
Captain	Barry Grimwood 01638 781943
Chairman	Rowley Wells 01638 780191

Barry Grimwood  
Club Captain





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## Beeches board at the Co-Op

The Beeches is delighted to be offered a space on the Isleham Co-Op wall to promote our offering and activities to the local community.



We will be continuously updating this notice board with "What's on at The Beeches", including hospital-ity facilities, events and entertainment, various well-being and dance classes, activities for the young/youth organisations, and various sporting affiliations. We would like to extend a huge thank you to David and the Isleham Co-Op for such a gesture of support, and we look forward to working together to provide consistent participation in activities that improve the community's social wellbeing.

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