

Steel Bones at Buckingham Palace

STEEL BONES' FOUNDERS HONOURED TO ATTEND THE BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROYAL GARDEN PARTY

The Founders of a charity that supports amputees and their families were honoured to be nominated by the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire to be invited to the Buckingham Palace Royal Garden Party. Steel Bones, which was founded by amputee Leigh Joy-Staines and wife Emma, was established soon after Leigh lost his own leg following a botched operation when he was 25.



Following his discharge from hospital, Leigh found a severe lack of support and information related to what had happened to him.

It was fatherhood that inspired Leigh and Emma to start Steel Bones as a support group, which quickly snowballed into a registered charity due to demand. It was a family affair, with the children helping pack envelopes and send parcels out to other families right at the start. The name of the Charity came about by their Son's reading of the children's books, Funny Bones by Janet and Allan Ahlberg, and he suggested the group should be called STEEL BONES.

There are exciting times ahead for Steel Bones as they have recently been granted their first 3 year grant from the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund. This will enable the whole team of Trustees and volunteers pushing Steel Bones forward, to boost resources and increase the team so they can help a further 750 amputee families across 3 years.



Children were unable to attend the Royal Garden Party, but the family spent the day in London together to mark this special moment of Steel Bones' growth. he children went with their Grandmother on a bus tour of London as a special treat for all they have done to make Steel Bones happen.

As Emma said "The children inspired us to set the group, which we needed as a family. Since then, the whole community have united to support one another and provide the most amazing back up in the toughest of times. We cannot even begin to put into words how much we thank all the amazing people who have supported us thus far. None of it would be possible without everyone doing their bit."

Leigh added "It is such a privilege to meet others in the same situation as us, who get it and who have the same thinking as we do. We all want to help each other do the best that we can. It is such a powerful vibe in our community, and we are so very proud to

Continued on page 11



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Congratulations

Margaret, Steven and I, here TFM Butchers, would like congratulate Kim Downey on no longer being an Apprentice. Kim has trained for less than two years here in our shop and completed the exams and PASSED.

A massive well done Kim and we mustn't forget David Hartnell, our Butcher. He has done an amazing job teaching Kim about the craft and skill of butchery. Thank you David.

Please feel free to congratulate Kim when you pop down to the Farm.

We'll see if we can find you a bigger Trophy Kim — at TFM Butchers





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	Arrive	Depart
2nd Wednesday Church Street	11.15am	1.00pm
3rd Thursday Mill Street	3.30pm	4.15pm
4th Wednesday Church St	3.30pm	4.15pm
Post Office Mon - Th	urs 9.00	- 11.30
Useful phone numbers		
Emergency for Police, Fire, Ambulance		999
Police (Non-emergency)		101
Accident & Casualty (Addenbrooke's)	01	223 217118
Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cambridge)	01	223 245151
Newmarket Hospital	010	638 564000
West Suffolk Hospital (Bury St Edmunds) .	01	284 713000
Staploe Medical Centre (Soham)		
- Appointments	01	353 624121
- Prescriptions & Dispensary	01	353 727695
- Enquiries, Home Visits, Emergencies	01	353 624123
Minor Treatment Centre, Ely	01	353 656675
NHS Direct (for advice)		0845 4647
GP Out-Of-Hours (non-emergency)		111
Electricity Emergencies	08	00 7838838
Gas Emergencies	08	300 111999
Anglian Water Leaks	08	771881
- 24 hour	08	45 7145145
Social Services - office hours	03	45 0455202
- out of hours emergency	01	733 561370
Refuse Collection	01	353 665555
RSPCA	07	599 522716
- Cruelty line	030	00 1234 999
Citizens Advice Bureau Mil	ldenhall 01	1638 719111
Nev	vmarket 03	300 330 1151
District Councillor: Julia Huffer	01	638 720013
Deputy Council Leader: Joshua Schumann	07	841 524007
Parish Council Clerk: Richard Liddington .	01	638 781687
MP: Lucy Frazer lucy.fra	zer.mp@pa	arliament.uk

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.

June 2022

Thurs 16th	Isleham Society	7.30pm
Wed 22nd	Mobile Library Mill St	3.30-4.15

July 2022

SAT 2nd	*** ISLEHAM GALA DAY ***	
Sun 3rd	Isleham open gardens	2.00-5.00
Mon 4th	Isleham Parish Council	7.15pm
Fri 8th	Book Club	2pm
Wed 13th	Mobile Library Church St	11.15-1
Thurs 14th	Fenland Friends	7.30pm
Sat 18th	Isleham Market	10-1pm
Thurs 21st	Isleham Society	7.30pm
Weds 27th	Mobile Library Mill St	3.30-4.15

Community Pantry at The Ark every Wednesday

10 - 12 noon

Parish Councillors address list				
Richard Radcliffe	45 Sun Street, Isleham			
(Chairman)	Tel: 01638 780831			
Dr Chris Corbin	5 Priory Gardens, Isleham			
(Vice Chairman)	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 781092			
Christopher Elmer	30 Limestone Close, Isleham Tel: 01638 780934			
Richard Liddington	Parish Office, The Beeches			
(Parish Clerk)	Tel: 01638 781687			
	Email: islehampc@gmail.co			
Website: www.isleham-vi				

Notes from The Editor

A great week for the Jubilee with flags and bunting lining the streets. Don't forget the Gala, the first one in 3 years.

Any help is always welcome. Fingers crossed for the weather..

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.

Keep safe

Clive Patterson



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Village Notes

Thanks from the village

Many thanks to Walter Gunston for brightening up the village for the queens jubilee week.

Not only did he decorate his house but also many sites around the village.





TFM Butchers

FENROSE FARM

1 Fen Bank
Isleham CB7 5SL
Tel: 01638 780994/780431
Email: info@tfmbutchers.co.uk
Website: www.tfmbutchers.co.uk

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Check out our Weekly Meat Bag for £25 – it's a surprise!

2 metre social distancing procedures are in place.

We also attend two Farmers Markets:

Isleham Farmers Market with a Touch of Craft every $3^{\rm nl}$ Saturday each month and Freckenham Farmers Market every $4^{\rm lh}$ Saturday of each month.

On-Farm Shop Opening Hours:

Tuesday: 10am-5.30pm Saturday: 9am-4pm Thursday & Friday: 9am-5.30pm Sunday: 10am-12noon

Village clubs: information

				1	1
CLUB	CONTACT		DAY/DATE	TIME	PLACE
1st Isleham Beavers (boys & girls 6-8yrs)	Emma Bucknall	07807 349754 gsl@islehamscouts.org.uk	Tuesday	5.15 - 6.15pm	The Beeches
1st Isleham Cubs (boys & girls 8-10yrs)	и	07807 349754 gsl@islehamscouts.org.uk	Tuesday	6.30 - 8.00pm	The Beeches
1st Isleham Scouts (boys & girls 8-10yrs)	а	07807 349754 gsl@islehamscouts.org.uk	Tuesday	6.30 - 8.00pm	The Beeches
Beeches Entertainers	Barbara Murfitt	07510 173412 / 01638 780373			
Book Club	Irene Brown	irene.c.brown@googlemail.com	2nd Friday	2.00pm	The Beeches
Bowls Club	Rowland Wells	01638 780191			The Bowls Club
Busy Bees	Pre-School Zara King	01638 781212 zara_covington@hotmail.co.uk	Wednesday	9.30 - 11.30pm	The Beeches
Craft Club	Margo Towley	01638 781524	Tuesday	1.30 - 4.00pm	Limestone Centre
Fenland Friends	Fiona Jones	01638 780440	2nd Thursday	7.30-9.30	The Beeches
Friends of Isleham Nature reserve	Avi Stacey	01638 780023	2nd Thursday Bi- Monthly	7.30pm	Various Please ring
Gala Committee	Lisa Alderson	07947 642333	3rd Monday	7.30pm	The Beeches
Isleham Joggers	Agnieska Beswick	07840 141694 agakardys@hotmail.com	Monday & Wednesday	6.30pm	The Beeches Car Park
Isleham Performing Arts	Ruth Bendall	07894 118801 ruthbendall@yahoo.co.uk	Wednesday Thursday	7pm - 8.30pm 9.30am - 10am 4pm - 5.30pm	The Beeches
Isleham Society	Mark Fletcher	isleham.society@gmail.com	3rd Thursday	7.15 for 7.30	The Beeches
Isleham United Youth FC	Steve Isaacson	07545 395573			
Isleham United FC	Russ Boneham	07867429051/01638 780830 russ@innovoic.co.uk			
Isleham Tennis Club	Clint	07946 441351			
Isleham Cricket Club	Jamie Saunders Adrian Sheldrick	07872 507989 (Chairman) 07775 522765 (vice chairman)			
Pre-school Isleham Under Fives Ass. (IUFA)	ТВА	01638 781212 islehampreschool@btconnect.com			
Pilates (Booking Essential)	Jo Simcock- Simms	07974 653775	Monday	10 - 11am 6.00 - 9.00pm	The Beeches
Pilates (Booking Essential)	и		Wednesday	12.00 - 1.00pm	The Beeches
Pilates (Booking Essential)	и		Friday	12.00 - 1.00pm	The Beeches
Salsa	D Miller	07825955971	Thursday		The Beeches
Tai Chi	Dave Coogan	01638 781705	Wednesday	1.15 - 2.15pm	The Beeches
The Beeches	Finn Blair	enquiries@thebeechesisleham. co.uk			
Yoga	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 July 9th for our August 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 Neighbourhood Plan - Village Referendum

Annual Parish Meeting held at The Beeches on 16th May 2022

I welcome you all this evening to our Annual Village Meeting. This enables the Parish Council and other organisations in the village to let you know what has been going on and more importantly for you to raise any questions, issues, or ideas you may have for our village.

The last 2 years have seen many changes in our lives. Covid has affected us all in many ways. I want to thank all those who have supported the village through these testing times. The organisation of support and care by so many shows me that Isleham is a village with real heart.

I would like firstly to carry on with some thank yous. To Derrick Beckett who has supported me and the Council so well as the Vice Chair and for all the Members for their work. To our Clerk Richard Liddington and Finance Officer Jeanette Borderick for keeping us on the straight and narrow. To Tim Wilding for maintaining the Cemetery and play area so well, to Simon Petts for clearing our litter and to Gemma Rix who has taken on that mantle.

I want also to thank Ray Sheldrick who has cut the grass at the Rec for so many years but it is good to see that he is continuing with his work on the cricket square

This is the first Annual Meeting we have held in person for 3 years. The Council has abandoned Zoom Meetings to return to meet face to face again. This is so much easier for us all. I am grateful to all the public who have attended our Zoom meetings and those who attend in person. It is so much better to see and hear you in the flesh.

So let's look at what has the Council done over the past year?

We have supported the Beeches and I'm delighted to see it being so well used There is developing a real buzz about the place, the result of the hard work and commitment by the staff and the Trustees, particularly when you recall the times we've been through.

Planning, as usual, has been an issue for the Council. We have been consulted by East Cambs on nearly 70 applications this year. Our comments have to be limited to material planning matters because the decision made by East Cambs has to be in accordance with the legislation. We recognised a couple of years ago that our influence could and should be stronger so we drew up a village plan for Isleham.

This was subject to the recent Referendum and it was reassuring to get such overwhelming support from the public for the Isleham Plan with 92% in favour of the Policies in it. The adoption of this Plan is a huge step forward for our village. It clearly sets out what is suitable development for our village in the future. This means that we have set locally the parameters for the location, type and characteristics of new building in our Parish. Any development will be assessed against the Policies and Plans in the document and it will assist East Cambs in determining any new planning applications. A job well done by all those who helped develop and contributed to the vision for our village.

The Council is not just interested in bricks and mortar. We are committed to improving our local environment. We believe we can do more so we have raised the standards of our maintenance contract for the Rec and included other areas of land we own to improve our area. This includes replanting areas in the Beeches car park and maintaining them on a more regular basis.

It is wonderful to see the Rec so well used by so many. We have supported the Clubs to continue to develop including the new cricket nets at the top end. We have new trees and hedging planted at Coates Drove and carried out tree maintenance at the Rec and the cemetery.

The car park at the Priory has been resurfaced, parking bays marked out with signs to remind users of the parking rules. Railings now surround the grass mound to the front and a seat has been installed. We will also be putting an information board up in the near future.

We are working with the County Council to establish a route so that the Nature Reserve can be accessed on foot, without having to use the Fordham Road, from the village. To help dog walkers we have installed more dog bins, and signs to remind people that no dogs are allowed on the Rec including the car park.

The Dustall Allotments are full but we have a few vacant on the Three Trees Site available for rent please contact us of you are interested in taking one on.

A bid was made for funding for traffic calming on the Fordham Road to the County Council and I am pleased

to say this was agreed last week.

Moving on to finance, the Council's monies were £283,000 at 31/3/22.

This is made up of £135,000 paid from the new developments in the village through the Community Infrastructure levy. We can only use this for "village improvements".

£53,000 identified reserves for specific areas of work which leaves a balance of £94,000.

Right now perhaps the biggest challenge for our area is the Sunnica proposal for the solar panels and battery storage in Isleham and so many of our neighbouring villages. We have made clear to the Planning Inspectorate, who will determine whether the scheme will be approved, that the consultation on the proposal was inadequate, I would call it woeful, and that the impact on the area would be detrimental. We have registered with the Planning Inspectorate to make further representations at the enquiry. It is unclear when that may be held as Sunnica are now asking for a delay in the enquiry as they need to explore further options on how to connect it all to the National Grid. Personally this does not inspire confidence in me that it is a scheme which is well thought out and appropriate to our area.

Looking to the future.

- We will be rebuilding the Cemetery wall along The Causeway as it is in a poor state
- Installing barriers at the Little Wash on safety grounds
- Purchasing a new tractor
- Exploring the options to increase the solar panels on the Beeches and reduce its ongoing energy costs
- Planning for extending the Rec with the transfer of the land as part of the planning agreement with Bloor Homes, and finally
- What should we do with the telephone box opposite the Rec now that the Food Bank has moved to the Ark?

We welcome your ideas, not just on the telephone box, as to how we can make our village a better place to live.

Richard Radcliffe Chair, Isleham Parish Council

St Andrew's Social organise multiple events on behalf of St Andrew's Church, not just for the church.

We believe St Andrew's is more than just a place of worship and/or a historical building. It belongs in our community, working with the community, providing support, comfort and entertainment, as well as a home for faith.

The upcoming events are not religious, and anyone and everyone is always welcome to all our events.

Upcoming Events

Isleham Open Gardens Sunday 3rd July, 14.00 – 17.00

Come have a nosey around the gardens of Isleham

If you'd like to open your garden on the day, no garden too modest or grand,please contact Catherine Durance at StAndrewsSoc@outlook.com

Tickets £5.00 and include cuppa and cake Available from The Corner House, Church Street

> St Andrew's Church Fete Saturday 27th August, 14.00 – 16.00 St Andrew's Social Centre

The return of our new annual church fete, full of traditional games, tea and cake.

Come throw a welly and try and beat last year's winner

Quilting Festival Sunday and Monday 28th and 29th August

St Andrew's Church

A reminder that every Tuesday, 10.00—12.00, at St Andrew's Social Centre is the village coffee morning. Come meet new (and old) people

Tickets to all our events are available at the Coffee Mornings

You can follow us on our Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/St-Andrews-Social-135669532006591

And email us at StAndrewsSoc@outlook.com



Isleham Gala 2022 Saturday 2nd July

Would lucky winners of 2019 Gala please return last year's trophies and Rose Bowl to The Beeches ASAP, many thanks.

Competitions

All categories qualify for Rosettes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Also Prizes for Best in Show

Fruit and Vegetable Category

1. Three potatoes 7. Three sticks of rhubarb

2. Three broad beans (in pods) 8. Six gooseberries

3. Three peas (in pods) 9. A container (basket, tray or box) of produce from my garden or allotment

4. Three carrots 10.A bowl of cherries

5. Three beetroot 11.A bowl of mixed fruit (single or mixed

6. Three spring onions

EGGS

1. Six matched hens eggs

2. Six eggs from mixed poultry All must be free range (garden or allotment) and fresh laid

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.

- 1. An arrangement to depict "The Royal Jubilee"
- 2. A vase, jar or bowl of flowers from your garden or allotment (foliage may be used)
- 3. A vase of fresh mixed herbs
- 4. 3 or 5 stems of sweet peas single or mixed colours)
- 5. 3 or 5 pansies single or mixed colours
- 6. A single rose
- 7. 3 or 5 roses single or mixed colour Miscellaneous Category (children may enter)
- 1. A garden photograph
- 2. An allotment photograph
- 3. A gardening tip

Bread (Breadmakers may be used)

- 1. Six White rolls
- 2. Six wholemeal rolls
- 3. A loaf of white bread
- 4. A loaf of wholemeal bread

Cakes

- 1. A Victoria sponge with a Jubilee Theme using the recipe listed
- 2. 4 sones fruit, cheese or plain (please label)
- 3. Fruit Pie (double crust plate pie)
- 4. A plate of shortbread

Jams, Pickles and Chutneys - A jar of....

- 1. Jam fruit of choice please label
- 2. Marmalade
- 3. Pickled onions or shallots
- 4. Tomato chutney
- 5. Mint Jelly
- 6. Redcurrant jelly

The Isleham Gala Needs your Help!

To ensure we have a great and safe day we desperately need help

- even if you can only help for an

be gratefully appreciated. Email lisa on lisa@laconsult.co.uk or

hour it will

call: 07947

642333



Arts & Crafts Section

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

- 1. A quilted item (please bring your own stand if you wish to exhibit a quilt)
- 2. A tapestry; embroidery or cross stitch item
- 3. An item created with yarn
- 4. A painting any medium
- 5. A drawing any medium
- 6. An item created in wood
- 7. An item modelled in clay; pottery; or other material.
- 8. Photographic Art
- 9. Handmade Jewellery
- 10. Hand or machine finished home made garment
- 11. An item of felt-work
- 12. Paper-craft item
- 13. An arrangement of silk (or artificial material) flowers, foliage, feathers, etc.

Children's Competitions

ALL CHILDREN MAY ENTER INTO ADULT SECTIONS BUT CLEARLY MARK ENTRY WITH AGE.

Garden

- 1. Mixed flowers in a hand decorated container
- 2. A garden on a plate
- 3. A container of home grown cress

Other Creations

- 1. A castle design on a plate
- 2. A hedgehog potato
- 3. A crown for a king or queen
- 4. A wind chime made from any materials

Baking

- 1. Three decorated cup cakes
- 2. Three jam tarts
- 3. Gingerbread figures
- 4. Any type of bread product

A Royal Victoria Sponge Cake Recipe

The Victoria Sponge was named after Queen Victoria, who regularly ate a slice of sponge cake with her tea, each afternoon!

To mark Royal Garden Parties, Buckingham Palace Pastry Chef's are delighted to share this traditional recipe.

Ingredients sponge:

-3 eggs, -150g caster sugar

-150g unsalted butter -150g sieved self-raising flour

-1/2 tsp of vanilla essence,

-Jam (strawberry or raspberry)

Ingredients buttercream:

-150g softened unsalted butter -220g sieved icing sugar -1/3 vanilla pod or vanilla essence

Method Sponge:

- -Preheat the oven to 180C (375F, gas mark 4)
- -Grease and line two 8 inch cake tins (if you only own one tin, you can bake the sponge and slice in half)
- -Cream the caster sugar, vanilla essence and softened unsalted butter until light and fluffy
- -In a separate bowl whisk the eggs
- -Gradually add the beaten eggs, a little at a time, to avoid the mixture curdling
- -Sieve the flour and fold into the mixture
- -Divide the cake mix between the two cake tins and smooth
- -Place on the middle shelf of the oven and bake for approximately 20 minutes, until the cake appears golden brown
- -Insert a skewer and ensure it comes out clean
- -Remove the sponges from their tins and leave to cool

Continued from page 9

Method Buttercream:

- -Cream the softened butter with the sieved icing sugar and seeds from the vanilla pod (or vanilla essence) Assembling the cake:
- -Ensure that both sponges are completely cold before spreading a layer of jam onto the surface of one sponge

-Spread a thick layer of buttercream on top of the jam (if you prefer this can be done first)

-Gently place the second sponge on top and gently press down

-Sprinkle with icing sugar and serve with a pot of fresh English tea!

Timetable (Provisional)

13.00 Parade-starting from Kennedy Road (new location) 13.30 Judging of Floats

14.00 Announcement of float winners

14.15 Entertainment

14.30 Fun Run-registrations close now

14.45 Preschool Races, then older children's races & Tug of War & any other races

15.30 Isleham School Band in The Beeches

15.50 Entertainment

16.00 Start of Fun Run

16.15 Last chance to buy Grand Draw

16.30 Grand Draw and collection of prizes 17.00 Gala closes

Other events continuing all afternoon: Pony Rides, Fun Fair, Skittles & Welly Wanging, Car Show, Wide Range of Stalls and Attractions -Food Corner

Steel Bones at Buckingham Palace (continued from front page)

represent the Steel Bones Family at this incredible event. We are truly honoured to be here particularly as we are only just getting started. There is so much more ahead for Steel Bones and we are very excited for the future of the community."

The Garden Party was attended by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Princess Beatrice, Count and Countess of Wessex. Leigh and Emma enjoyed some of the 20,000 delicious finger sandwiches, tasty cakes and Sandringham Apple Juice with Twining's Garden Party Tea. All of which were served in the Royal Tents whilst accompanied to the Big Band Music. The National Anthem was played twice and were particularly rousing renditions.

Princess Beatrice first met the couple at the start of the event and had a lovely chat together and she said how excited she is to celebrate her Grandmother next week. They were also able to meet all the Royals at the end of the event in a lined meet and greet in which both Prince William and the Duchess of Cambridge were keen to learn about Steel Bones. This was such a special experience for Leigh and Emma and all who attended, a truly unforgettable day.



To find out more about Steel Bones, visit the website: https://steelbone.co.uk

Steel Bones is a registered charity working to connect the amputee community and inspire and support both amputees and their families through providing latest news, signposting to useful services and recommendations on therapists, personal trainers and potential career opportunities.

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1174189



Bowls Report

The spring always signals moving from the indoor carpet bowls scene to the outside and warm sunny evenings on the lawn bowls green (and cold windy damp ones as well!)

During the winter months we meet on a fortnightly basis playing matches between club members to determine a Grand Final to be played on the last evening. This year Glenda Preece, Margaret Marsh & Andrew Human triumphed in the final match against Sheila Peters, Celia Clarke & Robert Burling



Now with 2 weeks of the 17 already gone, the outdoor season has started with mixed results with club winning 4 league matches, drawing 1 and losing 3 in the 3 various leagues we are in. Sadly in the Cambs League KO Cup we lost in the first round to Sawston by 9 shots.

We have also hosted a couple of fund raising events, namely a Trivia evening and a bingo evening which helped us raise some extra ££ in these days when all the costs associated with running as club have risen. So please watch out for any future events that may be advertised and we would welcome your support.

For further information you can contact either:

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

SO COME ALONG, we would be really pleased to see you!

Barry Grimwood Club Captain



Grateful thanks to The Beeches Entertainers

In April The Beeches Entertainers delighted many of us with a traditional Isleham pantomime, Alladin, the first panto since 2019. Three wonderful performances provided lots of laughs for the audiences, and raised a magnificent £2000 which they very generously donated to The Beeches. Half of this will be reserved for the development of drama at The Beeches, and the other half has bought a much needed commercial glass washer for the bar.

Finn Blair, said he was overwhelmed by such a large donation, and expressed his thanks to all members of the Entertainers.



Pictured here are Pauline Wilkes, Marie Bowdon and Barbara Murfitt with Finn Blair, Manager



Jewish Free School Visit

4th May 2022

Pupils from the Jewish Free School in London admire the candle stick which was made by their predecessors who were evacuated to Isleham in World War II and given as a thank you to the village. A film of their day was shown on BBC1 early news programme on

the following Sunday.

The Chanuka candlestick, recently restored by Rob Savage, on display in St Andrew's church.



Pupils from the JFS learn about the nine candle Chanuka candlestick

ISLEHAM OFFERS REFUGE - a heart warming story from 1939 JFS visit April 27th 2022 Between 1938 and 1939 at the start of the Second World War about 10,000 children were rescued from Nazi- over-run countries such as Poland, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Germany itself and brought to relative safety in Britain, many of them by the so-called 'kinder-transport'. And, of course, most were Jewish children rescued from unspeakable horrors but traumatised and, in many cases, orphaned. Many found themselves adopted into the Jewish community of London's East End,- Spitalfields in particular. Some were gathered to join the pupils at the Jewish Free School in Brick Lane which already existed to serve that community.

As the threat of devastating air raids in London increased numbers of children in target areas were evacuated to safer places all over Britain (three of my uncles and aunts all then aged under ten and living on the Luftwaffe route to London via Chatham Dockyard were put, with one small case each and a name label round their coat collar, on a train to Wales). 800 students aged between 6 and 15 from the Jewish Free School, some of them Cockney Londoners and others, the 'kinder transport children' who had been in England just for a few weeks and couldn't speak a

word of the language were evacuated to a safer area centred on Ely.

The welcome for this group, most arriving over two days in September 1939, was (for the most part) wonderful. We shouldn't forget that they were just part of a much larger wave of locally received evacuees numbering over 3000 in total. The WVS (Women's Volunteer Force) played a key part in the placing and support of these children and in helping their host families understand and deal with the multitude of problems their young guests had to struggle with. Apparently 747 of the JFS evacuees were found homes in Ely (perhaps the best known of those subsequently was the playwrite Arnold Wesker) and the others were bussed out to nearby villages...which is where we in Isleham come in!

JFS still exists and flourishes, and they are brought 20 of their 13–14-year-old students on a day learning visit to see the hostel at 37 St Mary's St., Ely which was the co-ordinating centre for the evacuation and continuing education of those children. They came to Isleham to see the part of St Andrew's church where throughout the war the evacuees were allowed to express their faith as if it were a synagogue. They saw and handle the nine-candle menorah the Isleham evacuee boys made out of scrap metal as a 'thank you' to our village. They had tea with us(a kosher tea thanks to the Mothers' Union) and went to see the commemorative display organised by Ely Museum. This day visit was filmed by the BBC as a celebration of open-hearted inter-faith co-operation and shown on VE Day. Even more than that, in these times, the film was a recognition of times when human compassion stands up, as it does again now, to overcome the brutality we still see wrecking innocent lives.

In December 1940 we think there were about 50 boys billeted in Isleham. Their main teacher, Mr Power, was greatly helped by Mr Hedges the Headmaster of Isleham Church School and also by the Chairman of the School committee Revd. H.W. Florey.

They made it possible for JFS classes to take place in the school and services and classes to happen n the church. Mr Robbins provided a large field for recreation which was much appreciated by energetic youngsters. Mr Diver and Mr Howlett gave an acre and a half as an allotment for the evacuees. Amongst the extra subjects studied were Typing, Practical farming, and Poultry farming and the boys had lessons in classical Hebrew.

Mark Fletcher

CHURCHES

The Ark Church



As I write the government has relaxed some of the rules allowing Ukrainian refugees to come to the UK. I, like many of us, have been thinking through how I can best help. At the Ark we have direct contacts with Polish and Romanian churches and have send money as they look after some of the many Ukrainians who have fled their own homes to go to neighbouring countries.

Before the pandemic we held some church meetings with migrant workers mostly from Eastern Europe and occasionally a few Ukrainians would come along. This week one of them contacted me on Facebook asking if the church would be able to accommodate her and her young son, if the Russian army got any closer. I said "yes", in reality I am her friend, and she was asking me and my family, but I'm sure many people would be willing.

This article is normally about events at the Ark Church, what's happening and how the community can join in. There is an important event that is happening at the Ark, at other churches and in every corner of society. That event is each of us asking "have I got space - space in my house, space in my life, space in my heart?" I have just been sent some photographs from Poland showing Paul, a chap from the Ark, who shares his time between Poland and Isleham helping local churches as they accommodate refugees. The Ukrainians have broad smiles and whatever concerns and anxieties I have melt away.

Sometimes I think accommodating a few people only scratches the surface! But then I am reminded that God has a remarkable habit of taking what we have and doing something extraordinary with it!

Martin Wells is one of the leaders at The Ark Church 101 Beck Road, Isleham, CB7 5QP E mail - contact@thearkisleham.co.uk Phone: 01638 780985 Facebook – Ark Church Isleham YouTube – The Ark Church, Isleham Web site - thearkisleham.co.uk

St Andrew's Church News for Isleham

It takes a village to maintain a church.

There's an old joke about the man marooned on a desert island who builds two chapels. When some rescuers finally arrive they ask him to explain why. "That's the one I don't go to" comes the reply!

Like all the best gags, it works because it's so nearly true. Some of us may remember the days when it was the church or chapel you didn't go to that better defined who you were than the one you did. And keeping a safe distance was important.

The corresponding joke against the Church of England is that it's so broad it doesn't matter what you believe. While I wouldn't want to go quite that far, it feels a precious thing to be part of a church that has such an expansive idea of membership.

A parish church exists for and should always be available to all the people living in the parish. In our case in Isleham that's a geographical area reaching from a northerly point on the Prickwillow Road just shy of the junction with Great Fen Road to just beyond Freckenham Road to the south, and from an easterly point on the Lark beyond East Fen Road to part of the course of the Crooked Drain to the west.

We're fortunate to have three flourishing Christian communities in the village that between us offer a wide variety of ways of worshipping, developing and expressing our faith in God, and that's only right and healthy when we all have different characters and tastes.

But the logic of the parish system is that regardless of where you do or don't go to church, you're always entitled to have your christening, wedding or funeral where you live. It means that in some way we're all invested in St Andrew's, whether we're aware of it or not.

Of course, in practice, responsibility for the upkeep and the life of the church does fall to those who attend regularly, and in Isleham we're particularly blessed with a hard-working, committed and generous band of volunteers who give of their time and talents to help keep the medieval building in good repair, and to support all that goes on within and without its walls. Churchwardens are key to that enterprise and at our Annual Meeting in May we said a big thank you to Nick Carver as he stood down after a second term in office, and also to Sean Edwards, who will continue in the role for another year.

But we also rely heavily on the support of the wider community to help us in the task of making sure that St Andrew's remains available not just to the village as we know it, but also for future generations.

The St Andrew's Social Committee have a number of exciting events planned which we hope you'll want to come along to (including an 'Open Gardens' afternoon on 3 July, 2-5pm), and we'll also be celebrating Gift Day on Saturday 16 July.

Hope to see you there, and thank you for your support. Revd Anna Jones

Pound Lane Free Church

Pastor: Mr. Dave Hall (01638 781343 or 01638 780636,

email 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 or secretary@plfc.org.uk

Web site: www.plfc.org.uk

Full details of all our services, events, core beliefs and contact details are on our website: www.plfc.org.uk

A Date for your diaries!

On Saturday August 6th from 1 – 3pm plfc will be holding a Summer Children's Event, featuring crafts and fun activities, Bouncy Castle and Bible message.

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Community Pantry update

We are open every Wednesday, 10-12 at The Ark Church, Beck Road, Isleham, supporting those in short term need in Isleham and Fordham.

With kind donations, from individuals, the COOP (Isleham and Fordham) Mildenhall Food Bank, Ely Food bank and Soham and Ely Hygiene bank, we have been able to give out, on average, 20 parcels of food and hygiene products per week.

If you know of anyone in need, parcels can be collected in person, or in some circumstances delivered. Just turn up on Wednesdays or private message Claire.

We partner with Ely food bank for longer term support and would welcome more donations in order for the project to be sustainable in the longer term, if that is possible. We collect from the crate in the Coop Isleham and Fordham. Food can also be brought directly to The Ark on Wednesday mornings.

We are regularly in need of :tinned meat, tinned fish, tinned fruit, uht milk, squash, coffee, microwaveable rice and biscuits. Thankyou in advance.

Financial donations can also come to The Ark Church....Pantryaccount.Pleasecontactmefordetails.

I can be contacted via messenger on the Isleham community pantry Facebook page, or by email, Claire.Gillett.Communitypantry@thearkisleham.co.uk

Speed Watch

The Speedwatch team are a small group of volunteers who give up their time to raise drivers' speed awareness and remind them of the risk to children, pets and other vehicles. We are trained and authorised by Cambridgeshire Police.

Cars travelling at 20mph can stop in 12 metres. At 30mph that becomes 23 metres and at 40mph it takes 36 metres. That could be the difference between not hitting a child and knocking them over, perhaps even fatally injuring them.

Most drivers and pedestrians seem to appreciate our presence and understand the reasons for it. Many local residents go out of their way to thank us for what we do and we are grateful for their support. Sadly, a few people feel the need to make dismissive and objectionable comments to the volunteers.

The team always wear high vis jackets, so if drivers fail to notice us, what chance do they have of seeing a small child dart out from between parked cars?

We find approximately 20% of cars are travelling over the speed limit. It seems there is a need for drivers to be reminded of the limits.

If no-one was speeding, Speedwatch teams would no longer be necessary!

ISLEHAM Men's 1st & Reserves Football

With the season only just completed there is no time to rest and we are already planning for the 22-23 season.

After managerial changes and player departures we did not enjoy the season we had hoped for but the club has survived and a number of young players have taken the opportunity to play 1st Team football. Next season WILL be better for the club and we are looking for new players to join our Saturday squads. We already have a great bunch of players in both teams but are looking to boost numbers and competition for places. Both teams will play between 20-30 league games and be entered into two cup competitions each.

We will start training in July at Isleham and from September we train on the 3G at Mildenhall Hub. Games are usually 2pm or 3pm kick offs on Saturday afternoon.

Currently our two teams are in the Kershaw Premier and County 3b. That may change.

Over the years we have provided a platform for young players (16+) to transition from Youth to Adult football. With 19 ex-youth players currently registered. Our current coaches are both FA Level 2 qualified, with the relevant safeguarding and first aid qualifica-



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tions. We have a proactive committee, are financially stable and have good facilities.

We socialise post-game in club HQ at The Rising Sun. What are we looking for? Players with ability, reasonable fitness levels, a good attitude and committed to being regularly available for training and games. In return we will provide a competitive, organised and sociable club.

So if you are looking for a change of scenery, returning from University, just moved to the area, returning to the game after a break, stepping up from youth to adult football and feel that you can add value to our club please get in touch.

As an aside thank you to all our banner sponsors, individual player sponsors, Finn & Team at The Beeches, Pat & Claire at The Rising Sun, Our Committee and Players. Enjoy the break!

All updates and club news are on our Facebook page so please give us a follow.

For further details please contact our current 1st Team Manager –

Russ Boneham on 07867 429051 or russ@innovoic.

Russ Boneham Club Secretary – Isleham United FC (1910)

ISLEHAM United Veterans

In addition to our two Saturday teams we also run a Veterans side (age 35+) that plays in the Cambridgeshire County Vets league. This is predominantly made up of ex-club players, local residents and youth coaches.

The team is jointly managed by Stuart King (Bart) and Craig Boneham and had a really good season this year, finishing in 5th place, winning 7, drawing 4 and losing only 2 of our league games. We scored 20 goals, so more work needed in this area but conceded only 17 goals, only bettered by Soham Town Rangers and Hardwick who finished in 1st & 2nd place overall.

It was a competitive league and we had some very close games this year, 4 draws, 4 wins by 1 goal and a standout 2-1 victory over Hardwick who finished 2nd in the league and won the county cup.

Thank you to Adrian Sheldrick and Thoroughbred Doors for sponsoring our new kits.

We normally play every other week on Sunday mornings and all support is welcome either at the games or in the pub afterwards, where we debate, exaggerate and re-hydrate!

Well done to all the players and Management team and we look forward to going again in the league in September. Somebody did mention pre-season training so we have booked The Rising Sun!

Russ Boneham Club Secretary – Isleham United FC (1910)

Isleham Society

After a busy April and May with a 'visit' to Antarctica, a visit from pupils of the Jewish Free School, a series of hands-on botany workshops, a trundle



to the Spurgeon stone, and learning about the 1944 Soham Railway disaster we expect a full-on Anglo-Saxon experience in June and also to be taking part in Jubilee and Gala celebrations before finding ourselves on the Fen Edge Way at our July meeting.

Events are open to all. Contact Isleham.society@gmail.com if you'd like to be on the contact list for information.

Mark Fletcher (Chairman)

Making Quite a Splash!

The annual 'Spurgeon trundle' took place on May 7th this year with a walk and short service at the stone by the river Lark which marks the place where one of the most influential preachers of any age was baptised.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon was born in Essex in 1834, the eldest of 17 children. Both his father and grandfather were non-conformist ministers. Although he obviously grew up in a religious household his personal conversion took place as a teen-ager when he sought shelter in a Primitive Methodist Chapel during a snowstorm. That same year he walked from Newmarket to Pound Lane Chapel in Isleham and from there with three others was baptised by full im-

mersion in the river Lark on the 3rd of May 1850. A year later, still only seventeen, he was the Pastor of Waterbeach Baptist Chapel where through the energy and enthusiasm of his preaching the congregation rapidly grew from 40 to 400

Astonishingly although he never had any formal theological training his preaching drew huge crowds of tens of thousands, and by the age of 22 he was, without exaggeration, probably the most

famous orator in the world! Back in those days there was no Wembley Stadium to fill as Billy Graham did in more recent times, but there was the Crystal Palace which when Spurgeon declared a day of fasting and prayer and preached there in 1881 was filled to capacity with an indoor congregation of 24,000 with many more outside.

His ministry for over forty years was based at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, Newington. Speaking unrehearsed and without notes, charismatic, emotional, sentimental, and dramatic he regularly addressed congregations of thousands, even tens of thousands and was known as 'The Prince of Preachers'.

In 1855 he established a Pastors' College to train men who had limited opportunity for education. During his lifetime that college trained 900 pastors who contributed to founding 200 new churches! Spurgeon's College today continues that work around the world and the Baptist seminary in Kansas holds 6000 volumes of his correspondence! In 1973 the stone was set up through the co-operation of ministers of churches in Isleham, Prickwillow, West Row, Soham, Mildenhall, Littleport and Burwell. It is where the ferry used to be, and the ruins of the Ferry pub are still visible. This spot on the river was a favourite place for river baptism services which were attended by crowds of well-wishers lining both banks of the river and on barges. The 'Trundle' was initiated by Revd. Christopher Goodwins in 2013. Our thanks to him for such a worthwhile initiative, and to Garv Aves for access to the site. Mark Fletcher



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Isleham Market 2022 dates

- 16th July
- 17th September
- 15th October

All markets start at 10am and finish at 1pm. Interested in running a stall? Please contact Finn at thebeechesisleham@gmail.com or on 01638 780097

Stay & Play To keep up to date with upcoming events please find us on Facebook at The Beeches @IslehamCommunityCentre or reach us on email at thebeechesisleham@gmail.com

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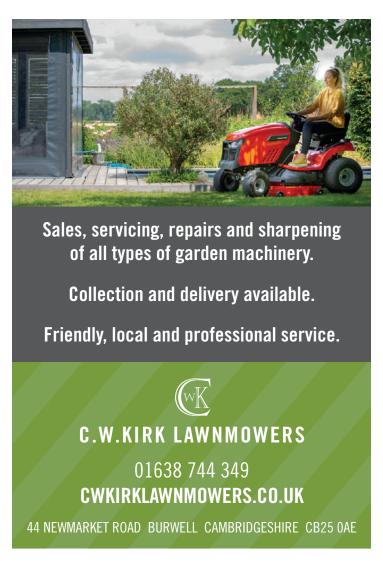
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