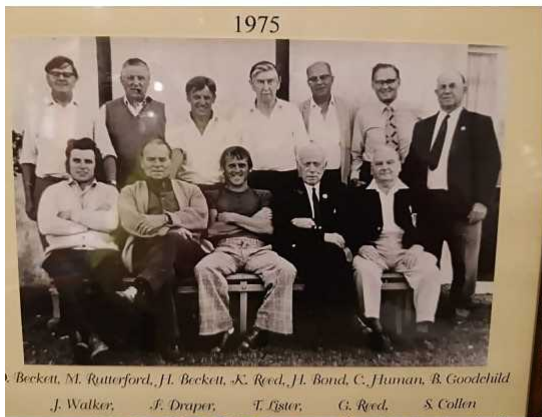


Isleham Informer

Spring Edition • Issue 113 • April 2023 • www.isleham-village.co.uk

Isleham Bowls Club Celebrates a 100yrs

Isleham Bowls Club



Centenary



Saturday 22nd April (anytime between 10oc & 5pm)

- Why not come up and join us to keep active, meet new people and have fun.

See bowls report for further details or contact

Rowland Wells (07836 763497)



1923-2023



Full story on page 14



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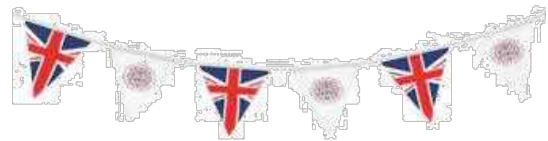
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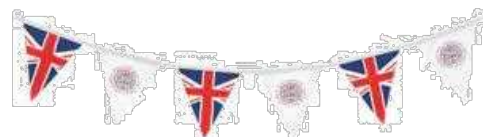
SUNDAY 7TH MAY

AT THE BEECHES

JOIN THE VILLAGE'S

SPECIAL CORONATION CELEBRATION

FUN FOR ALL AGES





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

| 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 - Thurs | 9.00 - 11.30 |
| Useful phone numbers | | |
| Emergency for Police, Fire, Ambulance | 999 | |
| Police (Non-emergency)..... | 101 | |
| Accident & Casualty (Addenbrooke's)..... | 01223 | 217118 |
| Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cambridge)..... | 01223 | 245151 |
| Newmarket Hospital | 01638 | 564000 |
| West Suffolk Hospital (Bury St Edmunds)..... | 01284 | 713000 |
| Staploe Medical Centre (Soham) | | |
| - Appointments | 01353 | 624121 |
| - Prescriptions & Dispensary | 01353 | 727695 |
| - Enquiries, Home Visits, Emergencies..... | 01353 | 624123 |
| Minor Treatment Centre, Ely..... | 01353 | 656675 |
| NHS Direct (for advice)..... | 0845 | 4647 |
| GP Out-Of-Hours (non-emergency) | 111 | |
| Electricity Emergencies | 0800 | 7838838 |
| Gas Emergencies | 0800 | 111999 |
| Anglian Water Leaks | 0800 | 771881 |
| - 24 hour | 0845 | 7145145 |
| Social Services - office hours..... | 0345 | 0455202 |
| - out of hours emergency | 01733 | 561370 |
| Refuse Collection..... | 01353 | 665555 |
| RSPCA | 07599 | 522716 |
| - Cruelty line..... | 0300 | 1234 999 |
| Citizens Advice Bureau | 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: gjpreece@aol.com.

April 2023

| | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Mon 3rd | Isleham Parish Council | 7.15 pm |
| Wed 12th | Mobile Library, Church St. | 12.15-1pm |
| Thur 13th | Fenland Friends | 7.30pm |
| Fri 14th | Book Club | 2.00pm |
| Thur 20th | Isleham Society | 7.30pm |
| Sat 15th | Isleham market | 9-12am |
| Sat 22nd | LITTER PICK Social Centre | 10am |
| Wed 26th | Mobile Library Mill St | 3-4.15 |

May 2023

| | | |
|-----------------|--|-----------|
| Mon 1st | May Day | |
| Tue 2nd | Isleham Parish Council | 7.15pm |
| Thur 4th | Local Elections | |
| Sat 6th | Coronation | |
| Sun 7th | Community Coronation Celebration at The Beeches | |
| Wed 10th | Mobile Library, Church St. | 12.15-1pm |
| Thur 11th | Fenland Friends | 7.30pm |
| Fri 12th | Book Club | 2-3.30pm |
| Mon 15th | Parish Meeting | 7.30pm |
| Thur 18th | Isleham Society | 7.30pm |
| Sat 20th | Isleham Market | 10-1pm |
| Sat 20th | IUFC Football Festival | |
| Sun 22nd | IUFC Football Festival | |
| Wed 24th | Mobile Library Mill St | 3-4.15pm |

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.com |
| Website: www.isleham-village.co.uk | |

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Village Notes

Village Litter Pick

*Saturday 22nd April 10am
starting at the Church Social Centre*



Notes from The Editor

Hi spring is upon us and the weather is warming up!

If you want to advertise in the Informer please have a read of page 13. Standardising the ratios of adverts will improve the quality of the advert and also make it easier for me to layout the pages. Thanks.

I have included a few extra pictures from the Society collection of the Bowls club for their centenary write-up.

Thanks to all the contributions, and help from the Informer volunteers. Next issue in June, see you then.
Clive Patterson

Community Pantry

These days are very tough for many families and we've seen a significant increase in the need for our provision over the year.

We continue to be kindly supported by The Ark Church, several business's and people who generously donate both food and money to the project.

Because of people's donations we have been able to purchase new racking to store the food on which has made things much easier operationally.

The Isleham and Fordham Co-op's are also a great support to the Community Pantry and we thank them for this.

If anyone would like to donate food we always welcome:

Cereal, UHT milk, tea and coffee, squash, tinned meat, fish, vegetables and fruit, pasta sauce, rice, crisps, biscuits, sandwich fillers and plastic carrier bags to put the food into.

These can be brought to The Ark Church on Wednesday or Sunday mornings or left in the crates in Isleham and Fordham Co-op stores.

If you or anyone you know could benefit from our service, we encourage you or them to get in touch or just pop in to see us on a Wednesday between 10-12. Longer term help is also available.

Grateful thanks also to our great team of volunteers who make this project possible.

Many thanks Claire and Sammy

St Andrew's Social Centre COFFEE MORNING

Every Tuesday morning 10- 12noon
All are welcome to enjoy a drink, a chat
and our famous 'bacon butties'

Village clubs: information

| 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) | " | 07807 349754 gsl@islehamscouts.org.uk | Tuesday | 6.30 - 8.00pm | The Beeches |
| 1st Isleham Scouts (boys & girls 8-10yrs) | " | 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@gmail.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) | TBA | 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) | " | | Wednesday | 12.00 - 1.00pm | The Beeches |
| Pilates (Booking Essential) | " | | Friday | 12.00 - 1.00pm | The Beeches |
| Tai Chi | Dave Cogan | 01638 781705 | Tuesday Wednesday | 7.00 - 8.00pm 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 May 9th for our June 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 –March 2023

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 3rd April 2023 7.15pm
Tuesday 2nd May 7.15pm

Highways Cambridgeshire County Council have invited Parish Councils to apply for the establishment of new 20mph zones within their towns and villages. There are some fairly strict criteria regarding what might be approved and the above is simply our initial proposal for public consultation. It is also important to note that Maltings Lane is already a 20mph zone and that this application would run in conjunction with an already submitted application to fund the installation of traffic calming measures on Pound Lane and a new 40mph zone on Prickwillow Rd.

As you can see from the map the proposal is to apply for 20mph zones on:

- Mill Street - between the junction of Fordham Rd and the junction with Church Street
- Church Street - between the junction with Mill Street and the junction with Beck Rd
- Pound Lane - between the junction with Church Street and the junction of Coates Drove
- Beck Road - between the junction with the Causeway and the junction of Maltings Lane.

The consultation document can be found at: <https://freeonlinesurveys.com/s/XpNXcCwh>

The closing date for completing this questionnaire is Monday 3rd April 2023

Potholes Cambridgeshire County Council have a very simple website for reporting potholes and other highways faults Go to: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>

• Simply zoom in on the electronic map and you will see previously reported faults. Identify the exact location of the pothole

• Complete the other details, which includes an opportunity to attach a photograph



• Submit the form and make a note of the submission number as this will enable you to more easily keep a check on the progress of repairs

We are also most grateful for the many residents who completed the recent survey in support of our grant application for funding to install traffic calming measures on Pound Lane. We will update residents on the status of this application asap.

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

Priory Car Park 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.

Planning Applications (February 2023 – March 2023) *

23/00008/FUL Roof lift to accommodate a loft conversion, chimney removal, exterior material change and associated works. 22 East Fen Road Isleham. Mr & Mrs S Clark

No Objection
23/00031/FUL Demolition of agricultural barns and construction of 1no. five bedroom two storey dwelling and 2no. two bedroom single storey dwell-

ings, garaging, parking, access road and associated works. 3 East End Farm Sheldricks Road Isleham Mr C McCreavy Objections

22/00612/FUL An amended plan/additional information has been received for this application. The amendment involves Removal of the additional land, change of use and outbuilding from the proposal. The application now seeks only a replacement dwelling. "The Lowes 36 Prickwillow Road Isleham

No 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

23/00200/FUL 'Change of use of annexe to holiday let - retrospective' 14 East Fen Road Isleham

No objection

22/00439/FUL Proposed outdoor swimming pool with the installation of pool surround and associated works. The amendment received 12.02.2023 Please see updated proposal title and amended plans. 79 The Causeway Isleham

No Objection

23/00098/FUL Two storey side extension and single-story rear extension

Location: 1 Ellwoods Close Isleham

No objection

23/00169/TRE T1 Yew Tree - Remove due to cracks in boundary wall (no photos of cracks provided) 2 Mill Street Isleham Conditional objection

Planning Approvals

22/00612/FUL Replacement dwelling. The Lowes 36 Prickwillow Road Isleham

22/00675/RMM Reserved matters for Approval of the details of the landscaping of previously approved 21/01770/VARM To vary Condition 1 (Approved plans) of previously approved 20/00260/OUM for Erection of 17 dwellings and new access Land Adjacent To 8 Hall Barn Road Isleham

22/00867/ERN Change of use to dwelling house. 4A - 4B Church Street Isleham

22/01451/TPO T1 Walnut - Crown reduce by 2-3m The Walnuts 23 Limestone Close Isleham

22/01469/TRE T1 Large Oak - Raise crown clearance to approx. 4m from ground level including removal of 3 lowest limbs to trunk, reduce crown spread by 2m on

lower 3rd of canopy. 2A Church Street Isleham

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 g), 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 22/01185/FUL Proposed new porch, remove the ex-

isting front door and widen the old Entrance 2 Croft Road Isleham

Planning Refusals: Nil refusals

Other Planning Matters:

Application withdrawn 22/01366/FUL Proposed two storey timber framed cabin to provide an annexe to the main house: River View 26 Prickwillow Road Isleham

*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>

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

Staffing I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Janet Hall has been appointed to the post of Responsible Financial Officer. Her contact details remain the same: islehampcfinance@gmail.com

We are grateful to Mrs Borderick for her willingness to remain in post for the time being at least.

Dunstall Charity Grant Applications for a £400 grant for those starting apprentices or certain further education courses are open. Please contact the Parish office for more details

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

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 if you have been affected by any type of crime.

Coronation We are pleased to inform you that Isleham Parish Council are in full support of a range of coronation events planned at The Beeches on the 7th May1

Facebook Page We are pleased to inform readers that we have established a Facebook Group to share agenda's, minutes of meetings and other information relating to the work of Isleham Parish Council. Please email islehampc@gmail.com for an electronic invitation to join the group.

CHURCHES



This term we have enjoyed having weekly house group gatherings to worship together and share the blessings and miracles we've seen God do in our lives. This has been a fruitful time of connection and spiritual growth as well as building community in our church. You may have seen in recent few weeks that we are extending our car park. We have been pleasantly surprised at the number of times we have needed extra parking, so a wonderful team of volunteers have prepared the way to make extra space so we can accommodate all the people that come.

Our Friday Night Youth Group continues to thrive and we have fun connecting with the younger generation and supporting them. If you have kids in Secondary School or Sixth Form they are more than welcome to come and join us! Our current group for Year 7 - 9's is called IMPACT and we have a YOUTH GROUP for Year 10 - Year 13's, both groups meet on Friday nights at The Ark from 7:30pm.

If you are interested in attending please email contact@thearkisleham.co.uk and they will put you in contact with our Youth Leaders.

Abigail Denniss
Leadership Team
The Ark Church, Isleham

Pound Lane Free Church

Pastor: Mr Matthew Brabbs (07535908682 or 01638 781343 (Church Office), email pastor@plfc.org.uk)

Elders: Mr. Dave Hall, Mr. Matthew Hall

Every Sunday: Sunday worship: 10.30am & 6.30pm

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 Matthew: Phone: 01638 781343 (Church Office) or 07535908682 (Pastor's mobile)

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

March 25th saw the induction of Matthew Brabbs as the new Pastor of Pound Lane Free Church. Originally born in Sheffield, South Yorkshire, Matthew moves to Isleham from Colchester, where he spent 3 years working as an Assistant Pastor, while also completing the Cornhill Bible Training course with the Proclamation Trust in London. Matthew writes:

"Before feeling God's call to the ministry, I worked as a bench joiner and furniture maker; a very rewarding profession. Wood is such a beautiful material to work with and few things give more satisfaction than getting to the end of the day and looking at all the things you've made with your own hands.

However, much as I enjoyed producing high end furniture and kitchens, the call to ministry was stronger.

Pound Lane Free Church has a historic link to the world-famous preacher Charles Haddon Spurgeon, who was baptised by its pastor in the nearby river Lark. When describing his work as a preacher Spurgeon said this: "I am engaged in personally-conducted tours to Heaven."

What a humbling privilege to be called to partner with God himself in the work of building up His church, and instead of making furniture which might last a few generations, to be shepherding souls on their way to eternity!

People do need nice kitchens, but they need Jesus so much more!

After all, while Jesus may well have applied his hand to the carpentry trade himself - helping out in the joinery shop of his earthly father Joseph - His real 'trade' (if we can call it that) is in creation itself. The Bible says: "For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible." Quite the resumé!

But even greater still is Christ's work of re-creation; "to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross."

This is where the real work of the Pastor comes in; preaching and teaching the good news of the Gospel. My job is pretty simple really - just tell people what God says in His Word (the Bible) about Jesus and our need of Him.

It is such a joy to be called to pastor a church with such a long record of faithful Gospel ministry, stretching back over 300 years. We have received such a friendly

welcome from the people of Isleham and look forward to getting to know you all better."



Matthew moves here with his wife Joanna and little boy Enoch

St Andrews Church

No news this edition

Music Mayhem

at Pound Lane Free Church,
28-30 Pound Lane ISLEHAM

Monday 9.30am-10.45am during Isleham Primary School term times. (Doors open from 8.50am.) All preschoolers very welcome from 0 to school age, sessions are free.

We sing a mix of age-appropriate nursery rhyme and other toddler songs together with children's Christian songs. Each child is welcomed by name in our "Hello" song. The children choose the songs by selecting toys from Sue's Song Bag and Sockeroo's Song Sack. We use musical instruments to accompany



some songs, and once Sockeroo is woken by singing his song we celebrate any birthdays by singing our Birthday Song. On their first birthday with us each child receives their own sockeroo sock puppet. At the end of the session there are biscuits for the children and tea or coffee for adults the the toys are put out for an informal play session.

Coffee Morning

at Pound Lane Free Church,

Weekly every Thursday 10.00am-11.30am

We offer a range of home-made sweet and savoury cakes and pastries together with tea, coffee or cold drinks.



There is no charge. Those who attend enjoy good conversations with friends both old and new and we celebrate each birthday with a cake.

The "In the News" 8 minute slot brings topical news items from the week with photographs on the projector, one is discussed from a Christian perspective.

Everyone will find a very warm welcome – we'd be delighted if you can join us.

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Isleham Community Allotment

After finding great solace in my garden and visiting our allotment plot during the beginning of the Covid pandemic I created a village gardening page to connect with others and share knowledge. This proved a great hit and attracted a lovely group of fellow gardeners and people who were new to the hobby, it was a lovely way to connect with others whilst we were all locked away.

As the Facebook group started to grow, I got chatting with fellow allotment holders and to people within the community about the idea of Isleham having its own Community Allotment area where people could meet, share advice/ideas, swap plants/seeds, plant and harvest vegetables and flowers to take home. I thought it would also be a lovely place for people to visit who may want an allotment but might not have the time to rent a whole one once 'normal' non pandemic life resumed. I approached the Parish Council with the idea and in January 2021 they very kindly offered the village its own Community plot.



As you can see, the plot was a complete blank canvas so the next few weeks/months entailed a lot of planning, outlining and digging with the help of a very small team of lovely souls (big shout out to my Sister, Daughter and Husband for their help in those early days).

After some publicity on Facebook, we were offered amazing help and donations. This included a grant from D S Smith Packaging, Fordham to kick us off. A big shed was donated by Trev Sallis which was erected by 'The A Team' (you know who you are :-D).



Picnic tables and gardening equipment were also offered and some very kind souls bought items for us from our Amazon Wish List. After those early, rather lonely days of the project, it really was heartening seeing it start gaining momentum.

Roll on to 2022 and I decided that some 'Wine and Weeding' events may encourage more people to join in the fun, who doesn't love a glass of wine in the early evening sun in a garden?



The wonderful Donna Carpenter visited and brought some of her fab friends along, she has proved to be a wonderful asset who has helped no end with seeing ideas turn into reality and help with the events organisation. Ann Hall has also been a constant help with the water tank refills. The allotment now has a fantastic group of people visiting every week in the Spring, Summer and Autumn ranging from all ages and abilities, we even had a very special Gentleman visit the plot for his 100th Birthday. The 'Wine and Weeding' crew have carried on meeting through the winter at various locations for things like wreath making, card making, garden chatting and just generally catching up with each other.

2023 kicks off the plot is in great shape and ready for the year ahead. We have plans for raised beds so that people with back/mobility issues can sit and garden if they wish, seed swaps and maybe some daytime events.

If you would like to visit the plot we always have a 'Jobs for the Week' board up during the growing season for those who wish to visit and garden. We also have our Wednesday 'Wine and Weeding' events that will be kicking off again in the near future, even if you have no gardening ability you are welcome to join us.

It is also a lovely place to visit with children with its nature pond, herb hop scotch and gardening activities.

To be kept up to date on the progress of the site please visit the





links below or email me. I am happy to answer any questions and chat about the project with you.

Facebook -Isleham Community Allotment
 Instagram - Isleham.Community.Allotment

Email - zleeson@hotmail.com

Where are we? The Isleham Community plot is located on the Dunstall Allotment site, on the first bend of the track.



Isleham Nature Reserve

Here is the proposed new management of the field to create two fenced compartments C1 & C2 with sheep netting. C1 in 2022/23 and C2 in Autumn/Winter 2023/24. The fence will be set back 4/5 metres from the Local Nature Reserve (LNR) boundary to create an accessible path through the field.

A gap is to be left between C1&C2 to connect with the new permissive route that links back to village at Hall Barn Rd. Tenant farmer is to carry on grazing with sheep. The area at the car park end is to be left unfenced to act as an overflow parking area for events etc. The field is to be managed as one unit with LNR. It will be a compromise that meets the need for the sites biodiversity, continued grazing by farmer and maintain access for the site users.

Proposed management layout



Isleham School of Performing Arts

This term all the children and adults have been having fun and working hard on their technique. The children have several opportunities to show off their performance skills in the summer term. At the end of this term we have a small troupe of children who will be appearing in the pantomime Dick Whittington, performing Acro and Song and Dance.

If you or your child are interested in joining any of our classes please contact Ruth on 07894118801.



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Isleham Informer Advertising

We welcome any advertising in the Informer but to display the adverts in the best possible way we have put together the following guide lines.

All adverts should be kept to the same ratios as the ISO A series of paper sizes i.e. A4, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9.

Try to create the advert in A4 (or larger) portrait or landscape depending on the sizes listed below.

Try to maintain the ratio, we can always reduce the size when placing into the Informer as this will maintain quality. If the advert requires enlarging there will be a definite loss of quality.

All sizes are approx as most adverts will be adjusted to fit the page so could end up slightly smaller or larger.

Acceptable file types are: jpeg, psd, pdf, doc & docx.

Most other standard file types can also be accommodated as they can be converted.

| On page Size | Size | Orientation | Price B & W | Price Colour |
|---------------------|---------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Full 195 x 275 | A4 | Portrait | £82.50 | £165.00 |
| Half 195 x 135 | A5 (A4) | Landscape | £42.50 | £85.00 |
| Quarter 95 x 135 | A4 | Landscape or portrait | £22.50 | £45.00 |
| Eight 95 x 65 | A6 (A4) | Landscape | £12.50 | £25.00 |
| Twelfth 95 x 35 | 2/3 A6 | Landscape | £7.50 | £15.00 |

Prices correct as of April 2023. 10% booking discount on an annual subscription. All prices exclude VAT.

You will be invoiced by Isleham Parish Council

ISO A formats

| Format | Width x Height (mm) |
|--------|---------------------|
| A3 | 297 x 420 |
| A4 | 210 x 297 |
| A5 | 148 x 210 |
| A6 | 105 x 148 |
| A7 | 74 x 105 |

The editor.



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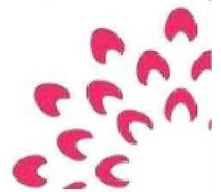
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Isleham United Youth F.C.

Isleham United Youth F.C are pleased to let everyone know that we will be hosting our annual tournament on Saturday 20th May and Sunday 21st May 2023.

We have a full range of age groups to give more children the opportunity to play football in a tournament. Age groups are u5s to U17s plus u10s u12 and u13 girls plus ladies.

Everyone is welcome to come along to help or just to watch so many children and ladies enjoying football. We could do with more referees, also help setting up on the Friday and car parking Saturday or Sunday.

If you are interested in helping please get in touch with one of our managers or Steve on 07545395573 / email isaacsonbill@aol.com

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Isleham Bowls Club

**1923-2023
(Our 100 years)**

Back in the early 1920's, a new station master was posted to the village of Isleham who thought it would be a good idea to have a new activity for the village. So, passing the word around, on the 8th March 1923, a group of 12 men met together in the old Comrades club to discuss interest in forming a bowling club. The motion was passed and the rest they say is history, so let us take a key point glance over 100 years of village bowling life.

An area of Ely Diocese land on Vicarage Meadow (between the primary school and vicarage house) was used and the seed was sown. In 1928 we joined the Fordham & District which started the competitive era by playing matches against local clubs. In 1933 there was mention of an invite for ladies to join the club, but it is unclear when the first lady member did actually join. It wasn't until 1947, the first motorised lawn mower was purchased, something we take for granted now. The area of Vicarage Meadow was also used by the tennis club which had a court adjacent to the bowls green, however with the closure of the tennis club in 1950, it was decided to expand the bowling green surface area.

The old hut used by the tennis club is still used today although a few repairs to combat the woodworm etc has been undertaken in recent years. In 1958, a clubhouse was erected for use by members and to provide shelter when catering for hosting visiting clubs. Facilities were still in short supply and it wasn't until 1979 that mains electric and water was laid from Malting Lane via the school yard. This enabled further improvements to be made and with the generous help from Tenrich Tyres, two second hand prefabricated buildings were joined together to form a new clubhouse which went on to last for 20 years. During the 1990's, many discussions had taken place between the members and committee with regards to a replacement building as space was limited. Eventually a couple of dedicated committee members persisted with much paperwork and red tape with the National Lottery grants team and we were finally awarded with just over £100k, (so a big thank you to all of you that have purchased lottery tickets over the years, it meant that some of the national funds have benefited very local activities!). Also at that time, local funding was also available for various sports project from East Cambs District Council, so with their help the present building (as per cover photo) was erected and opened in 2000.

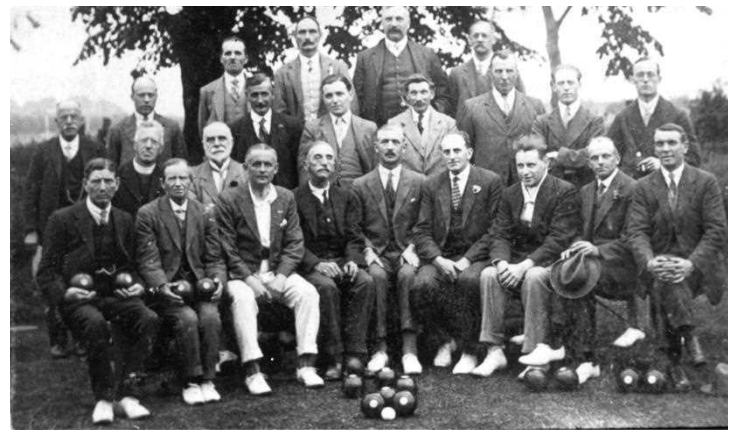
On the playing side, we joined the Cambridgeshire Association in 1962 which enabled club members to try and qualify for national championships. Over the seasons we have had some success from various members both male and female qualifying to represent Isleham on behalf of Cambridgeshire at Worthing for the men and Leamington Spa for the ladies. In 1970, the Ely & District league was established which we

joined and are still current members. The ladies team entered a team 1980 for evening play and in 1991 we felt we had enough 'retired' members to play in an afternoon league. Since Covid struck, the league has restructured the evening play from separate men's and ladies league to a mixed league. Another new additional venture was started in 2010 when we joined the Cambridge & District league which played bowls with slightly different rules to the normal version. This league has five divisions and we have now worked our way up to the top division.

In the early 1990's we joined the East Cambs indoor carpet bowls league to enable the club to operate throughout the winter months. This was very restrictive for space in our old clubhouse, so the new building in 2000 enabled us to play with 2 mats and ensure the evenings finished at a decent time rather than late in the evening. We also have our own internal carpet bowls league (played on a very social basis) and meet on alternate Fridays from October to April.

So as mentioned on the front cover, we would like to invite anyone to come along and give it a try, all ages welcome. On Saturday 22nd April, our club will be open between 10am and 5pm for you to come along at your convenience. Access to our club is via Jubilee Close entering alongside the school playing field. All you need to have is a flat pair of shoes or trainers, the club has some spare sets of bowls for you to use. For further info, contact Rowland Wells on 07836 763497 or by email to rowland.wells@yahoo.co.uk

Looking forward to seeing you
Barry Grimwood / Rowland Wells Club Captain /
Chairman



Isleham Primary School

Hello Everyone,

In my last edition, I mentioned that the children in school were going to have some fun events to share with you, and that is certainly true. The school has a Christian motto of 'Light Your Light Shine,' through being resilience, excellent and using discovery. Two of these aims have been taught to the school community with a house day to experience a sense of resilience and also a few days of science during National Science week, to focus on discovery.



Special Me, Special You, house day

In February, the school had a house day with a theme around resilience and facing challenge. This was to make the children more aware of disabilities and difficulties, and also know that whatever life brings, you can always fight and try things in a different way – to show resilience.

Here are some of the Year 5 pieces that have been written about the day:

"Yesterday, on Wednesday 22nd February 2023 it was our house day. The theme was, 'Special me, special you.' Through the morning we were split into our house teams to do activities. Later, in the afternoon we had a motivational speaker called Darren Edwards come and talk to us." (Ellouise, Year 5)

"We played sit down volleyball for people with no legs or people that cannot use their legs. You have to sit on your bottom to play. There were other tasks too, such as painting using your foot and writing names and other things in braille. We also experienced sight challenges." (Laurence, Year 5)

"We went to assembly and had a special visitor called Darren Edwards. He told us that he was an adventurer and that he fell down a mountain and. His friend saved him but he had to use a wheelchair. He showed resilience went on more adventures. He told us that after his accident he started kayaking and he went all the way from Cornwall to John O-Groats with his friends. He taught us that if you have a disability, you can do anything." (Millie, Year 5)

Darren was super cool and inspiring. This just goes to show that even though everyone is different, we can all achieve greatness. (Ellouise, Year 5)

Science Days

To keep in line with National Science Week UK, the school held 2 days for discovery. The reception class enjoyed bubble making and discovered that even if the bubble wand is a different shape, there is still a spherical bubble produced.

Year 2 explored 'poo' samples to find out if it came from an omnivore, carnivore, herbivore or piscivore. There were lots of excited comments as they worked their way through the poo samples.

Year 3 linked their tasks with their learning about light, and excitedly told me how light travels differently through liquid and that a pencil looked broken

when it was placed in a glass of water!

The whole school also had the experience of an outside visitor (and one of the school's parents) to talk about teeth hygiene and how to care for them. This specialist made cleaning teeth fun, engaging and interesting and all participants were very pleased with their pack of teeth cleaning goodies. A huge thank you to Mrs Bowers to visiting the school and bringing her expertise.

As we approach our final weeks of school before the Easter break, we are learning in our collective worship sessions, about Lent and the Easter events, according to the bible. We wish you all a happy Easter and hope that the egg representation of a new beginning and a new life, brings some warmer weather and new plant life to you all.

With regards

Dawn Deacon Headteacher

Isleham Society



It's been a good start to 2023. Following a lively January AGM with jazz from local group Boum, and in February a view-

ing of 'The Dig' about the world-famous Sutton Hoo ship excavation, we found out more important local history in March. Donna Martin from Soham Museum told the amazing story of Olaudah who was born in 1745 in what is now Nigeria. Kidnapped and sold into slavery Olaudah survived the dreadful 'Middle Passage' and cruel treatment in the West Indies and America, had several 'owners', worked his way through extraordinary adventures, shipwrecks, and battles eventually to become a non-conformist Minister and marry a Soham girl in 1792. His life and autobiography inspired influential political figures such as Wilberforce and meant that Soham played a significant part in the movement to abolish slavery.

We are delighted and honoured to welcome on April 20th the renowned scientist Jonathan Shanklin. In 1985 as a young physicist he discovered a hole in the Ozone Layer, that invisible shield that absorbs harmful UV rays from the sun and without which complex life on earth would not exist. This discovery spurred the whole environmental movement in the 1980's and led to the total ban on CFCs. We'll find out more about Jon's Antarctic connections, how scientific breakthroughs occur and the state of international co-operation on environment issues today.

In May we'll celebrate another local mover and shaker, Charles Spurgeon, the most famous preacher of his day who was baptised here in the River Lark plus more talks and events concerned with Isleham heritage through the Spring and Summer.

Membership of the Society is still £10 for a year. Visitors are welcome £3 per session.

Visit the Society website for more details.
Mark Fletcher (Chairman)

Mark Goldsack

Dear Isleham Resident

Welcome to the spring, which I very much hope it is when you read this. So much life at this time of year and one that reminds us that we are so lucky to live in our wonderful village.



Local council has been busy and you will have seen the council tax statements for 23/24. These have included a rise in tax by Cambs CC of 4.99%. This is the max they could raise council tax without a referendum and the Liberal Democrat run coalition in charge took the level to the maximum. However, the planned budget for a new school for Isleham has been removed for now, and as we saw in winter pot holes seem to proliferate every road. I fought for every one to be repaired and will make sure that whilst no longer budgeted when truly needed the school children of Isleham will not miss out.

With regards to Cambridge you may have read about the City Council led GCP pushing for a congestion charge on vehicles going to Cambridge. This would include Addenbrookes hospital, for which parking is already astronomical. I stand against this unfair tax on those that can least afford it. Cambridge is being run by Cambridge residents for their own benefits, with little if any regard to county residents need for the county city. One doesn't shut down cars then produce buses, you produce the alternative to cars then phase them out.

Finally for this edition, I'd like to congratulate the local sports teams. The youth football will have their tournament in May and they have worked hard to provide safe and effective coaching for the many children that attend. And also well done to both Isleham Mens and Ladies teams who again have both had decent seasons. Now with cricket around the corner let's hope for an equally long, if not slightly cooler summer to that of last year.

Have a great spring/summer everyone and if I can assist in anyway please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Mark Goldsack County Councillor

It was with a sad heart that I heard of the passing of Philip Aspland. A quiet man but one that behind the scenes did so much to support the village. A main stay in the creation of the Beeches, Philip was 82 and the proud father of two daughters. He was a successful business man, born in Soham. Philip was president of Isleham Cricket Club, and a great supporter. The village is a poorer place for the loss of Philip and his lovely wife Jill last year.



Rest in peace guys and thanks for all you achieved.

Isleham Cricket Club

Spring is in the air, which can mean only one thing, those long hot English summer days are just around the corner. That means the cricket season is upon us once more and the cricket club is in full swing planning for a smashing start.



The season starts in Isleham with the 1st XI taking on Chesterford's CC on the 6th of May with 2nd XI starting a week later at home to Girton 2nds.

As the season approaches, we have outdoor practise starting on Sunday March 26th at 10am at our nets at the back of the recreation ground, all welcome. Most importantly we all enjoy the social side of the game and to be sure we start as we mean to go on, we have arranged a signing on and social evening at the Rising Sun pub in the village, welcoming all members new and old to come along have a drink and a good evening listening to live music on Saturday 18th March from 7pm.

In preparation for the season starting, we have a club day on Sunday 16th April from 1pm on the recreation ground, where we will be setting up our covers and car park nets for the season. Followed by welcoming juniors to join us from 2:30pm for a game of soft ball cricket and a BBQ and social. All junior & seniors wanting to play cricket welcome to join us.

Our junior cricket program will begin on Tuesday 2nd May at 6:30pm with Year 6 upwards, introducing and progressing them through hard ball cricket. Years 1-6 we start on Friday 5th of May from 6:30pm, getting them involved with the game, growing an enjoyment of the sport and having a fun time. With a grow-

ing number of ECB coaches Isleham is a great place for any child to enjoy their cricket, if being their first experience or if they are well custom to the game.

Please find us on Facebook, PlayCricket & Twitter by searching Isleham Cricket Club or by stopping in at our HQ The Rising Sun.
Jamie Saunders

Gala Update

In March we held our third meeting of the year with the gala committee, bringing together ideas new and old to the table for this year's gala day.

This event is held on the 1st Saturday in July
So this year it is saturday the 1st July 2023

As mentioned in January we do need hands to make this happen and this still stands with more needs coming to light than we first thought.

If you are good at organising events, and are able to help set up posters, garlands etc a few days before, we need you. It is a friendly, fab group with everyone doing a little bit to make the big day happen.

Are you able to help with any of the following
Setting up marquees and stalls
Assisting events, Helping the parade
Helping to clear away

Key events we need helpers for:

The Parade

The parade is the best kickstart to this special day starting at East fen Road going all through the village. It is an awesome spectacle and if you want to be part of it email us for the form.

First aiders

is there anyone local with a up to date first aid certificate willing to be around just incase as a point of call.

Stall holders

Food stalls will need a hygiene certificate but have you got a talent you can show of on the day, a hobby

or, other crafts you'd like to try and sell or a tombola stall for just a bit of fun.

Decorated houses

We would love this year is for houses on the parade route to be decorated with colours, flags and banners. To really light the streets in colour and get people in the community spirit. If you live in the following roads please decorate your houses

Kennedy road
East Fen Road
The causeway
Mill Street
The Co op

Photographer

We are stil looking for a photographer on the day is there anyone looking to get better skills and update their portfolio willing to take a few snaps on the day for families to remember their children winning competitions or entering the parade etc

Photos

We have already dug out some old photos and flyers from old galas but we would love to see more so please dig out your old photos and send some memories to us at the gala committee
Islehamgala@gmail.com

Our next meeting is April the 16th and we would love people to come along and join us again to show their support

Isleham Market

Dates for 2023

This year the opening tome will be from
9am – 12 noon.

We look forward to seeing you.

15 April

17 June

15 July

19 August, 16 September

18 November

Provisional Christmas Market date 8 December



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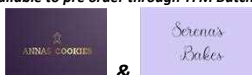


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