

Isleham Apple Day Celebration

Traditionally Apple Day is celebrated on October 21st

It is marked by apple-related activities throughout September and October. It was launched in the Old Apple Market, Covent Garden in 1990 by Common Ground, a national charity. Its aim is to celebrate the diversity of the apple and other tree fruits and to save our orchards, which have been disappearing at an alarming rate since the 1950s.

The ancestors of our modern apples are believed to have originated in Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan and to have developed in China. They were brought to Britain by the Romans who grafted their own sweet apples onto rootstock of our bitter, native crab apples. Over the years since, several thousand varieties have been bred.

In 2013 Isleham Parish Council agreed that an area of unused land on the Dunstall Allotments site, Station Rd., could be set apart to become a Community Orchard. The trees we planted were generously sponsored by members of the village. Most of the trees are a mixture of culinary and dessert apples. They were sourced from the East of England Apples and Orchards Project, an organisation that specialises in East of England heritage fruit. We chose as many varieties as possible that originated near Isleham.



On Sunday 17th September we celebrated our own apple day in the Community Orchard. The area looked very festive thanks to Walter Gunston who had decorated it with bunting and county flags. We estimated about 50 people visited during the afternoon and enjoyed activities such as apple bobbing; producing the longest peel; lobbing apples into a distant bucket; watching apples being cut and pressed, then sampling the freshly created juice. Several different types of apple cakes and desserts were available to taste.

Cont'd on page 13



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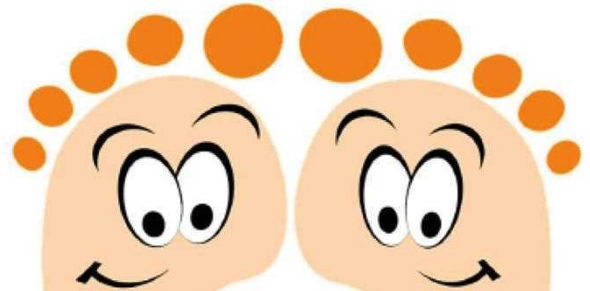


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For Happy Feet



Dates for Your Diary

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

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

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	558400
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	

October 2023

Mon 2nd	Parish Council	7.15pm
Sat 7th	The Beeches "Lock-In"	8pm -2am
Wed 11h	Library Church St.	12.15-1pm
Thurs 12th	Fenland Friends	7.30pm
Fri 13th	Book Club	2pm
Tue 17th	Lego Club	2.30 - 3.30
Thurs 19th	Isleham Society	7.30pm
Wed 25th	Library Mill St	3.20-4.15

November 2023

Fri 3rd at 7.30pm and Sat 4th at 7pm

At The Beeches

Mysterious Murder at the Murder Mystery

Mon 6th	Parish Council	7.15pm
Wed 8th	Library Church St.	2.15-3.15
Thur 9th	Fenland Friends	7.30pm
Fri 10th	Book Club	2pm
Thur 16th	Isleham Society	7.30pm
Sat 18th	Isleham Market	10 - 1pm
Wed 22nd	Library Mill Street	3-4.15

Community Pantry at The Ark
every Wednesday 10-12noon

Parish Councillors address list

Richard Radcliffe (Chair)	45 Sun Street, Isleham Tel: 01638 780831
Dr Chris Corbin (Vice Chair)	5 Priory Gardens, Isleham Tel: 07788 415500
Derrick Beckett	Appleyard Farm, 1 Houghtons Lane, Isleham Tel: 01638 780476
Vanessa Bruyneel-Smith	115 The Causeway, Isleham Tel: 01638 482410
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
Alistair Burn	4 Coates Drove, Isleham CB7 5SJ Tel: 01638 780553
Anne Noble	5 St Andrews Close, Isleham CB7 5TB Tel: 07880 738076
Helen Dunn (Parish Clerk)	Parish Office, The Beeches Tel: 01638 781687 Email: islehampc@gmail.com
Website: www.isleham-village.co.uk	



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 MOBILE: 07932 773515
 7 Ness Road, Burwell
 Cambridge, CB25 0AA

Notes from The Editor

Well done to all that helped to raise the money for Macmillan.

Instead of using stock photos for the Informer header I am seeking local pictures of the village/countryside from different seasons for the Informer header. Please send direct to the editor. Any pictures used will be acknowledged. Please keep the articles coming.

After many year of being the Informer distributor Fred has now handed this roll to a new member of the team Mrs Nicole Burke. Welcome to the team Nicole.


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



Isleham Community Pantry is open every Wednesday 10-12 noon, for those struggling in these days, to collect a free parcel of food. No voucher required.

We serve the residents of Isleham and Fordham to help in a short-term crisis. Longer term help and signposting to other agencies is available.

The Ark Church, 101 Beck Road, Isleham, Ely, Cambs., CB7 5QP
 Email: Claire.Gillett.Communitypantry@thearkisleham.co.uk
 Telephone contact 07394 395718 please leave a message and it will be retrieved on Mondays and Wednesdays.




ISLEHAM PRESCHOOL

AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 Stay informed and get involved

WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER
 7:00PM Isleham Preschool building

We need you!
 The committee needs new members. Please come along and help support the local preschool.



Isleham Under Fives Association is a parent led
 UK registered charity- No. 294978

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Village clubs: information

CLUB	CONTACT	Contact Details	DAY/ DATE	TIME	PLACE
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 (Chair) 07775 522765 (vice chair)			
Pre-school Isleham Under Fives Ass. (IUFA)	TBA	01638 781212 islehampreschool @btconnect.com			
Move it & Lose it	Jo Griffin	Jo.griffin@moveitorloseit.co.uk	Monday	2.00pm - 3.00pm	The beeches
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 November 9th for our December 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 –September 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 2nd October -7.15pm at The Beeches
Monday 6th November -7.15pm at The Beeches
Monday 4th December -7.15pm at The Beeches*

We are currently considering ways in which Parish Council meetings might become more efficient in their operation. Please do feel free to email the clerk at islehampc@gmail.com if you have any suggestions on this matter.

Planning Applications (August 2023 – September 2023) *

DC/23/1064/HH Householder planning application
- a. install one side dormer;
b. insertion of four roof lights. Location 19 Isleham Marina, Kingfisher Fen Bank West Row Suffolk. Mr And Mrs Paul Bowler
No objection
23/00816/TRE G1 Sycamore x4 - Remove due to proximity and potential to damage to locally important clunch wall. Willing to replant with more suitable tree species.

The Corner House 13 Robins Close Isleham

No objection

23/00296/FUL (Change of Use from agricultural to equestrian use with associated outbuildings (tractor store, stables, field shelter) and associated works. Amended description and plans. (Retrospective) Land Adj Larkhall Farm 38 Prickwillow Road Isleham Mr & Mrs Mutton.

Objections

23/00938/FUL Side extension and internal alterations. 6 Bowers Lane Isleham

Mr & Mrs Place

No objection

Planning Approvals

23/00625/TRE T1 Sycamore - Reduce crown by 3m all over. T2 Sycamore - Remove
20 Robins Close Isleham

23/00514/FUL Proposed external porch. 9 Beech Close Isleham

Appeal decision: APP/V0510/W/22 The High House, 41 Mill Street, Isleham

Appeal A Ref: APP/V0510/W/22/3300435

1. The appeal is allowed and planning permission is granted for the two bed

annexe outbuilding to be used as a separate 2-bed dwelling house. Alterations

to front boundary walls including repair works, reinstating of coping stone,

railings and entrance gate at The High House, 41 Mill Street, Isleham,

Cambridgeshire, CB7 5RY in accordance with the terms of the application, Ref

22/00282/FUL, dated 5 March 2022, subject to the conditions in the attached

schedule 1.

Appeal B Ref: APP/V0510/Y/22/3300436

2. The appeal is allowed and listed building consent is granted for the two bed

annexe outbuilding to be used as a separate 2-bed dwelling house. Alterations

to front boundary walls including repair works, reinstating of coping stone,

railings and entrance gate at The High House, 41 Mill Street, Isleham,

Cambridgeshire, CB7 5RY in accordance with the terms of the application, Ref

22/00312/LBC, dated

23/00582/FUL Proposed single storey rear extension and first floor extension

7 Dockings Lane Isleham

G1 Lime trees x2 - Re-pollard to previous established pollard points

Location: 52 West Street Isleham Ely Cambridgeshire CB7 5RA

Reference: 23/00757/TPO

23/00816/TRE G1 Sycamore x4 - Remove due to proximity and potential to damage to locally important clunch wall. Willing to replant with more suitable tree species.

The Corner House 13 Robins Close Isleham

Planning Refusals:

Nil refusals

Other Planning Matters:

The lack of development of three sites within the village is to be raised with the relevant planning officers

*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>

Highways

Potholes Cambridgeshire County Council have a relatively simple website for reporting potholes and other highways faults

- Go to: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-paths/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 of the village and we would therefore appreciate your cooperation on this matter.

Recreation Ground

We await the legal transfer of a parcel of land to the north of the existing recreation ground as part of the Bloor Homes development and are currently considering various options for what this land might be used for.

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

Dunstall Charity Grant

Applications for a £400 grant for those starting apprentices or certain further education courses are open.

I copy below the criteria for this grant.

1. Applicants must have been resident in Isleham for one year, be under 25 years of age and submit a letter of application to the Clerk.

2. The maximum grant available under the scheme will be £400.

3. Applicants must have spent the money first, and send in original receipts with their application.

4. Applicants must be serving an apprenticeship, for example chef, mechanic, engineering, or be a University student or student of further education at university level studying for a specific career, for example geologist, computing, law.

5. Applicants can only claim for books, uniform, protective clothing, tools, computer and course specific software; but not for stationary or office supplies.

6. Applicants must have already started the Univer-

sity, College of further education or apprenticeship/job.

7. Applicants are required to submit a letter from their course tutor or employer, stating that they are attending the course, or that they have commenced employment

Applications and supporting evidence should be submitted to:

The Parish Office, The Beeches, 32 Mill Street Isleham or via islehampc@gmail.com

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=IwAR1bqJ9OABmJvldcdeCn4iNvy4D54_nu26IEsexu-MSFoWBSa540u-TxtARg if you have been affected by any type of crime.

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.

New Parish Clerk

As you may be aware I am stepping down from my role as Parish Clerk. I would like to thank everybody for your encouragement and support over the past 6 and a half years and am pleased to confirm that Mrs Helen Dunn will be taking over from me, effective mid-September.

Isleham Market

Dates for 2023

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

We look forward to seeing you.

18 November

Christmas Market date 8 December

CHURCHES

St Andrews Church

Until I became a vicar, I always lived in towns, where the impact of the seasons boiled down to what kind of weather was currently affecting the traffic most. It took a few years living in villages before the rhythm of the seasons soaked into me and I learned to watch with pleasure as fields turn from brown to green to golden and finally back to brown.

It gave me a new appreciation of Jesus' parable of the sower who went out to sow.

In this parable the seed is the word of God, sown in the minds of those who hear it. In some people's lives, the seed grows and bears lots of fruit. In others', for different reasons, it doesn't get chance to grow, or gets crowded out by other things.

We wouldn't catch a modern farmer sowing seed on the road, or among rocks. Nor would they just let weeds grow to outcompete the crop. To us it would be a waste of seed, but, Jesus says, this is how God deals with us.

God wants us to hear the good news of the Kingdom of Heaven, and accept it for ourselves, and so casts the seed as wide as possible, knowing that some of it, for different reasons, will not grow to bear fruit. God would rather have that, than take the chance of missing anyone out.

A sower went out to sow, and if he could have reaped the next day, I'm sure he would have been very pleased, but in real life, things take the time that they take.

The seed must be sown in the right season, then germinate, grow and ripen, until it can be harvested. The timescale is not that of hearing a parable, but of the changing seasons.

Similarly, God looks at the long haul, the whole of our lives. We need to slow our expectations down to see what God is doing, or might want to do in our lives.

A farmer gets one chance a year to sow, but God is doing it continuously. God isn't put off if the first time he sows a seed in our lives, it gets eaten by birds, or if the tenth time it gets choked by thorns. God is waiting for that season when the seed will find us to be good soil, and we will bear fruit of faith, love, and eternal life.

Harvest time is heading to a close for this year, and we'll be celebrating it in our churches during October, but for God any day can be harvest day, and any day can be the day for sowing.

Why not today? Rev. Steve Day

Pound Lane Free Church

Coffee Mornings – for everyone

Every Thursday morning from 10:00 – 11:30ish. Free tea, coffee and cold drinks along with free cake and savouries. Why not come along and make new friends or enjoy a morning with existing ones.

We have an '8 minute in the news' slot every week where we look at some fun news items and one that we can relate to the teaching of the Bible.

Music Mayhem – music morning for pre-schoolers and parent/carers

Every Monday morning from 9:30 – 10:30 during school term time. Join a whole crowd of mums, carers and a few brave dads encouraging their children to enjoy singing, playing musical instruments and generally enjoying music. Each session consists of approx. 30 mins organised children's activity followed by 30 mins playing with toys whilst the adults enjoy free drinks and a chance to chat together. All sessions are free of charge.

General Information

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: 10.30a.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 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

Lego Club (at The Beeches)

We held our first monthly After School Lego Club at The Beeches this month (October) and what a lovely time we had. Some brilliant builds from the children



Congratulations to Bella on winning "Best Build"



Even the staff in the café took part, getting creative with their display of biscuits!



The next After School Lego club will be on 17th October, 3:30 until 4:30. £1.50 per child. All children to be accompanied by an adult.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Award Winning
TFM Butchers

Tues: 10am-5.30pm
Thurs. Fri.: 9am-5.30pm
Sat: 9am-4pm
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HALLOWE'EN FANCY-DRESS KARAOKE!!

SATURDAY 28TH
OCTOBER

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Fantastic support for another Macmillan coffee morning.

Thanks go to all the team and special thanks to Walter for his enthusiasm in promoting the event,

HELP US DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO SUPPORT PEOPLE LIVING WITH CANCER

TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED TODAY

COME AND SUPPORT OUR

£419.88

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

FRIDAY 29th SEPTEMBER

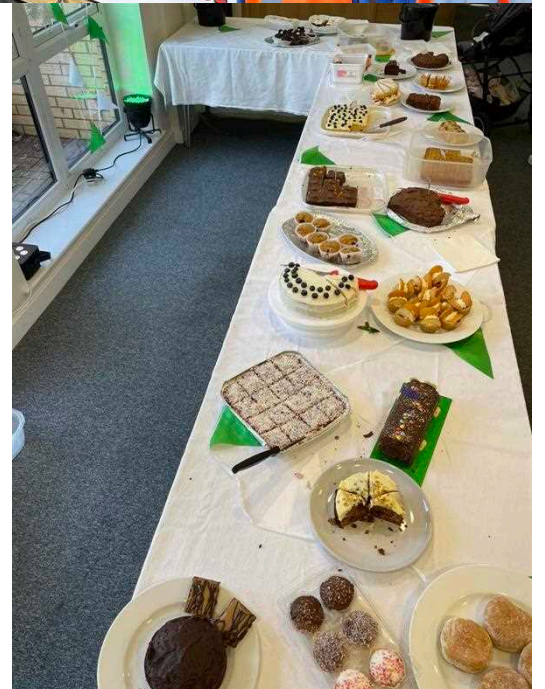
9am - 12noon

CAN YOU BAKE A CAKE, SPONGE OR BUNS AND DONATE THEM TO THIS WORTHY CAUSE

A BIG THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

32 MILL STREET ISLEHAM CB7 5RY



Isleham Bowls Club

Another season has passed by very swiftly as we completed our 100th season as a club

In the Ely & District league we played 24 matches winning 9 & losing 15 finishing 8th out of 13 teams. In the afternoon league we won 10 and lost 14 of the 24 matches, so once again in a mid table finish of 8th out of 13 teams.

However, in the Cambs & District league, we finished in our best position of 5th but it was a very close finish involving 7 teams fighting to avoid the 2 relegation spots. We ended up winning 10 and losing 10 matches so finished 5th out of the 11 teams.

We have hosted a couple of matches for Norfolk County ladies acting as a neutral venue between teams Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire, which were competitively played but it was a long day for a few club members to host.

On August Bank Holiday Monday, we entertained a touring team from Kent during their East Cambs tour and enjoyed a most friendly of occasions with Isleham winning 4 out of 6 rinks .

In our internal competitions, we enjoyed some very good competitive matches and this concluded over the first & second weekend in September with the finals played under very dry & warm conditions. The roll of honour was as follows:

	Winner	Runner-Up
Mens Singles	Darren Dunbavin (21)	Barry Grimwood (7)
Ladies Singles	Jodie Gosling (21)	Elaine Telfer(10)
Handicap Singles	Darren Dunbavin (21)	Rod White (19)
Pitcher Memorial Singles	Darren Dunbavin (22)	Barry Grimwood (17)
Pairs	Michael Taylor & Colin Dunn (17)	Eugene O'Sullivan & Robert Burling (16)
Tenrich Trophy	Ann Cant & Barry Grimwood (12)	Julie Brunning & Keith Peters (9)
Telfer Trophy	Bob Burling	Ruth Hounsome & Keith Peters



During the winter months we play carpet bowls both in the East Cambs area league with both teams A & B competing in division 1 this season. On a number of Friday evenings we play our own league and have a record 36 players competing for honours

Barry Grimwood
Club Captain



Isleham C of E Primary School

First Days in Reception!



The excitement around school was palpable as we welcomed our new cohort of Reception children to Isleham on Thursday 7th September. The start of the academic year was particularly exciting for the classroom adults, who had the pleasure of welcoming our Reception children to our school this week. Home visits took place early in the term, before they entered school, where the Reception team had the opportunity to meet pupils and parents in the home environment to prepare for the start of school. As I walked around the playground on Thursday morning, Year 6 were buzzing with anticipation of meeting their 'buddies' - a system which pairs our oldest and youngest children in order to ease the transition of starting primary school. It was a pleasure to witness the beaming smiles of the children when meeting their buddies at lunch time, and to see our newest cohort enjoying their learning environment (and their lunches!).



The reception teacher had also planned an array of engaging activities for the children's first week including: getting-to-know-you games, learning new routines and colouring skills as well as exploring the provision on offer. At the end of the week, the children were ready to use their new writing books to try writing their names. What a great start to their first week in school!

With the new reception children getting settled into new routines, the other year group that are facing their fears and engaging with new experiences is the Year 6 class. They are going to stay on a residential experience at Thetford, for 2 nights and 3 days with some great challenges and exciting tasks. Even just making up their own bed will be a challenge for some! Over their time they will attempt, canoeing, climbing, archery, caving, the zip line, as well as team challenges and games. I will send more details of the time away from home in the next newsletter, but lets hope for a safe and happy time for them all!

Dawn Deacon
Headteacher

ISLEHAM PRESCHOOL ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW!

New contact details

islehampreschool@gmail.com
manager.islehampreschool@gmail.com
Phone number: 01638 781212



New staff structure

Annabel - Manager
Sam - Deputy Manager
Rosie - Early years practitioner
Ella - Early years practitioner
Leanne - Early years practitioner
Sherrie - Office Administrator
Rosie - Office Manager
Helen - Preschool cleaner



Busy Bees

Baby and toddler group

Busy Bees is a 'Stay and Play' baby and toddler group held in The Beeches on term-time Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11am and provides toys, craft activities, story time and singing for under 5s. £2 per child (each additional child is £1)



Preschool Open day

Do you have a child who is due to start preschool or already attends? We warmly welcome you to our Preschool open day. Come and find out what it is your children are getting up to!

Our open day: 23rd September 10:30-11:30.
We look forward to seeing you there.



Preschool check list!

✓ Please remember to label ALL of your child's belongings!
Pack labelled sun cream, sun hats and water bottles.



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CHRISTMAS VOUCHERS



Are you eligible, or do you know anyone who is eligible, to receive

The Isleham Charities' Partnership Christmas Vouchers?

To be eligible you must have reached state pension age and have been living in Isleham for three years.

(or now be living in a Care Home)

To be added to the delivery list, please contact:

Glenda Preece on 01638 780734

BEFORE Friday 18th November 2023

We will **NOT** be able to add you to our list after this date.

Thank you.

Previous recipients need not re-apply

Apple Day cont'd

Cont'd from front page

There was also an opportunity for people to be sketched by Mark Fletcher. It was unfortunate that a very pleasant afternoon had to be curtailed earlier than planned because of inclement weather.

In addition to providing apples for our own use, the orchard sustains a variety of wildlife, from insects feeding on the flowers to overwintering birds eating fallen fruit. The uncut areas of grass are home to small mammals, spiders, beetles and other invertebrates.

We are delighted that ECDC have now designated the orchard as an Asset of Community Value. Friends of Isleham Nature Reserve

St Andrew's Social Centre COFFEE MORNING

Every Tuesday morning 10- 12noon
All are welcome to enjoy a drink, a chat
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GAME DAY
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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US EMAIL
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Festival of Light

Saturday-Sunday 2nd-3rd December
Saturday-Sunday 9th-10th December
3pm – 6pm

The countdown to Christmas in Isleham is always marked by St Andrew's annual Festival of Light.

The Festival of Light gives us the opportunity to view St Andrew's church illuminated by festive lights and trees. We are looking for individuals, groups, and companies to erect their Christmas trees in the church. Please contact Sheila Taylor at StAndrews-Soc@Outlook.com if you'd like to install a tree or if you'd like further information.

On Saturday 2nd December, they'll be market stalls where you can make a start on your Christmas shopping. Please contact Catherine Durance StAndrews-Soc@Outlook.com if you'd like to hold a stall or if you'd like further information.

They'll be carols, mince pies, mulled wine and hot-dogs, and the event is finished-off on Sunday 10th with some festive entertainment at 4pm. Bring your family, meet old friends; and make new ones. It's a wonderful way to get into the spirit of Christmas.

Catherine Durance

Isleham Nature Notes

The importance of the scrubby bits

Unfortunately the term "scrub" often has a poor reputation and is often thought of as scruffy and unkindly called "wasteland". In fact almost forty species of birds of conservation concern use scrub habitat. In our local area these include the yellowhammer, corn bunting, song thrush and linnet, whilst in the not-so-distant past nightingale could be heard singing from bushy places in and around the village. Some birds and mammals like voles and shrews rely on scrub for shelter and nesting places as well as feeding on insects and berries there, whilst bats use the edge of scrub habitat to hunt for insects. Although many of these species need larger areas of scrub and dense hedgerow such as we have at Isleham Railway Reserve, even the little scrubby bits dotted around the village can be very important for wildlife.

One bird that you will regularly see and hear in summer in these little scrubby bits is the common white-throat.



This small warbler arrives here from sub-Saharan Africa in April and the last birds will leave here in early October. It prefers to nest in the tall nettle and cow parsley patches next to hedgerows and bushy areas. Several pairs come to the same tiny patches of scrub in the village year after year. Unlike most other warblers it is quite conspicuous and delivers its scratchy song from a perch on the top of a bush, telegraph wires or in a short song flight. Some families with their fledged youngsters can still be heard "churring" angrily still as you walk past but will shortly leave us for their hazardous journey across the Sahara. They will return in spring, looking for our scrubby areas to nest in again.

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Isleham Society



If you have any interest in the history and heritage of this extraordinary village, please do add yourself to the Isleham Society emailing information list. This Autumn the programme has been very engaging, with handling of a range of 'local items' hundreds and thousands of years old from Mildenhall Museum; a trip to Sutton Hoo as follow-up to 'The Dig' and the great evening with Charlie (the voice coach to that film). In October we present 'Taste of Honey', so now we will learn more about the ways of the wonderful Isleham bees!

More to come including in November 'What happens to the contents of our Isleham recycling blue top bins?' That's just before a December village trail, Christmas carols, and mulled wine.

Also this year (contributions to Remembrance Sunday, and to the Festival of Light) and a whole new programme of events for 2024! It's not just 'third Thursday' talks, or the visits, (great though those are) but we also try to support all initiatives to assist long-term residents, and very new arrivals, to connect and share memories of how it was, and expectations, and hopes for how it can be... residents of all ages can have their say in that!

Annual individual membership is still, incredibly, £10, - and a whole family can join for £15! The more members we have the greater the range of ideas, and questions, we have as stimulus, - and the more The Society can contribute to the sense of community in the village.

All good wishes
Mark Fletcher (Chairman)

Dunstall Charity Grant

Applications for a £400 grant for those starting apprentices or certain further education courses are open.

I copy below the criteria for this grant.

1. Applicants must have been resident in Isleham for one year, be under 25 years of age and submit a letter of application to the Clerk.
2. The maximum grant available under the scheme will be £400.
3. Applicants must have spent the money first, and send in original receipts with their application.
4. Applicants must be serving an apprenticeship, for example chef, mechanic, engineering, or be a University student or student of further education at university level studying for a specific career, for example geologist, computing, law.
5. Applicants can only claim for books uniform, protective clothing, tools, computer and course specific software, but not for stationary or office supplies
6. Applicants must have already started the University, College of further education or apprenticeship/job.
7. Applicants are required to submit a letter from their course tutor or employer, stating that they are attending the course, or that they have commenced employment

Applications and supporting evidence should be submitted to:
The Parish Office, The Beeches, 32 Mill Street Isleham
or via islehampc@gmail.com

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Free Entry

Friday 1st December 6pm-9pm

St Margaret's Church, Chippenham, Cambs.

<https://www.facebook.com/ChippenhamChristmasMarket>

County Councillors Report

As Summer drifts towards its end, with a pleasant spell of sunny, warm weather, it is again time for an update on what is happening at County Council. I don't wish to bore you with details so will keep my points to a minimum.



Weeds We have seen a growth in roadside, path-side and alley way based weeds. This is directly as a result of the ruling administration ceasing the weed suppression programme, that has successfully run for years. It is a false economy and sees our streets blighted with weeds like we've not seen for years. I am leading the charge to have this decision reversed, and whilst we don't wish to see poisonous chemicals used there are solutions now that do not harm to the general environment but do the job needed. Watch this space as this simply can't go on.

Peat Damaged Roads. I am told that to address all of these, think B1104 Prickwillow Rd, CCC would need £300m as a budget. They are now prioritising those that need urgent care and then will start a Winter time repair schedule. I await visibility of the list of roads targeted but sincerely hope that this road is one of the main ones.

School access process. It is as a direct result of growth in the village and a spike in cohort of those selecting Isleham school that this summer we saw an over subscription. I am working with officers at CCC to see what can be done to ease the issues seen this summer where a number of people have NOT had a place at Isleham granted for their children. Decisions are made on location and distance to school, then a range of other factors. The class size is 30 max for Key Stage 1 so anyone outside the top 30 on qualifying criteria were offered school places at either Fordham or Soham Shade schools. There is no simple resolution to this problem in what saw 39 applicants. Next year the forecast is 25 in the cohort so a class of less than maximum pupils. It appears that a freak cohort coupled with additional housing has resulted in such an unfortunate situation. Once I have concluded my work with officers and the school on how the process could be improved I will advise but rest assured it is being reviewed.

Finally I would like to thank all at The Beeches for what they have done for the village and surrounding areas this summer. From Gala Day expansion, to Coronation day and most recently the tog-o-war based family day, plus the daily opening and public support it has been a pleasure to see the place seemingly doing so well.

To all directors, trustees, staff and management I know what it takes in terms of commitment and ef-

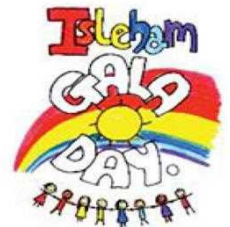
fort so be proud of what you have achieved and I thank you personally for all you have done.

If you have any questions on anything County Council please do not hesitate to contact me by email at Mark.Goldsack@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or by mobile on 07831 168899.

Mark Goldsack
County Councillor for Soham North & Isleham
Tel 07831 168899

Isleham Gala Day 2024

Gala over for another year, but not to far away from the next!



After a fabulous gala 2023 we are already putting plans together for gala 2024, our small committee doesn't stop and as soon as one finishes the following years dates are in the diary and ready to go again.

Gala 2024 will be held on Saturday 6th July 2024

Same time, same place but what we really hope for are lots more people, lots more help, more ideas, more floats, input, and end of day the day help

We would love new ideas to be brought to the table for the AGM meeting in October.

And to see new faces wanting to join and make this event bigger and better then ever to continue some great traditions. It can only be done with the help of the village.

Has anyone got photos they can bring along from this year's gala and past galas for memories, can anyone help with a float to make the entrance the best we have had yet?

Meetings are held regularly from January where you can join in the fun and planning right up until July if you'd like to join come along to the agm in October on the 11th 7.30 at the beeches

It will be great to have you there.



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Fun at Ely Cathedral

Half Term Fun at Ely Cathedral

Along with all our usual trails and tours for children and families, we are looking forward to welcoming you to our first Discovery Morning on Wednesday 25th October.

You'll be able to find out more about the art in the Cathedral and Stained Glass Museum, have a go at brass rubbing, take your own icon selfie and meet the amazing Kristin Bailey to find out more about her art.

Discovery Morning

Wednesday 25th October in the South West Transept and Stained Glass Museum from 10.00am to 12.00pm.

Where to find us:

The South West Transept is at the front of the Cathedral. Come in through the West Door, turn right and you will find us. Some activities are in the Stained Glass Museum which is upstairs, you can access the Museum via the South West Transept. Please do be aware that the stairs are spiral and steep so won't be suitable for those with limited mobility.

What will you be doing?

In the South West Transept you'll be able to meet Kristin Bailey, the artist who created the beautiful icon style image of St Etheldreda which has been on display in the Cathedral this year. She'll be able to show you her work and give budding artists some tips. There will be colouring, brass rubbing, sketching and an activity to help you write your own icon. Upstairs in the Stained Glass Museum you'll be able to go on a Halo Hunt before creating your own and posing for an icon selfie in the selfie booth.

How do I join in?

Just turn up! There's no need to pre-book this activity and there is no charge for joining in or entry to the South West Transept either, though we will have our donations bucket and are grateful for your support.



Isleham Gala AGM

October 11th 7:30pm

At The Beeches Community Centre

Please join us for our Annual General Meeting.

Come along to join our team of volunteers or to share your ideas and thoughts. All welcome!

Date for your diary:
 Saturday 6th July
 2024

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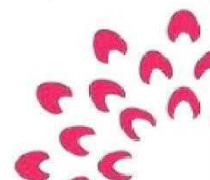
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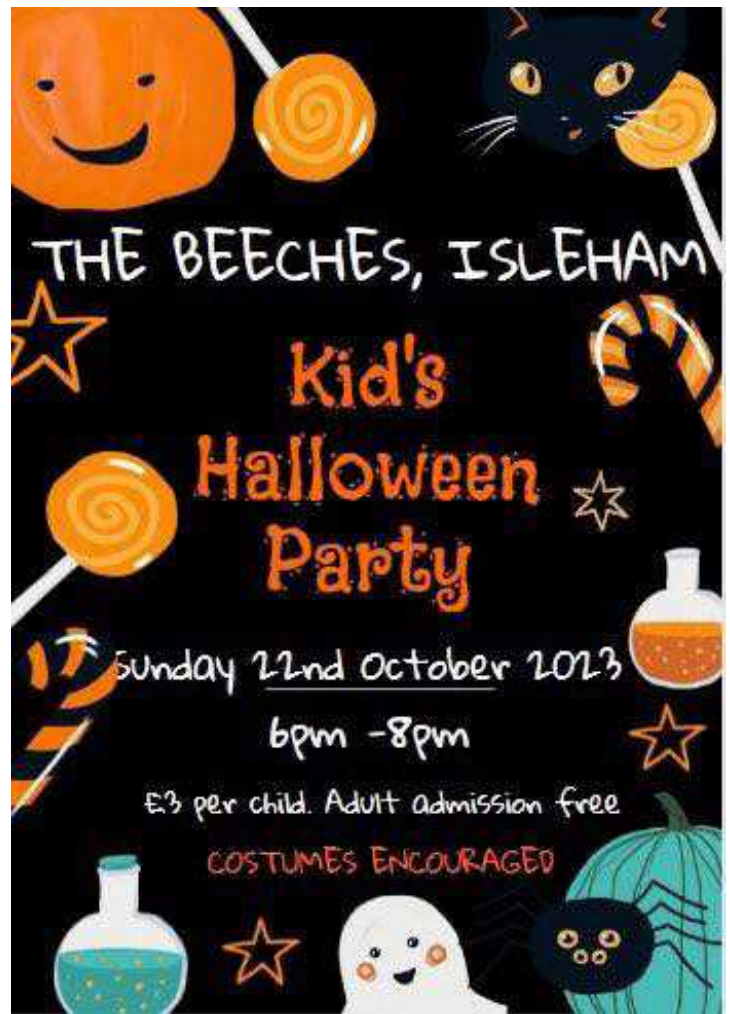


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Kid's Halloween Party

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6pm - 8pm

£3 per child. Adult admission free

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