

Christchurch Village Newsletter

March 2012

When Barbara Kingman, Les and myself 'resurrected The Heron in April 2003 I never expected it to grow from the six pages it was then to what it is today or that I would be able to tell those of you that have access to the Internet that, thanks to the kindness of Paul Warren of hcisolutions.co.uk and a resident of Tipps End, who has volunteered to set up a website for The Heron without any charge at all as he wanted to do something that would be of benefit to the village as from the March edition you will be able to read The Heron, contact us and generally enjoy the newsletter in that way. This will not affect you receiving the usual copy through your door as you do now but I think that it is great that you will now be able to let your friends know, wherever they may be in the world that they can read The Heron that way - and in colour too!! Our very grateful thanks to Paul who has said he will keep the website up to date each month for us. The website will also show some back issues of the newsletter so that if you want to refer back to something you will be able to do so. All you have to do is go to www.theheron.info to find us.

Don't forget that all articles you wish to appear in The Heron should be with me by the 28th of the month for inclusion in the following month's edition (if you can make it earlier this would be very helpful) If the 28th falls on a weekend I do try to get everything done on the 27th as I am no longer very mobile and have to rely on friends to take the newsletter into the printer for me. Please send all articles to: Pat Mills, Redbricks, Upwell Road, Christchurch, PE14 9PF Tel. 01354 638204. Email pat@millsread.plus.com. To place advertisements in the newsletter or for information regarding adverts please contact Mrs. Vanessa Murray, 1 Fen View, Christchurch. Telephone No. 01354 638272. Small personal adverts will cost 10p per word and any personal messages you would like to put in The Heron will be without charge - for any of these just contact me at Redbricks.

Pat Mills, Editor.

Beauty Treatments By Jane

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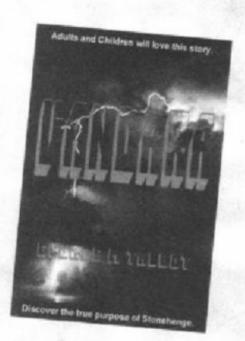
Lillin

The true meaning of Stonehenge has, for centuries, baffled the finest minds.

But now, Cambridgeshire author George M Talbot gives away the secret in his latest book Vandara, which adults and children alike will find thoroughly readable.

This breathtaking and charming novel spans 3,000 years, yet is thoroughly plausible and entertaining from the very first page to the very last.

The story begins in the present day with the appearance of a horse. One look at it shows dowdy old Millicent that it's no ordinary animal, though, and her assessment is confirmed when it suddenly vanishes.



The horse puts in several appearances after that and on one occasion it saves her life.

Millicent is also visited several times by a warrior from ancient times. Who delivers a strange message that she has to complete the circle. On the final visit, he takes her back through time where she discovers her true and wonderful destiny as Queen Vandara.

It is a rare delight that a book can transport you away from real life and into a fantasy world. This is such a book.

Goblins and fairles are brought to a life in such a way that they become real, but not as your preconceived ideas might suggest.

George M Talbot is a multi-genre author and had work published in both magazines and newspapers before turning his hand to books. He is a prolific author having fully written thirteen previous books.

Vandara by George M Talbot s available at £9.99 from all good bookshops and internet retailers or directly from the publisher at http://www.fast-print.net/bookshop/949/vandara

> For more information, pictures or interviews please contact Simon Potter at Fast-Print Publishing on 01733 237867 or simon@fast-print.net

CHRISTCHURCH PARISH LUNCH 2012

I'm sure everyone would like to join me in thanking the Parish Lunch Committee and all their willing helpers for yet another wonderful afternoon for us older folk - it seems to get better every year! The adults all work so hard to make it a day to remember - even those we don't see much of as they are so busy in the kitchen! I am sure we all appreciate how much effort goes into the day, both before and during the event. The youngsters are so polite and helpful and do their job in a very willing manner. The entertainment by Tom Kennedy was excellent and I am sure we all enjoyed the singalong!



Four of the 'willing helpers'



Tom Kennedy





Some of the parishioners enjoying the day

CHRISTCHURCH CRAFT CLUB

At our February meeting we held a 'Bring and Make' session when members brought a good variety of crafts along, including the youngsters making animals from Plaster of Paris and also decorated themselves well at the same time! A good deal of chatting was done, refreshments enjoyed and a raffle held.

Well done to those members who were brave enough to venture out in such nasty weather.

The programme for 2012 will be handed out to members at our meeting on the 6th March when we will be making Easter Baskets with Sue Norman.

Why not come along and join us - everyone is welcome, no matter where your interest in craft lies. We try our hands at a variety of crafts and also hold 'bring and make' sessions whereby members bring their own projects in to share with us. Entrance is £1.00 plus 50p for raffle and 20p for refreshments. Please come and join us - you don't have to come to every meeting! Meetings are held on the first Tuesday in the month, starting at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. For more information ring Wendy on 01354 638448.

Wendy Yates Chairperson



FOR SALE

Upright Freezer, 5 drawers, very clean, in working order

£25.00



John Batt-Rawden of Albert House, Church Road has asked me to let you know that his swarm of bees have survived the Winter and are now flying so will be able to pollinate your soft fruit trees within a radius of one mile and possibly more!



Parish Church Services

4th March 11.0	00 am All	l Age	Worship
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11th March 9.30 am Holy Communion

18th March 3.30 pm Evening Prayer

25th March 11.00 am Morning Prayer

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 13th March 2012 at 7.00 pm in the church building. All are welcome.

Date to remember:

Flower Festival to be held on the 14th, 15th and 16th June.

PLEASE NOTE:

Any matters concerning the Parish Church please contact Rev'd Kevin Fitz-gibbon on 01354 680969.

The years of retirement are just fine most of the time, but ice and some snow, frost and extreme cold, can make life feel very daunting, so it is a great some blessing to have a path made, an entrance cleared, vital supplies ensured, when some swe cannot do these things for ourselves.

As neighbours have said, many of us owe thanks to Alvar for his kind help.

A.P.H.

♦♦♦♦♦♦

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First of all "Welcome back" to another meeting and here we are going into March 2012 so soon already. Our A.G.M. had a very good report from the Treasurer. Subscriptions will remain the same - NO INCREASE - which pleased the members.

We have managed to keep our Club meetings interesting, plus our trips out, joined by non-members who come for a day out with us, always enjoyed.

We, as a Club, would like to say a very big "Thank You" to Wesley Poole (the hall owner). It is his generosity which allows the village an opportunity to have a meeting place each week or month for a Club meeting and being together for the various pleasures enjoyed.

The Garden Club formed the 2012 year Committee. Our Secretary handed the new programme out and The Heron always has details for future Club meetings each month.

NOTE: OUR FIRST COACH TRIP IS ON 22ND APRIL.

We continued our February meeting with an informative talk and slide show on 'Alpines' at their best from a popular venue each Spring at Harlow. More information available from Bubbles on 01354 638024.

Our next Club night is Tuesday, 27th March and our very popular speaker is Barry Gayton from Radio Norfolk. Do come for a visit - he is really good, hope to see you - no pressure!

Bubbles Whiting, Chairperson

For any further information regarding the Garden Club or visiting us in 2012 - ??will you chance it - go on give us a try - contact Bubbles on 01354 638024



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1 HEN COOP FOR 6 HENS, HAS A 3' X 10' RUN £100

1 HEN COOP FOR UP TO 12 HENS, HAS A 9' X 7' RUN £200

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All stock comes from our own cultivated sources

CHRISTCHURCH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE NEWS



Minutes of the meeting held in the Memorial Hall on 14th February 2012 at 7 pm

Apologies were received from S. Lloyd, C. Symons, F. Piper and D. Stott

Correspondence

Report on Produce Show Thank you letter from Pat Mills Details of an embroidery project An invitation to Short Mat Bowls taster session Group Meeting invitation Invitation to Wimblington and Stonea April Meeting

Ballot for Executive Committee

Members voted for up to twelve names from the proposed candidates

Birthday Dinner

Members choice was to go to the Five Bells at Upwell. Peggy will obtain menus and costings.

Members were reminded that if they put their name down for an event that they subsequently do not attend, they are still responsible for payment.

The speaker for the evening was Liz Wright from The Donkey Sanctuary. It was founded in 1969 by Dr. Svenson. Based in Sidmouth. It started as a small concern but grew dramatically in 1973 when as a result of a legacy, Dr. Svenson acquired an extra 204 donkeys. It has now become a very large charity with five farms in England and branches across the world. Since 1969 the charity has looked after fourteen and a half thousand donkeys. There are currently 5,000 donkeys in Britain and several thousand across Europe being cared for in sanctuaries. Donkeys originated in Africa and are used to hot, dry conditions and sparse food. The main problems that are dealt with are bad feet from wet conditions and dietary problems caused by over-feeding. After a very informative talk Liz was presented with a donation for the sanctuary.

Competition results

An animal ornament: 5 pts. S. Kay, V. Parker; K. Goodwin, P. Warby, S. Quail, S. Norman, D.T. Rolfe, P. Mills, W. Yates; M. Sparrow, M. Beswick, D.W. Rolfe, B. Gladwin, A. Hicks, B. Brooks.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 13th March at 7 pm: Inheritance Legal Services - Marie Brown

Competition: A sample of handwriting.

Raffle Prize Rota: W. Yates, P. Warby, T. Day, S. Norman.

S. Norman Secretary

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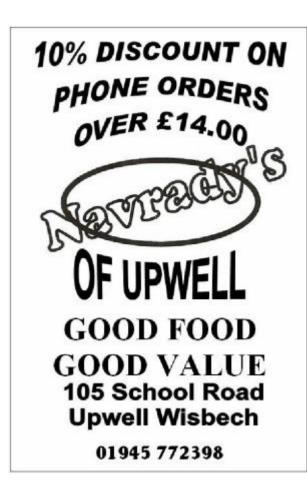
Enquires and orders can be taken from Monday-Friday between 9-12.30 on 01354 696650

Registered charity number: 1107589

Christchurch Youth Club

The Youth Club is now running alternate weeks except during school holidays when it is closed.

Volunteer workers are needed to help run the Club. If anyone is interested please contact Wes Poole on 01354 638622. CRB checks can be arranged for anyone interested in helping at no cost to themselves.



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Answers to the anagrams of the Asian countries in last months issue:

- 1. GAMIN LOO MONGOLIA
- 2. I VENT MA THORN NORTH VIETNAM
- 3. U TEN RABID STEEMAR UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
- 4. THIN LADA THAILAND
- 5. AGH NASTIFAN AFGHANISTAN

Here are the answers to the European Capital Quiz:

- 1. London
- 2. Paris
- 3. Rome
- 4. Bonn
- 5. Vienna
- 6. Bern
- 7. Brussels
- 8. Stockholm
- 9. Copenhagen
- 10. Helsinki
- 11. Oslo
- 12. Luxembourg City
- 13. Ankara
- 14. Zagreb
- 15. Prague
- 16. Madrid
- 17. Lisbon
- 18. The Hague
- 19. Reykjavik
- 20. Moscow



The Fenland Road Safety Campaign



Registered Charity No. 1144547

4th Anniversary

20th February 2012 marked the 4th Anniversary of losing Charlotte, and was remembered with the release of Chinese Lanterns by family and friends. Flowers were also laid at the accident site on the Sixteen Foot Bank.

Other News:-

70's/80's Charity Disco – 21st Jan, Christchurch Village Hall

A very big 'thank you' to all who came and made it such an entertaining night, and special thanks go to everyone whose donations helped raise an amazing £340 for the Campaign.

Bedlam Bridge Barrier Bid Update

Our 'matched' joint funding bid for the proposed £11,800 Bedlam Bridge safety barrier installation, was submitted well in time for the deadline of 30th December, and has since been acknowledged by Cambs County Council's Traffic Area Manager, John Richards. Further news is expected soon, of the process the Council will follow to decide which bids they wish to support.

Contact and Support Details

Thanks, again, to all who have given support and donations to the Campaign so far. For more details of the Campaign phone 07505 726475, e-mail chappell@frsc.co.uk or visit the 'facebook' site – 'The Fenland Road Safety Campaign (Charlotte's Way)'.

Graham Chappell, Campaign Organiser.

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4 Ottomans
need some repair
£25.00 or will sell singly

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MINUTES OF THE CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2012 - MEMORIAL HALL CHRISTCHURCH AT 7.30PM

Present: Councillors – Jill Bliss (Chair), Simon Freeland, Hannah Poole, William Beswick and Will Sutton (FDC).

Stephen Cowell (Clerk) was also in attendance.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Due to the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair Cllr. Bliss was elected from the remaining councillors to act as Chair for the meeting.

Cllr. Bliss welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Russell, Cllr. Wes Poole, Cllr. Wincote, Cllr Cotterell MBE (FDC), Cllr. Yeulett (CCC) and PCSO Martin Bogunovic.

2. Signing of Minutes

The minutes of the 12th December meeting were signed, by the Chair, as true record of the meeting.

3. Disclosure and Declarations of Interests

Cllr. Bliss declared an interest in payment 8.3.

4. Update on action points from previous meeting

The Clerk reported that:

- The first item in section 4 should read District Council and not County Council.
- The numbering of houses in Church Road and Upwell Road will go ahead. The issue regarding the numbering of houses in the area of The Hill was discussed. The Clerk reported that if residents required numbers on their houses they would need to pay for that themselves. Councillors were asked to consider the issue of numbering the houses in Upwell Road/The Hill for discussion again at the next meeting.
- Peter Vale, Cambridgeshire Highways, has requested to address the Council regarding the proposed Speed Limit reduction and this has been arranged for the February meeting. The Clerk was asked to discuss the use of deterrents to reduce speeding with the Highways Department and the Police.
- The replacement of the street lights is planned for late 2012/early 2013.
- Cambridgeshire Highways report that widening of the pavement near the Bus Stop is not in their plans. They also report that in order to do so they would need to remove some of the grass verge opposite to the area and to tarmac it to make the road wide enough further discussion on this issue took place within item 10.
- The water leak at the Pavilion is being monitored by Cllr. Sutton who will report on progress in due course. Cllr. Sutton reported that the football teams are switching water off as they leave to reduce the loss.
- Moving of the May meeting date is still being considered the 7th May looks the best option but the Clerk needs to check other potential meetings he has prior to confirming he can attend on that evening.

5. Public Adjournment

No items were raised as no members of the public attended.

6. Police Update

The Clerk reported that PCSO Bogunovic has sent his apologies.

The report he has sent the Council has just one reported issue an attempted break in at a property in Church Road but nothing was stolen.

7. Correspondence Received

The Clerk brought to the attention of Councillors:

1 of 3	signed	Chairman

MINUTES OF THE CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2012 - MEMORIAL HALL CHRISTCHURCH AT 7.30PM

- A request for the Parish Plan to be placed on the Shape Your Place web-site for information to residents and as an example for other communities. It was agreed that it could be put on the site and that the Action Plan could also go on the site.
- FDC have indicated that the Election Costs for the 2011 Election should be in the region of £140 and that they will confirm exact costs in due course.
- FDC have confirmed the Diamond Jubilee funding process from FDC. It was agreed to place this item on the next agenda.
- The NHS Communities newsletter has been received. Cllr. Bliss took it to read and will bring it back to the Councillor at the February meeting.

1. Finance

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to accept the Clerk's recommendation, as circulated prior to the December meeting, for the Concurrent Functions Claim to FDC. Clerk to return the claim to FDC. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Clerk should become a member of the Society of Local Council Clerks.

The following items were agreed for payment

- 1. Clerk's Salary £183.58
- 2. HMR&C £137.80 (3 months PAYE on Clerk's Salary)
- 3. The Heron £60.00
- 4. Cemetery Maintenance £117.50
- 5. Membership fee for Society of Local Council Clerks £77.00

Additionally a payment of £42.00 for the hire of the hall for Council meetings (Oct-Dec) was authorised.

2. Planning Applications

Planning application F/YR11/0974/F was considered. The Council supported the application providing it was as the plans indicate and not a two storey extension as the notice indicated. **Clerk to check with FDC.**

3. To agree the Joint Minor Highways Improvement Bid for year 2012/13

The Clerk reported that the footpath widening scheme is not in the Highways Departments plans. It was agreed to submit both the plan for improvements to the Church Road/The Croft junction and the footpath widening near the Old Shop site.

The Clerk reported that Highways department have indicated that if the footpath is to be widened then some of the opposite verge will need to become road. It was suggested that Councillors should view the site to consider the impact of this.

4. Parish Emergency Plan

No updates received by the Clerk.

5. Parish Council Web-Site

Carried forward. No Councillors have looked at the sites of nearby Councils to give a view on what type of site they require.

6. Parish Plan – Update

No updates.

7. Raising of Village Concerns

The following items were reported:

1. Large Pot Hole across the Norfolk border in Halfpenny Road. The Clerk to report to Upwell Parish Council.

2 of 3	signed	Chairman

MINUTES OF THE CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2012 - MEMORIAL HALL CHRISTCHURCH AT 7.30PM

- 1. Upwell Road/Church Road corner is poorly lit and another resident has had a fall in that area. It was agreed to discuss the lighting in this area with the owner of the property.
- 2. Ornamental trees along Fen View are obstructing the pathway. The Clerk was asked to notify the Highways Department to ask it they can be pruned.
- 3. Following a discussion it was agreed to allow the senior football team to play at the Recreation Ground on a match by match basis, providing the pitch surface is not adversely affected, at a cost of £30 per match.

The Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8:30pm

3 of 3 signed Chairman

Christchurch Parish Council News

Draft agenda for next Council meeting 7:30pm, Monday 12th March 2012, Memorial Hall, Church Road

Public and Press are welcome and can speak to the Councillors during The Public Adjournment and during the Annual Meeting

- 1. Open, welcome and apologies
- Signing of previous meeting's minutes Feb 2012
- Update on actions from previous meeting
- Public Adjournment
- Police Update
- Correspondence
- Finance
- Review of Planning Applications
- Update on the formation of a New Recreation Ground Charity
- Update on Queen's Jubilee Celebrations
- Parish Plan
- Reporting of Village Concerns

Your Parish Council and how to contact us

Nigel Russell (Chair) – phone 638279 Wesley Poole – phone 638622 Simon Freeland – phone 638231 William Beswick – phone 638758 Jill Bliss - phone 638343 Jacky Wincote (Vice-Chair) - phone 63857 Hannah Poole - phone 638622 Stephen Cowell (Clerk) - phone 661374 e-mail christchurchcambspc@googlemail.com

Consultation on Speed Limit reduction in parts of Christchurch

After discussions with Cambridgeshire Highways Department, most recently at the Feb Parish Council meeting, and after considering the views of residents over the years the Parish Council intend to seek a reduction in the speed limit along Church Road from 40mph to 30mph and a similar reduction to 30mph for that part of Upwell Road that is currently 40mph with the potential of a slight extension on Upwell Road so that the speed limitation starts just prior to the Recreation Ground.

The consultation with local organisations such as the ambulance service etc will commence soon however we would welcome any views from the residents of Christchurch on this proposal. Please send any comments you wish to make to the Clerk either by e-mail at christchurchcambspc@googlemail.com or by letter to 34, County Road, March, Cambs, PE15 8ND. There will also be the opportunity for you to discuss these proposals with Parish Councillors during the Public Adjournment at Parish Council meetings.

DIRECTORY

Age UK Cambridgeshire	01354 696677
Altzheimer's Society (Fenland)	01945 580480
Cambs Fire & Rescue	01480 444500
Churchwarden - Mrs. D. Symons	01354 638352
Citizens' Advice Bureau, Wisbech	01945 464367
Community Car Scheme (to book a journey)	07902 316360
County Councillor – Fred Yeulett	01354 653763
District Councillor – Mac Cotterell	01945 583744
District Councillor – Will Sutton	01354 638025
Dog Warden	01354 622547
Eastern Electricity	0800 783 8838
FACT (Fenland Association of Community Transport)	01354 661234
Fenland District Council	01354 654321
Highway Agency's Road Repair Line	0845 0455212
Library – March	0354 0455225
Memorial Hall Caretakers – Mr. & Mrs. A. Murray	01354 638272
Parish Clerk – Mr. Stephen Cowell	01354 661374
Rector - Rev'd Kevin Fitzgibbon	01354 680969
Stagecoach - Peterborough	01733 554571
Stagecoach - Cambridge	01223 423 578
Telephone Complaints	0345 145000
Townley School	01354 638229
Trading Standards	0845 04 05 06
Train Information	08457 484950
Upwell Health Centre	01945 773671
For S Doc (out of hours surgery please ring this	
Number and you will be through to those on duty)	01945 773671
Water Emergencies	08457 145145
Welle Pharmacy, Upwell Health Centre	01945 774081
Wisbech Fire Station	01945 428600

To report crimes or incidents of vandalism in Cambridgeshire ring 0345 456 456 4 and ask for Crime Management Unit or for March or Wisbech Police Stations also ring this number. To report crimes or incidents of vandalism in Norfolk ring 0345 456 456 7.

The Heron is printed by March Stationery & Print, 5 Fenland Walk, March , Cambs, PE15 8TW. Tel. 01354 656 614, Email: sales@marchsp.co.uk

^{*} New non-emergency Police phone number - 101*