



The HERON

Christchurch Village Newsletter

March 2013



Welcome to the March edition of The Heron.

A bit of everything in this month's edition, articles of interest for Twitchers to Recyclers, Music lovers to Bargain hunters amongst you.

What a busy time lies ahead for everyone this Month. Mothering Sunday comes first this month on the 10th, and I'm sure many of you will be celebrating it with a lovely meal, or giving a bouquet of some amazing spring flowers, the like of which are already showing themselves in our gardens and countryside despite the still chilly weather we have been having.

At the end of the month we can all look forward to Easter, don't forget to check out our page detailing the local religious services at ours, and the surrounding churches, if you are considering attending worship over this special time in the Christian calendar.

I am sure the shops are already filled with delicious Easter Eggs and treats to keep the choca-holics amongst us more than happy through this month, and on Easter Sunday British Summer time begins bringing us lighter evenings and the promise of longer warm summer evenings to come.

As always we would love to hear from more of you, if you have any ideas for us to add to The Heron, or any news, views or photographs you wish to share, send them in by post or e mail to our usual address. Have a great March and don't eat too much chocolate!

Paul and Mandi

Editors.



We have been contacted by Will Sutton (Cllr) in regard to numerous enquiries he has been receiving in connection to concerns that local residents have after seeing their Blue and Brown bins being emptied into the same refuse lorry, which raised the question of the benefit of residents taking time and effort to sort their rubbish if it is being collected into one vehicle.

He has sent the following article in the hope it quells peoples concerns as to the effectiveness of recycling.

New 'One Pass Solution' Vehicle Collects on Efficiency

A new design of refuse vehicle is being used to support the refuse and recycling teams to continue to deliver a high quality and cost effective service to some of the more remote parts of Fenland.

The vehicle is specially designed with two separate sections to allow it collect two bins at the same time.

It is used to collect blue and brown bins from more remote locations and as a result will reduce the amount of miles travelled and time spent servicing these more difficult to reach locations.

This vehicle is an integral part of the Environmental Services efficiency work that has been running within refuse and recycling over recent years.



Councillor Murphy, Portfolio Holder for the Environment and Street Scene said,



"We are particularly proud of how the frontline teams have found efficiency improvements over the past few years . This vehicle demonstrates our one team approach to developing and implementing cost saving ideas to reduce the costs of providing quality frontline services."

The Little Local

Groceries and Newspapers, Fresh Bread,
Fruit, Vegetables available.

Open 7 days a week.

MON-FRI	7 am - 5.30 pm
SAT	8 am - 5.00 pm
SUN	9.30 am - 11.30 am

Church Road, Christchurch.



The 'Tom Daley of the duck world' hits a record high at Welney

STAFF at the Wildfowl and Wetland Trust in Welney have recorded the largest ever number of tufted ducks on the Ouse Washes, with numbers hitting almost 3,500.

Affectionately known as 'tufties', due to the feathers on the head, tufted ducks have bold black and white plumage and brilliant yellow eyes.

Known by staff as the Tom Daly of the avian world, the ducks dive deep under the water's surface to feed and despite the recent deep water from flooding, they have not been fazed.

Visitors to Welney can see them at the daily swans feed, where they join some of the thousands of swans and other ducks that spend the winter at Welney.

In between the swan feeds the birds are out on the wild reserve feeding on larvae and aquatic insects. Steve Wiltshire, warden at WWT Welney said:

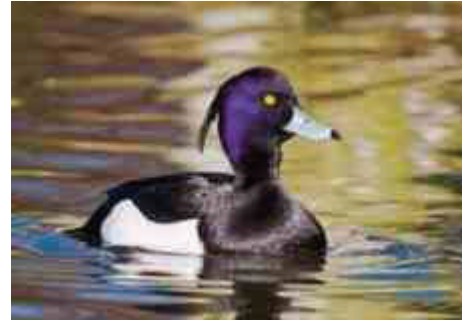
"Although the tufties aren't doing anything as extravagant as Tom Daley's two and a half back-somersault with two and a half twists, they've certainly made a splash at Welney!"

"We pick up peak counts of birds such as the tufted ducks, by monitoring them regularly in our wetland bird surveys throughout the winter, which is hugely important for conservation because it helps us track the long term trends of populations."

"February and March are usually when we see the highest wildfowl counts, as birds start to move back through the UK from further south. It is also the time when males are looking their best in their breeding plumage and starting to display to the females."

There are not many weeks left to see these diving demons. Water levels on the Ouse Washes are now dropping as it transforms from a haven for wintering wildfowl to prime breeding habitat for wading birds over the summer.

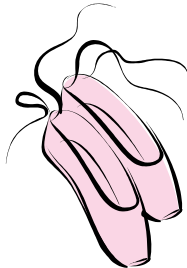
Swan feeds run daily until Sunday, March 10, at 12pm and 3.30pm.



The Welney-based tufted duck

Adult (15yrs +) Ballet Classes

**To start at Townley School
Christchurch***



No experience/kit necessary,

Leisurewear Acceptable

Everyone welcome

**For further details please
contact :- Jane 01354 638378**

**(subject to interest)*

Pilates for everyone

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With Pilates you can achieve a flat stomach, slender thighs and buttocks, and toned arms without adding bulk. It also helps to reduce back and joint pain and to relieve stress and tension.



Every Tuesday night
@ 6.30pm

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mat and/or a towel

Townley School
Christchurch
Wilsbech

Cost £5.00

Support for Welney Washes causeway

Electronic signposts showing realtime flooding updates will be installed to alert drivers about the state of the A1101 Welney Wash Road.

The move, which will solve the problem of road closure signs remaining in place after the water has gone misleading motorists into taking unnecessary diversions, have come thanks to local MP Steve Barclay.

The North East Cambs MP is campaigning for a causeway to be built over the flood plain and has secured backing from fellow MPS Elizabeth Truss and Jim Paice.

Following the launch of Mr Barclay's campaign for a causeway over the floodplain, Welney Parish Councillors met with Norfolk County Council to discuss plans for electronic signposts showing real time flooding updates.

Mr Barclay said: *"I am delighted that my colleagues are lending their support for this project. Flooding on the Welney Wash is a recurring problem for residents and the possibility of electronic road signs would provide an effective short term solution to the problem."*

"Flooding in the area for around 50 days per year is a major inconvenience and impacts on local business. We need to take concrete measures to limit this issue and work with local authorities to take action on long term solutions like our campaign for a causeway."

Under the parish partnership scheme, Norfolk County Council has offered to fund 75% of the £15,000 cost of the signs, meaning the parish council is now on the hunt for the remaining £3,250.

Mr Barclay will meet with the MPs and local councillors at the site on March 22 to highlight the need for both short and longer term solutions for local drivers and residents who need access to the road.

He has also written to the Transport secretary, Patrick McGloughlin and Norfolk County Council asking for a feasibility study on the project to build a causeway over the floodplain.

Courtesy of Fenland Citizen

Driver has lucky escape after lorry topples off road into Fenland field

A DRIVER had a lucky escape on the afternoon of Feb 25th when his lorry toppled off the road and ended on its side in a Fenland field.

Police received reports of a lorry which had left Wimblington Road, Manea, at about 3.30pm.

The vehicle was stuck on its side in a field close to the junction with Station Road, but the driver was unharmed.

A police spokesman said: *"It was causing a distraction more than anything because people kept stopping to check that the driver was safe."*

"It is unknown how the lorry managed to get there."



Article and picture courtesy of CambsTimes

W.I Hosts David Palmer

Why not come and spend an entertaining evening listening to **David Palmer** on The Life of an Auctioneer.

He has recently appeared on Bargain Hunt and Flog It!

This is an open evening where everybody is welcome at the Memorial Hall on

Tuesday March 12th at 7p.m.
Cost:£3 (for non-members)



National survey reveals East of England as UK phone scamming hotspot

Research for Microsoft's Spot the Scammers campaign reveals number of people targeted by phone scam in East England is highest in UK.

The East of England has been identified as the UK phone scamming hotspot, as Microsoft reveals that over 40% of people surveyed in the area have been targeted by a computer phone scam.

The figure for the region is almost 7% higher than the national average, which stands at just under 35%. Almost 42% of those asked in the East of England have been targeted, or know someone who has been targeted, by some form of phone scam in the last month alone.

In response to these findings, Microsoft has launched the Spot the Scammers campaign to raise awareness of the prevalence of the computer security phone scam and to provide a list of simple steps people can take to avoid falling victim to it.

The computer security phone scam typically involves a call from someone claiming to be a reputable technology firm like Microsoft. The caller will use this name to gain the trust of the victim, offering to help them solve bogus computer issues or remove viruses. In reality, their intention is to trick the recipient into giving out personal information or bank details, or to install malicious software on their computer.

Research conducted in 2010 found that victims in the UK lost on average £745 as a result of the scam.

Stuart Aston, Chief Security Advisor at Microsoft, highlighted the dangers of the scam:

"Essentially, this scam is a confidence trick conducted by often quite sophisticated criminals, who are adept at gaining their victims' trust by using a name like Microsoft, adopting industry jargon to make them sound professional and using apparently personal information to appear legitimate. We've launched the Spot the Scammers campaign to raise awareness that the scam exists – and ultimately that is the best way of ensuring people don't fall victim to it. Just as you wouldn't hand over your credit card to any stranger who knocks on your door, you should always be wary of unsolicited callers asking you for personal information or bank details."

Stephen Proffitt, Head of Action Fraud, backed the campaign: *"In the six months from August 2012 to January 2013, Action Fraud received 5,434 reports of computer software service fraud.*

"This is an increasingly common fraud where fraudsters cold call every number in the phone book and convince victims their computer has a problem before charging them for apparently fixing it.

"Software and anti-virus companies do not cold call customers, so if anyone calls claiming to be from such an organisation and offers to fix your computer, tell them you will seek advice locally and end the call. If you think you have been a victim of fraud report this to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by phoning the contact centre on 0300-232040."

Microsoft has produced the following top tips to help people avoid being scammed:

- Always be suspicious of unsolicited calls or emails from people offering help with a security problem, or any other problem with your computer. Microsoft will never call you in this way or ask for money related to fixing a computer problem.
- Do not go to a website, install software or follow any other instruction from someone who calls you out of the blue
- Take the caller's information down and pass it on to your local authorities or to Action Fraud
- If you have received a call and think you may have been a victim of a phone scam already, you are advised to:
 - Change your computer's password, change the password on your main email account, and change the password for any financial accounts, especially your bank and credit card
 - Use free software like Microsoft Security Essentials to find out if you have rogue software installed on your computer
 - Contact your bank and credit card companies
- You can also find more guidance and information available at <http://www.microsoft.com/security> or <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

Top UK choir to wow audiences in Cambridge **with charity concert**



One of the UK's best adult choir groups will be wowing audiences in Cambridge next month with a special charity concert.

The award-winning Cambridge Chorale will be performing its 'Feel the Spirit' Choral Concert at St John's College Chapel on Saturday 23rd March, in aid of Ormiston Children & Families Trust, the leading children's charity in East Anglia. In Cambridgeshire Ormiston manages two children's centres, works with children and families affected by imprisonment, runs a Travellers Initiative and Health Advocacy project and supports young parents in the region.

According to Julian Wilkins, Cambridge Chorale's Music Director, supporting local charities is something the choir is passionate about. *"We really enjoy what we do and we like to be able to give back to the community and support charities by putting on concerts. Ormiston is such a diverse organisation that puts the wellbeing of children and families at the heart of what it does, and we felt that this focus fits in really well with one of our spiritual repertoires, so that's what we'll be performing on the night."*

Cambridge Chorale will be presenting a rich array of popular spiritual and gospel arrangements, covering a wide variety of styles and emotions. African-American spirituals comprise one of the world's greatest and best-loved bodies of music, appealing to performers and audiences across all boundaries. Well-known titles such as "Steal Away", "Nobody Knows The Trouble I've Seen" and "Deep River" are all arranged by a superb gallery of composers including Richard Allain, Ken Burton, Moses Hogan, Kirby Shaw and Michael Tippett.



Julian continued: *"Rehearsals are going extremely well and the whole choir is really enjoying the variety of the repertoire that we're working on. We haven't performed a spiritual concert in a while and it's lovely to be doing it again because it's a little lighter than the classical arrangements that we often put together. It's fantastic to be performing in St John's College Chapel too, and with the huge variation of music that we will be performing it promises to be a great night."*

Charlotte Garner, Ormiston's Community Fundraiser in Cambridgeshire, added: *"We are so honoured to have the fantastic Cambridge Chorale doing a concert on behalf of Ormiston, they are such a talented group of singers and really know how to put on a good show. St John's College Chapel is also an amazing setting so I'm sure this is going to be a popular event. It's really important that people get involved and support Ormiston – its services in East Anglia are invaluable to local children and their families."*

Tickets to the concert are on sale now, priced at £20 for adults and £10 for students and under 16s. To buy tickets please call Josie Barwick on 01473 705030 or visit www.ormiston.org/choral-concert for more information.

Memorial Hall AGM

To be held

Monday 15th April 2013 7.30 p.m

(Committee meeting to be held same evening*)

The **200 Club** 20 week draw to take place either prior/post AGM.

(* **Not open to the general public.**)

I was taken by the picture on the January Heron and was moved to write:

What a fantastic picture you put on the front cover of the February Heron.

Beautifully composed and capturing the essence of such a lovely part of the village. But how much lovelier it could be. The old Christchurch cottage, the village green with its newly refurbished sign, then there in the middle of the photo - that heap of 1970s bricks - the bus shelter. What an eyesore what a blot on the most picturesque part of the village!

I understand the bus shelter has its own history. I remember discussing it at the school governor's meetings probably 18 years ago. Boys used it to climb on it, and when challenged said they were "looking for the bus". Well thankfully there seems to be less excuse for climbing these days as there are no buses to come! There seems to have been a seat at some time which is no longer there, presumably so as not to encourage you to linger to wait for the next bus.



(Photograph by Keith Hill)

I guess before there was a bus shelter lots of folk would have campaigned for one. I can understand how uncomfortable it would be waiting for the bus in driving rain, with the wind coming up the drove from Siberia, and I imagine that some well meaning folk perhaps raised the money, and everyone was grateful. I guess in those days the buses did actually pass through the village and did stop. I guess it was not as dangerous to stop a bus on that bend, I guess the traffic was much less and stopping there would not have been a problem.

But here we are now thirteen years into the 21st century, buses are but a memory for most of us. But that monstrosity still blots the landscape. Why can't it be removed? If a bus stop is still required surely it should be in the lay bye across the road - a much safer place to pick up the school children on their way to school. Also have you not noticed those elegant bus shelters in the towns (and some villages) made of clear glass suspended on a fine steel frame? They don't obscure the view as much, and miscreants can't hide and do unspeakable things like they can in solid brick structures.

Come on Christchurch can't we do better? Can't we restore the Green area to something more fitting for the centre of our lovely village?

Paul Haresnape.



Do you have something you would like to share with the community, or have any comments on articles published in The Heron ? If so please feel free to contact us by mail, e-email or telephone, we would love to hear from you.

Ed.

February whizzes along and then another month passes by.

Our A.G.M took place, the existing committee were voted in again after listening to the report on the previous years happenings.



We are very proud of ourselves as a successful club, and this is due to all the members who have come through the door each month with a smile, and ready with a chat as they wait for all to arrive.

Peggy our treasurer gave us a very good report on the accounts which had exceeded again for 2012 Thank you to our members because it is they with their support each month who make the club what it is.

Shirley and Peter Knight from Christchurch were our speakers after the A.G.M, who enlightened us with an insight into the life of the " Ferrets", I use the plural because together with the ferrets we were shown, they kept us interested, plenty of questions, and surprises were in store too many to mention here. Don't miss an opportunity to see " Ferrets" at another meeting elsewhere, you won't be disappointed.

Next month our club will meet on March 26th at 7 p.m.

The topic will be 'Plug Plants'. We also will be arranging our first coach trip and taking names and deposits. Visitors are always welcome to join us and enjoy a day out.

Contact us on 01354 638024

Bubbles

Missing Cat

Has anyone seen my handsome black and white cat ?

He is a large neutered male called **Frogs** (yes, really).

He is black with white markings on his face and a white tummy. He often goes walk-about and always returns looking well fed but has never been missing this long before and I am very anxious about him.

Please contact me if you have any information on **01354 638127**

Thank-you

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Delph House *news*

March 2013

Recent activities

Residents made their first trip out this year in February as the weather and road conditions in January did not favour going out. We visited Downham Market, having lunch at Arbuckles and then touring the Garden Centre, which had a good display of flowers.

Some residents and staff were very pleased the following week to be invited and to attend a private reception held at the Lamb and Flag following the funeral of one of our residents.

Any Volunteers?

We have been very grateful in the past to local people who have volunteered their services to help our residents. This has included talking to individual residents in their own rooms or in one of the lounges, helping to organise activities, playing music and even driving our minibus on trips.

Most residents have family and friends visiting weekly or more often but some have no family to visit. If there is anyone who could spare a short time occasionally to be with some of our residents we would be very pleased to hear from you. Previous volunteers have contributed to our residents' day and have also enjoyed the time themselves.

Volunteers can be of almost any age; previous volunteers have included teens to seventies.

If you think you might be interested please get in touch with Graham, Julie or Sharon to discuss how you might be able to contribute.

Current topic: Dementia

It is estimated that in the UK currently over 700 000 people have dementia. There are different causes including Alzheimer's disease and vascular disease. Symptoms include loss of memory, mood changes and communication problems.

At Delph House since 2010 we have been taking in increasing numbers of new residents with dementia. Some of our organised activities such as reminiscence with items from library collections, exercise to music and garden walks suit these residents well.

We also have people with dementia making use of our day-care facilities. This can be one or two days per week enjoyed by the visitor and at the same time giving a break to family members who are providing care at home. For more information please get in touch with us by telephone or email or pay us a visit.

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17 YRS SALON EXPERIENCE

CHRISTCHURCH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE NEWS

Minutes of the Monthly WI Meeting held in the Pavillion on Tuesday 12th February 2013



The President welcomed guests and one new member.

Apologies were received from Sandra Kay and Margaret Beswick.

Minutes were signed and finance was given.

Correspondence

Group Meeting Agenda

Present for Rosemary Green who had recently retired as President of the County.

Menus for the Lamb and Flag were circulated.

Members were reminded about the Whist Drive taking place tomorrow at 6p.m. at Riverside Lodge. Transport for this was arranged. Those going were asked to bring a raffle prize.

The whist evening will be held at Tracy's on Wednesday 13th February at 6.30. All participants need to bring a raffle prize.

Our speaker for the evening was local farmer Ken Goodger. He gave an entertaining and informative talk on how he had diversified away from growing traditional crops to growing crops for essential oils. Many of the oils were used by well-known firms such as Body Shop in their products. Some examples of essential oils were passed around for members to smell.

Competition Results : A perfume bottle
Val 5, Tracy4, Susan Quail 4, Wendy2, Peggy2,
Margaret S.2, Doris W.2, Beryl2, Margaret H.2

Next Month: The Life of an Auctioneer
David Palmer .

Competition – A Collectible

Raffle Prize Rota: Sandra Lloyd, Wendy,
Peggy , Tracy

Peggy Warby
President

Beauty Treatments By Jane

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CHRISTCHURCH CRAFT CLUB

February's craft club saw Beryl Brooks leading the girls in a selection of projects including 'Bring and Make', Egg decorating, and Valentine Cards, so a busy night was had by all, Thanks Beryl.

Our next meeting on the 5th March will see Wendy Yates demonstrating silk flower baskets, basket, flowers and oasis supplied, (guests should bring wire cutters and any silk greenery they have).

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

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Website: www.townleyschool.org.uk

Tel/Fax: 01354 638229



This term Class 1 have been learning about China and even made their own dragon and performed a dragon dance. There are lots more photos of their activities on our website.



Diary Dates

6th March - Girls 5 a side Football Tournament
Wimblington

8th March - World Book Day

15th March - Red Nose Day

25th/26th March - Parents Evening

27th March - 8 a side Football Tournament

28th March - Easter Assembly,
Easter Egg Hunt

28th March - Last day of term

16th April— Summer Term begins



Class 3 had a Tudor Day and learnt about life on board a galleon, famous explorers like Francis Drake and the routes they followed. They also looked at old maps and documents. Our favourite activity was looking at, smelling and identifying the spices.

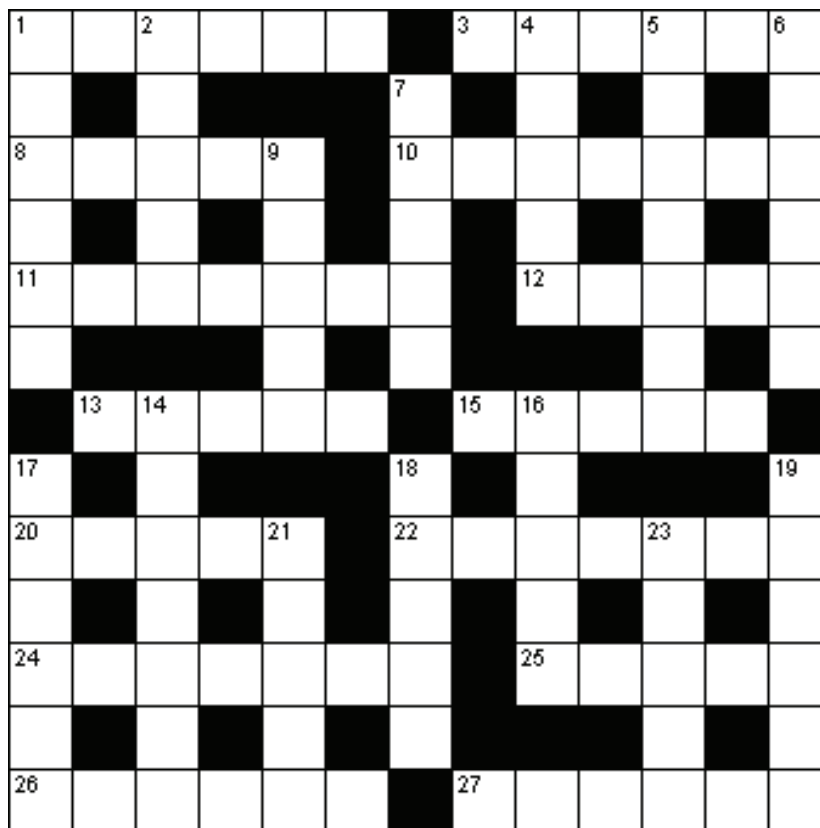


Year 6 SATs - 13th—17th May 2012
Year 2 SATs will take place during May

It is very important that children attend school during these dates.

Across

1. Bicycle for two (6)
3. Legal (6)
8. Metal bar (5)
10. Voter (7)
11. Choices (7)
12. Stingless male bee (5)
13. Ire (5)
15. Accumulate (5)
20. Entice (5)
22. Recess (7)
24. Let go (7)
25. Automaton (5)
26. Riding seat (6)
27. Repented (6)

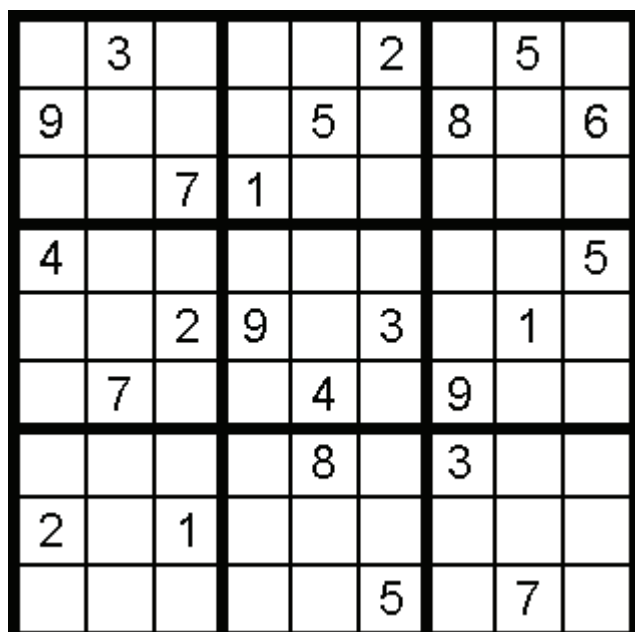


Down

1. Sartor (6)
2. Evening (5)
4. Make better (5)
5. Asinine (7)
6. Food store (6)
7. Laconic (5)
9. Fish (5)
14. Wandered (7)
16. Type of musical scale (5)
17. Begins (6)
18. Bet (5)
19. Combined (6)
21. Path (5)
23. Relating to a city (5)

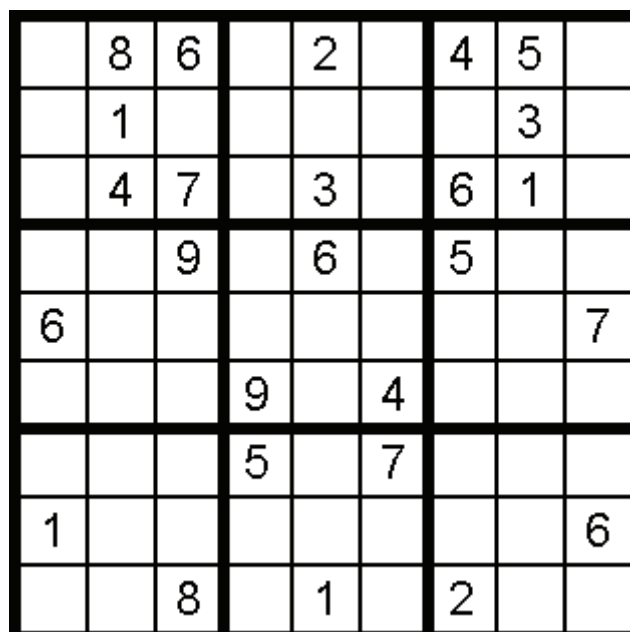
UKP011

Medium



MP10

Hard



HP10



Parish Church Services

3rd March	11:00am	Revd K. Fitzgibbon	All-Age Worship
10th March (Mothering Sunday)	9:30am	Revd K. Fitzgibbon	Holy Communion
17th March	3:30pm	Revd K. Fitzgibbon	Evening Prayer
24th March (Palm Sunday)	11:00am	S.E. Tooke	Morning Prayer
28th March	6:30pm	Revd K. Fitzgibbon	Maundy Thursday service, CHRISTCHURCH
29th March Good Friday	10:00am	Revd K. Fitzgibbon	United Service MANEA
31st March Easter Day,	11:00am	Revd K. Fitzgibbon	Holy Communion service CHRISTCHURCH

The A.P.C.M. will be held in church on Sunday 17th March at 4:30pm following on from the service of Evening Prayer. Why not come along? All are welcome. At long last the scaffolding on the bell tower has been taken down after the base of the tower was made safe in December.

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

Daphne and Andrew.

Christchurch Parish Council News

**Draft agenda for next Council meeting 7:30pm, Monday 11th March 2013,
Memorial Hall, Church Road.**

Public and Press are welcome and can speak to the Councillors during the Public Adjournment.

1. Open, welcome and apologies
2. Signing of previous meeting's minutes Feb 2013
3. Disclosure or declaration of interests
4. Update on actions from previous meeting
5. Public Adjournment (time to raise issues affecting you with the Council)
6. Police Update
7. Correspondence
8. Finance
9. Review of Planning Applications
10. Parish Plan
11. Reporting of Village Concerns

Your Parish Council and how to contact us

Nigel Russell = phone 638279	Jill Bliss = phone 638343
Wesley Poole = phone 638622	Jacky Wincote (Chair) = phone 638575
Simon Freeland = phone 638802	Hannah Poole = phone 638622
William Beswick = phone 638758	
	Stephen Cowell (Clerk) = phone 661374 e-mail christchurchcambspc@googlemail.com

Dog Fouling

Residents have reported a number of incidents of dogs fouling footpaths in the village. The Council would like to remind everyone that this is an offence that you can be fined for. The Council would like to thank the vast majority of dog owners who act responsibly and pick up the mess and either put it in one of the bins or take it home.

Renovation and extension of the Sports Pavilion

The sale of two of the plots the Parish Council is selling to help fund the renovation and extension of the Sports Pavilion is moving ahead. The sale has been delayed as the purchaser's solicitor has needed to seek clarification on covenants and conditions affecting the land.

The Council and the New Village Hall Committee have been considering whether to build a new building or extend the existing building. The new building would be situated further into the recreation field and the existing building would be demolished and form an extended car park if this option is preferred. If you have any views on this feel free to send the Clerk an e-mail on the subject or speak to one of the Councillors.

MINUTES OF THE CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 14th JANUARY 2013 – MEMORIAL HALL CHRISTCHURCH AT 7:30pm

Present: Councillors – Nigel Russell (Chair), Jill Bliss, Simon Freeland, William Beswick, Hannah Poole and Will Sutton (FDC).
Stephen Cowell (Clerk) and 1 member of the public were also in attendance.

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Jacky Wincote, Cllr. Wes Poole, Cllr. Cotterell, Cllr. Yeulett (CCC) and PCSO Russ.

2. Signing of Minutes

The minutes of the 10th December meeting were signed, by the Chair, as true record of the meeting.

3. Disclosure and Declarations of Pecuniary Interests

No interests were declared.

4. Update on action points from previous meeting

It was reported that:

- A New 'No Dogs' sign for the Recreation Ground has been purchased. Cllr. Wes Poole and the Clerk agreed to fix it to the wall of the Sports Pavilion.
- Letters requesting local hauliers to avoid the village to reduce noise pollution and property damage have been sent to two hauliers and the Clerk is awaiting information from Councillors with the names of other hauliers who have lorries driven through the village.
- One scheme has been submitted to the Highways Department as part of the Local Highways Improvement Scheme. This scheme is that discussed to improve signage at the Padgett's Road and Upwell Road junctions with the Sixteen Foot Bank road.
- The Clerk has been in touch with FACT offering them a number of alternatives regarding the advertising of their service but as yet has not received any response.
- Information has been passed to Cllr. Yeulett regarding correspondence relating to the overgrown shrubs obstructing paths in Fenview.
- The Highways Department have inspected the road and verge at Cotton's Corner after the Council's complaint that it had been left in a poor state of repair following the bridge repairs. They feel there is no work required. Cllr. Russell and Cllr. Sutton offered to meet with Highways Reps on site to discuss. Clerk to contact Highways.

5. Public Adjournment

No items were raised for discussion.

6. Police Update

PCSO Russ has issued a monthly report that has been sent to all Members. The report includes 1 incident of an abandoned vehicle and 1 of a number plate being stolen plus a report on people flagged down motorists reporting that they have run out of petrol offering to sell items for cash to buy petrol. 1 Speedwatch check has been undertaken in Christchurch with no incidents of speeding. Anyone wishing to help with these checks should contact PCSO Russ.

Continued

7. Correspondence Received

Items discussed included:

- Results from the Access to Health Care in Fenland survey – a copy of the results was given to Cllr. Bliss.
- The consent to pipe and fill the drain near to the land being sold by the Council on Upwell Road. The Clerk was asked to provide Cllr. Russell with a copy so he could review the consent to ensure it was in line with the verbal agreement he had made.
- The e-mail received from a resident regarding the lack of emptying of rubbish bins in the village, which was circulated to all members. Cllr. Beswick reported that the bins were emptied the day after receipt of the e-mail after he had phoned FDC to report that they were full. He also reported that he checks on them regularly and reports any that are full. The Clerk was asked to respond to the resident.

8. Finance

The Clerk reported the changes to the Parish Precept process and the receipt of the Council Tax support Grant. He also, along with Cllr. Sutton, reported the changes to the Concurrent Grant process and its likely reduction in the financial year 2014/15 and subsequent years.

Following a discussion on the impact of these changes it was decided to make no changes to the budget discussed at December's meeting. It was proposed that the budget recommended by the Clerk at the December meeting be authorised. This was seconded and agreed by all.

The Clerk clarified that this will mean that the amount requested via Precept would be reduced by the amount to be provided by the Council Tax Support Grant this was accepted by the Council.

The Clerk reported total bank balances of £55,190.66, with cheques written amounting to £1,832.38 to come from this, and brought to Councillor's attention the earmarked funds (funds that must be spent on specific purposes) that total a little over £33k.

The following items, listed on the agenda, were agreed for payment

8.1 Clerk's Salary £183.58

8.2 HM Revenue & Customs £137.80 (3 month's PAYE on the Clerk's Salary)

8.3 Postage £6.00

8.4 The Heron £65.00

8.5 E Mason & Son (Farmers) Ltd £1,440.00 (Grass cutting)

9. Planning Applications

None to consider

10. Parish Plan – Update

Nothing to report.

11. Raising of Village Concerns

The following items were reported/discussed:

- The short term future of clubs and societies that use the Memorial Hall should it suffer flooding and roof problems again. It was reported that clubs and societies can and have used the sports pavilion. If this became a regular occurrence formal arrangements would need to be agreed with the Bowls Club. Cllr. Bliss reported that a local builder has inspected the roof and is doing what short term repairs/patching up that are possible and that the Memorial Hall Committee has agreed to continue to run activities from the hall in the short term. The sale of the land adjacent to the Bowls Club and the building of a new hall/extension of the Sports Pavilion was discussed. It was agreed to discuss again once the most recent letters regarding the sale have been reviewed.
- Concern over the number of pot holes in the road surface along Euximoor Drove was raised as was the poor quality of repairs made to the bridge over the Sixteen Foot Drain at the top of the Drove. It was agreed to discuss the latter with a Highways Rep when the Cotton's Corner issue is discussed.
- Dog fouling along Church Road was again discussed with a councillor relating an example of a resident seen kicking mess under a hedge rather than clearing it up. It was suggested that PCSO Russ is made aware of the problem.

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The information in this newsletter is intended to be useful and informative for readers, opinions expressed in news articles or third party comments do not express the opinions of the publishing team, who strive to maintain impartiality on behalf of The Heron at all times.

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Alzheimer'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
Eastern Electricity	0800 783 8838
FACT (Fenland Association of Community Transport)	01354 661234
Fenland District Council	01354 654321
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

*** New non-emergency Police phone number - 101***