



# The Heron

Community Magazine

December 2017

Delivered to homes in Christchurch, Euximoor and Tipps End - £1 where sold

## *In this issue!*

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| It's Christmas        | 2          |
| Church Services       | 2          |
| Community Info        | 3          |
| Editorial             | 3          |
| Diary Dates           | 4          |
| Letters to the Editor | 5          |
| Dole Distribution     | 5          |
| Christmas Greetings   | 7          |
| Clubs Pages           | 9, 10 & 11 |
| Santa Claus Quiz      | 12         |
| Food Fayre            | 13         |
| Youth Pages           | 14 & 15    |
| Xmas Dinner Cheats    | 16         |
| Superfast Broadband   | 18         |
| Top Trumps!           | 18         |
| Townley Page          | 19         |
| Jazz Club             | 20         |
| Flu Prevention Advice | 23         |
| Runny Eggs on Menu    | 24         |
| Brown Bins 2018/19    | 24         |
| Obituaries            | 25         |
| Small Ads             | 25         |
| Useful Numbers        | 26         |
| And Finally           | 26         |
| Christchurch Walks!   | 27         |
| Heron Sport           | 28         |

# This Christmas let us give ...

## "thanks to God for His indescribable gift"

2 Corinthians 9:15 New Authorised Version

### Editorial Team:

Richard Guilford – Editor

Linda Webster – Treasurer & Ad. Manager

Paul Haresnape – Technical Support

### Web Site:

[www.theheron.info](http://www.theheron.info)

### Enquiries:

[editor@theheron.info](mailto:editor@theheron.info) / 01354 638990

[adverts@theheron.info](mailto:adverts@theheron.info) / 01354 638124



# IT'S CHRISTMAS!

Someone once said. "I love Christmas, it's the rest of the year that troubles me". But some people find the opposite to be true and that is, Christmas is a problem. Because the festive season can be exhausting and stressful at times. Long queues and short tempers, last day postings, compassion fatigue, compulsory family reunions, feigned excitement over unwanted gifts, make overs, left overs and hang overs.

But it would be difficult to cancel Christmas because it has already happened and keeps happening. Every Christmas card we send and round robin Christmas news letter we write is defined by the birth of Jesus. The number of years are tied in with his birth AD meaning Anno Domini 'the year of our Lord'. For some people, Christmas is a tough time especially if people they love are no longer with them. But there is still much to celebrate. The colours of the season, the comfort cooking, the festival music and the good times with family and friends are expressions of joy and good will which is in keeping with the first announcements to the Bethlehem shepherds by the angels. "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you born this day a saviour which is Christ the Lord" (Luke. 2:10).

The centre of attention was a baby boy born in a

stable a sort of open air maternity ward, barely one star accommodation, self catering only, animals welcome and makeshift cot provided. It was totally unfit for purpose, but there was joy and wonder in that place.

Christmas can still be a time for adoration and contemplation. But if we try to meet unrealistic expectations, it will become physically, emotionally and financially overstretched. We want the best for others, we like to show our love with cards, presents and surprises. Let's not lose sight of the fact that the original message of Christmas was about God's presence.

God stepped into human history in the form of His Son Jesus. He came to give us hope, help and an eternal home. If we want this Christmas to be even more meaningful than usual let us spend some time reminding ourselves that, in giving the world Jesus, God showed that he was with us for good!

Have a blessed and Happy Christmas.

Ian.

Rev. I Brady.



## Church Services - for the Festive Season

|                      |        |                        |  |
|----------------------|--------|------------------------|--|
| Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>  | 11am   | Rev L Brady, A Day     | All Age Worship                            |
| Dec 10 <sup>th</sup> | 9:30am | Rev S Tooke, SE Tooke  | Holy Communion                             |
| Dec 17 <sup>th</sup> | 3:30pm | Revs I&L Brady         | Carol Service - mulled wine and mince pies |
| Dec 18 <sup>th</sup> | 5:30pm |                        | Christingle                                |
| Dec 24 <sup>th</sup> | 11am   | Rev S Tooke, SE Tooke  | Holy Communion                             |
| Dec 24 <sup>th</sup> | 8pm    | Revs I&L Brady         | Christmas Eve Communion - Manea            |
| Dec 25 <sup>th</sup> | 10am   | Rev L Brady            | Christmas Day Communion - Christchurch     |
| Dec 31 <sup>st</sup> | 10am   | Rev I Brady, B Hopkins | United Communion - Welney                  |
| Jan 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 11am   | Rev L Brady, A Day     | All Age Worship                            |

**Every Friday 2-3pm Coffee, Cake and Chat in the Church building**



# Community Information

**Mobile Library:** First Tuesday each month - In the Lay-by Upwell Road - 12:15 to 12:45pm

## Mobile Post Office:

visits Mon - Thu in the Lay-by Upwell Road  
Monday and Thursday 16:30 to 17:00  
Tuesday and Wednesday 16:10 to 17:00  
Fridays - no service

## Dun Cow Meal Deal

on alternate  
Wednesday lunchtimes - 2 courses for £5.50 -  
Pre-Booked places ONLY.  
This month's date 13th December

## Delicious Fish and Chips

are available  
outside the Dun Cow from Michael and Michelle's  
van on Fridays 5pm to 8pm

## Community Car Scheme

still need to find  
another voluntary driver. If you like helping people  
and have a little time to spare during the week, use  
the contact details below. Contact Sue Beel at Care  
Network, for a chat, on 01945 589953 or email  
[sue.b@care-network.org.uk](mailto:sue.b@care-network.org.uk).

## Contact the Parish Council?

phone numbers: in Useful Numbers page 26,  
email: [christchurchcambspc@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchcambspc@gmail.com)  
website: [christchurchpc.btck.co.uk](http://christchurchpc.btck.co.uk)

## Defibrillator

- location is on wall of the dining  
hall in Townley School grounds.

Access via the car park in Greenways off Crown Rd!

## The Church Christmas Coffee

morning  
raised £259, Daphne  
and Andy (Church  
Wardens) expressed a  
huge "thank you" to  
helpers and attenders.  
The Carol service on  
17th Dec will be  
followed by mulled  
wine and mince pies"



Rev Ian and Terry Symonds share the  
top prize for Table Cloth pulling!

## EDITORIAL

Well! The festive season  
is upon us and the New  
Year beckons! May we  
send you all our very  
best wishes and please take note of those of other  
friends and neighbours on page 7.

We've treated you to a few extra colour pages this  
month but sadly we cannot afford to do this every  
month. As it is for everyone, funds are a bit tight at  
the moment so we very much hope that you will  
support us via our Food Fayre at the Community  
Centre on Sunday the 3rd of December. That's this  
coming Sunday! So please don't forget to come  
along! There'll be lots of treats to be had including a  
"Hog Roast", pizzas etc. as well as produce to buy to  
get you ready for Christmas; local fruit & veg and a  
selection of fresh meat. You may also place your  
Christmas orders if you so wish! Please see page 13  
for full details.

Prepare yourselves for a particularly bad flu season.  
See page 8. But there's good news about  
forthcoming egg harvests. No more fears over raw or  
runny eggs. See page 24. More news on brown bin  
collections there too.

On page 16 there are a collection of Christmas  
cookery tips to help your Christmas celebrations go  
more smoothly and make them less stressful, all care  
of our village's very own celebrity chef, Richard  
Hughes.

Paul and I would particularly like to thank all our new  
team members; to Derek Randall-Hall for all his  
graphics expertise and for managing our Youth &  
Sport pages, to Lewis of Upwell Computers for his  
technical knowledge and eventually taking over the  
website and overseeing ad placements from Paul,  
and to Elaine Reed-Hughes for all her work on the  
Clubs pages. And of course, further behind the  
scenes to Linda Webster for managing our finances,  
and looking after our advertisers and kind  
benefactors. To Sandra Lloyd for packing and  
posting out the magazine to all our subscribers. And  
last but by no means least a big thank you to Vivien  
Haresnape who does all our proof reading.

I cannot finish without giving the most ENORMOUS  
THANK YOU! To Sandra Kay and all her delivery  
personnel. What a great job they do! After all you  
wouldn't even be reading this without them. Thank  
you all so very much! Happy Christmas!

Enjoy! 'Till next year

*Richard*

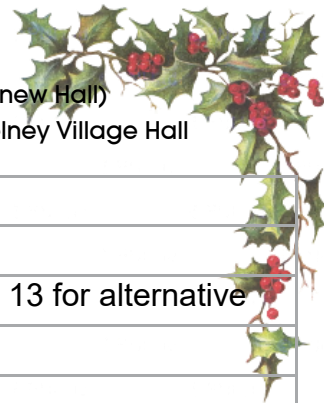
**PLEASE NOTE:- There is now a NEW WASTE BIN at  
the Skate Park, so there is now no excuse for  
youngsters leaving rubbish on the field or in the  
dyke.**

# DIARY DATES

Abbreviations for commonly used venues:

TS = Townley School, CCC = Christchurch Community Centre, (new Hall)

TH = Three Holes Village Hall, UH = Upwell Village Hall, WH = Welney Village Hall



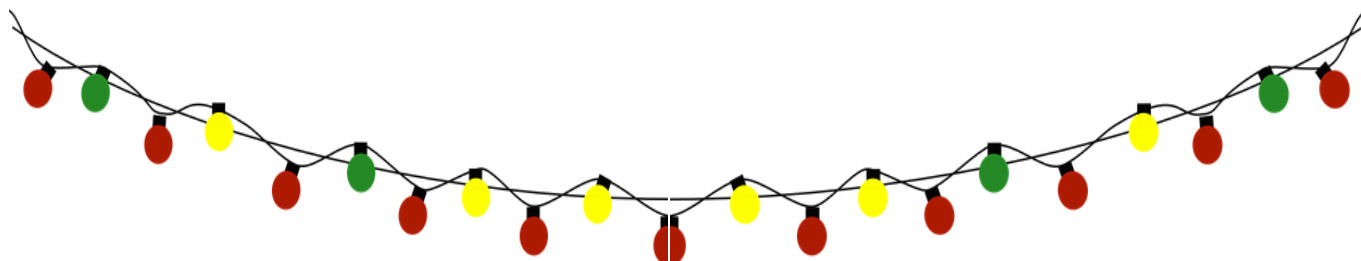
## Weekly events

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| Mondays | Pop-Up Coffee Shop - 9-11:30am - CCC  |
|         | Pilates - each Monday - 6:30-7:30pm - CCC - see notice on page 13 for alternative |
| Fridays | "Cake, Coffee and Chat" - 2-3pm - Parish Church - All Welcome                     |
|         | Fish and Chip Van visits - outside Dun Cow - 5-8pm                                |

## General events

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup>        | Gardening Club - outing to Anglesey Abbey for the Winter Lights                 |
| Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup>        | Christchurch Food Fayre - 10am-4pm - CCC  |
| Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>        | Christchurch Craft Club - Christmas nibble and natter night - 7pm - CCC         |
| Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>        | Mobile Library visits - Upwell Rd Lay-by 12:15-12:45pm                          |
| Dec 11 <sup>th</sup>       | Parish Council Meeting - ALL WELCOME - 7:30pm - CCC                             |
| Dec 12 <sup>th</sup>       | Art Club - new students welcome - 1:30 - 3:30pm - CCC                           |
| Dec 12 <sup>th</sup>       | WI - Annual Meeting & Ukulele Band - 7pm - CCC                                  |
| <b>Dec 18<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Deadline date for January Heron Items</b>                                    |
| Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>       | Christchurch Book Club - 7:30pm - Pear Tree farm - info Sheila Day 07946 635908 |

Church services over the festive period are on Page 2 this month



**Please Note:**  
**January Heron's**  
**deadline for**  
**copy and ads 18th Dec**

**Advertisers** - all our advert rates and conditions can be found on our website [www.theheron.info](http://www.theheron.info)  
 Business advertisers can book series of six or 12 adverts, paid in advance. Adverts for village fundraising events, personal announcements, or small private ads are usually free.

**At the time of going to press, all information is as accurate and up to date as we can make it. Changes and updates may be published subsequently. All information contributed by outside agencies, including dates etc., will be assumed to be correct.**



## Letters to the Editor



Hi, Can I ask you to include the bare bones of this in the next Heron? I've posted something on the Christchurch Facebook page, but it would be good to get as wide a coverage as possible.

In case you're not aware, Openreach consider Christchurch "done" for superfast broadband - anyone connected to a green cabinet is able to have it.

However, my research shows that more than half the postcodes connected to the exchange are "Exchange Only" - they have a direct connection to the exchange and are NOT able to get superfast broadband. So the claimed "95%" coverage figure for Christchurch is laughable.

Latest estimates show that these properties may get something by late 2018/19 (unless budgets get cut!).

The more people complete the survey to show their current speed and demand for superfast broadband the better.

Conscious of space in the Heron (and since much of the text is self-serving), can I suggest that the key messages are:

- a - not everyone in Christchurch has access to superfast broadband
  - b - Connecting Cambridgeshire are responsible for connecting the remainder
  - c - Web page to see your latest estimated date and survey to show your current speed and demand for superfast broadband
  - d - lots of speed checkers (such as speedtest.net)
  - e - the more people complete this, the higher priority we're likely to get
- Maybe you could also include Connecting Cambridgeshire's website in the "links" section?

Happy to chat

Many thanks

Richard Horton

*See page 18 for the context of Richard's email - Ed'.*

Mr. Richard Guilford,  
I imagine this email is a little out of the ordinary, however I am currently working on a research project about Flemish and French migrants to Hatfield Chase, the Sandtoft Colony. I also happen to be a descendent from this community, from the branch that moved to the United States in the 1680s. I know that Mr Trevor Bevis has written extensively on this topic, and I would like to meet him. I have not been able to find contact information for him, but I was able to find that he wrote an article for the

community magazine in 2015. I will be in England during the Christmas season and January, as I will be visiting several archives myself. If you are able to facilitate, I would also love to come visit March, Cambridgeshire and interview him (and if he is willing as well). If you are able to help me, I would be so grateful.

All the best,

Christopher DeCou

*Trevor has written for us in the past so I will be pleased to email you his contact details. (Not publishing them for obvious reasons!) Wishing you luck in your endeavours, - Ed'.*



UPWELL (Cambridge) CONSOLIDATED  
CHARITY

**DOLE DISTRIBUTION**  
CHRISTCHURCH

FRIDAY DECEMBER 8th 2017  
2-3pm

CHRISTCHURCH  
COMMUNITY CENTRE

Applicants must be of pension age  
and have lived in the parish for at  
least 5 years

All applications to be made in  
person (Illness the only exception)

## Weather Lore

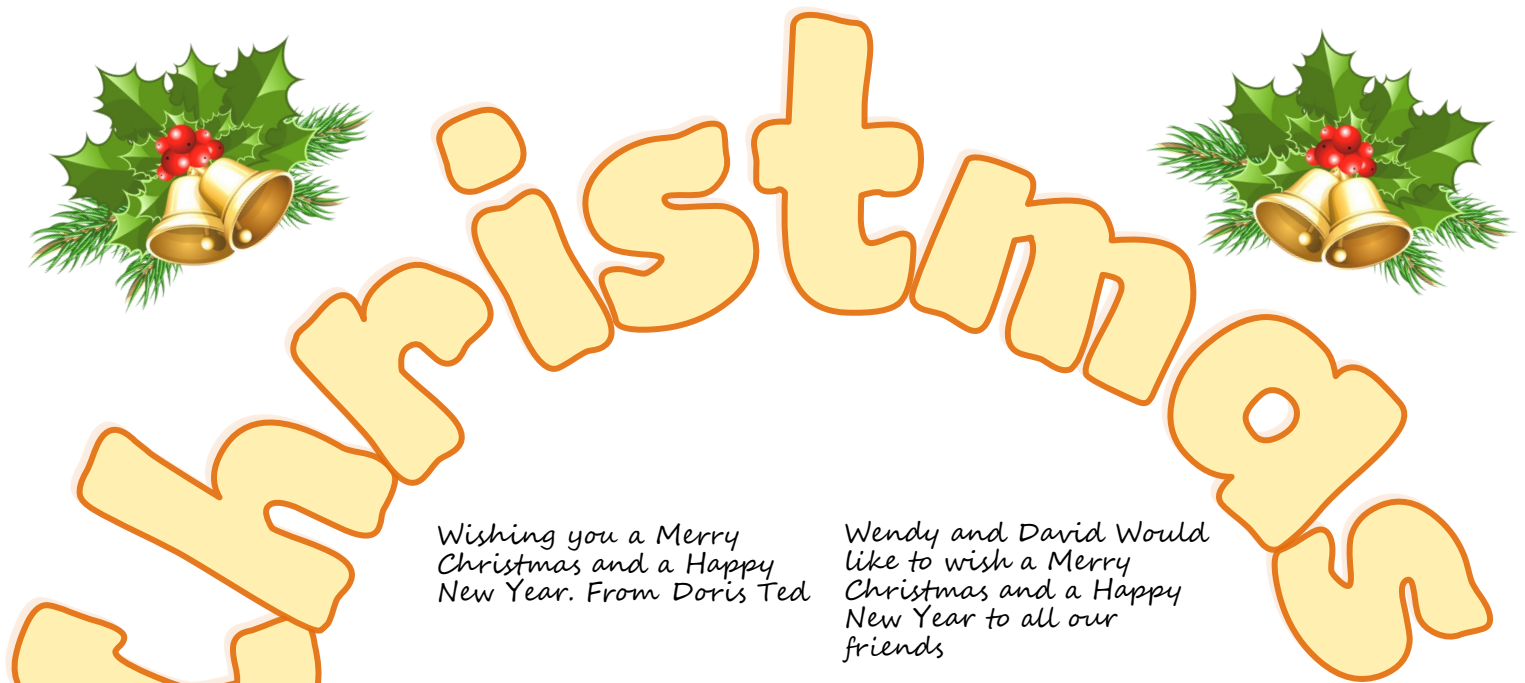
by your Local Weather Sage

*If Christmas on a Thursday be,  
A windy winter you will see,  
But summer will be fine and dry,  
And beasts and corn will multiply*









Wishing you a Merry  
Christmas and a Happy  
New Year. From Doris Ted

Wendy and David Would  
like to wish a Merry  
Christmas and a Happy  
New Year to all our  
friends

Wishing you all a Merry  
Christmas and a Happy  
and Healthy New Year.  
Graham and Peggy Warby

Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year to all my  
friends.  
Best wishes Kitty Brett

Mrs Doris (Wolsey) Rolfe  
Would like to wish all  
friends and neighbours A  
Very Happy Christmas  
and a Peaceful New Year.



The Editor and all staff would like to pass on their best wishes for  
a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to all our readers

## A Smile

Smiling is infectious, you can catch it like the flu,  
When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too.  
I passed around the corner and someone saw my grin  
When he smiled I realised, I'd passed it on to him.  
I thought about the smile and then I realised its worth,  
A single smile like mine could travel round the earth.  
So if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected,  
Let's start an epidemic quick and get the world infected.

Doug Scott





# Shaun Ginley

## Asset and Legacy Protection

### SAVINGS

There are alternatives to low Building Society Rates



We can introduce you to companies that can help protect the value of **YOUR** savings

- Interest Rates up to 12%
- Money tied up for **ONLY** 1 Year
- Income paid **MONTHLY**
- **MINIMUM INVESTMENT FROM ONLY £5,000**

 **07712 659292**

 **shaun.ginley@btinternet.com**

*Home Protection • Trusts • Wills*



MOBILE CATERING

***Freshly cooked fish & chips,  
sausages, chicken and pies.***

**Every Friday at the Dun Cow  
from 5.00 'til 8.00 pm.**

**Call 07756 170 700**

to book us for your  
party, function  
or fund raiser.



**L.W Vehicle Services**  
**Car & Commercial repairs**



Est 2003

- ~ Electrical and Mechanical Diagnostics and Repairs
- ~ MOT Preparation & Testing
- ~ Servicing and Inspections
- ~ On Site Service
- ~ Breakdown / Recovery Service
- ~ Van and Car Sales

Contact Lee on 07717 738796 Or Tel 01354 610172  
March Road, Welney



# Christchurch Art Group

Autumn Update 2017



**Please note we have had to change our meeting time to 1.30 – 3.30. We hope this new time might enable some more budding artists to come along and join us**

Our recent sessions we have been practicing easy ways to paint simple people in landscape. We have also continued with some still life using various media of choice. Most of us had a go at Chinese painting, which is different and fun to do.

Our group is friendly and relaxed. We are all enjoying the sessions and would love to welcome some more members. We have a tutor to lead us, but we all can learn as much from each other and gain in confidence. All artists have their own special style and approach so we have a lot of variety and some very good art.

We like to try various techniques and subjects.

Do contact Sandra (638478) or Jan (638217) for more information, or pop along during the session to see what we are up to. We normally meet on the **second and fourth Tuesday** of the month at 1.30 – 3.30 (term time).



## S & H Painters and Decorators

**Tel : 01354 638124**

**Mob: 07905145680**

**Steven Horne**

**Christchurch, Cambridgeshire**

# P R PARKER

Established 1978

## General Building and Maintenance

|             |               |            |
|-------------|---------------|------------|
| CARPENTRY   | REFURBISHMENT | GLAZING    |
| PLUMBING    | AND           | PAINTING   |
| PLASTERING  | RENOVATION    | DECORATING |
| BRICKLAYING |               | RENDERING  |
| ROOFING     | 01354 638380  | GUTTERING  |

## FREE ESTIMATES

**All Types - Houses - Flats - Shops - Offices**



About 50 people attended the November meeting when the theme was fashion.

The meeting started with a short business section followed by a presentation by Beryl to winners of :-  
Ten pin bowling – Jan Harper

Handmade phone case – Margaret Sparrow

'Under 30 membership' with most new members -  
Christchurch WI

Well done Jan and Margaret!

## Bonmarché

Our speaker and compere from Bon Marche fashions was Rosemary. Ten models, mostly WI members, modelled ten outfits each, consisting of day/evening/and night wear, stopping halfway to enjoy a finger buffet, followed by a raffle with many lucky winners.



Margaret Sparrow thanked Rosemary and staff for all their hard work before and during the evening.

Competition – photos of yourself in high fashion/fancy dress.

5pts, Sandra Kay.

4pts, Wendy Yates, Val Parker, Viv Haresnape, Elaine Reed-Hughes.

3pts, Peggy Warby, Anne Atkinson, Sue Norman, Sue Quail, Marion Hawthorn.

1pt, Sandra Lloyd.

**Next month** - Annual meeting

Entertainment by a Ukulele Band

Competition – favourite joke or saying.

Refreshments – Elaine & Jan

Raffle Rota – Marion, Doris Wolsey, Val & Kay.

### November Craft Club

All our members had a go at making a Christmas Stocking using felt and fur. As you can see we all had different design ideas and made some fun decorations ready for the Festive season.



Next month's meeting (Dec 5th 7pm) will be our Christmas nibble and natter night. Please will all members bring a small snack to share with the

group and any unfinished projects that you may wish to work on.

If there's time, we may make some small felt Christmas decorations.

New members always welcome.  
Contact Wendy Yates on 01354 638448.



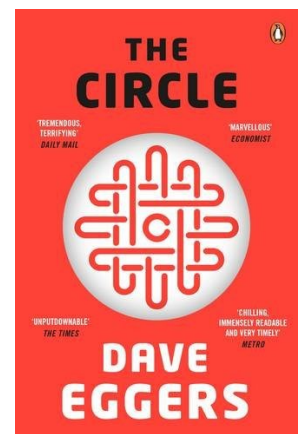
## Christchurch Book Club

Book club met on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. We had been reading 'Bridgit Jones Diary' by Helen Fielding. As usual, there was a mixed response with some very much enjoying it, while others found it repetitive!

The book for December is 'The Circle' by Dave Eggers, and our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm at Sheila's, Pear Tree farm, Padgett's Road.

New members always welcome.

For more information, contact Sheila day 07946 635908.







## Christchurch Gardening Club

### NOT SO FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD

For those of our readers not familiar with the Gardening Club, this time of year as we come to the end of our diary events, it has become something of a tradition, that we have a Fish and Chip supper. This year once again catered by Fenland Mobile Catering, took place at the Community Centre on Tuesday 21st November. As we have come to expect the food provided by Michelle and Michael was first class as were the traditional Mushy Peas and mince pies provided by Peggy Warby. There was a real warm social feel to the evening. Prizes were awarded for the plant competition which this year saw the strongest entrants so far, joint third prize was awarded to Sandra Kay and Miranda Pointer, in joint second place were Pauline Murfitt and Sheila Smart, while first prize went to Maureen Green. A game of Bingo completed the



*David picks another winner!*

evening which was filmed by the Welle Film Club for inclusion in the video being prepared for the club.

The Fish and Chips hardly had time to be digested before the members of the club were off again on a trip by coach to Gates Garden Centre and Oakham Village on Sunday 26th November.

The Garden Centre is bigger than ever this year with the addition of a brand-new Santa's Grotto which barely a month ago was a green field. The restaurant replete with several wood fires was absolutely rammed with

over an hour to wait for a table. There were very large displays of toys with whole villages created complete with skiers and a skating polar bear. The various buildings which formed the village were all for sale (although I'm not sure if they would attract stamp duty!)

As well as the toys there were many outlets available for the more mature shopper as well as the actual garden section, the coach was later groaning under the weight of the "shopping"

Most of the members elected to stay at the Garden Centre for the remainder of the day but a few hardy souls decided to make the trip to Oakham, unfortunately most of Oakham was closed!

A nearby pub was quickly found, and the gang decided to hole up there by a roaring fire. A good choice I would say. Oakham is the County Town of Rutland (once famous for the Ruffles, look it up) and close to Rutland Water. The reservoir is East Anglia's drinking water supply and home to Ospreys, bird watching, fishing and wildlife.

Oakham itself is home to the Rutland Railway Museum as well as the County Museum and Oakham Castle, and many independent shops and restaurants.

The next outing is on December 2nd when the club visit Anglesey Abbey for the Winter Lights.

I will report back next issue.

I should like to thank the members of the Committee who work so hard for the club on a

regular basis. For further information or to join the club just come along on a club night (the third Tuesday each month) or call 01354638230



*The company relax after a busy evening eating!*



# Santa Claus Quiz

Circle the right option.

What do you know about Santa Claus?

1. Where is Santa from?

- a) The UK.
- b) The North Pole.
- c) The USA.



2. What colour is his costume?

- a) It's green.
- b) It's white.
- c) It's red.



3. His boots and belt are usually ...

- a) black
- b) red
- c) brown



4. He is ...

- a) old and sad.
- b) plump and jolly.
- c) thin and greedy.



5. And he's got a ... beard.

- a) black
- b) grey
- c) white



6. He goes into your house through the ...

- a) window.
- b) chimney.
- c) front door.



7. How does he go from house to house?

- a) On a sleigh.
- b) On a horse.
- c) By car.



8. His sleigh is pulled by ... reindeer.

- a) three.
- b) six.
- c) nine.



9. ... is the most famous reindeer.

- a) Blitzen.
- b) Rudolph.
- c) Vixen.



10. Rudolph's nose is ...

- a) white.
- b) brown
- c) red.



11. What are Santa's reindeer favourite treats?

- a) Cabbage.
- b) Carrots and sugar cubes.
- c) Potatoes.



12. Santa likes eating ...

- a) chocolate.
- b) cookies.
- c) soup.



13. Santa's helpers are ...

- a) ghosts.
- b) fairies.
- c) elves.



14. What do most elves wear on the tip of their shoes?

- a) Bells.
- b) Holly.
- c) Stars.



15. Santa checks his list ...

- a) once.
- b) twice.
- c) three times.



16. Where does he carry the toys?

- a) In his pocket.
- b) In a box.
- c) In a sack.



17. He delivers the gifts on ...

- a) Christmas Eve.
- b) Christmas Day.
- c) Boxing Day.





# CHRISTCHURCH FOOD FAYRE

The Community Centre, Upwell Road, Christchurch, PE14 9LL

**Sunday 3rd December 10.00am till 4.00pm**

## LARGE RANGE OF FOOD STALLS INCLUDING:

Bramblebee Farm - fresh beef, pork, lamb, chicken, etc.

Christmas orders taken, quality seafood from  
Silver Fins of Dereham local Ciders from Churchill,  
locally grown fruit and veg from Smiths of Wisbech,  
cake stalls, shakes, pizzas, home-made confectionary  
and much, much more, Hot & Cold Refreshments,  
including, Bulgarian specials, burgers and sausages,  
plus a **"HOG ROAST"**



**Entry £2.00 including  
"LUCKY TICKET"**



# WHERE TO FIND FATHER CHRISTMAS



## SANTA'S GROTTO

**WHEN?** 9 November - 24 December

**WHERE?** Skylark Garden Centre, March Indoor sales area of the centre

Enjoy the festive spirit of Christmas at Skylark Garden Centre each weekend. Meet Father Christmas and his busy elves in his wonderful grotto. Go into the Toy Shop to choose a gift. Then enjoy a real nativity scene with live animals!

**£14.99** [www.skylark-events.co.uk/christmas](http://www.skylark-events.co.uk/christmas)

## SANTA'S AT WYEVALE GARDEN CENTRE

**WHEN?** 18 November - 24 December

**WHERE?** Huntingdon

Take your little diggers along to visit Santa's Grotto at weekends in November and throughout December. They can also join him for breakfast or tea and decorate a festive biscuit, plus gift. With trees and shopping too, there's every reason to visit! Booking recommended.

[www.wyevalegardencentres.co.uk](http://www.wyevalegardencentres.co.uk)

## THE ELF EXPRESS

**WHEN?** 19 November - 24 December

**WHERE?** Scotsdales, Great Shelford

With the help of the Christmas Elves and Rudolph you will be transported to a magical winter wonderland with the chance to meet and have your photo taken with Father Christmas himself.

**Pre-booking recommended. Child £10; Adult £4**

[www.scotsdalegardencentre.co.uk](http://www.scotsdalegardencentre.co.uk)

## SANTA AND REAL REINDEER

**WHEN?** 26 November - 23 December

**WHERE?** Twenty Pence Garden Centre, Ely

Real reindeer all day 2 December only. Santa will be in his grotto at weekends plus extra dates closer to Christmas. Christmas donkeys on 9 December; to feed or ride! Some days drop-in others need to be booked. Check website for other events, such as breakfast with Santa or tea with Pirates! **£6**

[www.twentypence.co.uk](http://www.twentypence.co.uk)

## FATHER CHRISTMAS AT CHURCH FARM

**WHEN?** 30 November - 23 December

**WHERE?** Stowbardolph Nr Downham Market

Thursday - Sunday and 18-23 December. Father Christmas will be in his magical woodland retreat; no need to book, just turn up for a warm welcome from the white bearded gentleman and his elf. Visit the 'real life' nativity scene with resident animals in starring roles!

**Child £9.50 01366 382162**

[www.churchfarmstowbardolph.co.uk](http://www.churchfarmstowbardolph.co.uk)

## SANTA SPECIALS

**WHEN?** 25 November - 24 December

**WHERE?** Nene Valley Railway, Stibbington. From £14.00

Arrive an hour early to meet Father Christmas in his log cabin, where each child receives a special present. Then join train for a 50 minute ride to Peterborough and back. Children enjoy a drink and chocolates. Adults receive a mince pie with drink. Booking essential.

**01780 784444** [www.nvr.org.uk](http://www.nvr.org.uk)

## SANTA SPECIALS

**WHEN?** 3, 9, 10, 16 December

**WHERE?** Fenland Light Railway, Ramsey-Mereside

Enjoy a train ride round the track, then visit Santa in his grotto to collect a present. Take the train back and enjoy seasonal refreshments. Booking essential.

**£7.20 per child (one adult free)**

[www.fenlandlightrailway.co.uk](http://www.fenlandlightrailway.co.uk)

## A MAGICAL CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE

**WHEN?** 25 November - 24 December

**WHERE?** Audley End Miniature Railway

Take the Santa Express deep into the woods of the Audley End Estate where you will arrive at Father Christmas's Winter Wonderland! You will meet the big man himself, along with his VERY cheeky Elves, receive a special gift and also watch a crazy Christmas Dance!

**From £10**

[www.audley-end-railway.co.uk](http://www.audley-end-railway.co.uk)

## AN AUDIENCE WITH FATHER CHRISTMAS

**WHEN?** 25 November - 23 December

**WHERE?** Audley End House and Gardens, Saffron Walden

Join in the festive fun and meet Father Christmas at weekends as he tells tales of Christmas past amidst the yuletide decorations. Lucky visitors will even get a festive treat!

24 December

[www.english-heritage.org.uk/audley](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/audley) 0370 333 1181

## SANTA'S GROTTO, BRAMPTON

**WHEN?** 2 - 24 December

**WHERE?** Frosts Garden Centre

Enter Santa's magical wonderland, sing with his bashful elves and then make some reindeer food ready to sprinkle on Christmas Eve. The adventure continues into Santa's living room where you will listen to an enchanted story read by Santa himself. Chance for photo too. Booking recommended.

**Child £13.99; Adult £4.99**

[www.frostsgardencentre.co.uk](http://www.frostsgardencentre.co.uk)

## CHRISTMAS GROTTO

**WHEN?** December weekends

**WHERE?** Shepreth Wildlife Park

Father Christmas and his merry elves will be spreading cheer and giving out presents! Each child will have 5 minutes with Father Christmas and receive a special gift.

**From £8.95**

[www.sheprethwildlifepark.co.uk](http://www.sheprethwildlifepark.co.uk)

## SANTA AT SACREWELL

**WHEN?** 24 December

**WHERE?** Sacrewell Farm, Peterborough

Each Santa visit includes a present for the children and Christmas themed crafts. Other activities including Christmas crafts, tractor rides around the farm and marshmallow roasting by the campfire are also taking place. Also an opportunity to take breakfast with Santa!

**Pre-bookings only, from £7.50**

[www.sacrewell.org.uk/events/christmas-at-sacrewell/](http://www.sacrewell.org.uk/events/christmas-at-sacrewell/)





## Supporting your local Swimming Pools

Reasons why your child should learn to swim are many and varied. You need to give your child the chance to learn to swim. The most important reason is that swimming is the only sport which can save your child's life.

Drowning is still one of the most common causes of accidental death in children, so being able to swim is an essential life-saving skill. We hear time and time again (see previous issues of the Heron) of cars veering off into the waters of the Fenland. Learning or improving your swimming techniques can save your life and others. It might be the coldest time of the year, but it's the best time to go and visit your local pool. Swimming also has many other benefits especially for parents:

- Swimming keeps your child's heart and lungs healthy, improves strength and flexibility, increases stamina and even improves balance and posture.

- Swimming provides challenges and rewards accomplishments, which helps children to become self-confident and believe in their abilities.
- Your child will have plenty of opportunities to make friends and grow in confidence.

But health, fun, and confidence are not the only reasons why your child should learn to swim. Learning to swim also opens up the door to a range of other activities.

A few sports your child can only do if they can swim:

- Kayaking, Canoeing, Scuba diving, Surfing, Triathlon, Yachting.

Learning to swim is a skill that once learnt is rarely forgotten and it is open to people of all ages.

**George Campbell Centre:**  
City Road, March PE15 9LT

**Hudson Centre:**  
Harecroft Road, Wisbech PE13 1RL

## Do you fancy writing an article for the youth page!

If you have anything to share whether it's a hobby, local news, sport, or running a column dedicated to fashion, maybe a monthly astrology. Please send your articles to .....

*Lets make the Heron more interesting to the youth of Christchurch.*

## SANTA SPECIALS

25th November to 24th December 2017

### Early bird bookings

Let your festivities begin with Santa at the Nene Valley Railway where the whole family will enjoy themselves on this Christmas outing. Get the dates you want - BOOK IT and look forward to it.

**Visit: [www.nvr.org.uk](http://www.nvr.org.uk)**

Nene Valley Railway Ltd, Wansford Station,  
Stibbington, Peterborough PE8 6LR




Extra special  
group discounts  
available on  
Wednesdays  
Call **01780 784444**  
for full details




# CHRISTMAS DINNER CHEATS FOR CANNY COOKS:


Every year, 15 million women try to avoid cooking the big Christmas meal -a fact that becomes less surprising when you hear that the average time it takes to prepare dinner on December 25 is a staggering nine hours. Save yourself a merry meltdown in the kitchen with our festive shortcuts.


- some ideas lifted from Richard Hughes' book School Dinners

 Check your turkey fits in your oven BEFORE Christmas Day. And before you buy a big bird to rival Sesame Street's, think about how much turkey meat you need: do people in your household really love turkey sandwiches/curry/fritters/soup/salad/bake/pie/stroganoff? And even if they do, do they still love eating turkey-based fare when they've faced it for five straight days on the trot?


 On Christmas Eve, prepare and blanch your vegetables. Then, pull a proper magic trick out of the hat: put the turkey legs, stock, a little wine and some herbs in a slow cooker and leave to simmer overnight - bingo, ready-made gravy for the morning.

 If possible, lay the table the morning or night before you're serving Christmas dinner. The best ploy is to employ child labour, using vague threats about Father Christmas only visiting households where the offspring have helped with cutlery and tablecloths (although be warned: only rare children adhere to the Elle Decoration guidelines for setting tables. Do not be surprised if half your spoons are on the floor).


 Is there any reason that you have to eat at lunchtime? Wouldn't it be more civilised to eat at dinner or later in the afternoon? The longer you have to cook, the less stressed you will feel and the less rushed the whole event will be. As an added bonus, your guests may be drunker than usual which will hide a multitude of sins on the plate.

 Choose a starter that doesn't require the use of an oven (smoked salmon with prawns and horseradish cream is a winner) and a dessert that can be served straight from the fridge or quickly warmed up in a matter of minutes (Arctic Roll? Angel Delight? Only kidding). This will save you time and oven-space.

 What will save you even more time and oven-space is not having a starter at all. Controversial - to everyone apart from the cook.

 Do not serve generous helping of self-deprecation with your meal: you may be your worst critic but don't start making apologies before your guests have sunk their teeth into your (possibly burnt) offerings. So what if the turkey is dry? What do people think gravy is FOR?

 There is a reason why Marks and Spencer's best-seller at Christmas is ready-made sausages wrapped in bacon: have no shame in passing off pre-prepared food as your own. Dust icing sugar over bought mince-pies, add a flourish of home-made brandy butter to a shop-bought Christmas pudding, revel in the fact that clever manufacturers are now purposefully making their festive fare look a little bit amateurish to make it easier to pretend you made it from scratch. Tis the season to be sneaky.

 Keep saying the Christmas Day Mantra over and over to yourself until it feels like the truth or until you are led away to have a lie-down in a darkened room: This is just a glorified Sunday Roast. This is just a glorified Sunday Roast. Note: this mantra is far more effective if every time you utter it you have a very large glass of wine.





# A.R. CLINGO

## FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Family Independent  
Business

Private Chapel of Rest

Personal Attention

24 Hour Service

*Full estimates given at all times*

Golden Charter  
Funeral Plans



Pinfold House  
St. Peter's Road  
Upwell, Wisbech  
Phone 01945 772502

## BUILDING DECONSTRUCTION

Buildings bought and all materials recycled/  
upcycled

Pre 1930s preferred  
but all buildings considered  
from barns to cottages

including site clearance

FREE QUOTATIONS GIVEN

We have a large number of salvaged  
ARCHITECTURAL ITEMS FOR SALE

Bricks & other building materials,  
roof trusses etc.

Firewood, plants, and hanging baskets

COME IN AND SEE US

AND HAVE A BROWSE!

Call Matt or Sarah Lawrence on  
Tel: 01354 638977 or, Mobile: 07856 291787  
Toll Farm, Ha-Penny Toll Road,  
Three Holes, Norfolk,  
PE14 9LJ  
Email: [buildingdeconstruction@yahoo.com](mailto:buildingdeconstruction@yahoo.com)

## CHRISTCHURCH ELECTRICAL

Simon Freeland Hill Farm, 3 Church  
Road, Christchurch, PE14 9PQ

Tel: 01354 638802    Mobile: 07727 046439



**STROMA**<sup>®</sup>  
CERTIFICATION  
CERTIFIED INSTALLER

Domestic electrical work undertaken.  
No job too small.  
Free quotations / estimates.



[www.electricalcompetentperson.co.uk](http://www.electricalcompetentperson.co.uk)

[www.electricalsafetyregister.com](http://www.electricalsafetyregister.com)



March Stationery & Print

Booklet Printing  
Business Cards  
Digital Photos  
Leaflets  
Newsletters  
Banners

**01354 656614**

[sales@marchsp.co.uk](mailto:sales@marchsp.co.uk)

5 Fenland Walk, March, PE15 8TW



## Do you want superfast broadband but can't get it yet? Tell us!

The Connecting Cambridgeshire programme, led by Cambridgeshire County Council, is bringing superfast broadband access to as many homes and businesses as possible that could not get it otherwise.

The superfast broadband rollout has now reached over 95% of the county and is aiming for 99% coverage by 2020. Most premises can upgrade to faster fibre services with their chosen provider, and thousands more will be covered in the next phase of the rollout from 2017-2019.

Planning is now underway to fill remaining gaps in coverage, and telecoms providers are being formally consulted about their plans for delivering superfast broadband in order to map the revised intervention area.



To support this, householders and businesses, who want superfast broadband but cannot access it yet, are being asked to help to confirm postcode mapping and show the strength of demand for faster connectivity.

- Use the [postcode checker](#) to check current or planned superfast broadband coverage in your postcode area, and find out how to upgrade or improve your broadband speeds.
- Fill in the [Broadband Demand Survey](#) if the postcode checker shows that your area is in scope for future phases of the rollout, or tell Connecting Cambridgeshire if the status given does not reflect your situation.
- Businesses in rural areas can also help show the demand for better digital connectivity by completing Connecting Cambridgeshire's [Broadband Connectivity Survey](#).
- For more information, please email [contact@connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk](mailto:contact@connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk) or call 01223 703293.

---

## TOP TRUMPS! - this tells us all we need to know!

The word '**trump**' has many different meanings. In the light of the current US Presidency, (What? No impeachment yet!) it's amazing how appropriate some of those dictionary definitions are:

**trump**<sup>1</sup> to deceive, **trumpery** showy and worthless stuff

**trump**<sup>2</sup> a blast, associated with elephants, or another word for a blast of air from between one's legs, spouting of hot-air, i.e. empty words

**trump**<sup>3</sup> an advantageous or victorious expedient, as in trump-card, to play a trump-card instead of following suit, overpowering, often unfairly

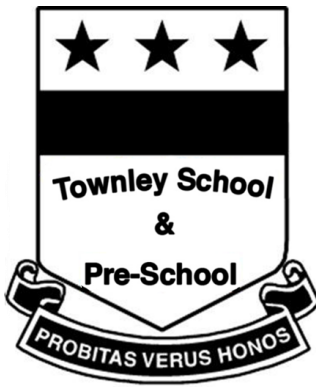
**trump**<sup>4</sup> an obstruction cast in one's way, to cast an obstruction, to allege, to concoct and put forward unscrupulously

As if that wasn't enough, an old English word, lost since the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, recently reared its head again:

**betrumper** meaning to deceive or cheat

Language experts, following an overwhelming vote, will submit **betrumper** to the editors of the Oxford English Dictionary in the hope that it could be included again, having been out in the cold for so long. Clearly, it has become more relevant today as supported by the public vote. Top that Mr. Trump!





## TOWNLEY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL

Christchurch, Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 9NA

Email: [office@townley.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@townley.cambs.sch.uk)

Website: [www.townleyschool.org.uk](http://www.townleyschool.org.uk)

Tel/Fax: 01354 638229

### Race for Life

The children all took part in the Race for Life, in aid of Cancer Research on 2nd November. So far we have received over £600 worth of sponsorship money! We would like to thank everyone who supported this event.



### Dog Poo

We are really sad to report that the dog fouling seems to have started again. We have had two very upset children this week who have trodden in poo on their way to school. Please be a responsible dog owner and clear up after your dog.



### Remembrance

We went to the war memorial at the Church and held a service of remembrance. We hope you noticed our poppies.



**Children in Need**

We raised £96!

**Diary Dates** — 13th December—2pm  
Christmas Play (Tickets to be ordered from the school office)

18th December -5.30pm Christingle at Church.

# Jazz Club

RWBG

Last month we had the Alan Norris Big Band and a great write up from Steve. Sadly, we didn't have the space for any photos, though I did take quite a few. Steve's off on the Gardening Club trip today (26th Nov) so it falls to me to do this month's write up. How to follow the fantastic Alan Norris ensemble you may well ask. Well Nigel did not disappoint us with the amazingly talented Rhythm Section; featuring the great Len Skeet on bass, Mike Smith on drums, Nick Dawson on piano, and Colin Oxley on guitar. The incomparable Len Skeet! – that doesn't mean he's a lousy compare! – quite the opposite! Len of course was the boss, the master, the gov'nor; just an almost imperceptible nod at an appropriate moment to bring the others in on cue. I'm sure he'd do well bidding secretly at an auction! Having said that, with such a musical rapport between them they were nodding solos back and forth between them all the while in a fantastic first half. Nick Dawson, an amazing talent, with great vocal stylings and a wonderfully versatile voice, made his keyboard sound so perfectly piano. He has been MD of Mama Mia in the West End and is a real virtuoso on the keys too! He has worked with Mike Smith professionally on numerous occasions in the past and they clearly have a great musical connection. Mike, like a metronome, but much more interesting, along with Len, welded the quartet together. He wore a permanently happy smile, clearly enjoying the others' musicianship. But then he was hanging around with some great musicians!

LOL With a great golden Gretsch kit, formerly of the Radio Big Band, he slipped from brushes to sticks and back again imperceptibly. No wonder he's kept busy by Dame Shirley Bassey. Colin Oxley of The John Wilson Orchestra delighted us with clean arpeggios and great fretboard dexterity. His other hand's not bad either! A real marvel!



By the second half they were enjoying each other's playing even more, and the boys done good! Smiles all around as they knew they were performing at the top of their game. Nodding to each other to bring each other in for some amazing individual solo performances. Dazzling! Totally with each other, on the same wavelength, anticipating each other's next move, and totally 'in the zone!' Thumbs up to each other, thanking and congratulating each other, in appreciation of each other's musicianship. They obviously really enjoyed each other's playing and were a perfect meld. Took it to another level by the end of the set. What a way to finish the Club year! Well done Nigel



Removals & House Clearance  
Garages, Sheds & Attics Emptied  
Single Items to Full House  
Antiques & Modern Taken  
Light Removals  
Valuations Given  
Best Cash Prices Paid

THE GRANARY STUDIO  
Christchurch

Contemporary pictures  
and bespoke framing

01354 638614  
tgs@granarystudio.uk  
www.granarystudio.uk

Call for no obligation quote  
**01354 638178**



Maximise the enjoyment of  
your home  
with the professional help of

## **Brimstone**

**Garden Design Services**

in association with

## **SFC Services**

**Design Development Maintenance**  
**Hard and Soft Landscaping**  
**Household Repairs and Building Maintenance**

for free estimates, contact either

**Cliff 01354 638217 or 078 080 78518**

**cliff@brimstonegardendesign.com**

or

**Steve 01354 638964 or 07725 866445**

**sfclifford67@gmail.com**

## *Creative Cakes*

*by Karen*

Locally made

Bespoke cakes & cupcakes for  
all occasions - made to order  
Including gluten free and  
lactose free  
Delivered locally

contact for designs & prices

**01354 638763 - 07939470027**



creative cakes by Karen



**Paul Braybrooke**

## ***Oil Fired Boiler Engineer***

**Boiler Servicing & Breakdown Service**

**Commissions**  
**Tank Replacements**

**Phone 01353 777788**  
**07946 735691**



## J. Mallett Carpentry

All types of carpentry work undertaken including doors, laminate flooring, kitchens.

Contact Jonathan Mallett

t. 01354 638656

m. 07581 368725

jmallettcarpentry@hotmail.co.uk

[www.facebook.com/jmallettcarpentry](http://www.facebook.com/jmallettcarpentry)

[www.tackk.com/jmallettcarpentry](http://www.tackk.com/jmallettcarpentry)

## BRIAN TWEED & SON LTD

Family Butcher  
Town Street, Upwell.

**Tel: 01945 773248**

Fresh beef, pork, lamb and poultry.  
Our specialities are home made  
sausages and burgers.  
Home cooked ham, roast beef,  
roast pork and haslets.

## SANDRA KAY

SOFT FURNISHINGS & CURTAINS

HAND MADE (your own fabrics)

01354 638478

## Upwell Computer Repairs

Virus Removal - Upgrades - System Service -  
New Machine setups - Wireless setups -  
Printer setups - Call out repairs

Phone - 01945 772717/07849 778525

E-mail - [upwellcomputerrepairs@gmail.com](mailto:upwellcomputerrepairs@gmail.com)

## A JONES & SON

TELEVISION SALES/REPAIRS/INSTALLATION

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

FIRST CLASS AERIAL INSTALLATIONS/ADDITIONAL POINTS

26 March Road, Wimblington, March, Cambs PE15 0RN

Tel: 01354 740320

CLOSED ALL DAY TUESDAYS

## Beauty Treatments

By  
**Jane**

N.V.Q. – i.b.d. – Babcac

LCN Microdermabrasion Facials  
NEW Oxygen regeneration Facials - less  
outlay than Botox (a celebrity favourite)  
NEW Non-surgical firming lift and tone  
St.Tropez Spray tanning  
Gel pedicures  
Shellac manicures  
Week-end & semi permanent  
eyelashes

Rose Cottage,  
Christchurch  
Telephone: 01354 638378



## FENLAND LEISURE PRODUCTS PLAY SOLUTIONS SCHOOLS, PARKS & LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Designing and manufacturing  
play equipment in the UK for  
over 21 years specialising in:

- Multiplay Towers
- Net Play
- Aerial Runway
- Outdoor Gyms
- Roundabouts & Seesaws
- Spring Rockers
- Slides
- Trim Trails
- BMX & Mountain Bike Tracks
- Seats & Bins
- Fencing
- Surfacing Solutions
- Bespoke Build Service



[www.fenandleisure.co.uk](http://www.fenandleisure.co.uk)

Tel: 01354 638359 Email: [sales@fenandleisure.co.uk](mailto:sales@fenandleisure.co.uk)



# Fears of Worst Flu Season in History

The NHS is braced for the worst flu season in its history, amid fears that overcrowded hospitals will be unable to cope. Simon Stevens said Australia and New Zealand had a "heavy flu season" over their recent winter with many hospitals struggling to deal with demand. He said scientists would re-examine vaccines amid fears that the current jabs may not hold off the infections. For almost a decade the NHS has escaped a heavy flu season, with the last pandemic in 2009.

Free flu jabs are offered to all over 65s, pregnant women, young children, those with long-term conditions such as asthma and all frontline NHS staff.

The children's flu vaccine is offered as a yearly nasal spray. The vaccine is available free for eligible children, including: children aged two and three; children in reception and school years one, two, three and four (though in some parts of the country, all primary school-aged children will

be offered the vaccine), and children aged 2 to 17 with long-term health conditions. Over the next few years the programme will gradually be extended to include older children.

Your child's GP or school should contact you about getting your child vaccinated before the winter. If you haven't heard from your GP by early November 2017, contact them directly.

**The best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated** each year, but good health habits can help stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses like the flu.

#### **1. Avoid close contact**

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

#### **2. Stay home when you are sick**

If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick to prevent risk of spread.

#### **3. Cover your mouth and nose**

When coughing or sneezing use a tissue.



#### **4. Clean your hands**

Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs.

#### **5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth**

Germs are often spread when person touches something that is contaminated with them, then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.

#### **6. Practice other good health habits**

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

# MAJESTIC

WINDOWS . DOORS . ROOFING

BI - FOLDS . CARPENTRY

CONSERVATORIES

COMPOSITE DOORS

HOUSE RENOVATIONS

GARAGE CONVERSIONS

FASCIA, SOFFIT, GUTTERS

FREE QUOTATIONS AVAILABLE

MIDDLE-MASS@LIVE.CO.UK

MOBILE : 07875 745125

OFFICE : 01354 461172

MARCH, CAMBS

# Runny Eggs - Back on the Menu - from Families Cambridgeshire

Pregnant women, babies and elderly people can now enjoy dipped eggs again for the first time since the 1980s - as long as they have the British Lion mark. The Food Standards Agency (FSA) changed its advice in October 2017 on eggs, confirming that British Lion eggs are safe to be eaten runny, and even raw, by vulnerable groups such as infants, children, pregnant women and elderly people. These groups can now enjoy the nutritional benefits of eggs, without having to fully cook them. The new advice follows a year-long risk assessment by the Advisory Committee on the Microbiological Safety of Food and is the result of extensive food safety measures introduced within the British Lion Code of Practice since its launch in 1998.

Andrew Joret, chairman of the British Egg Industry Council, which runs the British Lion scheme, welcomed the new advice: "This is a real success story for the UK egg industry. Our producers have maintained the highest standards for two decades to ensure the superior safety of British Lion eggs and we are delighted that FSA has now confirmed that these eggs are safe enough for even vulnerable groups to eat runny or even raw. "We know that the

previous advice has deterred many women from eating eggs when pregnant, and from giving them to their babies, as well as denying older people the pleasure and nutritional benefits of a 'dippy egg' and home-made mousses and mayonnaise. ' Heather Hancock, Chairman of the Food Standards Agency, said: "The major reduction in the risk of salmonella in Lion eggs is testament to the work carried out by egg producers. The measures they've taken, from vaccination of hens through to improving hygiene on farms and better transportation, have dramatically reduced salmonella levels in UK hens.' Dr Juliet Gray, registered nutritionist, said: "The new advice is very

welcome news. Eggs are highly nutritious, containing many key nutrients including high quality protein, vitamin D, selenium, iodine, choline and omega-3 fatty acids. These nutrients are particularly important for many vulnerable groups, including pregnant women, babies and elderly people and several of them are not found in many other foods.



## FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL - GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE 2018/19



Fenland District Council has just announced that they have been able to keep the subscription fee the same as last year and continue to offer a 10% discount for payments by Direct Debit when purchased early.

All annual direct debits taken for the 2018 season will be taken at £36 per subscription for each brown bin.

If you have a valid Direct Debit in place you need take no further action. Your payment will be taken on 1st February 2018. This will allow time for the subscription sticker(s) to be printed and delivered.

For some customers this will mean a change from your previous payment date and amount where

other charges were raised initially, such as new bin deliveries.

As always, where there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit we will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited.

More information about the Garden Waste Service, including the Terms and Conditions and Frequently Asked Questions, is available on the council website at [www.fenland.gov.uk/gardenwaste](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/gardenwaste)

If you have any further questions please contact us at [gardenwaste@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:gardenwaste@fenland.gov.uk) or call 01354 654321





In Loving Memory of



Mary Florence Irene Rolf

The dearly loved wife  
of the late Jack Rolfe.  
A beloved Sister and Auntie  
who passed away peacefully  
on Monday 30th October 2017  
Aged 95 years  
A true village stalwart always with  
a happy and jovial disposition



- |    |   |     |   |
|----|---|-----|---|
| 9. | b | 17. | a |
| 8. | c | 16. | c |
| 7. | a | 15. | b |
| 6. | b | 14. | a |
| 5. | c | 13. | c |
| 4. | b | 12. | b |
| 3. | a | 11. | b |
| 2. | c | 10. | c |
| 1. | b |     |   |
- Santa Clause Quiz - The Answers

Our thoughts and prayers are  
with recently bereaved  
families this festive season.

Peter Michael Knight

much loved villager  
passed away peacefully in his sleep after a long illness



5<sup>th</sup> September 1944 – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
Beloved husband of Shirley, Father, Grandfather, and brother,  
falconer and dog lover, who will be much missed by all.

Small Personal Ads For Sale or Wanted

Free to local residents and contributors

FOR SALE

Qashqai rubber boot liner 2014 model,  
cost £65 new - £25 ONO 01354 638478

FOR SALE

His & Hers adult bikes for sale



£45 each ono.

01354 638989 or 0788 068 4568

# Useful Telephone Numbers

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Age UK Cambridgeshire                    | 0300 6669860      |
| Alzheimer's Society (Fenland)            | 01945 580480      |
| Anglian Water – Susan Bull               | 08457 145 145 101 |
| Christchurch Resident's Association      | 01354 638990      |
| Churchwarden - Mrs. D. Symons            | 01354 638352      |
| Citizens' Advice Bureau, Wisbech         | 01945 464367      |
| Community Car Scheme (to book a journey) | 07902 316360      |
| Community Centre bookings                | 01354 638478      |
| Community Fire Safety Officer            | 07717858166       |
| District Councillor - Will Sutton        | 01354 638025      |
| District Councillor - Michelle Tanfield  | 07908 707129      |
| Electricity Faults - UK Power Networks   | 105               |
| FACT                                     | 01354 661234      |
| Fenland District Council                 | 01354 654321      |
| Floodline                                | 0845 988 1188     |
| Library - March                          | 0354 0455225      |
| National Debtline                        | 0808 808 4000     |
| Norfolk Dial-a-Ride                      | 01553 770310      |
| Parish Clerk - Jane Rees                 | 01354 638131      |
| Parish Councillor - Jill Bliss           | 01354 638343      |
| Parish Councillor - William Beswick      | 01354 638758      |
| Parish Councillor - Roger Gladwin        | 01354 638538      |
| Parish Councillor - Geoff Harper         | 01354 638681      |
| Parish Councillor - James Hughes         | 01354 638310      |
| Parish Councillor - Peter Owen (Chair)   | 01354 638847      |
| Parish Councillor - Nigel Russell        | 01354 638279      |
| Police - PCSO Sue Clarke                 | 07738025220       |
| Police - Emergency                       | 999               |
| Police - Non Emergency                   | 101               |
| Telephone Complaints                     | 0345 145000       |
| Townley School                           | 01354 638229      |
| Trading Standards                        | 845040506         |
| Train Information                        | 08457 484950      |
| Upwell Health Centre (and out of hours)  | 01945 773671      |
| Upwell Health Centre - Pharmacy          | 01945 774934      |
| Vicars - Ian & Lynda Brady               | 01354 740627      |
| Water Emergencies                        | 08457 145145      |

| Club Contacts                     |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Art Club - Jan Clifford           | 01354 638217 |
| Book Club - Sheila Day            | 07946 635908 |
| Craft Club - Wendy Yates          | 01354 638448 |
| Gardening Club - Marion Hawthorne | 01354 638230 |
| Short Mat Bowls Club - Wendy      | 01945 772737 |
| WI - Peggy Warby                  | 01354 638339 |

## Neighbourhood Watch

|                                      |              |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Colin Steenson - Church Rd (East)    | 01354 638664 |
| Sandra Kay - Crown Rd                | 01354 638478 |
| Peter Knight - Church Rd (West)      | 01354 638779 |
| David Yates - Church Rd (West)       | 01354 638448 |
| Julian Swallow - Upwell Rd (North)   | 01354 638679 |
| Jackie Wood - Upwell Rd (North)      | 01354 638679 |
| Simon Freeland - Upwell Rd (South)   | 01354 638802 |
| Richard Guilford - Area Co-ordinator | 01354 638990 |
| David Harrowing - District Co-ord.   | 01945 870963 |

## And Finally...

So! Depending on when you're actually reading this? You're looking forward to the Food Fayre this coming Sunday 3rd December, you'll have enjoyed the Food Fayre, you're just off to do your Christmas shopping, you've just finished your Christmas shopping, you're looking forwards to the mulled wine at the Carol Service on Sunday 17th at 3.30pm, or, maybe, it's Christmas Eve and you are finally sitting down with a glass of your own mulled wine having completed all your preparations, looking forward to Christmas Morning, and wondering if you managed to actually get yourself off Santa's naughty list this year!?



Happy Christmas one and all!

See you next year! – Ed’.

Web links in the Heron are active when viewed in our online version [www.theheron.info](http://www.theheron.info)



# CHRISTCHURCH WALKS!

## PART ONE

PUBLIC BYWAY

### It was cold admittedly, but where was everyone?

The sun was shining, a bright sunny day and two degrees Celsius. It was lunchtime Sunday afternoon 26th November and not a mouse stirred or a dog barked. The village was silent! Not been long in the village and I am a keen walker, after talking to villagers over the past few months who take their dogs for walks they do not go too far! Why? I ask, because there really aren't any walks in and around Christchurch unless you walk along the public bridleway West to March or East along Green Lane to Tips End, only other option is to drive out of the village.

So it was time to find an interesting walk that could be possible? A walk that will take in the surrounding country side and the river (or is that a drain?) I'll call it the Christchurch River Walk.

### The Walk Starting at the 'Un Cow Pub

Taking the short walk to the Pub, from

here we will walk approximately four miles in total, but in Part One we will concentrate on the first mile.

Heading from the 'Un Cow Pub North West along Upwell Road to the fork in the road I arrive at the deserted Bus Shelter, even the bin was empty! Do buses go through Christchurch Village or is this just a tourist attraction.

Taking the left fork into Crown Road we pass Townley School, one place to be expected to be quiet at weekends, but where are the children at weekends?

I hear a noise! There's a man in his garden to the left trying to cut down a large stemmed tree with a large electric Garden Strimmer.

Not long, before I pass the field behind the new village Community Centre. Tumbleweed rushes across the football pitch in the cool dry breeze, the shutters on the hall are closed, I hear a squeak! I look over into the distance, a swing moves to-and-fro. Sadly, an empty playground.

It's not long before I am out of the Village, Crown Road now turns into a Bridle Path and I feel the walk is starting to take shape. A runner passes... "Afternoon..." she stops, a lady of retirement age I guess. "I think I'm lost, I'm the last one" she says with map in hand and drink in the other. "Where are you from and where are you going" I ask? "From March to Welney" she Answers "You're on the right track" I added. At that point she just looked ahead and kept jogging.

It can't have been a few minutes more two more joggers pass, either the last lady wasn't the last one or these two were in a different event! (Pic shows runners carrying a Telegraph Pole... lol)

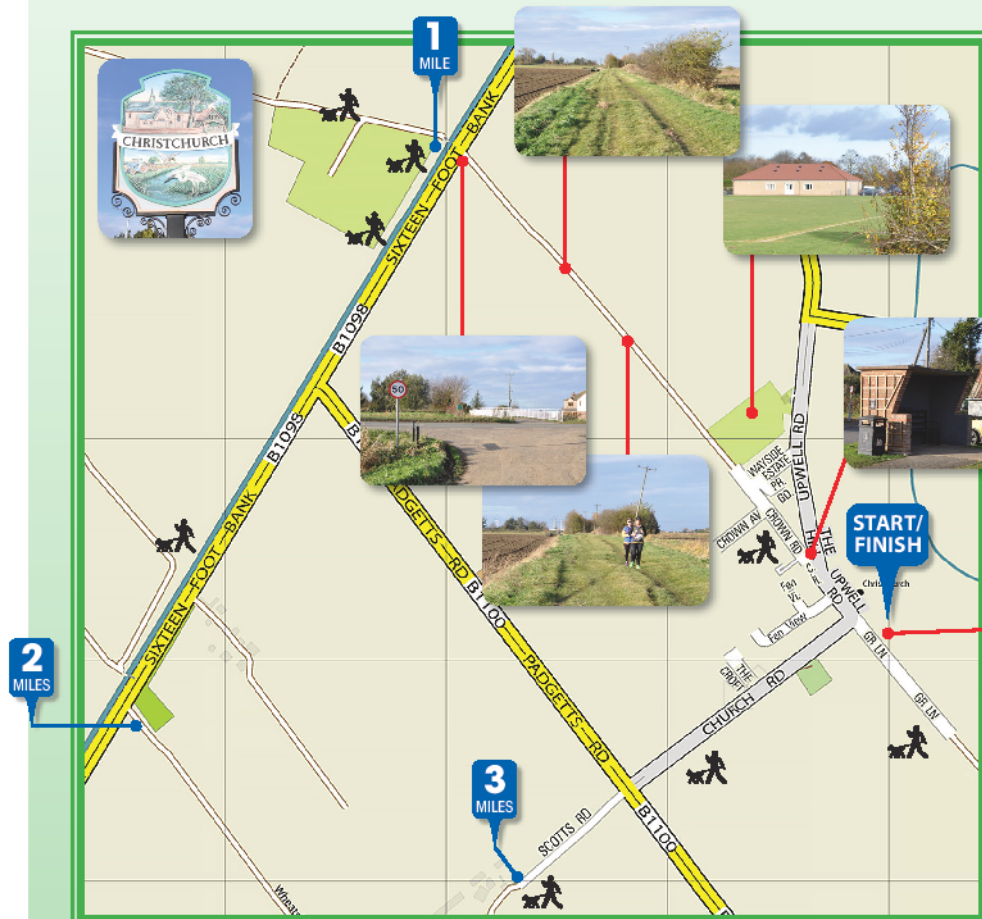
Nearing the end of 'Part One of the Christchurch River Walk' we come to the end of the Public Bridleway, crossing the B1098 the Sixteen Foot Bank. As I cross the road, just the odd car passed at high speed 50-70mph easily, I head over the road and on to the cast iron white bridge, the views here are spectacular looking up and down the river. As I walk over and look to my left this is where our journey ends, blocked by bins and large shrubs.

In the next issue I will take you along the River path, there is a short way and the quick way.

Also in Part Two, the River brings some signs into question at both ends.

Hopefully this is where the Christchurch Parish Council can give more details on rights-of-way. Until the next Magazine, Happy Christmas.

Regards Avid Reader.



Please remember your Countryside Code, **Respect - Protect - Enjoy**

 **KEEP DOGS ON LEAD AT THESE POINTS**





# AFC CHRISTCHURCH

## 2017-2018 SEASON



### AFC Christchurch The Magpies Fenstanton Reserves

#### Saturday 28th October report.

The wind proved to be against The Magpies in the first half. Fenstanton Reserves opened the scoring in the first ten minutes. The Magpies scored soon after followed by another Fenstanton Reserves goal. The Magpies were awarded a penalty and Jimmy Boxall took advantage with a fantastic shot. Fenstanton Reserves scored another goal just before half time. The revitalised Magpies came out in the second half, there was no holding them back. Taking advantage of the windy conditions they came out eventual winners 6 - 3. Leaving us at the top of the league table.

### AFC Christchurch The Magpies St Ives Rangers Reserves

#### Saturday 4th November report.

The weather matched the mood overcast and miserable. The refereeing was questionable and not allowing the game to flow so things got a bit tense as play continued, with two Magpie players receiving red cards the Magpies went down 8 - 2. Red cards were the name of the game with St. Ives having their goalie sent

6 off in the dying few minutes. The  
3 Magpies didn't deserve such a big loss but the remaining nine men battled hard against a team lacking in any sportsmanship.

### AFC Christchurch The Magpies Wicken First

#### Saturday 11th November report.

After a respectful two minutes silence The Magpies took the lead scoring in the first eleven minutes. Unfortunately with two regular players missing Wicken took advantage and scored 3 goals before half time. The Magpies had numerous shots on target and eventually pulled one back before half time. The Magpies battled on in the second half scoring a well taken penalty in the last minute of the match. Final score 5 - 4 to Wicken First. Good refereeing enabled the match to flow and enjoyable to watch.

### Other Scores

#### Saturday 18th November

Somersham Town A Team

AFC Christchurch The Magpies

#### Saturday 25th November

Chatteris Town Youth Fen Tigers Res

AFC Christchurch The Magpies

### Come and support your local team.

*Bored on a Saturday afternoon, and need some excitement! The Magpies could do with some local support home or away, bring the family and don't forget to bring a hot drink to keep your innards warm throughout the game. Check the fixtures below for the kick-off times and where the team is playing.*



### AFC Christchurch The Magpies would like to thank:

Ruth Ingram  
The Parish Council  
The Village Community Hall  
The Dun Cow  
The Heron Magazine

**for their support and wish everyone a Happy Christmas.**

| Pos |  | P  | W | D | L  | GD  | Pts |
|-----|--|----|---|---|----|-----|-----|
| 1   | Little Downham Swifts Reserves           | 7  | 7 | 0 | 0  | 26  | 21  |
| 2   | AFC Christchurch The Magpies             | 9  | 7 | 0 | 2  | 5   | 21  |
| 3   | St Ives Rangers Reserves                 | 7  | 6 | 0 | 1  | 40  | 18  |
| 4   | Wicken First                             | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3  | 18  | 17  |
| 5   | March Soccer School Academy              | 9  | 5 | 1 | 3  | 20  | 16  |
| 6   | Chatteris Town Youth Fen Tigers Reserves | 11 | 5 | 0 | 6  | -1  | 15  |
| 7   | Fenstanton Reserves                      | 9  | 4 | 2 | 3  | -3  | 14  |
| 8   | Marchester United First                  | 9  | 3 | 4 | 2  | 3   | 13  |
| 9   | Littleport Town Reserves                 | 6  | 4 | 0 | 2  | 7   | 12  |
| 10  | Cottenham United A Team                  | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4  | -14 | 12  |
| 11  | Coldham United Res                       | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6  | -7  | 8   |
| 12  | Somersham Town A Team                    | 11 | 0 | 2 | 9  | -39 | 2   |
| 13  | Benwick Athletic Reserves                | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 | -55 | 0   |

Manager: Peter Chenery Correspondent: Yvonne Chenery

Christchurch Playing Field, Upwell Road, Christchurch, Cambridgeshire PE14 9LL

### RESULTS NOVEMBER

|          |                                     |       |   |      |        |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-------|---|------|--------|
| 04/11/17 | St Ives Rangers Reserves            | 2 - 9 | L | Home | League |
| 11/11/17 | Wicken First                        | 4 - 5 | L | Home | League |
| 18/11/17 | Somersham Town A Team               | 0 - 2 | W | Away | League |
| 25/11/17 | Chatteris Town Youth Fen Tigers Res | 1 - 2 | W | Away | League |

### FIXTURES DECEMBER

|          |                           |       |      |        |
|----------|---------------------------|-------|------|--------|
| 02/12/17 | Benwick Athletic Reserves | 14:00 | Away | League |
| 16/12/17 | Coldham United Res        | 14:00 | Home | League |
| 23/12/17 | Marchester United First   | 14:00 | Away | League |

While the FA are updating their website, Players Stats will appear here again soon.

Any views expressed in The Heron do not necessarily reflect the views of The Heron Editorial Team.  
The team aim to provide a balanced view of village opinions where such views are expressed.