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# The Heron

#### **Community Magazine**

July 2017

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



**Christchurch got together** for fun and frolics, with games and picnics, to celebrate that:- "We have more in common than that which separates us".

That was the motto that Brendan Cox, the widower of MP Joe Cox used as the inspiration for the country-wide event which was the **Great British Get Together.** 

#### **Editorial Team:**

Richard Guilford – Editor Paul Haresnape – Technical Support Linda Webster – Administration

Enquiries: Advertising: Web Site: editor@theheron.info / 01354 638990 adverts@theheron.info / 01354 638381 www.theheron.info





Always popular & difficult, the Egg and Spoon Race



The Big Knicker race was loads of fun



The slack line was popular with those with poise  $2 \ensuremath{$ 

#### Brendan Cox said,

16th June marked the first anniversary of the moment that changed my family's lives for ever, when my wife Jo was taken from us. We were determined to mark it with hope. That's why this weekend, hundreds of events will take place across Britain as part of the Great Get Together - a moment to remember Jo and bring communities closer together. This has rarely felt more important. We're in an intense period of insecurity. People feel that society is changing too quickly and we don't live in as close communities as we used to. Then you have extremists who want to spread division. At its worst this leads to events like the atrocities in Manchester and Borough Market in London. Violent extremism can do untold lasting damage to the families of those caught up in it and our thoughts should always be with them. I don't think extremist groups have grown in size, I think they've become noisier and sometimes more dangerous. We have to make sure the silent majority finds its voice. That we all talk more about the basic things that show Britain for the great place it is. A sense of fair play, tolerance, and being outward-looking as a country. If you give people the opportunity for a sense of togetherness, people take it. For me, that's what The Great Get Together is all about.



Space hoppers ridden by Ruth Lloyd and Brad Pell



Dagan receives yet another prize from Her Majesty



Ruth and Katie Ingram win in the boardwalk race

### **Community Information**

**Defibrillator** - unfortunately after having notified everyone about the defibrillator at Townley School - due to the demolition of the old dining hall over the summer, from the 21st July it will be unavailable until 5th September approx. If you need one then ring 999 and give your postcode and they will tell you if it is back in commission

#### 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 dates are 12th & 26th July

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

#### Recycle your old bottles at the

Community Centre Bottle bank - this helps the Parish Council keep the Council Tax 'rates' down.

#### **Community Car Scheme**

Wendy, William and David are retiring as voluntary drivers after many years of service. Wendy has been driving for the scheme for over ten years, and William for seven. They have all provided a lifeline for people in the village who don't have their own transport, enabling them to get to hospital and surgery appointments as well as shopping and visiting.

They have all earned a good rest and the chance to do other things. We are very grateful to them. So we now need to find two or three new voluntary drivers who can carry on the good work. If you like helping people and have a little time to spare during the week this may be for you. Drivers are covered by their existing motor insurance and receive re-imbursement for their mileage expenses. If you would like to know more about it please ask the drivers or contact me, Sue Beel at Care Network, on 01945 589953 or email <u>sue.b@care-network.org.uk.</u>

#### The Friday afternoon walks have been

suspended for the time being as there doesn't seem to be the demand. So it's just straight to the church at 2.00pm for tea and cakes!

#### **Contact the Parish Council?**

phone numbers: in Useful Numbers page 26, email: <u>christchurchcambspc@gmail.com</u> website: <u>christchurchpc.btck.co.uk</u>

#### Car Boot - Saturday June 10th

Sandra and I would like to thank everyone who supported us in having a stall. The weather was kind to us - if fact some of us caught the sun. We made approx. £100 for Hall funds. and we hope to hold another one later in the year.

Thanks once again, Peggy

#### Private Pumping Stations-GOOD NEWS

if you have one of these on your property AWA say they are supposed to take over and pay the running and maintenance costs saving you hassle worry and money. Please get in touch at anglianwater.co.uk/privatepumpingstation

#### EDITORIAL

Well we do our best to get things right but occasionally the odd error slips through. On this occasion I must apologise to Lewis Bennett of Upwell Computer Repairs as I listed his rate as £10 per hour. It should have been £10 PER HALF HOUR! Sorry Lewis!

On the subject of any complaints to The Heron – these should be addressed to me as Editor in the first instance and NOT the Parish Council. They already have enough to deal with. Of course, should we not deal with any complaint to your satisfaction you would then have the right to refer it to the PC if necessary. The Heron costs just under £350 per month to produce currently, and whilst we receive £80 per month currently from the PC the balance of our production costs comes from Advertisers and donations from other benefactors. We always were, and will remain, an independent publication!

We've had some great support in the village for some recent events; the Car Boot Sale raised £100, the Dinner Dance was a huge success, and a great day was had by all at The Great Get Together (See – Cover & p.2).

Other than that there's all the usual features plus one or two extras for your delectation.

Enjoy! 'Till next month!



### 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 - 9am to 11:30am - CCC	
Fridays	"Cake, Coffee and Chat" Parish Church 2-3pm - All Welcome	
	Fish and Chip Van visits - outside Dun Cow - 5-8pm	

#### General events

General events		
Jul 4 <sup>th</sup>	Mobile Library visits - Upwell Rd Lay-by 12:15-12:45pm	
Jul 4 <sup>th</sup>	Christchurch Craft Club - 'Bring and Make' - CCC - 7pm	
Jul 9 <sup>th</sup>	Welle Cinema - Lion - Cert PG - 1:30pm - TH	
Jul 11 <sup>th</sup>	Art Club - new students welcome - 1:30 - 3:30pm - CCC	
Jul 11 <sup>th</sup>	WI - Visit to Skylark Garden Centre - see page 10	
Jul 21 <sup>st</sup>	AFC Christchurch Annual General Meeting - Dun Cow - 7:30pm	
Jul 25 <sup>th</sup>	Art Club - new students welcome - 1:30 - 3:30pm - CCC	
Jul 25 <sup>th</sup>	Gardening Club - visit to Jenny Cairns' workshop - 7:30pm	
Jul 26 <sup>th</sup>	Christchurch Book Club - 7:30pm - 'Glynan' Crown Road	
Jul 30 <sup>th</sup>	Jazz Club - only £5 entrance - 12 noon - CCC - Bar and Refreshments	

Parish	Church Ser	vices	Ŭ N
Jul 2 <sup>nd</sup>	11am	Rev L Brady, A Day	All Age Worship
Jul 9 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	Rev S Tooke, SE Tooke	Holy Communion
Jul 16 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	D Symons, A Day	Evening Prayer
Jul 23 <sup>rd</sup>	11am	B Hopkins, B Burge	Morning Prayer
Jul 30 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Revs I & L Brady	United Service, WELNEY
Aug 6 <sup>th</sup>	11am	A Day	All Age Worship
-		, Cake and Chat in the Chu Coffee Morning in church bi	rch - NOT Fri 14th uilding, see separate notice on Page 8.

#### The Heron Deadline

The 25th of the previous month is the deadline for all copy. However, due to the amount of copy we are getting, if you leave it till then, we may not have space. So - AS EARLY AS YOU CAN PLEASE

**Advertisers** - all our advert rates and conditions can be found on our website <u>www.theheron.info</u> 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!

Wondered whether you could help in any way. We have recently come into possession of a wood carved picture and the address on the back reads

Jan and Dave Young Euximoor Drove Christchurch PE14 9LS Date 1983

We live in The Highlands so a long way from this and would be interested to know if the people named still live there or if anybody knew them? Its just that their carving has now arrived with us, strangely we too are Jan and Dave and would like them to know that we have it in pride of place on our mantlepiece!

Thank you in advance, bit of a longshot but have tried trace via phonebook etc with no luck.

Cheers! Jan and Dave (by email)

#### "THANK YOU"

Elaine & Bex would like to say a HUGE "Thank You" to all the people who contributed in some way to make Saturday 3rd June's "Summerland Ploughman's Dinner Dance" such a huge success. We would like to thank supporters from the village, family and friends who came along and danced the night away to the terrific sound of "Summerland" who selflessly gave their time and waived their fee for the occasion. You guys rock! Special thanks to those local businesses who kindly gave us either a raffle prize, donation or goods for the evening. Especially: Tweeds Butchers, Upwell The Golden Lion, Stonea Fenland Mobile Catering, Christchurch March Meats, March Tesco, March Sainsbury, March Dion Gallichan Photography, Ely Bookers, Kings Lynn And anyone else who I may have forgotten to mention. It was very much appreciated. We are delighted to announce that we raised £304.50 which we handed over to the Headteacher of Townley School and she, in turn, will pass this onto the children's School Council, who will ultimately decide what they, and their fellow pupils, would like to spend the money on. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH.

#### Dear Richard,

I'd like to say a huge thank you for the support, good wishes and Cards Kelly and me received from the Villagers. Lindsay loved this Village & it certainly made the last few years of her life/illness easier for her to bear. The kindness of people never ceases to amaze me & the help went on right through the Wake as people bustled round seeing all was well.

Another thank you to those who attended Lindsay's funeral & wake, I'm sure like me she'd be pleased & gratified with the turn out.

Once again a huge thank you to all concerned. Peter and Kelly Owen



### New Treasurer for Heron

We are very pleased to announce that Linda Webster has agreed to take over as Treasurer and Advert coordinator for the Heron. *We'll tell you a bit more about her next month - Ed'.* 

### Volunteering opportunity

Would there be volunteer out there who would be happy to be 'Minutes Secretary' for the two meetings a year of the Friends of the Heron? Duties would include taking the minutes, typing and distributing them and advising the Committee of upcoming meetings? Please contact the Editor in the first instance on 638381

#### **Weather Lore**

by your Local Weather Sage

If the 1st of July be rainy weather, it will rain more or less for three weeks together.

And now a bonus - I remembered/made up this poem for all my readers, hope you enjoy it!

#### A summer poem

The cuckoo visits in the month of May In any nest their eggs they lay In the month of June, they change their tune And in July, away they'll fly



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#### THREE HOLES VILLAGE HALL Charity No. 304483 Main Road, Three Holes, PE14 9JR



Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> JULY 2pm **LION** (PG) doors open 1.30pm Five year old Saroo gets lost on a train which takes him thousands of miles across India, away from home and family. Saroo must learn to survive alone in Kolkata, before ultimately being adopted by an Australian couple. Twentyfive years later, armed with only a handful of memories, his unwavering determination, and a revolutionary technology known as Google Earth, he sets out to find his lost family and finally return to his first home.

creative

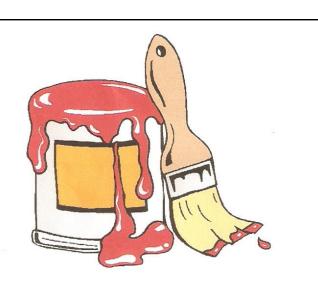


NO NEED TO BOOK Admission is £3 per person. Doors open 30 minutes before screening commences. Refreshments and licensed bar available. Tel. 01945 773710 or 772824

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Steven Horne

Christchurch, Cambridgeshire

### General Election Results

Cambridgeshire North East

Turnout 63.2%

Parliamentary	constituency			
PARTY		VOTES	%	+/- %
CON	Stephen Barclay	34,340	64.4	+9.4
LAB	Ken Rustidge	13,070	24.5	+10.1
LD	Darren Fower	2,383	4.5	0.0
UKIP	Robin Talbot	2,174	4.1	-18.4
GRN	Ruth Johnson	1,024	1.9	-1.6
ED	Stephen Goldspink	293	0.5	+0.5
		Chan	ige compared	d with 2015

Bucking the national trend, incumbent Tory MP Steve Barclay was returned to parliament with an increased majority over second placed Labour candidate Ken Rustidge. As in the rest of the country, the UKIP vote collapsed and the beneficiaries were mainly the two big parties, Conservative and Labour.

Mr Barclay said in his acceptance address that he knew that many had not voted for him, but he would seek to represent ALL his constituents.



Parish Church Coffee Morning Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July In the Parish Church, 10am-12noon Various stalls Cakes



Raffle Games

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



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Three Holes, Norfolk,

PE14 9LJ

### Upwell Jazz Club In Christchurch - by Steve Waye

Just thought I'd point out to some of our readers who might have missed it, that Upwell Jazz club which was resident for many years at Three Holes has been re-located by promoter Nigel Smith to the heart of the village at Christchurch Community Centre. Since the turn of the year the residents and others have had the opportunity to see some internationally acclaimed musicians strutting their stuff just a short walk from the house. At just a fiver entrance on a warm sunny Sunday Lunch

time, with snacks and a bar available it's a very good deal. Hope some more residents will pop along and give it a whirl.

Last month saw long-time resident Piano player Nigel Portass exchange his role as backing musician to featured artist, along with Phil Brookes Guitar and Mike McCann on Drums.

The sound was clear and the volume well-judged, as regular soundman Chris was unavailable for this gig and the musicians were left to their own devices. Phil Brookes on guitar producing a warm jazz tone from his Yamaha arch -top and classic Fender Valve combo while Nigel Portass keyboard and Bass pedals both supported



and led the group at the same time.

The sets consisted of familiar tunes from the American song-book such as "We will be together again", "Moonlight in Vermont" and many other classics. All played with precision and panache.

I do however have one problem with the performance, a short-coming I have witnessed in many venues, with various artists and that is the lack of communication with the audience.

A jazz buff may well be able to name that tune

after a few bars, but someone experiencing jazz for the first time, may feel excluded and be lost to the music for good.

We the jazz community need new blood to follow and keep the music alive and should always keep our audience in mind, both new and old. Announcing each tune, maybe giving a little history about past performers and

composers, might just not only establish a rapport with the customers but may lead to a better understanding of what jazz 'is really about' Jazz musicians will always try to lift their chosen instrument to the max, but please guys, a little stage craft along the way as well.

### Upwell Jazz Club 2017

Christchurch Community Centre (Sat Nav PE14 9LL)

#### Sunday 30th July

Guests: Derek Clenshaw – trombone Tom Melvin – vocals Nigel Portass – piano Dave Hawthorn – drums

This session sees the return of the ever-popular Derek Clenshaw on trombone and Tom Melvin on vocals performing an eclectic mix of laid-back standards from Burt Bacharach to Cole Porter. We extend a warm welcome to Dave Hawthorn on drums for this session.

Bar, fresh rolls, crisps and savouries available More information from Nigel Smith on 01945 773121 Time: 12.30pm - 2.45pm Admission: £5.00 Accompanied under-16s Free

### Art Club



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

We have now planned our summer term programme. We started the term with some 'Back to Basics' sessions. Now we are moving on to painting simple Landscapes and trees.

One of our members has kindly mounted and framed some of our pictures for us. We hope to show them off sometime soon. We were all very pleased with the results.

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.

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).

Our remaining dates this term are as below 11th and 25th July

### **Christchurch Book Club**

At our June meeting on Wednesday 21st, we were discussing, 'The Beauty of Murder' by A.K. Benedict. The general feeling was that we had not enjoyed the book. Most of us had been expecting it to be a conventional 'murder mystery' but in fact it was a complicated story involving time travel, and with several different strands, and not to everyone's taste. Some of us finished it, while others did not get very far!

Our book for July is 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time' by Mark Haddon, which one or two of us have read before and enjoyed. We will be meeting again on July 26th, at 7.30, at Viv's, Glynan, Crown Rd.

Our membership has been growing recently, and new members are always welcome.

For more details, please contact Sheila Day (07946635908)



15 members and three visitors attended the June meeting.

All were welcomed by our assistant President, Tracy Day.

Unfortunately, our speaker Karen Brammer from 'Stamford Cheese Company' was unable to attend, so Peggy and Marion took up the challenge,

talking to members about a selection of 12 cheeses ranging from a mild Cheddar to a very strong tasty Stilton, also soft Feta, French Brie



and Halloumi. Then we were able to sample them all with crackers, homemade chutneys and a glass of red or white wine and soft drinks.

Several facts about cheese were given by members, making it a very interesting and enjoyable evening.

**This month's competition** - cheese straws. 5pts, Anne Atkinson, Margaret Sparrow, Sandra Lloyd, Val Parker and Peggy Warby.

**Next month** - outing to Skylark Garden centre. Pick up 6.30.

Any enquiries - Tel 638339 Peggy (sec)





#### Christchurch Gardening Club

#### A Visit to The National Flower show

The members of the Gardening Club are well used to the many trips that they have undertaken in recent years and a trip to Hyland House near Chelmsford Essex to the National Flower show, is the latest. Leaving the Community Centre by coach on Sunday 21st May for the two hour run to Essex, the weather was fair and the day looked promising.

Hyland House began its story as a relatively straight forward red brick, Queen Anne style house in 1730. Since then it has been developed and changed, often to accommodate the vagaries of fashions and styles of the period. During its life time it has been acquired by nine different owners all of whom added to and



incredible array of flowers and plants, certainly enough to keep our little group happy for the time they were there. When spirits flagged there was a brass band playing stirring music and a female soprano belting out light classics and pop music. A great day out, discovered and booked by our club secretary Marion Hawthorn.

The summer buffet had to be moved to the 27th June this year because of a clash of dates with another event. The raffle prizes for June will be provided by Peter Miller, Duncan Buddle, Sheila Newman and Sue Norman.

> Next month on July 25th we will be visiting award winning garden designer Jenny Cairns at her workshop where she performs artistic miracles with a blow torch and old oil barrels, can't wait! For further information about the club please contact Marion or Steve on 01354 638 230 Till next time Steve

extended the original house. Up until that is, the last private owner, a Mrs Hanbury who died in 1966, which is when it was purchased by Chelmsford Borough Council.

The Council immediately opened the park surrounding the house, to the public.

A restoration and landscaping project was begun in 1987 and completed in 2007. Visitors to the house can now marvel at the many exquisite rooms such as the gilded drawing room, the ornate banqueting room or the grand staircase leading up to the Repton room with views out over the parkland. A magnificent setting for the Flower Show.

The upstairs to the house wasn't open on the day of the Flower Show, but the downstairs rooms featured the most beautiful themed flower displays. The aroma was quite stunning! Outside in the grounds there were stalls selling hand-made wooden boxes, plants, greeting cards (what no email!) as well as jewellery and clothes. Some outstanding pieces of craft included African garden furniture in a safari style, a tree seat and a bar made from one piece of wood, no doubt to relax while sipping your hand-made gin. A huge marquee had been erected and contained an At our June meeting Kay and Sylve showed us some small felt teddies, owls and frogs to make. I think a few would be finished at home, and we



hope to see them at the July meeting.

In July it will be 'bring and make', or if you feel like it, sewing some more knitted squares together See you at the hall on the 4th July.

#### Wendy 638448



Some of the felt animals made during the June session

#### Christchurch Residents Association

We met on Wednesday 28th June, 7.30 at The Old School. The previous months minutes were accepted and there were no matters arising. Outstanding subs were collected and members attention was drawn to the proposed coffee morning at the Church on Saturday 15th July from 10.00am till 12.00 noon.

Another Speedwatch survey would be carried out in the very near future and it was hoped that the traffic calming measures proposed at the last Parish Council meeting would add to the success of slowing traffic. All members supported the traffic calming measures proposed at PC.

It was noted that the eyesore at Beckett's Bridge was under investigation by FDC's David Bailey as regards compliance re planning and licensing re water extraction. The persons previously working on the site had been conspicuous by their absence for the last month.

The possibility of trialing a FACT bus had also been raised at the Parish Council. It was suggested that they might run a 15 seater minibus to Downham Market on a Friday leaving at 10.00am, returning at about 1.00pm. The proposed fare would be £5 return and those holding bus passes would not be charged. The Heron was asked to point these details out to Christchurch villagers. If there was no positive feedback showing interest from potential passengers by their next meeting then the Parish Council would conclude there was no demand.

Another thing mentioned at the last PC meeting was the potential beautification of the bus shelter. However, CRA members unanimously felt that this would be a complete waste of time and money. They, and most other villagers they had spoken too emphasized AGAIN that this EYESORE should be removed resulting in the BEAUTIFICATION OF THE VILLAGE as a whole!

Members were informed that there had been a series of petrol and diesel thefts from vehicles along the 16 foot bank. This was surprising due to its openness and easy visibility. Vehicle owners were advised to remain vigilant.

The latest details of legislation relating to dog fouling and fly tipping offences was to be published in this month's Heron. This had increased in importance recently due to some villagers dumping their green waste on the Recreation Ground. All such offences would be followed up. It was unanimously agreed that the proposed Food Fayre be held in late October or November as a pre-Christmas event. Stallholders already involved so far also agreed that this would be a better proposition.

It was agreed that the CRA have a summer break until September unless anything really urgent came up. The meeting closed at 9.00pm. Next meeting Wed 27th Sept at the usual time and place.

PATIENT: THE PROBLEM IS THAT OBESITY RUNS IN OUR FAMILY. DOCTOR: NO, THE PROBLEM IS THAT

#### NO ONE RUNS IN YOUR FAMILY.



770

### Pop-up Café and Coffee Shop



1

Pop along and have breakfast with us! We are now offering bacon and egg rolls using our own free-range eggs, home-baked rolls and locally sourced bacon.

> Every Monday Morning from 9.00 am till 11.30pm Christchurch Community Centre

Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Squash, Biscuits and Homemade Cakes and Cookies. Pop along for a cuppa and a chat. <u>All welcome</u>. We look forward to seeing you.

### PSPOs arrive in Fenland

Fenland dog owners are being warned they could face on the spot fines if they break new rules introduced by the district council this week. Fenland Council has introduced a new dog control Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to encourage responsible ownership and tackle issues such as dog fouling and out-of-control dogs.

The new antisocial behaviour power coincides with the launch of the authority's new Tidy Fenland campaign which will also crackdown on dog fouling, as well as littering and fly-tipping. The order, which replaced the existing Dog Control Order introduced in 2012, means that it will be an offence to fail to pick up dog mess or to allow a dog in any fenced children's play area. "Other requirements apply, including keeping dogs on a lead and under control in certain areas. New signs have been put up across Fenland advising dog walkers about the requirements which have been introduced following consultation. Anyone seen breaking the new rules will be issued with a £75 Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN), reduced to £65 if paid within 21 days. Failing to pay the FPN will result in court action and a possible fine of up to £1,000. The order will not apply to anyone who is registered blind, is disabled or who uses a

#### - Rogue dog owners and fly-tippers be warned!

trained assistance dog.

Cllr Peter Murphy, Fenland District Council's portfolio holder for environment, said: "Most dog owners are very responsible - they look after their pets properly and don't let them spoil everyone else's enjoyment of our open spaces. But a small minority don't and it is something that upsets a lot of people. Our new PSPO will enable us to crack down on problems such as dog fouling and out-of-control dogs, making our communities safer, cleaner and more welcoming for everyone."

The order is also being supported by a number of town and parish councils. Last week the council announced the Tidy Fenland campaign pointing out it costs £1,000 a day to clear up after thoughtless dog owners, litter louts and fly tippers.

The new campaign will see more targeted action at hot spots identified by the public. For more information on the PSPO and a list of fenced off play areas included in the PSPO visit:

#### www.fenland.gov.uk/ourenvironment

by Sarah Cliss with thanks to Cambs Times We asked our Parish Council Chairman if our council was getting involved and he said it would be on the July agenda - Ed'



### When the Sparrows came to Christchurch - by John Sparrow

John Sparrow, begins a two part series going into where his family came from and what made them the family they are now - Ed'

**My Grandfather** George Sparrow came to Christchurch in 1897. He had been employed on Luddingtons farm at Littleport as a traction engine driver.

George married Eliza Watson from Downham Market on April 26th 1890, at St. Georges Church Littleport.

Their first home in Christchurch was part of the house named the Union in Church Road, opposite the Church next to Tree Tops. After a short time, a move to Green Lane down by the Dun Cow was their next home. The house, now painted white, is in West Norfolk where the back drove starts. This was where the family was brought up, my uncles and aunts, seven boys and three girls.

When Grandfather George came to Christchurch he started work for Robert Lavender in Padgetts Road, driving steam engines.

In 1902 George went into partnership with John Compline as threshing contractors. They would travel from farm to farm threshing wheat, barley, oats and peas. The traction engine they owned was an Aveling-Porter No.3303, a Marshall Drum and straw elevator.

It would take 10 men to make up the gang to make everything work. Horse and waggon to take the corn away in coomb sacks (18stone) to the farmer's barn or railway station. Another horse and cart to bring coal and water for the engine.

During the spring and summer the machines would be repaired and painted by John Compline and Grandfather who also had a Blacksmiths shop in Green Lane.

The partnership continued until 1932 when Grandfather George retired. My Uncle William (Bill) took over the job from his father George and John Compline. At the time he was working for Walter Whittome of Town End March, driving a Fowler ploughing steam engine, one of a pair weighing 18 tons. The Aveling-Porter grandfather's old engine weighed just 10 tons.

Steam finally gave way to a 1946 new diesel Field Marshall, its first job was to tow the old Aveling-Porter to Durkins scrap yard at March, sold for £10. Today's value in working order would be approaching £100,000.

A second Field Marshall was purchased with drum and elevator, driven by my father Harry. This tractor was sold in 1965 for £150 to Mr Webb from Feltwell, today's value £8000.

A Claas trailing combine pulled by a tractor replaced the drums in 1956.

Another German made combine was purchased new in 1958, Claas SF with a Perkins L4 engine reg. HJE85.

Uncle William (Bill) retired in 1966 and I, John, continued with 3 more Claas combines until I retired.



### Do you know who? - answer to last month's question

We had a small number of people who could help out with this question. Principally Sheila Smart and Ruth Ingram and Yvonne Chenery. With such a little interest we are considering if these are thought to be a waste of our time? Let us know if you want this feature, or we'll drop it - Ed'

It transpires the event was a celebration of the Queen's 25th anniversary of the Coronation (1977)



Standing left of the

On the left - the Beatles featuring from

left to right Sean Darville, Tim Culley and Robin Russell Gail Smart as

seated is Rueen Elizabeth as King George the Rusen Mother

also seated is Mark Russell

Standing front Andrew Russell as Winston

Page Boy is Ruth Ingram nee Jackson

#### **Fenland Older People Outreach Services**

is a free housing related support service to anyone living in Fenland over 65 years of age. We can help anyone even if you own your own your home or rent privately.

Our aim is to support you in living safe and independently for as long

as possible. We can also support you in finding more suitable accommodation if that's what you would like.

We can offer support with income maximisation and winter warmth applications and assist on making savings with utility bills. There may be benefits you are eligible for and we can support you in applying for them. We can support you in accessing grants for home improvements and free home adaptions with the aim to keep you safe and independant in your own home for as long as possible. We aim to reduce social isolation and support you with accessing local services and transport. We can access services to get you free technology to assist you in and out the home. We can also help you access community lifelines and key safes.

There are many services available to you living



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here in Fenland and we are here to make sure you can get what you need. We are a local service commissioned by

Cambridgeshire County Council here to help you for free and anyone can make a referral into our service.

If you or you know anyone who may need some support in their home with their consent please do contact us.

You can make a referral calling our duty desk on FREEPHONE 0300 004 0349 between hours of 9.30-1pm. Or leave a message and we will get back to the next working day.

You can email us directly on

Fenland.support@circle.co.uk and we check these every working day.

Or you can visit our website on

http://www.centragroup.org.uk/fopos

Fenland Older People Outreach is here to help you no matter where you live. If you want a bit of support or know someone who does give us a call to have a chat!!

#### My First Car by Colin Butcher

I got my first car when I was just 18.

Prior to that I had been into motorbikes. My first car was a 1955 Standard 8 in dark blue. It had four doors but no boot! To access the boot space you had to drop the back seats down and get to it through the back doors. There was a small flap with T-keys below where the boot should have been for access to the spare wheel. Internal trim was all Bakelite with leatherette seating. I ran my old Standard 8 for two or three years before moving on to a Morris Cowley with a beautiful huge bench seat. I ran that one for six years.

I had a lot of happy motoring in my old Standard 8 but the petrol gauge was not very reliable or accurate. On one occasion I had to call my Dad out to rescue me when the car had come to a halt due to lack of fuel! He was not best pleased and he gave me quite a stern lecture about keeping my petrol topped up, especially with a dodgy gauge! My Dad was an ex-military man and quite strict, having old Victorian values. Since that day I have never ever run out of fuel again! One time when my Dad briefly drove my Standard 8 he had commented on how stiff the steering was. There was no such thing as power steering in those days of course but I was used to it. It turned out that the two trunnion pins were seized up, but you should have seen the muscles on my arms! Eventually Dad and I replaced the trunnion pins and — Wow! What a difference! It was like driving a brand new car! Fond memories. The registration number on my Standard 8 was RYP 28. Dad always said that the RYP stood for "Rob Your Parents!" as he had lent me the money to buy the car in the first place. However, I did eventually pay him back every penny! He made sure of it! I was always very grateful. I learnt a lot of things in that old car.

Let us know what your first car was, and some of your memories of it - we'll help

with writing and photos if needed!





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### **Cambridge Antiques & Interiors**

As most of you will know Noel and Hazel Crawford have been doing a splendid job of renovating Christchurch's old post office Syringa House (former residence of Rachal Watson). What some of you may not know is that they also run a business – Cambridge Antiques & Interiors – specialising in? – well as the saying goes it does exactly what it says on the tin.

Noel and Hazel first met when they were 14 years old but as they grew up and time passed they lost contact with each other and eventually married other people. It was not until some years later in their mid-thirties, both divorced by then, that they met again when Hazel had arranged to have some building work done; a patio and garden wall; when the builder who turned up turned out to be Noel! That was in 2005. The rest, as they say, is history.

Both had an interest in antiques and objet d'art. Hazel had done a fair bit of trading on Ebay with both an eye for a bargain, and things of worth. Noel had been brought up amongst antiques, his father being an established antique dealer. What Noel doesn't know about furniture isn't worth knowing. So it was that they opened an antique shop in Downham for a couple of years before realising that there was more money to be made at antiques fairs and house clearances, Hazel still dealing via Ebay and still picking up bargains there too! With Noel's lifetime of experience and Hazel's broad knowledge of the trade they established Cambridge Antiques & Interiors. They now have their own website –

<u>cambridgeantiquesandinteriors.co.uk</u>. They specialise in antiques, vintage, shabby chic, reclaims, and are developing the business into doing valuations for probates etc. A workshop and storage remain a priority, though this has now been partially solved short term.

With the carpets due to be laid this week (Mon 19th June) Syringa House is nearing completion. So they hope to be moved in, and out of the 'site caravan', within the next two or three weeks. Though there will of course be some jobs still left to complete. Once they are in they hope to spend even more time on the business (*Some task - as they are always out at antiques fairs and auctions now! – Ed'.*). They already have a great selection of furniture, a wonderful old hay wagon, cabinets, and objet d'art some of which they will be using in their own home of course. But they also hope to set up a small

Another in our series of features on local businesses. Please contact us if you would like yours to be included.

museum of various items found in and

around the village and those that illustrate a bit of Fenland history.

Please feel free to give Noel or Hazel a call if you require a valuation, or to request, or to view, items 01354 638178 or, 07957 986571.

(See their ad below)





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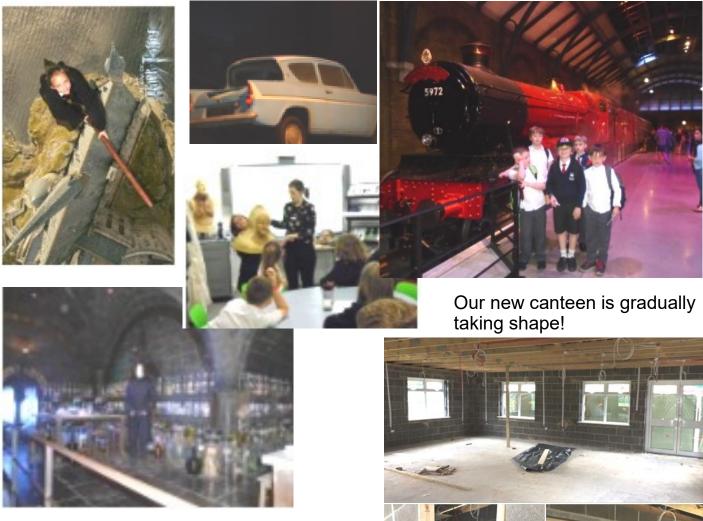




Christchurch, Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 9NA

Email: office@townley.cambs.sch.uk Website: www.townleyschool.org.uk Tel/Fax: 01354 638229

Class 3 visited Warner bros. Studio Tour. It was amazing and we were fortunate enough to handle actual props from the film as part of our creative writing workshop. It was a great day. Here are some of the photos, but heaps more on the website.



#### **Provisional Diary Dates**

Class 2 assembly all welcome —3 July New Reception children visit 9am—11am 6 July Small School Athletics at Lionel Walden—6 July Sports Day 1.15pm *new date* 18 July Last day of Term July 21st

### The Joan Smith Column

Work on the medical journals went on the same as usual; me doing the housework, and collating anything to help out when needed. As the weeks and

months passed Nancy seemed to become more and more unsettled. Chatting on our way to and from work, Nancy asked if I had spotted an advert in the local paper for a printer to take charge of a new business opening in Kings Lynn. I had never looked at 'situations vacant' as I was settled in the job I had. So I had not seen the ad Nancy mentioned. She said that she was going to apply for it and see how she got on.

A week later Nancy had an interview at ProntoPrint. This was a new franchise opening in St. James' Street, Kings Lynn. She soon found out that it was very different to printing the medical journals we were involved with. The new job was raffle tickets, wedding invitations, posters, menus, leaflets, and much much more. However, she needed to take into the interview an example of her work and was worried how she was going to manage to do that.

I came up with an idea, hoping that we wouldn't be found out. I told Nancy that I would leave my

# URGENT-READ THIS if

### you want a Bus service!

Fenland Association for Community Transport (FACT) have been contacted about the lack of a service bus to and from Christchurch. They are prepared to run a trial bus service subject to the Parish Council covering any losses. They propose a 15 seater minibus to Downham Market on Fridays leaving about 10am and returning about 1pm. The proposed cost of a fare would be £5 return. People holding concessionary bus passes would not have to pay but the Cambridgeshire County Council would not reimburse all of that fare, so the Parish Council would need to subsidise these passengers as well.

> The Heron was asked to notify residents that if a bus is wanted by YOU, then ring Jane Rees (Clerk) otherwise the Parish Council will conclude, that there is no real demand. Clerk's Number 01354 638131



car boot unlocked and when Mrs A went out I would sneak a copy of the journal out for her.

We could repeat the process in reverse later after she'd had her interview. As luck would have it she was offered the job and in six to eight weeks everything would be in place for her to start. Nancy asked me what I would do as her salary would be so much more, plus a bonus every six months. I think she wanted me to go with her, but I said that she ought to tell the Andersons that she would be leaving in six to eight weeks so that they would have time to find a replacement. She agreed that she would do this and then if no one was found Mrs A could carry on. But I knew Mrs A wouldn't want to. She would have hated to do that job again!

I'll explain more next time as to what then happened next! 'Till next time Joan

I Think My Iphone Is Broken. I Pressed The Home Button And I'm Still At Work.

### Name that Film from these iconic lines

- 1. "Nobody puts baby in the corner!"
- 2. "I feel the need for speed!"
- 3. "Cook me some bacon and eggs!"
- 4. "I will find you and I will kill you!"
- 5. "I'm coming to get you! So whatever you do don't fall asleep!"
- 6. "Wax on wax off!"
- "You want the truth? You can't handle the truth!"
- 8. "Every time a bell rings an angel gets its wings!"
- 9. "Are you not entertained!"
- 10. "I'll be back!"
- 11. "Right turn Clyde!"
- 12. "My mama said life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're going to get!"

Back by popular request compiled by Jennie Szpak - Ed'. March Stationery & Print

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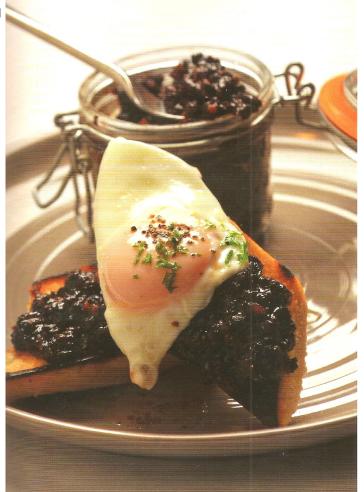
TOPPING, HEDGE & VERGE CUTTING, HARROWING & ROLLING, SPRAYING, BALING, MACHINERY RENOVATION & REPAIRS

### Richard Hughes' - Bacon Jam - from Christchurch's own Celebrity Chef

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500g dry-cured streaky bacon, finely diced I large onion, finely diced 5 cloves garlic, crushed I small red chilli, seeded and finely diced 500ml white wine vinegar 250g soft brown sugar 3 tbsp maple syrup I shot of strong coffee

- In a medium sized saucepan gently fry the bacon until crisp. Remove from the pan with a slotted spoon.
- In the same pan add the diced onion, garlic
- and chilli. Cook until soft and translucent.
- Return the bacon to the pan with the remaining ingredients and simmer gently for 2-3 hours until thick and jammy.
- Place in a sealed jar and keep refrigerated for up to 6 weeks.

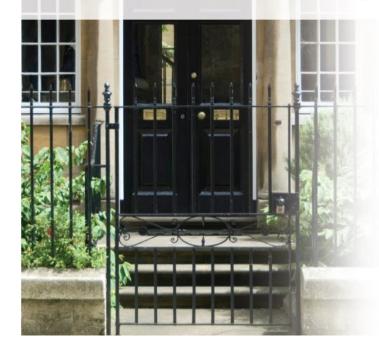




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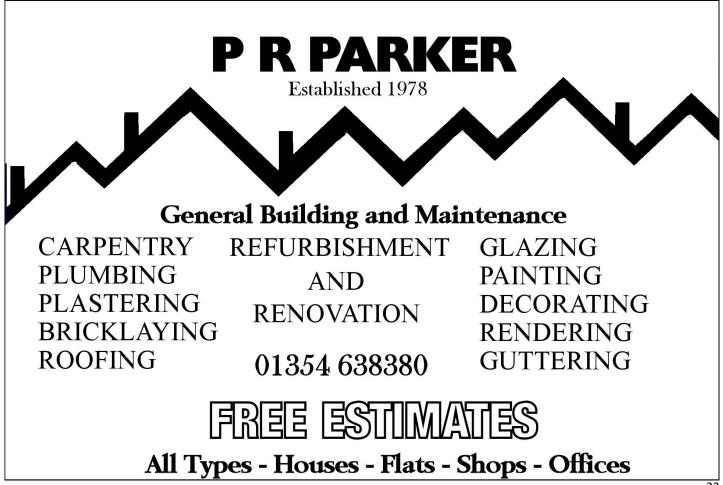
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### **Useful Telephone Numbers**

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

Web links in the Heron are active when viewed in our online version <u>www.theheron.info</u>

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...

Well looks like that was Summer! Maybe if we're lucky! We might get a few more hot sunny days? Then there's always a chance of that Indian Summer in September / October time! Here's hoping!



Well we can always hope I suppose!? Trouble is in this country we never seem to be satisfied. Complaining about the weather seems to be a national pastime. Trouble is we never get our hot spells for long enough to actually get acclimatised to them!

When I worked in Oman for two and a half years it took us about ten days to become acclimatised. Initially, working in the desert, we could only manage a couple of hours max before racing back to our air conditioned portakabin for relief and cold drinks.

Eventually, after about ten days, apart from lunch break we managed to work all day. Still drinking plenty of water of course, and regularly pouring it over our heads

Well I guess we'll just have to go on making the best of what we get! It was great though that we had such glorious days for all our recent outdoor events.

'till next month - Ed'.

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### For the Love of Lambrettas - by Colin Steenson



2017 represents 70 years since the first Lambretta came off the production line at the home of Lambrettas in Milan. To celebrate this fact an Anniversary Rally had been arranged to celebrate this engineering milestone. The original factory still stands in Milan, though it is largely now just a shell. Due to a bit of 'argy-bargy' between two of Lambretta's 'big-wigs' a second rally had also been arranged to be held in Venice two weeks later. This had also come about because the Monza Racetrack in Milan was already booked up for the dates they originally wanted as they had left the organization of the event a bit late!

So it was that The Lambretta Club of Great Britain were going to attend. Though each member had to organise their own trip. Of course Lambretta clubs from all over the world would also be in attendance. What a bonus for us all having two world rallies to attend instead of just the one, and only a fortnight apart too! Milan would be 18th-22nd May, and Venice 1st-4th June. My friend Graham Bird and myself had agreed to travel together with our two bikes on a trailer towed by his Ford C-max. We drove through the Channel Tunnel which cost us around £170 for the two of us, bikes, car, and trailer, eventually arriving in Calais. Immediately after that we took the 'payage' (like a toll motorway) on to Rheims where we had an overnight stop at the Campernile Hotel.

Next morning, back on the 'payage' we travelled on to Mont Blanc, another 400 miles on,



for our second overnight stay at the Ibis Hotel. Next day we went on through the seven mile tunnel through Mont Blanc. Very strict regulations here. Each vehicle must remain 150metres apart due to their fire regulations. That's quite a long gap! Still, it was quicker than going OVER the mountain! The other end of the tunnel finished in Italy and from there it was only a three hour drive to the venue in Milan and another hotel, the name of which escapes me for the moment, even though we stayed there for the duration of the event! It was only about twenty five minutes from the hotel to Monza itself. We travelled there and back each day on our Lambrettas of course.

The actual rally in Milan lasted five days but was less well attended than I had expected with only about 600 bikes, not the 1800 that turned up in Venice, as I was to discover a fortnight later. The first day was signing up for registration, some time checking out each other's bikes, and checking out what other events had been scheduled before returning to our hotel for the evening meal. We were looking forward to the next day as they were closing the Monza track for an hour so we could all have a ride round. Quite a spectacular day with 600 Lambrettas all riding around together. I managed four laps. Over the next few days bikes were inspected by one and all, with lots of comparisons re performance and tech specs as you might expect. Finally there was a 'concourse d'elegance'. Though we Brits thought we put on quite a good show, all the prizes went to the Italians.

After the rally was over we drove on next morning to Malpenza, Milan's second airport 25 miles to the north. From there we would head home to Luton Airport after leaving our bikes, car and trailer in a secure compound ready for our return in a fortnights time when we would be heading off for the second Lambretta Rally in Venice. More on that trip next month. Colin



The whole kit and caboodle about to set off up the Brenna Pass!



My 'pride and joy' an SX125 in full livery at Monza



Some of the other bikes on the concourse at Monza

## Sport Report from Christchurch Bowls Club.

Outdoor bowling weather has at last arrived, the thermals have been packed away and tee shirts and sun cream are the order of the day.

Our congratulations this month go to the Club's long serving Captain Lynda Chamberlain, who was awarded an MBE in the recent Queen's birthday honours list.

Lynda, who was brought up at Euximoor and Christchurch before moving to Denver, has recently retired as a security manager for Anglian Water after 41 years dedicated service for the company. A well deserved honour for our hard working club member who keeps us members toeing the line at all times.



Lynda Chamberlain

Congratulations also to Graham Warby who recently reached his 80th birthday. Graham has been a long serving, loyal and hard working member of the Club for many years. Recent results. CMB (Henson Cup) lost 5-0 GER (home) won 4-2 Manea (away) won 5-1 Upwell (KO Cup) won 67-66 Gorefield (home) won 4-2 CMB (away) lost 0.5-5.5 Wimblington (away) won 5-1 March Cons (home) won 5-1 The last club drive resulted in a prize win for Doreen Miller with top score and Mal (Benny) Moyes receiving the jelly babies for the lowest score. Many Congratulations Lynda, and Graham of course! - Ed'.



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. We reserve the right to edit any submissions where we feel this is appropriate.