

# The Heron

Community Magazine

November 2018

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

No. 55

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**Stay Safe!  
and Enjoy!**

**Follow the  
Firework  
Code! See page 2**

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# LOCAL FIREWORKS DISPLAYS

## FOR GUY FAWKES NIGHT

### Outwell Village Hall

136, Wisbeck Road, Outwell,

Cambs PE14 8PF

Friday 2nd November

Gates open 6.00pm

BBQ & Bar

Adults £6, Under 16's £3

£15 for a Family of Four

### The Firework Code

- Stand well back
- Keep pets indoors
- Keep fireworks in a closed box
- Only buy fireworks that are CE marked
- Light at arm's length, using a taper
- Follow the instructions on each firework
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- Don't drink alcohol setting off fireworks
- Always supervise children around fireworks
- Light sparklers one at a time & wear gloves
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them
- Never go near a firework that has been lit
- - if it hasn't gone off it could still explode!

### MARCH ANNUAL

### FIREWORK SPECTACULAR

Field Behind

All Saints Interchurch Academy

County Road, March Cambs

Friday 2nd November

Gates open 5.30pm

Adults £4.50, Child £3.50

Tickets could win a chance to  
Press the Display Detonator!

### Skylark Firework Spectacular

to Music

Skylark Garden Centre,

Wimblington Road, PE15 0PE

Saturday 3rd November

Gates open 5.00pm

Bonfire 6.30pm, Fireworks 7.30pm

### Funfair & Food Village

Adults £8, Under 16's £4

Family of Four £22

Under 3's FREE

STAY SAFE!



# Community Information

**Mobile Library:** First Tuesday each month - in the lay-by Upwell Road - 12:15 -12:45pm. Forthcoming dates are Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, Dec 4<sup>th</sup>, Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, and so on.

## Mobile Post Office:

Visits Mon to Thu in the lay-by Upwell Road.  
Monday and Thursday - 16:30 to 17:00pm  
Tuesday and Wednesday - 6:10pm to 17:00pm  
Fridays - no service

**Community Car Scheme:** This scheme now has two drivers living in the village. It can be used by anyone who either do not have their own transport or who would like someone to take them for medical, social journeys, or shopping. Transport is door to door and passengers make a contribution to the cost. For more information or to book a journey please call Angie on 01354 638721.

**Road Bridge Closure:** Bedlam Bridge will be permanently closed to all traffic for roadworks to take place from 5<sup>th</sup> November to the 30<sup>th</sup> November.

Cambs County Council ref: CL090G-LIVE-00425526

## CHRISTCHURCH GARDENING CLUB

### A CHRISTMAS COACH TRIP TO BURY ST. EDMUND'S CHRISTMAS MARKET

**SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

Departs Community Centre 9.00am

Leaves Bury St. Edmund's 4.00pm

Members £12, Non-Members £15

For more information or to book  
Tel: Marion on 01354638230

**Delicious Fish and Chips** are available outside the Dun Cow from Michael and Michelle's van on Fridays 5.00pm to 8.00pm

**School Defibrillator** - location is on the wall of the dining hall in Townley School grounds. Access via carpark, via Greenways off Crown Road.

## "Macmillan Coffee Morning"

Sandra Kay & Co. would like to thank all those that supported their annual coffee morning to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September in the Church. A BIG THANK YOU to all those that sent in donations, including many ex-villagers, to our cake makers, and all those that attended on the day and bought raffle tickets. **The total raised was £426!**



## EDITORIAL

Well yes! I'm afraid the festive season IS almost upon us, as evidenced by the various Christmas ads herein.

Sandra Kay's Macmillan Coffee Morning went really well as evidenced by the above result. The Church is holding their Christmas Coffee Morning on the 24<sup>th</sup> with lots of fun and games if last year's is anything to go by.

Then there's the Gardening Club' coach trip for Christmas shopping, featured opposite, and the forthcoming "Village Christmas Party" featured on the back page on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Make sure to 'book early for Christmas' as they say!

We need to pay extra attention to looking after our pets an livestock at this time of year. Especially with Guy Fawkes Night fast approaching. Some good advice on this on pages 16 and 24.

We are pleased to welcome Annie Nason onto the Heron team, and are sad to lose Elaine Reed-Hughes due to her other commitments. See page 12.

Townley School will be having another 'Bag2School Collection' on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December so it would be great if you could gather together any unwanted items for them. Why not have a pre-Christmas clear-out! Please see the listing on page 13 for suitable items.

Then there's all the usual features, except a Quiz and Weather Lore. We'll try and fit them in again in December's issue.

'Till then! Enjoy! 'Till next time!

*Reshawl*

# 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 - 9.00-11.30am - CCC

Pilates - each Monday - 6.30-7.30pm - CCC

**Wednesdays Forever Active - "Strength and Balance" - 9.30 to 10.30am -FIRST CLASS FREE- CCC**

**Wednesdays Rainbows & Brownies - 5.15 - CCC**

Fridays "Coffee, Cake, and Chat" - 2.00-3.00pm - Parish Church - ALL WELCOME

Fish and Chip Van visits - outside Dun Cow - 5.00 - 8.00pm

## General events

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> Mobile Library visits the village - Lay-by in Upwell Road - 12.15pm to 12.45pm

**Nov 4<sup>th</sup> Welle Cinema - "Darkest Hour" - doors open 1.30pm for 2.00pm film - Entry £3 - TH**

Nov 6<sup>th</sup> Craft Club - Christmas Wreaths with Sharon Pomeroy - 7.00pm - CCC

**Nov 7<sup>th</sup> Rainbows and Brownies restarts 5.15pm - CCC**

Nov 12<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting - 7.00pm - ALL WELCOME! - CCC

Nov 13<sup>th</sup> Art Club - Still Life with Animals - 1.30 to 3.30pm - CCC

Nov 13<sup>th</sup> W.I. - Talk by RSPB - 7.00pm - CCC

Nov 20<sup>th</sup> Gardening Club - "Fish & Chip Supper" - 7.00pm - CCC

**Nov 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Coffee Morning in the Church 10.00am till 12.00pm - See Ad on page 12**

Nov 25<sup>th</sup> Jazz Club - Len Skeat & Friends - 12.30pm to 2.45pm - £6.50 - Bar & Snacks - CCC

Nov 27<sup>th</sup> Art Club - Trees in all Seasons - 1.30pm to 3.30pm - CCC

Nov 27<sup>th</sup> Book Club - meeting at Sandra's - 29 Fen View - 7.30pm

**Dec 4<sup>th</sup> Townley School - "Bag2School Collection" from 9.00am - Please see ad on page 13**

**Dec 8<sup>th</sup> "Village Christmas Party" with "Cockney Jock" - Bar & Food (See back page) - CCC**

## Parish Church Services

Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	A Carlin, A Day	All Age Worship
Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Rev L Brady, V Smith	Remembrance/Holy Communion
Nov 18 <sup>th</sup>	3.30pm	A Day	Evening Prayer
Nov 25 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	S E Tooke, A Day	Morning Prayer
Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	V Smith, A Day	All Age Worship

**Every Friday** 2.00 - 3.00pm Coffee, Cake and Chat in the Church building Daphne and Andrew.

## PLEASE NOTE — The Heron Deadline

The deadline for all **copy** for **December's** edition of The Heron is **25<sup>th</sup> November**.

However, due to the amount of copy we are getting, leave it till then and 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 [www.theheron.info](http://www.theheron.info)

Business advertisers can book series of 6 or 12 adverts, paid in advance. Adverts for village fundraising

**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.**

NB as a matter of courtesy no content from the Heron should be used without prior permission



## Exercise Class

I was always a bit of a sporty person during my younger years, but due to family commitments my sporting activities got put on the shelf, believing I could always resume them at a later date. Now I am well and truly retired and although I consider myself to still be quite an active person, I had resigned myself to the fact that my sporting days were well and truly over.

Earlier this year, it was brought to my attention that an exercise group was commencing on a Wednesday morning at Christchurch Community Centre. Having suppressed my sadness with the realisation that I am getting old and not as fit as I used to be, I thought I would give this exercise class a try (after all, they keep telling us that exercise is good for you). It's free for the first lesson, so I felt that I had nothing to lose.

Kathleen introduced herself as the instructor, and she soon had us doing some gentle chair-based, exercises and stretches, plus a few moves to increase balance. I came away thinking it was all a bit tame and not really for me. I couldn't see what it was doing for me. However, against my initial judgement, I decided I would give it a second chance. This time Kathleen decided to step it up just a little, and I had second thoughts about giving it up just yet.

I believe I must have attended about 8 classes to date now. The majority of the exercises are chair-based, coupled with some standing balance and coordination moves. Most of it is to music. Over the weeks, the exercises are becoming more and more challenging and surprisingly I can certainly move much more freely than when I started. Kathleen is a very enthusiastic teacher who infuses energy into the group. Each week she introduces us to new exercises, and along the way she explains which muscles are being worked on and why.

Surprisingly, I have noticed that the sciatica, which bothered me most when walking, has now disappeared. And, after 20 years away from the game, I have just taken up golf again. So at least one of the sports interests I'd had, has now been taken

down from that shelf. Although I can't see myself playing badminton, or fell-walking again, but after just a short time I am beginning to realise the benefits that this exercise class is bringing.

I just thought I would write this, just in case there are those of you that feel you cannot engage in a routine that gets you out of breath, and that you are worried that you may not be able to keep-up with the others. The class is designed for people with various abilities to assist them in maximising movement and balance. I also wanted to share how I and others are benefitting from this group and to urge others who feel that they are not as mobile as they use to be, to come along and give it a try.

If you would like to join us, then it's held on Wednesday mornings 9-30am until 10-30am and the first lesson is free and £4 thereafter. Just come along.

Janet Harper

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**Every Wednesday at 9.30– 10.30am**

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

**First Class Free**      Cost: £4.00 per session per person for members (£5.00 non-members)

For further information contact Kathleen tel: 07880 543821



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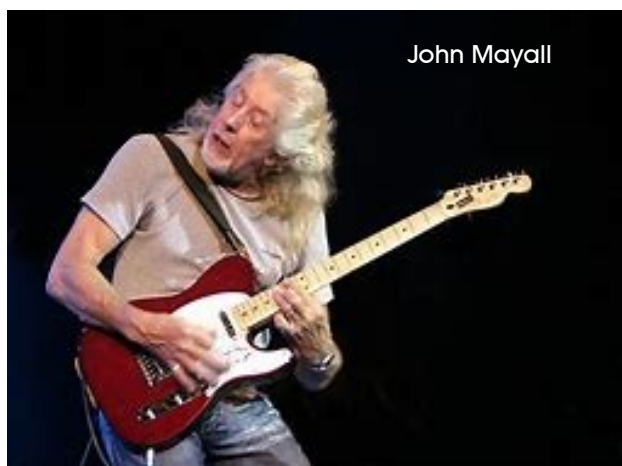
## THE BIRTH OF THE BLUES

### "To Infinity and Beyond!"

In previous columns we traced the blues more than 110 year history through economic slumps, two world wars, revivals, peaks and troughs; but where is the blues today? Will it ever go through an upsurge of popularity like it did in the 60's? As things stand the answer is probably not. The reasons are more than likely too complex to answer in this article but here are one or two thoughts. One of the problems with any music or come to that art form in today's world is the power of the Dollar, Pound or Euro. If it doesn't automatically make millions overnight the powerful media moguls are just not interested. Gone are the days of major record companies investing in the long term future, of any artist, instead, that's left to genuine fans of the music to set up their own support network. In fact most of the major record companies have gone, some might say good riddance. In a period of such uncertainty in our shared history, when disaffected sections of the youth seem determined to wipe each other out and there is genuine hardship in areas of the country, it seems odd that the ethos of the blues, a music born out of hard times is replaced by the desolate musical landscape of Rap and the replaceable bubble gum of X Factor.

Secondly where is the media in all this? How many times throughout the year do you find anything other than Pop Music broadcast by the main TV Channels or radio stations? As far as organisations like the BBC are concerned, if one has reached a high level of ability on their chosen instrument, one must be Elite and by definition the music you play Elitist and unworthy of broadcast. If this sounds like a rant, it probably is, but that doesn't make it any the less true.

So where is Blues music now? The answer lies in small to medium size venues the length and breadth of the UK and Europe, where perhaps less familiar names tread the boards in an effort to spread the word, unfortunately to an already partisan audience. Some veterans are still on the road, for example John Mayall has been in the UK touring in the last few



John Mayall



years. Paul Jones (ex Manfred Mann) gigs regularly only recently playing the Cambridge Corn Exchange. Danny Bryant a UK based guitar



Paul Jones

singer has recently released a new album called "Revelation." Matt Schofield was named British Blues Artist of the Year in 2010, 2011 and 2012. He is still gigging on



Danny Bryant



Matt Schofield

a regular basis. Jo Ann Shaw is another who recently visited our area. Of course Joe Bonnamassa continues to tour with his arena sized shows. There are of course many more artists still promoting the blues. At the start of these columns I stated that Jazz and Blues were Brother and Sister that does mean of course



Joe Bonnamassa



Jo Ann Shaw

that both are suffering similar problems. However new generations of musicians are emerging and as far as a resurgence of this music is concerned, "Never say Never!"

Steve



# WELLE CINEMA

**THREE HOLES VILLAGE HALL Charity No. 304483**  
**Junction of Main Road & Squires Drove, Three Holes, PE14 9JY**



**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2pm:**  
**DARKEST HOUR (PG) 120 mins**

As the Nazis rampage through Europe in DARKEST HOUR, England's political turmoil pushes the controversial, iconoclastic Winston Churchill ([Gary Oldman](#)) to the nation's top political post. His reign as prime minister is dominated by an existential dilemma: Should the vastly outgunned UK fight it out or surrender to the Germans -- saving lives and hoping for the best? His position hanging by a thread, the new leader must make perhaps the most momentous decision in British history, with the clock to invasion ticking down.

**NO NEED TO BOOK - Admission is £3 per person. Doors open 30 mins**

## Upwell Jazz Club 2018

Christchurch Community Centre (Sat Nav PE14 9LL)

**Sunday 25th November**

**Len Skeat and Friends**

*Upwell Jazz Club is very lucky to have the support of the world-renowned bass player Len Skeat. He will be introducing a fantastic morning of music-making, playing alongside top musicians – Paul Eshelby, Gordon Campbell, John Pearce and Ralph Salmins – all of whom have worked with the biggest names in the world. Featuring music of the big band era and the Great American Songbook.*

**Time: 12.30pm - 2.45pm Admission: £6.50**

**Accompanied under-16s Free**

**Bar, fresh rolls, crisps and savouries available**

**More information from Nigel Smith on 01945 773121**



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Vice Chairman Tracy Day welcomed all to our meeting.



Apologies were received from Belinda Gladwin, Ann Hicks, Annie Nason, Peggy Warby, Michele Nardecchia and Sylvia Wilcox.

Trekking in Zambia for the third time was our talk for the evening by Chris & Sally Peters. They stayed in a small chalet with reed walls and roof, basic facilities, not allowed out after dark and two hours from civilisation. Wild animals were seen in abundance and many species of birds. The guides and scouts, who were very knowledgeable people and highly trained, led the way on all the treks...They visited a village which had six mud huts for guests, basic but very clean, the women work extremely hard. Water had to be fetched from the village pump and there was no electricity but they were proud and welcoming people.

Both being retired teachers they were interested in the children's education, very few attend school beyond 12-13 years of age. The last two visits they have taken books, pencils etc out for them. A real treat to complete their holiday was to fly over Victoria Falls in a helicopter. They were thanked by Viv Haresnape and given a donation.

Refreshments were served by Sue Norman and helpers.

Competition Results - A School Day Memory in 20 words or less

5pts Sue Norman

4pts Margaret Sparrow

3pts Susan Quail and Sylvia McLean

Raffle Prize Winners - Susan Quail, Kay Miller Janet Harper and Tracy Day

### **November Meeting**

Talk by R.S.P.B.

Competition A Bird Ornament

Refreshments Wendy Yates and Belinda Gladwin

Raffle Prizes Ann Hicks, Sue Norman, Annie Nason, Wendy Yates

This month Margaret Sparrow came along to demonstrate Iris folding.

Strips of coloured paper are layered upon each other in number order within a template to make a pattern. When finished, the pattern will reveal a gap (or Iris, similar to the Iris in your eye or camera - nothing to do with the flower!) .

When the template was removed, we turned our pictures into Christmas cards.



Next month (6th November) we will be starting our Christmas wreaths with Sharon Pomeroy. Please bring any suitable foliage if you have any in your garden.

Sandra

## **Christchurch Book Club**

Book club met on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. We had been reading "My Animals and Other Family" by Clare Balding.

Everyone very much enjoyed this book. It was easy to read and we learned of Clare's life through the multitude of animals (mainly horses and dogs) who had meant so much to her. Clare's parents had a "hands-off" approach to parenting, so much so that Clare and her younger brother were referred to at one point as "ferral"! Either because of or in spite of this upbringing, Clare showed great determination and went on to achieve great things in education, sports and journalism.

We will meet next on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm at Sandra's, 29 Fen View. We shall be discussing "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins.

It has been lovely to welcome new members at recent meetings. Please feel free to come along and give us a try! We meet once a month and get the books provided by the library - although some members prefer to use kindles or audio-books. We read a wide variety of books and are always on the lookout for new recommendations. If at the end of the month you haven't finished (or started!!!) the book, then that's fine - we all lead busy lives!

For more info contact Sheila Day on 07946635908.



Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>  
October found  
members

## Christchurch Gardening Club



gathered in the Community Centre, awaiting the arrival of Neil Callan, from Horseshoe Farm and garden. Neil was a little late, leaving me to “entertain” the assembled audience with some bad jokes. Luckily they didn’t have to put up with too much in the way of poor humour for long. Neil arrived and the meeting was soon in full swing.

Horseshoe farm it transpired is a bungalow with about three quarters of an acre of garden surrounding it. When Neil and his wife moved in, the outside space was pretty much derelict but they quickly set about creating their dream garden. With the aid of slides he explained how they began by creating one small area at a time, beginning with a kind of rockery and dry garden, moving on through the space, deciding on themed areas and creating them as they went.

Neil built a summerhouse with a wooden porch that extended out over a large pool which was then filled with fish, attracting kingfishers who gradually got fat eating said fish. However, the final result was impressive and looked much larger than it’s three quarters of an acre site. Neil spoke for over an hour and then took questions. I’m sure the club members took away ideas they could utilise for their own gardens.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> November the club has its traditional Fish & Chip Supper. This is an evening that we all look forward to, when members receive a meal provided by the club, with entertainment which is as yet still to be announced. No bad jokes this time, I promise! This is the last meeting of the year and promises to be another great social occasion.

It is worthy of note that next year around the middle of May, the club will be twenty years old! For a non-profit club, run by its members for its members, whose whole raison d’être is gardening, this has to be something of a triumph and celebrations will be forthcoming. It stands as a tribute to all committee members past and present who have run the club since its inception, as well as paying tribute to the members, without whom there would be no club.

Till next time

Steve

## Christchurch Art Group



We meet in the Community Centre on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday of the month 1.30pm – 3.30 pm

During October we have continued with our ‘Textures and Techniques’ theme, by using different papers to draw and paint on using a variety of media. Next month we will continue this again trying pastel work alongside other media.

Our group is friendly and relaxed. We are all enjoying the sessions and have recently welcomed four new members. We have a tutor to lead us, but we can gain ideas and inspiration from each other. All artists have their own special style and approach so we have a lot of variety and enjoy ourselves

To cover costs - from September we now have a joining fee of £20 per term then an attendance fee of £5. Do contact Sandra (638478) or Jan (638217) for more information, or pop along during the session to see what we are up to.

*(As usual you may always bring along your own project to work on if you prefer and I will help.)*



### **A BIG THANK YOU!**

We would like to send out  
a big Thank You! to all our  
wonderful friends who  
helped in chauffeuring me  
to and from Papworth  
Hospital, and for all the  
cards, phone calls, and  
good will messages we  
received wishing Graham a  
speedy recovery after his  
recent operation.

Very many thanks  
Peggy & Graham Warby

## More Heron Staff Swops!



Unfortunately Elaine Reed-Hughes has had to stand down from her Heron duties due to other commitments. However, you may have noticed over recent months that Annie Nason has contributed a number of articles to our hallowed pages. We are pleased to report that she has now become a fully fledged member of the Heron team with regular contributions via The Newbie Blog (see page 24) plus many others.



Annie has a long held interest in creative writing and is a bit of a tennis addict. You may recall her article on the Wimbledon Championships back in June. She is currently embarked on a major project based on her fathers journals. She was brought up in Burma and India where her parents were missionaries. You may also remember previous articles based around that part of the family history. Her Father's journals, stretching over an unusually long period, from 1932 to 1965, had previously been typed up by him on an old Remington Rand typewriter in the jungles of Burma and India but needed 'digitising' as copying was not an option due to 'bleed through' from the reverse. Annie would like to express a huge thank you to newfound local friends who have kindly assisted her in getting the journals typed up onto the computer. She is really most appreciative of this help.

Annie is also an avid gardener and has already done a great job, both front and back, at her new home in Christchurch. Already she has a little gazebo in place looking out over open fields. An ideal peaceful place for a bit of creative writing. She feels that The Heron is a great village resource, and is pleased to have now become a permanent member of the team. We welcome her and we are sure that she will be a real asset to the magazine. She would like to encourage others to contribute as of course would we all. - Ed'.

### Parish Church

## Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November

10.00am - 12.00noon

Various stalls

Cakes & Refreshments

Raffle & Games







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If you are in need of any of the above described, feel free to contact me for further information, or to book a session

**Email: michelelowery24@gmail.com  
or call 07739 378901**

# Bags2School Collection

This is a fundraiser for Townley School which some of you may already be familiar with, particularly parents. We receive a percentage from the company that collects the items which usually adds quite a bit to the school funds. PLEASE HELP SUPPORT US!

We accept the following **'good quality'** items for RE-USE:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys

**Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Dec  
from 9.00am**

- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

We **DO NOT** accept:

- Duvets and blankets
- Pillows and cushions
- Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)
- Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- School uniforms with and without logo
- Corporate clothing and workwear
- Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

**PLEASE HELP SUPPORT  
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Or call 01354 638229 and we will arrange for collection.**

PLEASE ALSO SEE TOWNLEY SCHOOL PAGE ON PAGE 21

# Bags2School Collection



# CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Guy Fawkes Night can be plenty of fun for all of the family to enjoy and going to an organised firework display instead of holding one at home can be a great way of supporting your local community. If you do plan on using fireworks or lighting a bonfire at your own home however, ensure you consider our safety advice below:

## Fireworks:

- Only buy fireworks marked BS 7114
- Light fireworks at arm's length using a taper, stand well back and never go back to a lit firework
- Never throw fireworks or put them in your pockets or clothing
- Light sparklers one at a time wearing gloves, and place used sparklers in a bucket of water
- Never give sparklers to children under five
- It is illegal to sell fireworks to someone under the age of 18 or to light fireworks in a public place

For more information on Firework Safety, visit: [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk) Bonfires:

- Do not light bonfires in unsuitable weather conditions, particularly when windy
- Do not leave bonfires unattended
- Keep a bucket of water or a hosepipe handy just in case
- Build bonfires well clear of buildings, garden sheds, fences and hedges
- Never use flammable liquids to start the fire
- Never burn dangerous rubbish such as aerosols, paint, foam furniture, rubber tyres, batteries, etc
- Before you light the bonfire, check that children and animals are not hiding inside and are a safe distance away

Always consider the location of a bonfire or firework display, smoke drifting near or on to roads can have devastating consequences. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check, call 0800 917 9994. For more information log on to [www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk), follow us on social media or call 01480 444500.

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## Class Wars in Christchurch?

Oxford City Council hit the headlines last month when they resurfaced a road along an affluent stretch but stopped as soon as it came to the less prosperous end. Residents of the social housing end were incensed and declared the Council had started a Class war. Christchurch could well have had the same sort of social discrimination perpetrated upon it last month! During September Crown Road was resurfaced, and not just the normal very poor quick spray of tar, and some clippings thrown down. No this was a very comprehensive resurfacing with two layers of tar and chipping mix to a good depth dealing with all the cracks and damaged road. But there it ended.



Crown Avenue, with its very poor and much damaged road surface, was totally ignored. When Barhales, who installed the sewage system for the village some years ago, sited their yard at the end of Crown Avenue, their track laying vehicles tore up the surface as they travelled down the avenue. It has never been repaired! What an opportunity missed! Why? Could it be a discrimination similar to the Oxford example? Social housing access not requiring as much quality as the more affluent houses down Crown Road. Maybe it will get done eventually!?

*(Just glad the large pothole by the bus stop has been filled in! - Ed'.)*

## The Height of Ridiculousness!

Once again a vehicle crashed into the underside of the railway bridge on the Sixteen Foot Bank, just by The Golden Lion pub. What is it about these people!?



This makes the 15<sup>th</sup> incident so far THIS YEAR! Unbelievable! The bridge is Britain's second most bashed bridge. It has been struck by a range of vehicles including high trailers, caravans, and even a lorry. Many became stuck underneath leading to road closures. The most recent incident (pictured above) happened on 3<sup>rd</sup> October and involved a transit van.

On September 8<sup>th</sup> a car carrying cycles on its roof struck the bridge, and on July 10<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> two caravans hit the bridge. Previously, only a day before, on July 9<sup>th</sup>, a pick-up truck towing a trailer carrying machinery became stuck under the bridge.

Network Rail is urging drivers in Cambridgeshire to "wise up and size up" their vehicle and plan their route before they head out on their journey.

**With a height restriction of only 2.1m (7ft), any vehicle larger than a standard car is at risk. An alternative route, using the level crossing next to the bridge, is available for drivers in large vehicles.**

**Meliha Duymaz, Network Rail's Route Managing Director for Anglia, said: "Despite being clearly marked, this bridge is being driven into by irresponsible drivers causing unnecessary disruption to railway and road-users. To keep everyone safe, all bridges are examined when hit by a vehicle, which can cause delays to rail services. In some cases it is necessary to carry out repair work before reopening the railway line and road."**



# Don't let your fowl fall foul of fireworks

## Poultry Page

By Jane Briggs



The law says that you must not set off or throw fireworks, including sparklers, either in the street or other public places. You must not set off fireworks between 11.00pm and 7.00am, except for Bonfire Night, when the cut off is midnight. New Year's Eve, Diwali, and Chinese New Year, when the cut-off is 1.00am. The darkened evenings are upon us and one of our concerns is getting poultry safely shut up for the long night ahead. However, with the onset of winter the firework season looms large. For many this can begin from mid-October onwards when fireworks first go on sale and doesn't end for a fortnight or so after the 5<sup>th</sup> of November.

### The Good News

The good news is that most of our dear little chooks will sleep peacefully through it all if they are in an enclosed house with no windows., but with ventilation of course. We cannot be totally sure how much they might be affected by all the flashes and bangs. However, for many this will not feel unlike all the thunderstorms that they experience naturally and so should not affect them too much.

### And the Bad News

The NFU says "*Fireworks, especially when used at unpredictable times of year, have the possibility of frightening livestock and pets. This can lead to lower*

*production, especially in chickens, and even stock loss. Poultry especially are at risk of a 'smother' - where birds huddle together overly tightly and can result in some birds dying. In addition fireworks can pose a fire risk if hot embers land on open straw bedding or coups. It is wise to take precautions.*

It is wise not to ignore your poultry over the fireworks period, perhaps with more regular checks. If you are planning your own fireworks party make sure its away from the birds and any straw bales etc. It is possible to get silent fireworks which are often very pretty and still create a spectacle. An open farm in this area used to sell out every year using only silent fireworks for their displays which they still kept well away from the birds and other animals.

Other wise precautions to lessen stress include: making coops completely light proof, adding extra insulation to deaden the noise, play a radio at low volume near the coop, use calming supplements in their food, and finally, the next day check for any spent fireworks in or around the runs and remove them. You don't want your hens pecking at the debris. Setting up a wildlife camera can be a useful and interesting addition to observe chicken behaviour. Most of these precautions and solutions apply equally to your domestic pets. Keep them all safe!



## What's New?

New challenge and fun page, answers to quiz's and game will be in next months issue.

## How many words can you find?

Find as many three or more words as you can in the word:

### Thread

Ten is good – Fifteen is excellent – Twenty plus is awesome.

The next issue will be the Christmas issue. The youth page will publish a nostalgic pop quiz and board games from the 70's... are they still being played today? Find out in the next issue.

Have fun and if you want to send some of your games or jokes to share amongst the villagers, send them in to Youth Page at the Heron.

1	4	3	2
2	3	4	1
4	2	1	3
3	1	2	4

### Junior

Fill in the puzzle so that every row across, every column down and every 2 by 2 box contains the numbers 1 to 4. The numbers cannot be the same in each row or column.

			3
4			
			1
3			

Answers next issue

2	5	4	3	1	6
3	1	6	4	2	5
1	2	5	6	3	4
6	4	3	2	5	1
4	3	1	5	6	2
5	6	2	1	4	3

### Teenager

Fill in the puzzle so that every row across, every column down and every 3 by 2 by box contains the numbers 1 to 6.

	4		3		
		6			2
	5	4			
			5	4	
3			6		
		1		3	



## Just for laughs!

My friend recently got crushed by a pile of books, but he's only got his shelf to blame.

Two silk worms had a race. It ended in a tie.

Q. What did the llama say when he got kicked out of the zoo?

A. Alpaca my bags!

Q. What do you call a dinosaur with a extensive vocabulary?

A. A thesaurus.



## Famous Scientist Facts

It was Copernicus who disproved the belief that the earth was the center of the universe. He created the model of solar system with the sun in the center and planets around it.

Leonardo Da Vinci was not just a painter. He was a mathematician, scientist, artist, writer and also a musician!

The principle of displacement was discovered by Archimedes, when he was in the middle of a bath, in his tub. Here is the funny thing – it is said that he ran straight out of the bath tub screaming "Eureka". He was so happy that he didn't realize he was naked!

Marie Curie, one of the people who discovered radium from uranium, was the first scientist to be awarded two Nobel prizes.



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## Lest We Forget!

On November 11th 1918 at the 11th hour for the first time in four years the guns fell silent on the Western Front, and into that silence a young corporal said to his Sergeant. "What does this mean?" and the Sergeant replied, "it means we're going home son,! We're going home,! You'll remember this day!". We too will remember this coming Remembrance Sunday because it will be very different from previous Sundays when we have remembered those who served their country and who never came home, for this Remembrance Sunday it will be a hundred years since the guns fell silent across Europe and the war to end all wars came to an end.

On Remembrance Sunday it will be our time to remember, our time to bring our honoured fallen home and because of the sacredness of the day we leave the politics of whether war is right or wrong to another time, another place. For Remembrance Sunday is a time where people of faith and no faith lay the business of the day to one side, a time when banners are unfurled, a time when medals of past conflicts are worn, a time when uniforms are given that special extra pressing, and boots that extra brush, and we form ourselves in regimental fashion and wear our red poppies with pride.

At some point in the Remembrance service we use those most sacred of words 'They Gave Their Tomorrows For Our Today's', those sacred words 'At The Going Down Of The Sun We Will Remembered Them', and to use the analogy of the Sergeant earlier on we bring our fallen home to where we are in the here and now. We have said those words and passed them on from one generation to the next and we bring our service men and women who took the King's shilling or signed the dotted line and we bring them home here with us into our gathering. We bring them home a hundred years on from the muddy battle fields of the 'Marne', Gallipoli, 'Somme', 'Ypres', 'Passchendaele' and half a dozen other places where lives were given for the cause of freedom. We gather and say the sacred words and we bring them home.

Jesus spoke of not being troubled, He spoke of putting our trust in Him and of preparing a place for us, a home for us and taking us to that home and that we would dwell with Him and He with us. He gave us his assurance of taking us home. Rupert Brooke anticipating his own death wrote these words: 'Some corner of a foreign land that is for ever England', On Remembrance Sunday we bring them home.

Ian



Rev'd Ian Brady

## Crumbs From the Good Book

by our very own Church Mouse

I bumped into one of my (many) sisters in the Churchyard the other afternoon. She was in a hurry to get home. She reckoned she had "Gone the extra mile" that morning. She had come across Old Peggety Field Mouse resting under a hedge, and looking exhausted. She had worn herself out trying to pull some ears of corn along back to her place.

My sister gathered up her gleanings, took Old Peggety's paw and helped her home. Then she sat her down in her favourite arm chair and brewed Acorn Tea just as Peggety liked it. Not only that, she also took the husks off the corn and stored it in a dry place for her. We couldn't decide quite how old Old Peggety was, but agreed that she had been around for a long time.

The first time I had ever heard the saying "Going the extra mile" was a while ago; another Crumb from the Good Book. A young preacher once said to his particular friends – and I quote – "If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles". Well, Old Peggety didn't exactly force my sister to go anywhere, of course, but that is how that saying is used these days. An odd saying when you think about it.

Apparently, in Roman Palestine a Roman Soldier was entitled to make someone carry his stuff, but for one mile only... or else, I imagine! I wonder what his friends made of it? They all hated being under Roman rule; quite an ask, I would say. It would have made a few of them sit up straight; in particular one fellow, Judas. He and another Zealot called Simon were definitely not fans of the Romans! The preacher's sayings are supposed, we are told, to apply to us all in every era.

Hoping you can think of a modern example ...

I need help with this one!







# TOWNLEY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL

Christchurch, Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 9NA

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

Website: <http://www.townley.cambs.sch.uk>

Tel: 01354 638229

**November 2018**

## Mrs Barnes

We would like to send out a big congratulations to one of our Teaching Assistants, Mrs Barnes, who gave birth to a baby girl, Madison on Monday 15th October. We wish them all well.

## Peer Mediation

We are introducing peer mediation within school.

Children from Key stage 2 will be peer mediators for conflicts which arise between children and will be trained on how to resolve conflicts.

## School Council

We have a new School Council, welcome to Sophia, Cerys, Lily Rose, Maeleigh, Abbie and Lena.



Check us out on Facebook!

Townley School and Pre-School

## A note from the Governing Body

At our meeting on 26th September 2018 we made some changes to the full governing body and discussed how we, as governors, can work effectively to offer the best learning experiences to all children at Townley school. The recent Ofsted inspection reported that governors need to work more closely with the school and Mrs Higgins. We know results are not as good as they should be and we are working to improve this. We need your help too, especially in areas such as reading, spelling and phonics. To support you in these areas, staff are holding workshops for parents/carers, and encourage you to come along so that you can help us to help your child. Cllr Yeulett has resigned from the governing body and we would like to thank him for his years of dedicated service. Ms Reading has joined us as co-opted governor and with her experience as a school advisor, we feel she will be an invaluable addition. Other members of the governing body are Dr Paine, Mr Freeland, Mr Hughes and Miss Chenery. The other co-opted governor is myself and I am a retired primary school head teacher. Having been appointed as Chair of governors, I look forward to meeting you all in the future. We are currently seeking a governor from the community join us. If you are interested please contact the school office or email [chair@townley.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@townley.cambs.sch.uk)

Sue Rudge


Chair of Governors.

## PGL Residential

Children from year 5 and 6 had a fantastic time at Caythorpe court on their PGL residential. They did activities such as kayaking, rock climbing, orienteering and lots more!



Please see page 13 for more info on our forthcoming BAGS2SCHOOL collection on 4<sup>th</sup> December



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# The Newbie Blog!

## ONE YEAR ON ...

I moved to this lovely village of Christchurch one year ago. I can hardly believe it! Where has the time gone? And what a year it has been!

There was "The Beast from the East" – oh, so cold! – and then our Mediterranean Summer, which was wonderful – but oh so hot! My favourite flowers did well this year...Sunflowers!



I love the light in this part of England. You can understand why Artists love it too. Near to Constable country. I am not an artist, but I do appreciate art.

I am feeling somewhat guilty. The reason being, that, before I moved here – or anywhere - I knew I would need a lot of support from neighbours, as I live alone. In June, I discovered I needed both cataracts to be "done". Having had one hip replaced in August 2017, I was told the other one would also need to be replaced within a year.

I have three sons with families of their own, who are scattered across the globe, and although one was able to help out for a week, the rest of the support was down to the kindness of my new friends and neighbours.

My cataracts were done in the summer and my hip in late August.. I am still steadily recovering from the latter. I can only say a huge thank you to all the kind people who have helped me out. Once things are back to "normal", whatever, and whenever, that might be, I hope I will be able to help others in some way. There are some very special people in our village.

I am now looking forward to my first pain-free Christmas in many years. And how bright the lights will be, now I can see them properly! The NHS has done me proud this year.

How blessed am I!

Annie

## Vet's View

by Nick Wojciechowski



As we near Halloween I would like to point two toxic dangers to our pets.

Not many people are aware that mouldy food is toxic to animals. Dogs, with their indiscriminate eating habits, can easily ingest mouldy matter. They raid waste bins and compost heaps that can be full of bread, pasta, other starchy foods, and mouldy cheese. They can also chew on old, mouldy pumpkins, so ubiquitous around Halloween.

Mould produces special kind of toxins that can result in tremors, so called tremorogenic mycotoxins. The most common signs of exposure to these toxins include hyperthermia, salivation, vomiting, ataxia, tachycardia, fasciculation, tremors, and seizures. The signs usually start within one to two hours after exposure, but might take longer to become apparent. The signs usually resolve within 48 hours but the animals affected will need veterinary attention. The treatment involves infusion of special intravenous antidote that can harvest the toxins from the blood stream, anticonvulsants and antiepileptic medication plus supportive management as needed.

### **PLEASE NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE SERIOUSNESS OF MOULD POISONING.**

Another Halloween-themed toxic exposure is glow sticks fluid. Around this time of the year glow sticks can be found in many households. Dogs (and sometimes cats) tend to chew on them and then they come into contact with the fluid contained in the plastic tubes. The chemical causing the glow reaction, dibutyl phthalate, fortunately isn't poisonous to animals. Nevertheless it is causing a very strong taste reaction, resulting in drooling, pawing at mouth, agitation, irritation and, sometimes, vomiting.

There is no specific treatment of glow stick fluid ingestion. Washing the inside of the mouth with some water (not under pressure!) and cleaning the coat to remove remnants of the fluid is usually enough (it might help to take your dog to a darkened room to see if there is any residue on the coat). Please make sure your dog has access to water so they drink in order to get rid of the taste. If your pet appears to be unwell please contact your vets for advice and help if needed.

Nick



# Pooch Page

It would appear that Dick Dastardly and Muttley have been in town recently!



They were spotted in March a few weeks back and Muttley had all his motorbike gear on as per usual.



On this occasion he was actually filming his trip too as you can see. What an honour for us to have such a TV star in town! And in the flesh too! Here's a local lad (top of next column) who actually 'looks like' a cartoon dog! This is Dexter. Can you spot the breed? He is shown below with all his chums. Dexter at the top (of course), middle row from left to right Dizzy, Ava, Tag, and in the front April, and Ted. Can you name the breeds? Some tricky one's there!

If you would like your pooch or pet featured in the magazine please send in your photos to - [editor@theheron.info](mailto:editor@theheron.info)



Finally, this is Ben a Red Fox Labrador. We're sure you've seen him round and about the village. Looks like its time for a nap after his long walk!?





# Useful Telephone Numbers

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<b>Veterinary Centre - The Crossings (D'Mkt) 01366 382219 NEW</b>	
Vicars - Ian & Lynda Brady	01354 740627
Water Emergencies	08457 145145
<b>Club Contacts</b>	
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 Keen	01945 772737
WI - Ann Hicks	01354 638260

## Neighbourhood Watch

Colin Steenson - Church Rd (East)

Sandra Kay - Crown Rd

Shirley Knight - Church Rd (West)

David Yates - Church Rd (West)

Julian Swallow - Upwell Rd (North)

Jackie Wood - Upwell Rd (North)

Simon Freeland - Upwell Rd (South)

Richard Guilford - Area Co-ordinator

David Harrowing - District Co-ord.

## And Finally!...

So - have you done all your Christmas shopping yet? That of course includes stocking up on logs—see page 14, and kindling - see page 18. It's all getting rather Christmasy isn't it? Don't forget to book your place at the forthcoming "Village Christmas Party" on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of December. Should be fun!



I can't believe that's another year nearly over! Where does the time go? It's true what they say—"The trouble with being retired is that you never get a day off!" Especially true if you're the Editor of a village magazine!

Well I guess now I've put the mag to bed I'd better start work on MY Christmas list! Now let me see - new laptop for me, new set s of cartridges for the printers, top up with petrol ready to collect sales cash from shop outlets and to deliver

November's issue. Then, blitz the house ready for my beloveds forthcoming visit. Let's see - that should take most of the weekend I think!? So - maybe a wee hot toddy first!



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

'Till next time! - Ed'.



# Isle of Man Scooter Rally 2018

(Part Two)

by our roving reporter Colin Steenson

After another 'full English' the next morning, we set off over past Jurby airport to the hills beyond. This was quite a steep climb up over 1000 feet. We stopped at the top to admire the view. Really we were catching our breath!



From there we went up another long hill climb to Druidale where there is a large water splash which we rode through and up the other side again. Another 700 feet up! When the mist came down, in Viking times, it was known as 'The cloak of Mammam', something they never actually ever found! Lol



After that we set off back down to Jurby. It seemed a long way coming back down on the narrow track with only the occasional passing place. We had to watch our speed for any other vehicles coming up!

Back at Jurby we then visited the local Transport Museum which included bikes, scooters, cars - including Norman Wisdom's Rolls Royce, coaches, buses, and several trains. There is still a narrow gauge steam railway which serves the island. We had a good look at it but unfortunately didn't actually have the time to travel on it.



Back in the local pub for our evening meal the football was in full swing on the TV. So it was a bit rowdy with lots of cheering, and ooh's and aah's for the near misses. There was a 'presentation day' the next day but we decided to do our own thing and went for another tour around the island, and once more around the TT Course. Well it had to be done! It was there!

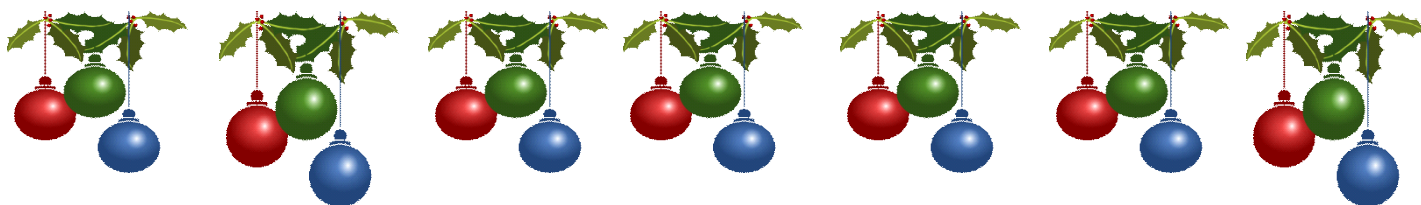
So the following morning, having packed our bags and undertaken a final 'full English', we were promised a discount by the hotel if we returned for the next rally in two years time. A kind thought!

Back on Douglas Promenade, along with the buses and trams, the old 'toast-racks' were still plying their trade as an integral part of the islands transport system. They are so called because the seat backs can be flipped in either direction. A wonderful piece of working heritage nostalgia.



And so we headed off to the ferry for about 11.00am. We had dinner aboard, even though we were still quite 'stuffed' after our 'full English' earlier. It had been a wonderful trip with lots of fond memories. Sadly, having lost my wife just over two years ago we had not been able to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. However, I had promised to take Helen so I made the trip anyway in her memory.

[MORE ON MY 'BEATLES' TOUR NEXT MONTH!](#)



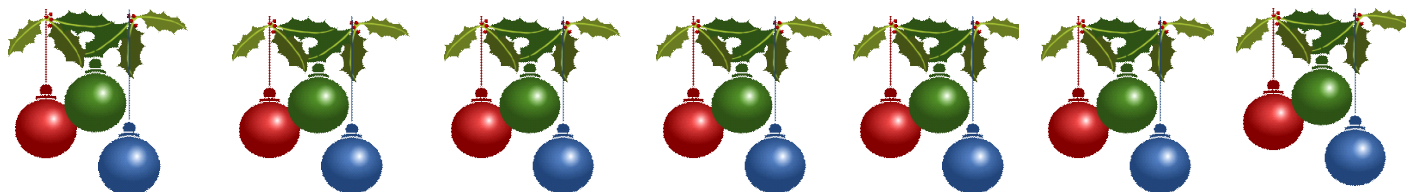
**CHRISTCHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**VILLAGE CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
**WITH FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS**  
**SATURDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018**  
**MUSIC BY “COCKNEY JOCK”**



**TAKE AN EVENING OFF FROM CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS,  
PUT YOUR DANCING SHOES ON AND BRING ALONG FRIENDS AND  
FAMILY TO JOIN IN AN EVENING OF WINE, FOOD AND  
GOOD MUSIC.**

**DOORS OPEN FROM 7.30 – UNTIL MIDNIGHT**  
**FOOD: CHILLI, CURRY OR VEGETARIAN OPTION**

**TO RESERVE YOUR TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT**  
**RUTH INGRAM (01354 638419)**  
**OR ELAINE REED-HUGHES (01354 638310)**  
**ADULTS £10      CHILDREN £5**



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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.