



# The Heron

Community Magazine

November 2019

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

No. 67

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Tom Cockerton & Maz Baker at the "Unwrapped" shop in Ely. Next to "Lighthouse".

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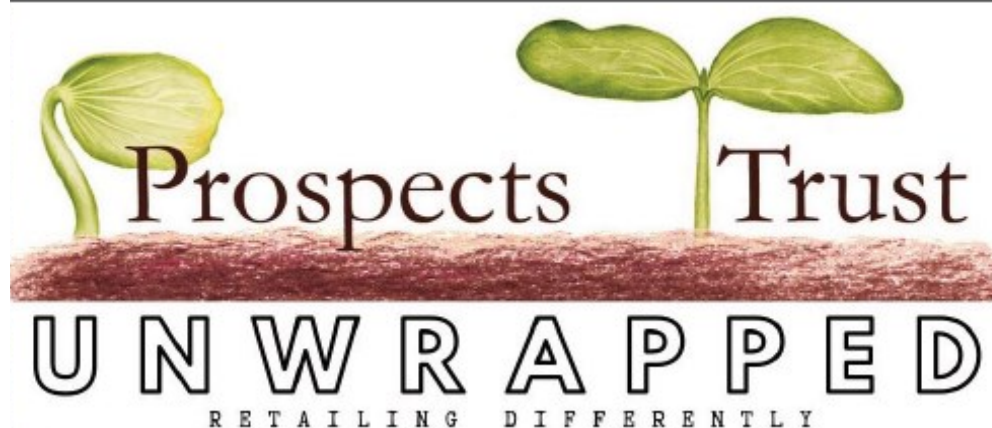
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Continuing the theme from last month's cover article with Nate Lansdell of ChristchurchEco, we are pleased to follow that up with yet another innovation which seeks to reduce our reliance on 'single use plastics'.

Prospects Trust was set up over thirty years ago by a group of parents who sought to provide 'prospects' for their disabled children. Prospects Trust now offers one hundred and twenty placements, plus two in the shop, for disabled but physically-able young adults. Since 1989 the trust has rented Snakehall Farm in Swaffham Road, Reach, from the local council. All the produce is sown, grown, harvested, and graded by co-workers with additional needs, and as a social enterprise. Profits are ploughed back into the running of the training schemes. They recently held an Open Day there celebrating "30 Years". They are now virtually self-sufficient in all their fruit and veg grown on the farm and supply the Daily Bread and many local pubs. The farm has grown steadily itself too from six to sixty-five workers.

Just six weeks ago they opened "Unwrapped" which is nestled alongside the "Lighthouse" Centre in Ely. They are already going from strength-to-strength and are building up a solid, and regular customer base. I was privileged to sit and interview Tom the other Saturday and enjoyed coffee and flapjacks in a wonderfully friendly atmosphere surrounded by young people chatting.

"Unwrapped" is a greengrocer of local organic veg, they'll even be stocking my honey products from next spring, especially focussing on beeswax food wraps to further reduce plastics use. They also provide eggs, fruit and flowers, but their really unique selling point is their "plastic free refill larder" where you take along your own bag or container to top up with goods, and products including shampoo, and washing liquids. They are supplied with loose coffee by 'Hot Numbers' and their own unique blend of loose-leaf tea by 'Samovar' who are both based in Ely town. The shop is really well worth a visit when you are passing. You can also check them out on the web [prospectstrust.org.uk/unwrapped](https://prospectstrust.org.uk/unwrapped) or on

Facebook: [prospectstrustunwrapped](https://www.facebook.com/prospectstrustunwrapped) 01353 662010 and/or Email: [unwrapped@prospectstrust.org.uk](mailto:unwrapped@prospectstrust.org.uk)

Ely already has a vibrant shopping scene. Personally I love the town, overshadowed as it is by its wonderful nine hundred year old cathedral. "Unwrapped's" shop manager Tom Cockerton has been hands on in the design, layout and build of the shop, its storeroom and kitchen refit. During the set up period he has met lots of local residents passing by who suggested many of the things they'd like him to stock. Working solidly throughout the summer months Tom and his colleagues couldn't wait to open, which they finally did in September having transformed much pre-loved kit into a brand new shop! Reuse and repurpose has been at the heart of the venture with donated furniture from solidarity partner Emmaus of Cambridge, paint donated by The Newmarket Paint Company and Re-Imagine, along with lots of help from an amazing group of volunteers. The shop is also now steadily developing a "Pod" wall full of local handicrafts and other 'eco' products. So when you stop-off for tea/coffee and cake there will be lots of environmentally friendly gift ideas too!

The Ely shop is an additional training ground for new co-workers, helping young people who are currently marginalised from mainstream employment to gain accredited training in retail and food hygiene whilst gaining practical supported work experience in both the shop and the farm food servery.

**Supported placements are still available for more Co-workers with details available at: [prospectstrust.org.uk/unwrapped](https://prospectstrust.org.uk/unwrapped) or just pop-in to chat with the team at the shop: "Unwrapped" 13, Lynn Road, Ely CB7 4EG Tel: 01353 662010**

# Community Information

**Mobile Library:** First Tuesday of each month - in the lay-by Upwell Road - 12:15 - 12:45pm. Forthcoming dates are: Nov <sup>3rd</sup>, Dec <sup>1st</sup>, and so on.

## Mobile Post Office:

Visits Monday to Thursday in the lay-by Upwell Road  
Monday and Thursday - 16.30 to 17:00pm  
Tuesday and Wednesday - 16.10 to 17:00pm  
Fridays - no service.

Use it or lose it!

## Community Car Scheme:

This scheme is still running for Christchurch and surrounding villages but is now being run by Cathy Pook. To book a ride or to become a volunteer driver please contact Cathy on 01945 738224. An additional driver is still required for the scheme. For more information please contact Cathy on 01945 738224.

## West Norfolk Transport Project ~ Marshland Dial-A-Bus

Following our recent update on these bus services where it was shown that on **Wednesdays** a service runs to King's Lynn, with pick-ups in **Christchurch** and **Tipps End**, amongst other places; it has been pointed out to me that if enough Christchurch and/or Tipps End residents availed themselves of this service, other services to different venues on different days might be considered. Other services to King's Lynn and Downham Market currently run on other days of the week but without local pick-ups.

Leaflets containing full details of available trips and pick-up points can be obtained from Upwell Health Centre in reception. Bookings can be made Monday to Friday (except Bank Holidays) from 9.00am to 4.00pm starting on the Monday prior to the week of the journey. When you book your journey please let them know if you have to travel in a wheelchair, take a trolley, walker, or any other aids.

**For fares, times and Bookings please call**

**01553 770310**

I am pleased to report that following the last two months **Community Info** on the **Dial-A-Bus Project** that some villagers have already joined the scheme and have benefited from several trips to Kings Lynn! We hope that this bodes well for the future of the scheme with other routes and pick-up points being added in the not too distant future. Why not give them a ring!? Contact details as above.

## Ban on WI Bakers is Lifted! -

A Health & Safety ban on Women's Institute members baking cakes for a local hospice has been lifted! Lorus Hospice in Leicester had stopped accepting home-made cakes because council rules said food had to come from registered, approved, establishments. This would mean that the WI volunteers faced submitting their kitchens to rigorous checks. However, Leicester City Council now says that because many members who bake cakes for the charity do so infrequently, there was no need for them to have a hygiene certificate.

Janet Kirk of Leicestershire & Rutland WI said: "Our members are delighted to be able to resume baking for Lorus. Our cakes are always well received by the residents and they look forward to our visits!"

Lorus Hospice cares for 2,500 people every year.

## EDITORIAL

Well! By the time you are reading this there'll be less than 60 shopping days left until the Great Day! With all that 'wrapping' to do in the meanwhile!

Talking of 'wrapping' - see what I did there! Please take note of our lead article this month! "Unwrapped" is the most wonderful concept, designed to reduce, or even eliminate, 'single use plastics'! A great follow up to Nate Lansdell's "ChristchurchEco" article of last month. You really should pay Tom a visit! Great shop! Great atmosphere! Great produce! No plastic bags! Oh! And a great selection of teas and coffees with cakes, flapjacks, biscuits etc. Why not pop-in after your Ely shopping trip?

Apart from all the usual features we are 'breaking' a most worrying and intriguing story concerning 'The Truth' behind the conviction of Tony Martin for what has turned out to be a 'Murder Fraud'! Facts exposed in suppressed evidence are truly mind boggling! See the introductory part of the story on page fourteen. We will be serialising the full story next year!

Not such a busy month this month, but still lots of activities going on with all the various clubs (pages 12 & 13), Jazz Club, and Welle Cinema's - "The Keeper" on page 7. Plus all our wonderful adverts that might help with some Christmas ideas.

I'm really looking forward to the "Ceilidh" at the end of the month with "Frog on a Bike". Should be a lot of fun that one! And don't forget the "Christmas Tree Festival" starts then too! With all the trees being exhibited until Christmas. Please see page 23 for full details!

Oh! And why not enjoy one of the Fireworks Displays on the back page, BUT - PLEASE TAKE CARE!

Enjoy! 'Till next time!

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# 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** Pilates - each Monday - 6.30-7.30pm - CCC

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

**Rainbows & Brownies & Guides 5-15pm onwards - CCC**

**Fridays** “Coffee, Cake, and Chat” - 2.00 - 3.00pm - Parish Church - ALL WELCOME

## General events

**Oct 31<sup>st</sup>** “Halloween Night Special” at The Dun Cow - Fancy Dress Comp’, Lucky Dip etc.

**Nov 1<sup>st</sup>** Outwell Fireworks Display, Outwell Playing Field - 6.00pm - See back page.

**Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>** Fireworks in Hemingford - See back page

**Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>** Welle Cinema - “The Keeper”- 1.30 for 2.00pm film - Bar and snacks - CCC - See page 7

**Nov 5<sup>th</sup>** Craft Club - Salt Dough Christmas Tree Decorations - 7.00pm - CCC - See page 13

**Nov 5<sup>th</sup>** Ely On-Par Fireworks Display - See back page.

**Nov 9<sup>th</sup>** Public Meeting - “Tony Martin - The Truth!” - Elm Village Hall 2.00pm - FREE

**Nov 9<sup>th</sup>** March Scouts Firework Display, Live Band, Hot Food, Gates open 5.30pm see p. 28

**Nov 12<sup>th</sup>** Art Club - Continuation of work - 1.30 to 3.30pm - CCC

**Nov 12<sup>th</sup>** WI - Talk on Sheila Day’s Vietnam & Cambodia Trip - 7.00pm CCC

**Nov 19<sup>th</sup>** Gardening Club - - 7.00pm CCC - See page 12

**Nov 26<sup>th</sup>** Art Club - Favourite Artist Research - 1.30 - 3.30pm - CCC

**Nov 26<sup>th</sup>** Book Club - “The Kite Runner” by Khaled Hosseini - 7.30pm at Janet’s - see page 13

**Nov ???** Jazz Club - “Len Skeat & Friends” - 12.30pm entry £6.50 - CCC - Please see page 7

**Nov 30<sup>th</sup>** “Christmas Tree Festival” in the Church till Christmas - Please see page 23

**Nov 30<sup>th</sup>** “Ceilidh” dancing to “Frog on a Bike” - Tickets only £7.50 - 7.00pm till late - CCC p6

## Parish Church Services

**Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>** 11.00am D Morris, A Day All Age Worship & Memorial Service

**Nov 10<sup>th</sup>** 9.30am Rev’d L Brady Remembrance Service

**Nov 17<sup>th</sup>** 3.30pm\* D Morris Evening Prayer

**Nov 24<sup>th</sup>** 11.00am V Smith Morning Prayer

**Dec 1<sup>st</sup>** 11.00am 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 December 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 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 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.**

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



# Letters to the Editor



## Norfolk & Waveney NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups - Director Appointment

Issued on behalf of Melanie Craig, Chief Officer for the Five CCG's

Dear Colleague,

I am very pleased to announce that we have appointed Howard Martin as Locality Director for West Norfolk, Howard is currently Deputy Chief Finance Officer for the CCGs in Norfolk & Waveney, and with his recent background rooted in King's Lynn for West Norfolk CCG Howard brings strong local experience to this important role. With the support of our practices in West Norfolk, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn, and local authority partners we have applied to create a single CCG for Norfolk & Waveney. Howard's team will, therefore, be pivotal in building on local relationships and ensuring that we have a strong West Norfolk locality.

I would particularly like to thank Jeanette Hucey who has been in the role on an interim basis, and I am glad that she can remain with us for the next couple of months as Programme Director to assist Howard and his team. We shall be looking forward to advertising for a new Deputy CFO in the near future and we will announce details in due course.

With best wishes

Melanie Craig

**Chief Officer NHS Commissioning Groups for Norfolk & Waveney**

**Executive Lead for Norfolk & Waveney STP**

Tel: 01502 719852 PA: Amara Cunningham

[amara.cunningham@nhs.net](mailto:amara.cunningham@nhs.net)

*Thanks Melanie! - Ed'.*

Dear Editor,

It is with regret that I write to you concerning the behaviour of some of the Parish Council/ Community Centre Committee Members at the recent Harvest Supper, held at the Community Centre on 28<sup>th</sup> of September.

Apart from 'hogging the show' by inundating the guest singer with requests it seems that some members felt they had a 'divine right' to do just as they please. This was confirmed when the comment was heard, "We

can do as we like! We can stay open as long as we want" Quite a few guests left at this point.

This sort of attitude is clearly not right and is demeaning to other guests. Besides which presumably the Community Centre had already been booked for the event for a set period of time?

This does not inspire confidence in such arrogant leadership!

Yours in disgust

Norma Whittington

*I'm sure there must be a misunderstanding here! - Ed'.*

Dear Editor

It is really great that the community events are so well attended, and I suspect that is partly due to the directive roadside notices that are put in place for such events.

I regularly trail round the roadsides adjoining my property, and this year I have been picking up 'spent' notices. These are quite heavy and can be attached to a post which makes them difficult to recycle.

I wonder, please, if those persons putting out the notices could retrieve them once the advertised event is over?

Thank you

Elizabeth Delamore

*I must confess to being one of the guilty parties. I hope that others will also take note! - Ed'.*



# **Christchurch Community Centre** **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**7.00pm till late**

**“CEILIDH”**



**Dancing to**

**“Frog on a Bike!”**

**Leave your inhibitions at the door  
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**Contact Elaine Reed-Hughes on 01354 638310**

**[elainereedhughes@gmail.com](mailto:elainereedhughes@gmail.com)**





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## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2pm **THE KEEPER (15)**



The extraordinary love story between a young English woman and a German POW. Margaret Friar's father, manager of the local football team, notices young German soldier Bert Trautmann, and is so taken by Bert's prowess as a goal-keeper that he gets him out of the camp to play for his local team. Bert marries Margaret and signs for Man City. This causes outrage to thousands of Man City fans, many of them Jews. But Margaret wins support from an unexpected direction: Rabbi Altmann, a Man City supporter who fled the Nazis, publishes an open letter opposing the campaign against Bert. Bert's path to acceptance begins and peaks at the 1956 FA Cup Final when he secures victory for Man City by playing on despite breaking his neck. Yet fate twists the knife for both Margaret and Bert. Alienated and alone, Margaret's and Bert's loyalty is put to the test once more. Bert wants to give up, but Margaret insists that they move forward and that he keeps on playing.

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

## Upwell Jazz Club 2019

Christchurch Community Centre (Sat Nav PE14 9LL)

**Sunday 24th November**

**Len Skeat and Friends – Jazz in the Fens**

**Guests\*: Bruce Adams – trumpet/flugel horn**

**Alan Barnes – reeds**

**Mark Nightingale – trombone**

**John Pearce – piano**

**Len Skeat – double bass**

**Neil Bullock – drums**

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

**More information from Richard Guilford on 01354 638990**

**Accompanied under-16s Free – Bar, fresh rolls, crisps and savouries available**



\* artistes subject to change



# Stock Car Racing!



One of my earliest memories is of my parents taking my brother Ivan and I stock car racing to Northampton stadium. I must have been about four or five years old at the time and I have never forgotten the sheer excitement of those huge and noisy cars racing around right in front of me. Although I was a bit young to say that I was hooked at that age it is something that has been a large part of my life ever since, in fact in 1982 I took Susan the girl that I was to marry racing at Ipswich on our second ever date (just to show her what she was letting herself in for).

Stock car racing takes place most weekends on oval tracks around the country and the term stock car refers to just some

of the formulas that race on these tracks. At any meeting you will find a mixture of stock cars, hot rods and bangers in various different guises. The top formula are the Formula 1 (F1) stock cars, these are purpose built open wheeled cars which have massive American V8 engines; the sight and sound of thirty of these monsters hurtling around a small oval track is something to behold. In fact we have a true legend of F1 right here in Christchurch; Dave Chisholm won the F1 world championship three times in the 1970s. F2 stock cars are a smaller version of F1s and use 2 litre engines.

Stock cars are a contact formula where pushing the opposition out of the way is very much part of the game. Perhaps the most entertaining stock car formula is the saloon stock cars. These are heavily armoured saloons which race around at breathtaking speeds and hit each other very hard indeed. At most oval race meetings bangers will be on the agenda. There are several different classes of bangers and suffice to say they are a contact formula and if you want to see some spectacular crashes they are the cars to watch.

For those that like to see fast, close and competitive racing we also have the Hot Rods. These are race tuned saloon cars where contact is forbidden, it is purely down to the skill of the driver to fight their way through to the front of the pack. In all oval formulae it is usually the case that the fastest cars with the best drivers start at the back, this makes for a fairer race and ensures plenty of overtaking and excitement. We are fortunate in this area in that East Anglia truly is a hotbed of oval racing and there are several tracks within an easy distance of Christchurch.

King's Lynn stadium, or the Adrian Flux Arena as it is now known is widely regarded as the premier oval racing venue in the country. Meetings there are always well attended with good numbers of cars and big crowds of spectators. The facilities for the spectators are excellent with covered grandstands, terracing all around the track, a newly refurbished bar and plenty of food outlets.

Swaffham raceway is a very family friendly venue with grass banking around a tarmac track, it is an excellent place to take the children along to and spend a Sunday afternoon watching the racing.

We also have Mildenhall stadium, this is has covered grandstands and grass banking and has a small and tight loose surface shale track. Spectators there have a great view all around the raceway and the small track ensures that there is always plenty of action.

At all of these venues spectators are welcome to walk around the pit areas and the drivers and pit crews are always friendly and happy to have a chat.

If you have never experienced the thrill and excitement of stock car racing why not go along to a meeting and see for yourself? Details of the meetings can be found as follows:

King's Lynn – [www.stockcar-racing.co.uk](http://www.stockcar-racing.co.uk)

Swaffham – [www.swaffhamarena.com](http://www.swaffhamarena.com)

Mildenhall – [www.mildenhallanddunwich.co.uk](http://www.mildenhallanddunwich.co.uk)



Andy's daughter Natasha racing at Stoke Speedway



# Richard Hughes Cookery Demonstration

Alma, was a much-loved and long-time member of Christchurch WI who sadly passed away earlier this year and Richard honoured her with his tales and thanked those people who were there for her during her life and later on while she was ill.



Richard and his wife stayed for refreshments afterwards and Richard kindly left us his creations to raffle off at the end of the evening.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who came along to support this event and hope you all enjoyed the evening as much as we did. I should also like to thank Mrs Higgins, Headteacher at Townley School, for the loan of the school stage and a big thank you to those Christchurch WI members who donated raffle prizes, made the refreshments and helped to make this event a success.

Christchurch WI were very proud to welcome Michelin star chef, Richard Hughes, back to the village for another one of his highly entertaining cookery demonstrations. Richard delighted us all by showing us some simple but interesting recipes with mackerel and salmon, he then made a lovely vegetable risotto. This was followed by a beautiful Apple Tarte Tatin. Whilst the cookery demonstration was wonderful, I think we would all agree that Richard is quite the showman – wowing us all with his funny anecdotes of a childhood in Christchurch with his parents and two brothers. He even credited his brother David for the introduction of using lavender in cooking – regaling us with a tale of him covering one particular batch of his mother’s precious strawberry crop (destined for the jam factory) with lavender talc! Richard’s mother,





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There was no business at all tonight as our meeting was a Harvest Supper event. A delicious supper of homemade soups and desserts were enjoyed by our members, members from Chatteris and Doddington WI and friends/guests from Christchurch and the local area.

Our meal was then followed by a fantastic Magic show by Bourne Magician, Pickpocket and Hypnotist, Ricky Locke. Ricky involved almost all of the audience in his routine and I am sure all will agree he was thoroughly entertaining. Peggy thanked Ricky and all our guests for attending. Peggy also thanked our members for their contributions of desserts, soups, raffle prizes and time that helped make the event such a success.

#### [Next month's meeting:](#)

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.00 pm.

Speaker – Sheila Day - Vietnam & Cambodia Trip

Refreshments – Sandra Lloyd and Ann Hicks

Raffle – Wendy, Tracy, Peggy, and Sylvia M

#### [Future Meetings:](#)

Dec – Annual Meeting followed by Dr Maureen James - *'Christmas Custom and Folklore'*

Jan – Resolutions Meeting, catch-up and chat

Feb – Fish & Chip Supper with Sing-Along

Mar – How to use/recycle your scrap fabrics – Demonstration by Mellymade Designs, Littleport

Apr – *Wicken Fen – Past & Present* – Talk by Peter Green, National Trust

May – Resolutions & Games Evening

Jun – Curling Session

Jul – *"You Cannot Be Serious"* – Talk by Ex Wimbledon Umpire, Alan Gray

We meet on the second Tuesday of every month, at the Community Centre, and are always looking for new members. Recently, some of our members got together to enjoy a 3.5 mile walk around the country trails and lanes of Upwell. This was followed by a lovely lunch at The Five Bells in Upwell. After the July meeting some members stayed behind to enjoy a half an hour singing session which was enjoyed by all. Why not pop along for a taster session, for £3, to see if you like it. We look forward to welcoming you.

**Elaine**

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

## Christchurch "Winter Planting" Gardening Club

If there is one thing that both me and the other members of the Gardening club appreciate, it's listening to someone who has paid their dues and really, to turn a phrase, "knows their onions!"

This past year, meeting after meeting, we have been privileged to have been visited by some of the best in the business. Earlier in the year we had Dr Eric Somerville, he enlightened us about first aid in the garden. Then Brian Massingham and the folks from Wisbech in Bloom gave us the lowdown on the displays they provide all over the town. Nigel Davies gave us the inside story on Gamekeeping, while just last month Stuart Limpus gave us some great ideas, we could use in the Autumn Garden.

October the 15<sup>th</sup> as I remember was a chilly evening which suited perfectly the subject matter for that meetings speaker, Tim Jellis who delivered a comprehensive talk on Winter plants.

After many years in the commercial gardening sector, Tim now teaches first and second grade gardening at Meadowgate Academy in Wisbech. The school caters to pupils from two to nineteen years of age who suffer from Visual Impairment, Autistic Spectrum Disorder as well as other conditions that give rise to learning difficulties. For well over an hour Tim showed hedging plants and every manor of cold weather planting that one could imagine, as well as an illuminating talk on planting and soil types. An entertaining and worthwhile evening in which I'm sure we all learnt a lot. Perhaps the main thing to take away from the meeting is that Winter Gardens do not have to be drab and boring. Tim is an old friend of the club but hadn't been to see us since before our new Community Centre opened its doors. Let's hope it won't be so long between visits next time.

As the seasons change and Autumn is once more upon us, the club begins to wind down as it heads towards the final meeting of the year, and another club tradition, the annual Fish and Chip Supper, next month. I can't wait. All club meetings are open to non-members and the new membership begins in February at the AGM. For details call 01354 638 230 **Steve**





# Christchurch Art Group



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

Our group is friendly and relaxed. We are all enjoying the sessions and trying out new ideas and techniques. We now have places available to welcome some more members. Even if you have never picked up a pencil or brush before plenty of help is available. We look forward to new members giving art a try. All materials will be available to use until you have your own.

We have a tutor to lead and teach us, but we can also 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

Our new term started on the 10<sup>th</sup> September with a new and varied programme

We start each term with a re-cap. This time it was using a limited colour pallet. We progressed to tonal paintings.

Our attendance fee is £30 for the term of six weeks. Once again this will be reviewed from time to time depending on numbers attending. The more members we have the less the fee is per person.



We welcome any new members, no need for previous experience. We all work at our own level, and plenty of tuition is offered.

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 if you so wish)***

**Jan Clifford**

This month we had fun with pyrography, the art of burning wood with special tools. Sue Norman showed us the art on wooden spoons and spatulas that she and her daughter had done over the years, also on wooden boxes. Various designs were demonstrated and for those who wanted some were coloured in using felt tips or watercolours. These were then spray varnished to seal them. A lovely way to make a personalised present.

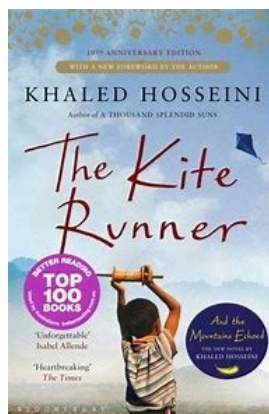


October was also our AGM. All committee members, apart from Jo, agreed to continue. We thanked Jo for all her hard work and welcomed Jane Rees onto our committee. Next month we meet at 7.00pm on the 5<sup>th</sup> November. That would have been a good night for woodburning! We will be making salt-dough Christmas tree decorations. Please bring a work board and cookie cutters, and please bring any past decorations to put on our tree for the end of the month. We love to welcome new members if you'd like to come along and see what we are doing. Contact Sandra on 01354 638956.

## Christchurch Book Club

Book Club met on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. We had been reading "The Mars Room" by Rachel Kushner. And our verdict for once was unanimous (this doesn't happen very often).....Grim! Grim! Grim!

The main character is an inmate of an American prison who is convicted of murder. The book relates to her background, what had led her to her current situation, and introduces the reader to various characters she encounters during her sentence. Although it gives a detailed insight into American life at its most dysfunctional, all felt that this book did not enable them to truly engage with the characters.



Next meeting on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November at Janet's, "Little Acorns" (opposite pub). We shall be discussing "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini. New members are always welcome and we are a friendly bunch! We read one book a month and there are no worries if we do not finish it (either because we didn't like it or we simply ran out of time). Books are supplied by the library, although some prefer Kindles or audio-books. For more info please contact Sheila Day on 07946635908.

# Tony Martin ~ The Truth!

## A 'Murder Fraud!' by Brian Pead

It was the genius Albert Einstein who said that "Unthinking respect for the authority is the greatest enemy of The Truth". We can safely say that he knew a thing or two about the world, so let's see if his mantra was accurate or not in the famous case of the murder of 16-year-old Fredrick Jackson Barras, said to have been perpetrated by Emneth farmer, Tony Martin around 8.30pm on the night of 20<sup>th</sup> August 1999. The official story goes that on that damp August night, with just a quarter-moon illuminating the countryside blackness, bachelor farmer Tony Martin was awoken by the sound of two burglars smashing their way into his Emneth, Norfolk farmhouse. By any standards, that's difficult for us to believe because burglars normally like to work as quietly as the proverbial church mouse and besides, the farmer's car was parked outside his house which the burglars could not have failed to have seen. So they knew he was in!

The story goes that Tony Martin armed himself with an illegally-held shotgun, came down a flight of stairs in the pitch black darkness and shot both men inside the breakfast room at the back of the house "like rats in a trap" fatally wounding traveller Fred Barras and seriously wounding Brendon Feardon 29. The story goes that Feardon made his way to a bungalow almost half a mile away where occupants called the Police...The story goes that Feardon was taken to hospital in King's Lynn, while Barras was not found for 17 hours - a police search "having been delayed because of the farmers dogs"... The story goes that Barras "had died within two minutes of being shot, apparently, and could not have been saved no matter what"... It has been said that Tony Martin was a ruthless and calculated killer and that he fully deserved the life sentence handed to him in the Norwich Crown Court in April 2000...or so the story goes...



Author - Brian Pead

***The reality is VERY different!*** This article is based on investigative author Brian Pead's latest book ***Tony Martin: Target of Police Conspiracy*** (Sorrel Press, 2019) Pead, a survivor of the Hillsborough Disaster and the



*exposed child abuse in Lambeth Council, is perhaps best placed to write the 800+ page book on the most famous murder trial of this century. The book is not based on speculation, rumour, gossip or lies but on the Police's own evidence which had been kept hidden from the public for 20 years - until I shone light on the depth of Police and judicial corruption in the entire case against an innocent man. - Ed'.*

So was Einstein right in saying that "Unthinking respect for authority is the greatest enemy of The Truth"? My book separates out the fact from the fiction which was served up to the broad mass of the people by the very "authorities" who are meant to tell them the truth. It was an exact echo of Hillsborough... There was no doubt that an unknown number of intruders smashed their way into Tony Martin's Farmhouse on that fateful August night. That much is true! There is no doubt that he was in fear of his life and that he resorted to firing his shotgun into the darkness after a torch shone in his face whilst standing on the stairs. That much is also true!

But because a farmer fires his gun and because two men end up with shotgun injuries it doesn't automatically follow that the farmer shot the men. But that was the narrative that 65 million people were fooled into believing. Einstein - had he still been alive - would have seen straight through the false narrative that was being served up to people.

The Tony Martin story is not just a story of the right to defend yourself - it is everyman's story: what the state did to him could easily have happened to you. A study of the Tony Martin story will show you how anyone can be fitted up for a crime he didn't commit if the Government wants to use a conviction against you to hide their own wrong doing! And that is precisely what happened on that August night. When he pulled the trigger of his shotgun on the staircase, Tony Martin had no knowledge that the incident was just one in a long line of events which culminated in the murder of a sixteen year old boy.



The murder had clearly been planned months beforehand, and it is equally clear that the Norfolk farmer had been the target of a conspiracy. He had been the obvious fall guy for the Murder Fraud. In my book, I reproduce secret police intelligence files on Tony Martin dating back to the time he inherited the Emnetth farm. Almost two decades prior to the shooting incident. The astute reader will hopefully now be asking him or herself - "What files are being kept on me that I don't know about?" (There are mechanisms in place for you to find out! - More on this after Christmas perhaps! As The Heron prepares to publish a series on this, the most fascinating of cases!)

Having researched the case for more than six years author Brian Pead unearthed evidence to show that the farmhouse was never tested for blood spatter or firearm discharge residue; that the alleged getaway driver was never called to court; that three autopsy reports on Barras had been hidden from the jury; that Barras did not die of a gunshot wound to the chest, as the jurors were told; that Barras had been found **near to** Tony Martin's farm and **not on it**; that Fearon had been shot **outside** and **not inside** any building; and that a police helicopter was flying over the area **before a 999 call was made!**

And, perhaps most importantly, at the very time that Tony Martin fired his gun on the staircase, the sixteen

year old alleged burglar, Fred Barras, was seen over seventy miles away in Newark!

Little wonder then that the famous author Freddie Forsyth said; "The Tony Martin case has exposed the tip of a growing iceberg of resentment over the way the contract between the law-abiding citizen and the State has been broken. And it's not us, the people, who did the breaking!" So just why had the sixteen-year-old Barras been singled out as needing to be "eliminated"? And why was Tony Martin 'fitted-up' for a murder which - on the police's own evidence - he couldn't possibly have committed?

As Albert Einstein said; "Unthinking respect for authority is the greatest enemy of **The Truth!** The truth never made its way into the Norwich Crown Court in April 2000. The 'authorities' created a 'false narrative' which sixty-five-million people, unthinkingly, took to be The Truth! - **It wasn't!**

*Tony Martin - The Target of a Police Conspiracy! Will be continued over several months after Christmas in 2020. Make sure you get a copy and read **The Truth!** of the most sensational con-trick perpetrated against an innocent farmer. **This could so easily have been you!***

- Ed'.

\*\*\*\*\*



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### Local Stronger for Longer Campaign Goes From Strength to Strength!

A local campaign has helped older people keep doing the things they enjoy for longer by increasing the attendance at strength and balance classes by an impressive 23% over the last year.

Falls are one of the most common causes of accidental injury in older people, so it is important we maintain our strength and balance in later life to continue to enjoy activities like gardening, playing with grandchildren and socialising with friends.

Attending strength and balance classes increases confidence and helps keep you carry on doing the things you enjoy for longer.

Simon Hanna, Senior Clinical Exercise Specialist with the NHS said: "I've seen how strength and balance classes have transformed the lives of older people. It can help them feel younger, more energetic, give greater flexibility and help people keep doing the things they enjoy. Many people will not realise that strength naturally starts to decline from the age of 40 but it is reversible and it's never too late to maintain and improve on what we've got. This is especially important for those who have become unsteady on their feet. Why not have a go and see how you can benefit from our class in Christchurch."

To book and to find out more about the class, please call Forever Active on 07432 480105.

The class meets at the Christchurch Community Centre, Upwell Road, Christchurch, PE14 9LL – Every Wednesday 9:30 – 10:30 (Price: Members £4 / Guests £5)

**To find out more about the campaign and to take our 'strength and balance challenge' visit:**

[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/strongerforlonger](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/strongerforlonger)





# Parish Council Snippets

**OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup> 2019**

OK... so there wasn't quite the same pageantry as at another event on the day... but the PC meeting didn't last a lot longer than the Queen's Speech! Just an hour, and, arguably, a lot less contentious.

**Public Time:** **1.** Nate Lansdell gave an update about his ChristchurchEco project. He has completed all four collection stations, although one has yet to find a location. The school is delighted to have one on their premises. There has been a good deal of response and support, and he is working hard getting information out there, and looking for support from recycling companies and other eco projects. The Parish Council thanked him for his hard work and members were unanimous in their praise. Well done Nate! **2.** The subject of the hedge overhanging the pavement on Church Road was brought up by Colin Steenson. The house next to the old shop is responsible for keeping it trimmed. The PC is to send a letter of complaint to the occupants. **3.** Lunch Break update by Annie Nason: there were 16 people there on October 9<sup>th</sup>, three of whom were new to the village. Some weeks fewer folks attend, but generally speaking, it is catching on. A free event, where people bring their own lunch and meet old friends and make new ones. It is a useful venue for the spreading of information by organisations. In the last few months a representative from Age UK came, as did Nate Lansdell. This particular week, two of our local Police Officers came for a chat.

**General PC business** much as usual. Here are some updates: - **The Bus Shelter area** cobbles will soon be in place. - **Troublesome Trees.** Green Lane overhanging trees plus unkempt bushes need reducing; The Croft Trees present a real legal headache as to who is responsible for their maintenance. The PC is continuing to try to unravel this. - **Planning Appeal** re proposed Equestrian building is supported by the PC. - **FDC Local Plans – issues and options.** **Have your say and present a suggestion by Nov 21<sup>st</sup>.** FDC website has forms re A) Local Plan Consultation Response, B) Site Suggestion, C) Local Green Space Nomination. - **FDC Cllr Will Sutton** paid tribute to Nate Lansdell for his vision, initiative and hard work setting up the Christchurch Eco Project.

**SOLAR PANELS ON THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ROOF** will soon be in place. Geoff Harper, on behalf of the PC, applied for a grant from the WHITEMILL FUND. They agreed to pay 85% of the cost. Total cost + £20,000 + VAT. Nigel Russell has released £500 from a dormant fund (*Original Christchurch Horse Show Committee*) towards the PC contribution, and the PC agreed to fund the remainder. VAT will be reclaimed. **Annie Nason**

## Vet's View

As the days become shorter we move closer to the fireworks season. As much as people love the Bonfire night the animals hate it.

There are a couple of things I would like to discuss prior to the various bonfire night festivities.

A lot of people light a bonfire in their gardens, sometimes building it for quite some time. Please remember that many animals, especially hedgehogs, consider piles of wood and branches as an ideal hiding place for the winter. It is worth giving your bonfire a good check before starting the fire to make sure we don't kill any poor animals in the process.



Many dogs (and cats) can be afraid of fireworks. Cats should ideally be kept indoors for the fireworks season. Dogs should be walked on a lead only. It is also worth taking the walk whilst it's still daylight, and before the fireworks start. Preparing your home is easy – put the lights on, shu the curtains or blinds, turn on the television quite loud to cover the noise and light from fireworks. If your dog is particularly worried of fireworks it might be sensible to build a den – cover a table with a blanket, open the cupboard under the stairs, join the back of the armchairs etc., anything that creates a dark, quiet space for your pooch will work. You can comfort your dog as well, being sympathetic, but not overly emotional, we need to provide the support, not the sense that something is wrong. And at night don't let them go into the garden on their own, take them out on a lead. Dog can make a runner even from a locked garden when scared enough!



**Nick**



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and Pre-School



**October 2019**



Early Years have been on a walk around the village.



Hawker Class Story Café.

Emperor Class forensic science lesson.



The saying goes “It takes a village to raise a child..” never have I felt this more strongly than I do now. Our wonderful (I am a little biased) village school is in the heart of the community and I know that our children benefit so much from the seemingly little things the community do to help us. These things make such a big difference to the children and staff. The adults who helped at the Dog Show, those who donate books, magazines, conkers, pine cones and such like, the Bags2School donations, sharing our Facebook posts. the list goes on! I really am very grateful to you all, thank you doesn’t seem enough, but thank you, our children are fortunate to have a community that wants the best for them.

We are going to benefit this year from a school improvement grant from the Opportunity Area (more information on our website). Mrs Greening is leading on a project called Powerful Words, Miss Gathercole is leading a maths project. We re looking forward to bringing you more details soon.

Mrs Steer is leading on undertaking the Primary Science Quality Mark. If you are working in science and think your business might like to partner with us please get in touch as we need business partners who will work with us to help us achieve the award.



Learning about recycling with Nate





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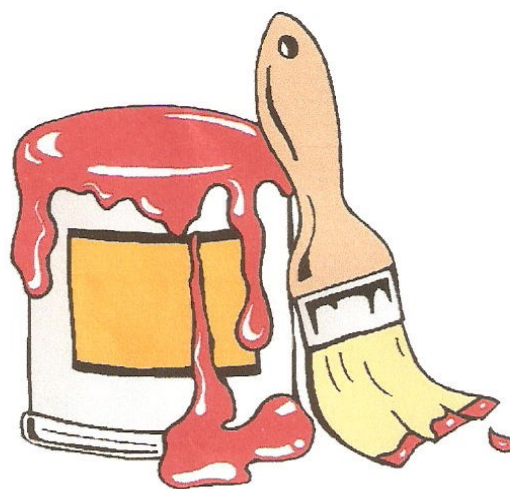
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## Bullet Point!

So! - Years ago when I was taking part in a Remembrance Day Service in the Benefice, a young boy scout came up to me and asked a strange question which has haunted me ever since. "Where did all the bullets go?" Each year at the same service the same young boy scout looks at me and I dread him asking the same question, because then as now I do not have an answer!

It is still an interesting question - Where did all the bullets go that were fired in the two World Wars end up? - And, if all the empty shell cases had been taken to one place, - How high would the mountain of spent ammunition cases be? If you know of an answer to either of these questions please let me know so I can at least pass it on to my inquisitive boy scout.

During the Battle of the Bulge in the Ardennes offensive during the winter of 1944, the Luxembourg town of Clervaux was all but raised to the ground. Today in the rebuilt town there is a small but frequently visited local history museum. In one of the show cases there is a cross made from seven bullets with the image of the crucified Christ welded on to it. Around Christ's head are the words - "Reims Martyre" - which translates "Martyrdom Rheims".



These seven bullets were manufactured to take life but had creatively and artistically been transformed. This was a soldier's way of working through his grief for lost friends and comrades. One wonders if the artist of this 'trench war art' had himself felt 'crucified', deserted by God in his foxhole as he faced death? As the artist is unknown we will never know, but when life has done its worst, many people find comfort in that image of Christ's death. His cross has become an almost universal symbol for our human suffering.

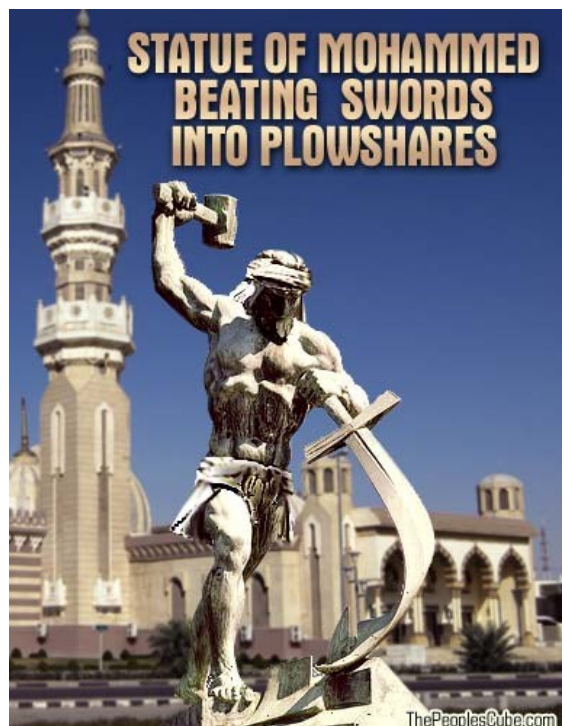
More than one hundred years after WW1, and over seventy years since the end of the last great conflict, bullets are still flying around the world on an even greater scale. Oxfam reported that there are enough bullets in the world to kill nearly every man, woman, and child, twice over! How high might THAT munitions mountain be?

There is, however, a mountain that offers LIFE not death! The Bible prophet Micah foresaw a time when people would go to this mountain and discover God's will, and ways for their lives. He said that, **"From this mountain, God will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will no longer take up sword against nation, nor will they train for War anymore!"**

It was on a hill that Jesus died to make our forgiveness possible. It is only through having Him in our lives that we shall ever have Peace for ourselves in this world.

**"Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore!"**

Ian





# Church News

Thanks to Parish Council funding the war memorial in the church graveyard has had a thorough clean and is now sparkling pearly white. So the long list of our war dead is much more legible.

This years Service of Remembrance will be held on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30am in the Church.

## Our Church Harvest

**Supper** was well supported this year. About forty people enjoyed a delicious meal of lasagne followed by a choice dessert from Peggy's trolley! The evening continued with musical entertainment from Simon Rodgers. There was a great sense of community and we raised £120 for church funds.

**The Harvest collection for March Food Bank.** Thank you to everyone who contributed non-perishable goods. A special thank you to Paul and Sue for "The Dun Cow's" Harvest Box and best wishes. The Food Bank also thanks everyone who supported the collection. All our produce was weighed and came to 21.2 kg. The lady in charge said that this amount would feed a couple for about three and a half days!



# Lunch Break Dates for October IT'S FREE !



\*\*\*\*\*

We always meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays in the month.  
This month  
November 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>  
12 noon until 2.00pm in our Community Centre.

\*\*\*\*\*

Bring your own lunch. Hot drinks provided.  
The kettle is always on!  
Meet up with old friends and make new ones.



\*\*\*\*\*

## Christmas Tree Festival

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

**10.00 till 12.00**

**with various stalls**

**& displayed throughout December**

**For anyone willing to help or exhibit**

**Contact Helen Chappell on 07702 225259**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

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# Useful Telephone Numbers

Age UK Cambridgeshire	0300 6669860
Alzheimer's Society (Fenland)	01945 580480
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)	07871 262818
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 - David Gibbs	07932 191050
Parish Councillor - Jill Bliss	01354 638343
Parish Councillor - Sharon Polmeroy	07837 407536
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 - Kay Miller	01354 638232
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
Veterinary Centre - The Crossings (D'Mkt)	01366 382219
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 - Sandra Lloyd	01354 638956
Gardening Club - Marion Hawthorne	01354 638230
Short Mat Bowls Club - Wendy Keen	01945 772737
WI - Peggy Warby	01354 638339

## Neighbourhood Watch

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

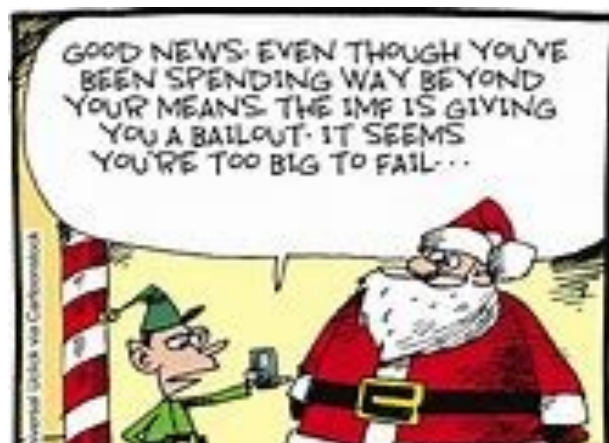
## And Finally!...



So! How's all that Christmas planning going? Are all the family coming over again this year? Or are you escaping on a Christmas Holiday, perhaps a cruise? That's what my best friend and his wife are doing!

Guess we'll all be overspending! Just like last year! But let's not forget in all the commercialism what Christmas is REALLY ABOUT! More on that next month.

**\* By the way! - If any readers would like to send Christmas messages to their friends, neighbours, or family in our December issue next month, we need all your greetings/messages into the office by 25<sup>th</sup> November at the very latest! You may also like to send New Year's greetings in our January edition!? Copy date for that is 20<sup>th</sup> December! \*N.B.**



'Till next time! - Ed'.

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





# AFC CHRISTCHURCH

## 2019 - 2020 SEASON



**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September against Chatteris Town A's Christchurch Magpies 4, Chatteris Town 0 within the first forty-five minutes!!!**

Dale Richardson netted two, Robert Munden one, and Lewis Hearn scored in both halves. The Magpies were solid at the back so the mid-field were able to concentrate on the attack. As Christchurch began to find their form Chatteris began to lose their discipline and argued with the referee. The game was abandoned after seventy-five minutes. The FA are now investigating the incident. Final score 5 - 0 to the Magpies.



On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> Christchurch Magpies suffered their first defeat of the season. In a hard fought battle they gave away two penalties. They came out much more determined in the second half but, unfortunately, the damage was already done. Lower Cambs Junior Cup AFC 0 Parsons Drove Reserves 6.

On a cold, wet, and windy afternoon both sides battled with the elements. At half time the teams went in on equal terms 2 - 2. Christchurch came out as the slightly more dominant team in the second half. After a few scares, and a few missed chances, the Magpies scored another two goals - Josh Ingram 3, Toby Ayers 1. So, a 4 - 2 Win against Wisbech Acorns Reserves!





# Fireworks Spectaculars

## Outwell Fireworks Display

Outwell Playing Field  
Wisbech Road, Outwell PE14 9DU

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

Gates open 6.00pm

01945 773648

## Fireworks in Hemingford

The Big Field Site, London Road,  
St. Ives, Cambridgeshire, PE27 5ER

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

Gates open 5.00pm - £7.50, Under 16's FREE

## Ely On-Par Fireworks Display

Ely On-Par Driving Range,  
Downham Road, Ely, CB6 2SH  
01353 669192 Adults £7, Children £4

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

Fairground, Live Music, Food, Bar

## March Scouts Firework Display

March Town Cricket Club

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

Live Band, Hot Food

Gates open 5.30pm, Fireworks 7.00pm

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.