



NEW The Heron

Community Magazine

Delivered FREE to the residents of Christchurch, Euximoor and Tipps End - £1 where sold

January 2015

Floods, Farming and Wildlife!

In this issue!

Diary Dates	2
Hérons wanted!	2
Letters to the Editor	3
Community Info	4
Steve Waye Column	5
Heron Constitution	7
RAF cycle for Pool	8
WI Centenary	9
Prepare for Floods	10
Natural Landscape?	11
Villages Quiz	11
Film Review	12
Alan Russell Column	13
The Honey and the Ivy	15
CRA Report	16
Craft Club	16
WI Minutes	17
Garden Club Report	17
Townley News	19
Council Minutes	22
Church Services	25
Value for Money?	27
Puzzle Answers	27
Useful Numbers	28
Editor's Resolutions	28

For centuries, the land around where we live was subject to massive serious flooding, that is until the "Adventurers" made efforts to control the rivers in the time of King Charles II. They carved out the huge Ouse Wash area, improving the farmland and inadvertently creating a wild life haven.

In recent years, many areas of the country have suffered flooding, and yet the Ouse Washes have kept us safe from



The Bittern - coming back!

the scale of floods suffered by our forefathers in 1947 and 1953. However, on a lesser scale, flooding has occurred in our area. Even last year, several houses were inundated in our villages. It was this that drew the Editorial team to attend a conference held in November entitled "Conservation, Farming, Flooding – our Natural Landscape". We learned about the tensions between those three objectives but how all are being balanced by a partnership of interested organisations.

Read about what we learned in Viv's article on page 11 and what YOU need to do to prevent you becoming a victim - on page 10!

A street in March - August 2014



The Ouse Washes - Controlling the Rivers

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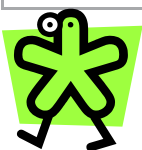
DIARY DATES

In an attempt to get more information about each event (where supplied) we are going to try using abbreviations for commonly used venues:

TS = Townley School, TH = Three Holes Village Hall, UH = Upwell Village Hall,

If you have any important up and coming events let us know for inclusion here:

Jan 2 nd	Mobile Library - visits lay-by Upwell Rd - 3:00pm to 3:40pm
Jan 4 th	St. Clement's Festive Lunch - Outwell Hall 12.30 for 1.00pm
Jan 6 th	Christchurch Craft Club - Bring and Make - TS - 7:30pm
Jan 9 th	"Cake, Coffee and Chat" Parish Church 2-3pm - All Welcome
Jan 9 th -11 th	Whittlesey Straw Bear Festival - www.strawbear.org.uk for info
Jan 11 th	Film "The Monuments Men" Cert 12A showing TH 14.00pm - £2 per person
Jan 12 th	Christchurch Parish Council Meeting - Sports Pavilion - 7:30pm - All Welcome
Jan 12 th	Pilates for all ages - 6:30pm TS - All Welcome - £5 per session
Jan 13 th	The Globe Upwell - Live Acoustic Music 8.00pm till late
Jan 13 th	WI - Fish and Chip Supper - TS Dining Hall 7:00pm
Jan 16 th	"Cake, Coffee and Chat" Parish Church 2-3pm - All Welcome
Jan 19 th	Pilates for all ages - 6:30pm TS - All Welcome - £5 per session
Jan 20 th	Five Bells Upwell - Live Acoustic Music 8.00pm till late
Jan 21 st	Christchurch Book Club - first meeting - see page 4 for details
Jan 23 rd	"Cake, Coffee and Chat" Parish Church 2-3pm - All Welcome
Jan 26 th	Pilates for all ages - 6:30pm TS - All Welcome - £5 per session
Jan 30 th	"Cake, Coffee and Chat" Parish Church 2-3pm - All Welcome
Jan 31 st	St. Andrew's Church Outwell Car Boot 8.30 till 11.30am
Feb 10 th	The Globe Upwell - Live Acoustic Music 8.00pm till late
Feb 14 th	Valentine Dance - 7.00-11.00pm Welney Village Hall tickets - 01354 610592
Feb 17 th	Five Bells Upwell - Live Acoustic Music 8.00pm till late
Feb 25 th	Christchurch Garden Club AGM 7:00 TS



Apologies to Jill Bliss and Peter Norman - I left them off the team list last month due to the Christmas rush. Sorry and thanks guys! - Ed'



The search for Herons continued . . .

As mentioned last month, we are looking for back issues of the Heron with the eventual aim of putting them all online as a resource for anyone wishing to look into village history. Thanks to Vanessa Murray for passing some on to us this month. We now have most of them since 1987, but still have a few gaps to fill. Have any of you got old copies stored away which you could give or lend us?

The ones we need are;-
Any from before 1987, then
1987 – Jan, Feb, April
1988 – Sept, Oct
1989 – Feb, May, Aug, Sept
1991 – Jan, Feb, Aug
2001 – June, July, Oct
2002 – June, Sept, Oct

VMH

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

Letters to the Editor



Dear Richard

Seeing as you asked what I thought of the – “Who Pulled Santa’s Sleigh?” article in last month’s Christmas issue, I thought I would respond.

I read the above somewhat warily at first, realizing that there was a lot more to it than a straight forward biology lesson. But, all in all, aside from the reference to Alaska’s answer to DEFRA (Does the ADFG really exist?), and the deplorable description of St. Nicholas himself, it all seemed a well reasoned and nicely balanced story. With a map! – Nice touch! And although I am not ‘the sharpest knife in the box’ when it comes to the racy *double-entendre*, I did not find anything that might have made granny wince; woman of the world though she was. So I thought it was all good New Heron family entertainment. However, there is the odd quibble.

The long legged *Rangifer tarandus tarandus* would, presumably, measurably outrun *Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus** on the preliminaries to take-off? And live up to the ‘speed-of-light’ reputation of the mythical *Rudolph*!* A lot of time is taken up with slowing down, stopping, waiting, taking -off again; and recovery of speed is key, even if, in-between, the aerodynamic quality of the coat is a touch below that of *Rudolph*’s! By the way, the repetition of *tarandus* in the name means that the specimen is the ‘*exemplar*’ of the breed, as *Cygnus cygnus* the Whooper Swan is ‘The Swan’; our orange beaked bird is only *Cygnus olor*, although I have never noticed anything to support that description even when I actually fed one by hand! But I digress..... So *Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus* was chosen, in the end, and all because his coat hairs would help make up for his short-legs, and his somewhat less aerodynamic silhouette. I think the feminists have got it wrong by the way; it would take muscle to lift and then pull the generous embodiment of both man and beast. The female of most species, except for some birds and a few arachnidae (I can’t even write that in English! – A little phobia of mine.), have less muscle.

However, the matter of navigation, with which you close your entertaining essay, needs elucidation. Map reading is a capacity enjoyed by both sexes in about equal measure. I read maps – my brothers use sat navs; and, unlike many an HGV man, I have never sent myself down ever-narrowing lanes

to end up facing a flock of sheep, or worse, a farmer, irate, and in a hurry, in one of his monumental machines. Sat nav was devised by MAN – not woman. She didn’t need it! This does not make me a ‘raging feminist’! I am more than content with the old-fashioned ‘status quo’ which views dolls as feminine and teddy bears as masculine – cheerful, tough, dependable, reliable, always ready to listen, and never worried about their waistlines. And “every bear that ever there was...” who was distributed by St. Nicholas will have been grateful to all the equally cheerful, and rotund, *Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus** for the smooth ride – BOYS every last one of them! Well you did ask.....!!!!

Pauline Hutchins

P.S. *This should, of course, have been *Rangifer tarandii platyrhynchii*, but I did not wish to appear too pedantic!

We done Pauline! I think I can say that we’ve been well and truly rumbled, you’ve blown any pretence we had at being academics. - Ed’

New Heron Online

Have you had a look at the New Heron Online? Perhaps you know folk around the world that would like to keep up with what’s going on in Cambridgeshire? Or perhaps you yourself would like to see it in full colour.

If so go to www.theheron.info and click on the link “to view the latest Heron online”.



The New Heron Deadline

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

Community Information

Mobile Library: first Friday each month
in the Lay-by Upwell Road 15:00 - 15:40

Mobile Post Office: visits Mon - Fri
in the Lay-by Upwell Road 16:15 - 17:00

Welney Quiz Night

In January - date to be announced.
Watch for poster in Little Local corner shop

Belly Dancing - also in Welney

In the Pavilion Sports field
Mondays 6.30 - 8.00
WEAR THERMALS to do desert dancing!
More details 01354 610592

Warning! - Scam Callers!

Don't get caught out like one villager did recently. His computer had a message pop up saying there was a problem with the computer and it needed a bit of software downloaded to fix it. He downloaded it - WRONG! After it scanned, it reported what it found (probably a lie) it asked for £20 to fix it. The only way you can pay is by Credit Card, so he filled his in - WRONG! They now have his card number, AND his money AND failed to fix the computer, because there was nothing wrong in the first place.

To add to his misery - he was then cold called by (probably) another firm, who wanted to fix his computer remotely. He allowed them to connect - WRONG! And when they had finished they wanted £120 to "fix" it. This time he declined - RIGHT. However that's not the end of it, the "online technician" has probably loaded certain software on the computer which may attack it when someone refuses the "offer" of a fix. Some of this can disable the user's access to the computer locking him out, until a ransom is paid, which again can only be paid by Credit Card, and guess what? They'll get your number and your money, and probably not free up your computer. Even if they do, can you be sure they have not left the "back door" open so they can do it again in a couple of weeks time?

I should stress. There's NO WAY anyone can tell if your computer is having trouble by checking anything on the internet. ANYONE WHO SAYS
4 THEY CAN IS TRYING TO STEAL FROM YOU!

Motorcyclist injured after two vehicle collision on Padgett's Road

Police and paramedics attended the scene of a collision at Padgett's Road, Christchurch, at 4.50pm on Friday 8th Dec. Apparently a car hit a pothole and swerved into the path of the motorcyclist who was taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital with injuries including a broken leg, ankle and wrist.

Police have appealed for witnesses on their 101 number: please quote ref 357.

Christchurch Book Club

If you are interested in being part of a local book club, then Sheila Day would love to hear from you!

The idea is that we would meet each month and choose a book to read, then come back together the following month and discuss it.

If, like me, you enjoy reading, but get into a rut and want to extend your choices, this is a great way - also a great way to meet new friends and have a good natter!

Initial meeting 7.30pm on Wednesday 21st January at Pear Tree Farm, Padgetts Rd (almost opposite "The Farmer's Boy") to discuss plans.

For more information contact
Sheila Day on 07946 635908



Poppy Collection

Annette Russell asked us to publish the following statement:

"I would like to thank everyone who generously contributed to my Poppy Collection this year, and previous years.

The amount collected was £156.87

Many Thanks
Annette"

Family History

Is there a Genealogy Expert out there who would like to help me research my family history?
Contact Les and Adele Hill 01354 638151

NB. March Library on Tuesdays have FREE help from the Family History Society - Ed'

The Steve Waye Column

All That Jazz



It's Sunday morning at Three Holes Village Hall as today's audience arrive early to find their seat, while Nigel Smith looks benignly on as he wanders from table to table chatting to the regulars, or sharing a joke with the musicians still setting up their equipment.

Nigel originally hails from Plaistow in East London but has lived in the area for seventeen years and has been running The Upwell Jazz Club since its inception in 2001. A man of definite taste when it comes to his Jazz, Nigel is a talented drummer in his own right who played in the band for the West End hit "Blood Brothers" and has shared the stage with many of the seminal figures from the jazz world. Including famed gypsy jazz violinist Stephane Grappelli, vocalists George Melly and Kiki Dee, traditionalists Acker Bilk and Kenny Ball. All have featured Nigel behind the drum kit on various occasions. Now you can find him playing alongside Nigel Portass on keyboards providing the backing for that month's guest artist at Upwell Jazz Club.

When I caught up with Nigel he told me that he wanted to start the club in order to give local jazz musicians a place to play and local jazz fans somewhere to see their favourite music played in a friendly atmosphere. Since that idea took root the club has expanded

It now includes players of international repute such as clarinettist Pete Neighbour, rated as one of the top three jazz clarinet players who also performs by royal appointment, Myke Clifford, a regular at Glastonbury and John Wilmot, international touring musician.

Upwell Jazz Club is as welcoming a venue as I have ever found. The music, while steeped in the traditions of jazz, is also contemporary but never ear splittingly outrageous and should you decide to visit, you will I'm sure recognise the tunes.

The mainstream media (you know who you are) sometimes lack the courage to promote and support any form of music that they consider elitist or un-commercial preferring instead to promote the latest pretty face regardless of ability and by doing so condemn that music and its players to struggle for recognition. This applies not only to jazz but to folk, Latin, world and classical music. We need more people like Nigel Smith to promote and get involved with whatever art form they love and hopefully the audience will follow.

'Till next time.

Steve Waye

100 WAYS FOR A CHICKEN TO TRAIN ITS HUMAN ~ No 16 - A holiday from your human

Make sure your human provides adequate cover if they go on holiday. Your temporary chicken-sitter must be the sort that will feed you even more than your usual human.

If you find a good chicken-sitter, reward them by behaving. Do not escape and make them run around after you and do not fly up into their face as soon as they enter your pen.

Remember, you can go back to your normal behaviour when your usual human returns.



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Sunday	Closed

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The New Constitution - Your magazine needs YOU!

The Editorial Team have been putting together a constitution for the New Heron and have decided to "regularise" the Christchurch Village Resource Centre as an umbrella organisation which will oversee The New Heron as well as launch other initiatives which would, we hope, be of interest to the people of our three villages.

In my last article about this I outlined the idea that we would like to establish a "membership" of the Village Resource Centre (see right column) consisting of anyone from the three villages who would like to be involved. Membership would not cost anything, and would likely only involve two or three meetings a year. The members would form a reference group to bounce ideas off, guide and steer The New Heron, and other off shoots that may arise. Each of the off shoot groups would draw their own managing sub group from the membership. It is hoped that eventually a sub group might be formed to restart a Christchurch Gala, also an historical sub group has been mooted. Remember this would all be entirely voluntary, with no assumed commitment to future projects, just give us the benefit of your wisdom.

The first step in this journey is to bring together folk from the three villages who might be interested in getting involved. So if you fancy a cup of tea and a few nibbles come along to Townley School on Feb 12th at 7:00pm and chew over a few ideas! We will explain what we would like to do, launch the Constitution and give further details.

Remember there will be no membership fee and attending this meeting WILL NOT commit you to anything! Our wish is to make this as accessible to as many people as possible, so it becomes much more accountable to the people of our villages.

What is the Village Resource Centre?

It seems that previous Editors came up with name Christchurch Village Resource Centre when they were bidding for funds to support the work. They actually "won" an Apple Mac computer in the late 1980's and, based it at the school. The "Resource Centre" was intended to be the means for much more activity than only the Heron.

PVH



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RAF Cyclists make a “Grand” effort for School Pool!

A trio of intrepid cyclists arrived at Townley School to a rapturous welcome on 21st October after a gruelling 125 miles from RAF Brize Norton in Oxfordshire.



The Team, ready to set off from Brize Norton

Andy Murray, a Governor at the school, had persuaded his colleagues Adam Moyle and Lee

O'Connell to make the journey in an attempt to raise money for the school pool refurbishment.

Adam and Lee are experienced long distance riders, but Andy had only been road cycling since June, and had never done more than 50 miles in one go! The three cyclists, from 99 Squadron RAF Brize Norton were supported by a team of two,

Carl Craggs and Kris Belmont, in a support vehicle supplied by the RAF. The journey took two days, and the cyclists averaged about 15mph over the distance.



Cheers from the children and staff

“As we stopped and slowly got off”, Andy said, “We were warmly welcomed by the Head Mr Robert Glozier, and Mr John Garlick, the Chair of Governors. We parked up the bikes and were led into the school hall to rapturous applause and after thank you

8 speeches from

one of the children, the Head and the Chair, we were presented with certificates made by the children.” He went on, “We were all blown away by the warmth of the welcome and the enthusiasm of the children. We could clearly see how important they felt the pool is to them”!

After the event Andy expressed the following thanks, “To Adam and Lee for agreeing to ride

with me in the first place; to Carl and Kris for being our support; to Officer Commanding 99 Squadron for signing off the Admin order and allowing us the time off work; and for hiring the minibus at 50% rate for charity; to the RAF Brize Norton Charity Committee for the grant which allowed us to pay for the bus, fuel and energy bars and drinks for the journey and the grant for the purchase of raffle prizes to boost the fundraising efforts; to the staff, children and parents of Townley School for the warmth of your welcome; to the “Friends of Townley” Committee for the food; and finally to everyone who has sponsored us!”

At the time of writing a splendid total of about £1000 had been collected, with the final pledges to be collected.

Photos by James Hughes and Carl Craggs, story by Andy Murray



At the “finishing line”



Kris Belmont, Carl Craggs and Adam Moyle

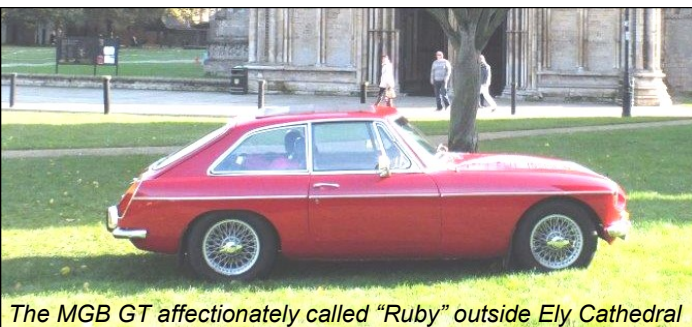
Andy Murray and Lee O'Connell

WI Centenary

In 2015 the Women's Institute will celebrate its Centenary in Britain. These celebrations actually began on 1st January 2014 when a specially designed baton officially began to travel around the UK, to celebrate the links of friendship and community developed through the WI. The journey began in Anglesey and the baton is now travelling through the 69 federations in England and Wales, spending a week in each. The baton arrived in Christchurch on Thursday 23rd October at 10.30am. A photograph was taken by the village sign, which was given to the village by the WI in the 70s. The baton travelled 254 miles around the Isle of Ely Federation before being handed to Cambridge Federation on October 28th where Michael Portillo was guest speaker. In June 2015 it will finish its journey at the Annual Meeting at the Royal Albert Hall.



Standing - Marion, Sue, Beryl, Alma, Margaret, Wendy, Ann, Sandra
Sitting - Doris, Tracey, Peggy (Christchurch President) being handed the Baton by Val Ware



The MGB GT affectionately called "Ruby" outside Ely Cathedral

Each federation is free to choose the way in which the baton will travel through its area, with the aim to involve as many members as possible. The Isle of Ely Federation, to which Christchurch WI belongs, is one of the smaller federations and during the week that it was with us, there was time for the baton to be taken to every WI in the Federation, transported in a 1974 classic red MGB GT known affectionately as "Ruby". At every WI a



"Ruby" waits patiently for the next leg of the journey

photograph was taken for our archives. Some of the photographs were

uploaded on to a memory stick stored inside the baton.

The first Women's Institute was formed in Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada as a branch of the Farmer's Institute. It was as a result of an inspiring talk, given by Adelaide Hoodless. The movement brought together women from isolated communities and offered training in home economics, child care and the aspects of farming traditionally done by women. In 1915, during World War 1, the Women's Institute movement started in Britain. It was formed to encourage countrywomen to get involved in growing and preserving food to help to increase the supply of food to a war torn nation. The first WI in Britain was formed at Llanfair PG on Anglesey. By the end of the war there were over 1400 WIs across England and Wales, with groups linked by County Federations.



Isle of Ely Federation Chairman, Val Ware, Steve Barclay and Vice Chairman Margaret Sparrow pose for a photograph with "Ruby"

Prepare for flooding! JUST IN CASE!

Over the past few years we in Britain have experienced more floods than previously. It's likely to be a bad winter and the Environment Agency is suggesting that we all take some actions to prepare for any possible flood emergency: (This checklist is from their website)

1. Make a Personal Flood Plan

Things to do before a flood

1. Find out if you are at risk of flooding
2. Find out if you can receive flood warnings
3. Prepare and keep a list of all your important contacts to hand or save them on your mobile phone
4. Think about what items you can move now and what you would want to move to safety during a flood such as pets, cars, furniture, and electrical equipment
5. Know how to turn off gas, electricity and water supplies
6. Prepare a flood kit of essential items and keep it handy. It can include copies of important documents, a torch, a battery-powered or wind-up radio, blankets and warm clothing, waterproofs, rubber gloves and a first aid kit including all essential medication.
7. Consider buying flood protection products such as flood boards and airbrick covers to help reduce flood water getting into your property

Things to do during a flood

1. Tune into your local radio station on a battery or wind-up radio
2. Fill jugs and saucepans with water
3. Grab your flood kit - if you have prepared one
4. Collect blankets, torch, first aid kit, medication and food
5. Move important documents, personal items, valuables, and lightweight belongings upstairs or to high shelves
6. Raise large items of furniture, or put them in large bags if you have them
7. Move people, outdoor belongings, cars and pets to higher ground
8. Switch off water, gas and electricity at mains when water is about to enter your home. Do not touch sources of electricity when standing in water
9. Fit flood protection products, if you have them, for example flood boards, airbrick covers, sandbags
10. Put plugs in sinks and baths. Weigh them down with a pillowcase or plastic bag filled with soil
11. If you do not have non-return valves fitted, plug water inlet pipes with towels or cloths
12. Move your family and pets upstairs or to a high place with a means of escape
13. Listen to the advice of the emergency service and evacuate if told to do so
14. Avoid walking or driving through flood water. Six inches of fast-flowing water can knock over an adult and two feet of water can move a car

Things to do after a flood

1. If you have flooded, contact your insurance company as soon as possible
2. Take photographs and videos of your damaged property as a record for your insurance company
3. If you don't have insurance, contact your local authority for information on grants and charities that may help you
4. Flood water can contain sewage, chemicals and animal waste. Always wear waterproof outerwear, including gloves, wellington boots and a face mask
5. Have your electrics, central heating and water checked by qualified engineers before switching them back on



2. Prepare a flood kit

Put together a kit of essential items you'll need to hand when it floods.

- Waterproof clothing
- Portable radio to monitor local news and weather broadcasts
- First aid kit
- Bottled water
- Torch
- Batteries for your torch and radio
- Important documents including passport and insurance certificates
- Mobile phone
- Tinned and non-perishable food, and a tin opener
- Blankets

Would you need extra support during a flood?

As part of your flood planning we recommend you think about who you can ask for assistance before, during and after a flood. You could contact your local council, as many of them keep lists of vulnerable people who might need extra support in a flood or emergency situation. If the Floodline Warnings Direct service is available in your area, we can also deliver flood warnings for your property to a relative or friend, so that they are aware when you may need help. You can set this up by phoning Floodline on 0345 9881188 or 0845 988 1188.

PVH

Conservation, Farming, Flooding – our Natural Landscape?

This was the title of the Lottery funded conference we were at in November in St Ives, put on by the Ouse Washes

Landscape partner ship, and bringing together local people and partner organisations with a range of land-use interests.



An interesting title – because as one speaker soon pointed out, the Ouse Washes area is not a natural landscape at all! It has been heavily modified. The land was originally drained for a particular purpose, agriculture, which has long been the most important 'industry' in the area, but now it has many purposes – farming, nature conservation, flood defence and leisure. The difficulty is how to balance these various interests. Everybody has their own idea about what the washes are for!

For example, there is now more frequent summer flooding because of the expansion of towns like Milton Keynes, and more areas being under concrete. The washes are a great flood management asset. Recent visitors from the Somerset Levels remarked that we are far ahead of them in this respect. On the other hand, the Somerset levels maybe 'farther ahead' in beauty of landscape! However, summer flooding has an effect on ground nesting birds, which is a concern for bird watchers and wildlife enthusiasts. One solution being tried is to develop areas next to the washes where birds can nest without being affected by flooding. This land can also be used for grazing, so it still has some agricultural use.

Then there are the rivers and drainage ditches with which we are all familiar! Although this is a man made landscape, and the ditches are there for a practical purpose, they are also very valuable for wildlife, including many rare species, 'like upside down hedges' as they were described. So they are

doing two jobs! This might surprise people who think that we don't have wildlife habitats because we don't have many hedges!

A further pressure is being brought to bear on this landscape in the form of public access to its wide vistas and wildlife. The swans and the other wildfowl at Welney and Welches Dam bring many tourists to the area, which helps the local economy, but the swans are dependant on surrounding farmland for food. So wildlife, tourism and agriculture all inextricably linked.

There is funding for two further conferences in 2015 and 2016, so it will be interesting to see what ideas develop.

Viv

QUIZ

20 Villages in and around The Fens. Can you spot them? **Answers page 27 - but don't look yet!**

1. Before you were ill?
2. Where old hags cross?
3. Dressmaking with meat?
4. Arms outstretched.
5. Above or finished.
6. Invertebrates in water source.
7. Do you have to be sharp to live here?
8. Local Vicars took their cars down here?
9. None of that Dutch disease here.
10. Where you get water from.
11. Direction in which you draw water.
12. The month when the military pass through?
13. More Christian version of Northern town.
14. Looking for Donald
15. Youngsters who go to fight?
16. No more discarding rubbish at the roadside?
17. Carving salt water.
18. Can you only cross here at the week's end?
19. You've gone full circle when you reach here.
20. Well! Well! Well!

The Fens Landscape - fertile and productive



Film Review

Brave - Disney Pixar (2012)

Determined to make her own path in life, Princess Merida defies a custom that brings chaos to her kingdom. Granted one wish, she must rely on her 'bravery' and archery skills to undo a beastly curse. As usual the Pixar animation is spectacular, and the voice acting well above par. Also, the setting in the Scottish Highlands is great. However, this film is not up to Pixar's normally high standards as it's somewhat clichéd and 'Disneyfied'. It's full of weird politically correct preaching, overdone action scenes, and a generally random and weird plot. What exactly makes her 'BRAVE'? They should have named the movie 'PETULANT'. She's selfish, and the entire plot is about how she can avoid the results of her selfishness while remaining selfish.



Trailers implied a hero rising to change her fate. So she rides off mad at her mum, finds a witch, and begs that her fate be changed. Her wish is granted and her mum is turned into a bear. So the entire movie is basically Merida trying to mend her relationship with her mum and turn her back into a human! She basically apologises and is sad about everything but, obviously, in the nick of time, the sun, which could consequently keep her a bear, shines light on the two and magically she turns back into a human?

Every male character in the movie was portrayed as being big stupid and loving. It seems that if you are a young woman with serious mother issues, just do something really nasty to her, then say you are really sorry, and your mother will change her mind so you can have it all your own way! Don't worry about any men involved as they are too stupid to understand what is going on anyway. Not for me! Possibly a chick flick or for very young kids!

Next month I'll go back to movies I actually recommend! – Like "Up!"

RWBG

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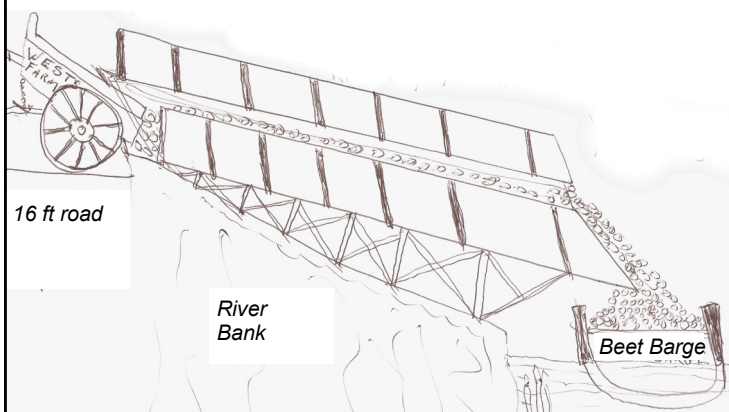


More on the Sixteen Foot Road

After our Christmas musings I return to the story of the locality of the Sixteen Foot Road. We start between the Upwell Road Junction and the top of Crown Road. There was a structure of wood and iron on the sloping side of the riverbank (see my drawing right). Farm carts loaded with sugar beet were backed onto this sloping ramp, then tipped up and the beet slid down the metal ramp and into large barges moored on the river below. I believe this was used up to about 1938 but although it was still there after the second world war, I never saw it being used again.

Near the river just down Poulter's Drove was a brick windmill known as Lavender's Mill. Like the one pictured bottom right, it was a smock mill built on a small hill. It had brick walls to about 10 feet, then clad in tarred timber to the cap. It was demolished in the 50's as was the one 150 yards nearer to Euximoor Bridge. This one, having been in a very dilapidated state for many years, was demolished by my uncle Mr T Crouch and my

The Beet Chute on the 16 ft Bank - A Russell



father. Both of these were corn grinding mills. Another mill nearer Bedlam Bridge was a drainage pump, but all my life, was a home conversion.

The mill stones from the wooden mill near Poulter's Drove mentioned above always lay in the garden but when the millers bungalow was pulled down and a new one built the mill stones were probably incorporated into the new building somewhere.

This old bungalow, the home of Mr and Mrs J Parker, previously was for sometime a shop selling sweets, chocolate, tobacco and cigarettes run by Mrs Parker while Mr Parker was employed by West's Farm for many years. The number of times I was sent as a lad – "Up Parkers" for 40 Park Drive or 40 Woodbines for Dad I think must have run into hundreds, keeping it secret from their wives of course!!



A Smock Mill - similar to how Lavender Mill would have looked

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The Honey and the Ivy

The Ivy Bee (*Colletes hederæ*) is a relatively recently discovered species dating back to only 1993 when it was first identified on the other side of the English Channel in sandy cliffed coastal areas. The Ivy Bee is a species of mining bee that was first recorded in Britain in 2001. As the name suggests, it forages almost exclusively at flowers of Ivy, and flies only from September to mid-November (ie during the flowering period of Ivy). Look for bees collecting pollen from ivy. It's fairly simple to determine *Colletes hederæ* – it is a typical *Colletes*, but it can be as large as, or larger than a honeybee, and the banding on the



abdomen of fresh specimens has a distinct orange hue. This fades in older specimens. Colonies have been discovered around The Wash and

further inland so keep your eyes open for these new little friends. With the demise of the Honey Bee we need all the help we can get!

These bees are a ground nesting species and prefer loose soil. However, they have been seen nesting in lawns. The nesting aggregations are often dense and the number of nests can get as large as tens of thousands. The vast majority of the bees in these so-called swarms, which tend to fly mainly through October, are males, and have no sting whatsoever. The females can sting, but to get them to do this you'd have to pick them up and squeeze them. People have been known to sit in the midst of nesting aggregations of tens of

thousands of these bees and never been touched, let alone stung. The males are swarming over the ground on the look out for emerging females.

Basically, the wonderful little Ivy Bee (*Colletes hederæ*) is all but completely safe with children and pets.

The Ivy Bee is not a protected species. However, in view of the overall decline of so many bee species, coupled with the fact that these are a new colonist to this island, and they are bucking the general population trends, destruction is completely unnecessary. The advice is simply "enjoy them - not everyone is so lucky that they have a nesting aggregation in their lawns". They are important pollinators of Ivy, a plant which provides valuable food for birds in the late winter. So try and find a corner in your garden where you can allow a bush of ivy to grow unobtrusively, thereby encouraging our new little pollinators. They will be of great benefit as such to your whole garden.



The Townley School 2015 Calendar



In an attempt to support fundraising for our new pool, Year 5 pupils of Townley School have produced a calendar on Christchurch. These are on sale from the end of November 2014 £3.50 each. All proceeds will go towards the swimming pool fund.

**Order yours from the School Office
from Tuesday 6th January
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100 WAYS FOR A CHICKEN TO TRAIN ITS HUMAN ~ No 17 - Looking after their hygiene

Humans have to wear waterproof coats when it rains, but you don't, as you feathers have a waterproof coating. It will do your humans good if, on the odd occasion, they enjoy the feeling of rain on their skins. This will alleviate the odd smell they have. You can help them to do this by escaping the minute they are caught in a thunderstorm. They will be grateful for the invigorating exercise and the wash will do them good.



Christchurch Residents Association

Our December meeting was always going to be a brief one, mainly summing up the years achievements and where we were. Sadly, due to a bout of illnesses only four members attended. It's the Winter 'lurgi' you know. So all those Christmas cards will have to get delivered now!

Concerns were expressed for those who were unable to attend, as in two cases things were quite serious. We hoped that things would improve by Christmas.

There had been a revision to planning app. F/YR14/0853/F which involved the exit onto Upwell Road being widened thus encroaching onto Parish Council land. They were refusing this.

The Tender Packs for the New Village Hall were now ready and would be despatched to constructors who expressed an interest on 18th December. The Invite to Tender would be advertised in all the local papers this week (beginning 8th December).

Anti-dog fouling posters were all now in place and there was now a new FDC incentive and monitoring programme being rolled out to deal with this. More on that in the New Year.

Townley School Calendars were selling well but members were encouraged to support this worthy cause by purchasing one themselves.

Neighbourhood Watch signs were now in place in Church Road and supporters had received their first information packs. Upwell Road would be signed early in the New Year.

There was much discussion about the new FDC "Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document" which was up for public consultation. All residents comments on the plan must be received by FDC by 5.00pm on January 15th. All members were encouraged to go to the website and register their views – fenland.go.uk/article/9574/Developer-Contributions-and-Community-Infrastructure-Levy-CIL. Our Chairman would be contacting them to express the views of the CRA in general but all individuals should register their views if we are to avoid the CIL in three years time.

Richard informed us that The New Heron advertising rates would be going up as of this

coming April. But all advertisers who renewed before then would get their advertising at the current rates. There would be a meeting of people interested in forming the new 'reference group' for Christchurch Resources Centre on 12th of February 7.00 at Townley School. Members were encouraged to get involved! See Page 7 for details. The new constitution will be presented at that meeting. The Editor will be holding a "Soiree Matinee!" (an afternoon do!), for New Heron supporters and friends on the afternoon of January 1st at The Old School. Keep an eye out for your invite!

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 8.30pm. Next meeting date TBA.



Our December meeting did not go quite as planned. Firstly, I could not find enough baskets, so we had to use dishes. Secondly I intended to give a

short demonstration, but the members decided otherwise and did "their own thing".

When the candles were put in the middle, they were all different but very nice. Everyone was pleased with their own efforts.

With our tea we had mince pies and Christmas nibbles.

As it was my 70th birthday everyone sang Happy Birthday

We had a very good Christmas Raffle. Everyone left with a smile on their face wishing each other a Merry Christmas.

At our January meeting it's a "Bring and Make" or just come and have a natter!

I wish you all a Happy New Year, Wendy

A message from Wendy Yates

Yes, I was 70! "My she doesn't look it!" you are supposed to say!

I had a Wonderful Time - over fifty cards, four lots of flowers, four birthday cakes and much more!

I would like to thank everyone for making it so special. Also a big thank you to Paul and Lucy Hartley for letting me drive their Hugh Red Massey Ferguson tractor. It was great. But I won't be ploughing any fields!

Minutes of the Monthly WI Meeting held in the dining room of Townley School on December 09th 2014

Members and guests were welcomed by Margaret Sparrow who kindly presided over the meeting as Peggy (chairman) and Tracy (vice chairman) were both absent. The annual reports were read out and adopted. Both officers were thanked by Margaret.

Correspondence included a letter about allergen food handling advice, something of far reaching consequences for anyone involved in food preparation for the public.

A letter from Peggy was read out wishing seasonal greetings to all members.

Voting for the president was carried out with Peggy being re-elected for the following year.

Holly and Dan Bax gave an amusing and entertaining talk on trekking in South East Asia including information that the travel programmes leave out. Holly showed what items they took with them explaining that most of the things had more than one purpose – all items fitting into a small rucksack. They spent three weeks in the jungles of Laos including some nights with a native family. The language barrier did not prevent them from having a wonderful time, helped along by lots of the local tippie. After each drink they were expected to sing a British song. They spent over three months travelling through, Cambodia, Bali, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, Laos and China. They had a display of items from their travels.

Holly and Dan were thanked by Sandra Lloyd and presented with a gift token.

Competition Results: A holiday souvenir.

Sandra Lloyd 4, Val 3, Anne A 3, Margaret S 5, Beryl 5, Marian 3.

Next Month: Care in the Community - Sophia Mahroo

Fish and Chip Supper

Competition: A cruet

Raffle Prize Rota: Peggy, Wendy, Alma and Anne A.

Garden Club and friends enjoyed our coach trip on the 7th December for some Christmas shopping. Our first stop was Blackthorpe Barns, near Bury-St. Edmund's, bedecked and transformed for the festive season, with a truly and properly organized 'Craft Exhibition', as well as all the usual Christmas accoutrements. All set in beautiful woodland surroundings, Christmas trees abounding, which made for a very festive atmosphere.

The exhibitors were very informative, quietly talking about their work. Items for sale and prices were all clearly marked. They were all indeed masters of their crafts. Despite the large number of visitors mooching and buying there remained a pleasant and hassle free atmosphere. The 'Barns' host regular craft events and I have a programme for their year. If anyone is interested just contact me on 638024 or Marion 638230 .

Our second visit was a little further on at the beautiful and picturesque village of Lavenham which was also holding its Christmas Fayre. Stalls filled the market square, Guildhall, and several other buildings, all of which are in that wonderful Tudor style. Local shops, cafes, antique shops, and gastro-pubs abounded and were well worth a visit in their own right even without the added attraction of the Christmas Fayre. As we made our way back up the hill to where the coach was parked, it was well worth turning to look back at the heart of Lavenham, a truly well preserved example of a Tudor hamlet with its white and black beamed architecture. A wonderful visit, then homeward bound.

At the time of writing this may I remind you all that our next meeting is our AGM on February 25th, 7.00pm at Townley School. Always an interesting insight showing how we are not all plants and seeds etc. It is a popular and friendly meeting place each month. As with the rest of the village we are patiently awaiting the construction of our New Village Hall! Meanwhile gardeners everywhere look forward to the Spring. Might we have our hall by then I wonder? Remember – 'Tomorrow is Yesterday's Today!' - and so it will always be. So rest awhile between times and prepare for the New Year. Enjoy 2015, keep healthy, and listen out for the bells at midnight! I ring them every year! Not a door opens? Where are you all? "Happy New Year!"



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Tel/Fax: 01354 638229

Report Date: Tuesday 9th December

The Button Box Review

This week we've been in the school play which has taken place in the hall. The play is called the 'Button Box' and it's about two children and their Grandma and Grandad on a rainy day in the living room. Grandma and Grandad tell them lots of stories of buttons; where they came from and who they belong to. Grandma was played by Mollie, Grandad was played by Ryan, Jack was played by Jake and Alice was played by Emily and Megan – they took turns – and phatty phat phatman was played by Toby. Each story had a dance which the rest of the school took turns doing. Class 1 did the nativity; Class 2 did Paradise Island, The



Crow's Button and the Bombay Button. We (Class 3) did Button Your Lip, Impeku Nekati, the Aboriginal Dance and everyone did The Button Box and Final Dance (Belly Button Boogie). My mum said it was really good and she really enjoyed it and Saffy said it was brilliant! Mr Glozier said he was proud with everyone and thought we had worked very hard. The back wall was decorated in buttons which all the school had made. I loved the play and really enjoyed taking part in it and my favourite dance was the Belly Button Boogie.

By Fern

We are trying to collect the foils off the Tubs 4 Tablets Flora/Tesco initiative.– any would be greatly appreciated.



Dates

6th Jan Spring Term Opens



There are lots more photos and information of what our school has been up to on our website.

STOP PRESS: -

'Big Freeze' expected in some parts of the UK!

There has been 4 inches of snow in Scotland already! The February 2012 temperatures dropped below -6°C locally; this year it's predicted to be a degree or two lower than that!

We all remember 'The Storms That Stole Christmas' in 2013, but the expected 'Arctic Blast' could rival the winter of 1963, with some areas of

the UK blanketed in up to five feet of snow, and temperatures as low as -15°C!

When they hit, freezing temperatures are expected to hang around for 4 to 6 weeks!

So we may need to be aware of a 'big thaw' at the end of February or early March!

SEE PAGE 10!

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CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Present	Cllrs: N Russell (Chair); J Bliss; S Freeland; W Poole; H Poole; W Sutton (FDC); F Yeulett (CCC); M Tanfield (FDC); J Richardson (Clerk); and 6 members of the public	
Apologies for Absence:	Cllrs: W Beswick; R Gladwin;	
Declarations of Interest	Councillors to declare any interests under the Local Code of Conduct in respect of any item to be discussed at this meeting:-	
	a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interest)	Cllrs Russell, H Poole & W Poole Item 127/14
	b) Non-Pecuniary Interest)	
	c) Sensitive Pecuniary Interest)	

19.32-20.14 Public Time

Interest in the Euximoor Drove sign.

A member of public apologised for using a figure of speech regarding dog fouling.

Hankins lorries seen keeping to speed limit.

There are a number of street lights out in Church Road. Cllr Freeland is to investigate and send the Clerk the numbers to report.

Cllr Freeland

A member of the public has looked at plan of new hall and questions were raised regarding the number of bars and dedicated bowls club area.

An objection was raised regarding using public funds for a minority sport.

It was suggested that the public attend the Village Hall Committee Meeting on Monday 17th November at 7.30p.m. There is also a feeling that a Project Manager is needed for the project, to which it was explained, that advice has been sought and the main contractor will be responsible for the project and the Parish Council interests will be looked after by the Committee and their agent.

Hankins lorries have been seen not keeping to the speed limit through the village and Cllr Russell will speak to them tomorrow.

Cllr Russell

Issues were also raised regarding general speeding issues and loads on tractors and lorries not being sheeted down and spilling onto the Highway. Neighborhood Watch in Church Road is on the verge of being set up and as a result of this Speedwatch can also be introduced and a member of the public volunteered to help. A lack of Police presence in the village was raised. Cllr Yeulett responded that enforcement of speeding is difficult and the police have been involved previously.

Hopefully once the "chicane" is introduced in the village it may help with this issue and deter lorries from using the centre of the village. A letter will be sent to Hankins from the Parish Council regarding this issue.

Clerk

The users wish to say thank you, and are pleased with, the Skate Park repainting and the Clerk is to thank the Community Payback for this work.

The lights and trees raised previously, in Crown Road, is on the agenda later.

Clerk

Rumours were raised about the village shop closing at Christmas. This is a private business but assurance was given that the rumours are not correct, but unfortunately the village is not supporting the shop as was hoped.

The signpost at the Toll Road, Upwell Road junction has been damaged, it looks as if an accident has taken place. The Clerk is to report this to Highways.

Clerk

A member of the public raised a question regarding the possibility of the village shop being signed at the road junctions. The Clerk is to look into this.

Clerk

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2014 were Proposed for approval by Cllr Freeland, AGREED and signed

114/14 Matters Arising

The gully outside the church was emptied on Tuesday, and the patching crew mechanical sweeper was in the village also and swept the leaves in the vicinity of the church.

The Trees are in the grounds of the School, CCC Property have been contacted and the concerns have been forward directly to the School Management.

Instruction has been given to Highways Contractor to reinstate the road edge at Hole in the Road Wall Cottages with compacted Road Planings,

The Skate Park has been painted by the Community Payback Team and the Clerk is to write to say thank you for this.

No reported crimes this month.

The next South Rural Forum will take place on the New Horizon Vehicle on Wednesday 15th April 2015. The bus will be located in Church Road from 12.00 until 17.00 with the meeting taking place on the bus at 17.00.

Cllr Yeulett reported that CCC are still working hard on budgets and consultation regarding proposals on household re-cycling centres. A47 work will be done if government are reelected. Small works are being done at present. The Wisbech to Cambridge rail link is still ongoing. Have had a good children's services Ofsted report which is a big improvement on last year's inadequate report. Cllr Yeulett is to forward the "issues" report to the Clerk on a regular basis and also provide an update for The Heron.

Cllr Tanfield reported that there is still funding available from the Youth District Council for small grants up to £10K, details will be sent to The Heron and The Clerk. Has attended a conference with Sport England and they are offering grants etc. There is funding available for Brown Signs from the Tourism department at FDC, Cllr Tanfield is to ask about a new shop sign. Cllr Tanfield is also to provide a report for The Heron too. She is also now working for Steve Barclay which may help in the information flow.

Cllr Sutton reported that the village war memorial clean and litter pick was very poorly attended, and thanked the two members of the village that did help. Cllr Sutton has cleaned most of the War Memorial but could not clean the very top.

BT have done work on the cabinet at the top of Scotts Road and there is now a concern about the quality of the work and this is to be reported to Highways by the Clerk.

It was also requested that the Clerk contact Highways to set up another "walkabout" in the village.

Clerk
Clerk

FDC are commencing the budget round and will have to make significant savings.

There have been replies from five Parish Councils agreeing to the Concurrent Functions Grant being re-instated as previously with the 30% loss.

The street lights report from Balfour Beatty is still awaited.

The neighborhood watch scheme is ready to start in Church Road, and the Parish Council, Proposed by Cllr Freeland and AGREED to pay for the five signs at a total cost of £70. It is hoped that other areas of the village will come on board with Neighborhood Watch.

118/14 Recreation Ground

- a) Nothing further has been heard regarding the merger of the Charities due to the Solicitor being on annual leave. Cllr Russell will chase this tomorrow
- b) One quote re the removal of Play equipment has been received and Cllr Russell is awaiting one further quote

23

118/14
(cont)

c) Metal bin insert quote has been asked for by Councillor Russell from Sharman's and this is still awaited
d) Bank Accounts are:- Current Account £4995.75 Saver Account £7250.28
A phone call has been received from the Bowls Club re the excessive use of water (9cm) since end Sept 2014 to today. This has been investigated previously and nothing was found. It was suggested that a villager may be able to help and Richard Guilford is to try to get someone to investigate this.

119/14

Village Hall Committee

Three estimates have been received from builders, the items included and detailing in these vary significantly.

In order to follow the Parish Council's Standing Orders, Item 30, the Committee (Richard Guilford) is to draw up a Tender Pack. The Tender Pack will be reviewed by the Committee at their next meeting 17/11/14. There will then be an advert placed in a newspaper to invite builders to request the Tender Pack and then they will use the sealed bid tender process to send in their bids for the work.

Cllr Wes Poole has resigned from the Village Hall Committee and a new Parish Council rep is required.

It was Proposed by Cllr Russell and AGREED that the village hall committee proceed through the tender process as outlined in Standing Orders Item 30.

The nomination of a new Parish Council representative on the village hall committee will be included in next month's agenda

Clerk

Cllr Tanfield left the meeting

120/14

Highways

a) No update on 2014-15 LHI bid

b) The panel meeting was attended and it will be January 2015 before the results of the 2015-16 LHI bid are known

c) The proposal for a drive slowly sign on Euximoor Drove would require Highways approval but in this instance would not be a problem. Highways would need to agree the site location for the Sign. The sign and posts, if required, do need to comply with specification. The best way forward would be for Highways contractor to quote for supply and erect, this will also include them carrying out checks on site for any buried utility that could be in the way. Skanska have been asked for a quote which will be forwarded in due course with a copy of the proposed sign drawing.

The future upkeep/any accidental repairs would be down to the Parish Council.

It was raised that could we add "single track road" to the sign

d) There is an issue regarding potholes on Euximoor Drove, and this could be covered in the Highways walkabout to be arranged. Cllr Sutton reported that there has been an allocation from the Central Government pot to repair pot holes on this road.

Clerk

Street Lighting

a) No further update

Cllr Yeulett left the meeting

121/14

Income & Expenditure

a) VAT repayment of £6364.20 has been rec'd

b) Members considered and **APPROVED** the following accounts for payment:

APPROVED

J Richardson	Clerks Salary	£293.60
J Richardson	Expenses	£15.94
Christchurch Village Resource Centre	The Heron	£80.00
Ratcliffe Land & Eng		
Surveys	Footpath re Village Hall	£540.00
E Mason	Grass Cutting	£540.00
	TOTALS	£1469.54

c) Clerk reported on the current bank balances at end October 2014:-

Community Account £65,133.84

Business Bonus £146,481.32

TOTALS £211,615.16

- 121/14 (cont)** Current earmarked reserved funds are:-
New Village Hall £185,771.59
Recreation Ground £75.07
Mrs Spall Request £200.00
- 122/14 Concurrent Functions Grant**
Meeting at Fenland on 16th October 2014 to discuss the Concurrent Functions Grant. Five Parish Council's attended and all were in agreement with Christchurch to accept the Concurrent Functions Grant as previously with the 30% reduction.
- 123/14 Dog Fouling**
Cllr Freeland Proposed, and it was AGREED, that byelaws be investigated to encourage a reduction in dog fouling. **Agreed Cllr Freeland**
- 124/14 Correspondence**
a) Rural Services Network Bulletin (emailed 09/10/14, 16/10/14, 22/10/14, 28/10/14)
b) Update on Quality Council Scheme (emailed 09/10/14)
c) Cambridgeshire & Peterborough CCG newsletter (emailed 16/10/14)
d) Cambs Acre News (emailed 16/10/14)
e) Invitation to Cambs Acre Rural Forum (emailed 22/10/14)
f) Parish & Town Council briefing-CIL
g) Police & Crime Commissioner Briefing (emailed 03/11/14)
- 125/14 Transport Consultations**
A request for contact information has been received re Transport Consultations and the Clerk will complete this and return to include The Heron details **Clerk**
- 126/14 Electoral Review of Cambridgeshire**
There is an electoral review of Cambridgeshire taking place and the Parish Council has been invited to attend a meeting to explain this. No one wished to attend.
- 128/14 Agenda Items/Next Meeting**
The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Tuesday 9th December 2014. Items to be included on the agenda should be with the Clerk by Monday 3 October 2014. **ALL COUNCILLORS**
Dates for 2015 Meeting
Budgets for 2015-16
- 127/14 A Motion to exclude the Press & Public was Proposed by Cllr Russell and AGREED**
Cllrs W Poole and H Poole left the room and Cllr Russell remained (to provide a quorum)
Allotments **Clerk**
An update on the current situation was reported and this is to be confirmed to John Maxey

Meeting Closed at 9.16 pm

Parish Church Services

4 Jan	11:00	Rev K Fitzgibbon	All Age Worship
11 Jan	09:30	Rev K Fitzgibbon	Holy Communion
18 Jan	15:30	Rev K Fitzgibbon	Evening Prayer
25 Jan	11:00	R Holding	Morning Prayer
1 Feb	11:00	Rev K Fitzgibbon	All Age Worship

Every Friday starting 9 Jan, 2-3pm Coffee, Cake and Chat in the Church

Two very important "Thank You's". Firstly to those that attended, helped and generally supported the Christmas Fayre on 29th November, we raised £345.

Secondly we wish to thank those of you that have donated your Dole to the church.

Daphne and Andrew





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Last month's Crossword solution:

Across

- 2 Cider
- 3 Ham
- 5 Fig
- 6 Cad
- 7 Syne
- 8 Tree
- 9 Eli
- 11 Weeknights
- 15 Decorated
- 17 Pine
- 18 Icon
- 19 Mangers
- 21 Snow
- 22 Dickens
- 23 Brandy

Down

- 1 Red-Nosed Reindeer
- 4 Mince Pies
- 5 Feasting
- 10 Star
- 12 Underage
- 13 Eaten
- 14 Icing
- 16 Dinner
- 20 Roast

Answers to the Quiz on Page 11:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. FELTWELL | 11. UPWELL |
| 2. WITCHFORD | 12. MARCH |
| 3. SOHAM | 13. GODMANCHESTER |
| 4. REACH | 14. HUNTINGDON |
| 5. OVER | 15. WARBOYS |
| 6. SNAILWELL | 16. TIPP'S END |
| 7. THORNEY | 17. WHITTLESEY |
| 8. PARSON'S DROVE | 18. FRIDAY BRIDGE |
| 9. ELM | 19. RINGS END |
| 10. OUTWELL | 20. THREE HOLES |

Value For Money?

Amidst the many positive comments we have received over the eight months since we took over the magazine and renamed it "The New Heron", we received particular praise for the 150th Anniversary issue, and indeed last month's Christmas issue.

Interestingly, several villagers have commented, both directly, and indirectly, that "The quality is so good now, and it's very interesting, it would be well worth paying £1 per copy!"

Naturally we were thrilled at such kind remarks and it has prompted us to make a suggestion to all of you who live in our current delivery area. If you agree with the above comment – would YOU consider making a donation of £12 for the year to cover the cost of producing "The New Heron"?

We have received many kind donations over the last eight months. In fact several villagers currently donate regularly by monthly standing orders. But if some of you feel you could contribute with a yearly one off donation of £12 that would be absolutely 'fantastic' and would both enable us to maintain, or improve our current standard, make us more secure financially, and enable the use of more colour pages from time to time.

We hope that you all continue to enjoy your very own community magazine, and can accept the above suggestion in the spirit it is meant, based on comments received.

Thank you for all your support so far!

Payments can be made; in cash, or by cheque, made out to Christchurch Village Resource Centre - please put in a sealed envelope with your name and address on the outside (if you would like an acknowledgement or receipt) and put in the letterbox of:

"Glynan" Crown Road, Christchurch,

or

"The Old School" Church Road, Christchurch.

or

Why not pay online via BACS

Account: Christchurch Village Resource Centre

Sort Code: 53-81-42

Bank Account No: 04140109.

Please email on editor@theheron.info if you contribute this way to let us know.

AND THANK YOU!

Useful Telephone Numbers

Age UK Cambridgeshire	0300 6669860
Alzheimer's Society (Fenland)	01945 580480
Anglian Water – Susan Bull	08457 145 145 101
Cambs Fire & Rescue	01480 444500
Churchwarden - Mrs. D. Symons	01354 638352
Citizens' Advice Bureau, Wisbech	01945 464367
Community Car Scheme (to book a journey)	07902 316360
Community Fire Safety Officer	07717858166
County Councillor - Fred Yeulett	01354 653763
District Councillor - Will Sutton	01354 638025
* District Councillor - Michelle Tanfield	07908 707129
Eastern Electricity	0800 783 8838
FACT	01354 661234
Fenland District Council	01354 654321
Fire Station - March	01354 652349
Floodline	0845 988 1188
Library - March	0354 0455225
National Debtline	0808 808 4000
Parish Clerk - Jacque Richardson	01354 677856
Parish Councillor - Jill Bliss	01354 638343
Parish Councillor - William Beswick	01354 638758
Parish Councillor - Simon Freeland	01354 638802
Parish Councillor - Roger Gladwin	01354 638538
Parish Councillor - Hannah Poole	01354 638622
Parish Councillor - Wesley Poole	01354 638622
Parish Councillor - Nigel Russell (Chair)	01354 638279
*Police Community Support Officer	101 (collar) 7199
Police (non-emergency)	101
Rector - Rev'd Kevin Fitzgibbon	01354 680969
Telephone Complaints	0345 145000
Townley School	01354 638229
Trading Standards	845040506
Train Information	08457 484950
Upwell Health Centre (and out of hours)	01945 773671
Water Emergencies	08457 145145
Welle Pharmacy, Upwell Health Centre	01945 774081

* New Addition - PCSO ring 101 ask for collar 7199

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

New Year's Resolutions - Ed'

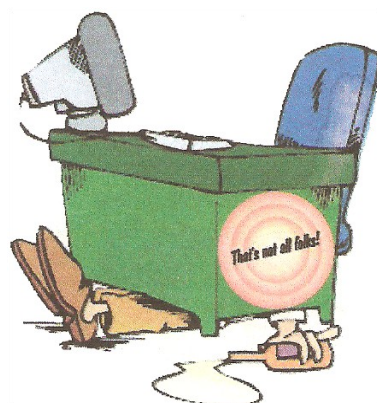
So Santa's made his way off to bed for a well earned rest and Old Father Time has ushered in the New Year. Doesn't time fly?

I was reading a copy of Lyn Truss's – "Eats, Shoots & Leaves", the other day and it reminded me that I had been asked what New Year resolutions I was going to make? So I thought about it and came up with these literary ones:

Avoid run on sentences they are hard to read! No sentence fragments! Also, avoid awkward or affected alliteration! Don't use no double negatives! And if I've said it once I've said it a thousand times you must resist the use of hyperbole! Take the bull by the hand, and don't mix metaphors! Never use a long word when a diminutive one will do! And never! But never! Over use the exclamation mark!!!!

Well! I'll just finish off this scotch and ginger wine (hic!) and I'm off, to follow Santa's example, up the wooden hill!

'Til next time!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Any views expressed in The New Heron do not necessarily reflect the views of
The New 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.