

NEW The Heron

May 2014

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Where to begin?.... "Well at the beginning might be a good start!"
I guess you'll all be thinking!?

Well!.... Here we go!.... Controversial title? Well, it IS new! But it is also still the Heron! Christchurch Parish magazine. Hopefully revitalized and meeting with your approval? We would welcome any of your comments, whether they be for suggested improvements, or, maybe even appreciative?

You can meet the new team on page 5. But please just remember.... This is our first one....and....we hope to continually improve. But we can't do it without YOU! Our readers. At the risk of roasting the same old chestnut!.....

"Hang on a minute! It's just turned Easter not Christmas!"

But seriously – IT IS YOUR MAGAZINE! We are just the means, the mechanism, if you like, by which it is brought to fruition! We would welcome ANY contributions; letters, articles, quizzes, crosswords, information on events we don't yet know about for the Diary Page, etc. etc.

On a selfish note.... The more YOU do the less we have to! That way the more time we have available to spend on improvements! Why would you want us to write it all anyway? You may have noticed this is somewhat of a "bumper" edition, this is because we are catching up re club and society reports etc. Future editions depend on you!

For our part we will try our very best to provide you with an informative and interesting magazine / newsletter. Call it what you will. Most importantly, The 'New' Heron should be a 'voice' for villagers; to inform and relate to each other. An open forum to talk about village issues. Fors and againsts! Pros and cons! A healthy and informed arena not just for discussion but, hopefully, for resolution too!

So.... Onward together!?!.... Are you with us?

The Editorial Team.



Editorial Team:

Richard Guilford – Editor

Paul Haresnape – Technical Support

Vivien Haresnape – Administration

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DIARY DATES

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

May 1 st - 3 rd	The Upwell Gilbert & Sullivan Society proudly presents its main production at St. Andrew's Church, Outwell – "The Gondoliers" – Adults £7, Children £4
May 2 nd	Friends of Townley School CHILLI & QUIZ NIGHT 7.00pm for 7.15pm
May 4 th	All Age Worship - 11:00 - Parish Church
May 7 th	Christchurch Craft Club – Calligraphy with Rosemary Higgs
May 7 th	Christchurch Garden Club – An Evening at Terrington St. Clements (*Wed*) to listen to Ray Creek talk about Orchids
May 11 th	Holy Communion - 09:30 - Parish Church
May 14 th	WI - Olivia Hill Museum Trip
May 17 th	Christchurch Garden Club – PLANT SALE at Four Seasons, Church Road LOOK OUT FOR THE BALLOONS – also CREAM TEAS and GRAND RAFFLE
May 18 th	Evening Prayer - 18:30 - Parish Church
May 19 th	Annual Parish Meeting 19:00 then AGM the Parish Council 19:30 - Pavilion
May 25 th	Morning Prayer - 11:00 - Parish Church
May 31 st	St. Andrew's, Outwell - Church Car Boot Sale 8.30am to 11.30am
June 1 st	Upwell Jazz Club – "Tenor Mayhem" Myke Clifford, Heinz Hunt, John Wilmot 3 Holes Village Hall 12.30pm to 2.45pm – Bar and snacks
June 1 st	All Age Worship - 11:00 - Parish Church
June 4 th	Christchurch Craft Club – Altered Art Dominoes with Tanya Wanstall
June 8 th	Holy Communion - 09:30 - Parish Church
June 10 th	WI - The Work of the Macmillan Nurses
June 14 th	A Night at the Races - 19:00 - see page 27
June 14 th	St. Andrew's Church, Outwell - SUMMER FAYRE
June 15 th	Evening Prayer - 18:30 - Parish Church
June 21 st	Upwell Village Hall / British Lions RACE NIGHT 7.30pm
June 22 nd	Morning Prayer - 11:00 - Parish Church
June 24 th	Christchurch Garden Club - Talk on Butterflies with Nick Greatorex
June 28 th ~29 th	"Festival of Flowers" - Parish Church - 150 th Anniversary
June 28 th	St. Andrew's Church, Outwell - Car Boot Sale 8.30am to 11.30am
June 29 th	Upwell Jazz Club – "The Alan Norris Big Band" – 3 Holes Village Hall - 12.30-2.45pm Bar & snacks
June 29 th	150 th Anniversary Service of Celebration - 15:30 - Parish Church
July 2 nd	Christchurch Craft Club – Bring & Make or Cards
July 2 nd	Upwell Village Hall – "Lincs Ladies Fashion Show" 6.30pm
July 8 th	WI - Development of the English Silver Spoon
July 11 th ~13 th	ELY FOLK FESTIVAL
July 13 th	Upwell Playing Fields SUMMER FAYRE
July 27 th	Upwell Jazz Club – "Parisian Swing" - 3 Holes Village Hall 12.30pm to 2.45pm – Bar and snacks
2 July 29 th	Christchurch Garden Club – Talk on Pelargoniums with Tim Jellis – plants for sale

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Meet the Team

Richard was born in Stoke Newington, Islington, London in 1952; now a trendy part of London where the author Douglas Adams used to live. Studying Art & Biology at Borough Road College, Isleworth, Middlesex he became a teacher in 1974. He taught Art & Crafts, specializing in pottery, for nearly 15 years, initially in the inner London area and then in Northamptonshire.

Divorced in 1984, Richard left teaching in 1986 to set up his own Art & Photographic business which included desk top publishing. Always involved in magazine production since being in the sixth form, at college, and school magazines during his teaching years, he later published magazines and newsletters professionally. He became Advertising Manager for The British Koi Keepers Society monthly magazine from 1982 to 1986 during which time he also wrote many articles for Practical Fishkeeping.

Always creative, Richard has been a semi-professional musician and singer / songwriter for over forty years. He has worked in the Middle East, written music for film, and been published so far in six poetry anthologies. He won the Galberg Award, for originality, for a preview of his first novel, which he is yet to complete. This starts where Douglas Adams' "Hitch-hikers Guide to the Galaxy" left off.

Richard has been with his fiancée Jennie for nearly ten years now and is still waiting for her to move in with him at The Old School, Christchurch. She on the other hand, is waiting for him to finish all the building work and renovation. The Old School will be 150 years old next year!



Richard Guilford
Editor



Paul Haresnape
Technical Support

Born in Liverpool over 60 years ago, Paul trained in Agriculture and moved to the fens in 1976 to teach in the agricultural college in Cambridge. He originally taught Agricultural Engineering but switched discipline when computers came along to teach IT. In 1986 he became an original member, worship leader and elder in the newly instituted Ely Christian Fellowship, now known as Lighthouse Ely. In 1994 the family moved to Christchurch. He became a Governor of Townley School, and later taught ICT to all age groups. In 2002 he left the College to run PC Life Support, supporting many local families and businesses in their computing difficulties.

While running the Computing department in the college Paul launched and edited the staff magazine. To help with this he attended several newsletter and magazine courses, something that he hopes can now be put to good use with "The New Heron".

Originally from Sunderland, Vivien trained as a teacher in Lancashire, where she met Paul. They married in 1973 and lived first in North Yorkshire, and then Ely, before moving to Christchurch in 1994. After a few years as an English teacher, she went on to do a number of different jobs, including managing the shop in Ely Cathedral, and running a dating agency. In 1997 she returned to work in education, as a teaching assistant at Neale Wade and then as a self - employed one-to-one tutor. She plans to retire this year, and looks forward to having more time to spend on hobbies such as sewing, gardening and music, as well as helping to produce "The New Heron".

Vivien and Paul have two children and two grandchildren.



Vivien Haresnape
Admin Assistant

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You may change the content of your advert at anytime during a block booked period, but it is up to you to provide any required changes to the Editor **strictly by the above copy date.**

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Ancient History

A Tall Tale of the Fens

This area although sparsely populated in ancient times had a violent reputation. This reputation was due to the fact that there were frequent invasions by hostile nations, which was violently opposed by the Fenland people. The legends that have sprung up are legion, and the story that follows concerns a different kind of legion - a Roman legion!

After the death of Queen Boadicea in AD62 the Romans used the lush grass of the Fens on which to graze their horses. However this was a very dangerous practice, for the resentful Fen men constantly ambushed the Roman guards. The Romans took an unusual measure to combat this threat, and it came from a Roman general from Italy's Pontine Marshes. He trained a legion in the use of stilts for fighting in boggy country. At first the Fen men were helpless against the new guards, but they soon learned how to defeat the guards by knocking them off their stilts and stabbing them as they fell down. There is a tradition that claims that stilts left behind by the Romans inspired the Fen men to use them to cross the marshes.

The Body Snatchers of Ely

A phantom barge has often been reported drifting along the Little River Ouse on misty evenings toward Ely.

Its crew is a group of spectral monks chanting hymns around an open coffin in which lies the shrouded corpse of a woman.

The corpse is believed to be that of St Withburga. She founded a nunnery at East Dereham in AD 645, and she was buried in the churchyard there when she died.

In 974 the Abbot of Ely ordered his monks to steal her body and bring it to Ely hoping that her new resting place would attract pilgrims and in so doing bring in much needed income.

Tradition has it that the Abbot's plan backfired because a healing spring burst forth from her empty grave causing so many miraculous cures that pilgrims continued to flock to Dereham for years afterward.

Whirling Sunday

Until about 1860, Whirling Sunday was a mid-Lenten feast that was held annually in the village of Leverington.

Small cakes called Whirling Cakes, were baked and sold at the celebration.

This was done in memory of an old woman in the 18th century, who tradition says, was busy making cakes on Easter Sunday when the Devil suddenly appeared to her in a whirlwind, and carried her off over the steeple of Leverington

*These articles first appeared about twelve years ago when Andrew Laing was Editor. They are revised and republished to celebrate of the launch of The New Heron.
Author: George Talbot - look out for more in future issues*

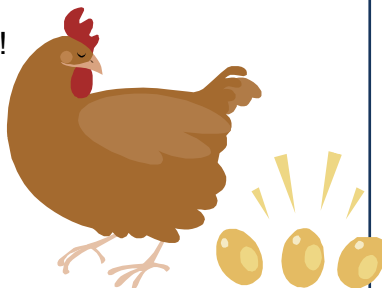
NEW HERON DELIVERIES

A big thank you to the team of volunteers who deliver The New Heron, and also to Sandra Kay who organises the distribution, and who has agreed to carry on doing this for the time being. We have some new volunteers, but there is always a need for more as backup, to cover at times of illness, or holidays, or to step in if anyone is unable to continue.

Any willing volunteers please contact us at the New Heron. Better than going to the gym - 'cos it's FREE! And great for any of you 'dog walkers'!
Two birds and all that!...

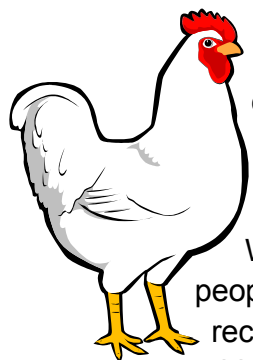
"EGGSASPERATIONS!!!"

There seems to be a boom in chicken keeping at present! This is certainly born out by Goldings Nurseries, and Thorne's in Herefordshire from where I recently bought five hybrid hens. Yes! I too have succumbed to this irrational fad, believing that I'd be in charge, and eventually get loads of eggs; even though at present my birds are youngsters and only just 'point-of-lay'. See, I'm learning the technical terms already! And, just to show off a bit more, I have a Light Sussex, a Speckledy, a Bluebelle, a Columbine, and a Bovans Nera. Impressed? Well, don't be! Prepare to be warned and disappointed!



Little did I know when I started that there's a whole other side to the world of chicken keeping. They have been plotting against us since the first wild birds were domesticated and lost their freedom. If you think YOU are in charge of your chickens, prepare for a change in the pecking order! From 'foul play' to 'hen-ertainment' *Diane Parker's* hilarious observations and anecdotes go a long way in expressing my own experience of who is really in

charge, and what those female egg laying machines are secretly plotting in their coops!.....Well, what else is there to do when you're put to bed early, and opened up late!?



We hope to gradually enlighten you poor people who have succumbed to the chicken recently, or who have experienced the world of chicken keeping in a past, dark time. Over the

coming months we shall; infiltrate their ranks, listen in on their plans, explain their philosophy, and enlighten you as to the

"100 Ways for a Chicken to Train its Human!" - Ed'.

Daffodils

Haven't the daffodils looked lovely this year? Both the ones in people's gardens, and those along the roadsides. Nice to have something bright to cheer us up after a wet winter! Many of the ones along the roads were planted by the Garden Club a few years ago, and are now well established, so we can enjoy the results of all their hard work for many years to come. - Viv



Christchurch Pilates Class

If you feel the need to do some exercise at your own pace - why not try Pilates? It uses stretching exercises, a bit like Yoga. (Not as energetic as Aerobics or Zumba, but by the end of the session you do feel you have had a good workout) We meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 in Townley school hall. We are a friendly group, and like to welcome new people. Some of us are fitter and more flexible than others! but we all just do as much as we can, and our teacher, Marina, never minds if anyone needs a short rest. It's suitable for all ages, men and women. All you need is a mat or towel, and a small cushion. It costs £5 a session, and we usually pay monthly. Come along and give it a try!

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Peggy

Held in Townley Dining Room 8th April 2014

Christine Brown, our speaker, gave a very entertaining talk on from Nits to Knitting. She originally spent many years as a school nurse and later her experience was used when research was undertaken on head lice, their prevention and treatment, dispelling many myths on the way. On retirement she took up a new challenge – that of running a wool shop which specialised in unusual wools. She showed us many lovely examples. We all had a go with square knitting needles which were surprisingly comfortable to use.

Competition results for a knitted pot:

Beryl 5, Alma 5, Peggy 4, Sue N 4, Tracy 3, Val 2, Marian 2, Ann 1, Sandra K 1, Sandra L 1, Sue Q 1

Remaining dates for the year (2nd Tues of each month):

May: Visit to Octavia Hill Museum Wisbech (Wed 14th May)

June: The Work of the Macmillan Nurses

July: Development of the English Silver Spoon

August: The work of FACET

September: Cookery Demonstration

October: Harvest Meeting

November: Dorothy L Sayers

December: Trekking through South East Asia



Craft Club

On April 1st members enjoyed taking part in making bunting. This will be finished off by Margaret and Sandra so that it will be all ready for the church's "Festival of Flowers". This will be held on Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th June as part of the church's 150th Anniversary Celebrations of when they laid the first stone in 1864. This should be a wonderful weekend of celebration.

On Wednesday May 7th the club meets again at our new venue in Townley School. Rosemary Higgs will be showing us how to do Calligraphy. Anyone else who is interested in this topic, please feel free to join us. We start at 7.30pm.

There is an entry fee of £1.50, plus refreshments, tea or coffee for 20p a cup. There will also be the usual raffle with tickets at 50p a strip.

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to house move.





Upwell Health Centre

Report written in March 2014 - by Dr Paul Williams

We are creeping towards the end of another winter. So far, despite all the rain, we have been lucky to have seen very few cases of flu. At the time of writing, however, we have just received a message from the Department of Health that the numbers of cases are rising and to be alert for an outbreak. There have again been several staff changes at the practice since my last newsletter. Mike Greenbank, our managing partner, retired at the end of February and has been replaced by Stephen Reeves. Stephen has many years' experience as a manager in other practices in the area and has already impressed us all with his enthusiasm and insight. He is married



to Lynette Reeves, our nurse practitioner, so he knew what he was letting himself in for when he joined us!

Dr McDowell is currently on maternity leave having had her first child. We have again welcomed back Dr. Nigel Williams to help us in her absence. Now having two Dr. Williams' in the practice causes

confusion. I know Nigel is always amused when I am referred to as the "old" Dr Williams. I tell myself this is because you have all known me for so long you are using "old" to describe the age of our relationship and not as a description of my chronological age! I am several years younger than Nigel, despite my grey hair!

While we are on the subject of maternity leave we are all pleased to have Jade back in the office following the birth of her latest child. Other

changes in the office have occurred as a result of Mike's retirement. Jenny Hughes is now our Assistant Practice Manager with added responsibilities. Also James Cowling has been promoted to the role of Quality Manager; James has the responsibility of dealing with patient queries and complaints, so he is the man to speak to if you wish to comment on or ask something about our services.

...pharmacy waits likely to be cut...

New Team Members

You will undoubtedly have met our other two new members of staff in pharmacy. We have been conscious for some time of the problems you have had with frequent long waits in pharmacy. We have tried to address this problem by appointing two dedicated counter staff, Sara and Sally. They have been in post several months now and I hope you have noticed things have improved as a result. One thing to bear in mind is that a pharmacy can only dispense items the doctors have prescribed. They are not legally allowed to issue prescriptions themselves. So if you want a drug urgently that has not been prescribed you should ask at the centre reception and not the pharmacy.

Changes to the Nursing Team

There will be some major changes to the nursing Team that will be happening soon. We have been incredibly lucky to have had a team of wonderfully committed, professional, caring nurses working in the surgery for as long as I can remember. Some years ago we pioneered a new model of working for community nursing when we took over the district nursing service and ran it as an integrated team with our practice nurses. This meant that we were able to give you a seamless service in either your home or the surgery, whichever was clinically right for you. However recently due to changes in local NHS services we have had to look again at the model of care we can offer.

You may have seen in the news that from April the government wants GPs to be more proactive with the care of elderly people. We will be required to have a named GP for every over 75 year old patient and to have an individual care plan for this group. As you can imagine this will necessitate a lot of extra work and we need our nurses to help us deliver these new initiatives.

In all other practices in West Norfolk the district nursing service is provided by Norfolk Community Health Care (NCHC). Very shortly NCHC will be taking over the district

(Continued on next page...)

nursing aspects of your care; these include most of the nursing services you access in your own home, for example dressings, and injections for housebound patients. We have already had several employees of NCHC working in the practice; many of you will have met our Community Matron Sarah Coates or had a visit from the community IV nurses, and those of you with chronic neurological problems may have met the community neurology nurses. In addition, once NCHC take over, our patients will have access to a pioneering service West Norfolk CCG have commissioned from NCHC, the Hospice at Home, which is designed to allow all those people with terminal illness who wish to stay at home to do so with an excellent level of care, including access to special palliative care consultants and nurses.

By allowing NCHC to take over the district nursing role we will be able to focus our nurses on practice duties. This will mean we will be able to give you better monitoring for conditions like diabetes, asthma, COPD, hypertension and heart disease. We can also increase our smoking cessation support, our NHS health check clinics and, crucially have the nurses available to do the over 75 assessments we need to deliver the improved care the government require of us. Rest assured the changes will not mean you will be unable to get the care you need, NCHC has a good reputation in West Norfolk and scores highly on the Friends and Family test the government use to monitor patient satisfaction with a service. We will update you further on the dates of any changes once they have been confirmed.

Christchurch Residents Association

Our March meeting was attended by John Elworthy, Editor of Cambs. Times, Wisbech Standard, and The Eastern Daily Press. He proved to be a mine of information, particularly regarding past events in Christchurch. It was a very informative evening, and he offered his services to us in fighting or supporting any causes that we felt we needed help with. Our Chairman will be speaking on our behalf at the forthcoming Planning Committee Meeting on April 30th.

Our April meeting was attended by Dave Harrowing, Fenland Co-Ordinator for Neighbourhood Watch. His experiences and suggestions were most enlightening, and he promised his support in our efforts to re-establish a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Christchurch. We intend to begin with Church Road, as the main thoroughfare, and gradually broaden the scheme out to cover, hopefully, the whole village. Any other groups of villagers interested in participating in the scheme should contact us initially via The New Heron on 01354 638990.

Our numbers were swollen to overflowing in April with over 20 villagers attending. Several new members from Euximoor Drove attended due to their concerns over speeding vehicles down the drove, and the serious number of large potholes that remain down the entire length of this road. Sadly, as Euximoor Drove has no street lighting and, therefore, no lamp posts, the natural speed limit is 60 m.p.h. which is ridiculous for what is a "No Through Road" that is both narrow, and winding, with many sharp bends. This, taken together with the number of large farm vehicles that necessarily frequent the drove, make speeding vehicles even more hazardous.

Fortunately Dave Harrowing explained that residents could immediately apply for SPEEDWATCH equipment, and put that in place. Hopefully, this would serve as an initial deterrent as driver's speeds would be flashed up in front of them. Similarly, with follow up observations of vehicles travelling over 60mph; i.e. make, model, colour, and registration of offending vehicles; they would be bookable by informing the police due to the SPEEDWATCH backup information. John Elworthy, Editor of Cambs. Times also agreed to do a piece on this problem in his newspaper, complete with photos. This also applied to the pothole problem. He agreed to liaise with Irene Brown.

On the subject of potholes we would like to quote an extract from (another Euximoor Drove resident) Michael Hawkins' recent letter:

"When I first moved here, within a couple of years the Drove was resurfaced. I watched this process which was amusing at the time but angered me afterwards. A truck drove down spraying tar as it went, followed by a truck dropping stones onto the wet tar. This was then followed by a steamroller that went straight down the middle of the Drove once.

(Continued on next page...) 11

(Continued from page 11) Nowhere near the sides, where vehicle wheels make contact with *(the rough edges of)* the road and do all the damage. This very poor resurfacing has resulted in a puddle outside my house that was about six feet long; becoming around thirty to forty feet long when it has rained. At the speeds some vehicles drive past, this surface water often flies over the fence actually hitting my windows. A further side effect of the shoddy work is that now when any vehicle Transit sized, or larger, passes by, my house literally shakes *(with the vibrations caused)*."

Another issue raised by Euximoor Drove residents was the issue of 'dry' fire water pipes. This will be an agenda item at our next meeting.

We were grateful again for the presence of John Elworthy at our meeting, who is always extremely helpful and informative. Together with Dave Harrowing's input, those residents attending all agreed that it had been a really excellent and helpful meeting!

Our next meeting will be on May 21st at The Old School, beginning at 7.30pm. Meetings usually last no longer than an hour to an hour and a half. Any villagers wishing to attend are most welcome. We are hoping that our local PCSO Dave Russ will be attending our May meeting to update us on SPEEDWATCH and to answer questions. Also, hopefully, an officer from the local Fire Service re the 'dry' fire water pipes in Euximoor Drove.

[N.B. Please also see Speeding in Euximoor Pg 16]

100 WAYS FOR A CHICKEN TO TRAIN ITS HUMAN ~ No 1

For the Cocks! ~ Showing off is a most unattractive characteristic in a human. The true meaning of 'cocksure' resides with the noble cockerel, and is a virtue. Remember this when you are strutting your stuff and crowing your heart out at dawn. Humans say that this is the 'best part of the day', so assist them by ensuring that you take charge of the situation; do not let them oversleep and waste the day away. They will admire your leadership skills, effective 'time management', and concern for them and the neighbours ~ who can enjoy the early part of the day with them!



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Another Christchurch Author

Most residents of Christchurch will know of the famous Crime writer and feminist **Dorothy L Sayers** who was resident in Christchurch in the 1920's, when her father Rev Henry Sayers was Vicar of the church here.



About a year after he died in the village in 1928, she moved to Witham in Essex. Dorothy was born 13th June 1893 in Oxford, and she died in Witham 17th December 1957, age 64. Among her famous friends were T S Elliot and CS Lewis.

Living in the village we have another author; sadly though, he is unknown to the world and to most of the residents of Christchurch, his profile follows

He was published in magazines and newspapers, before turning his focus onto writing books. He is a prolific author, having fully written 14 books in 7 years, and he has another 5 works currently in progress and In addition he has written 2 non-fictional works, one being a biography. He is also a published poet.

George has owned two successful business ventures: A Wedding business/Photographic studio and an IT/retail business.

Along with photography he has a passionate interest in Hi-Fi sound reproduction, and over the years, he has designed and built many pairs of loudspeakers; for himself and for friends and acquaintances.

George M Talbot is a multi genre author - He was born in the county of Surrey England UK, but spent much of his life in Essex; His books are based around, Sci-Fi, Thriller, Adventure, Fantasy and Horror themes, but all contain some elements of more than one genre making his writing exciting, fresh and compelling.



George's books are available via all e-commerce shops or possibly direct from George ... his email is angard@tiscali.co.uk
George M Talbot has lived in the village for nearly 15 years.

George's Current Books

Angard- Sci-Fi inter-dimensional adventure

Vandara- Fantasy adventure (Pat Mills liked this one)

Tulpa Pt 1- supernatural with a difference

Bookworm - contemporary fiction

Crystal Caverns- Children's adventure

OPINIONS of course will vary, but generally George's books get 5 and 4 star reader reviews as can be seen on Amazon UK.

www.georgemtalbot.com

IN NEXT MONTH'S NEW HERON:

150th Church Anniversary

WWI - The History of the Poppy

The New Dalek - for potholes!

Health - The Dangers of Snoring

The First Live Aid

Recipe of the Month

Film Review

Prize Crossword

and all of the usual -

Club and Society news!

Best wishes from John Elworthy

editor Cambridgeshire Times

I grew up in Norfolk and my first job, some years ago, was as a village correspondent, earning a penny a line for contributed stories to our local papers. Not only did I appreciate the extra income but I know villagers appreciated keeping up to date with news in their local paper.

In fact knowing what's going on in a community is vital to its welfare – so I'm delighted we have a new Editor and support team, for The 'New' Heron- having long been a reader of its printed form and of late its digital version.

Contributors are unlikely to be paid a penny a line (or whatever that might translate to) but that's hardly relevant or important these days. What is important is that people learn what's happening locally so they can speak with confidence, and pride, about their village and also cast a critical eye when needed.

Whether its forthcoming events, regular clubs and societies, parish council activities or proposals, or even, dare I say, the infrequent contentious planning application – all are part and parcel of village life and need to be out there, in the open, available to all.

I'm not suggesting The 'New' Heron should, or have any need to, develop a taste for investigative journalism (I do it reasonably well anyway!) but I do think it should bring together the nuts and bolts of village life into a readable, appreciative and comprehensive form.

That we have some talented people in Richard, Paul, and Viv, now equipped to do that, should rate as a blessing, and I'm keen to see the next edition (and many more too!) thrive and prosper. Good luck to your new Editorial Team.

The Environmentalists



“Hello! They’re nibbling at the green belt again.”

From The Church

Dear Friends,

Forgiveness is possible and that is Good News.

The message of Easter is that Jesus died for the sins of the world and was raised to life 3 days later and that He offers new life and forgiveness to all who are willing to receive His gift. Forgiveness means that we can receive God's forgiveness for all the wrong in us and that in His power and by His spirit we can become agents of His forgiveness in a hurting and dysfunctional world.

Someone who perhaps has learned much about this vital mission is Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who headed up the South African 'Truth and Reconciliation Commission' in post apartheid South Africa. Wherever he goes he is constantly asked the question to which we all desperately need to know the answer "How do I forgive?"

In response to this Desmond and his daughter Mpho (an Anglican Priest) have written a new book called "The Book of Forgiveness – The Fourfold Path of healing ourselves and our world." They lay out the simple but profound truths about the significance of forgiveness, how it works, why everyone needs to know how to grant it and receive it and why granting forgiveness is the greatest gift we can give to ourselves when we have been wronged. They explain the four step process of forgiveness – Telling the Story, Naming the Hurt, Granting Forgiveness and Renewing or Releasing

the Relationship – as well as offering meditations, exercises and prayers to guide the reader along the way.

As well as the book Desmond and Mpho are also offering a chance to join in a free and interactive "Tutu Global Forgiveness Challenge". You can find details at

www.forgivenesschallenge.com It is a 30 day journey of Forgiveness starting on 4th May, it is a challenge to act together to learn forgiveness so that we can change the world! We all need to find and give forgiveness in our personal lives and relationships, in our communities and our nation and amongst the nations of the world.

Jesus love and power really can set us free. The Tutu's write "With each act of forgiveness, whether small or great we move toward wholeness. Forgiveness is how we bring peace to ourselves and our world."

Jesus taught us to pray, 'Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us', if the power of His resurrection could help us all to do this then these would be wonderful life lessons for us all to learn. Let me know if you try it and it helps,

With very best wishes to you all,
Kevin.



Rev Kevin Fitzgibbon

Kevin Fitzgibbon can be contacted
on 01354 680969



Parish Church Services

04-May	11:00 Rev K Fitzgibbon	All Age Worship
11-May	09:30 Rev S Tooke	Holy Communion
18-May	18:30 Rev K Fitzgibbon	Evening Prayer
25-May	11:00 Vicki Smith	Morning Prayer
01-Jun	11:00 Rev K Fitzgibbon	All Age Worship

Date for your diary. This year marks the 150th Anniversary of worship in our church building and we will be holding a Festival of Flowers event on the week-end of 28/29th June including a celebration service at 3:30pm on the Sunday. More details next month.

Finally a thank you to all those who have been involved in getting The New Heron going.

Daphne and Andrew.

17 March 2014

Dear Madam

The Localism Act: A request to have a 30mph speed limit in Euximoor Drove, Christchurch

We, the residents of Euximoor Drove, as part of the village of Christchurch, wish to have a speed restriction put in place on the drove as soon as possible. We would like a 30 mph limit to bring us into line with the village, and also a PLEASE DRIVE WITH CARE notice. Many cars and delivery vans, who are the main culprits, use this narrow lane as a racing track. We have also had problems with quad bikers and motorbikes. The drove has no pedestrian footpaths, adding to the problem. A 'NO THROUGH ROAD' sign on the bridge would also be useful, cutting down unnecessary traffic

We are a mainly residential area of families with young children, older people and animals, trying to live a peaceful life but we are plagued with drivers with no consideration for others. They race down the drove, jamming on brakes at corners and hitting the straight run at speed. We are a drove waiting for an accident to happen!

We would also draw your attention to the sorry state of the drove. It is full of potholes needing urgent attention. Car tyres and wheel hubs are continually being damaged at some cost to residents. We are part of the village of Christchurch and ask to be given the same considerations please.

We think these simple improvements to Euximoor Drove will improve the quality of life for the residents and look forward to hearing from you.

On behalf of the residents of Euximoor Drove:

Irene Brown

Cc: Christchurch Parish Council, Steve Barclay MP

Since writing this letter a few pot holes have been botched up. The repairs will not last long. We are looking for long term solutions, not 'left over tarmac' from other jobs.

If you have a view on this topic or have issues or concerns of your own that you'd like to get out in the open, then why not write to The New Heron. You can do it quite easily by email to editor@theheron.info or by letter to The Editor, The Old School, Church Road, Christchurch PE14 9PQ

Speeding on Euximoor Drove

We publish for your interest, recent correspondence about this issue. Top left a letter on behalf of the Euximoor Residents, to Cambridgeshire County Council.

Below the reply from the Council Officer.

Both Letters were copied to Christchurch Parish Council and Steve Barclay MP

Dear Mrs Brown

REQUEST FOR A 30MPH SPEED LIMIT IN EUXIMOOR DROVE, CHRISTCHURCH

Thank you for your letter of 17th March 2014 requesting a 30mph speed limit in Euximoor Drove.

I was concerned to hear that the residents are having problems with speeding vehicles.

In order to reduce a speed limit it is necessary to implement a Speed Limit Order. This is a legal document that enables the police to enforce the speed limit. To do this it is necessary to advertise it twice in the local press, Once as 'proposed' and once as 'made'. It is then necessary to erect the associated road signs which, on an unlit road, requires repeater signs as well as signs at the entrance to the road. It is likely that to introduce a 30mph speed limit in Euximoor Drove would cost a minimum of £2,500.

At the moment, the only budget we have available to reduce a speed limit is the Local Highway Improvement bid. Each year we invite parish councils and any other group that has registered interest, to submit a bid for highway improvements in their area. The bids are assessed by a panel of councillors and the highest scoring receive funding of up to £10,000 provided the applicant commits to contributing 10% of the final cost.

Alternatively, a third party such as a parish council or residents association can wholly fund a scheme.

However, if funding was forthcoming and a 30mph limit was introduced it is unlikely that it would be regularly enforced by the police and subsequently there would be poor compliance with it.

All signs in the highway have to be in accordance with the relevant legislation and this only allows us to add 'Please drive with care' etc to a speed limit sign, it cannot be used on its own. However, a 'No through road' sign is permissible in this situation and the Local Highway Officer for the area has agreed to erect one.

With regard to pothole repairs, due to the very wet winter it was not feasible to carry out repairs to our usual standards so areas were made safe with temporary repairs. However, now that the weather has improved we will be able to carry out permanent repairs in the near future.

I hope that you find this information of use. If you would like to discuss any aspect of it further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Jo Challis

Policy & Regulation Engineer

CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Christchurch Parish Council on Monday 10th March 2014 in the Sports Pavilion, Christchurch

Present	Cllrs: N Russell (Chair); J Bliss; S Freeland; H Poole; W Poole; W Sutton (FDC) J Richardson (Clerk); N Fenton (Police & Crime Commissioners Office); and one member of the public	
1. Apologies for Absence:	Cllrs: W Beswick, R Gladwin, F Yeulett (CCC) M Tanfield (FDC)	
3. 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) b) Non-Pecuniary Interest) None declared c) Sensitive Pecuniary Interest)	
2.	Confirmation of Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2014 were Proposed for approval by Cllr Russell, AGREED and signed.	Agreed
6.	Police Update The Chair brought this item forward to enable the Police Commissioner's representative to deliver her report and leave. There were 5 reported crimes in February and these were summarised by Cllr Russell as 2 shed burglaries, 1 theft of a motor vehicle, 1 criminal damage to a motor vehicle and 1 burglary other than a dwelling. There has been an arrest in relation to the break-ins at the Bowls Club. The next South Rural Forum will be held on 25 th March 2014 in Elm, near the War Memorial. The Horizons bus will be there from 12.00 with a meeting at 17.00 to decide priorities for the next 6 months. Nicola Fenton explained the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner and also the 5 main priorities. The Commissioner has a plan and anyone can read this on the web site:- http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/police-crime-plan/ Feedback was given to Nicola from Councillors and public which was around, lack of response of police, lack of feedback from police, lack of confidence in police as never seen in the village or at Parish Council Meetings. It was stated that Neighborhood Watch and Speedwatch are trying to be set up in the village. Discussion also took place around the fact that the 101 number is now answered within 30 seconds but then people are put on hold.	
4.	Update on Action Points from Previous Meeting The reflector poles down along Upwell Road and the vehicles speeding in the village at school times have been reported by the Clerk. The Clerk had emailed Councillors the details of the Bowls Club request for assistance in paying water and electricity bills. It was proposed by Cllr Russell that the Parish Council pay these monies and this was AGREED. Cllr Sutton had visited FACT and they are happy to attend a Parish Council Meeting to discuss. The Clerk is to invite to May meeting, and put a notice up so that people in the village that are interested can come along. Cllr Sutton has chased up the "gullies" clearance with Highways. Cllr Sutton reported that Rotten Drove is a County Council owned	Agreed Clerk

- footway.
Green Lane is a byway and Cllr Sutton is to raise with Cllr Yeulett the possibility of getting signs erected to stop cars going down there. Cllr Sutton
5. **Public Time**
The trimming of the trees around the playing field that are overhanging gardens was raised and Cllr Bliss is to arrange for these to be trimmed. If this is not possible then Cllr Sutton may be able to get a quote for this work. Cllr Bliss
7. The update of the Play Park equipment plan has been received
7. **Correspondence**
Freedom of Information request re FACT donations and correspondence over the last 18 months has been dealt with.
Football Club have paid into Hall Charity to cover up to present, which equates to around £400 per year.
Minor Highways Improvement Bid has been successful.
Email received requesting payment for street light energy costs, which has since been rescinded by County Council
Concurrent Functions Grant Meeting held 5th March reported that 2 Councillors will represent parishes in initial discussions with FDC with ideas of how to move forward on this item
8. **Finance**
a) Monies have been received for the sale of plot of land
b) Members considered and **APPROVED** the following accounts for payment: **APPROVED**
- | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------|
| Clerks Salary | February 2014 | £86.40 |
| Vacancy Advert | | £31.42 |
| Pavillion Hall Insurance | | £892.98 |
| | SUB TOTAL | £1010.80 |
| c) Clerk reported on the current bank balances at end February 2014:- | | |
| Community Account | | 127,071.67 |
| Business Premium | | 8,185.80 |
| Business Bonus | | 27,414.63 |
| New Village Hall | | 689.21 |
| BoS Corp Bonus | | 10,671.56 |
| TOTALS: | | £174,032.87 |
9. **Planning Applications**
None received
10. **Parish Plan**
The prices for the new build of the Pavillion have not been received yet. Cllr Russell is to chase this up for the next meeting Cllr Russell
11. **Village Concerns**
Discussion took place regarding the piping and filling in of ditches to the front of the building plots.
Plot 2&3 would like 3 phase electrics which will now be delivered overground.
There is a map of the village in the Notice Board and Cllr Sutton agreed to see if he can get a smaller copy Cllr Sutton
The Clerk is to look at the state of the Notice Board with suggestions for the next meeting Clerk
- Agenda Items/Next Meeting**
The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 14 April 2014. Items to be included on the agenda should be with the Clerk by Thursday 3rd April 2014. **ALL COUNCILLORS**

Meeting Closed at 8.50pm

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Monday 19th May 2014 at 7pm in the Pavilion, Upwell Road. Also the AGM of the Parish Council will follow at 7.30pm.

Chilli and Quiz Night

to be held in Townley School

**Friday 2 May at 7.00 for
7.15 pm start.**

Beef Chilli, Rice & Tortilla Chips

OR

Quorn Chilli, Rice & Tortilla Chips

Bring your own drinks and snacks

Raffle at half time.

All money raised for
'Friends of Townley School'.

Tickets available from Townley
School Office
01354638229

£10 per head (£5 for Quiz Only)

[TEAMS OF
NO MORE THAN 6 PLEASE]

**100 WAYS FOR A CHICKEN TO TRAIN ITS
HUMAN ~ No 3**

The Evolution of the

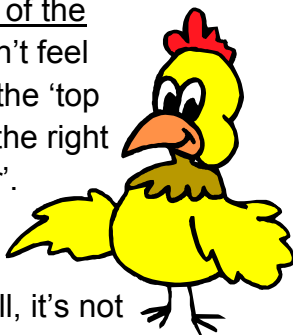
Chicken ~ Don't feel
guilty! You at the 'top
of the tree' is the right
'pecking order'.

Humans see
themselves

in you. After all, it's not
important 'which came

first, the chicken or the egg?' – is
it? The point is that both arrived
on the scene a long time before
the human race had even been
thought off! So! Remember!

Evolution has been good to you
and dealt you a good hand. Your
eggs provide unrivalled
bargaining power! If your human
upsets you ~ they may endure a
long wait for breakfast! Remind
them that you are not merely an
egg making machine!



FRIENDS OF TOWNLEY SCHOOL (FOTS)

Unwanted Clothes and Shoes Weigh In

Pupils at Townley School, Christchurch
have just found out that they won't be
able to use their swimming pool this
year due to irreparable wear and tear to
the pool liner and surround.

There has been a swimming pool at
Townley School for decades, and pupils
here have been lucky enough to have the use of the pool, for
lessons, every day during the Summer Term - up until this
year. Fund-raising efforts over the past 6 months have been
aimed at replacing the pool liner, but an assessment of the
pool this month has brought to light severe water damage to
the wooden surround as well.

A small grant, plus money raised to date, leaves a figure of
£8,000 which needs to be raised, as soon as we can, so that
work can commence later this year, to get the pool ready for
use in the Summer Term 2015. (Unfortunately the pool is
unusable this year.)

In an effort to kick start the fundraising for the pool, we

*...friends act to keep
children
swimming...*

would like to receive any
clean, good-quality, unwanted
clothes and shoes so that we
may take them to Wisbech for
a Weigh-In. They will pay us
55p per kilo of suitable clothes

and shoes.

(WE REQUIRE UNSOILED, UNTORN CLOTHES.
SHOES MUST BE PAIRED. NO BLANKETS.)

The clothes have to be checked and sorted before we take
them to be weighed so we may hang on to the best items
and keep them for a FOTS clothes stall we are planning later
in the year.

If you have any unwanted clothes, that you think would be
suitable for our cause, we would be happy to come and
collect them. To arrange a collection (or simply find out how
to make a donation) please ring Kelly on 01354 638407.

THERE IS NO CUT OFF DATE FOR THIS. AS LONG AS WE
HAVE CLOTHES BEING DONATED,
WE WILL KEEP GETTING THEM
WEIGHED. EVERY PENNY COUNTS.
Thank you for your support.

Please also support the Chilli and
Quiz Night (see opposite top of this page)
also "Night at the Races" - (see Page 27)



TOWNLEY SCHOOL

Christchurch, Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 9NA

Email: office@townley.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.townleyschool.org.uk

Tel/Fax: 01354 638229



The whole school celebrated World Book Day by dressing up in their favourite characters. There were lots of related activities followed by the traditional Townley Cat Walk.

Class 1 visited Fossils Galore in March and took part in lots of related activities. They finished their visit with a picnic in the park.



Diary Dates

22nd April - Teacher Training Day

23rd April - Start of the school Summer Term

12th May - Year 6 SATs start

May - Year 2 SATs will take place



Townley are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers, if you have any and would like to donate them to us, we would appreciate it— We have a box in our reception area.

Thank you!

April 2014



Free and confidential advice about support for adults with long-term care needs and carers

A series of drop-in sessions are being held at Wisbech Library for adults with long-term care needs and carers. If you are an adult living with a long-term illness or disability, an older person struggling with an age-related condition, or if you are providing unpaid support to an adult family member or a friend who could not manage without this help, why not come along for a cup of tea and a chat?

Sessions are being held on the first Tuesday of the month during 2014. Come along at any time between 1.00-4.00pm and you will be able to get free and confidential information and advice about the support that may be available to you. Each informal session will have a speaker, an opportunity to book a one-to-one advice session and/or a carers assessment, share information and experience with others or talk in confidence to staff from adult social care Disability Services and the Carers Support Team.

Forthcoming drop-ins will include specialist advice from the county council's Village Benefits Advice Team (on 6th May), and advice about medicine management (on 3rd June).

For more information about the drop-in sessions phone 01480 377616 / 01480 373220 or email CarersSupportTeam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

If you need advice about adult care and support but are unable to come to one of the drop-in sessions you can find out more on our adult social care website www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk or you can contact adult social care Customer Services on 0345 045 5202.

The People's Portrait

Did anyone else, like me, enjoy this wonderful programme on BBC2 last Sunday (13th April)? Fiona Bruce tagged along with *Simon Weston* for three months as artist Nicky Philipps completed a portrait of Simon for The National Portrait Gallery; with no guarantee that it would even be accepted. The gallery's rigorous commissioning process adds only six paintings to its collection each year.

A more deserving subject I cannot imagine as the People's Choice. For those that may not remember, Simon Weston is a Falklands veteran, and, latterly, a hero, who suffered 46% burns when his ship, *Sir Galahad*, was attacked in 1982.

Nicky Philipps' artistry served to almost mimic the many, many, skin graft operations that Simon has had to endure

as his face was repeatedly reconstructed over several years. Nicky was determined to depict 'the Simon behind the scars'. *"I need to capture what's in the eyes!"* she explained. In the end she captured him perfectly, as he is now; with the windows of his soul, the most expressive eyes, drawing the whole portrait together. His history; his trauma, his bravery, and his continuing, and many, good works and business ventures; all seemed to be captured in the finished work.

Needless to say, it WAS accepted by The National Portrait Gallery, and now hangs, ironically, opposite a portrait of Maggie Thatcher. Without whom Simon Weston wouldn't be the famous and endearing personality he is today! ~ Ed'

[See next months feature on WW1 and The History of the Poppy]



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The Environmentalist



"Over my dead body!
There's a robin nesting in the sump."

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See page 6 for other sizes
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Tel: 01354 638227 Mob: 07989668095 Email: pnscott@hotmail.co.uk

Norfolk bids for £700K—could it help the Welney Washes? by John Elworthy

Tom McCabe, the council's interim director for environment, transport and development, said a bid has been submitted to the Environment Agency to help pay for the work. He said that the agency's 'grant-in-aid' funding scheme could provide some of the money needed to deliver improvements. He went on to say, "We have included an estimate in the bid, amounting to £700,000 for



the construction of a raised road level to achieve a 50 per cent reduction in the current frequency of flooding." The figures have been based on recent flooding statistics which show the A1101 through Welney to have been closed over 5.5 weeks per year on average between 2010 and 2014. Mr McCabe said that he hoped 23 per cent of the improvement scheme costs could come from the Environment Agency, "with the remainder funded from other sources". He went on to say that the funding requirements will be discussed at a meeting on May 16 with NW Norfolk MP Henry Bellingham and South West Norfolk MP Liz Truss.

The county council bid was revealed in a letter sent to NE Cambs MP Steve Barclay who joined the campaign to improve the road through the village. "Many constituents, in particular those in and around Christchurch, face significant disruption from the increasing number of days the Wash Road is closed at Welney due to flooding," he said. "This results in a massive detour at significant

cost in fuel and time. I promised to lobby Norfolk County Council to speed up their investigation of the cost of a road improvement scheme at Welney and I am now pleased to report that Norfolk County Council has agreed to submit a bid to the Environment Agency

for funding, and will also be taking this proposal to the Regional Flood Committee." Mr. Barclay went on to say, "There is still a long way to go but it is a positive step forward. The electric signs have also now been installed." Mr McCabe said that having bid for a capital scheme "there remains a requirement to fund the feasibility study which will confirm the costs and benefits of the improvement scheme." He said the County Council intends to ask the Regional Flood and Coastal committee to support the feasibility study and further talks are planned that include the commissioning of any consultants that might be required.

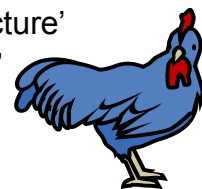
[Reprinted with kind permission of the Cambridgeshire Times]

Really Cheeeesy!

A group of Americans were travelling by tour bus through Switzerland. As they stopped at a cheese farm, a young guide led them through the process of cheese making, explaining that goat's milk was used. She then showed the group a lovely hillside where many of the goats were grazing. 'These,' she explained, 'are the older goats put out to pasture when they no longer produce.' She then asked, 'What do you do in America with your old goats?' A spry old gentleman answered, 'They send us on bus tours!'

100 WAYS FOR A CHICKEN TO TRAIN ITS HUMAN ~ No 2

For the Hens ~ Let your feathers down and make as much noise as you like. Your clucking is well within permitted decibel levels, and your human can always catch up on sleep at another time. Human females have 'hen parties' (nicked the idea off of us of course). They drink excessive amounts of alcohol and make fools of themselves. You can party too and enjoy a night with the girls without getting drunk. Unless of course you've over indulged on those fermenting early apple windfalls! For beauty tips for the evening attend the 'pecture' next 'Hensday' on 'Pullet Power'!



Registration Form

All the information you give us is confidential

Name

Address

Postcode

Phone No

Date of Birth

Email address

Emergency contact name, relationship to you and telephone number

Would you have any of the following when travelling? (please tick)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheelchair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Guide dog
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shopping trolley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Escort
<input type="checkbox"/>	Walking aid		

Any other information that you feel is relevant:

Please return completed form together with annual membership fee of £10.00 made payable to FACT to:

FACT
5 Martin Avenue
March
Cambridgeshire
PE15 0AY

A membership number will be sent to you once your membership has been approved, this can take up to 14 days.

If you value our services and wish to make a donation, however small.

Please send the donation to the above address.

Registered as a Industrial & Provident Society No 26756R.

VAT Reg No 825370043.



DAY TRIPS

2014

COAST VISITS, HISTORIC PLACES, SHOPPING AND GARDEN CENTRES

We would like to offer all our Dial-A-Ride members some additional days out. These trips are different to the current Dial-A-Ride and you are **UNABLE** to use your bus pass to travel free. The driver will collect and return you from your homes. We will start the route at 08:30 and return will be arranged on the day

The trips have a booking deadline of 5 days before the trip. You will be contacted the day before the trip to confirm your approximate pick up time.

For WEST, NORTH, NORTH WEST and CENTRAL areas

Destination	When	Return fare
Great Yarmouth	Tuesday 27th May 2014	£10.00
Skegness	Thursday 29th May 2014	£10.00
Hunstanton	Friday 30th May 2014	£10.00
Ipswich	Thursday 12th June 2014	£10.00
Milton Keynes	Monday 23rd June 2014	£10.00
Bedford	Monday 28th July 2014	£10.00
Hunstanton	Wednesday 30th July 2014	£10.00
Springfields OR Baytree	Friday 1st August 2014	£10.00
Cambridge	Tuesday 5th August 2014	£10.00
Fakenham and Wells-next-the-Sea	Thursday 7th August 2014	£10.00
St Ives	Monday 11th August 2014	£10.00
Cromer and Sheringham	Wednesday 13th August 2014	£10.00
Downtown Shopping Centre	Friday 15th August 2014	£10.00
Skegness	Tuesday 19th August 2014	£10.00
Aldeburgh and Southwold	Thursday 21st August 2014	£10.00
Lowestoft	Thursday 28th August 2014	£10.00
Hunstanton	Friday 29th August 2014	£10.00
Norwich	Monday 1st September 2014	£10.00

- Only book if you are prepared to pay the fare we are **UNABLE** to accept bus passes on these trips.
- We are unable to refund your payment if you cancel for a trip.
- A carer/friend/child/relative is able to travel with you, they will need to pay the full fare as well. Please let us know when booking.
- This service is subject to change dependent on demand.
- Drivers will wait a maximum of 5 minutes before moving on.
- You may take a scooter with you (if room), but you will need to pay an additional charge of £10.00 this is because we have to remove two "paying" seats
- Bookings can be made between 09:00 and 15:00, Monday to Friday.

FACT

5 Martin Avenue, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 0AY

Telephone: (01354) 661234, Fax: (01354) 661235, Email: contact@fact.gb.com, Website: www.fact-cambs.co.uk

FACT

For those of you who don't already know FACT- Fenland Association for Community Transport is a non-profit making organisation providing door-to-door service for the people who cannot access local bus routes due to; lack of availability, age or disability, or people living in rural locations with limited or no access to local bus routes.

For those of you who already know or perhaps have used FACT, which serves the Fenland area did you know they also offer special excursions throughout the year to places of interest; e.g. Coastal visits, historic places, shopping and garden centres, theatres, shows and festivals. Normally you pay £10.00 per year, per person to become and member and then all subsequent trips are **FREE**. However, for the special excursions there is an additional charge of £10.00 per person.

The normal Dial-a-Ride service is a pre-bookable one operating throughout the Fenland area 5 days a week. The service is based on a timetable and route plan and users holding a Cambridgeshire bus pass can use the service free of charge after registering.

If you are eligible for Dial-a-Ride you can use service for any purpose; shopping, visiting friends or relatives, church, day centres, restaurants, leisure pursuits or places of interest. As well as keeping any health related appointments.

Booking is easy. You just contact the FACT office on 01354 661234 before 3.00pm the day before you wish to travel. You can have a regular booking in place so you only telephone FACT if you cannot travel. If you plan to travel on a Monday you will need to contact FACT the Friday before. For further information check out their website – www.fact-cambs.co.uk

Hooray our Heron Monthly magazine has been taken on by a new Editorial team of Richard Guilford and Paul and Vivien Haresnape. We the Gardening Club wish the new team well and every success on behalf of the village. In the past our village newsletter has always been a very useful and informative magazine. Thank you to all our new editorial team who will have a very busy and interesting year ahead.

Christchurch Garden Club



A beautiful view of Bubbles' garden

The Meeting in March was very enlightening and gave us an insight into the Facet organisation for "Adults with various disabilities". These students learn on various days so many interesting pastimes with the help of a limited number of dedicated helpers. Our speaker Carol, assisted by Alison made the evening very interesting.

"Go to Facet" in March 21 Marwick Road who focus on "Ability" not "Disability". It truly is an eye-opener! Open every day Monday to Friday

APRIL MEETING

April 22nd 2014 ~ Our Garden Club continues to flourish! We welcomed more new members this month, and what an interesting time we had. Mary & Alan from *Manea School of Gardening* who are so competent in all aspects of plant-life and gardening enlightened us about

propagation. Why are we so nervous about making new plants from old, with; cuttings, roots, etc? It's very rewarding to your plants, and to you who can watch them grow and develop. It's usually a pleasant

surprise when that tiny little off-cut of a plant suddenly shows a *bloom*. If you wished you had been at this particular club evening then why not come along to our *PLANT SALE* on May 17th for more info and advice. (See below)

Mary Larham is your regular *garden expert* who writes a very helpful column each week in The Citizen. Mary & Alan have a very successful business in *Manea School of Gardening* teaching students to RHS standards, some of whom have achieved some really high levels of qualification.

Next month our club will have the opportunity to visit an *Orchid Club* as guests to see many of these wonderful plants and listen to a knowledgeable speaker. That's on May 7th at Terrington St. Clements. Non-members are welcome to join us for this special evening. We will all be using our own cars, and will leave Christchurch at 6.30pm. Please telephone 01354 638024 for arrangements.

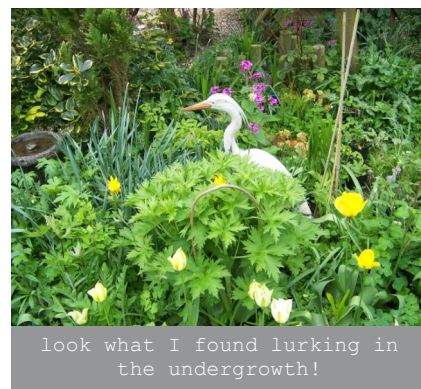
Saturday May 17th is our **GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE** which is always a popular event. This year it will be held at **"FOUR SEASONS" 60 CHURCH ROAD,**

CHRISTCHURCH, from 10.00am onwards, all day, with the Grand Raffle drawn at 4.00pm. This year there will be the extra treats of seeing Peter & Shirley Knight's pet ferrets, and beautiful owls and hawk. Enjoy a **CREAM TEA** on the patio, have a chat, see our **RAFFLE** table and chance a few **TICKETS** as well as buying some lovely plants of course! Again, all enquiries to 01354 638024.

May 27th which is our monthly club evening, is another visit to *TAMAR NURSERY* at West Walton which many of you have still not visited. We'll be using our own cars again for this trip.

Hope to see you all at these events ~ Bubbles

PS Have just heard some good news for users of the **FACT BUS**. Ask the driver about extra shopping time, if the other passengers agree, and arrange your extended pick-up time with him!



look what I found lurking in the undergrowth!

PRIZE CROSSWORD

£1 per entry for a £20 PRIZE

This is a new fundraising venture for us. We may be able to increase the prize money next month if response is good enough. Our village shop “The Little Local” (see page 3) has kindly agreed to accept all the entries and fees for us; being a central point in the village that is easily located.

All correct entries will have an equal chance providing they reach the shop strictly by the 20th of the month of issue of “The New Heron”.

NB Incomplete crosswords COULD still win (in the absence of any being fully correct)

Please support this fundraising effort to support the future of your village magazine!

Across answers are all collective nouns (e.g. a PRIDE of lions)

- ACROSS
- DOWN
- 1 Whales (6)

5 Hens (5)

9 Ships (8)

10 Quails (4)

11 Grouse, partridges (5)

12 Crows (6)

14 Eggs (6)

16 Peacocks (6)

18 Actors, dancers (6)

20 Herons, cranes (5)

23 Pheasants (4)

24 Aircraft, soldiers (8)

25 Arrows (5)

26 Pearls (6)
- 2 Bowed stringed instrument of the violin family (5)

3 Hush-hush (2,3,1,1)

4 Title of 19 Down by Berg (4)

6 Violent, raging (5)

7 One side of a coin (7)

8 Voids (7)

13 History time (3,4)

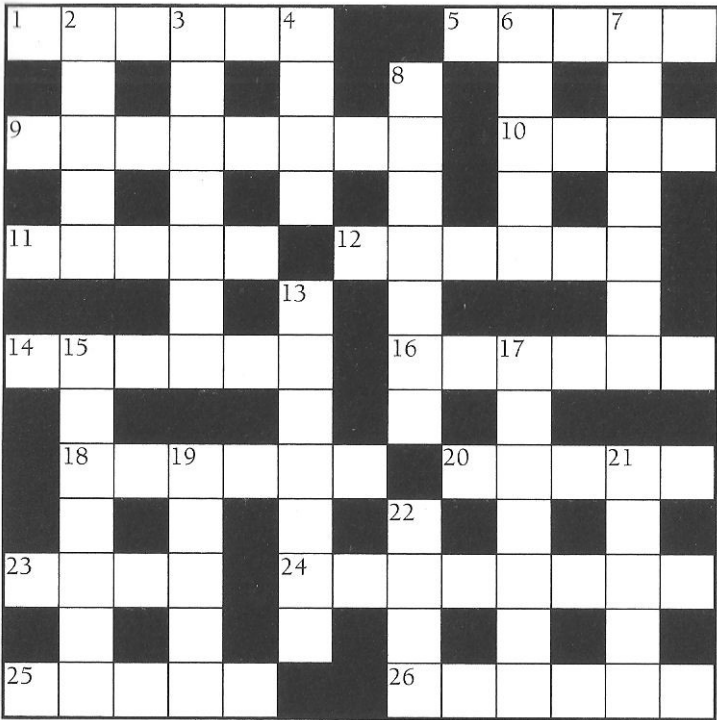
15 Latvian (7)

17 Slim (7)

19 Covent Garden entertainment (5)

21 Sound in pain (like Titus?) (5)

22 Commotion (4)



Entry Form

Cut out or copy the page and take to The Little Local with £1 to enter

Full Name:

Address:

Phone No:



March Stationery & Print

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01354 656614

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5 Fenland Walk, March, PE15 8TW

Would you like to advertise here?

You could -

for just £5.75 per issue,
6 issues £32 (saving £2.50),
12 issues £60 (saving £9)

(when paid up-front)

See page 6 for other sizes
and rates



A NIGHT OUT AT THE RACES



to be held in Townley School Hall
on Saturday 14th June 2014 at 7 p.m. for 7.30 start

Tickets £10.00 (includes Race Card & 2 course meal)

Please bring your own drinks & snacks
Tote betting facility available on the night

Raising money for the Townley School Swimming Pool Fund
& Sun Canopy for the Decking Area of Christchurch Pre-School

Tickets available at Townley School Office or
contact Denise on 638802 Carrie on 07572 460217

Useful Telephone Numbers

Age UK Cambridgeshire	0300 6669860
Alzheimer's Society (Fenland)	01945 580480
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
County Councillor - Fred Yeulett	01354 653763
District Councillor - Will Sutton	01354 638025
Eastern Electricity	0800 783 8838
Fenland Association of Community Transport (FACT)	01354 661234
Fenland District Council	01354 654321
Floodline	0845 988 1188
Library - March	0354 0455225
National Debtline	0808 808 4000
Neighbourhood Watch	01354 638990
Parish Clerk - Jackie Richardson	01354 677856
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
Wisbech Fire Station	01945 428600

Cartoons by Thelwell from "The Effluent Society" with thanks.

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.