

The Heron

Community Magazine

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

January 2016

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DIARY DATES

Abbreviations for commonly used venues:

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

UH = Upwell Village Hall, WH = Welney Village Hall

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

Jan 4 th	Mobile Library visits - Upwell Rd Lay-by 3-3:40pm - NB change of day this month
Jan 5 th	Christchurch Craft Club - decorating a heart shaped piece of wood - TS - 7pm
Jan 8 th	"Cake, Coffee and Chat" Parish Church 2-3pm - All Welcome
Jan 10 th	Welle Film Project presents "Mr Holmes" £2 - doors open 1.30 - TH - see page 23
Jan 11 th	Pilates for all ages - 6:30pm TS - All Welcome - £5 per session
Jan 11 th	Christchurch Parish Council Meeting - TS - 7:30pm - All Welcome
Jan 12 th	WI - Fish and Chip Supper - 7pm - TS
Jan 15 th	"Cake, Coffee and Chat" Parish Church 2-3pm - All Welcome
Jan 18 th	Pilates for all ages - 6:30pm TS - All Welcome - £5 per session
Jan 19 th	Greenfingers Garden Club - Heathers - Charles Nelson
Jan 20 th	Hall and Recreation Committee meeting - in the Hall - Ruth Ingram - 01354 638419
Jan 22 nd	"Cake, Coffee and Chat" Parish Church 2-3pm - All Welcome
Jan 25 th	Pilates for all ages - 6:30pm TS - All Welcome - £5 per session
Jan 27 th	Christchurch Book Club - 7:30pm - venue t.b.c.
Jan 29 th	"Cake, Coffee and Chat" Parish Church 2-3pm - All Welcome
Jan 31 st	Upwell Jazz Club - TH - 12:30-2:45 Bar and snacks
Feb 2 nd	Christchurch Craft Club - TS - 7pm
Feb 10 th	Christchurch Residents Association - 7:30pm - The Old School
Feb 14 th	Welle Film Project presents "Paddington" £2 - doors open 1.30 - TH

Parish Church Services

Jan 3 rd	11am	H Chappell, A Day	All Age Worship in Townley School
Jan 10 th	9:30am	Rev J Webb	Holy Communion
Jan 17 th	3:30pm	V Smith	Evening Prayer
Jan 24 th	11am	Rev J Webb	Morning Prayer
Jan 31 st	11am	Ven H McCurdy	Morning Prayer - United Service Manca
Feb 7 th	11am	H Chappell, A Day	All Age Worship in Townley School

Every Friday 2-3pm Coffee, Cake and Chat in the Church building

Many thanks to those that supported our Christmas Fayre on 28th November and those that helped set up and run stalls. A sum of £400 was raised. Also thank you to those that kindly donated their Dole money, it is much appreciated.

Daphne and Andrew.

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

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.

Community Information

Mobile Library: first Friday each month

in the Lay-by Upwell Road 15:00 - 15:40 (Except this month when it will be Monday 4th - same time)

Mobile Post Office: visits Mon - Fri

in the Lay-by Upwell Road 16:15 - 17:00

The Little Local village shop is an Amazon 'Pass my Parcel' parcel shop. You can arrange to have your parcels delivered there.

Parish Council Responsibilities have been questioned by some parishioners recently. To help clarify in print we have pulled the following from their website:

"The council has a number of roles. It receives monies via Council Tax, as well as from Concurrent Functions Grants. The council then arranges the maintenance of the village verges and Recreation Ground.

The council are [sic] also responsible for the first stages of planning applications, where they give their recommendations to Fenland District Council who have the final say in whether plans are passed or rejected.

The Parish Council also own a number of the street lights in the village, and it is their responsibility to ensure they are working correctly, many of the newer street lights have been adopted by Fenland DC or Cambridgeshire CC and the Parish Council report problems, should these ones not be working.

As well as this, the Parish Council are responsible for:

- Recreation Ground
- Pavilion Hall
- The Village Sign
- The Poole Field Allotment
- The 4 acre Field Allotment

The Parish Council are not responsible for

- the Cemetery.

Even if the Parish Council is not responsible for something, it can be reported to them, and they will get in touch with the relevant people, this includes any problems that you may encounter such as potholes in the roads, faulty street lights."

christchurchcambspc@gmail.com

Snippets gleaned from the Parish Council

Meeting this month:

The Parish Council is facing a large bill following an inspection of street lights. It does not expect to have the funds to replace them all and is considering removing some to cut this cost.

Anyone who would like items to be added to the Parish Council agenda for discussion can email the Clerk (Jacquie Richardson) and make the request.

christchurchcambspc@gmail.com

EDITORIAL

A happy and prosperous New Year to you all!

Please note the new masthead and the QR code on the front page—details about this on page 15. We had some Christmas leftovers that we couldn't squeeze in last month—see page 8, and the various seasonal dishes from around the world, following our multi-cultural theme from last month.

We have another in our series featuring local businesses—see page 19, and a new feature "My First Car" on page 10. Now I know there is a higher percentage of more elderly folks in Christchurch as compared with some other villages – BUT – Where are all you youngsters? – i.e. young families, parents with older children, or even those of you who might be considered middle-aged! We would love to hear from you. Stephen Aish is holding the fort still on page 7 but surely the rest of you must have something to contribute; so that we may have a more balanced magazine covering all the age range. Come on Lizzie and Morgan! – What about a special 'Youth Page' or 'Teen Tales'? or some such.

There's an interesting object 'What Is It?' on page 9, any ideas on what it might be? Please let us know what you think! Club Contacts page 28, also, may we remind you that you can ALL HAVE YOUR SAY at any Parish Council meeting, Recreation Ground Charity Committee Meeting (who oversee the New Village Hall – now to be known as Christchurch Community Centre), or Christchurch Residents Association, who don't meet again until 10th February. The opportunity is there for you at any of these meetings to express an opinion or put your views forward. If you don't attend you can hardly moan about any subsequent resulting decisions!

Let's start the New Year as we mean to go on - TOGETHER!



Letters to the Editor



Hi,

Re: Can Santa Really Be Real?

This is a lovely, and very interesting article. However, I do feel placing it on the back page was a little unfair. I have 4 young children (aged 7-3). One can read very well and the other is learning. This does mean they tend to pick things up to read; especially when they see the word Santa and a picture of his sleigh at this time of year. I want to keep the magic in our household a little longer. I expect I only have this year before the eldest starts questioning. So could this please be born in mind for future Herons. Thankfully I snatched The Heron out of my eldest's hands as she picked up the paper when it came through the letterbox and started reading the headline. But in a room full of small children I'm not ready to break the news just yet that Santa is an illusion. Many thanks.

Carrie Wheeler

What about the brief snippet on the front page? I really don't think you need to worry. It's a joke and not meant to be taken seriously anyway. And in fact quite a (deliberately) complicated theory I can't quite get my head round myself! When my kids (twins) said at age 7 "We know who Santa is!" and I said "Oh who's that then?" they said "It's you!" I said "You mean you don't believe in Santa anymore?" They nodded and I said - "Oh! That probably means you won't get so many presents this year then!" They disappeared upstairs and after much deliberation came down again after about 40mins and said - "We've talked about it and decided. We do still believe!"

Things we do for our kids eh! – Ed'.

P.S. We managed to keep it going leaving mince pies and sherry for Santa and a carrot or two for Rudolph in the fireplace together every Christmas Eve until they were about twelve! I loved it!

Dear Editor,

Re: Village Hall Update in November's New Heron. Bearing in mind that there is still a kitchen and flooring to be fitted, the question arises as to why the Parish Council is spending money on a second bar for the Bowls Club when the majority of its members are from outside the parish area? Surely one bar for all would be more sensible and allow the saved monies to be spent on essentials for the enjoyment of all future users of the hall? Incidentally, the question of a second bar specifically for the Bowls Club was discussed and thought to be unnecessary by several members of the public at least

two meetings prior to plans being submitted and tenders sought. How did these opinions disappear from the grand order of things? As The New Heron reports on this matter and you are a project committee member, can you please comment on this issue to allay fears of misuse of public funds. Tony Brown
Euximoor Drove

This is a rather old chestnut; now somewhat charred and burnt in the fires of misinformation. However, as you asked me to comment: It is apparent from your questions that neither you, nor the other members of the public you mention, were at the two subsequent meetings you refer to; or indeed any since, apparently. Discussions continued on this subject until quite recently. The 'so called' Bowls Club bar was removed from the builders specifications. It is my current understanding that the Bowls Club are to be asked to pay for its installation. I am also advised by our Chairman that the facilities will be available for use by all, save when being used by the Bowls Club. However, said bar will NOT BE LICENSED FOR GENERAL USE as the Bowls Club is a Private Members Club, and is, as such, subject to different licensing laws than a bar operating for the general public. I hope this 'kicks the chestnut into the fire' once and for all! – Ed'.

Dear Editor,

I write in response to your printed answer last month to the Christmas Quiz question – "Rudolph the red nosed reindeer had a red nose, but did he have antlers?" The answer – Yes! – is glib to say the least, and, quite probably wildly inaccurate.

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year (the only members of the deer family, *Cervidae*, to have females do so), male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid December. However, female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. It is said, therefore, that according to every historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolf to Blitzen ... had to be a female! This is again wildly inaccurate.

There are between nine and thirteen subspecies of reindeer (depending on who's doing the classification), and of these in the Svalbard (*Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus*) both sexes do actually retain their antlers during the winter months; the only reindeer species to do so. So it is likely that Rudolph was a member of the Svalbard subspecies. In fact it is likely that all of Santa's reindeer were of this subspecies, as they are of much smaller stature than all of the others, having approximately half the body mass, and, therefore, also weighing considerably less. Thus making them eminently more suitable for flying (less wind resistance), and indeed landing on roofs!

These facts should have been made clearer in your crossword answer!

Yes! – just didn't explain it!

N. Claus

P.S. As for the article on the back page – Are you kidding?

Well! What more can I say? – Ed'.

What's on in 2016? Some events to look forward to!

For those of you interested in gardening, and I know there are many, what about Capability Brown's 300th anniversary? England's greatest



landscape gardener, Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, is associated with over 260 sites, including the iconic grounds at Blenheim Palace, Chatsworth, Highclere Castle and Syon Park. 'Capability' Brown's landscape gardens are synonymous with England's green and pleasant land with their seemingly natural rolling hills, curving lakes, flowing rivers and majestic trees. A nationwide festival and programme of events is planned with the opportunity to visit over 150 Brown gardens and landscapes in England, including some not usually open to visitors. On the back of this, there is to be a campaign to celebrate England's gardens in 2016. www.visitengland.com/biz/about-us/campaigns-and-opportunities/year-english-garden-2016 Visit the Capability Brown website at www.capabilitybrown.org

You may be a thespian, or literature buff, in which case you may know it's due to be the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death.

Shakespeare - arguably England's most renowned playwright - is being commemorated in his home county of Warwickshire in 2016, to mark 400 years since his death and to honour his timeless legacy. There will be an exciting programme of events in and around his home town of Stratford upon Avon to celebrate his life and his work. Warwickshire is positioned in the heart of the UK and has a wealth of leading attractions including Warwick Castle, Shakespeare's Birthplace and the Royal Shakespeare Theatre. His family home in Stratford upon Avon, New



Place, will be transformed and reimagined for a 21st century audience, telling the missing story

of Shakespeare's mature years as a successful writer and citizen of his home town. It's due to open in April 2016. shakespeares-england.co.uk/shakespeare-2016 for Shakespeare events in 2016

This coming year will see the 350th anniversary of the Great Fire of London

Starting in a small bakery on Pudding Lane, the infamous Great Fire of London swept across the City of

London over three days. Sir Christopher Wren's flame-topped Monument stands in



the City today, to mark this tragic event.

Visit the City of London website www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/Pages/default.aspx

Charlotte Brontë was born 200 years ago, on 21 April 1816. She was an English novelist and poet, the eldest of the three Brontë sisters who survived into adulthood and whose novels have become classics of English literature. She first published her works (including her best known novel, Jane Eyre) under the pen name Currer Bell. Visitors to the village of Haworth, where the sisters grew up, can discover more about the authors at the Bronte Parsonage Museum.

Visit the Bronte website at www.bronte.org.uk/haworth-and-the-brontes/haworth

For those of you "young of heart", possibly fans of The Tales of Beatrix Potter, or if not of the Lake District. You will be keen to hear that it will be the 150th anniversary of the birth of Beatrix.

Born in London in 1866, Helen Beatrix Potter was best known for her imaginative children's books such as The Tale of Peter Rabbit. She spent many childhood holidays in the Lake District, an area that was a huge influence on her later writing. Squirrel

Nutkin sailed on Derwentwater, while Hawkshead was the setting for The Tale of Johnny Townmouse.

Continued from page 6

The film "Miss Potter", has brought a surge of interest in the writer's Lake District connections especially in the filming locations of Loughrigg Terrace and Loughrigg Tarn, Grasmere and Yew Tree Farm, Coniston.



Find out about visiting Beatrix Potter's house at www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/visiting/localspecialities/famouswriters/beatrixpotter website

A bit nearer to home, the award-winning Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre is situated in the village of Great Missenden, Bucks. They will be



celebrating the 100th anniversary of Roald Dahl's birth.

Born on 13 September 1916, Roald

Dahl captured the imagination of children around the world with his tales including James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, The Witches, Fantastic Mr Fox, The Twits and The BFG. where Roald Dahl lived and wrote for 36 years. Visit the Roald Dahl Museum website for events around this centenary: www.roalddahl.com/museum

Celebrating what would probably be the most defining event in British History. 2016 sees the



950th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings.

The towns of Hastings and Battle will be celebrating the 950th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings with a programme of cultural events, including a bumper edition of its annual re-

enactment of the battle, which takes place every October on the battlefield lying behind Battle Abbey (English Heritage). Visit the 1066 Country website at www.visit1066country.com/whats-on/events

Perhaps anniversaries are rather overblown and many spurious predictions are often linked to significant dates. However no ardent football supporter will have missed the fact that 2016 is 50 years since England Football Team lifted the World Cup.

What chance then that the "hype merchants" will be pedalling the theory that

England's appearance in France for the Euro 2016 tournament



in June 2016, will be a "nailed on" certainty? No doubt fellow British Isles teams Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and Wales, also making an appearance, will be scheming to thwart that outcome! Visit www.thefa.com/ or www.uefa.com/ for more information.

In August we can look forward to the Summer Olympics, and in September the Paralympics from Rio de Janero, Brazil.

While the above are all national, and in some cases international events, we have some significant events to look forward to here in our own back yard. Later this year

(I hesitate to guess the date, but I hope it is reasonable to suggest it should actually be this year) we will see the opening of the new Village Hall, at long, long last!

Also, given the good will, of the various organisations of the village, we can look forward to the first Village Gala for some years. I understand as I write this, that much has yet to be done to accomplish this, and there's 'many a slip twixt cup and lip', but here's hoping ... PVH



Health and Fitness

with - Stephen Aish



Resolutions - let's talk straight!

It is estimated that some 85% of all resolutions fail within the first 2 weeks so this is obviously an important topic to cover.



Understanding motivation and the distance of your goals is essential to stop you repeating a life stuck on Groundhog Day.

The sheer act of creating a resolution at some point in the future states a few things.

1. You are not fully committed to it.
2. You do not actually believe it will ever happen.
3. At a safe distance you can forget about it.
4. The support you get from people in the same boat makes you feel better for a short time.
5. You lack the self belief that will make NOW the right time for these actions.

Here is the crucial point. - Hardly anyone has a New Year's resolution that is pointless.

Almost every resolution is a huge step in order to stop things that are bad for us, or start things that are very good for us. For example -

- I want to stop smoking.
- I want to fix my diet and lose weight.
- I want to go to the gym.
- I will change my job because I hate it.
- I need to get out of this painful relationship.

Whatever the resolution, they are normally a big change in life and take a lot of courage and effort. However, placing them at a safe distance in the future means you are not accountable and do not believe in your ability to achieve them.

If anything means that much to you that you begin to dramatically improve your health, or

remove the toxic aspects of your life then right now seems like a great time to begin them.

You see - there is never a right time. That is because the right time is always now, always was and always will be.

To say you want to stop smoking and will start Jan 1st 2016 is to knock your lungs silly with another few hundred cigarettes that you know are poison.

Is this the action of a person committed to change? Committed to health? Empowered to do the right thing regardless? - NO!

This is someone who has a hope that at some point in the future, life will change for them and everything will resolve itself nicely like in the movies.

That is the main problem. It never just fixes itself as you created it, you accept it every day you neglect to change it and you are responsible for your actions each day through the choices you make, or do not make.

There is no tomorrow and the act of placing health, happiness and success in the future is what is keeping you suffering today.

Your goals are out of reach, non-existent and a fantasy at best that you have probably entertained for the last several New Years - hoping that this will be the right one because it starts on a Friday and that is your lucky day,

Until you realise that you are in control and every thought and action either keeps you chained to the future, or can create abundance in now then you will drag your heels playing the same movies, same story, same song and same sad ending where the good guy does not make a miraculous comeback and save the world.

Find the real reason you are not willing to change today. In most instances all that is missing is the first step – no matter how wobbly.

Your life
Your choice
Your world....

Christmas Leftovers

Some years ago, when I was a chef, I set up and ran The Alibi Restaurant at The Courthouse Inn, Thrapston, Northants. I have the fondest memories of my first Christmas there when, having served 40 covers 'twice', after service I walked out into the restaurant and was greeted with a loud peal of applause and cries of "Well done Chef! Excellent!" Some of my regular customers had brought large family groups, and it still makes the hairs on the back of my neck bristle when I think of it!

After the Christmas rush at the restaurant, on New Years Day we went down to visit my aunt and family in Crawley, West Sussex. Now we all end up with odds and ends left over at Christmas don't we? Turkey of course, and perhaps a bit of ham or pork etc. A few brussels, bit of mash perhaps, carrots, swede and other green vegetables.

Well, my aunt Alice was a dab hand with leftovers and had done us proud by making 'her' leftovers into the most fabulous 'crumble' topped with cheese and breadcrumbs. It was absolutely delicious! I nicked the recipe for the restaurant and served it there through most of January 1997. "Aunt Alice's Spicy Christmas Crumble". It absolutely flew out of the door, selling out every evening. I have served versions of this successfully for friends and family on numerous occasions ever since.

Aunt Alice's Spicy Christmas Crumble:

Now there's no hard and fast rule to this; it works well with any combination of turkey, chicken, ham, pork, or gammon. Don't overdo any one. The dish needs balance. It does not work well with venison, beef, duck, or game of any kind. So add your meat to a baking dish, along with any spare veg you may have leftover. You can always cook up the odd bit extra if you need to. Just remember 'balance' - don't overload it with any one kind. However, I do recommend that you include some halved, precooked brussels. Mix the meat and vegetables together in a baking dish along with some mild curry powder (a teaspoon for seasoning only – this is NOT a curry!), three or four tablespoons of mayonnaise to taste, and two of milk. Hopefully you have included some small chunks of boiled potato in the mix? If not use some mash (about an inch, 2.5cm depth) over the top. I personally think chunks work better! Finally mix some grated cheddar cheese with plenty of breadcrumbs and a pack of crushed plain crisps. Sprinkle this mixture over the top of the dish and bake in the oven at 180°C for 45mins to 1hour depending on the size of the baking dish. Serve and enjoy!

Happy New Year!

Richard



What you've just missed, for Christmas around the world

Turkey with all the trimmings may be what YOU sat down to, and may be still eating! Check through the Heron to see what some lucky people around the world were tucking into over the Christmas period. Thanks to Readers Digest



Poland

Christmas dinner in Poland takes place on Christmas Eve and contains no meat—just fish. Twelve courses are served, from Beetroot soup (*barszcz*) with dumplings to fried carp and herring. Dessert could be a poppy-seed cake called *makowiec*.



Senior Moments

As a retired AA man I tend to think of my senior moments as having my 'tongue in gear and my brain in neutral'.

I recently went to the counter at a local café intending to ask for a black coffee, with a jug of cold milk. Instead I asked for a black coffee and a jug of white milk! "That's lucky!" said the girl behind the counter, "White's the only colour milk we've got!"

We both went into a fit of giggles. Anon.

I was making lunch one Sunday when I realised that I'd poured boiling milk into my gravy mixture, and the vegetable water into the custard! Now I'm 75 I must remember to do one thing at a time and get it right! The gravy was quite tasty though!

Anon.

My routine at bedtime is to make a cup of tea and a sandwich, then wind up my clock and take it upstairs. One morning I woke up and, on looking to see what time it was, found myself staring at a loaf of bread. The clock was in the bread bin!

Anon.

If you've had an amusing "Senior Moment", why not let us know?

Promise we won't tell anyone who you are!



'Is everything OK? You haven't photographed your food.'

What is it?

Here's a new one to leave you pondering! No prizes but we'd be delighted if you can identify what this is. Let us know Editor@theheron.info



Found on the outside wall of Syringa House made of rather rusty steel or iron. - Any answers for next month.

New Year Quiz

1. How many times has our Heron logo on the cover been dressed differently, since May 2014?
2. In which issues did the above appear?
3. Which country of the British Isles is famous for celebrating - Hogmanay?
4. Which was the last place to celebrate the millennium on Jan 1st 2000?
5. During Chinese New Year what activity are you supposed to avoid?
6. What fruit do New Year's revellers in Spain eat at the stroke of midnight?
7. Which meat is eaten to promote a financially prosperous New Year?
8. If you are superstitious which seafood would you avoid eating at New Year?
9. Which country rings in the New Year by burning effigies of Jack Straw?
10. At midnight on New Year what does someone knocking at the door with a piece of coal signify?
11. What effect do 'star pellets' have on the display when added to fireworks?
12. What does the phrase -'auld lang syne' actually mean - a.times gone by, b.for the future, or, c.old gang sign

Answers on Page 26

After saving hard, my choice was a 1965 Ford Anglia Super 1200 with sloping back windows. Colour grey with a light grey go faster strip down the sides. The interior was red, BDO 656C was purchased from H.D. Rea, a garage in Gedney on the A17. Cost £650.00 with 10,000 miles on the clock.

Margaret and myself enjoyed many holidays in the Anglia, travelling to Wales, Anglesey, Bournemouth and Lands' End (which was a long way from home) to name just a few holiday destinations. It never let us down, but got rather warm negotiating Porlock Hill near Minehead when steam started to come from the bonnet, yes we had pushed it to its limit and it had boiled, time for a rest to let it recover.

I fitted a tow bar for a pig trailer, so I could transport my pigs to the Tuesday cattle market at Kings Lynn. It would hold 8 pigs weighing approximately 40lbs each.

Those were the days, long since gone and the market too.

Much hard work and several miles, a new clutch was needed. Fortunately my dad had a pit in his

garage which made home repairs much easier. Spare parts all came from Cambridgeshire Motors, Elm Road, Wisbech. Front wheel wobble was another problem, wheels would often need balancing as this would cause a shake through the steering wheel. After the usual replacement of tyres, batteries, brake shoes, tins of P38 filler and spray paint, rust was finally beating the Ford metal and it had to go.

The Anglia was traded in for a Hillman Hunter 1725cc purchased from Ely Services, Have they survived? I think not!

Happy memories of Sunday mornings which sometimes started with a visit to Kevin Shortis, (now Wilco) Churchill Road, Wisbech to buy new plugs and points before returning home to fit and polish ready for its Sunday afternoon outing. I took pride and great care of my first car as it took some time to save for it.

Those were the days when we could maintain our own cars!



1969 on holiday in Bude



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The Joan Smith Column



Hello to you all again! I hope that you enjoyed last month's jottings, and that you had an enjoyable Christmas. It's always magical at Christmas, especially if there are young children around. For me, they always really make it! My five and a half year old great-grandson wanted all kinds of expensive presents. When I told him that they cost lots of money he said, "Oh no Nanny! Father Christmas brings them!" Well! How do you explain to a youngster like that. In the end I uttered not another word!

The last bread round before Christmas was always long, and extra hard work with all the 'extras' we'd be delivering. Most people would give us a shilling, lots half-a-crown, but one particular house always gave us a ten-shilling note in an envelope! There would be mince pies and a glass of homemade wine, or sherry; but we always refused these—otherwise we might not have made it home! One of the funniest requests that we had by far was one Christmas when one of our gentlemen customers asked if I would take a horse to his little grandson at Three Holes. I was a little taken aback at this request but said that I would check with Frank who would be driving. I thought that if the pony had a halter or harness on, that I could hang onto it through the passenger window and let it trot along side of us. We'd have to be careful though in case the local 'bobby' should

come past on his bike! Also Mr Johnson the baker might be none too pleased if he found out!

My customer roared with laughter at my mistake, for the horse was a wooden one he had carved for his grandson. Not a live one at all! I felt such a fool but said that he should have explained himself better, and that it would be fine of course to deliver the horse. I'm sure he retold this tale many times, at my expense!

Well, that was the last house and then back to Upwell. It was already 7.30pm by then and it would be 'all go' again the next day. This time Small Lode, Upwell to Lister's Drove (several customers there), then left to Thee Holes, no calls there that day, but on to Silt Road, and then on to Nordelph, Barroway Drove, to the bottom of Stowbridge to Outwell. Langhorns Lane up to the aquaduct, then to Church Drove, Pingle, and the rest of Small Lode, and then home!

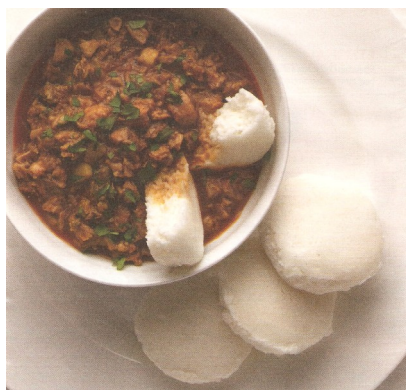
More stories from the bread round next time. 'Till then may I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year! - Joan

Christmas around the world

Goa, India

In Goa, home of one of the largest

Christian populations in India, Christmas is celebrated with *sorpatel*—a spicy pork and liver curry—or a pork vindaloo. It's served alongside a kind of rice-and-coconut bread called *sanna*.



... a jolly good thing?

This is something Joan showed me which I thought rather amusing.

It's from a WI Handbook called - "500 Jolly Good Things" - mostly a collection of old adages and wives tales, but thought this rather a gem! - Ed'.

Whooping Cough

1. Catch 9 mice, fry them, give 3 each night to child, and cough will be cured
2. (used and advised by an old shepherd) - Take the child each morning, about 4 o'clock, to a sheepfold when the air is hot and steamy, and keep them there for a short time. They will soon be cured.

N.B. - The contributor of these recipes has not tried either on herself or her children!!

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Life Skills without Drama, Please!

Assembling flat-pack furniture, unblocking a toilet, wiring a plug and changing a car tyre are among the skills adults wish they had been taught while at school.

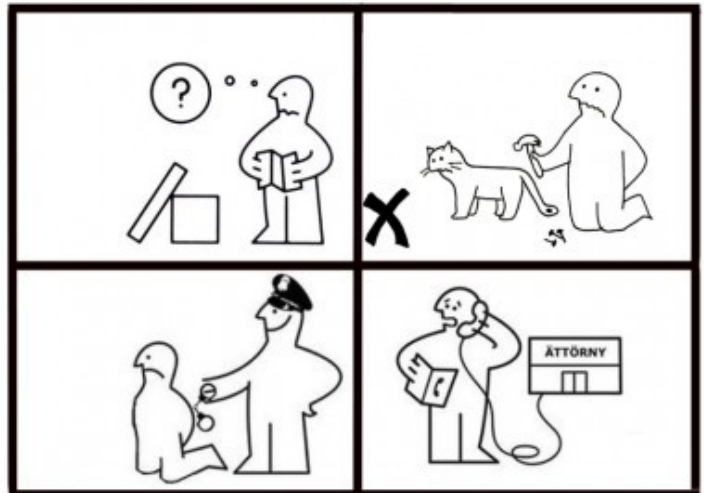
Four out of 10 quizzed in a survey felt their school had not taught them enough to get through life with drama, art and French listed as the least useful lessons.

Instead, more than a third would have preferred lessons in how to budget and the importance of insurance.

Others said bringing up a baby, reading a gas meter and cooking a roast should be on the school curriculum.

More than six out of 10 regretted the career they chose but now felt it was too late to go in a different direction.

But Gary Measures, of Able Skills, which carried out the survey, said: "It doesn't matter what age you are, there are still ways you can retrain. It's never too late."



Out of the mouths of babes.....

When I told my young granddaughter, Eden, that John Logie Baird invented the television, she asked: "Did his Grandpa know everything like you?" "Yes!", I said, glowing with pride. "Why didn't his Grandpa invent television then?" she queried!

Mervyn Saunders, Friday Bridge

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- Make sure you have a correctly fitted working smoke alarm on every floor of your house and test it weekly.
- Check older relatives and friends have a working smoke alarm and test theirs regularly.
- Make a fire plan so you and your family know what to do in case a fire breaks out in the home.

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Minutes of the Monthly WI Meeting held in the Dining Room of Townley School on the 8th Dec. 2015.



Peggy welcomed members and 2 visitors, including Val Ware (President of the Federation)
Apologies - Doris T Rolfe and Michele.

Correspondence – Schedule for the Produce Show. Information about “showing off” workshops. Collection of the Isle of Ely Survey.

Financial Report – This was given by Susan Q. She noted that this had been a most expensive year for speakers. The average price for speakers had increased considerably during the last few years. Four new members had joined during the year and through fundraising more than £400 had been raised which in part offset the cost of the speakers. Sue was thanked by Peggy for doing a wonderful job over the last four years. Proposed by Peggy and seconded by Beryl.

Annual Report – The secretary gave the annual report and was thanked by Peggy. Peggy also thanked members for their help during 2015 and wished everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Peggy then called on Val Ware to take over the chair for the selection of President. Peggy was the only member wishing to stand and was therefore elected. The committee was then re-elected en masse with the addition of Anne Atkinson who has volunteered to be the new treasurer.

We then listened to a wonderful range of music played on hand bells by the Breckland Bell Ringers. This consisted of six ladies who played an array of Christmas carols and songs. Some of our members were invited to take part. It was a lovely evening to finish the year.



The Breckland Bell Ringers earlier in the year

Transport – arrangements were given out for the carol concert.

Competition – a home made Christmas bell decoration. We had 10 entries. Beryl(5 points), Sandra L(5), Margaret S(5), Sue N(4), Sue Q(4), Anne A(4), Elaine (3), Sandra K(3), Val (3), Jackie (3).

We have a competition each month that we try to relate to the subject of the speaker. Sometimes the competition requires some effort but many times it is simply bringing an appropriate object from home. It is not compulsory to enter. This year the number of entries have ranged between 1 and 15. We are awarded points (usually judged) by the speaker. When a member accumulates 50 points they are awarded a Boots voucher.

Anne A thanked Peggy for the work that she has done. The evening finished with a carol.

January Meeting

Fish and Chips supper

Competition – a fish related item

Raffle Rota – Margaret H, Margaret S, Susan Q, Tracy
- Contact info: Peggy Warby 01354 638339

Christchurch Book Club

The book club met on Wednesday December 23rd - a week earlier than usual this month because of Christmas.

In January we will be back to meeting on the last Wednesday of the month, which is the 28th, and our book for January is Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel, which was recently made into a television series.
- Contact info: Sheila Day 07846 635908

Christmas around the world

Norway

In chilly Norway many families eat dried salted ribs of lamb (*pinnekjøtt*) or pork (*juleribbe*). They accompany it with boiled potatoes and mashed swede, as well as spiced cabbage. For dessert, many Norwegians opt for creamed rice and fruit, or crème caramel.



Fish Supper, Day Trippers

Recently we've all had a busy time at the Gardening Club, firstly with the annual Fish and Chip supper which took place this year at Townley School on Tuesday 24th November.

As usual the evening was relaxed with the conversation flowing freely, a real chance to catch up with friends and neighbours and maybe find out about the comings and goings in the village.

The food supplied this year by Fenland Mobile Catering was first class and everybody present seemed very happy with the evening. Should you wish to try their food and have not yet done so they are at the Dunn Cow every Friday. (*See their ad on page 25 -Ed'.*)

Tracey's quiz stumped more than a few people but eventually this year's clever clogs Miranda rose to the surface with a winning score of 16 out of 20 winning a lovely plant. More home work required by the rest of us I think.

Sunday 29th November saw the club members and some friends board a coach in Christchurch for a pre-Christmas day trip organised by our club secretary Marion.

Not long after setting off we arrived at our first port of call, Taverham Garden centre on the outskirts of Norwich. Taverham is more than a garden centre with many of its shops selling goods as diverse as handmade chocolates, lawn mowers and shoes, as well as being awash with Christmas decorations and the like. The Restaurants and cafes were plentiful and of a high standard and our little group made good use of them.

After a three hour stop at Taverham, we all re-boarded the coach and headed into down town Norwich for some more refreshments and shopping. In spite of a slight drizzle later in the day I'm pretty sure that our members enjoyed some retail therapy in both the modern shopping centre and the more quaint lanes. If you haven't visited Norwich in recent times it really is a nice place and I would recommend it.

The Gardening Club doesn't meet in January so our next meeting is the annual general meeting or A.G.M. which will take place on Tuesday 16th

February 2016. It's very important that all our members attend if at all possible.

Please note meetings are now held on the third Tuesday of every month. Starting time for all meetings is 7.00 pm.

May I take this opportunity on behalf of the club to wish all our friends in the village and beyond.

A prosperous New Year!

- Contact info: Marion Hawthorne 01354 638230



Our December meeting. Beryl Brookes showed members how to make iced coconut snowmen

There were some grand looking snowmen.

I would like to thank Beryl, for demonstrating the many ideas she comes up with.

We all enjoyed our nibbles with our cup of tea or coffee.

After the raffle we tidied up, wished each other merry Christmas, and made our way home.

Our first meeting in the new year is on Tuesday the 5th of January.

You may bring something to do, or make a card. I will bring the card box.

Thank you to the committee for all their hard work.

Wishing you all seasonal greetings. Wendy.

- Contact info: Wendy Yates 01354 638448

You may have noticed the square "bar code" symbol on the front cover and reproduced below. This is

known as a QR Code (Quick Response Code) and can be used to get you quickly to our website without typing any



words. You need to use your smartphone or tablet with a QR reader app. You can download these readers - usually free from the Apple App Store for iPhone/iPad family or from Google Play for the Android.

PRIDE IN FENLAND AWARDS

You may recall that we at The Heron were entered for these awards last year. If you think we are worth it you may like to support us in this year's competition by sending in our details in one of the formats listed below. Similarly, you may also wish to put forward other village clubs, organisations or individuals in the categories listed below. – Ed'.



The Pride in Fenland Awards honour the voluntary work local residents carry out for our communities and celebrate those shining examples of community spirit at its best. The awards are run in partnership with the Fenland Citizen newspaper who, along with Fenland District Council, are delighted to be able to highlight such positive community achievements. The variety of activities carried out and the dedication displayed by volunteers continues to surprise the award organizers. They all fully deserve to have their amazing work celebrated along with sincere thanks for what they give back to Fenland communities. This is your chance to say "thank you" to the people that matter to you. A panel of judges will consider the nominations and each category winner will receive a prize of £100, a commemorative plaque and certificate.

The Categories . . .

- **Good neighbour:** This is open to anyone who gives up their time on a friendship basis to help another individual. It might be a friend, neighbour or acquaintance, and they might have helped you with your shopping, jobs around your home or just pop in for a chat. They do this as an individual and not part of a group, club, organisation or charity.
- **Group, Club, Organisation or Charity benefiting the community:** This category is open to any group of people who give up their time on a voluntary basis to benefit of the community. The group may be any number of people but must be able to prove that they have had a positive impact in the community other than simply operating as a club. There are so many excellent groups in Fenland but we would like nominations for that special group which goes that bit further and stands out from the others.

- **Volunteer in the community:** This is open to anyone who volunteers their time through a charity, group or organisation. Through the organisation they help to make a positive difference either to specific individuals or across whole sections of the community. This person would shine above other dedicated volunteers within the organisation having gone that 'extra mile'
- **Young Person (carer or community volunteer):** This category is open to anyone under the age of 25. They might be a young carer or someone who has raised money for charity. They could go out of their way to help their neighbours or relatives or they could be helping their friends and peers to achieve their full potential both in and outside of education. The compassion, empathy and commitment shown by young people is often overlooked but is vital to any community and so we would like as many nominations as possible for the young people in Fenland.

Closing date for nominations is 5pm on Wednesday 15th February 2016

Nominations can be made by:

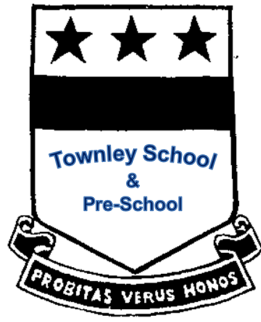
- Completing the form which can be downloaded from the website - fenland.gov.uk (then type in 'Pride in Fenland' in the search box)
- Through the Citizen newspaper

You will be asked:

Name of nominee, Nominee's address, Nominee's Phone number, Nomination category (from those above)

Also your name, address and phone number.

NB please state why you are making this nomination including as much detail as possible, continue on separate sheet if needed.



TOWNLEY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL

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Email: office@townley.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.townleyschool.org.uk

Our Christmas School play this year was called The Donkey Seller and was a great success.



Thank you!

Townley Preschool staff, children and their families would like to thank you for your kind donations of materials and time to help develop our newly renovated forest area. A special thank you goes out to Ridgeon's and Skylark for their generosity.

The children love their new natural area for learning. This area has given the children endless learning opportunities and we want to say a big THANK YOU!

Our project is still on-going and we are continuing to develop our beautiful natural learning environment. Without your generous donations this wouldn't be possible. (See page 24 for more - Ed')

Before



After



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More than just a Reclamation Yard!

Question – what do a building in Cambridge University, a ‘mountainside timber hut’ in an art gallery, and a newly built ‘derelict cottage’ in Knightsbridge have in common? Answer – they all incorporate recycled materials supplied by Matt and Sarah Lawrence of Ha’penny Toll Road, Christchurch!

If you drove along Upwell Road before Christmas, you can’t have missed the signs advertising Christmas trees for sale. This is just one of the many enterprises now going on at the old farm yard round the corner - the one where Roger, Carol and Connie used to sell the strawberries in the summer. (We do miss the strawberries, but Roger had decided it was time to retire!)

Matt had taken down a building for Roger before he retired, and has also taken down buildings in Euximoor Drove, and knew the area. About 18 months ago, he and Sarah moved here from March to have more space for their business. At present they are living in a caravan on the site, but are hoping to be able to build a house. (There has been a house there previously – The Old Toll House.) Their main enterprise is building deconstruction, recycling and upcycling of bricks and a wide variety of other materials, but they can also do groundwork, and at different times of the year are selling plants, fruit, Christmas trees and holly wreaths. Son, Ben, and daughters Stephanie and Victoria are also involved, so it is a real family concern!

Matt says that he got into building deconstruction from doing groundwork, and reclamation is now their main concern, ‘Taking old buildings down and finding homes for just

about everything.’

There is a huge demand for recycled bricks, especially Cambridge Yellows, which are hard to come by, and are wanted, for example, for building in conservation areas of Cambridge.

Matt says, ‘Bricks are our bread and butter.’

Sometimes the bricks need to be cut, and Ben is the expert at that. Some new builds just have a cladding of ‘slices’ from old bricks, or bricks may be cut in half to make floor bricks. For one job, they cut 20,000 bricks in half!

Having moved into building reclamation, they came across old abandoned orchards, so having got permission to take the fruit, Matt and Sarah started to sell apples and damsons, and more unusual fruit like bullaces, quinces and medlars at Toll Road. (Paul and Viv now have some excellent damson jam!)

Very often, the old orchards are just going to be grubbed up and built over, so they sometimes move quite large trees and replant them somewhere else. They have some thriving apple trees which have been relocated. They also rescue plants which would otherwise just be destroyed when sites were cleared, and Matt showed us some old hollow tree trunks which are just the sort of thing someone would like to include in a fancy garden design!

Some of their recycled materials have ended up in very unusual places, and it is surprising what some people want to buy! The person who built the ‘mountainside hut’ for the art gallery wanted a lot of old timber, and was keen to buy some that was quite rotten! The designer of the ‘derelict cottage’ in Knightsbridge wanted pantiles, and was concerned that some of the ones he was offered were in too good a condition! Very strange! So whether it’s bricks, tiles, timber, bog oak, a ‘designer’ garden feature, Christmas tree, holly wreath, fruit, plants, or almost anything else you might need, look no further!

VMH

(see their ad on page 10 - Ed’)

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



Matt and Sarah with a ‘relocated’ apple tree

‘bricks are our bread and butter’



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Film Review

MR. HOLMES - The Man Beyond the Myth BBC FILMS

A staggering performance from Sir Ian McKellen in the iconic role of the master detective, but with a difference. He is in his dotage, his memory failing, and he no longer has the help of Dr. Watson who has married and moved on. It's 1947, and the world famous sleuth has retired to a remote farmhouse to keep bees; living in relative anonymity with only his housekeeper Mrs. Munro and her young son for company. He is tortured by the fractured memory of an unsolved case, and frustrated by the misrepresentation of him in Watson's novels. With the help of young Milo Parker as Munro's son he gradually pieces together the old case. As the mystery deepens Mr. Holmes tries desperately to recall the events that ultimately led to his retirement.

If you're tired of Sherlock Holmes mysteries, this will revitalise your interest by its uniqueness. It is both exquisitely acted and deftly told. The developing relationship of Holmes and the boy is honest and magical. For avid Sherlockians, or Holmesists, whichever collective noun applies, they too are sure to enjoy the telling of this tale of the real Holmes in his later life. An utter delight! A must see! Don't miss the chance to see it on the, relatively, big screen

at Three Holes Village Hall on Sunday 10th January thanks to the Welle Film Project. Cost is just £2.00 and doors open at 1.30 for a 2.00pm start. Bar and snacks are available. Enjoy!

RWBG



Neighbourhood Watch Update - No 1 - Operation Hunter

Police in Cambridgeshire are taking action to help householders prevent crime by visiting homes at risk of being burgled.

Operation Hunter sees officers targeting properties that are left unsecure or vulnerable to burglars in an effort to reduce the number of burglaries.

In the three months from August to October last year, there were 569 dwelling burglaries in the county, compared to 628 during the following three months (November-January) - a rise of more than 10 per cent. Burglary is a priority for the Force because of the fear and vulnerability it leaves within the community and the impact it has on victims.

Activity will be taking place across the county with officers patrolling hot spot areas and visiting residents to offer home security surveys.

Residents whose homes are identified as at risk will be offered advice and crime prevention material.

Crime safety officer Carol Aston said: "Detectives are working hard to identify burglars and bring them to justice but the other main strand of our

work is around prevention. We are seeking out those homes that are most at risk of being burgled, whether it is their location or that they've been left unsecure. Our main aim is to raise awareness of what can be done to make your home uninviting to burglars."

Anyone with information should contact police on 101 or Crime stoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

For more information on burglary prevention visit www.cambs-police.co.uk/GetCloser/Burglary.asp



Argentina

At Christmas it is hot. Families get together for a feast of grilled meats: often a prime cut of beef called *peceto*, as well as chicken and turkey.

They're keen on stuffed tomatoes and salads—Christmas dinner is often served with a Russian potato salad or a classic Waldorf.

Wheelchair for you?

Do you use a wheelchair, mobility scooter or specialised pushchair, or care for someone who does?

Your experiences of local wheelchair services are valuable; use them to influence changes in the care local people get. We want to know what works well, and what needs to be improved.

"Wheelchair for you" is a joint project to help improve local wheelchair services for adults and children in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

We are working with Healthwatch Peterborough, Pinpoint, Cambridgeshire Alliance for Independent Living and Family Voice.

We will share what you tell us with the wheelchair service and its funder Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group, in a way that does not identify you.

You can fill in our survey on our website, or contact us for a hardcopy version.

Call 01480 420628 or email enquiries@healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk

The survey closes 31st January 2016.

healthwatch
Cambridgeshire



Preschool Garden Completed!

The project started earlier this year with parents, staff and pupils working to clear weeds, rubbish and rubble from an unused area of land on the school site. We then contacted local businesses and village residents asking for donation of materials and items such as bird boxes, to create a useful outside space for the preschool children to enjoy.

We are truly grateful for donations from local business such as Ridgeons, Skylarks and CGM landscaping, as well as from village residents. In addition, Acacia Tree Surgery helped us to clear troublesome branches and weeds. Thank you very much if you have donated items and/or time to this project.

The area is now cleared and fenced and a range of items such as bird boxes, insect houses, bird feeders and a bird bath have been arranged to help children learn about wildlife and the environment. In addition we have created a "den" area and a mud kitchen for children to explore.

This has been a long project and has required a lot of hard work by parents and staff. However the completed space is invaluable to the preschool and the children are thoroughly enjoying playing and learning there.

Natalie Payne

A JONES & SON

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Neighbourhood Watch Update -

No 2 - Rural Crime Day

Cambridgeshire Constabulary joined partners for a 'day of action' focusing on crime in the rural economy.

The rural crime day was jointly organised by Countryside Watch, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, National Farmers' Union (NFU) and the Office of the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner.

During the action day, police officers, members of the Special Constabulary and partner agencies carried out mobile patrols and stop checks, investigating suspicious activity. A tractor was loaned to the Force and branded with police signage and used as a focus for community interaction and engagement.

Chief Inspector James Sutherland said: "Parts of Cambridgeshire are very rural and can often be targeted by criminals. While we have seen the number of rural crime incidents in the county reduce by about a third in the past year, we have seen a spike in hare coursing, which was a focus during the day of action."



The day was followed up with a series of 'barn meetings', held in conjunction with agricultural security firm Cesar, to install property marking systems on farm machinery.

New Year Quiz - Answers

1. 4
2. Xmas 2014, Jan 2015, Oct 2015, Xmas 2015
3. Scotland
4. Hawaii
5. using scissors
6. Grapes, one for each month
7. Pork
8. lobster, because it walks backwards -
9. symbolising regression
10. Hungary, an imaginary man who symbolises evil
11. the pattern and spread
12. a.

New Year's Resolutions? ... It's Never too Late ...

Recently I read about a Canadian woman who didn't take up exercise until she was 77. At 93, she was an athletics champion with 30 world records to her name.

Scientists at the University of Illinois, US, were keen to examine her to see what late-life exercise could do for her brain, and brains like hers.

And after she died at 95 last year, her brain was found to be quite different from other 90 plus people.

The white matter – the part that carries messages from one part to another – had fewer abnormalities. And the part responsible for memory, the hippocampus, was larger.

The overall picture was that her brain was younger than her age.

How come? A follow-up study on 60 to 80 year olds showed that the more active they were, the healthier their patterns of brain activity compared to more sedentary people.

This brain activity in older age groups shows up as higher scores in cognitive tests. None of the people in the study were as active as the 93 year old athlete but they walked, gardened and moved more each day and their brains were "younger".

Another new study shows it's never too late to start exercising: walking or cycling for just 20 minutes a day can significantly reduce a 60 year old man's risk of heart failure by a fifth.



The findings have emerged from a study of 33,000 Swedish men from 1998 to 2012. The men, who had an average age of 60, were asked to recall how active they were at the age of 30 and their current activity rates.

The good news is that being active now has a bigger impact on heart failure risk than activity in the past.

The research also found that men who were the least active were at nearly 50% higher risk of heart failure than the average 60 year old.

But even people who have kept fit and healthy are still at risk of developing heart problems. It's what you're doing now that counts!

Study leader Andrea Bellavia said: "We found that recent activity may be more important for heart failure protection than past activity levels."



The study showed that older people benefit more from recent activity than prolonged exercise over a lifetime. So really is never too late to start.



The Heron

Annual Postal Subscription

In response to a few enquiries, we are now offering an annual postal subscription scheme for people living out of the area. The cost is £25 per year to cover the magazine, postage and packing. Application form and details are on the website www.theheron.info or from "Glynan" Crown Road, Christchurch, Wisbech Cambs PE14 9NF email adverts@theheron.info

Useful Telephone Numbers

Age UK Cambridgeshire	0300 6669860
Alzheimer's Society (Fenland)	01945 580480
Anglian Water – Susan Bull	08457 145 145 101
Christchurch Resident's Association	01354 638990
Churchwarden - Mrs. D. Symons	01354 638352
Citizens' Advice Bureau, Wisbech	01945 464367
Community Car Scheme (to book a journey)	07902 316360
Community Fire Safety Officer	07717858166
County Councillor - Fred Yeulett	01354 653763
District Councillor - Will Sutton	01354 638025
District Councillor - Michelle Tanfield	07908 707129
Electricity Faults - UK Power Networks	0800 783 8838
FACT	01354 661234
Fenland District Council	01354 654321
Floodline	0845 988 1188
Library - March	0354 0455225
National Debtline	0808 808 4000
Norfolk Dial-a-Ride	01553 770310
Parish Clerk - Jackie Richardson	01354 677856
Parish Councillor - Jill Bliss	01354 638343
Parish Councillor - William Beswick	01354 638758
Parish Councillor - Roger Gladwin	01354 638538
Parish Councillor - Geoff Harper	01354 638681
Parish Councillor - James Hughes	01354 638310
Parish Councillor - Peter Owen	01354 638847
Parish Councillor - Nigel Russell (Chair)	01354 638279
Police - Non Emergency	101
Police - Emergency	999
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
Club Contacts	
Book Club - Sheila Day	07846 635908
Craft Club - Wendy Yates	01345 638448
Garden Club - Marion Hawthorne	01354 638230
WI - Peggy Warby	01345 638339

Neighbourhood Watch

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

And Finally...

So Santa's made his way off to bed for a well earned rest; especially after downing a sherry at each home he visited, and eating all those mince pies. It's how he maintains his figure you know! And Old Father Time has finally dragged himself out of bed, dusted off his scythe and hurried to usher in the New Year!

Someone asked me recently, as I was browsing the local press, if there was anything new in the paper? I replied; *"No! Just the same old things happening to different people!"* And here's another interesting 'faux pas' from another local newspaper this week – *"Editor urgently requires a poof reader"*. Well, whatever turns you on I suppose!?

How were those awful cracker jokes this year? Here's a couple I rather liked that I heard in the local pub – *"My soul won't rest until my tail is restored!"* moaned a feline ghost. The publican put down his pen and replied, *"I'm afraid that it simply cannot be done! We are not allowed to re-tail spirits after hours!"* Then there were the two drunks at the bar on New Years Eve attempting to have a philosophical conversation on the subject of reincarnation; *"And how long have you believed in reincarnation?"* Asked one. His friend replied; *"Ever since I was a toad!"*

Well who knows? Maybe there's hope for all of us!?

'till next time – Ed'.

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.