

The Heron

Community Magazine

September 2020

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

No. 77

In this issue!

Townley School	2
Local News	3
Advertising in the Heron	4
Editorial/Heron News	5
Keeping Fit/MacMillan	6
WI	7
Gardening Club	8
BBC Proms Part 2	9
Local Thefts	10
Christchurch History	11
Cambs & Peterborough MIU	12
Mushrooms & Toadstools	13
Schooling During Lockdown	14-15
Kids Corner	16
Apples & Apple Recipe	17
Corona Virus & Bats	18
Art Club/Your Letters	19
Stargazers/Pets Corner	21
Herbalife	22
Church/Rectory News	23
Street Pride/Eco	24
Book Club	25
Useful Numbers	26
Craft Club	27
Fishing	28

With UK Children set to return to School, after 6 months away, we wish our village children a happy and safe Autumn Term!!



Neale-Wade Academy, March



Townley, our village school in Christchurch

EDITORIAL TEAM:

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TOWNLEY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL

Christchurch, Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 9NA

office@townley.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.townley.cambs.sch.uk

01354 638229



Facebook—Townley School
and Pre-School

AUGUST 2020

We need you...

Can you help our wonderful children recover from the impact of the COVID Lockdown? Could you commit to a little time each week to come in and read with individual children? If you have any time to spare, and would like to support the children, we are looking for volunteers to come in and read regularly with them. We are looking for people who can offer at least thirty minutes a week, one or more afternoons a week. You will be required to complete a DBS (there is no charge for volunteers for this) and agree to our safeguarding processes. If you can help or would like more information please call us after 3rd September on 01354 638229, leave a message and we will call you back or email support@townley.cambs.sch.uk.

We have been busy planning for a safe return of the children and staff in September, see photos below. Our EYFS Team undertook doorstep home visits at the end of term, it felt sad, but at least we got to meet some of the new children before they start in Nursery and Reception. If you are interested in how we are organising this, our Risk Assessment can be found on our school website. As per Government guidance, we will be:

1. Minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have COVID19 symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, does not attend school.
2. We will be cleaning our hands thoroughly more often than usual
3. Ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting the, 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
4. Introducing enhanced cleaning, including frequently touched surfaces
5. We will be minimising contact and children mixing beyond, 'bubbles.' Please can you limit the number of settings your child attends, ideally ensuring children only attend one setting consistently.

We have set up a one-way system for safe access and egress to the site. Sadly, parents and carers will not be allowed onto the school site, other than for pre-booked appointments. We have a staggered start to the term and have a different start and finish times parents and carers have received more detailed information, but the term will be similar to this -

Monday 7th September – Return to school for Years 1,3,4,5 and 6 only.

Tuesday 8th September – Return to school for Reception and Year 2 (as well as Years 1,3,4,5 and 6)

Children with the surname beginning with the letters A to K will start at 8:45 am and finish at 3 pm.

Children with the surname beginning with the letters L to Z will start at 8:50 am and finish at 3.05 pm.



Our Nursery takes children from age two; we have limited places from September 2020. If you are looking for a place for your child call the school office (contact details above) and speak to Mrs Evans.

Community Information

Mobile Post Office:

Visits Monday to Thursday in the lay-by on Upwell Road

Monday and Thursday - 16.30 to 17:00

Tuesday and Wednesday - 16.10 to 17:00

Fridays - no service.

ANYONE WISHING THEIR ITEMS TO BE POSTED,
ON THE DAY, WILL NEED TO GET THEIR POST TO THE
VAN BY 4.40PM - WHICH IS WHEN IT IS COLLECTED.

Use it or lose it!

NEW INFORMATION: The van might sometimes leave before 5pm, once the post has been collected (4.40). The Driver has discretion as to when they leave Christchurch. This depends on whether or not there is anyone waiting to be served. *The best thing to do is to get there before, or at, 4.30pm to guarantee service. On some occasions, there is no signal, so that complicates matters, and can't be helped. However, the van always has to be there to collect the mail from mail boxes, brought by another post van, at 4.40pm.*

LATEST COVID RULES- Masks/Face Coverings are now mandatory when entering the Post Van (unless you are medically exempt). Thank you.

Community Car Scheme:

This scheme is still running for Christchurch and surrounding villages. To book a ride or to become a volunteer driver please ring 07902 316360. An additional driver is still required for the scheme. For more information please ring the number above.

Neale-Wade Academy

Plans for schooling in September 2020

Latest news; an extract from their Newsletter (Issue 6)

"As you will be aware, all students are expected back in school in September. Term officially starts on 7 September and we will be operating a staggered start to enable students to familiarise themselves with our new safety rules and school layout. Mr Rowland has written to all parents with details of our opening schedule.

To summarise:

- Students will be in year group 'bubbles' with each group assigned to one of six areas of the school which will be known as the year group base.
- Students can move between classes but remain in their year group 'bubbles'.
- Teachers will move between year group bases.
- Lunch and break times will be staggered to allow communal spaces to be cleaned.
- Student groups will enter and leave the school at designated entry points and at slightly staggered times for their year group.

At the heart of this plan, the health and safety of all our community - students, their families and staff alike – is of paramount importance".

LATEST - Neale-Wade Principle, Jason Wing says "the school is "thrilled" with its students GCSE Results".

Local News

OUSE WASHES CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC:

The reason we have seen an increase in lorry traffic heading for the Ouse Washes site (<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/east-anglia-c-e/ouse-washes-section-10-works/>) recently is due to roadworks at the A142/A10 junction at Ely. Thankfully, the council have seen fit to help reduce the load on the village, by putting up these signs and as soon as the A142 junction modernisation is completed, the lorries will go back to using the A10 route. That is due November 2020.

There is a phone number that you can ring to report any concerns about lorries not adhering to speed limits etc. but note, **they are allowed to use the roads just like anyone else**. The number is at the top of the Environment agency page linked above.

If you have concerns or wish to report damage to the road surface you can either approach Highways directly, or use the reporting form on the PC website <http://www.christchurchparishcouncil.org.uk/index.php/report-it>, or direct to the clerk, details also on PC website.



Would you like to advertise in the Heron? Here are our prices for 2020:

Full Page (27.7cm High x 19cm Wide)
(occasional inclusion by special arrangement)

Half Page (14cm High x 19cm Wide)
6 x issues £85
12 x issues £160

Quarter Page (14cm High x 9.5cm Wide)
6 x issues £50
12 x issues £90

Eighth Page (6.5cm High x 9.5cm Wide)
6 x issues £34
12 x issues £64

Please contact adverts@theheron.info or phone Elaine on 01354 638310.

Prices may be increased in the new year to keep in line with slight increases in production costs.



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Social distancing



Regular handwashing



Avoiding touching the face



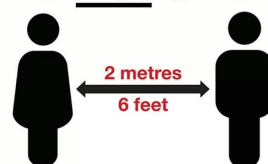
Respiratory hygiene



Cleaning surfaces

COVID-19

The fight is not over



Keep social distancing

HSC Public Health Agency

Advertisers - all our advert rates and conditions can be found on our website www.theheron.info. Business advertisers can book series of 6 or 12 adverts, paid in advance. Adverts for village fundraising events, personal announcements, or small private ads are usually free.

BANK BACS DETAILS: Sort Code: 53-81-42 Account no: 04140109 - *Heron Publishing*

Copy Deadline - The deadline for copy for the October edition of the Heron is **23 Sept 2020**.

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

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

Editorial

Goodness me! It's September already – can you believe it? What a difficult year 2020 has been - and will, no doubt, continue to be. As we say on the front cover this month - we send our best wishes for the new school year - to both pupils and staff of our local schools. After the difficulties of the exam results, I guess anything slightly resembling "normal" will be welcome. I love the quotes from our Home-schoolers (pages 14,15).

It's nice to see some things are getting back to a sort of normal, and we have a few more village-based articles every month. You will have noticed, I am sure, that other articles of a more general type reflect the interests of folks in our community. Please remember that we are an Editorial Team, which shouldn't mean that we have to write everything that goes into The Heron. Do send us your articles and comments.

I was disappointed not to get many Heron Sunflower pictures when I asked on Facebook but understandable, considering the winds we have had lately. Two of mine succumbed and someone on FB said hers were "having a lie down at the moment"!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to people who are about to move in, or have just moved in, to Christchurch. The Heron is a great resource for local services and businesses. Keep it handy. I also find that a back copy of the magazine, when rolled up, makes a great "fly swat". Never say The Heron doesn't have its uses! Enjoy.

Annie Nason



UPWELL HEALTH CENTRE: UPDATE ABOUT 'FLU IMMUNISATION'

The Government has announced that this year we will be holding the biggest National 'Flu Immunisation Programme' ever. Although we do not have dates available at present, at the Health Centre, we are busy planning how we will deliver the vaccines to our patients in the safest way possible whilst dealing with the increased demand that is expected this year. Please keep your eye out on our website, upwellhealthcentre.nhs.uk, or the Upwell Health Centre Facebook page for news of when the appointments will be available to book.

Letters to the Editorial Team

The Editorial team welcome letters from its readers. Please email letters to: editor@heron.info or post them to *The Editor of The Heron, Grasshopper Cottage, 5 Upwell Road, Christchurch, PE14 9LF.*

PLEASE NOTE: Letters will only be considered for publication if they are accompanied by name and contact details - names will be published, but not contact details. The Heron will not share any contact details unless given permission.

The team look forward to hearing from you!

Heron News



HERON 2021 CALENDAR: "CHRISTCHURCH SKIES"

Our Calendar Photo Judge, Rex Ockendon, says he is really thrilled with the photos that people have sent in. And although our original "rule" was to only send in 4 per person, a number of people have obviously forgotten that and have sent in more than 4. We have decided that this is OK. So feel free to

send in more than 4 photos.

- The deadline for photos is October 12th. Email them to editor@theheron.info
- All photos of 'Christchurch Skies' will be put on the website during September. A few (very nice) photos which have come in have not been of skies, so they won't be included.
- Rex has said that everyone who has sent in photos will have at least one of them on the calendar. Every entrant will be represented.
- He also says it is too difficult a task to only have one winner, as there are so many great photos. There will be Gold, Silver and Bronze awards; he is offering to frame the pictures in these 3 categories for free. *Very generous, and thank you Rex.*
- We hope to have the Calendars on sale from November 1st, @ £6 for one, and a Multi-buy offer of £15 for 3. ***Bargain! Support your village magazine and buy some!***
- It would help enormously if readers could let us know how many they would like to buy. We will then have a rough estimate as to how many to have printed.
- Email editor@theheron.info, or call Annie Nason on 613088. Thank you.
- We would like to raise at least £325, roughly the cost of one month's print run.
- We are asking our Advertisers this month whether they would be willing to sponsor the Calendar to the tune of £12 - OR MORE – and have their details mentioned on the calendar.

HERON AGM: Monday October 5th 7.30pm in the Community Centre if it is open by then. Covid19 rules apply.

FUNDRAISING IDEAS: In this time of the Pandemic, we need some innovative ideas for fundraising. Bring your ideas to the AGM.

Keeping Fit Down on the Farm

Many of us have been concerned about gaining a few pounds over lock-down, but with the help of instructor, Kathleen Henderson, some villagers have been trying hard to keep active by holding classes in the open air.



In what has become a regular Tuesday afternoon slot, Kathleen has been leading classes in Pilates and also a mobility class for seniors. These have been taking place in one of the paddocks and in the stable yard at Pear Tree Farm, allowing plenty of room for social distancing.

Weather has been a big factor - there have been times when it has been too wet or too hot to hold the classes, but these classes have been greatly appreciated by those who have attended.

Classes are still going on so if you would like to book a place, please call Kathleen on 07880 543821. Sessions are £6. Classes take place on a Tuesday afternoon – Pilates from 2pm and Seniors' Mobility Class from 3.15pm. For Pilates you will need your own mat. All other equipment is supplied.

Sheila Day



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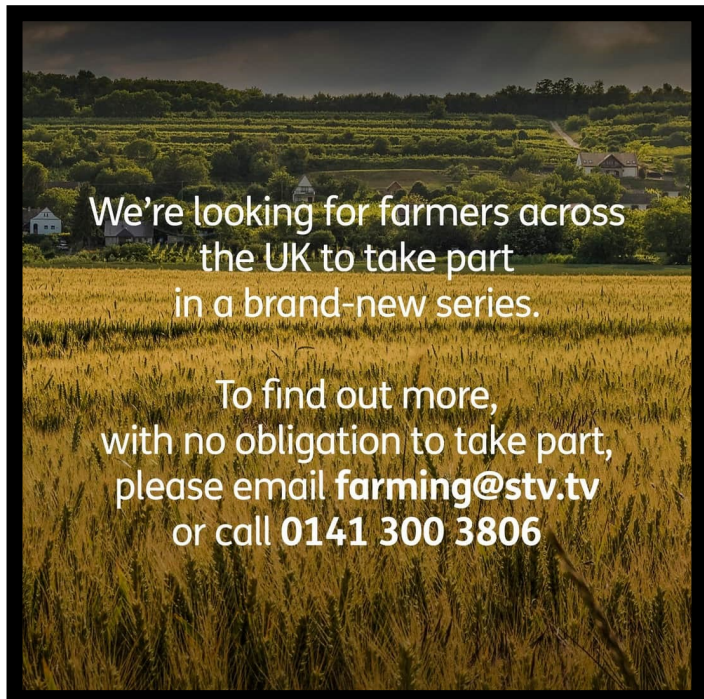
*Nothing stops a
Macmillan Coffee
Morning - not even a
Pandemic!*

'The World's Biggest Coffee Morning' is Macmillan's biggest fundraising event for people facing cancer. They are asking people all over the UK to host their own Coffee Mornings and the donations for your coffee and cake on the day go to Macmillan.

There's just one Coffee Morning this year in Christchurch, and it will be held in **The Dun Cow** from **10am – 12 noon on Friday September 25th**.

We are asking our usual bakers to do their thing, remembering to make everything as Covid secure as possible when baking. Suggestion – wear a mask in your kitchen. Lots of cakes and homemade biscuits needed, as we expect a lot of people. Bring baked goods along just before 10am. Paul and Sue are kindly providing the tea/coffee so that all donations go directly to the charity. Thank you to our generous Landlord and his Lady!

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Christchurch Combs PE14 9U



Heron Sunflowers - Samantha Bee

Important update about Denman Closure

Hopefully all members will have seen the email that went out about the closure of Denman. For those of you that didn't, please refer to the NFWI website article <https://www.thewi.org.uk/denman> and for those members without access to the internet, please contact me and I would be happy to print off the article and post through your door.

Janet Harper
Secretary, Christchurch WI
Tel: 01354 638681

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



Christchurch Gardening Club

“WE’LL BE BACK!”

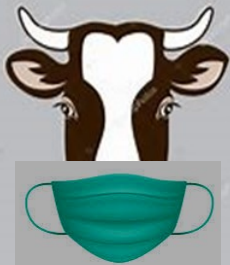
The last time the club held a monthly meeting was, in fact, the first one of the year, our AGM in February. At that time, we had no inkling of what was to come. We had a full diary of talks and trips thanks to the untiring efforts of our Club Secretary, Marion Hawthorn. I think it's safe to say that all the members there that night were looking forward to the new year and the new agenda. However, as we all know by now it wasn't to be. The Virus loomed, Boris took charge and the World as we knew it came to a grinding halt. Agenda cancelled, life cancelled, not to mention the toll on the country's economy and the loss of life that ensued, but have no fear, recovery will come and we will get the club up and running again.

At present the club is on hold and the agenda cancelled as we wait to find out when we may be able to resume. The Community Centre has been given a sound facelift in the interim which should make the meetings easier to hear and when the time is right social distancing won't be an issue, I'm sure. Marion has contacted the speakers booked for 2020 and will have a full agenda for when we can resume, all be it most likely next year we will contact the members individually and let you know the start date and of course we will publish it in the Heron.

In the meantime, I should like to thank our Editor for holding the fort for me with these monthly messages, but I will be back from now on hoping to keep you apprised and entertained with the world of gardening.

Till next Month STAY SAFE!

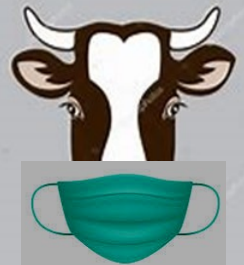
Steve



The Dun Cow

Green Lane, Christchurch, PE14 9PG
01354 638323

**OPENING HOURS from 4th July – Midday Sat & Sun
Mon to Thursday variable, Friday from 2.00pm.**



Covid 19 Dun Cow update

New restrictions and protocols will be in place for the sake of **your community**, so maintaining a social distance of 1 metre+ is a **MUST**.



Some of the control measures in place will be; separate entrance and exit, hand sanitising available and sneeze screens on the bar along with a separate smoking area. At the time of going to press these measures are in line with guidelines from Fenland District Council.

A big thank you to all the volunteers and workers who have kept Christchurch going; you know who you are.

Susan and I would like to thank the community for their good wishes and kind gestures people have made over the past 14 weeks. We are so glad to have moved here and are proud to be part of this community.

I will update via social media of any changes for you to be aware of.

Happy Hour - Fridays 4.30 to 6.30



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The BBC Proms - What's it all about? (Part 2) ***A brief history of The Proms.***

Sir Henry Wood.



Promenade concerts had existed in London's pleasure gardens since the mid-18th century, and indoor proms became a feature of 19th century musical life in London from 1838, notably under the direction of Louis Antoine Jullien and Sir Arthur Sullivan. The annual series of Proms continuing today had their roots in that movement. They were inaugurated on 10 August 1895 in the Queen's Hall in Langham Place, by the impresario Robert Newman, who was fully experienced in running similar concerts at His Majesty's Theatre. Newman wished to generate a wider audience for concert hall music by offering low ticket prices and an informal atmosphere, where eating, drinking and smoking were permitted to the promenaders. He stated his aim to Henry Wood in 1894¹ as follows: *"I am going to run nightly concerts and train the public by easy stages. Popular at first, gradually raising the standard until I have created a public for classical and modern music"*. George Cathcart, an ENT Specialist doctor, gave financial backing to Newman for the series (called "Mr Robert Newman's Promenade Concerts") on condition that Henry Wood be employed as the sole conductor. Wood, aged 26, seized this opportunity and built the "Queen's Hall Orchestra" as the ensemble specially devoted to performing the promenade concerts.

A bronze bust of Sir Henry Wood recovered from the ruins of the bombed-out Queen's Hall in 1941, and now belonging to the Royal Academy of Music, is still placed in front of the organ in the Albert Hall for the whole Promenade season. Though the concerts are now called the BBC Proms, and are headlined with the BBC logo, the tickets are subtitled *"BBC Music presents the Henry Wood Promenade Concerts"*.



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FLOW HIVE

DOG THIEVES ARE ABOUT – TAKE CARE!

Here is what Amanda Palmer and her team are doing to try and prevent it at **Osbourne Place Boarding Kennels, Tipps End.**

“Good afternoon to you all. We hope you are managing to keep cool today. Our aircon units are a blessing for humans and canines alike, that is for sure.

Just another update regarding the spate of attempted dog thefts in the area. Sadly, these evil people are seemingly targeting random kennels in the hope of getting lucky. A local kennel reported an attempt to gain entry early in the hours of Tuesday morning; luckily the owners were woken by the rattling of the gates, and nothing was taken.

We believe that, on the whole, the kennels targeted are breeding kennels, and in particular working breeds, mainly Gun Dogs, Labs and Spaniels. We are not breeders, and we rarely post photographs of any of our guests. We do think that these are targeted kennels; someone must be doing a recce to see how to gain entry, either by cold calling, ‘phoning to enquire about puppies, or booking a viewing.

Moving on; we will NOT be letting anyone view the kennels at the moment as a precautionary measure. This we know will seem extreme, but we have to ensure the safety and well-being of your dogs. In the event of new customers, we hope that recommendations from existing

customers will be enough just at the moment, or at least until these evil scums are caught.

We have a secure property and are light sleepers so if anyone does attempt to gain entry we will know, they will be dealt with appropriately.

Please do not worry about the safety of your precious family members, when in our care we will go above and beyond to keep them safe. Love from us all.”

Facebook post August 12th 2020. (Reproduced here, with permission)

FARM MACHINERY IS TARGET OF ORGANISED CRIME GANGS

Cambridgeshire is one of the worst affected counties when it comes to Rural Crime, according to new figures published 04/08/2020, by insurer NFU Mutual. Rural Crime in 2019 cost the East of England £8m, with Cambridgeshire seeing a rise of almost 18%, from £1.7m in 2018, to £2m in 2019.

Across the UK, rural crime cost £54m in 2019, almost 9% up on 2018. The report said the rise is being driven by organised criminal gangs targeting high value tractors, quad bikes and large numbers of livestock. “There are fears that the impact will be felt even harder this year, as farmers have been working flat out to feed the nation, and many rural communities have been put under additional pressure by the challenges of the Covid-19”, Rebecca Davidson, Rural Affairs Specialist at NFU Mutual.

From the Fenland Citizen: August 12th 2020

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BECTU

**MPs write to Ofcom over BBC
regional news cuts - 10 August
2020**

Damian Collins MP and 22 other MPs from across the South East of England have written to Ofcom about cuts the BBC is making in regional news and journalism. The letter has come about after local Bectu and NUJ South East representatives met with MPs over Zoom to discuss concerns about changes the BBC is making to local news reporting.

Collins wrote to the chief executive of Ofcom, Dame Melanie Dawes, urging the regulator to respond to the BBC proposed cuts that would affect regional journalism. The BBC is proposing to cut 450 jobs to try to save £25m from BBC England. The changes include the end of 'Inside Out' – a regional news programme – with a new investigative strand headquartered in Birmingham. In the letter, Collins questions whether the BBC is fulfilling its mission and purpose. It also highlights the most recent Ofcom annual BBC report which said that it should "better reflect the whole of the UK with authentic news and current affairs content".

Bectu national secretary Noel McClean said: "We have already highlighted to the BBC that Bectu believes these changes are overly ambitious, that there are far too few redeployment options and will result in understaffing. Regional news is a key part of the BBC's output and there are other options that need to be considered before this plan is settled on. We will continue to push back on these proposals and work to support members who will be affected by these changes."

Bectu is encouraging members to write to their MP to highlight their concerns.

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Jane

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Christchurch History

Our Christchurch Bowls enthusiasts will be missing their sport. Covid-19 has put paid to that for most, if not all of this year. 2020 has been a very different year from what used to be known as "Normal". Cheer yourselves up with this little snippet of back news of the March Conservative Bowls Club in 1981. Recognise anyone??



● MARCH Conservatives county championship winning quartet of from left to right Colin Lefevre, Gordon Green, Malcolm Hicks and Malcolm Bedford played well at Worthing this week before going out in the quarter-finals of the National Championships.

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was shrinking my
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to be the fridge...



Another villagers lovely sunflowers (not Heron ones!)
Angela Frazer-Wicks



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Minor Injury Units (MIUs)

Across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, the health system has adapted services to keep patients and staff safe, including temporary changes to MIUs.

We are pleased to confirm that Wisbech Minor Injury Unit will have opened on Monday 17 August, we are also working on plans to reopen Doddington MIU during the autumn.

MIU staff continue to follow Covid-19 risk assessments and guidance to ensure safe and secure working, with social distancing measures in place and wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment at all times.

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All Types - Houses - Flats - Shops - Offices

Beautiful Autumn Mushrooms and Toadstools – but ??

This time of year, we often see Fungi appearing on the ground, on trees, or on dead wood lying about. Our favourite Fungi are Mushrooms and they are really tasty! But beware. Many of the Fungi found in our countryside are very, very poisonous, even if we only touch them. The advice is – NEVER touch any Fungi, and certainly NEVER eat any that you find in nature, unless you are with a Fungi expert who knows which ones are edible. Some Fungi might look like mushrooms, but they are a different kind of Fungi and may well be toxic. There is one called Death Cap. Yes. It will kill you! So leave well alone, and let's enjoy the beauty of the Autumn around us without putting ourselves in danger. You could sing this song to remind you, to the tune of "The Teddy Bears' Picnic". It fits, if you jiggle it a bit....



*If you go down through the fields today,
You could get a deadly surprise.
If you go down to the woods today,
Be sure that you use your eyes!*

*'Cause very few "mushrooms"
And none of the "Toadstools"
Can safely be eaten!
So don't touch the Fungi,*

*Or you could be ill
Or you could even die
SO PLEASE BE WISE!*



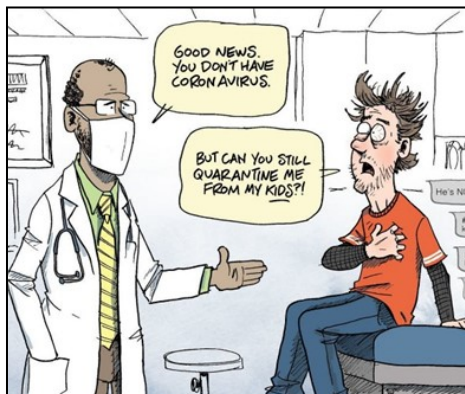
How was Lockdown Home-Schooling for you?

Quotes from Christchurch Families

Teen:

Home schooling started off really well but then I lost all of my motivation. The school work was very unorganised.

I missed my friends and school life. But on a positive I loved bike rides and family time.



Teen: "I love being at home. I found motivation for school work hard because of all the distractions. But I helped more around the house and garden."

A Mother: "It was a very hard time in my house juggling work and family commitments. Having to work from home meant my children missed out on vital support needed to complete school work. When having to attend several conference calls a day and continue working as normal as possible was difficult as my children were not able to ask for help or disturb me during calls and meetings. I received weekly calls from the school to check in. However, when talking to friends, some schools offered zoom sessions to teach lessons, and supported children to complete their school work. I feel that this would have been a valuable resource to access during school closure. It was hard, especially still working 5 days a week from home, and not being able to enjoy the time with the children. But my work people were really good and supportive. However, being a manager meant work was still work, at the end of the day! Off for the summer with them now so that was the light at the end of the tunnel which kept me sane."

Parent: "Home-schooling, for me, was the most stressful part of this whole situation. With myself and my husband trying to work, and trying to keep the children focused on their school work enough to stop them winding each other up was a real challenge. The school holidays couldn't come soon enough!"

Girl (11): "I found learning from home quite hard to get into as it was very mismatched. I miss my friends. I have loved getting chickens and new animals to provide eggs and keep us occupied."

Girl (11): "Working from home was not as easy to concentrate as at school. Lots of distractions. An annoying brother for one thing ...!"

Parent:

My teen is very good at keeping himself occupied, and even did some housework whilst I was out at work, so I call that a result!

Teen: "Lockdown has been a strange experience. Even though I have had work sent on line, it has been hard to find the motivation to do it. I miss the social aspect of school, and, although I thought I would never say it, I WILL BE GLAD TO BE BACK!"

Girl (12): "I could not concentrate on my school work it was hard not having any contact from teachers apart from email. My mum was working from home so could not always help me when I got stuck which meant I couldn't complete my work."

Parents: "We are both key workers so both worked 9 - 5 all the way through. Ideally our daughter would have been at school, but we could only put her in school between 9.05 and 2.30.... and one of us had to drop her at school and pick her up, as a childminder was not allowed to do it. She was at the childminders' every day, therefore no schooling. No home schooling either, because we were both too tired after getting home about 6, and then at weekends really didn't want to... so she has not really been taught anything for 6 months. She's a bright kid. She will be fine, but I feel she has been failed by the system.

I think the challenge was that we are not teachers! Feedback was all on Facebook, and of course there were some parents posting on there all the time about how much they'd achieved; great for people not working, but anyone still working or working from home found it really difficult... and seeing others posting their achievements just meant they felt even more guilty..."

Parent: "I have worked more hours than I ever have, but I LOVE having the children home and I really love the slower pace of life. I love how the community pulls together when times are tough as the closeness seems to have continued. I would happily live like this forever."

Boy (8):

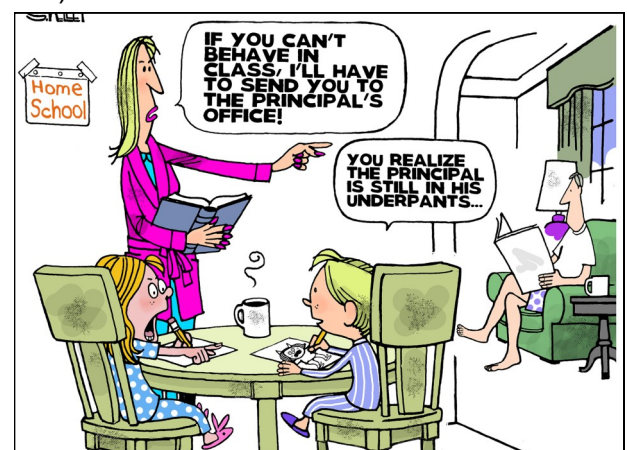
"I didn't like doing school work, and wasn't pushed to complete it. I missed my friends. I did lots of other things instead like gardening, art and fun activities"

COVID impact on schools

A personal perspective from a local primary school teacher

- My school didn't close. Teachers worked through Easter and the May half-term on a rota system with Key Worker children.
- Before the lockdown, all staff at my school ensured the children and their parents could log-on to all the online learning tools that we were going to use.
- Teachers had to adapt very quickly to teaching online. This was difficult and had to be learned "on the hoof" as not many had received any training on how to use the expected software.
- Food vouchers – the system was riddled with problems. My Headteacher spent a lot of his time hand-delivering food parcels as the voucher scheme was failing families on a regular basis.
- Some teachers were uneasy about putting themselves on screen and beaming into children's homes in case their images/faces were misused – this happened. There were also the safeguarding issues to think about if the videos were being made in their own houses.
- There was the child-protection issue that the children taking part in live lessons had to be in a public room in the house, not their bedrooms. This proved to be tricky in families where there were lots of children and peace and quiet being available for the children to learn.
- There were problems with the number of devices available in some houses to access the learning, not all families have broadband so even the Government's idea of giving children laptops would have fallen flat as they couldn't get online to access the learning.
- Not all families have access to a printer, so the schools were then printing multiple paper copies to give out to those families. Some of these were being hand delivered and pushed through letterboxes by the staff. Due to this, my school set the work expectation at three to four 30-40-minute tasks per day, which we felt was reasonable for parents to be able to support with. We also made sure to set some tasks that the families could do together and reminded them that life skills are just as important as academic ones.
- Not all families engaged with the learning we provided. Some submitted lots of the work, some submitted nothing. Some parents were glad of the weekly phone calls, some took umbrage at them.
- I had parents ask how to do a particular piece of work, so I found an "app" that let me record my voice only over a "whiteboard" and I was able to model and explain how to do the work. Feedback from parents on this was good.
- I read at least 1 chapter of the class novel aloud and on recorded video every day. This would be between 8 and 15 minutes long. I read during the holidays and at weekends – but maybe that's just because I enjoy reading.
- Since 1st June I was in class every day with the Key Worker children bubble. The children were Y2-
- Y6. I had to learn how to support all of them with the work they had been given by their class teacher. Towards the end of the term I was adapting the English lessons across the spectrum of ages of the 15 children to make it feel like a "normal" lesson for them, as well as myself and my TA. We had a routine and mixed up academic lessons with creativity and fun. Afternoons were always more fun-based.
- Safety measures – we kept to our bubbles, no staff or children bust the bubbles. Routines for entry and exit of the room were established and the children were great at keeping to them. Keeping children apart was the hardest one. Lots of verbal reminders were given and the need for those was reduced over time. We had routines for using the corridors and toilets. We had taken a pragmatic approach and made sure play items were plastic that could be cleaned/wiped down/sprayed after use. Tables were wiped at lunchtime and end of the day.
- September – I'm moving to a larger school, two-form entry. I'm happy with the measures that have been put in place. Going back to teaching 30 children in a room will have its own challenges, but we have procedures to follow and I'm sure they are the best they can be, given the situation. I LIKE sitting next to a child and helping them solve an issue, it's why I became a teacher. Being able to do it quietly with them, instead of louder and from 1 metre away could cause an issue. School Headteachers have had to put up with ever-changing goalposts and have done and are doing their very best.
- Just to set the record straight – teachers are paid IN the school holidays not FOR the holidays. We are paid for 195 days a year (1265 hours = 6.5 hours a day= 32.5 hours a week). I'm not making myself out to be a martyr here, I'm just stating what I do. I'm usually in at 0730 and leave at 1700 and usually do a couple of hours work in an evening at 4 hours on a Sunday which works out around 55 hours, so 22hours "unpaid overtime." Teacher wages are divided into 12 equal payments.
- Some teachers haven't stopped working since 23rd March. Please don't believe ALL you read in the media and don't tar ALL teachers with the same brush.

(Name and contact details provided but withheld on request.)





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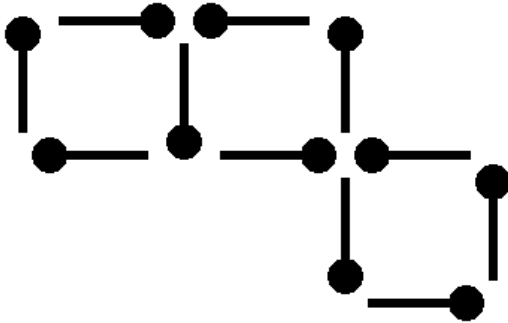
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Kids Corner

In this diagram 11 matches make 3
squares.

Your challenge is to move 3 matches to
show 2 squares.



Name the Movies ...



Answers on page 26.



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DID YOU KNOW?

It is claimed that the Bardsey Island Apple is the "Rarest Apple In The World"

Bardsey Island is a lonely, wind-swept island, off the tip of the Llyn Peninsular in North Wales, UK. It has long been a venue for pilgrims both pagan and later Christian.

A single gnarled old tree was discovered near the remains of a 13th century abbey (in 1999), believed to have housed monks. Hailed as the rarest tree in the world (1000 years old) it is perhaps all that remains of the monastic orchard. It is the only apple variety from the Celtic Welsh Heartland. On the island both tree and fruit are completely disease free. The fruits are striped pink, medium sized and have a distinct scent of lemon.

Excellent straight from the tree, the fruits are crisp, sweet and juicy. They will cook to a delicate light golden fluff and require no added sugar. Harvest at the end of September, keeps until November.

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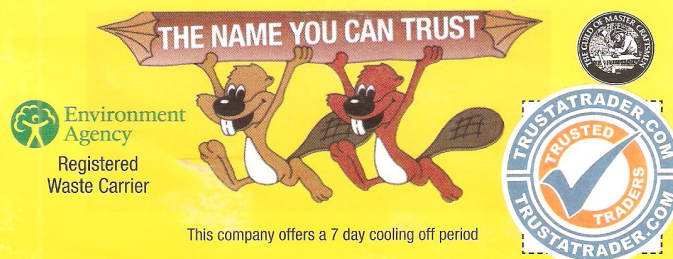
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Apple Cake

Pastry Case

4oz Margarine or Butter
4oz Sugar
8oz SR Flour
1 Egg
Pinch of Cinnamon

Filling

4 Eggs Separated
4oz Sugar
4oz Ground Almonds
2oz Sultanas
Grated Rind of 1 Lemon
Pinch of Cinnamon
1.5lb Apples finely sliced and pre-cooked



You can prebake this pastry as it stores well either in the fridge or freezer.

Method

Cream egg yolks and sugar and add all other ingredients. Beat egg whites and fold into mixture. Spread mixture over the base and bake at the top of the oven, at medium heat, for approximately half an hour.

This is a dessert that I had many years ago when out to Sunday lunch with the family. I liked it so much, I asked for the recipe. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do. Serve with cream or ice cream.

Peggy Warby

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CORONAVIRUS: Should we be afraid of Bats?

Scientists do agree that COVID-19 is caused by a coronavirus from an animal. COVID-19 is a zoonosis, a human disease of animal origin. However, the animal source of SARS-CoV-2, the virus behind the COVID-19 pandemic, has not yet been confirmed. It is likely to have its ancestral origins in a bat species, but it probably reached humans through an intermediary species (pangolins have been suggested), or mutated within humans to be able to be transmitted between people and cause disease. This is a priority area for research but it is important to note that subsequent transmission of COVID-19 is from person to person. ***It is transmission between people that has spread the disease globally.***

Do the bats in my house have COVID-19? / Can I get COVID-19 from the bats in my house?

No, the virus that causes COVID-19 hasn't been isolated from any of the UK's 17 resident breeding bat species. There are no known zoonotic (harmful to humans) coronaviruses found in UK bats.

Did bats cause the COVID-19 pandemic?

No, the pandemic was caused by people passing it to other people.

Bats in the UK

Every summer, thousands of people venture out to experience the wonder of bats in their natural environment. Sadly, bat populations have suffered severe declines during the past century, but the Bat Conservation Trust and more than 100 local bat groups are working hard to help our bats hang on.

Information from <https://www.bats.org.uk>

We are not yet able to say when we can meet as a group again, but we can still keep our art work going.

Things are easing a little bit so we are

able to venture further afield now. How about taking your art materials out and about with you to sketch? Find an interesting subject, no matter how small, and have a go at sketching outside. Lovely clouds and Fenland skies now!

Christchurch Art Group



No art materials? No problem just use what paper/pen or pencil you have to hand!

Jan Clifford

Your Letters

Dear Editor

Whilst sitting in my car at Stonea, waiting for what seemed like hours for another train to pass before continuing my journey, I wondered for how much longer we are going to put up with this situation? The underpass has been closed since October last year, when a vehicle hit the bridge, causing damage to the bridge. At the time network Rail, or whoever is responsible for carrying out the repairs said that it could be up to a year before the road is reopened. Why?

Will it really take that long to repair the damage that was caused? It appears to me that although it is almost a year since the damage was caused, the repairs haven't even been started yet. I use this road several times a week and have yet to see anyone carrying out any repairs to the bridge.

I wonder how much this situation is costing local businesses? It is not uncommon to have to sit there for 15 to 20 minutes waiting for trains to pass, and I often see several commercial vehicles in the queues. It is quite frustrating when, having waited for several minutes, a passenger train comes by with no, or hardly any passengers on board. I can only assume that the taxes which I pay are subsidising this train to take half a dozen people to wherever they are going.

When they do eventually see fit to get the bridge repaired, a priority must be to improve the signage on the approaches. I am aware that prior to the road being closed the bridge was hit numerous times by vehicles that were too high to get under it. I have heard people say, and seen comment on Social media, that the signs are adequate, but clearly, they are not; otherwise it wouldn't be hit so often. Yes, they are technically correct but they need to be a more eye-catching warning; I would have thought that something like "WARNING - LOW BRIDGE. CARS ONLY" would suffice.

There may be a good reason as to why this situation is taking so long to be sorted but I very much doubt it. I get the impression that network Rail simply cannot be bothered to repair the bridge only for it to be hit again. WELL THIS IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

Something needs to be done about this situation. Why should we allow the rail company to trample all over us? Surely it is time for our elected representatives; whether that be Cambridgeshire County Council or Fenland district Council to start applying pressure to get this road opened again.

Yours sincerely

Andy Street

Dear Editor

Recent Dog problems in Christchurch

As a result of the recent spate of dog attacks in the village, I reached out to The Cambridge Dog Warden, as Fenland doesn't have one any more, but they have told me that they don't serve Fenland.

I reached out to Fenland, and they only have a Dog Warden for stray animals - which ours are not. Our problem is down to people not being responsible for their dogs by not securing their gardens/enclosures.



Officially from Cambridge and Fenland **any dog that is attacked needs to be reported to the police.** BUT from my experience, that results in nothing being done.

Dogs being loose (basically from both Fenland and Cambridge areas) remains an issue and means there's nothing they can do. Their stance is, **report them as a stray**, but that doesn't seem logical either? I'm at a loss as to where to go next. This is becoming a **huge issue** in such a small village. As I've said before, dogs by nature, are inquisitive, so want to run, but we as owners need to ensure they're not causing a nuisance. I have asked Fenland for help to look into a solution as I don't want to be the ogre in the village! I am definitely open to suggestions.

Nate Lansdell

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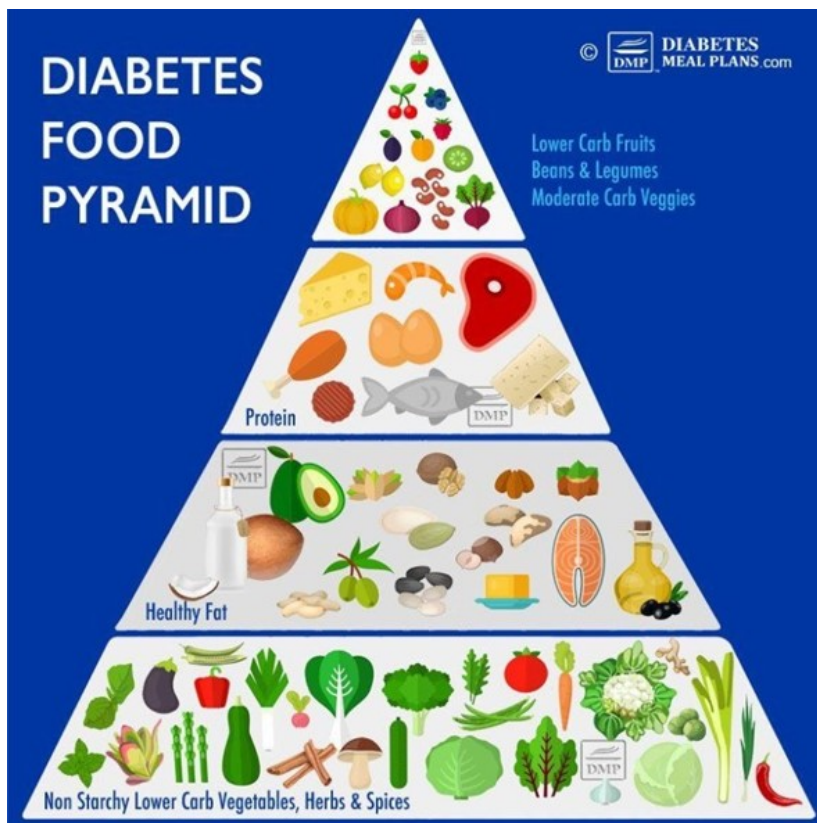


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Hello Christchurch Stargazers!



The nights are beginning to draw in, which is good for us, but not for others. This means more observing time! **Venus** is a morning planet and will be nearby to a **Waning Crescent Moon** on the 14th of September.

Mars is also a morning object, in the constellation Pisces, and will be brighter than Jupiter at the end of the month. **Jupiter and Saturn** are evening planets in the South, and are well positioned, albeit rather low for observation, so an uninterrupted horizon is

preferred. **Uranus** is well positioned in Aries. **Neptune** is also well placed this month, reaching opposition on the 11th of September.

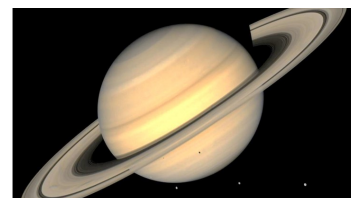
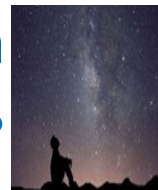
Don't forget to look out for **meteors / shooting stars**. The **Milky Way** is still good viewing, and is better viewed when the moon is not up, so best from the middle of the month.

The constellation of **Orion** will start to be visible low on the horizon in the early hours, and is the most photographed constellation for its Nebula, Also, the **Seven Sisters** present a great photographic opportunity.

Don't forget - never ever look at the sun without using the correct equipment.

Mark Andrews

Christchurch Stargazers



Pets Corner

What barks like a dog, quacks like a duck and can blow the loudest raspberries? My African Grey parrot Smokey, that's what! These parrots are quite intelligent, and are very good talkers. Mine knows in excess of 50 words, some of which I don't really want him to repeat, having learnt them from his previous owner! He often whistles for the dog to come in from the garden and sings along to radio jingles too. Recently he let out a loud wolf whistle while we had a window open, and invited somebody to go to bed!



Smokey, the African Grey Parrot

African Greys love to interact with people and will usually bond with just one person. Their diet consists of pelleted food, nuts, seeds and a good variety of fruit and vegetables, although mine would sell his soul for a piece of cooked carrot. These birds require a good size cage to allow it plenty of room to climb around in along with toys to keep them occupied, although mine comes out of the cage on a daily basis to fly around but will also try to remove my watch and earrings.

As these birds can live up to 60 years old they are a big commitment as a pet and, as I have learnt, as with young children, you have to be careful what you say, little ears and all that! Make no mistake, African Greys have little ears too and can learn and repeat some things you would much rather they didn't!

Pat Rigby



Are you a Music Festival Fan? What will 2020's "pandemic-proof" music festival season look like?

COVID-19 has wiped out the 2020 Music festival season, with big-name events such as Glastonbury, Reading and Leeds and Download struck from the calendar – and it's led to grim warnings that the UK sector is teetering on the brink of collapse. Many have moved their entire line-ups to 2021, leaving us seeking succour in livestreams or VR alternatives.

Tell The Heron what you have missed – and what you have managed to tune into.

Christchurch residents Rebecca and Justin Jarvis-Broad explain their involvement with HERBALIFE.



Good day to all our fellow Neighbours! I'd like to introduce myself and my wife Rebecca, as Herbalife wellness distributors.

Herbalife is the world's leading nutrition company and as Herbalife distributors, we help people to achieve a healthy active lifestyle, look good, having more energy and feeling great. Herbalife has been continuing to be the benchmark for the meal replacement market for over forty years, controlling over 35% of the meal replacement market with over 40 million customers, allowing us to trade in up to 94 countries.

The reason that we are so successful with our weight loss is because we don't give you an off the shelf box of products – our Herbalife programs are tailor made to suit the individual requirements of each customer. Some of the things we aim to change for people are:

- breakfast skipping
- energy increase
- increasing lean muscle mass
- losing body fat or weight
- and finally, a few people even to come to us gain weight.

As we are finding more and more these days, ensuring people are well, both in mind and body, is of vital importance in these modern times. It also leads to a greater ability to cope with the challenges many people face with longer work hours, second jobs, etc.



With that in mind, our mission in 2020 is to help 2000 people. In this current climate, we have easily reached out to many people, both locally and nationally, enabling us to give out support as much as possible, using a variety of methods to interact. We normally hold sample events, opportunity meetings and fitness classes that allow us to interact with our customers and fellow distributors more closely outside of the pandemic and will be continuing to do so once all restrictions are no longer in place. We find these are key; not only to show how great the products are but also show how passionate we are in helping people achieve their goals. Please feel free to using the following methods to contact us anytime.

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<https://www.facebook.com/JJBSE> or call

Justin on 07896 292465 or Rebecca on 07581369795

Church News

“When the bough breaks, the gravestones shall fall...”

We live in the Fens; we have high winds, and we have tall trees in the church yard...so maybe we should have predicted this!

At the end of July, a large branch fell from an oak tree damaging two gravestones. We are very grateful that no one was hurt.

Thanks are due to Keith Bruce, who kindly agreed to saw up the branch, but we were disappointed to learn that some of the wood had mysteriously “disappeared” from the pile he had neatly stacked. The church wardens are getting in touch with the families linked to the damaged gravestones so that repairs can be organised.

The Church has been open for private prayer from 10am to 12 noon every Sunday, since 5th July. This will continue. However, we are praying about, and planning to hold, a short service at Christchurch **on Sunday 13th September at 11am** (subject to no further lockdown measures being introduced). Wear your mask, please. In order to maintain social distancing for the service, we ask people to let us know beforehand if they want to come, and we will save a space for you. (If you come to the service without booking, you may not be able to attend if there is no safe spacing available).

Further details - a week beforehand (on noticeboard, and Christchurch Community Facebook page). My wife Sheila has kindly agreed to handle the allocation of seating. If you want to book a space please email her on sheiladay1@hotmail.com, or call 07946 635908 if you don't have an email.



Andy Day

Thoughts from the Rectory

Everyone Loves a Hug!

I was at our Church in Doddington last Sunday, and having finished our time of quiet prayer, Lynda and I headed off outside towards the car park, only to be met by the four or five people who had left the service before us. A strange two-meter distancing, facial masked meeting then took place, as we all caught up on old news. One parishioner said 'I do miss sharing the peace'; another, 'I miss the hugs', and yet another, 'I miss the hugs and a kiss'. Strange! I've never presided at a service where people have shared the peace with a hug and a kiss. It doesn't happen when I'm there - I'm sure it's nothing personal!

I was reminded of a time when Lynda and I were walking through Hyde Park in London, many years ago. We came upon a couple who had taken up residence at 'Speakers Corner'. They had a poster, which said, in large letters - 'Free Hugs'. The couple had their arms outstretched to the crowd. People were not forming queues for a hug, but some folk did respond; some of the on lookers were suspicious. What's the catch? What will it lead to? What impression will I give? Lynda went forward for an embrace, so I followed, and I have to say, the lady who embraced me gave a good old grip. It was just a few seconds of warmth and affection, no harm done, and from what I could observe, as others came up to be hugged and went on their merry way, a great deal of good came out of it.

A specialist family therapist has said: 'We need four hugs a day for survival, eight hugs a day for maintenance, and twelve hugs a day for growth.' The theory being that touch is not only nice, but also

needed. There is loads of research out there that supports the idea that a tactile approach is absolutely necessary for our physical as well as our emotional wellbeing, and I would add, our spiritual health as well.

The early Christians must have known the benefits of a hug as in numerous early church writings believers were encouraged to 'greet each other warmly in the Lord's name'. This may well have meant a warm embrace in church, but equally it could mean, as in the Old Testament, a 'time to embrace' (Ecclesiastes 3:5. NIV). Indeed, Jesus told his listeners a story to show how God welcomes those who stop their wrongdoing and turn to him. It is the story of the prodigal son. I love the part of the passage where it describes what an anxious father did when his runaway son returned: *'But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son threw his arms around him and kissed him'*. (Luke 15:20. NIV).

It really reassures me that God waits to welcome with a hug all who follow the prodigal son's lead.

Take care, keep safe.

Ian.



Christchurch Word Search (vertical, horizontal and diagonal)

S	R	H	D	C	F	X	W	N	O	T	B	W	T	G	A	C
C	F	T	B	Q	R	G	Q	V	U	T	N	W	O	B	B	O
O	Y	M	C	E	E	O	V	Q	O	V	O	N	W	N	W	M
T	H	E	H	I	L	L	W	O	V	T	Q	M	N	I	M	M
T	V	R	U	N	X	G	F	N	D	D	E	N	L	V	R	U
S	V	M	R	W	W	N	V	A	A	U	T	B	E	B	N	N
R	Q	V	C	Y	E	H	O	O	U	V	H	N	Y	C	N	I
O	D	F	H	E	B	R	R	B	D	X	E	X	S	R	D	T
A	R	B	T	B	L	H	W	K	U	I	C	D	C	O	N	Y
D	W	X	B	L	C	H	A	Y	N	R	R	A	H	W	U	C
Q	I	X	E	R	X	U	Y	G	C	F	O	O	O	N	O	E
S	V	W	U	H	P	X	S	V	O	X	F	R	O	R	R	N
H	P	H	F	E	N	V	I	E	W	G	T	L	L	O	G	T
U	C	X	W	B	S	V	D	X	V	Q	M	L	N	A	Y	R
W	V	T	P	A	D	G	E	T	T	S	R	O	A	D	A	E
S	P	O	R	T	S	F	I	E	L	D	J	T	J	M	L	N
R	T	E	N	A	L	N	E	E	R	G	M	W	B	V	P	X

You need to find...

FENVIEW
PADGETTSROAD
THE CROFT
SPORTSFIELD
CHURCHROAD

DUNCOW
CROWNROAD
SCOTTSROAD
TOWNLEYSCHOOL
CHURCH

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SIXTEENFOOT
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5 Fenland Walk, March, PE15 8TW

Christchurch Street Pride and Green Dog Walkers Scheme: Update



The Christchurch Street pride, and Green Dog walkers group met on the 4th of August via zoom. We plan to bring some more colour and brightness to the village!

Christchurch Street Pride: We discussed ideas and solutions that can be put into place before winter arrives. It was decided that we will plant some wildflowers and Spring bulbs on the grass verges outside the village, near the main road signs. We are going to look at upcycling some tractor tyres, placing them near the community centre, and turn these into a form of "agricultural flower box", as farming has such strong ties within the community. Covid restrictions have lifted slightly, so members have had the opportunity to litter pick, and so far, 3 bags have been collected from just 2 small walks around little parts of the village.

Green Dog Walkers Scheme: We are still waiting for the Parish Council to approve the initial funding with Fenland. They have been contacted. We trust this will happen very soon. Nate has placed 3 recycled bottles,

which are each filled with a plastic bag free for anyone who forgets to take one with them on their dog walk. The hope is to encourage people to pick up after their dog, so if you forget a bag, look out for one of these along Green Lane, outside the school, and on the byway by the recreation ground, *(please replace any you use)*.



Christchurch Street Pride is open to all members of the community, and we would love more members. We meet when we can, and our goal is simple; to make Christchurch a beautiful place to live in. You can join our Facebook page by visiting <https://www.facebook.com/groups/christchurchstreetpride> and if you would like to join drop us a message we would love to meet you.

Nate Lansdell

Christchurch Book Club



The big news for us is that we've had a meeting! It took place in the yard at Pear Tree Farm. Members supplied their own drinks and nibbles to ensure safety, and I supplied the much-needed bug spray which I had bought when I went to Vietnam and which is super powerful!!!

In all honesty we barely discussed reading, it was just lovely to be back together...but, we think we have found a way forward. We have planned a tentative meeting in a member's back garden at the end of August and if all goes well then we shall recommence our monthly meetings. The difficulty, of course, with outdoor meetings is that weather can often ruin plans, so we shall just have to see how it goes. At time of writing we have not agreed a date or venue for our September meeting, so look out on the Christchurch Community Facebook page.

Our book for September is "My Booky Wook" by Russell Brand. Although the way forward is still very hazy, we are always happy to welcome new members - keep an eye out for extra details on Facebook or contact Sheila on 07946635908.

Sheila Day



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**Please contact: Sandra Kay
on 01354 638478**

**Two things to make
your day better**
**1. Do not watch the
news.**
**2. Stay off the
bathroom scales.**

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Useful Telephone Numbers

Age UK Cambridgeshire	0300 666 9860
Alzheimer's Society (Fenland)	01945 580480
Christchurch Resident's Association	01354 638990
Churchwarden - Mrs. D. Symons	01354 638352
Citizens' Advice Bureau, Wisbech	03442 451292
Community Car Scheme (to book a journey)	07902 316360
Community Centre Bookings	01354 638478
Community Fire Safety Officer	07717 858166
District Councillor - Will Sutton	01354 638025
District Councillor - Michelle Tanfield	07908 707129
Electricity Faults - UK Power Networks	105
FACT	01354 661234
Fenland District Council	01354 654321
Floodline	0845 988 1188
Library - March	0354 045 5225
National Debtline	0808 808 4000
Norfolk Dial-a-Ride	01553 770310
Parish Clerk - David Gibbs	07932 191050
Parish Councillor - Jill Bliss	01354 638343
Parish Councillor - Sharon Pomeroy	07837 407536
Parish Councillor - Roger Gladwin	01354 638538
Parish Councillor - Geoff Harper	01354 638681
Parish Councillor - James Hughes	01354 638310
Parish Councillor - Peter Owen (Chair)	01354 638847
Parish Councillor - Kay Miller	01354 638232
Police - PCSO Sue Clarke	07738 025220
Police - Emergency	999
Police - Non Emergency	101
Telephone Preference Service	0345 070 0707
Townley School	01354 638229
Trading Standards	03454 040506
Train Information	03457 484950
Upwell Health Centre (and out of hours)	01945 773671
Upwell Health Centre - Pharmacy	01945 774934
Veterinary Centre - The Crossings (D'Mkt)	01366 382219
Vicars - Ian & Lynda Brady	01354 740627
Water Emergencies	03457 145145

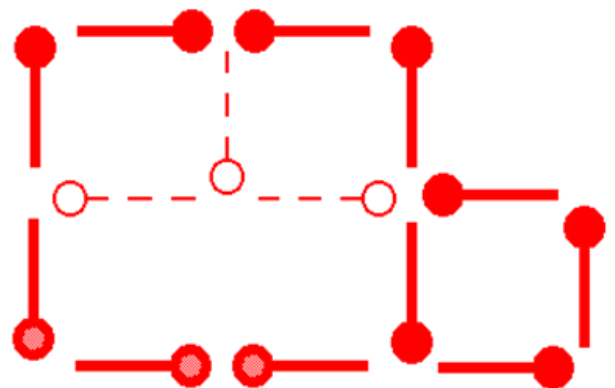
Club Contacts	
Art Club - Jan Clifford	01354 638217
Book Club - Sheila Day	07946 635908
Craft Club - Sandra Lloyd	01354 638956
Gardening Club - Marion Hawthorn	01354 638230
Short Mat Bowls Club - Wendy Keen	01945 772737
WI - Peggy Warby	01354 638339
Jazz Club - Nigel Smith	01945 773121
Christchurch Eco - Nate Lansdell	07401 319347

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



Please remember that no dogs are allowed on the playing field. Thank you. Your co-operation is much appreciated.

Puzzle Solutions from Page 16



Web links in the Heron are active when viewed in our online version www.theheron.info



Christchurch Craft Club Challenge

MAKE A BROOCH

Last month we talked about losing our mojo. So this month we thought we'd help you find it with a challenge to make a brooch. These instructions are for an easy way to make a pretty brooch and make lovely gift for friends and relatives we're not seeing as much as we'd like right now.



1. Find a piece of fabric you like. If you want to make a mini scene, it's best to use a plain fabric. Cut a circle of the fabric about 9cm across.

2. Next, cut a circle of card, cereal box card is great for this. Mine is about 5cm across and this will be roughly the size of the finished brooch.

3. Now decide how you want to make your brooch pretty. You can use stitch, beads, buttons, sequins...whatever you have. I'm going to use stitch and beads. Collect these together so they're easy to use.

4. Stitch! Sew the beads on, add buttons, beads, sequins...whatever you want to make your brooch pretty.

5. Carry on embellishing until the brooch area is the size you want the brooch to be, roughly the same as your cardboard circle. I've decided to do a different brooch for the rest of this!

6. Cut a piece of wadding the same size as your cardboard circle. If you don't have any wadding, you can use something similar, like cotton wool, socks or towel. You can also just leave it out. Use a dab of glue, like Pritt stick just to hold the wadding and card onto the back of the brooch fabric.

7. Sew small running stitches all around the edge of the circle...about 0.5cm from the edge. Gently gather up as you're stitching. You want the front of the brooch to be quite tight.

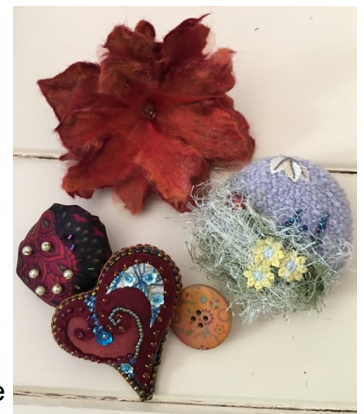
8. Keep sewing and gathering all the way round. You should end up with something like this on the back. Your back may not meet, this doesn't matter.

9. Now to attach the brooch pin – use a safety pin if you don't have one. You need to get some firm fabric...felt is great as it doesn't fray. Cut a square or circle to go on the back of the brooch. Mine is 3cm x 3cm. Stitch the brooch back or safety pin onto the square of felt. It's best to put it towards the top of the felt so the brooch sits better.

10. You can either stitch or glue the felt piece onto the back of the brooch. Don't forget to make sure the brooch pin is towards the top of the brooch, and the brooch is the right way up!

Wear your brooch with pride and make more for friends and family! We'd love to see your brooches. Send photos to janemegan@aol.com We'd love to share them with everyone in next month's Heron.

Jane Rees



Is fishing the perfect social distancing sport?

Angling used to be thought to be the most popular sport in Britain, but it dropped to 19th most popular sport in the UK. The once number 1 participating sport is now topped by Exercise; Golf in 5th position, Movement and Dance at number 6, Equestrian at 9th, and Bowls at 10th place, according to a survey in 2017.



Under the Covid-19 guidelines (May 2020), people can fish on their own, with members of their household, or with one other person while adhering to social distancing rules. Angling clubs in the county have been busy putting new rules in place with many asking members to stay 15 metres away from each other at all times in line with new Angling Trust guidance. There's more to fishing than rods, hooks, wellies and worms! There are seven surprising health benefits of the sport.



6 reasons fishing is good for you:

**Fishing increases your Vitamin D.
Ups your concentration.
Lowers your stress.**

Surveys of keen anglers have found that their main motivation is not just about what they might catch, but about what they can leave behind. Nearly 90% said escaping crowds was their ultimate goal, and there are now even charities supporting the power of fishing to treat post-traumatic stress disorder.

**Helps your heart.
Angling keeps you fit.**

It might look like a lot of sitting around but a good fishing session can be very good exercise, toning your arms, and burning between 250 calories if you're just sitting and 500 calories if you're angling in waders.

Fishing boosts friendship.

Certainly, a National Angling Survey a few years ago revealed over 38% of anglers were introduced to fishing by a parent, 19% by another family member and 26.6% by a friend, suggesting that familial and friendship groups are vital for the development of angling participation. And yes, of course women go fishing too, but the same survey had a response rate that was 97% male. There are lots of Anglers in Christchurch, who go outdoors much earlier in the day than most of us, which is possibly why we don't see them very often!



Autumn Colours: The National Arboretum, Westonbirt, Gloucestershire

Any views expressed in The Heron do not necessarily reflect the views of The Heron Editorial Team. The team aim to provide a balanced view of village opinions where such views are expressed. We reserve the right to edit any submissions where we feel this is appropriate.

