

The Heron

Community Magazine

February 2021

Delivered to homes in Christchurch, Euximoor and Tipps End

No. 82

PRIDE IN CHRISTCHURCH

In this issue!

Townley School	2
Heron News/Obituaries	3
Editorial/Neigh'hood Watch	5
Valentine's Day Cards	6
Cambs Fire & Rescue	7
Covid 19 Poem	8
Horses & Donkeys Story	9
Kids Corner	10
Hungry?	11
Latest Lockdown Rules	12
Parish Council Snippets	13
Hug a Muga	15
Happy Birthday!	16
Health & Hospital Info	17
Fly-Tipping	20
Local Eco Warrior - Nate!	21
Meet a Parish Councillor	22
Church News/Spring Poem	23
Upwell HC/Vaccination Info	24
Kids Corner Answers	26
Recipe	27
Chinese New Year	28

"Pride in Fenland" Nominee Nathan (Nate) Lansdell

You may not have won the award, this year, but you are still a winner to us. Our local Eco Warrior!



Full story on page 21.

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Annie Nason—Editorial Team Leader

Elaine Reed-Hughes—Treasurer & Ad. Manager

Editorial Team Members: Sue Norman, Sheila Day, Peggy Warby, Sandra Kay

Support—Lewis Bennett (IT), Sandra Lloyd, the Delivery Team and Publishers

ENQUIRIES

editor@theheron.info Tel: 01354 638088

adverts@theheron.info Tel: 01354 638310

Website: www.theheron.info





TOWNLEY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL

Christchurch, Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 9NA

office@townley.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.townley.cambs.sch.uk

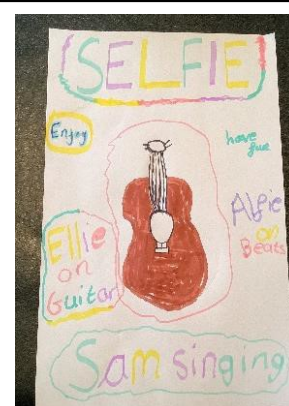
01354 638229



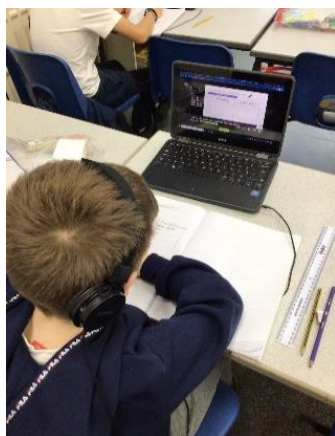
Facebook—Townley
School and Pre-School

February 2021

What a start to the new school year! It hasn't quite been the start to 2021 I had planned, before the new term even started we had to close before we had reopened. I had naively assumed that we would all be back the Thursday. Clearly, that was not meant to be, Boris had a different plan! Therefore, here we are with a blend learning method – learning with children both at home and school. We have high numbers of children in school, but everyone has been working harder than ever to ensure the children get what they need, while also teaching the children at home. PE is fine though, because Joe Wicks is back! – If you haven't tried a Joe Wicks PE lesson, you should (although proceed with caution as they broke me last year!)



As I write this, we have had to close a Bubble, because the household of a staff member has tested positive and the staff member is displaying symptoms! – Not great news at 8.30am, as children are arriving in school and we had to turn parents away with no notice. I am so grateful for the understanding they demonstrated. It is never an easy decision to close, but safety is always the most important decision.



I say it lot, I genuinely mean it, but it really does take a village to raise a child, and in our case we are supported by more than one fantastic village, for which we are really grateful. Over the past two weeks, I have been struck by the kindness of others, Paul from the Dun Cow dropped in crisps and drinks for the children in school - there were lots of happy faces! We have been gifted books, PPE, been offered devices by Welney families and support from Nate to get children online. The Facebook groups have been keeping the staff safe on their journeys to and from school (several of us live the other side of the Wash!). We have also received some lovely emails and feedback from parents, supporting us to keep the children safe and thanking us for the remote learning support and for providing care for the children in school. It really means a lot, especially for the staff who have been working around the clock to try and get things right for everyone. Thank you all for supporting us, we really couldn't do it without you all.

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!

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.

Heron News

IF YOU ARE HOLDING A PAPER COPY OF THIS MONTH'S HERON, IT IS BECAUSE YOU ARE ONE OF A FEW PEOPLE WHO HAVE RECEIVED A PAPER COPY.

Since England is in the grip of full lockdown restrictions (see page 12 for details) we are almost completely on line for February and March – and possibly April, depending on what the Covid rules are by then.

Apologies to everyone, but SAFETY FIRST! The people who *have* received a paper copy have done so because their names were given to us, as they cannot access the internet, or find difficulty reading the magazine on line.

Please note – if someone you know should be in that group, but isn't, please get in touch with the Editor. They will be added to the list.

Stay safe.

Obituary: Frank Cawthorn

Many of our longer-term residents will remember him.

Frank Cawthorn, who was a resident of Christchurch for 80 plus years, has sadly passed away peacefully age 96 years, on 11th January 2021 at a care home in Wales.

Frank was born at Christchurch, the son of Walter and Grace Cawthorn, along with 2 brothers and 3 sisters. Walter was a farmer and fruit grower on the site which is now Fen View, with a herd of Wessex Saddle Back pigs. He also kept the village shop and general stores. Frank attended Townley school and the Methodist Chapel in the village. At the age of 18 in 1942, Frank volunteered for the Navy and, after being posted to various training sites, completed his training as an air mechanic at Cowdrey Park, Midhurst, Sussex. He passed out as Navel Airman 1st Class. He then joined 821 Naval Air Squadron and served on HMS Puncher and HMS Trumpeter, based at Scapa Flow on the Orkney Isles. Their missions were patrolling in the treacherous cold north Atlantic, amidst the German U-boats. He left the Navy in 1946.

Back home, he met Joyce Palmer. They married in 1949, and lived in a cottage, now demolished, that stood on the site which is now 1 and 2 Upwell Road. They had a daughter Ann and son Stephen, and following the death of his uncle William at Poplar Lodge, Padgetts Road,

Frank and the family moved into his house and small holding. He farmed the land and orchard and also took on the job as a part time Postman in the village. After a time, Frank gave up the land and worked as a labourer for his neighbour Roland Singleterry, helping in the building and undertaking business, and continuing as Postman until retirement. During his leisure time he enjoyed DIY and spent a lot of time transforming his two-story cottage, in Padgetts Road, into a bungalow. He also played bowls for the village club and during the winter months at the GER indoor bowls club at March.

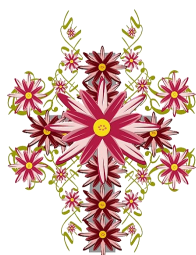
Joyce passed away in 2004, and Frank continued to live at Poplar Lodge until 2011, when he decided to go to live with his son Stephen at RAF Wyton. But in 2013, Stephen was moved to RAF Wittering so Frank then travelled to Newtown in Wales, to reside with daughter Ann and son-in-law David. He enjoyed his time in Wales until failing health forced him to move into a nearby care home in February 2020, where he recently passed away.

Rest in peace Frank. A good friend and neighbour.

Malcolm Hicks



It is with regret that we announce the passing of former Christchurch resident, Dene Cook, who sadly passed away on 18th January 2021 at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital, Huntingdon.



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

Would you like to advertise in the Heron? Here are our prices for 2021:

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.

As most small businesses are struggling under the current, uncertain climate, we have decided to leave our prices as they are at the present time.



FENLAND LEISURE PRODUCTS PLAY SOLUTIONS SCHOOLS, PARKS & LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Designing and manufacturing
play equipment in the UK for
over 21 years specialising in:

- Multiplay Towers
- Net Play
- Aerial Runway
- Outdoor Gyms
- Roundabouts & Seesaws
- Spring Rockers
- Slides
- Trim Trails
- BMX & Mountain Bike Tracks
- Seats & Bins
- Fencing
- Surfacing Solutions
- Bespoke Build Service



www.fenandleisure.co.uk

Tel: 01354 638359 Email: sales@fenandleisure.co.uk



March Road, Welney, PE14 9SE

LW Vehicle Services Ltd

Car and Commercial Repairs

*Class 4 and 7 MOT Testing *Full Diagnostic Service *HGV Maintenance

*Batteries *Tyres *Exhausts *Welding and Fabrication

*Timing Belts *HGV PMI Inspections *Air Con Service and Repair

*Courtesy Car Available *All Service and Repairs Undertaken *Car and Van Sales



Call 01354 610172 **Email** lwvs@outlook.com **Web** lwvehicleservices.com

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 March edition of the Heron is **20 February 2021**.

**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

Welcome to our almost-completely-online February Heron. As you will see in the HERON NEWS item, there are a few exceptions. Enjoy! Did you find all the Pantomime references in the Full Colour January edition? Thank you to the writers of articles for putting them in. Well done.

February is the shortest month of the year, but I don't know about you; to me all the months seem very long indeed, and are merging into each other as we continue to fight this dangerous pandemic. Stay safe, everyone. It WILL pass, but not just yet. We have a variety of articles in this month's edition, but we could have pretty much filled it with items about our very own Eco Warrior, Nate Lansdell, and his various ventures on behalf of the planet and of Christchurch. Many congratulations to you, Nate. Always a winner here!

As I write, it is trying to snow. The roads and pavements are icy. Just the sort of day to keep warm and to plan for better times. Our farmers will be planning ways of mitigating adverse weather conditions, if at all possible. Next month, the clocks will change, and the Spring flowers will be out. Send us some of your photos for the March edition! They will go a long way to cheering us all up.

Annie Nason

Neighbourhood Watch



At recent Parish Council meetings, the subject of Neighbourhood watch has come up. The previous setup was apparently never officially recognised, so it was agreed that the Parish Council would be more than happy to support anyone who wishes to restart such a scheme. Note that the PC themselves would not be involved with the scheme, but would be more than happy to help out with any funding requirements where possible or to liaise between interested parties.

What is really needed here is someone to take on the lead role and provide a central point of contact to get such a scheme up and running.

More information can be found on the Neighbourhood Watch website at <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/> which also has a lot of interesting information on crime prevention.

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR!

Chinese culture is still very influenced by different beliefs about luck, and especially numbers. There are numbers that are considered auspicious and others inauspicious. People even pay large sums of money to get favourable numbers for their phones, license plates, or apartments. The numbers considered to be auspicious are based on words that sound similar.

[1] The number ONE. Referred to as the Yang, male, heavenly. It is considered an auspicious number.

[2] The number TWO. Two or Yin, female, terrestrial. It is considered a positive number. There is a Chinese quote that says "good things come in pairs". It is usual to use double symbology in business and brands (Double fortune, Double elephant, double happiness).

[3] The number THREE. The number Three sounds like "birth" in Chinese, so it is considered a positive number. The moon frog (Jin Chan) has three legs (see back page).

[4] The number FOUR. The number Four is considered an unfortunate number in Chinese and Oriental culture in general, because it sounds like the word "death". It is avoided as much as possible.

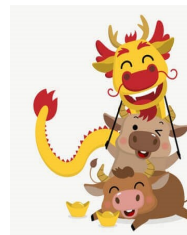
[5] The number FIVE. Number Five is popular since it is in the centre (1-5-9). It is also related to the five elements.

[6] The number SIX. The number Six is associated with the six senses (in Chinese culture the mind is added as a sixth sense), and with the maximum score when you throw a die. There is a saying that says "Double Six will make you happy".

[7] The number SEVEN. Seven is considered by some Chinese people as ghostly or spiritualistic. The seventh month of the Chinese calendar is called the "ghostly month" and it's said that the gates of hell are open for the dead to visit the living. In any case, in general, it is considered a neutral number, since it is shared by relatively few people.

[8] The number EIGHT. The number Eight in Chinese sounds like "prosperity" or "wealth", so it is considered a lucky number. Large sums have been paid to obtain combinations with this number in license plates and mobiles.

[9] The number NINE. The number Nine was historically associated with the Emperor of China, who often wore nine dragons on his clothes. It sounds like "everlasting" for which it is considered auspicious.



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.*

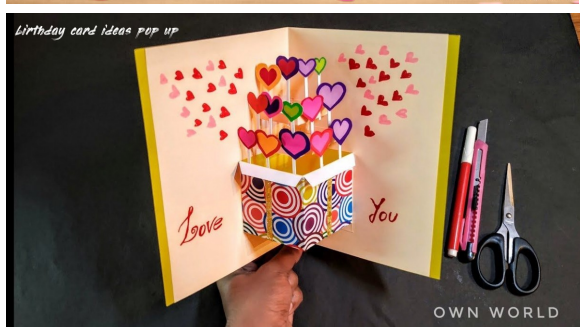
PLEASE NOTE: Letters will only be considered for publication if they are accompanied by name and contact details - names will be published, but not contact details. The Heron will not share any contact details unless given permission.

The team look forward to hearing from you!



Home-made Valentines Day Cards

Valentines Day is a time to show someone else, how much you love and appreciate them. What better way than to spend time making a card to show your affection. Here are some pictures to inspire you. Can you work out how they have been made?



A.R. CLINGO

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Family Independant
Business

Private Chapel of Rest
Personal Attention

24 Hour Service

Full estimates given at all times

Golden Charter
Funeral Plans



Pinfold House
St. Peter's Road
Upwell, Wisbech
Phone 01945 772502

Outwell Timber

For all your Timber and Building Supplies

ISLE ROAD, OUTWELL
PE14 8TD

Tel: 01945 77 21 16

FENCING, PANELS, TRELLIS
TIMBER, PLYWOOD, DECKING

SAND, BALLAST, GRAVEL

SCREWS, NAILS, BOLTS

PAINT, SILICONE, HAND TOOLS

LOCKS, ELECTRICALS, PLUMBING,
GUTTERING
UNDERGROUND PIPE & FITTINGS

CEMENT, MULTIFINISH, PLASTERBOARD



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**
Working together to improve community safety

Granary Studio

Your local picture framer

Keep safe during flooding

- Think about flooding before it happens. Sign up for free flood warnings and create a personal flood plan.
- **Stay out of flood water.** Most injuries are caused by people falling into fast flowing water or hidden dangers under water.
- **Do not drive through flood water.** It may be deeper than you think and you do not know what may be hidden by the water. It is not worth the risk.
 - If you come into contact with flood water wash your hands to reduce the risk of any illness.
 - Know how to turn off your gas, electricity and water before flood water enters your home.
- If you take regular medicines, keep them close at hand in case you have to leave your home quickly due to flooding.



You can subscribe to receive flood alerts in your area from the Environment Agency. Visit Gov.uk for more information.

If you need to report a flooded area, either a property or a road, you can by visiting the Cambridgeshire County Council website.

01354 638614

The Granary
Hall Farm, Upwell Road
Christchurch Cambs PE14 9LJ



Calling all Guides, Girl Scouts, Brownies, Rainbows and Guiders, involved now or retired!

WORLD THINKING DAY

On 22nd February 2021 Stand Strong, Stand Up and Stand Together for Peacebuilding

#WTD2021



The theme for World Thinking Day 2021 is peacebuilding. Peacebuilding is at the heart of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting and is as vital and relevant today as for the last 100 years. By completing the steps in the **Stand Together For Peace** activity pack, Girl Guides and Girl Scouts will: Stand Strong, Stand up and Stand Together for peacebuilding. We want you to be part of this!

<https://www.wagggg.org/en/what-we-do/world-thinking-day>



How do you help yourself with anxiety at times like these? Here is one villager's way of doing that.

"I don't really write poetry, but I began this at the beginning of the pandemic, and then added to it as the weeks went on. I was very anxious with the first wave and the unknown, and it really helped me deal with the anxiety to get it down on paper".
Lucy Pye

Covid 19

In the middle of March, it breached our routine,
That horrible virus, Covid 19.
The schools were closed down and businesses shut.
The Corona virus is really corrupt.

Families separated, people isolating,
Anxiety not cured by self-meditating.
Masks were worn, gloves and protection.
It's time we all look at life's reflection.

The news is horrific - it fills our screens
With nothing other than Covid 19.
Not allowed out, no friends near,
The two-meter distance to which we adhere.

New rules put in place for the nation to follow,
But a slow pace of life allows us to wallow.
The shelves are empty in each of the shops.
Caring communities make generous drops.

They check in on each other make sure friends are ok,
Stay in! Keep the dreaded Corona away.
Front liners working each hour God sends.

Desperate for this pandemic to end.

Putting lives at risk and doing their best.
We would be in deep trouble with no NHS.
People are scared, and angry and sad.
They quickly realised the good that they had.

"I took it for granted" is all that I hear.
Everyone praying to get through this year.
Lockdown the nation, stay safe at home;
But people are starting to feel alone.

No escape from the monsters that flood in your head.
People just coping alone instead.
Everything cancelled. A nightmare? A dream?
No - it's real; it's Covid 19.

From September masks were made mandatory,
Collecting more news for a future story.
The feeling of being suffocated;
The thought of freedom makes us feel elated.

Just as the lockdown came to an end,
There were still restrictions with family and friends.
Outside only in sixes and bubbles,
Who knew just a virus would cause so much trouble?

As Christmas approaches, restrictions in place,
Everyone just wants their life back to pace.
The pubs are now closed, and restaurants and shops,
Deliverers work tirelessly just making drops.

This worldwide pandemic makes the globe want to scream!
The harsh reality of Covid 19.



The Dun Cow

Green Lane, Christchurch, PE14 9PG
01354 638323



TAKEAWAYS ARE BACK!

From Friday 22 January 2021 - 4.30pm - 8.30pm

Friday food takeaways from the Dun Cow. As before there will be 15 minute time slots to enable us to keep you safe. Please message me or call on 01354 638323 or 07483282869 to book your slot and place your order. We have:

Fish ~ Scampi ~ Calamari
Steak & Ale Pie ~ Balti Chicken Pie
Steak & Kidney Pudding
Southern Fried Chicken

All served with Chips or Mash and accompanied with either;
Mushy or Garden Peas; Baked Beans or Curry sauce.

We look forward to seeing you again.
Paul & Sue



Upvc Windows and doors
Aluminium Windows and doors
Bi-folding doors

Fascia, soffits and guttering
Supalite Warm roofs
Conservatories

—  —
THE WINDOW & DOOR BUSINESS LTD

Thewindow&doorbusinessltd@gmail.com | 07875 745125

Village Horses and Donkeys

Christchurch has been in the news lately. The bad news is that some people believed that 3 horses and 2 donkeys were being neglected. The good news is that people in Christchurch noticed and cared for them.



Here is part of the Cambs Times early take on the matter.... but there is great news – read the update at the end of the article.

Cambs Times: December 30th 2020: by Daniel Mason

Woman 'frustrated' after RSPCA order to stop animal care.

Della Curtis along with other villagers have been feeding horses, a donkey and a donkey foal in Christchurch since November. (Photo credit: Della Curtis) She has helped raise over £100 to look after animals she found in a Fenland field, and has been left frustrated after being told not to continue feeding them. Della Curtis noticed three horses, a donkey and a donkey foal in a field, in Christchurch, in November, which she said were left unattended. After a request for permission from Ms Curtis and other villagers to attend (to) the animals on Mr (Paul) Russell's field was not answered, they began to clear the shelter, which she said was "a metre full with muck and had a plastic bottle filled with human urine", and the field was "completely covered in horse faeces". But after waiting several weeks for action, Ms Curtis was told by an RSPCA officer that the animals are healthy but must not be fed by the group any longer.

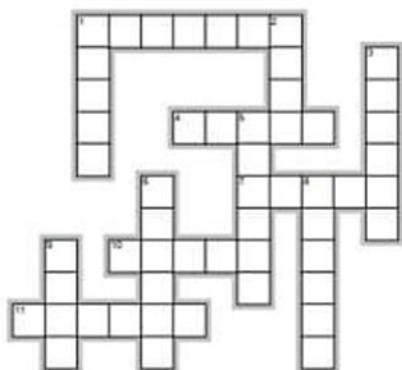
Read the full article here. <https://www.cambstimes.co.uk/news/woman-frustrated-after-fundraising-for-animals-6875654?fbclid=IwAR2KXVLOWzuhCbqhc0rAki5HNB5hr9wlfJvkIM8fxhyfngQ1bIDAo85kbq>

UPDATE - GREAT NEWS!

"The owner has accepted our offers of help. She has said whatever we feel needs doing we can do. This is the best outcome! It is what we have been trying to achieve. A group then cleaned out the field shelters and made clean warm beds in both", said Ms Curtis in January. The RSPCA are also going to keep an eye on things. If anyone would like to donate, here is the link <https://www.gofundme.com/manage/help-the-christchurch-horses-and-ponies>

Find the Misspelling Crossword

Circle the misspelled word in each sentence. Write it correctly in the crossword.



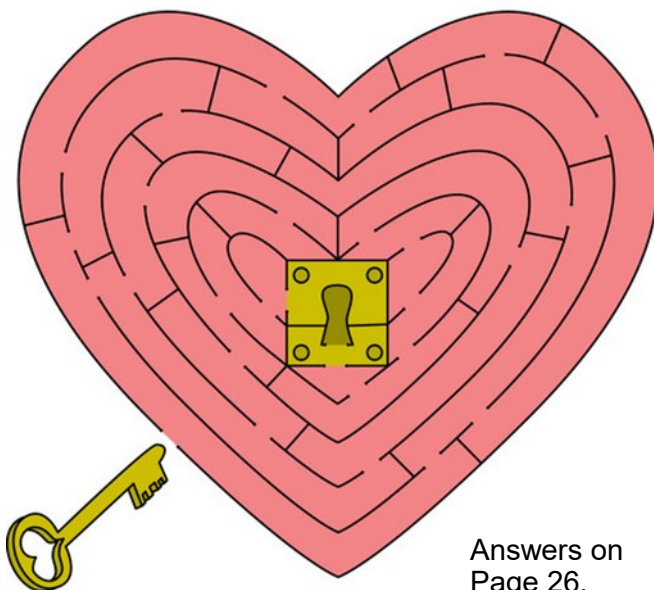
Across

1. I never climed this high in the tree before!
4. Tim was the frist one to finish his paper.
7. Sara and Allie hope to see each other agian soon.
10. I won't come outside untill I clear the table.
11. If you lisen closely, you can hear the robins.

Down

1. Max likes to coler with large crayons.
2. What dose your baby brother like it eat?
3. My best friend will be comeing to my birthday party.
5. I realy want to go to the circus!
6. We ate diner after the school play.
8. It's allmost cool enough to need a jacket.
9. My aunt siad she would come over for a visit.

Can you find a way for the key to unlock the heart?



Answers on
Page 26.

Valentines Day facts



- Valentine's Day is the second most popular day of the year for sending cards. Christmas is the first most popular..
- Worldwide, over 50 million roses are given for Valentine's Day each year.
- Approximately 27 percent of those who buy flowers on Valentine's Day are women. 73% are men.
- The origin of Valentine's Day is traced back to the ancient Roman celebration of Lupercalia which was held on February 15. This day honoured the gods Lupercus and Faunus, as well as the legendary founders of Rome, Romulus and Remus.
- Cupid is said to be the symbol of valentines. Cupid is the son of Venus. Venus is the Roman god of love and beauty.
- Red rose is a favourite flower of Venus. For this reason red rose is also the symbol of Valentine's Day. All over the world, over 50 million roses are given for Valentine's Day each year.
- Richard Cadbury invented the first Valentines Day candy box in the late 1800s.



<https://wildjustice.org.uk>

NEW LAWS FOR GAMEKEEPERS

Photo: A Jay, by Andy Rouse

Following reforms introduced as a result of Wild Justice's legal challenges, the job description for gamekeepers in England has changed dramatically. No longer is it legal to kill corvids to protect the adults, chicks or eggs of wild Pheasants and Red-legged Partridges under general licences issued by DEFRA. Under the terms of the conservation licence, General Licence 40, published for 2021, corvids can only be killed to conserve red-listed and amber-listed bird species of conservation concern. For most circumstances, the 'protection' of the two gamebird species shot in highest numbers (Pheasant 15m/year, Red-legged Partridge, 4+m/year) no longer provides a lawful purpose for killing corvids under the general licences. Gamekeepers operating crow traps will have to learn a new vocabulary to explain to the public what they are doing and why.

Wild Justice: Directors: Mark Avery, Chris Packham and Ruth Tingay.

Have we realised it yet? That nobody is missing the material things. We all miss the company of others, great conversations, and a hug ... that's what life is all about.




IN 2021, I WILL DO MY BEST TO CHOOSE QUALITY HOME GROWN BRITISH FOOD BY:

-  Looking for the Red Tractor when grocery shopping
-  Buying seasonal food wherever possible
-  Eating a balanced, British diet

A JONES & SON

TELEVISION SALES/REPAIRS/INSTALLATION

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

FIRST CLASS AERIAL INSTALLATIONS/ADDITIONAL POINTS

26 March Road, Wimblington, March, Cambs PE15 0RN

Tel: 01354 740320

CLOSED ALL DAY TUESDAYS

Hungry?

We continue our monthly food article - thanks to Helen Chappell for submitting this.



The Diana Tandoori, March

Before Covid 19 was upon us, our favourite place to have an Indian meal was The Diana Tandoori in March. We always found the service to be friendly and timely. When we first used it they would always give their customers a free cocktail at the end of the meal and each lady was given a rose. They no longer do this (thank goodness in my opinion) but there it sits in my happy memory bank.

We are not overly ambitious with our choices however I really enjoy either vegetable shingara (samosa) or a chickpea dish (not sure if this is still on the menu!) to start. I usually have chicken tikka with salad as the main (my nod to healthy eating!). Graham doesn't eat meat but loves either a prawn madras or prawn balti. I don't even have to ask Morgan what he wants... lamb korma, pilau rice and peshwari naan...every time! During lock down we have had a few take-aways, they do deliver (45 minutes) but we generally collect (35 minutes). If you opt for delivery, you can order and pay by phone or online (and you can use their own website without **Just Eat*** or similar taking their cut!). We were amazed recently that our bill for 3 people, each having starters, mains and rice etc came to only £34. Quality food at reasonable prices. For curry lovers, I recommend The Diana Tandoori to you.

*Our reader has been in touch, who did the review on Tandoori Nights in Manea a couple of months ago. They had two takeaways within a week of each other, exactly the same order, ordered through **Just Eat**, and the price had been increased by over £10!!! On phoning the restaurant, they said they hadn't increased their prices at all and knew nothing about it. So **Just Eat** had increased their fee on a £35 order by an astonishing £10!!! BEWARE! Tandoori nights also happily take orders over the phone - use that instead!

Beauty Treatments By Jane

N.V.Q. – i.b.d. – Babtac

LCN Microdermabrasion Facials
NEW Oxygen regeneration Facials - less outlay than Botox (a celebrity favourite)
NEW - Non-surgical firming lift and tone
St.Tropez Spray tanning
Gel pedicures
Shellac manicures
Week-end & semi permanent eyelashes

**Rose Cottage,
Christchurch
Telephone: 01354 638378**

England-wide lockdown rules.

A reminder Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health.

Summary: what you can and cannot do during the national lockdown.

You must stay at home. The single most important action we can all take is to stay at home to protect the NHS and save lives. *You should follow this guidance.*

Leaving home

You must not leave or be outside of your home except where necessary.

You may leave the home to:

- shop for basic necessities, for you or a vulnerable person.
- go to work, or provide voluntary or charitable services, if you cannot reasonably do so from home.
- exercise with your household (or support bubble) or one other person, this should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.
- meet your support bubble or childcare bubble where necessary, but only if you are legally permitted to form one.
- seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness or risk of harm (including domestic abuse).
- attend education or childcare - for those eligible.

Colleges, primary and secondary schools will remain open only for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. All other children will learn remotely until February half term. Early years settings remain open. Higher Education provision will remain online until mid-February for all except future critical worker courses.

If you do leave home for a permitted reason, you should always stay local - unless it is necessary to go further, for example to go to work. Stay local means stay in the village, town, or part of the city where you live.

If you are clinically extremely vulnerable you should only go out for medical appointments, exercise, or if it is essential. You should not attend work.

For more information about the national lockdown, visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>



Paul Braybrooke

Oil Fired Boiler Engineer

Boiler Servicing & Breakdown Service

Commissions
Tank Replacements

Phone 01353 777788
07946 735691

P R PARKER

Established 1978

General Building and Maintenance

CARPENTRY	REFURBISHMENT	GLAZING
PLUMBING	AND	PAINTING
PLASTERING	RENOVATION	DECORATING
BRICKLAYING		RENDERING
ROOFING	01354 638380	GUTTERING

FREE ESTIMATES

All Types - Houses - Flats - Shops - Offices

Parish Council Snippets

The Parish Council are of course still holding meetings over Zoom. The minutes from the December meeting were signed off, and in public time there was a short presentation from the developer currently working on the site behind Syringa house, who wishes to add two more houses to the development. There was a short Q&A session where councillors could put forward any concerns. The developer has offered to gift a short section of land next to the school access road to the school for extra school parking. He will be discussing this with the school at some point.

Due to lock down there has been no progress on the majority of matters outstanding. Faulty street lights have been reported to the contractor, but due to exceptionally high demand for their services there is no progress to report on either repairs or replacement. Cllr Hughes offered to write a short article for the Heron with regard to Neighbourhood watch.

District Cllr Sutton mentioned the lack of progress at Stonea crossing. An email has been sent to Network Rail asking for a progress report, and whilst a short reply has been received, the current status is still unclear.

Also in relation to the development behind Syringa house, the contractor has agreed to name the development Brimstone Close, as suggested by a number of councillors and residents. This harks back to the time when the village used to be called Brimstone Hill and seems very suitable.

It was also reported that there are to be extensive roadworks on Padgetts Road starting at the end of February for over a month. This will also include a complete road closure. The clerk is looking into the specifics, but it appears to be a major repair over the entire length from the 16ft Junction all the way to the Manea turnoff just past Hole in the Wall farm. It is expected this will cause considerable disruption. It is not yet known for how long the road will be closed.

Medieval Traditions of Valentine's Day

In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who their Valentine would be. They would then wear these names on their sleeves for one week. To 'wear your heart on your sleeve' then became accepted as a saying to show you make it easy for other people to know how you are feeling.

Another Medieval ritual involved girls eating unusual foods on St Valentine's Day to make them

dream of their future husband.

Other sayings were popular at the time. On St Valentine's Day -

*If you see a bluebird you will marry a happy man
If you see a goldfinch, you will marry a millionaire
If you see a sparrow, you will marry a poor man
If you find a glove on the road on Valentine's Day,
your future beloved will have the other missing glove.*



645 Services Ltd

For your complete Oil Services

*Registered Office: 12/13 The Crescent, Wisbech, Cambs PE13 1EH – Director: B E Easey
Company Registration Number: 07872493 ~ VAT Number: 126 5422 30*

To join our local syndicate (Outwell, Upwell, Christchurch, Tipps End, Welney) and to get a competitive heating oil quote, please call 645 Services' local representative Elaine, on 01354 638310 or 07803 178824 or Email: elaine@645services.co.uk

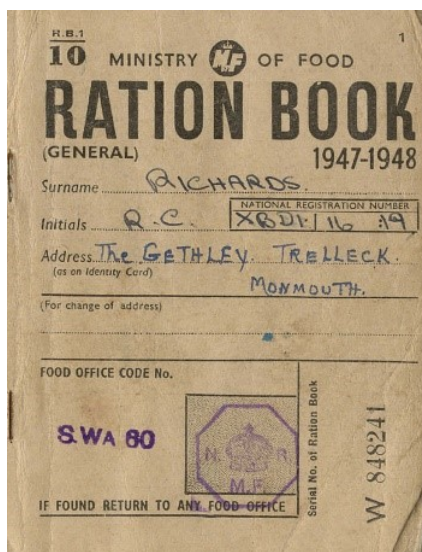
We will always try and be the best price around - with local deliveries scheduled for the middle of the month, every month.



Christchurch Gardening Club

“Keep calm and carry on“

Over the years the Gardening Club has entertained many talented and interesting speakers at the monthly meetings. In one way or another, a lot of what we glean from these meetings is rooted in the past. Not much of a surprise really, as the history of gardening stretches back into the mists of time. Recently during lock down, I have thought about the way that gardens and gardeners have come to the rescue so many times, when food supplies were threatened. Those of you who have read my previous columns will know that last month the subject was gardening in world war one, which led to the thought - so what happened between the wars?



As shown in the previous article, the growth in allotments during the 1914 to 1918 period was quite marked, with every available space being pressed into service to grow food. Post 1918 however, things began to change if slowly at first. There were still food shortages in specific commodities such as sugar, which was the first to be rationed in January 1918, followed by the end of April of that year by meat, butter, margarine and cheese. The Government of the day issued ration cards, and everyone was made to register with a local Butcher as well as a Grocer. This rationing of some goods at least continued into 1920.

The springing up of allotments slowed, as the need to grow our own food slowly faded, and the country settled into a more peaceful environment. This, combined with the increased demand for land to build houses, led inevitably to a downturn in allotments and the return to more leisurely gardening pursuits. Indeed, gardens began to see the return of the flower bed, although the habits learnt during a time of crises were not forgotten by everyone, and the growing of vegetables for the gardeners table became a natural progression from the urgent need for food that preceded it.

As this current time of joyless crisis recedes, I feel sure that at least some lessons learned will be retained. Stay Safe.

Steve

HUG A MUGA!

Townley School have a new piece of equipment – a cage for the children! No, it isn't some terrible punishment for poor behaviour, quite the opposite. The school responded to an advert on Facebook, as a company were offering to donate this huge piece of equipment to a local school and we were selected. So, last term the company, DEM Sports based in Welney, installed The MUGA in our playground.



The MUGA, or Multi Use Games Area is a metal framed installation, with brightly coloured mesh on all sides, and over part of the top, to keep balls in play. It also includes a goal net and basketball hoop so that children can choose to play different 'big' ball games without hitting anyone else in the playground who might be enjoying a different activity at playtime. It's big enough to safely hold all of one Infant class or 'bubble' during these times of Covid: safe outdoor play, and the children love it! DEM Sports have only recently started to create MUGA equipment. All they are asking in return for this free gift is that the school give them feedback on how effective it is and any ideas for improvement. Our children's comments would certainly say that they are onto a winner! Thank you so much, DEM Sports, from all of us at Townley!

Christchurch Stargazers



Hello Christchurch Stargazers!

Hope you are all well. I am going to try and put a picture of the night sky in each month so that you can navigate the constellations, and check out what is visible. Please let me know whether this is helpful or not. If you are looking at the picture on line, then it can easily be enlarged.

During February, **Mercury** is an evening planet, but will be lost from view after the 5th Feb. **Venus** is a poorly placed morning planet this month. **Venus and Jupiter** are only half a degree apart on the 11th Feb. **Mars** will be an evening planet 3.3 degrees south of the Pleiades, at the end of the month, **Jupiter** will re-emerge in the morning. **Mercury, Jupiter and Saturn** appear just before sunrise at the end of the month.

Uranus is losing altitude in the evening. The waxing **Moon** will be nearby on the 17th Feb. **Neptune** is an evening planet affected by the twilight.

Remember - never ever look at the sun without the correct protective equipment.

Mark Andrews

FOUR SEASONS TREE SERVICES

Qualified & Professional Tree and Client Care

PRUNING ● LOPPING ● FELLING
PLANTING ● REDUCING & RESHAPING
CROWN RAISING ● HEDGE TRIMMING
THINNING ● POLLARDING ● STUMP REMOVALS
OVERGROWN GARDENS PUT BACK INTO SHAPE
FRUIT TREES TREATED ● LOG & WOODCHIP SALES



FREE ESTIMATES & ADVICE WITH NO OBLIGATION

For quality jobs at a competitive price call:

Home: 01353 721665 - Mob: 07771 707921

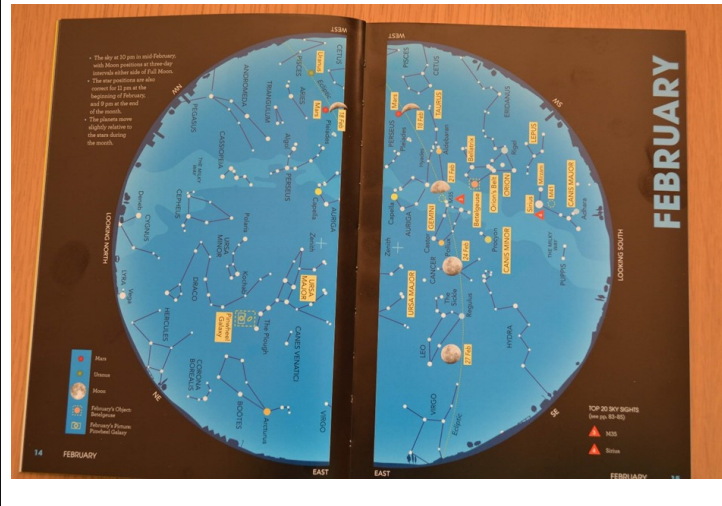
All work carried out to BS 3998 Standard

A genuine family managed business est. for over 30 years - Fully Insured

THE NAME YOU CAN TRUST



This company offers a 7 day cooling off period



● Up, Up and Away! the Rev David Spencer shows the women that they are not the only experts at tossing pancakes.

Photo: Malcolm Hicks Scrapbook - 1987



Amazing results with our
21 Day Challenge!



DO YOU HAVE HEALTH AND WELLNESS
GOALS....?

NOT SURE HOW TO GET STARTED....?

We can help you get into the best shape of your life!

(You could even begin to earn some cash once you've got started)

Start today by getting your free wellness profile

~ simply go to ~



JUSTINJB.GOHERBALIFE.COM
<https://www.facebook.com/JJBSE> or call
Justin on 07896 292465 or Rebecca on
07581369795

Your health and wellness is our No.1
Priority!



*Award Winning
Products!*

**HERBALIFE
NUTRITION**

**80% NUTRITION
20% EXERCISE
100% MINDSET**



**Happy 60th Birthday
Sandra Lloyd**

Many congratulations to you on your very
special day.

With love from all the Fear Family.



Sandra Lloyd is 60
on 5th February 2021.



Love and best wishes for a fantastic
Birthday. From the Lloyd Family.

*A very happy Birthday Sandra from all your friends at the
Heron. Hope you have a lovely day.*

A plea from NHS staff

Please, please, please make sure you and your family all dig out your NHS number and have a copy of it immediately to hand for when you or they are called for the COVID vaccination. From my colleagues on the front line, this is far and away the biggest bottle neck when it comes to administering the vaccine to as many people as quickly as possible.

You can find your NHS number on any NHS correspondence or through the app.

Wisbech Minor Injury Unit to temporarily close as staff play vital role in response to COVID-19

From Monday, 18 January, Wisbech Minor Injury Unit (MIU) will temporarily close to the public, to enable the experienced staff to be redeployed to provide vital additional capacity elsewhere in the local community. This is a temporary measure, which will be reviewed on a regular basis.

If you need urgent or emergency health care advice or support, please think NHS 111 first. You can call NHS 111 or visit NHS 111 online 24 hours a day, seven days a week. NHS 111 can connect you with the right service to help you.

The Ely MIU is still open at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Ely and for anyone requiring emergency medical care, the A&E departments at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Peterborough City Hospital or Hinchingbrooke Hospital are available.

The healthcare system across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is working together to respond to the latest increase in COVID-19 patients requiring healthcare support across the local area.

Dr Gary Howsam, Chair of NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and local GP, explains - *"With increasing numbers of COVID-19 positive cases in our local area we are carefully reviewing all of our services and staffing requirements to ensure we can respond to the rising pressures we once again face."*

"Temporarily closing Wisbech Minor Injury Unit, in addition to the continued temporary closure of Doddington Minor Injury Unit, is not a decision we have made lightly."

"We are incredibly thankful to the unit's staff for their willingness to take on new local roles in response to the pandemic."

"We will review our decision on a regular basis to ensure that we can reopen these facilities as soon as possible."

STAY HOME PROTECT THE NHS SAVE LIVES

How Observant Are You?

This photo was taken in one of our villages (Christchurch, Euximoor or Tipps End), but where?



Answer for last month: The Old Chapel, Tipps End

I'M NOT ADDING
THIS YEAR
TO MY AGE,
I DIDN'T
USE IT.



Upwell Computer Repairs

Sales – Repairs - Maintenance - Upgrades

**Sales & Support
Internet Setup
Virus Removal
Tuition
Web Design
Email Setup
System Installations
Data Recovery Services**



**Laptop Screen Replacement
Windows Reinstallation
Hardware Upgrades
Software Upgrades
On-Site Services
Custom Built PC's
Internet Security
Network Installations**

Contact Lewis today for a free consultation

01945 772717 - 07849 778525

support@upwellcomputerrepairs.co.uk - www.upwellcomputerrepairs.co.uk

caters for all occasions
music from the 70s to 2000s

M & K Roadshow

Martin
Mobile Dj

Keith 01354 638615
07479943870
turbo.bruce586@gmail.com

**Connie's
Care Services**

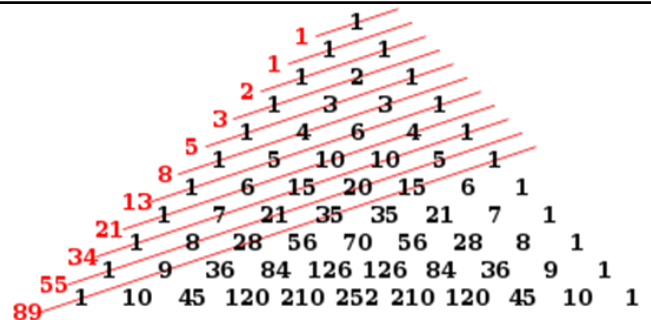
01945 774250 - 07887 563106

www.connies-care.net connie@connies-care.net

Personal Care - Social Care - End Of Life Care - Cleaning -
Dementia Care - Shopping—Sits - Over 65's Care

Fibonacci Poem

I
wrote
a poem
on a page
but then each line grew
to the word sum of the previous two
until I began to worry about all these words coming with such frequency
because as you can see, it can be easy to run out of space when a poem gets all Fibonacci sequencey



Christchurch Art Group



- Our focus is to explore and experiment with the various painting and drawing media
- To enable participants to develop their own style
- Above all to have fun and enjoy the sessions

The sessions are planned and adjusted to suit, depending on the experience and interests of the group.

The group leader is experienced in a wide range of media, and has some art materials for you to try out if they are new to you*.

We have suitable paper for a reasonable cost to purchase and materials can be borrowed until you have your own*.

Our group is friendly and relaxed and we love to welcome new folk.

We normally meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month 1.30-3.30 in the Village Hall (term time)
Hopefully in the summer we may be able to sketch outside again.

Please contact **Sandra 01354 638478** or **Jan 01354 638217** for more information, or come along and see what we do.

**(Please note when we are able to start back we may still have to follow 'Covid' rules, so may not be able to offer equipment to borrow.)*

Sunday Curry Club

For a truly tasty, authentic and traditional Indian meal - which is also healthy and vegetarian - why not try a takeaway from the *Sunday Curry Club*.

Adult menu: 2 different curries each week, 2 chapatis and rice – £10

Children's menu: Stuff chapati, vegetable/pulses and rice - £7

Each week we will feature a different set of dishes. For more information please phone **07775 336727** or **Email: vyasfoods@outlook.com**

Sadly, due to home-schooling, Deepa has had to change the Curry Club evening. She is happy to take bookings for a Sunday takeaway, by 7pm on the Friday beforehand. Menus remains the same. Sorry for any inconvenience.

The true taste of India



Vyas Foods



There was an error with the telephone number in last month's Heron. The number on the menus is correct but the number in the advert was incorrect. Now changed. For your delicious curry from the Sunday Curry Club please ring 07775 336727 or email vyasfoods@outlook.com.

Thank you.



SUPPORT WORKERS YOU CAN TRUST



"PEOPLE WERE VERY POSITIVE ABOUT THE KINDNESS AND RELIABILITY OF THE STAFF" - CQC

- PERSONAL CARE • POST HOSPITAL CARE • DEMENTIA PATIENT CARE • PHYSICAL DISABILITY SUPPORT
- SHORT AND LONG TERM CARE • COMPANIONSHIP
- REHABILITATION

CONTACT US TODAY TO SEE HOW WE CAN HELP
T: 01945 773861 A: 130 WISBECH ROAD, OUTWELL, PE14 8PF
E: ADMIN@PUREHEARTHOMECARE.CO.UK W: WWW.PUREHEARTHOMECARE.CO.UK

Care at home... because home is where the heart is 

RURAL FLY-TIPPING ISSUE RAISED AMID UK'S NEW LOCKDOWN



Farming UK has reported that awareness is being raised over the continued blight of fly-tipping in rural areas as the UK entered its third lockdown last week. With a new lockdown in place, the country is scrambling to establish what the latest restrictions will mean to people's daily lives.

The Countryside Alliance says it is monitoring waste disposal closely, as restrictions to recycling centres and tips can have an 'adverse effect' on rural areas. The organisation says there was an 80 percent rise in fly-tipping in certain areas during the first lockdown, which has had an 'unacceptable' impact on the countryside.

Farmers' fields, laybys and rural lanes became hot spots for DIY remnants, unwanted furniture and garden waste. 'Without a question, fly-tipping is a blight to the countryside and needs to be treated as a serious crime,' a spokesperson for the Countryside Alliance said.

Source: Rural Services Network

A message from our very own PRIDE IN FENLAND NOMINEE Nate Lansdell



create a short but memorable evening, on January the 12th on YouTube, to celebrate the volunteers and groups of Fenland. Although I did not win this time, I was nominated for the category "Volunteer in the Community 2020", something I'm humbled by. This nomination isn't just for me, it's for the entire community.

Every one of us banded together, helping to build Christchurch Eco to where it is today; helped reduce waste going to the landfill, improved your recycling and helped raise money for Townley School. A huge thank you again for all your incredible support. "

CONGRATULATIONS NATE! We are so proud of you and what you are doing for our village.



I was honoured to be nominated, by my friend Amy and my Mum, for my work for "Christchurch Eco", and for my voluntary work with "Getting It Sorted", Fenland District Council's environmental department. The event was due to happen in March 2020, but was postponed. However, Fenland District Council did not give up and was able to



Messages from members of the unofficial, but nevertheless sincere NATE LANSDELL APPRECIATION SOCIETY

"Thank you, Nate, for all you have done and are doing for our village." – Liz and Jason Scott



"Nate is the kind of person who will drop everything to help you. He has helped us from getting the patio door out (well trying too!) to helping Ken take Sky, our beloved dog, on her final journey. He is the best pet sitter ever, even Molly likes him! Nate is compassionate and thoughtful. Nate, in the eyes of the village and especially our eyes you are a winner!" - Jayne and Ken Dordi.



"I am well impressed with Nate's "Green" vision for our area, and also with his work ethic. He never stops thinking about the natural world, conservation and recycling. He has been a mine of information when it comes to what to put where. All power to you, Nate!" - Annie Nason

"We would just like to say what an asset to the village Nate is. Everyone knows that climate change and damage to the environment has been the main issue for a while now; instead of just talking, Nate has had the imagination to do something about it. The setting up of Christchurch Eco and the recycling stations has been a wonderful piece of work, and the fact that in doing so he is also raising money for the school is inspired. Not content with this, Nate has worked tirelessly to set up the Christchurch Street Pride and ensure that everyone has remained motivated to do their bit to ensure that the village continues to look its best. Nate's untiring enthusiasm is an example to us all". - Andy and Sue Street

Nate always puts Christchurch first. He works so hard for Christchurch Eco and Streetpride and continues to motivate us with litter picking, recycling, tractor tyre planting and all his other projects. He's unstoppable. - Sandra and Richard Lloyd



Meet a Christchurch Parish Councillor ... Peter Owen

A wartime baby, Peter was born in Laughton, a peaceful village in East Sussex, about 15 miles from the coast. It was a typical country childhood, happily roaming the woods and countryside.

After an apprenticeship in Brighton, Peter changed jobs a couple of times ending up working for Merrydown Wine Company in Horham (inland from Eastbourne). It was during this time that Peter moved in to shared accommodation with a friend who could be described as a colleague and drinking pal!

Peter describes a memorable evening..."One evening we went to Brighton and after a few pounds were dropped in a bouncer's hand, we gate crashed Matron's Ball where I met Lindsay (my late wife) at that time a trainee nurse."

Peter and Lindsay married about 18 months later and moved into their first home in East Preston a 10 minutes walk from the beach. A move to Lancing followed and the birth of their daughter Kelly. Work dictated relocations to Stanway (near Colchester) and to Chatteris, with a final move to Christchurch in 2012.

The family found the village very welcoming and their response was echoed in Lindsay's words on arrival, "I'm at home!"

In 2015 Peter joined the Parish Council, taking

up the role of Chairperson in 2016. Peter speaks warmly of the support he has had from his fellow councillors.

It has been during Peter's time on the council that the Community Centre has been built, and he reflects gratefully on the hard work and fund-raising carried out by councillors Will Sutton and Nigel Russell as well as many faithful villagers. He is keen that everyone should understand that the Community centre is entirely run by volunteers, for whom he has the utmost respect. In the 5 years since the centre's construction there have been a number of improvements, including sound proofing, solar panels and a storage container.

Peter regrets that the pandemic has restricted the use of the Community Centre, but looks forward to further developments for the future. This will hopefully include, access to wifi, a canopy and CCTV.

Peter considers himself fortunate to live in Christchurch and wishes all villages the very best for 2021...It seems to me that our village is very fortunate to have Peter living here and we are grateful for all that he does for the community....Thank you!

Sheila Day



Valerie Ware (76), from Tydd St Giles, has been recognised with the BEM (British Empire Medal), in the Queen's New Year's Honours list, for her community work in her village.

She has been a member of the Tydd St Giles branch of the WI for over 40 years, holding various posts including branch president, secretary and treasurer.

Her other work within the community has included being a parish councillor for around 20 years. She has also been involved with the parish church and has been treasurer of the parochial church council for 30 years as well as singing in the choir.

Finally, she has been involved with the village community centre for over 20 years, organising regular fundraising dances and helping with the twice monthly lunches for the over sixties.

Val said: "It was a complete surprise when I found out I had been honoured.

"I had a phone call asking me if I was going to accept the honour because I hadn't responded to an email – that was the first I knew about it because the email had been sent to the wrong address.

"Of course I said 'yes', it is wonderful. I have no idea who nominated me but it is amazing that someone has thought about it and done it for me.

"Now I look forward to receiving the honour at a local ceremony and to attending a Royal garden party to celebrate."

Source: Spalding Today



Church News

After hoping to reopen our church in January, after the lockdown was announced we decided that we would have to close the building, until such time as the current lockdown is lifted or eased. Should there be some lifting of conditions during February, we will reopen for private prayer again on Sundays from 10-11:30, hopefully with some services as well. Until then, Revs Ian and Lynda are starting to host a weekly Sunday service on Zoom for those that can access it. This will be from 11 until about 11:45, details for access will be posted on the Christchurch Community Facebook page, or contact me, Andy, on 07740056563.

Lent begins on Wednesday 17th February. We have two things going on during Lent:

Food Bank Contributions: You may like to help out this way. We will put out a box for March Foodbank each Saturday and Sunday (noon to 5pm) from the 20th February up until Easter Day (4th April). Paul Simpson has kindly agreed to let us put the box in front of the pub and it will be taken to March on the Monday morning. Suggested items for the Foodbank are: Sauce for pasta (they currently have lots of dried pasta); Tinned veg; Tinned fruit; Teabags (foil packs of 40 preferably); UHT semi-skimmed milk; Small jars instant coffee.

Christchurch Lent Prayer Project: Each year during Lent we pray for our community, praying for different roads each week. There is a small leaflet which you may wish to use which helps us in this quest. Call Annie Nason on 638088 for a free copy to have your focus, your thoughts and prayers.

Many thanks, Daphne and Andrew



Thoughts from the Rectory

Hope - a strange old word.

You know, some people go through life with an optimistic attitude; they live in hope that the sun will shine on that very special occasion, or they feel positive about an upcoming job interview, or that this week is their 'Lottery Rollover' week. Others are pessimists, and their glass is always half empty. Because of the problems that life has thrown their way, they feel cynical, negative, "the Lockdown will never end". Oh yes - their glass is always half empty. They live without hope, doubting that things will ever get better.

The word hope is a misunderstood little word, and for lots of people it is no more than a vague wishy-washy optimism; a case of putting trust in things we can't influence or control, such as the weather. But that's not how hope is described in the Bible. One of its writers talks of holding 'unswerving' to a hope, because that hope is based on promises of God, who is faithful. (Hebrews 10:23 NIV). In other words, hope is trusting

that God knows what is best for us and is taking care of us, even if we don't feel that he is.

Life with little hope is a bleak old place. Some people might question if a hopeless life is even worth living. But perhaps such people have been putting their hope in the wrong things, such as superficial relationships which will disappoint them, or money, which is only fleeting.

But when people put their hope in God there are no let downs. Instead, there is a love and the knowledge that we matter to him, and the possibility of a second chance. Ultimately, there is the hope of spending an eternity with him in heaven where there is no despair, doubt or suffering.

Now that's the kind of future I'm hoping for.

Keep well, keep safe.

Ian



Here Comes Spring

Dainty little snowdrops so fragile and white
Pokes their head through snow, and dark of night
The first flower to show spring is on its way
So tiny, but opens more each day.

Next the crocus, bright yellow, brings cheer,
To the gardens that laid all dormant and bare
Then comes daffodils and birds start to sing
Welcome delight, the season called spring.

Margaret Sparrow



Practice Newsletter 20th January 2021

Welcome to an update from your practice in these difficult times.

The Covid-19 Vaccination Programme – light at the end of the tunnel!

The massive covid-19 vaccination campaign is genuinely underway and local practices including ourselves are working together to deliver all the vaccines we receive in double quick time. Our capacity to deliver vaccines is currently limited to the supply that we receive from NHS England. We are cautiously hopeful that this will change in the coming weeks and months as more supply becomes available. So practically, for now, our message is the same. We are vaccinating people in order of risk as per government instructions. The first group (people 80 and over) have either been vaccinated or scheduled for a vaccination. We will shortly be commencing home visits for patients who cannot travel. If you are over 80 or you care for someone who has not been contacted by the practice please get in touch - there is a small number of patients in this risk group we have not been able to contact. We have begun to vaccinate the next group of patients (the 75 to 79 year-olds) and schedule vaccinations. Please don't contact us at the surgery we will contact you as soon as we have available vaccines.

Whilst local GP practices are currently delivering most of the vaccines to patients there are increasing numbers of regional hubs opening. If you are offered a vaccine from another organisation such as one of these hubs (or a hospital) please accept the offer. Your medial record will automatically update so you do not need to let us know.

It is important to remember that everyone will need a second dose of the vaccine. A second dose will be required 11-12 weeks after receiving the first dose. We will contact you nearer the time but please be ready to attend for the second dose as there will possibly be little notice or choice of dates. We are waiting for further guidance on this matter from NHS England.

Helping Us

There a few things we would ask patients to keep in mind which helps us.

- As we are increasing our vaccination clinics, we will have times we have fewer staff than normal, which will have an impact on appointment availability. Please be patient with us and our reception team. I promise you we are doing the best we can.
- Please do not attend the surgery in person unless you have an appointment, have been explicitly asked to come to the surgery or care for someone who needs assistance coming to an appointment.

- If you are requested to come to the surgery you must wear a face mask. A face shield does not provide adequate protection. If you cannot wear a face mask for a few minutes please call the practice before you arrive and alternative arrangements will be made.
- If you are 79 years or younger please DO NOT call us at the practice to ask about the covid-19 vaccine. We will contact you when vaccines are available.
- If you are invited for a covid-19 vaccine elsewhere please accept.

Final Thoughts

With the Pandemic going on so long, it is easy to lose sight of the impact that this virus continues to have on people and their families. It is nothing short of horrific. We must all: Follow the lockdown rules. Have a vaccination when you are offered one. Hands, Face, Space.

...and continue with all of these measures even after having a vaccine. Thank you for your time, stay safe.

Steve

Manager, Upwell Health Centre



Christchurch Book Club



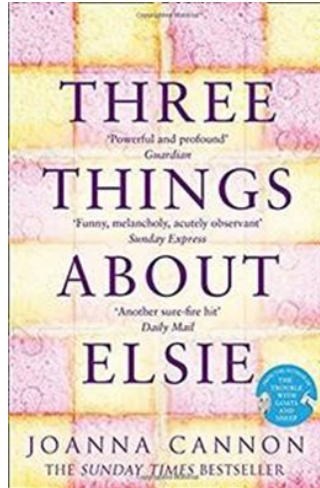
Book club had another zoom meeting on 19th January - with a record number of participants. 7, including two new members!

We have been reading "The Water's Lovely" by Ruth Rendell. This book was well received by all members of the group (unusual for us to have such undivided opinion!) The general consensus was that the first half was slightly confusing with a good number of characters to sort out and different story lines to untangle, but then half way through it really became "un-put-down-able"!

Our next book is "Three things about Elsie" by Joanna Cannon.

Our next zoom meeting is on Tuesday 23rd February 7,30pm.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Sheila Day on 07946635908.



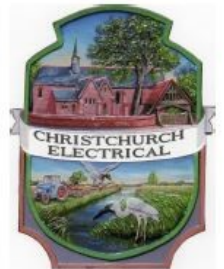
CHRISTCHURCH ELECTRICAL

Simon Freeland Hill Farm, 3 Church Road, Christchurch, PE14 9PQ

Tel:01354 638802 Mobile:07727 046439



Domestic electrical work undertaken.
No job too small.
Free quotations / estimates.



www.electricalcompetentperson.co.uk

www.electricalsafetyregister.com



Booklet Printing
Business Cards
Digital Photos
Leaflets
Newsletters
Banners

01354 656614

sales@marchsp.co.uk

5 Fenland Walk, March, PE15 8TW



BRIAN TWEED
and **SON LTD**

FAMILY BUTCHERS

FRESH BEEF, PORK, LAMB AND POULTRY
OUR SPECIALITIES ARE HOME MADE SAUSAGES AND BURGERS
HOME COOKED HAM, ROAST BEEF, ROAST PORK AND HASLETS
ALSO HOMEMADE PIES AND SAUSAGE ROLLS

Telephone: 01945 773248 48, Town Street, Upwell PE14 9DA



Qualified Seamstress

All dressmaking and sewing jobs undertaken. Alterations to clothing and curtains.

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

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

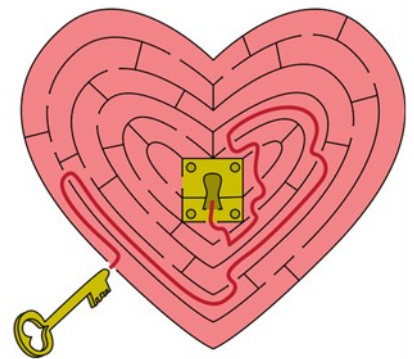
Colin Steenson - Church Rd (East)	638664
Sandra Kay - Crown Rd	638478
Shirley Knight - Church Rd (West)	638779
David Yates - Church Rd (West)	638448
Julian Swallow - Upwell Rd (North)	638679
Jackie Wood - Upwell Rd (North)	638679
Simon Freeland - Upwell Rd (South)	638802
Richard Guilford - Area Co-ordinator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

Answers from Kids Corner on Page 10

Crossword Answers:

Across
1 CLIMBED
4 FIRST
7 AGAIN
10 UNTIL
11 LISTEN

Down
1 COLOUR
2 DOES
3 COMING
5 REALLY
6 DINNER
8 ALMOST



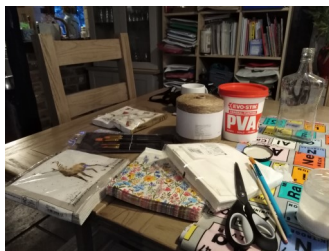
Web links in the Heron are active when viewed in our online version www.theheron.info



Christchurch Craft Club

I started making bottle lights a couple of years ago, after buying one on a craft stall at Gooderstone Water Gardens (well worth a visit).

I first made them with my class using plastic bottles and electric tea lights. The following year I made them to sell at The Christmas Tree Festival and they proved to be very popular raising a substantial amount of money for church funds.



In February and March (before the Lockdown) Paul and Sue kindly sold Valentine's and Mothers' Day themed lights for me in the Dun Cow.



This year I have been making them to order, many with a Christmas theme but also some floral or animal/insect theme too.

I am no great artist but I am fully trained in cutting and sticking. I start with plain clear glass bottles, white and patterned paper serviettes, PVA glue, scissors and a paint brush. First I cover the

bottle in a layer of white tissue and diluted PVA glue - leaving the neck of the bottle to the very last. Then I carefully cut out the design, this might be a full wrap around, a large picture or lots of smaller pieces. After fixing the design in place the bottle then needs to dry completely. To finish I add the bottle lights (I get mine from Amazon) and then smarten the neck with twine or a complementary coloured tissue. Et voila you have a bottle light. Each one takes me about an hour (plus several hours drying time). I find it a very therapeutic way to relax and ponder life, the universe and everything... And let's face it there has been much to ponder in the last year.

Helen Chappell



Quick Tofu Stir Fry with Sweet Chilli sauce

With so much interest in Vegetarian and Vegan food this is one of my favourite quick supper dishes.

You need one block of **fresh 'naked' tofu**. (Chiller cabinet in supermarkets). This will make two portions. If using half keep the other half in the fridge covered with clean cold water. This will keep for a day or so.

First prepare the tofu. Cut into cubes and dust with seasoned cornflour.

Stir fry the veg of your choice. Whatever takes your fancy?

I like to use a variety of mushrooms (chestnut/oyster/shitake). Red onion thinly sliced, red and yellow peppers, garlic, crushed ginger, tendersweet broccoli, carrot thinly sliced, chopped fresh chilli and pak choi. If using pak choi put in last thing as it cooks very quickly.

Whilst this is cooking heat some oil in another pan and cook the tofu until it becomes 'crispy' then add a tablespoon or so of **sweet chilli dipping sauce** and sizzle it up.

Put the vegetables in a bowl and pour the crispy tofu on top.

Optional extra to try. Cook some **noodles** of your choice to add to the vegetables. Add lots more chilli if you are a chilli fan, if not try using sweet and sour sauce instead. Experiment and enjoy!

Jan Clifford



HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR – 9 DRAGONS

9 Dragons (also known as the 9 sons of the dragon) were often embroidered on the clothes of the ancient Emperors of China, and were considered to be auspicious symbols of wealth and prosperity.

The 9 sons of the dragon were recognized by the Chinese government's official Shanghai Mint in **2012, the Year of the Dragon**. They issued 2 sets of 9 coins, one in silver and one in brass. Each coin in the 9 sets of coins depicts one of the 9 sons. A 10th additional coin (the reverse side pictured here) was issued depicting the father dragon in silver and brass, which has iconography of the 9 sons on the reverse, for a total of 20 coins in the series.



HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR!

12th February 2021

2021 is the Year of the Ox according to Chinese zodiac, starting from 12th February 2021. People born in the Year of the Ox are industrious, cautious, and faithful.



Ox / 牛 (niú)

DID YOU KNOW?

1. CHINESE NEW YEAR IS ALSO KNOWN AS THE SPRING FESTIVAL

There's no set date for Chinese New Year – it is calculated on the Lunar Calendar (phases of the moon). The Spring Festival was originally a ceremonial day to pray to gods for a good planting and harvest season.



2. IT IS A DAY FOR FIGHTING OFF MONSTERS

According to one legend, there was a monster named Nian. It would come out every New Year's Eve. Most people would hide in their homes. But one boy was brave enough to fight him off using firecrackers. The next day, people celebrated their survival by setting off even more firecrackers. And that practice became a crucial part of the Spring Festival.

3. THE MOST FIREWORKS IN THE WORLD ARE SET OFF THAT NIGHT

As in the myth about Nian, firecrackers are supposed to scare off monsters and bad luck. So people stay up on Chinese New Year's Eve and set off firecrackers at midnight. In the morning, firecrackers are used again to welcome the new year and good luck.

4. IT IS THE LONGEST CHINESE HOLIDAY

The Spring Festival is technically 15 days. But celebrations start on New Year's Eve (making it 16 days).

5. THE SPRING FESTIVAL CAUSES THE LARGEST HUMAN MIGRATION IN THE WORLD

The most important part of Chinese New Year is the family reunion. Everyone should come back home for the New Year's Eve dinner. But in modern China, most elderly parents live in rural villages while their children work in the cities, often hundreds of miles away from their home villages.

6. NO SHOWERING, SWEEPING OR THROWING OUT GARBAGE ALLOWED!

Showering isn't allowed New Year's Day. Sweeping and throwing out garbage isn't allowed before the 5th day. This is to make sure you don't wash away the good luck.

On the other hand, there's a day before the Spring Festival dedicated to cleaning. This day is to sweep the bad luck away and make room for the good.

7. EVERYTHING IS RED AT CHINESE NEW YEAR

Children receive money in small red envelopes. All house and street decorations are red.



The Jin Chan ('wealth-beckoning toad') is most commonly translated as "Money Toad" or "Money Frog". This mythical three-legged creature is said to appear during the full moon, near houses or businesses that will soon receive good news (most of the time, the nature of this good news is understood to be wealth-related).

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.

