

# The Heron

Community Magazine

April 2021

Delivered to homes in Christchurch, Euximoor and Tipps End

No. 84

## In this issue!

Townley School	2
Community Info/Your Letters	3
Advertising Rates/Bird Nesting	4
Heron News/Editorial	5
Christchurch History	6
Can Dogs Smell Covid?	7
Phone Scam Alert	7
Parish Council Snippets	8
Kids Corner	10
Christchurch Small Business	13
How Observant Are You?	13
Competition Winners	14
NHS - Life on the Frontline - Part 2	15
Local Spring Pictures	15
Collective Names of Birds	16
60 Years - the E-Type Jaguar	16
Good News About Zoos	17
Local Elections/Social Media Law	19
PECT/April Fool!	20
Easter Spot the Difference	21
Meet a Parish Councillor	22
Church News/Rector/ Food Bank	23
Hungry?	24
Christchurch Eco	25
Useful Numbers/Puzzle Answers	26
More Answers/A Year on the Farm	27
Banksy - Graffiti Artist	28

## Strange Sighting in the 16ft River! *Is this the Fenland Nessie?*



The Heron has received a report, from a *Mrs Norma Whittington*, that she saw a large shape moving along the 16ft river near the end of Padgetts Road. Clearly shocked by the whole experience she stated "it's unlike anything I've ever seen before". The sighting obviously left Mrs Whittington at a loss for words, but she was pleased to have managed to capture it on her Nokia 2110. [Full story on page 33.]



### 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

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Website: [www.theheron.info](http://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

**March 2021**

As I write this, we have just completed our second week back in school with everyone. It truly is amazing to have everyone back, almost every child and staff member has been able to return, but sadly, there are a few faces missing as some staff and children are shielding. Our Bubbles seem to be working well, and we have reverted to how things were in September. We are still unable to be together in person, but our virtual whole school celebration assemblies continue.



## British Science Week

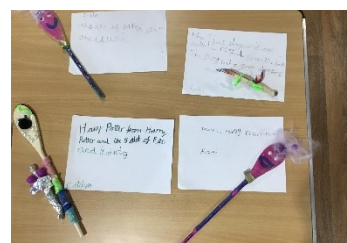
It was British Science Week 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March, so all of the classes had science-related activities during the week, kindly provided by the National Farming Union.

Mr Enstone's class watched a live video of lambing (and did get to see a lamb birth!), Mrs Greening's class watched a live video about vets and their work and Mrs Steer's class watched a video about the life cycle of a chicken. These videos were great and provoked some good discussions with the pupils. I still do not think I really know the answer to 'Which came first, the chicken or the egg?'

In Hawker and Emerald classes the children are currently learning about plants and children have started investigations about what plants need to germinate and grow, as well as how they absorb water. We are looking forward to growing our seeds from the Editor! (Thanks!) In Emperor they are learning about living things and their habitats, including murderous mini-beasts. EYFS have been exploring forces and weather throughout parachute making.



We are thrilled to have been donated £120, by Jill Bliss, on behalf of the former Christchurch Horse Show Committee to purchase some new books. We are going to use this to buy the World Book Day titles the children would like. We celebrated virtually this year and even took part in some webinars with children's authors.



# 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.

## Mobile Library:

**OUR MOBILE LIBRARY COMES ONCE A MONTH, ON THE FIRST TUESDAY, AT 12 NOON.**

The van parks in the lay-by on Upwell Road, opposite to the entrance of Fen View. **USE IT OR LOSE IT?** The next visit is April 6<sup>th</sup>.

You can use the Select and Collect service online, or by calling 0345 045 5225.

[https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Select\\_and\\_Collect](https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Select_and_Collect)

***Please support your local Library Service, right in the heart of your community.***

# Your Letters

## Leaving the Village

Just a few lines to thank everyone who made me welcome to the village. The WI, the Garden Club and the Wednesday Lunch Club especially. For a while I was only known as "Tracy's Mum" but eventually became known as Val.

I am moving to Wisbech but I hope to see you all again one day.

Val Parker  
(Tracy Day's Mum!)

*Goodbye Val, and good luck in your new home. You will be missed.*



Dear Editor,

We find ourselves again in a situation where the children are stepping in dog poo on their way to and from school. This is not nice, and does not encourage the parents to walk, rather than drive to school. Therefore the children have decided to team up with Christchurch Eco and create some posters to remind dog owners of the need to clean up after their dogs.

We hope your readers, are all responsible dog owners, but for those that are not – beware the Townley children will be looking out for you.

Mrs Higgins, Headteacher, Townley School



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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](mailto: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.



## Christchurch Gardening Club

### The Rise and Rise of the Gardening Expert

As the lockdown grinds onward and we live more of our lives online, or through movies and TV shows, there seems, now that spring is here, more need than ever for our gardens.

Our own tranquil open space, designed for our own personal needs, if you like, our own personal escape from the grim reality that we find ourselves in, circa 2021. Some of us may consider ourselves a "natural" when it comes to plants and planting, others less so. Where then should the less able of us look for advice? Here the television, radio and internet can provide useful tips and information to guide us towards our ultimate goal, a garden that we can be proud of.

The gardening expert has been with us for decades in the media and sometimes, over our garden fences. As a nation we have listened and watched garden shows since the early days of broadcasting, when, in 1931, along came Mr Middleton, chosen from a list of candidates supplied to the BBC by the RHS. In later times we have taken advice from presenters such as Monty Don, Alan Titchmarsh, Joe Swift, Charlie Dimmock and many others.

However, there may be a solution much closer to hand, if you just check out the Christchurch Gardening Club. The club will continue to provide experts on a monthly basis, offering advice and talks on Gardening, just as it has done for the last two decades.

We hope to see you at the Community Centre after lockdown.

Steve

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1	2		8			9		3
				5				
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8				9		4		7
				3	8			
		9		2			8	5

**Advertisers** - all our advert rates and conditions can be found on our website [www.theheron.info](http://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 May edition of the Heron is **23 April 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.**



## Heron Finances - April 2020-April 2021

### Income

Advertising	2327.50
Donations	245.00
Subscriptions	125.00
Fundraising	921.48
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£3618.98</b>

### Expenditure

Printing Costs	3005.33
Miscellaneous	396.69
Suppliers (website design, domain license, etc)	800.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£4202.02</b>

This year we had an extremely impressive fundraiser which brought in over £600 net profit for the Heron. However, as you can see, this still didn't help cover our costs (even with 3 issues being brought to you online in this financial year - with the minimal number of issues actually being printed).

We haven't increased our advertising rates for quite some time and deliberately didn't increase them last year and have no intention of doing so this year - keeping them as low as we can to help local businesses at this tough time. Thankfully, we managed to secure a grant from the Parish Council at the beginning of last year - which has meant we could keep producing the magazine and, without that, we would have been in trouble. To that end, we came out of this financial year with a loss of -£583.04.

The forecast for 2021-22 shows that we can only carry on as we are (without any additional funding or large donation) until the end of February 2022 barring unforeseen expenditure.

It generally costs around £4000 to produce The Heron for a year, so watch this space for fundraising events for this year. Meantime, if anyone has any good ideas of their own, please get in touch with the Editorial Team.

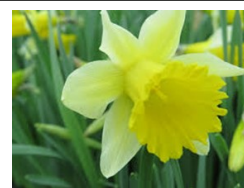
Elaine Reed-Hughes  
Treasurer



You will have noticed that we have some extra colour pages this month, although we still have the usual number of pages altogether. The Heron is fine in B&W, but better in colour, wouldn't you say? 4 extra colour pages adds about £50 to the monthly cost of publication. How do you feel about continuing this for every issue? This is a bit of a 'leap in the dark' for us, bearing in mind our Financial Statement, and the projections for the coming 12 months. Can we raise the money? It is up to all of us in Christchurch, Euximoor and Tipps End to decide. The magazine is always in full colour on line, of course, and virtually free from expenditure there, as our website manager does his job for the love of it. Thank you so much, Lewis. The Editorial Team and deliverers are all volunteers too. HOWEVER – one of our Objectives (see our Constitution [www.theheron.info](http://www.theheron.info)) is "It will be delivered free to every household in Christchurch, Euximoor and Tipps End". (Quote). It is up to us all to fund it, if we believe it to be a good and useful magazine. Feedback and IDEAS please...here or on Facebook.

Annie Nason.

## Editorial



Welcome to our April edition of The Heron.

At last there is some colour appearing in the gardens and hedgerows! It certainly cheers up the environment. The daffodils are out and blossom is just starting to make an appearance (check out the photos from some of our readers on Page 15).

Well done to the pupils of Townley School who entered our competition "What I am most looking forward to doing after Lockdown". We have the winners published in this edition (Page 14), and all pictures entered will be on our website very soon.

I know what I am most looking forward to doing after Lockdown – meeting up with family and friends, followed closely by having my hair cut!

Enjoy the magazine.

Sue Norman

## Letters to the Editorial Team

The Editorial team welcome letters from its readers. Please email letters to: [editor@heron.info](mailto: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!

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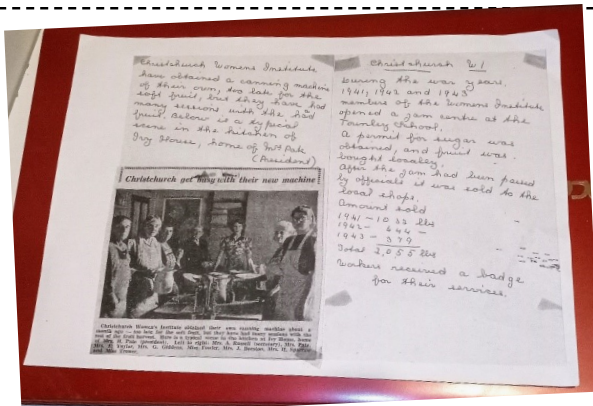


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## CHRISTCHURCH HISTORY

(WRITING) Christchurch Women's Institute have obtained a canning machine of their own, too late for the soft fruit season, but they have had many sessions with the hard fruit. Below is a typical scene in the kitchen of Ivy House, home of Mrs Pate (President).

### Christchurch WI

During the war years, 1941, 1942 and 1943 members of the Women's Institute opened a jam centre at the Townley School. A permit for sugars was obtained, and fruit was bought locally.

After the jam had been passed by officials it was sold to local shops.

Amount sold:

1941 -	1,032 lbs
1942 -	644 lbs
1943 -	379 lbs
Total -	2,055 lbs

Workers received a badge for their service.

### (PHOTOGRAPH CAPTION)

Christchurch Women's Institute obtained their own canning machine about a month ago – too late for the soft fruit season, but they have had many sessions with the rest of the fruit harvest. Here is a typical scene in the kitchen at Ivy House, home of Mrs H Pate (President). Left to right: Mrs A. Russell (Secretary), Mrs Pate, Mrs E. Taylor, Mrs G. Giddens, Miss Fowler, Mrs J. Beeston, Mrs H. Sparrow and Miss Trower.





## Can Dogs Smell Covid? Here's what the Science says ...

Canines seem to detect coronavirus infections with remarkable accuracy, but researchers say large-scale studies are needed before the approach is scaled up.

Asher is an eccentric, Storm likes sunbathing and Maple loves to use her brain. All three could play a part in controlling the COVID-19 pandemic, but they are not scientists or politicians. They are dogs. And they are not alone.

Around the world, canines are being trained to detect the whiff of COVID-19 infections. Dog trainers are claiming extraordinary results — in some cases, they say that dogs can detect the virus with almost perfect accuracy. Scientists involved with the efforts suggest that canines could help to control the pandemic because they can screen hundreds of people an hour in busy places such as airports or sports stadiums, and are cheaper to run than conventional testing methods such as the RNA-amplification technique PCR.

### SENSE OF WONDER

Humans have taken advantage of canines' superior sense of smell for decades. Dogs' noses bear 300 million scent receptors, compared with humans' 5 million or 6 million. That enables them to detect tiny concentrations of odour that people can't. Sniffer dogs are already a familiar sight in airports, where they detect firearms, explosives and drugs. Scientists have also trained dogs to detect some cancers and malaria, but the animals are not routinely used for this purpose. Researchers don't know for sure what the dogs are smelling, but many suspect that these illnesses cause the human body to let off a distinct pattern of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). These molecules readily evaporate to create scent that dogs can pick up. Previous work with non-COVID viruses has suggested that viral infections might also cause the body to do this.

Read more here... <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-03149-9>

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## 'PHONE SCAM ALERT ADVICE

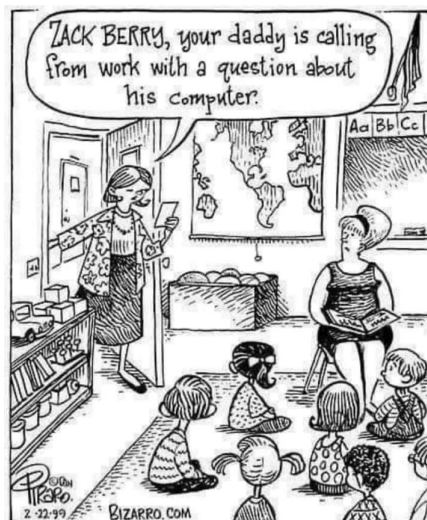
**NEVER** give your Bank Details over the 'phone.

**ALWAYS** pay for goods by Credit Card via telephone (or internet).

**DO NOT** use your Debit Card to pay bills. If a fraud has been committed, you will not be able to claim back stolen money from a Debit Card purchase. You can from a Credit Card purchase.

**ALWAYS** inform your Bank; cancel your Bank Cards immediately if you suspect you have been deceived and have paid money over.

**ALWAYS** be vigilant. There are some nasty scams out there.



# Parish Council Snippets

Once again this meeting was held over Zoom.

During Public Time, the developer of the building site behind Syringa house was present and answered questions about the latest planning permission to extend the site by a further three houses. Cllr Gladwin passed on the concerns of a resident on Fen View who had spoken to him about the development. Cllr Hughes expressed his concern that the recent issues with flooding in the village may be exacerbated by this increase in the scope of the development, as they will be adjacent to the dyke along the edge of Fen View, and therefore the owners of the properties will be responsible for maintenance of the dyke. The developer explained that part of the dyke will be culverted, and the rest will be cleared before sale. After sale it will be the responsibility of the house owners to maintain the dyke.

After much questioning of the developer the PC stated it would accept the planning but would like to add the proviso that they are concerned about possible flooding and that Fenland DC planning committee (who are the final arbiters in planning permission) should bear that in mind.

Under matters outstanding, due to Covid, many of the items have no progress to report. However, there was an update on roadside drains, with the east end of Church Road and Crown Road due to be cleared. Once

this is done, the PC will endeavour to track the route of the under road drains on Church road to see if anything can be done to improve drainage after the recent flooding.

Cllr Hughes reported on his presentation to the Local Highways Initiative committee for the 2021/2022 bid, to improve the junction of Church Road and Padgetts Road, in order to reduce speed on both those roads. The PC will hear whether the bid has been successful next month.

The Clerk reported on the Community Centre canopy project, which should now be under construction. Members of the PC had visited Artistic Metalica of March, the winners of the bidding process, to choose colours and to examine their work. This canopy should be a great facility once in place, and much of the cost has been through grants so it will be a relatively cheap improvement to the community centre.

Cllr Miller suggested that the village could do with some more benches for the more elderly of our residents to rest on during walks. The rest of the PC was firmly behind this idea. The clerk will investigate places around the village where benches could be sited, including outside the Church and on the playing field.

The next meeting will be Monday the 12th of April at 7.30.

James Hughes



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music from the 70s to 2000s

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(Lost and Found Pets)

### DOG WALK

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Trap and Scan Team  
(Lost and Found Pets)



**CHAIN LEAD** rather than a fabric/leather lead.  
Thieves have been known to cut leads to take dogs.

**LOCKING CARABINER CLIP** to securely attach the lead to the collar or harness. Thieves could pretend to stroke your dog before quickly unclipping the lead. A locking carabiner clip will prevent this from happening.



**DEFENCE SPRAY** that will render a thief temporarily unable to see giving you time to get away. Some will also stain for up to 7 days.

**PANIC ALARM** that will attract attention before an attack has taken place.



**BODY CAMERA** giving you the opportunity to recall exact details for police use etc. This can also deter a thief as it will be obvious.

**Try to avoid walking at night, at regular times on regular routes or on your own.**





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## St George's Day - Friday 23 April 2021

St George's Day in England remembers St George, England's patron saint. The anniversary of his death, which is on April 23, is seen as England's national day. According to legend, he was a soldier in the Roman army who killed a dragon and saved a princess.

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# Kids Corner... Easter Theme

## EASTER word scramble

NTNEBO \_\_\_\_\_ GEGS \_\_\_\_\_

GSNIRP \_\_\_\_\_ SRASG \_\_\_\_\_

YNBUN \_\_\_\_\_ CTOHCOEAL \_\_\_\_\_

SORCS \_\_\_\_\_ KCSHCI \_\_\_\_\_

YNSUAD \_\_\_\_\_ FDILDOFA \_\_\_\_\_

KSTBAE \_\_\_\_\_

NJBYLELAE \_\_\_\_\_

BALM \_\_\_\_\_

GEG TUNH \_\_\_\_\_

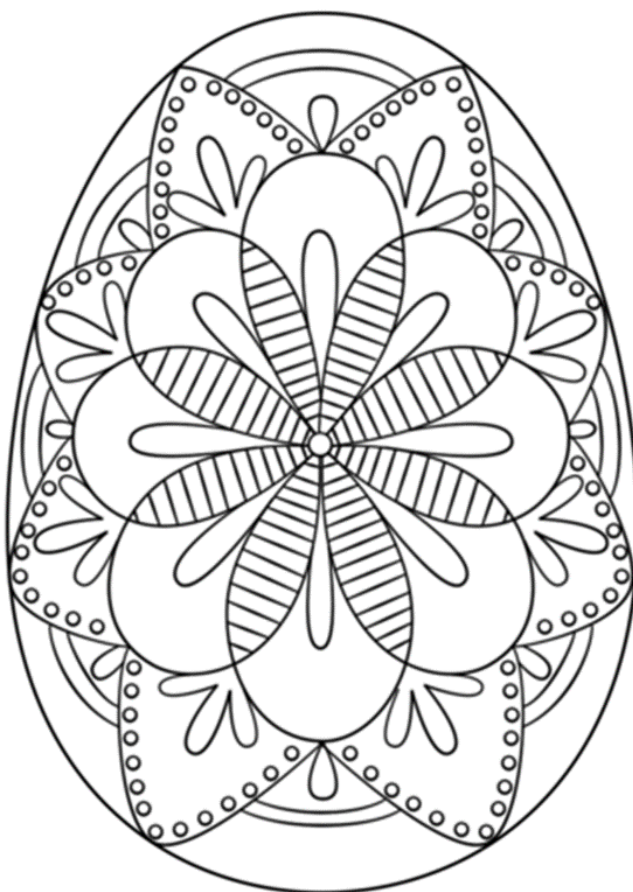
SFWREOL \_\_\_\_\_



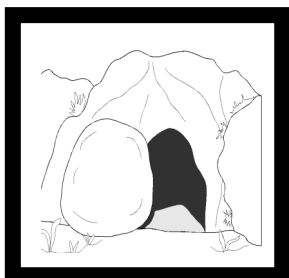
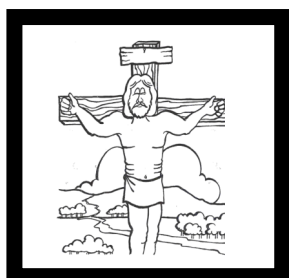
## Easter Fun Facts

- In 2007 an Easter egg covered in diamonds sold for almost £9million
- Children in the UK receive on average 8-9 Easter eggs per year.
- The largest ever Easter egg hunt was held in Florida where 9,753 children searched for 501,000 Easter eggs.
- The UK's first chocolate egg was produced by Frys of Bristol in 1873.
- The name "Easter" comes from the Anglo Saxon goddess of light and the dawn, her name was Eostre.

An egg for you to colour in.



These pictures are in the wrong order - can you sort them out?



**Answers to this  
and the Word  
Scramble on  
Page 26.**

## Very Tricky Logic Puzzle

You are invited to an Easter egg hunt party having 100 coloured Easter eggs hidden in the backyard.

**Answer on  
Page 27.**

- 20 eggs are coloured red
- 14 eggs are coloured blue
- 15 eggs are coloured green
- 16 eggs are coloured brown
- 17 eggs are coloured yellow
- 18 eggs are coloured orange

All of these eggs are wrapped with golden wrappers.

What is the minimum number of eggs that you should find so that you are sure that you have at least 2 pairs of similarly coloured eggs. For example, 2 red eggs and 2 blue eggs. 4 eggs of the same colour does not count as two pairs!





# The Dun Cow

Green Lane, Christchurch, PE14 9PG  
01354 638323



## Happy Easter!



**Friday food from 4.30pm - 8.30pm**

**Phone to book your timed slot.**

Monday breakfast club is suspended until further notice.

The Dun Cow and its staff would like to welcome you back as we will be opening the beer garden on Monday 12 April at 4.00 pm **for outdoor service only**.

Table service will apply and all Covid rules will be in place.

Monday-Thursday - 4.00 pm - 9.00 pm  
Friday - 4.00 pm - 9.30 pm, Saturday - Midday - 10.00 pm, Sunday - Midday - 9.00 pm



However, Mother Nature will decide on our outdoor opening times!



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## So, what really is inside of the vaccine?

*Forgotten kisses and hugs. School trips.  
Grandparents at your Christmas table.  
Movies with warm popcorn and coca-cola.  
Sold out theatre shows. Gigs. Evening meal in  
a fancy restaurant with your friends. Last  
minute, spontaneous weekend away. Home  
parties and football afternoons with your  
mates. Roar of the fans when their team score  
the goal. Simple hand shakes. Open borders.  
Teachers walking between the tables. Flights  
every 5 minutes and busy train stations.  
And the best thing is: you can still stay at  
home if you really want...*

# Friday Night Curry Club

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

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

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

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

**Please place your order by Wednesday 7pm for your Friday Curry.**

*The true taste of India*



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## Another Small Business Enterprise in Christchurch.... Granary Studio

Greetings from Rex at Granary Studio, your local picture framers. You'll find contact details in our monthly Heron advert. Some of you may know me through my involvement with The Heron 2021 Calendar.

My wife Linda and I came to The Granary, Christchurch, six years ago. The area was chosen for its pollution free tranquillity, and of course the magical Fen skies. The house was chosen for its suitability to accommodate Linda's needs in the form of full-time care, and my chosen retirement hobby, picture framing.



Why picture framing? Because it's creative and hands on. I also fondly recall the time framing pictures with my father back in the 1970's. We framed original art as well as prints, successfully bringing together bespoke and batch activity.

I retired in 2016 and immediately set about putting the studio and workshop together.

I was surprised to find how much materials and methods had changed over the years. I spent year one buying equipment, re-learning the trade, and

finding supply chains. Year two was consumed by product development, something I've always enjoyed and brought with me from my furniture manufacturing business. Year three saw growth in trade enquiries which led to further investment in equipment.

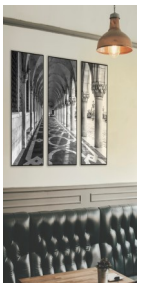
I was faced with a dilemma...do I turn my hobby into a business?

Since I had already put together records and controls, I could see where things were going. My daughter Lucy had built a website for personalized pictures and more web building plans were in place.

An accountant was recruited, and Granary Studio was launched as a sole trader entity in 2019. The first self-assessment was delivered last year. I never dreamed I would be joining the HMRC club again.

The next step was clear...generate demand for framed fine art prints. After extensive research, I decided to recruit Fine Design, a team of marketing professionals based in March. They're now engaged in building a new website. This will be the largest investment in the business to date. Onward and upwards as they say.

*All the best for your business from your friends at The Heron, Rex! We so appreciated your involvement with the Heron 2021 Calendar fund raiser.*



## Happy Birthday

Peggy Warby

Who is 80 on 2nd April

Many congratulations to you from all your friends in Christchurch. Hope you have a fantastic day.



Peggy, did you know:

You've slept for 9,735 days or 26 years!

You've been alive for 700,896 hours

You are 42,053,760 minutes old

April 2, 1941 was a Wednesday

This date was 29,204 days ago

Your birthstone is Diamond

Your birth flower is the Sweet Pea/Daisy

1941 was the year of the serpent!

Famous people who share your Birthday are:

Marvin Gaye, Michael Fassbender, Paul Gambaccini, Hans Christian Andersen, Alice Guinness and our very own Sandra Kay. Happy Birthday!

## 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 sign for the Hereward Way, opposite Hole in the Wall Farm, Padgetts Rd.*

# “What I am most looking forward to doing after lockdown” Competition Winners!

I miss my friends,  
They are my best friends,  
I love them with all I am.  
I can't wait to see them,  
They made my school days,  
Every time I came to school.  
I want lockdown to end,  
So I can see my friends,  
Every single weekday.



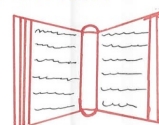
Caitlyn - KS1 - 1st Place

## Back to school!!

Bum bum buuum  
Actually it's happening  
Crazy as it is  
Kick off your PJs, put on your school clothes

Townley school is back!  
Open for everyone

So what are you waiting for  
Come on let's go  
Happy back to school day!  
Over is lockdown learning  
Online schoolwork is no more  
Let's go back to school, YEY!!!



Kieran - KS2 - 1st Place



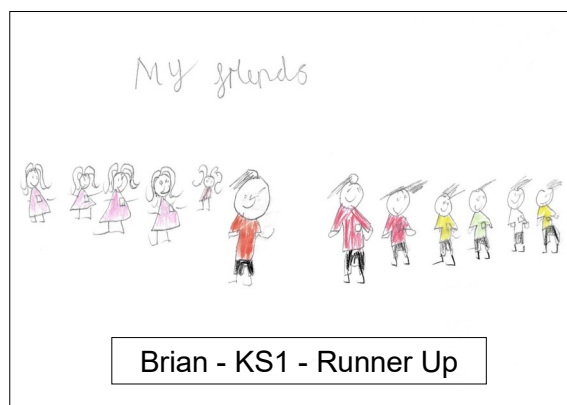
Kazia - KS1 - 2nd Place



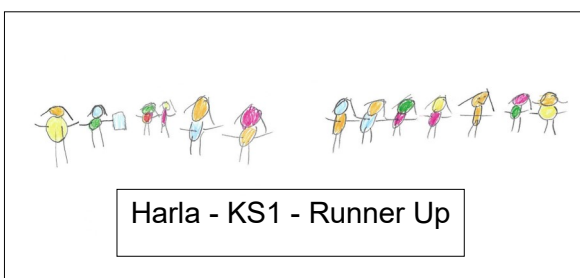
Alex - KS2 - 2nd Place



Maci - KS1 - Runner Up



Brian - KS1 - Runner Up



Harla - KS1 - Runner Up

We'd like to thank all those children who entered our competition. We had quite a lot of entries and it was very difficult to pick our winners - but here they are.  
Aren't they great?

We can certainly see that being able to see and play with your friends is really, really important to you all.

Well done! All entries will be on our website [theheron.info](http://theheron.info)



A Loveliness of Ladybirds and some glorious daffodils (right) - both photos taken in Christchurch by Pat Rigby



Our beautiful fen dykes currently covered in Spring daffodils - photo taken in Tipps End by Sue Rudge



Photos taken in Christchurch By Annie Nason



Photo taken in Tipps End by Sue Rudge

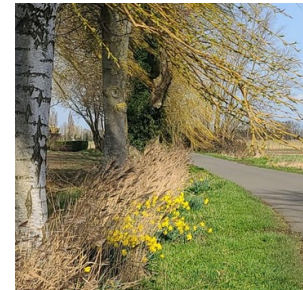


Photo taken in Tipps End by Lisa Buckingham

## NHS - LIFE ON THE FRONT LINE: Part 2



**I am Ellie Garlick, and I live in Christchurch. These are some of my personal thoughts about my experience as a nurse, on the job during Lockdown. My views do not necessarily represent those of any organisation.**

The vaccines have given us a light at the end of the tunnel, and since January I've been working a couple of extra days each week to deliver the vaccine to people who are housebound. The level of organisation and liaison between Primary Care Networks, the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Trust I work for to organise this - that happens behind the scenes - is huge. Each nurse that goes out has to know which site to pick up the vaccine from, have a list with the right number of names and addresses that are, hopefully, not spread out over too large an area, collect the vial of vaccine and transport it in a medical grade cool bag with the temperature constantly monitored. They also need to have all the equipment, patient information leaflets, emergency equipment and of course the all-important PPE. Once the first dose has been withdrawn, the vial has to be used within a certain time so it feels a bit like "Challenge Anneka" as I dash from house to house, making sure that every dose gets used within the time limit. It's wonderful to be able to be part of this project; it really does feel like delivering hope to people, many of whom have been living with a constant background sense of fear for almost a year now. So far, I've been out and about over an area from Ramsey to Cambridge City.

Although the vaccination programme is working exceptionally well, which is really positive news for the future, unfortunately the Health Service is still under enormous pressure as we continue to see the effects of the current wave. As a result of this I've just been

redeployed again, this time to an inpatient ward. This is much more daunting for me than my last redeployment, as I've spent my entire career based in the community. The last time I worked on a ward was as a student nurse! It's a whole new skill-set to get my head around but I'm doing my best to pick it up, and I keep reminding myself that I do have core nursing skills. Hopefully, we'll continue to see the situation improve and I won't be needed here for too long. This time around, my usual service is continuing to run at a reduced capacity with my colleague, so at least I know that there is still support available for my usual patients when they need it.

Nursing during Covid has certainly been challenging and will be for some time. My experience has been far less traumatic than for many health care professionals, especially in the acute hospitals and in the community in parts of the country that have been more severely affected. It's not over yet, but if we all keep going with keeping ourselves physically distanced, handwashing and wearing face coverings, then we give the vaccination programme the best chance of getting us to the point where we can start to look forward to a time when we can gather again.

### UPDATE

Since I wrote this back in February it feels like an awful lot has changed. That faint feeling of hope is getting stronger as the vaccination programme continues to do exceptionally well. We're seeing the case numbers, and numbers of people seriously ill in hospital, fall. Children are back at school, and everyone seems to be planning their first haircuts.

I've been able to return to my usual job again and it feels very good to be back! I'm continuing to work extra shifts vaccinating people who are housebound, and I've also just done my first shift at a mass vaccination centre. I'm trying very hard not to get ahead of myself, and of course we all need to continue to follow all guidance, whether or not we've had the vaccine. But maybe, just maybe, I'm starting to dream that one day soon I'll be giving my parents a hug.



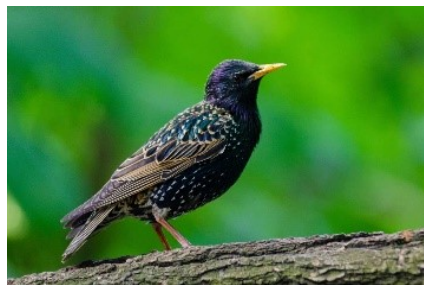


## BIRDS COLLECTIVE NOUNS QUIZ

One of the most remarkable things about the animal kingdom and just one of the many crazy things about the English language is the variety of collective nouns that all mean 'group'.



Judging by the posts on our Christchurch Social Media sites, it is clear that there are a lot of bird spotters in the village. Here is a list of some of those birds. Can you match the collective noun with each type of bird mentioned here? Confusion reigns....as there are often several different collective nouns per species, but there is only one for each in the list. You may know different ones. Answers on page 27.



Buzzards  
Bullfinches  
Crows  
Doves  
Goldfinches  
Jackdaws  
Kingfishers  
Magpies  
Owls  
Robins  
Rooks  
Skylarks  
Sparrows  
Starlings  
Swallows  
Swans  
Woodpeckers  
Wrens

A chime  
A charm  
An exaltation  
A pitying  
A mischief  
A descent  
A quarrel  
A blush  
A murder  
A whiteness  
A wisdom  
A wake  
A flight  
A clattering  
A parliament  
A bellowing  
A murmuration  
A crown



## 60 ILLUSTRIOUS YEARS!

In March 1961, Jaguar E-type created history when the hand-built '77RW' was driven from Coventry to Geneva to be launched alongside the '9600HP' at the Motor Show. Never before had a car engendered such feelings of passion and British pride. 60 years on, Jaguar Classic celebrates the unveiling of an icon with six matched pairs of '9600HP' and '77RW' - inspired E-type restorations, including

an exclusive Coventry to Geneva driving experience for their new owners. <https://www.jaguar.co.uk/about-jaguar/jaguar-classic/>

From the outset, the E-type's design made it stand out from every other car on the market. The long curved front bonnet takes up almost half of the car's body, its curved front and aerodynamic length making it seem like a design from the far future, fitting for its time with the space race and surrounding increase in interest of all things science fiction. The central double exhaust was another unique feature helping the E-Type become an original that still hangs onto its uniqueness.

The car was designed by Malcolm Sayer, who came from a background of aeronautical and aerodynamic design. Having worked in the aircraft industry during and after World War II, Sayer joined Jaguar Cars in 1951. His skill with mathematics and aerodynamic design quickly made him stand out, with race cars he designed winning at Le Mans five times throughout the fifties. When it came to the E-Type, he applied the same principles he used on aircraft to create the distinctive sleek curves that make up the car's front section. Considering he created this without the use of computer aided design, it truly is a marvel of engineering. <https://www.creditplus.co.uk/blog/what-makes-the-jaguar-e-type-so-special>

The unique look of the E-Type cannot be underestimated. Enzo Ferrari was particularly taken with the car, describing it as "the most beautiful car ever made". For someone so aesthetically focused as Enzo to call it the most beautiful car he had ever seen conveys just how special this car was when it first appeared, and there really hasn't been anything to truly rival it since.

With just 3,600 E-Types left on the road, they are becoming increasingly rare which has led the value of the E-Type to soar. Back in the sixties, an E-Type could be purchased for around £2,20 (the equivalent to £38,000 today). Currently, they are averaging over £120,000, with rusty and barn-find models still selling for huge amounts of money and are becoming increasingly rare as the prices continue to rise.





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Picture of a Capybara Mother and baby - Shepreth Wildlife Park

**Here's a question children (and grown-ups) have been asking....  
When will zoos and theme parks open?**

The majority of outdoor settings and attractions - such as zoos, theme parks, drive-in cinemas - could open from **12 April**. The rules on social contact outdoors will apply in these settings.



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MONEY?

BENEFITS?

UNIVERSAL CREDIT?

WORK & EMPLOYMENT?

For free, impartial and independent advice on all of these concerns, and more, contact the Fenland COVID-19 Community Hub.

Phone 01354 654321 or  
email [covid19@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:covid19@fenland.gov.uk)

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# THE "WHAT, WHERE AND WHEN" OF THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS IN MAY

## WHAT

There will be three ballots, one for the Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authority Mayor, one for the Cambridge and Peterborough Police and Crime Commissioner and one for the County Council. (There are also several Town and Parish elections and one District election – Whittlesey - which don't affect us here in the Village).

## WHERE

At the Christchurch Community Centre for most of the Village; however those living within the \*\*BCKLWN area this will be at the Lakesend Village Hall.

## WHEN

6th May 2021 between 07:00 and 22:00

Please see below a brief description of the roles and responsibilities of each Elected position. Further information can be found on the following websites:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk> or <https://www.fenland.gov.uk/elections>

*\*\* (Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk. Some of Green Lane and outlying areas are in BCKLWN).*

### **MAYORS OF COMBINED AUTHORITIES**

A **Combined Authority (CA)** with an elected Mayor is a legal body set up by national legislation that enables two or more councils to collaborate and make decisions across council boundaries. For the CPCA this involves Cambridgeshire County, Cambridge City, Peterborough City, East Cambs, Fenland and Huntingdonshire District Councils. The creation of a CA gives the freedom to be more ambitious in their joint working and can take advantage of powers and resources devolved to them by central government. CAs are established by Parliament; they are owned locally, and have to be initiated and supported by the Councils involved. Elected Mayors have a four-year term of office. Further information can be found at: [www.cambspboroca.org](http://www.cambspboroca.org)

### **POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs)** are responsible for the totality of policing in their area, they aim to cut crime and deliver an efficient policing service. They are elected to hold their Chief Constables and his or her Force to account, effectively making the police answerable to the communities they serve. PCCs are elected for a four-year term (held over from last year). Further information can be found at: [www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk)

### **COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

**Cambridgeshire County Councillors** are elected for a four-year term. There are 61 councillors across the whole of Cambridgeshire. Most are single member divisions, whereas our division is a two-member division covering March North, most of Wisbech St. Mary Parish, all of Elm parish and, of course, Christchurch. County Councillors are responsible for Education, Highways, Children's Services, Adult Social Care, and some areas of Planning. They are also the Lead Local Flood Authority. There are also special responsibility allowances on top of the basic. Further information can be found at: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/>

*FDC Cllr Will Sutton*



## **DO YOU KNOW THE LAW REGARDING SOCIAL MEDIA COMMENT ABOUT ACTIVE CRIMINAL CASES?**

Here's something to think about. Strong stuff. Do you think it is fair?

With regard to the Sarah Everard murder case. "Particularly now there has been a charge in the case, people need to be especially cautious about what they post about it on social media.

Posts should not include comments claiming or implying that any suspect is guilty of an offence of which they have been accused, nor anything else that could prejudice a trial or impede the administration of justice. This is because, according to English law, everyone charged with a criminal offence shall be presumed innocent until proven guilty, and everyone has the right to a fair trial.

Criminal proceedings against the accused have been "active" since his arrest. This means that under contempt of court laws, nothing should be published that could cause a substantial risk of seriously prejudicing or impeding the legal process, for example by influencing potential jurors".  
(BBC News Website)



## Need help with your energy bills? CHESS project supports residents struggling to keep their homes warm.

With the news that energy prices are set to rise for millions of households this Spring, the Cambridgeshire Home Energy Support Service (**CHESS**) is on hand to help residents in Northern Cambridgeshire reduce their energy bills.

"This price hike has been announced at a time when families are already struggling to pay their heating bills, due to the effects of Covid-19," explains **PECT's** Health and Wellbeing Lead, Karen Igho. "Our project team is here to offer a free and impartial service to help households find their way out of fuel debt." She continues: "We know the next few months are going to be particularly difficult for many people, and we want to help as many local residents as we can to cut

costs and carbon. We encourage individuals to check-in with their friends and family and refer them to our service if they need support staying warm this winter."

Over the Christmas period, Citizens Advice announced that 2.1 million households were behind on their energy bills, a rise of 600,000 compared with before the pandemic. So the team's help is needed more than ever before.

The aim of the CHESS project is to help households cut their heating costs by offering free and impartial advice on accessing home improvement grants, fuel debt relief, switching energy supplier, signing up to the Priority Services Register and finding solutions to damp and condensation.

For more information, freephone 0800 8021773, email [warmhomes@pect.org.uk](mailto:warmhomes@pect.org.uk) or visit [www.pect.org.uk/warmhomes](http://www.pect.org.uk/warmhomes)

**PECT:** Peterborough Environment City Trust



## APRIL FOOL!

The earliest April Fools' Day hoax on record was in 1698, says Alex Boese, curator of the Museum of Hoaxes. "People in London were told to go see the annual ceremony of the washing of the lions at the Tower of London," he says. "They showed up at the Tower of London, but"—alas—"there was no annual lion-washing ceremony." The street prank worked so well that people kept pulling it year after year, targeting mostly out-of-towners.

"By the mid-19th century, pranksters had printed up fake tickets," he says. "Hundreds or thousands of people would show up, only to realize they'd been tricked".

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com>

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Hello Christchurch Stargazers. Hope you are still well. So – what will April bring? **Mercury** will be at Superior Conjunction on 10th April, re-emerging into a good evening position; near **Venus** at the end of the month. **Venus** will be near **Mercury** at the end of April, and a 1%-lit waxing **Crescent Moon** on 12th April. **Mars** will no longer be telescopically viable, but near M35 on evenings of 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. The **Moon** will be nearby on 17<sup>th</sup>. **Jupiter** – bright but low morning planet, rising 70 minutes before sunrise. A 22%-lit waning **Crescent Moon** lies close by on 7<sup>th</sup> April. **Saturn** is a morning planet in Capricornus. It will be at a poor altitude all month. A 31%-lit waning **Crescent Moon** lies nearby on 6<sup>th</sup> April. **Uranus** is an evening planet. Difficult to spot between **Venus** and **Mercury** on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. **Solar Conjunction** on 30<sup>th</sup> April. **Neptune** will not be visible this month.

## Christchurch Stargazers



Remember – never look at the sun without the correct protective equipment.

Mark Andrews

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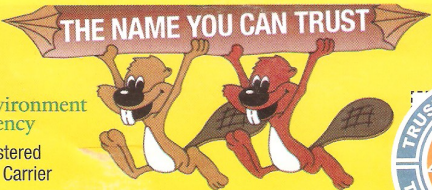
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## Christchurch Book Club



Book club had another zoom meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March - with 7 participants, although one or two were experiencing "internet troubles"! As it was precisely a year since the beginning of the first lock-down, we paused the meeting at 8pm to go stand on our door steps to shine a light in memory of those who have died or been bereaved by Covid.

We have been reading "Elephant Song" by Wilbur Smith.

Some members had chosen not to read this book because the blurb on the back stated that it began with a graphic account of the culling of a herd of elephants, including the baby elephants. Those who read it were disturbed by the graphic descriptions of some violent incidents and whilst some felt such intense descriptions were not necessary, most found the plot engaging.

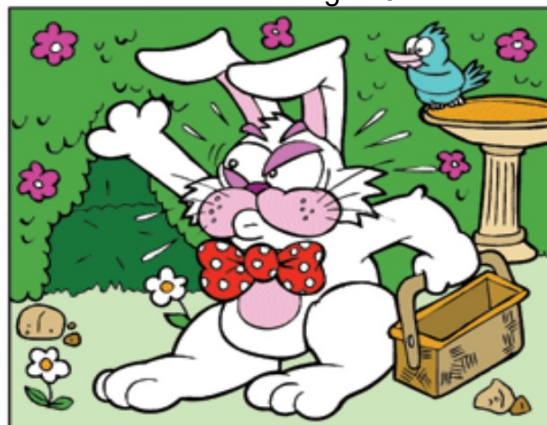
Our next book is "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood and our next zoom meeting is on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 7,30pm. As our zoom meetings are proving successful, we have also started to host quizzes (just for fun - no prizes) between our "proper" book club meetings. The next one will be on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 7.30 pm. This is open to people who are not necessarily members of book club. Future meetings are 18<sup>th</sup> May, 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 24<sup>th</sup> August, 21<sup>st</sup> Sept...hopefully some of these will be face-to-face!

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

## Spot 10 Differences

By Jason Sampson

Answers on Page 26



EVERY YEAR IT'S THE SAME, SOME ONE STEALS MY EGG COLLECTION!

## Meet a Christchurch Parish Councillor ... Kay Miller

Born in Tottenham, North London (and yes, she is a Spurs fan!) she spent most of her childhood in the Newbury area of Berkshire.



Kay spent most of her adult life living in Kent and moved with Peter and Sophie to the village in 2017 at which time Kay's mum, Sylvia joined the household. Kay's wider family includes two grown up sons, living in East London and Whitley Bay and six grandchildren. Sophie (aged 14) loves country living and has encouraged Kay to develop quite a substantial menagerie!

Kay is a young "retiree", but up to 2016 she was kept very busy as a Community Liaison Officer with a Children Centre, this was a very challenging position, supporting families with children under five. As well as running a number of group sessions, she offered focussed support to a number of families experiencing difficulties.

Kay echoes the thoughts of many other villagers in saying that as soon as she arrived, she "felt at home". She found the locals very friendly and welcoming and immediately wanted to get involved. Her many contributions have included being a member of the Breakfast team, serving breakfasts in the new community centre before it moved to the pub (and then lock-down paused this!); joining the WI and serving as its treasurer and being an active member of the craft and book clubs as well as a regular worshipper at the church (when it is open!).

Kay is the "newbie" on the parish Council as she joined as recently as 2019, but she soon found her feet and is a part of the Community Centre Committee. She is very happy to serve the village in this way and is particularly gratified when she hears people expressing appreciation for these unpaid volunteers, as so often public servants seem to be on the receiving end of unfounded criticism. Her experience of the Parish Council is of a group of hard-working individuals giving their time and talents to the village and she expresses great respect for them all. It is hard to grasp that Kay has only been in the village since 2017 as her contributions have been so many - we are lucky to have Kay in our village - thank you for all you do!

Sheila Day



Well, what a year! 12 months since we've had a face-to-face meeting and many other challenges as well!

During those 12 months the WI has not been inactive, there have been little packets of loveliness distributed to

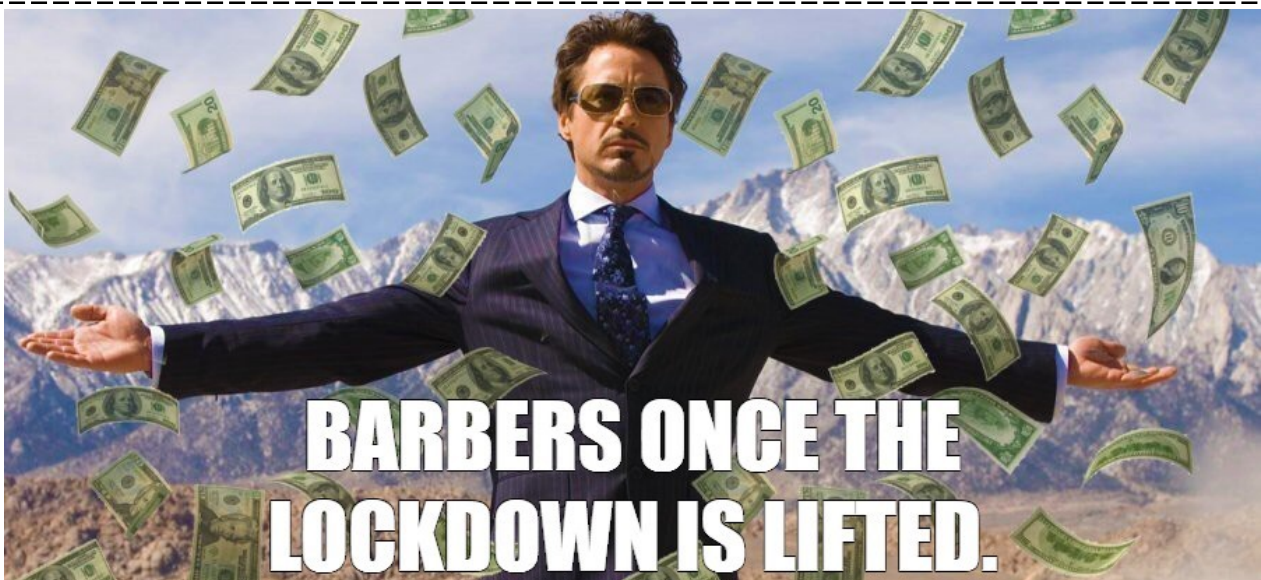
members (including an advent calendar in December!) However, normal it has NOT been!

But...now is the time to look to the future. With grateful thanks to those committee members who served valiantly during our "Covid Year", we now have a new committee and are very much looking forward to future events - one bit of excellent news is that due to a change of rules we are able to reduce our subs so this

year will be £39 rather than the £44 which had been expected.

We are looking forward to a zoom demonstration on April 13<sup>th</sup> about planting an outdoor tub and as soon as we are able we plan to host an outdoor event - plans are not yet consolidated, but it will certainly involve food!

New members are always welcome - it is quite understandable if ladies want to try a meeting or two before they decide whether they want to join...for more details contact Sheila Day on 07946635908.





## Church News

We are hoping to reopen sometime in April after Easter Day, subject to the planned lifting of restrictions and our own risk assessments.

Until then Revds Ian and Lynda are continuing to host a weekly Sunday service on Zoom for those that can access it, and also by telephone for those that don't have a 'phone that supports Zoom. This will be from 11 until about 11:45, details for access can be obtained from Sheila Day on 07946 635908 or via Facebook messenger.

As I write, we have just started our 5th weekend of the foodbank collection on 20/21 March and once again many thanks to those that have contributed already. We will continue to put out a box for March foodbank each Saturday and Sunday (noon to 5pm) up until Easter Day (4th April). Paul Simpson has kindly agreed to let us put the box in front of the pub and donations are taken to March on the Monday morning.

During Lent we continue to pray for our community using a leaflet. If you would like a copy please call 01354 638088.

Stay safe. *Daphne and Andrew*

## Thoughts from the Rectory

### 'HEAD AND HEART'

Doing the right thing is often pitched as a battle between the head and the heart. But new research shown on the 'Discovery Channel', points out that when it comes to making tough moral choices, we need head and heart. Scientists in America have found that the frontal lobe of the brain plays a vital role in deciding between right and wrong. They asked volunteers to decide on a number of moral dilemmas, involving the killing of one innocent person to save the lives of other innocent people. Those volunteers whose prefrontal cortex was damaged found it easier to make emotional-less, heartless decisions. For them it was easy, the one dies every time. Those with healthy brains wavered, for them the decision was not as clear cut.

Professor Marc Houser of Harvard University says "Our work provides the first casual account of the role of emotions in the moral judgment". Making moral decisions has always been on the minds of scientists,

Dr Francis Collins in an interview in the 'Church Times' says. That 'the moral law' the 'law of right behaviour' is a distinctive human quality. "There is", he says, 'no bigger signpost towards the existence of a personal God.'



Easter is a time to reflect on moral decision. Jesus decided to face his accusers; Judas decided to let the accusers know where they could find Jesus. Pilot decided that he didn't want to make a decision, and washed his hands of it. A crowd decided against Jesus; Jesus decided not to call down heavenly interventions; instead, he decided to face torture and Crucifixion alone. Christians believe that Jesus died; the one for the many. The one for the sin of the whole world. Why? Because he knew there was no bigger signpost towards God, and he made that decision with his head and his heart.

Have a great Easter! Keep well, keep safe.

Ian



During Lent, our Church has been collecting items for MARCH FOODBANK. These facts below may come as a surprise to many of us who

have enough to eat. But read on ..... **Approximately 14 million people in the UK are living below the poverty line, including 4.5 million children.**

The reality is some families in the UK have been left struggling to choose between paying bills and eating. In the last five years food bank usage has increased by 75 per cent, and more people than ever are also having to use baby banks, too. This has only been compounded by the coronavirus pandemic, which has seen a rise in period poverty too.

**You can get a food bank referral from:** A Doctor; A Jobcentre; The Citizens Advice Bureau; A Social worker. **You might get a food bank referral if:** You've been made redundant or have reduced working hours; Unexpected bills have left you with no money; A change in your circumstances has affected your entitlement to benefit or the reduced the amount you receive; A payment of benefit has been delayed; You

are turned down for a crisis loan; Ill health; Domestic abuse; You have a low-income or are in debt. Become a Local Food Bank Volunteer, once it's Covid safe to do so. Look up their website or call them.

Sibelle Mehmet. 23/06/2020  
<https://www.trusselltrust.org>

### MARCH FOOD BANK FACTS:

In partnership with Ely Foodbank, who come under the **Trussell Trust**, we opened a Foodbank in March in November 2013. To access their services, clients need to be referred by a third party, either a charity or social services. Vouchers are issued for this purpose.

The Foodbank currently distributes food to local people in crisis on Tuesdays (1-2.30pm) from Centenary Baptist Church on High Street (opposite Cassano's restaurant).

Anyone interested in volunteering to help with Foodbank in any way. please contact Barbara Taylor at [barbarataylor129@sky.com](mailto:barbarataylor129@sky.com)

## Hungry?

Something different? We continue our monthly food article - thanks to Paul & Sue Simpson for submitting this.

Having been asked to do a food review, Susan and I, without much thought, said "let's talk about Habis in Littleport".

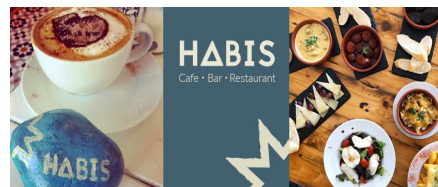
When working at the pub we made a point of attempting to eat out at a different establishment at least once a month; so, with lockdown on and the Wash open, this gave us an opportunity to email in our order for a takeaway.

Having been introduced to this Spanish style bistro by friends in Welney not long after it opened, we have been there a number of times; having sampled quite a proportion of the menu, which ranges across the week from a scrumptious breakfast, culminating in a picturesque stacked Sunday lunch.

Nearly forgot the daily changing range of Tapas, which can be accompanied by an Ali Oli, which, like Marmite, love it or hate it! You would think twice about having it if wanting to kiss someone afterwards!!

On this occasion, for our midweek takeaway, we

plumped for the burgers. Susan went for the chicken which had two ample sized bread crumbed breast pieces; which were flavoursome, and were presented in a toasted brioche bun, accompanied by tomato, lettuce, gherkin and a rasher of bacon.



I went for the Wednesday menu "Habeast", which had two good-sized meaty burgers; again, in the toasted bun with the same accompaniments, but topped off with salami and cheese, which added a mouth-watering taste to the burger.

Both of us had an ample portion of chunky chips, well cooked and coated with a flavoursome seasoning. Obviously, you can order by phone, but on this occasion, I emailed in and had a confirmed reply. I arrived to collect and our order, which was ready on time in recyclable containers and carrier bag. They don't deliver to Christchurch, but believe me, for something different, it's well worth the 15-minute journey, and the food was still piping hot when I arrived home.

<https://www.facebook.com/HabisTapas/>  
email [habisrestaurant@outlook.com](mailto:habisrestaurant@outlook.com)  
Tel 01353 863318



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**Sometimes spelling really DOES matter!**



## **Beauty Treatments By Jane**

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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**



Hello Christchurch! I wanted to share a little update on Christchurch Eco.

I know the last couple of months have been long, but I feel we are slowly coming back to a somewhat normal world. It may not be like it was a couple of years ago, but least we have a little more freedom. I am personally aiming to reopen the recycling stations on April the 12<sup>th</sup>, as long as there are no significant changes or restrictions imposed by the lockdown rules.

I can also share that we have a new recycling stream. I finally have access to confectionery wrapper recycling! By the time this article is read, I should have more details on my FB page @christchurcheco so please check that out to learn more. I hope you have all been squirreling away your crisp packets and pringles tubes so that we can have a big blitz on recycling and earn lots more money for Townley Primary School.

Nate

[www.christchurcheco.co.uk](http://www.christchurcheco.co.uk)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/christchurcheco>



March Road, Welney, PE14 9SE

## **LW Vehicle Services Ltd**

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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 10	01354 654321
Floodline	0845 988 1188
Library - March	0354 045 5225
National Debtline	0808 808 4000
NHS	111
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
<b>Club Contacts</b>	
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	07568 192940
Christchurch Stargazers - Mark Andrews	07425 165415

Sudoku Answer from Page 4

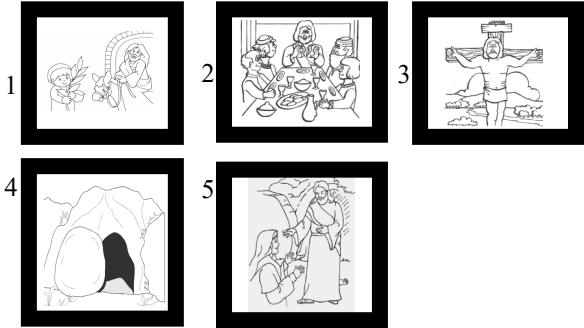
9	6	2	7	4	5	1	3	8
5	4	1	3	8	9	2	7	6
7	3	8	2	6	1	5	4	9
1	2	6	8	7	4	9	5	3
4	9	7	6	5	3	8	1	2
3	8	5	9	1	2	7	6	4
8	5	3	1	9	6	4	2	7
2	7	4	5	3	8	6	9	1
6	1	9	4	2	7	3	8	5

Puzzle Answers from Page 10

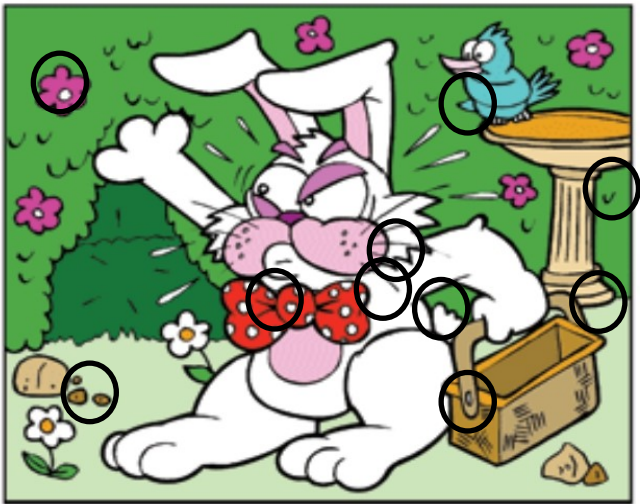
Answers for Easter word  
scramble:

BONNET	EGGS
SPRING	GRASS
BUNNY	CHOCOLATE
CROSS	CHICK
SUNDAY	DAFFODIL
BASKET	
JELLYBEAN	
LAMB	
EGG HUNT	
FLOWERS	

Answers for ordering the Easter Story



Spot the difference answers from page 21





## A YEAR ON THE FARM – APRIL

April showers? At the time of writing, we have had more than enough water from the skies, and we are being threatened with even more. Hoping not! I predict that by June/July, we will be in desert-like conditions, much like last year. Hey Ho! One thing is for sure, we cannot rule the weather.



Thank goodness, although controversial in some ways, Welney Wash has been a great saviour this winter as, to an even greater extent, has the pumping station at St Germans, which pumps the excess flood water from the watery arteries of the fens, out to sea, when the low tides of the River Ouse allow.

Much hard work has been done by both land owners and tenants, to make sure under drains on their occupied land are unblocked and running; also, culverts are cleared so water in the dykes can keep flowing through the system to the main drain pumps, eventually arriving at the major pumping

stations on its way to The North Sea. It's quite amazing what debris has emerged on roadsides, after much effort to "un bung" culverts and drain junctions, mostly as a result of "fly tipping". Old tractor tyres, car tyres, bicycles, old tv's, fertiliser bags - you name it! Fly tipping that before has gone un-noticed as far as the roadside dykes/ drains are concerned, has all come to light recently, to be dealt with by "the powers that be"...we trust.

Very little is going on on the land. A few dryer days in March allowed fertiliser to be spread on bare fields destined to be drilled with onions as soon as conditions allow.

The same operation will follow in due course, for sugar beet, potatoes. The wheat crop is already growing, and will be "top dressed" with nitrogen, liquid or granular, depending on the choice of application by the farmer. Hopefully, by the time of writing for the May edition, sugar beet and peas will have been drilled and be growing, and potato planting will be well on its way. For some smaller growers, this should be completed by May, depending again on weather and soil conditions.

Many farmers are turning to growing SPRING LINSEED this year. This seems to be the new popular spring drilled crop grown to produce seed to be crushed for oil. This crop is mostly grown on contract, and offers another crop to grow in the annual crop rotation on the farm. Linseed produces fields of lovely blue flowers, before the seed pods form. Watch out for them.



Well, we have seen it all weather wise, during March, let's hope the April weather sorts itself out and we can get on the land again - it will certainly be "all systems go" when this happens. The old saying for March is: "in like a lion and out like a lamb". I wonder what the future months have in store for us?

Jill Bliss.

**"REMINDER. Farms are private property. Dog walkers who go down farm tracks are tolerated as long as the dogs are kept on the lead. "**

### Answer to the tricky logic puzzle on page 10.

To find the minimum number of eggs you would need to collect you need to look at the worst possible result...

The best result would be to immediately collect two reds and two blues (or whatever colours) - but the worst would be...

If you collected all the red eggs first and then one each of the other colours (red first because there are more of them) - still only one pair (red) that counts - then if you are unlucky enough to collect one of each of the other colours you would still have only one pair...but the NEXT one would give you a pair...so the answer is...26!

### BIRDS COLLECTIVE NOUNS QUIZ - ANSWERS from page 16.

A wake of Buzzards  
A bellowing of Bullfinches  
A murder of Crows  
A pitying of Doves  
A charm of Goldfinches  
A clattering of Jackdaws  
A crown of Kingfishers  
A mischief of Magpies  
A wisdom of Owls  
A blush of Robins  
A parliament of Rooks  
An exaltation of Skylarks  
A quarrel of Sparrows  
A murmuration of Starlings  
A flight of Swallows  
A whiteness of Swans  
A descent of Woodpeckers  
A chime of Wrens



## Banksy - Graffiti Street Artist

Banksy has been in the news again recently. His latest art work has been seen on the outside wall of the former Reading Prison. This depicts a prisoner trying to escape the gaol by climbing down a paper rope ladder with a typewriter dangling on the bottom. The escaping convict resembles Oscar Wilde who was imprisoned at Reading gaol in 1895-1897.



Like him or dislike him, Banksy gets people talking and makes us think. There is no doubt he is a very talented artist. His art works are mostly political statements with satirical dark humour. Is this just vandalism, or urban art? Some of his artworks are themselves targets for vandalism, and some have been removed. Others have been covered with Perspex to preserve them. All can be valued at thousands of pounds.



## Who is Banksy?

Banksy is an anonymous artist. Or is his real name Robin Gunningham, as some have reported? Aged approximately late 40's, he grew up in Bristol, where his art works started appearing in the 1990's, along with other local graffiti artists - part of Bristol's underground scene. Graffiti Art has developed over many thousands of years, starting with ancient cave paintings. It has been popularised more recently by artists to get their art and name seen by everyone passing by. This fast became a forum for political comment and local humour.

Banksy's signature art often depicts rats, mice, monkeys, small children and soldiers. The messages are usually anti-war, anti-consumerism, anti-establishment, to name just a few. For speed, Banksy now uses his prepared stencils with the assorted aerosol paints so that the artwork can be completed very quickly before being seen, usually at night.



In 2018, Banksy painted 'Girl with Balloon', to be auctioned at Sotheby's. The final bid was £1,420,000. As the hammer fell, the picture fell through the frame and was almost completely shredded! Was this another statement by Banksy or just a prank? After which, the value of the painting more than doubled! Apparently, there was a shredder built secretly into the bottom of the frame, and it was meant to destroy the whole picture; however, the mechanism didn't work fully and the picture was still purchased by the winning bidder.

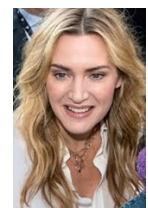
Banksy has put to good use some of the money he has raised from various exhibitions and art sales. He has donated to various causes. A painting titled 'Game Changer' was gifted to the NHS during the Covid 19 pandemic in 2020. In August 2020 it was reported that Banksy funded a rescue boat for refugees at risk in the Mediterranean.



Question – do you love what he is doing and saying through his graffiti or, to quote Keep Britain Tidy, 'We are concerned that Banksy's street art glorifies what is essentially vandalism'. **Makes you think!**

Jan Clifford

(Pictures of Banksy's artwork taken from Google images)



Kate Winslet said it was "incredible" Banksy had chosen Reading Prison for his latest piece as she joined calls to turn the old jail into an arts venue. The Oscar-winning actress is supporting a theatre group hoping to stop the site being knocked down for housing. Banksy confirmed he was behind the mural, with many believing it showed he backed moves for an art centre. Winslet, who grew up in Reading, promised to perform on the opening night if the plans became a reality. *The Ministry of Justice, which owns the site and previously described the artwork as "graffiti", said it was considering what to do with the piece.*

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.