

# The Heron

#### Community Magazine

October 2021

Delivered to homes in Christchurch, Euximoor and Tipps End

No.90

#### In this issue!

Townley School	2
Community Info/Your Letters	3
Jazz Club Update	4
Editorial/Heron News	5
Steven Barclay New Position	5
Energy Supplier Info	6
Memory Lapses?	7
Clarkson's Farm	7
Welle Cinema's Back!	8
A Year on the Farm	9
Reading Benefits/Recipe	10
Girl Power/Xmas Tree Festival	13
Kids Corner	14
Craft Workshop/Fuel Changes	15
The Village Inn/Lunch Break	16
Short Mat Bowls Update	17
Halloween Spook-tacular	19
Harvest Supper	21
Church/Rectory News	23
PC Snippets	24
Fancy a Day Out?	25
Useful Numbers	26
Seaside Memories	27
Bats about Bats!	27
2021 Car Show	28

# "Earth is so kind; just tickle her, and she laughs with a harvest."

Douglas William Jerrold (1803 – 1857) English dramatist and writer.



Are you planning to "Trick or Treat" this year?

Happy Rem

Remember our village code. Please only call at homes with lit Halloween lanterns by the front gate or door. Thank you.

#### **EDITORIAL TEAM:**

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#### TOWNLEY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL

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Website: www.townley.cambs.sch.uk
01354 638229



Facebook—Townley School and Pre-School

SEPTEMBER 2021

Remember that our website has lots more information about school.

We have had a busy start to the new school year. We have so far returned to more typical school routines, it is nice to have lost the Bubbles, staggered breaks and start times and see everyone together again. I am hoping Covid does not disrupt us this year, although as I write, we have seven cases in school. More than we have had at any other time.

We have welcomed several new families to the school, our new Reception children have started and we also have some new Nursery children. Everyone moved into their new classes with enthusiasm, in spite of Covid curtailing our usual transitions (again!).

Do you have a skill you could teach the children? We are looking to increase the range of clubs we offer to the children after school. If you are interested in volunteering your time, do get in touch with me, Maria Higgins, as we would love to hear from you.



We have a few spaces in our Nursery class for two and three year old, if you would like to know more or want to come and look around please give us a call on the number at the top of the page.







In our EYFS Class (Years Nursery and Reception) the children have been settling back in, getting used to their newly revamped forest area. The children in Reception have undertaken the new Reception Baseline Assessment – unfortunately this is just data for the government, so is not shared with the school or parents! The children seemed to enjoy their 'special job' with Mrs Evans.

In Emerald Class (Years 3 and 4) some of the children took part in Bikeability Level 1 (it's like cycling proficiency for those of you who remember that) and have learned to safely ride their bikes on the playground. Level 2 and 3 is open to children in Years 5 and 6 in October.









In Emperor Class (Year 5 and 6) the children have been using their sketchbooks to experiment with applying colour to their drawings. They are learning about the Windrush Generation. In Hawker Class (Years 1 and 2) the topic for the first half term is "Our Wonderful World". The children have been very busy getting used to our new classroom layout and improved outdoor learning space. The children have loved spending time outside and the new Book Nook is a favourite! The children have been very hands on with their learning this week and

have investigated all areas of the classroom - both indoors and outside.

# **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?* 

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

https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/ service/Select\_and\_Collect

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

IF YOU WANT YOUR CHILDREN
TO BE INTELLIGENT,
READ THEM FAIRY TALES.
IF YOU WANT THEM
TO BE MORE INTELLIGENT,
READ THEM MORE FAIRY TALES.
- ALBERT EINSTEIN

#### **Your Letters**

THIS COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE - TAKE ACTION!

"If your house has a name, rather than a number, please think about how easily visitors are able to identify it. As a nurse in the community, I have wasted a lot of time over the years driving up and down peering at people's houses and it's even more difficult on a fast road with impatient drivers behind me! A clear sign that can be seen easily from the road, in all weathers and even in the dark, makes it much easier, quicker and safer. It just saves some time and annoyance for visitors like me or delivery drivers but if you ever need emergency services it's not exaggerating to say that it could save your life. If you require some work to be done in this regard, Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has a handy person service for anyone over 65 or receiving disability benefit. They charge £30 for the first hour then for every 15mins + materials. 01480 700205 chp@ageukcap.org.uk." Ellie Garlick.

(Or you could write to <a href="mailto:editor@theheron.info">editor@theheron.info</a> and you will be put in touch with someone in the village who can help).

The LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS who spoke to the WI in August also gave some advice. If you need to call emergency services of any kind at night, it is often very difficult for them to find the exact address in unlit country lanes. They recommended putting lights on to make it easier for them to find your house. Again, *this could save your life*.

September 6<sup>th</sup> 2021

Hi.

We've recently moved to Christchurch from the North West and would like to say we love reading The Heron magazine. Thank you to everyone involved in producing it.

Kind regards

Cliff & Stephanie Fletcher



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

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

With immediate effect, all future adverts (upon renewal) will need to be formatted as follows, to ensure they fit neatly into the dedicated area within the magazine:

**Quarter Page** (14cm High x 9.5cm Wide) **Portrait Format** 

6 x issues £50 12 x issues £90

**Eighth Page** (6.5cm High x 9.5cm Wide) **Landscape Format** 

6 x issues £34 12 x issues £64

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





Open Sunday afternoons 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>
October 2021 - 1.00 pm ~ 5.00 pm
Plus Craft Fair & Live Music

Refreshments available

All are welcome

# **Upwell Jazz Club**

Calli<mark>ng all Jazz fans!</mark>

The regular Monthly Jazz
Club is to start up again at
Christchurch Community
Centre in January 2022.
Watch this space!

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

Do you know someone who would like to receive a Heron each month, who doesn't live in the village? Contact us at adverts@theheron.info and we will send them a subscription form.

The cost is £25.00 per year (including P&P).

**Copy Deadline** - The deadline for copy for the November edition of the Heron is 25 October 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.

#### **Editorial**

Welcome to our October Heron. I am sure you have been enjoying the sunshine this past month. I have also been enjoying watching the farmers getting in the Harvest. It takes some effort to get food to our plates and we thank them for their hard work once again. We have a 'Reading' theme running through much of the magazine this month. Apparently, during this whole Pandemic, the number of people reading books has grown tremendously - including "reading" audio books. Great to see the Book Club (p24) is getting into the 'grim and dreadful' Hallowe'en spirit – their book this month is Wuthering Heights. Enjoy!! Whilst the Pandemic is slowing down, we have been advised to still be careful. What with that, the Truck Driver shortage, and energy companies going bust, life is still a bit fraught. Things will settle eventually, so resist the temptation to be morbid, and enjoy our lovely surroundings. It will pass.

Annie Nason

#### **Heron Calendar 2022**

'Nature and Nurture in our corner of The Fens'.

Deadline for entries is October 12<sup>th</sup>. Remember - this is a fund raising 'event' which is totally Covid safe.

There's still time for you to get clicking and zooming in on nature. We have had some lovely photos. Could yours be a winner? Send it to editor@theheron.info.

Pictures will be on the website after the deadline has passed. We hope to have calendars ready for sale at the beginning of November. The price is the same as last year - unlike any other prices ((-: - £6 each, or 3 for £15. BARGAIN! Place your orders with Elaine. Call her on 01354 638310 or email your order to <a href="mailto:adverts@theheron.info">adverts@theheron.info</a>.

#### **Heron News**

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS
TO LIZ SCOTT, A MEMBER
OF OUR HERON EDITORIAL
TEAM, PICTURED HERE
WITH HER DAUGHTER
EMILY, WHO ALSO DID THE
(VERY LONG) WALK.
Great effort, you two!



They completed a 25k walk for The Brain Tumour Charity, taking in 16 London bridges - from Putney to



London Bridge - in 7 hours! This was in memory of Liz's husband and Emily's Dad, Jason Scott, who passed away earlier this year from the disease. They have raised over £1000 between them so far.



Congratulations to our MP Steve Barclay, who was appointed Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office on 15 September 2021. This is

a massive step up for him. All the best – and keep listening to your Fenland Constituents!

The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster administers the estates and rents of the Duchy of Lancaster, and is a member of the Cabinet. After the Prime Minister, he is the most senior minister in the Cabinet Office.

#### Responsibilities include:

- oversight of all Cabinet Office policy and appointment
- oversight of constitutional policy and enhancement, defending democracy and electoral law
- devolution issues and strengthening the Union
- leading public services recovery from COVID-19
- leading cross-government and public sector transformation and efficiency
- oversight of cross-government work on veterans' issues
- oversight of Cabinet Office responsibilities on National Security and resilience, and the Civil Contingencies Secretariat, including COVID-19
- the GREAT campaign.

#### 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!



On Sunday 12th September the WI joined other stall holders at the fabulous Car Show at the Community Centre. There were craft items, hot sausage rolls and delicious cakes, as well as a "Guess the Name of the Teddy" (made by Beryl Brooks) and "Guess the weight of the cake" (made by Margaret Sparrow). Winner of the teddy was Pete Miller and winner of the cake, Mick Chamberlain. We were delighted that the stall raised

over £220 - 50% of which will go to the local Community First Responders.

Two days later, our WI welcomed visitors from Doddington and Marshland St James WIs as well as a good number from our village community, to enjoy a presentation by Alan Gray, a retired Wimbledon umpire. What a wonderful meeting!

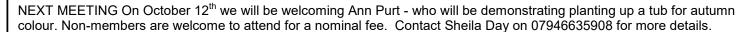
His presentation included poetry about tennis and some memorable quotes from famous players.

We were inspired by the Story of Lottie Dod, 5 times Wimbledon ladies champion in the 1880s - the first time at the age of 15! She then went on to have amazing success in golf, hockey, archery, skiiing and bridge!

There were many anecdotes of his time at Wimbledon - one memorable one was the time he had to take Boris Becker to the toilet as players were not allowed to go unaccompanied during a match! Another (possibly fictitious) one was when Serena Williams ate some of her dog's dinner and was sick - this was a mistake on her part, but there again she does "winnalot"!!!!

Alan shared with us the contents of his umpire's bag - this included a paper on which is written swear words in a number of different languages to help him monitor the behaviour of the players!

A raffle was held which raised  $\pounds 51$  for our local community first responders. Making a grand total of over £160 to send to them.





#### If your energy supplier goes out of business....

#### ADVICE FROM THE CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU

#### If your energy supplier goes out of business

Don't switch tariff or supplier until your account is moved to the new supplier. You might find it harder to get any money you're owed if you switch before this happens.

#### If your account is in credit

If your account is in credit your money is protected, unless you're a small business customer. Your new supplier will tell you how you'll be paid back.

#### If you're a small business customer

If you're a small business customer, Ofgem will try to choose a supplier that can refund some or all of your credit, but this is not guaranteed. Wait for your new supplier to contact you. They'll tell you what will happen to your credit.

#### While you're waiting to hear from your new supplier

If you have an online account, it's a good idea to log into it, check your balance and download any bills. Before your new supplier contacts you, you should:

- take meter readings it's useful to take a photo of your meter readings too
- keep any old bills you have these can help prove your payment history, credit balance or debt
- make a note of your account balance you'll find this on your most recent statement.

If you pay by direct debit, don't cancel it straight away. Wait until your new account is set up before you cancel it.

#### When you know who your new supplier is

Your new supplier will write to tell you when your new account has been set up. This should happen within a few weeks.

#### **FULL INFORMAION AVAILABLE ON THEIR WEBSITE:**

https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/problems-with-your-energy-supply/your-energy-supplier-has-gone-bust/

# NO, YOU PROBABLY DON'T HAVE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE ...

At least some of us have experienced slight memory lapses or the occasional bouts of forgetfulness and have quickly jumped (wrongfully) to the conclusion that we're on the path to Alzheimer's disease. Fear not, it's quite normal and generally not something to get worried about. It seems that if you are aware of these "moments", you can be pretty much assured that your mental capacity is fine.

In the following simple analysis, Professor Bruno Dubois, Director of the Institute of Memory and Alzheimer's Disease (IMMA) at La Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital Paris talks about the subject in a way that simplifies the issue and reassures the reader.

According to Professor Dubois, "If anyone is aware of his memory problems, he does not have Alzheimer's."

#### BUT, BUT...

You may disagree, saying "But, but...I forget the names of friends or sometimes even those of my family members." Or, "I don't remember where I put things, or I find myself standing in a room wondering why I went in there in the first place and secondly, what was it I going to do?"

As you'll see, you're not alone as these are some of the most common complaints that folks over 60 report:

- forgetting the name(s) of people
- going into a room in the house and not remembering why they were going there
- a blank memory when trying to remember a movie title or who starred in it, or the title and subject of a book
- the inability to recall where they left their glasses, wallet or keys.

Apparently, this happens to all of us, especially after the age of 60! The problem is that when we begin to notice the frequency of these "memory lapses", we tend to jump to the conclusion that we are losing our ability to remember things – what we were doing, places, people – to name just a few scenarios. But it's normal. It's not necessarily the onset of Alzheimer's.

# FORGETFULNESS COULD BE A GOOD SIGN

According to a new study conducted by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Canada and published in the *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*, being *aware* of forgetfulness is a sign that you're unlikely to develop dementia. It's those who are *unaware* of their forgetfulness, a condition called anosognosia, who are more likely to go on to develop the disease.

"If patients complain of memory problems, but their partner or caregiver isn't overly concerned, it's likely that the memory loss is due to other factors, possibly depression or anxiety," said the study's lead author Dr. Philip Gerretsen.

#### SOME MORE REASSURANCE...

Many people are concerned about their so called 'oversights' despite evidence to the contrary. So, Professor Bruno Dubois does endeavour to reassure the majority of people who have these concerns by publishing the following important observations:

Those who are conscious of being forgetful have no serious problem with memory. Those who suffer from a memory illness or from Alzheimer's, are not aware of what is happening.

The more we complain about memory loss, the less likely we are to suffer from memory sickness.

Source: Everything Retirement - Living Life Begins Now



Have you been watching this series? People who have, declare that it is fascinating, in that the programmes detail the complex nature of farming today, with all the added pressure that comes with trying to keep up with changing Government Guidelines and Rules after BREXIT.

Comments heard in our village -

"Love him or hate him, Clarkson really has shed light on the difficulties farmers face when working to bring food to our tables".

"Modern farming is driven by computers as much as anything else these days".

"It seems very difficult to make much profit".

"I didn't realise the pressure on our arable farmers - they are so dependent upon the weather".

Do you have any comments? Send them to <a href="mailto:editor@theheron.info">editor@theheron.info</a>

#### **Christchurch Gardening Club**

#### **The Autumnal Equinox**

I tend to think, that the changing of the seasons is heralded by the shortening or lengthening of the day. I'm sure you know what I mean; that moment in the evening when a glance out of the window merely confirms what we already knew, that the night is advancing more rapidly than weeks, or even days ago. In fact, as I sit at my desk typing this article, we are only nine days away from the Autumnal Equinox on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September. Astronomically speaking, this is when the Sun crosses the Celestial Equator in a Southerly direction, causing day and night to be of roughly equal length.

With Autumn we can look forward to the Harvest Festival in October, a time to celebrate all that wonderful food grown in the fertile fields that surround us in the Fens.

This celebration in Britain goes back to Pagan times. The Druids knew it back then - and still do - as Alban Elfed. So, it's time to get all those winter salads and onions and shallots planted, and prepare the gardens for the coming cold snap. But whatever you decide to do, just enjoy those gardens.

For more information on the gardening club call 01354638230

Stay safe.

Steve

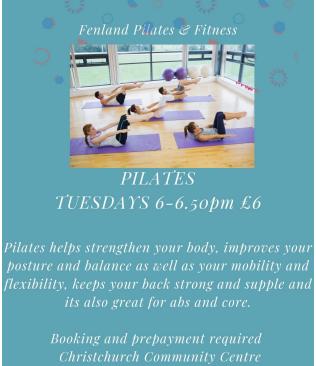
#### What happened, this month, in .... 1970!

- The war in Vietnam was still ongoing.
- · Janis Joplin dies.
- Karl Jochen Rindt won the title of Formula One World Driving Champion a month after he had died.
- Soviet author Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn wins Nobel Prize in Literature but would not be allowed to leave the Soviet Union to accept the award.

#### Top 10 songs of the week 10<sup>th</sup> October 1970:

- 1. I'll be there....Jackson 5
- 2. Ain't no mountain high enough...Diana Ross
- 3. Candida...Dawn
- 4. Cracklin Rosie...Neil Diamond
- 5. Express Yourself...Charles Wright
- 6. Julie Do vou Love Me...Bobby Sherman
- 7. Snowbird...Anne Murray
- Lookin Out my Back Door...Creedance Clearwater Revival
- 9. All Right Now...Free
- 10. Groovy Situation...Gene Chandler.





Contact Kathleen 07880 543821



#### A Year on the Farm - October

Autumn has arrived and most combinable crops are harvested. Cereal prices are strong, owing to low yields

and global shortages. Rape seed is particularly expensive, due to a 50% global shortage in area grown. Petrol and diesel prices are also up by at least 18% and are still rising. There has been a vast amount of straw baled this year; this can be seen by the huge straw stacks standing on many farms, most of which will be used in the livestock industry, which ran out last year due to the very wet winter. Consequently, stocks have been built up for this winter just in case a similar situation arises this year. Last winter proved very expensive for the livestock farmers who were paying up to £100:00 per 1ton bale delivered.

Early land cultivations were proving to be expensive this year due the very hard ground and lack of water-- it's been called 'the wettest/driest' harvest through lack of sun and rain in August - 26 days of cloud and 5 days of sun, and grain moisture not dropping below 17%. Grain moisture has to be 15% or below to store long term. On September 14<sup>th</sup>, the heavens opened and we registered 60mls of rain in just that one day! - reminding us that perhaps climate change is **actual**, **with extremes!!** 

When I was a child, we observed the 4 seasons. Nowadays, the seasons all seem to run in together, with a differential in temperature only.

The wetter ground will be a great help when lifting main crop potatoes for storing, in that the softer soil will help to eliminate bruising of the crop, when lifting. Potato lifting for storage will be soon in full swing, but only when the skins of the potatoes are set. Some varieties take longer than others for this to happen and this is a necessity in order that they keep well in store until they

are graded and sold as and when required. Some will be in store from October 2021 and not touched until June/July 2022 when they are graded and sold.

Sugar beet lifting has started in some parts, but our local factory at Wissington should be in full swing in the first week in October. In next months' edition I will have some results of sugar content and yield, to see if we can make sugar beet financially viable to grow, after the most disastrous financial loss of the crop in 2020 – 50% down

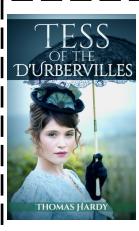
All dykes and hedges have been flail mowed and made tidy on the farm. This helps the flow of water into larger drains as winter arrives. The local Internal Drainage Board (IDB) go round the larger drains and slub them out to make sure the water is free flowing to the pumping stations. Farmers in this area are paying over £30:00 per year in drainage rates for every acre of land they farm. Add that to Mr Jeremy Clarkson's expenses! \*\*Keep watching, as he is doing a tremendous job for the farming community in telling the general public what we face every day.

To finish off, the Norvac agricultural machinery working demonstration was held recently at Bexwell, near Downham Market, on a lovely Autumnal day. 200 tractors, sprayers, drills, cultivators etc were put to work. Over 3000 people visited this event and much interest was being shown - until prices were revealed - tractors - £150,000 to £500:000; self-propelled

sprayers, £350,000; cereal drills, £100,000; ploughs, £30,000 to £130,000. Makes you wonder... how can the family farm survive in the future?

Jill Bliss





Reading is one of our themes this month. Here is a quote from Thomas Hardy's novel 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles'. You may have read it. The quote seems remarkably apt today. 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles' is set in both a time and place of societal transition from the agricultural to the industrial. The rural English towns and farm women often represent Hardy's idea of Nature, while machines and upper-class men are associated with the modernizing forces of industrialization.



"Did you say the stars were worlds, Tess?" "Yes." "All like ours?" "I don't know, but I think so. They sometimes seem to be like the apples on our stubbard-tree. Most of them splendid and sound - a few blighted." "Which do we live on - a splendid one or a blighted one?" "A blighted one."



We live in an age where we can spend hours bingeing on TV box sets or surfing social media. But despite these distractions, reading remains a popular pastime.

There's still a huge market for novels, with bestsellers like Paula Hawkins' thriller 'The Girl on the Train' able to sell around half a million copies in a year in the UK alone.



We know that reading is good for us as it improves our literacy, but what other benefits does it offer? Characters we love, or love to hate. Intriguing characters can often hook us into a story, but reading helps us to develop our own ideas and personalities as we

compare our reactions and beliefs to those in the story.

#### Hidden health benefits

But reading does more than just help us to learn about our own personalities. It's good for our health, too. Studies show that it can increase our emotional intelligence as we understand a range of perspectives and motivations. There is some evidence that mental stimulation is one of the factors that can delay the onset of dementia and reading is among the activities that can help to keep the brain active. It is far from a passive pastime. When we read, we create mental simulations of the activities, sights and sounds of scenes in a story, blending these with

our own memories and experiences, all of which stimulates the neural pathways.



As well as this, research suggests that reading for 30 minutes a week increases health and wellbeing. Reading for pleasure has been found to improve our confidence and self-esteem, providing the grounding we need to pursue our goals and make life decisions. It can also aid our sleep and reduce feelings of loneliness. To the onlooker, reading can appear to be a solitary and passive activity. But the simple act of picking up a book can do us a world of good.

Reading is **an active mental process** – Unlike TV, books make you to use your brain. By reading, you think more and become smarter. It is a fundamental skill builder - Every good course on the planet has a matching book to go with it. It gives *you* the endurance to accomplish more cerebral tasks, and improved introspection that by itself can improve your critical thinking. (Sources – various including Reddit)

#### Adult literacy. DID YOU KNOW?

It's estimated that nine million adults in the UK find doing things like filling out forms, writing birthday cards or reading bedtime stories a struggle. If you or anyone you know is struggling and would like some help, get in touch editor@theheron.info FULLY CONFIDENTIAL. We can put you in touch with someone local who can help. GO FOR IT!



#### TARANTULA TRUFFLES

(Recipe from the Dairy Diary 2021)

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

Dark Chocolate 75g broken into pieces
Mini Chocolate Brownie Bites 200g crumbled
Seedless Raspberry Jam 100g
Chocolate Orange Sticks 32
Edible Eye Cake Decorations 16
Chocolate Vermicelli

#### **METHOD:**

- 1. Put dark chocolate in a heatproof bowl set over a pan of barely simmering water until melted. Remove bowl from heat and leave to cool for 10 minutes.
- 2. Stir in brownie crumbs and 75g of the jam. Cover and chill for 30 minutes until firm enough to shape.
- 3. Divide mixture into 8 equal portions. One at a time, break off a small piece for the head and for the body and form each in to balls. Gently press the head on to the body, flattening edges slightly, then place on a board lined with baking paper. Repeat until all the mixture is used up.
- 4. Break chocolate sticks in half and poke into the sides of the spiders to resemble legs. Chill for an hour until firm.
- 5. Carefully brush the backs of the eyes with jam and stick them in place on each spider. Brush the bodies lightly with more jam if needed and sprinkle with chocolate vermicelli for a hairy appearance. If warm, chill for 30 minutes to firm up before serving.

## Granary Studio

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#### GIRL POWER THIS SUMMER!

Paralympics GB had a record number of female athletes for the Tokyo Games. There were one hundred women in the 227-member British team. Congratulations to you all.

One of them had an eventful games! 'Gutted' and wounded Hannah Cockroft jokes after winning seventh Paralympic gold. Bloodied but still not beaten Hannah Cockroft powered to yet another Paralympic gold - and then admitted she was 'gutted' to miss her own world record.

There is no pleasing some people, but class act Cockroft is often in a race with herself at these Games, banking her seventh career gold with a victory in the T34 800m at a rainy Olympic Stadium.

As close as it can be to a wheelchair racing certainty, Cockroft almost didn't make the start line after catching herself in the spokes of her chair during warm-up, competing with her right hand heavily bandaged. (Source: Hull Live)

Great Britain's Hannah Cockroft celebrates after winning the Women's 800m T34 Final.

And how about 18 year old Emma Raducanu winning the US Open Tennis Tournament this year? What a brilliant achievement! After playing 3 matches to qualify for the draw, and then 7 matches to gain the trophy ... and not having dropped a set throughout. A.M.A.Z.I.N.G. Both superb athletes, and what wonderful Role

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE - Calling all Christchurch girls! If you are the sporty type, here is an opportunity not to be missed. Join a local U15 Girls Football group

Models!

"Under 15 Girls Football/Soccer practice in Manea Park. If there are any Under 15 Girls in Christchurch that would like to play, let me know", says Coach Scott MacNeil.

Contact him, join up and enjoy!

Basrah.gsu@gmail.com 01354 680238

Have you come across this wonderful charity? WHIZZ-KIDZ is its name and this is what they do. To find out all about them, visit <a href="https://www.whizz-kidz.org.uk/charity">https://www.whizz-kidz.org.uk/charity</a>
Why not support a young wheelchair user? Abigail's story:
When Junior Team GB's Abigail could no longer walk without pain, she lost her hope and confidence. Donations can restore young people's lives and ambitions, making sport accessible and inclusive for all. Whizz-Kidz can help with a broad

range of Mobility Equipment. They also run a whole range of other services for young people. All free of charge. Wonderful!



#### **Christchurch Christmas Tree Festival 2021**

We are hoping to hold a Christmas Tree Festival again this year, in the church. It will take place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November, which is the day before the first Sunday of Advent. Trees will be dressed on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November. There will be a date announced nearer the time, when all folks who are interested can meet and sort out further details.

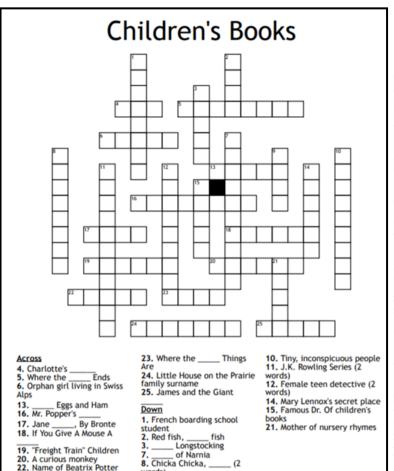
We would like to have a theme this year and we are suggesting 'Christmas Carols', however, you do not have to stick to this theme if you have other ideas. Individuals, groups and clubs are all welcome to decorate a tree.

Please remember that you will have to provide your own artificial tree, lights must only be battery operated LED type and please no edible decorations.

If you are interested in decorating a tree, please contact me, Helen Chappell, on 07702 225259.

#### Kids Corner ... a book theme this month





Use the grid to colour the squares and discover a Harry Potter character.

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4	4	4	4	5	5	3	3	4	5	4	3	3	5	5	4	4	4	4
4	4	4	4	5	5	3	3	5	4	5	3	3	5	5	4	4	4	4

#### Key:

1	Beige	5	Dark Red
2	Dark Beige	6	Blue
3	Gray	7	Red-Orange
4	Black		

\*Blank squares are white

of Green Gables

words)

19. "Freight Train" Children 20. A curious monkey 22. Name of Beatrix Potter



Well much cheese was purchased along with various bottles of wine to help entice everyone back to the village Craft Club after a very long break. We were delighted to welcome about 20 people to our first meeting including some new faces amongst the group who brought along some really interesting and beautiful crafts that they had made - and others who were just happy to have a go at the things we had available to try - zentagle, decoupage, mandala colouring sheets to name a few.

It was lovely to meet some people who were new to the area and who were very interested in seeing what our little group

was all about. We hope they will come back this month to have a go at some Origami. The next session will be on Wednesday 6 October at 7pm. There will be an entry fee of £3.00 which will include materials and refreshments (and help cover room hire).

#### 

We are also planning another day workshop in October - details below. Places are very limited on this one so book early to avoid disappointment.

BEGINNERS CROCHET - GRANNY SQUARES, Christchurch Community Centre [Limited to 8 people only] Friday 22 October 2021 - 10.00am - 3.00pm

Cost: £20.00 cash payment with booking please (includes all materials, tuition, tea & coffee but please bring your own lunch). To book your place, please contact Elaine on 01354 638310.

Our first ever day workshop - which was a wreath making day with Caroline from Twisty Willow Floristry - was a great success. Everyone seemed to really enjoy the day which was fairly relaxed and appreciated by all who attended. We hope to have another one nearer to Christmas so watch this space.











#### So why the change in fuel for cars?

I'm sure you will all have noticed the move from E10 to E5 fuel at all petrol pumps. However, you may not be as aware of the reasons why. The move has been made to reduce the harmful emissions from the burning of fossil fuels.

Unleaded fuel currently sold in the UK contains up to five per cent bioethanol, hence the name E5. Bioethanol is produced solely from crops, such as sugar beet, and isn't a fossil fuel, so is deemed a renewable source. Filling stations have by law had to label petrol pumps to state they were E5 in 2019.

E10 will contain 10 percent bioethanol and will be even better for the environment. The current move to E10 is expected to reduce emissions by an amount equivalent to taking all cars off the roads in Yorkshire permanently. The government aim to continue to increase the use of bio fuels in the future. We live in an area which is leading the way in the manufacture of bio fuels which are used in farming machinery.

Liz Scott

#### Near...

"The village inn, the dear old inn, So ancient, clean and free from sin," said John Betjeman.

We are so very lucky to have a great, thriving village pub on our doorstep. Paul and Sue took on The Dun Cow only months before the pandemic and since then have worn their thinking caps a good deal. People missed their fish and chips, so this was put onto the Friday night menu, along with home-made pies (which sell out quickly!).



During lockdowns, the pub continued to provide fish and chips, as a very popular take away choice and since then they have added Saturday night pizzas, to either eat in or take out. Not long ago I was lucky enough to take part in the pub's first Afternoon Tea...what can I say? Paul and Sue surpassed all expectations — sandwiches, cheese straws, quiche, sausage rolls and then the desserts- so very tempting! I had to forego the savoury scone to save some room and eventually leaned back in my chair to say thanks to Paul.

'You haven't finished yet,' he quipped 'there are two more platters!' This included delicious cream eclairs made by Paul's dad, all washed down with tea, coffee or a cheeky glass of prosecco. All we wanted to know was when the next one will be? The pub puts on various events to cater for all ages and tastes and is a great supporter of local charities, hosting a MIND plant sale, and collecting for the Air Ambulance. Check out the Events in The Heron so you don't miss out!

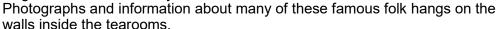
#### ...and Far

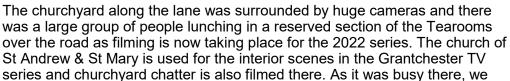
Looking for somewhere different to go, not too far afield, but interesting for a day trip? Have you been to Grantchester – yes, like the TV programme, and yes, it really does exist! A pretty village, well worth a wander on a sunny day to see the thatched cottages and houses

adorned with wisteria in May.



Grantchester Meadows offer a longer walk, but we stopped off for coffee at the Tea Rooms and didn't walk that far. A culturally–rich village, it is linked with names such as Virginia Wolff, Rupert Brooke and, more recently, Roger Waters of Pink Floyd, to name but a few.





had to forego the churchyard, but Wikipedia gives much more information about those resting there. Lunchtime proved trickier as two hostelries (The Blue Ball and The Rupert Brooke) aren't open on Mondays and Tuesdays at present so we had more time to catch up and natter while we waited for a table at The Red Lion but relaxing outside in the sunshine while we waited wasn't too onerous! Then the drive home was a choice between the M11/A14 route or a leisurely amble through more pretty villages – you can guess which one I chose to bring me home!



Grantchester

Sue Rudge

#### **LUNCH BREAK**

[Annie Nason 01354 638088]

Put the date in your diary – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021 from 12 noon – 2pm. in the Community Centre. IT'S FREE!

BYO Lunch. Catch up with old friends, make new ones. Chat over lunch with Tea or Coffee and relax.

Always the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month.

Please note ... Many of our regulars are in the Age risk category for Covid, although most will have had both their vaccinations a while back, so our plan is to be cautious - Hands, Face, Space, Ventilation.



#### Our focus is to explore and experiment with the various painting and drawing media.

#### Christchurch Art Group



- 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 meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month 1.30-3.30 in the Village Hall (term time) Autumn term stars on the 14<sup>th</sup> September for six sessions. We start back with some basic information on papers, brushes and how to use them.

If you would like a programme please contact Jan and one will be sent with any further information

Please contact ... Sandra 01354 638478 or Jan 01354 638217 (janandcliff@brimstone46.plus.com) ... for more information, or come along and see what we do

\*(Please note when we start back we may still have to follow 'Covid' rules, so may not be able to offer equipment to borrow. Items can be ordered for use if requested)





#### **Indoor Short Mat Bowls**

New club meeting every Monday 7-9pm at Christchurch Community Centre.

For further details call Janet Harper on 07941 465319.



## Christchurch Stargazers

Hello Christchurch Stargazers. Sorry we have not been able to meet up yet but I am sure we can solve that before Christmas.

So, what will October bring? **Mercury** is poorly positioned at the start of October, returning to the morning sky for a good display from mid-month onwards. Venus will be an evening planet, which remains low after sunset. A 14%-lit Waxing Crescent Moon lies nearby on 9 October. Mars is in solar conjunction on 8 October and not visible. A rare double transit of **Ganymede** and **Callisto**'s shadows occurs on the evening of 4 October 2021. Jupiter is an evening planet, reaching greatest altitude early evening. A Waxing Gibbous Moon near on 14-15 Oct. Saturn is an evening planet, reaching highest altitude early evening. A Waxing Gibbous Moon near on 13-14 Oct. Uranus will be well-positioned and is a morning planet, lying close to similarly bright Omicron (o) Arietis on 13 October. Neptune being a well-placed evening planet, reaching maximum altitude of over 30° in darkness all month.

The **Draconid Meteor Shower**, also sometimes known as the *Giacobinids*, is one of the two meteor showers to annually grace the skies in the month of October. The **Draconids** will peak on the night between Oct 8–9. The **Orionids** is the second meteor shower in October. It usually peaks around October 21.

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

Mark Andrews

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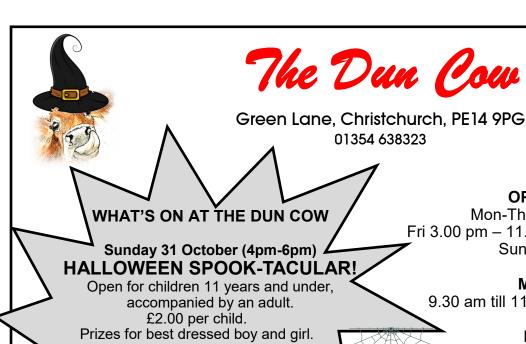
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**Adult menu**: 2 different curries each week, 2 chapatis and rice – £10

**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

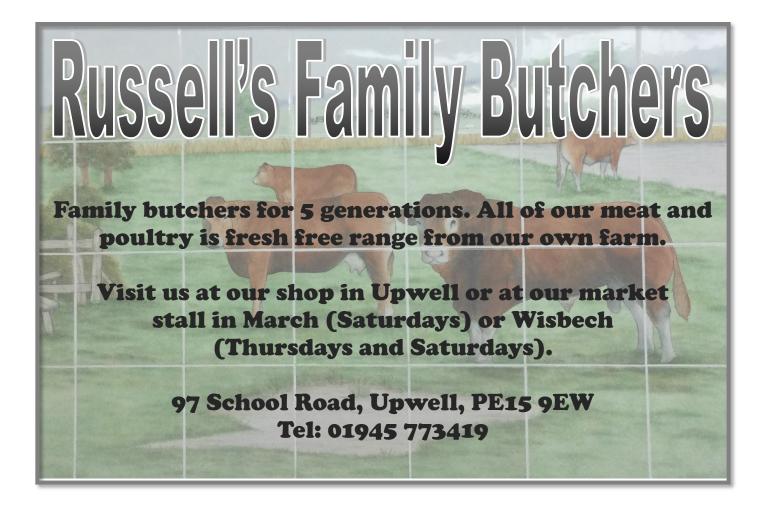
Please place your order by Wednesday 7pm for your Friday Curry.

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Christchurch Community Centre Contact Kathleen 07880 543821 kathenderson888@gmail.com

#### Christchurch Parish Church Harvest Supper

Saturday 9th October 2021

Christchurch Community Centre 6.30pm until 10.00pm

#### Menu

Cottage Pie served with vegetables

Caramelised onion, spinach and mushroom Cottage Pie (Vegetarian) served with vegetables. Various desserts Tea and Coffee

Entertainment by singer and guitarist Simon Rodgers.

Tickets £10

For tickets, please contact:
Helen Chappell 07702 225259,
Karen Beers 07483 272580 or
Sheila Day 07946 635908
Soft drinks will be provided but feel free to bring your own alcohol.



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- Lawrence Clark Powell VeryBest Quotes.com

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#### **Church News**

During October we will be continuing to lift some of the restrictions in church such that booking is no longer required but we will continue to be cautious and adhere to social distancing within the church building and encourage mask wearing.

On 10th October at 10:30 - Holy Communion On 24th October at 15:30 - Evening Prayer On 7th November at 10:30 - Morning Prayer

There are no plans for a Harvest Festival this year at Christchurch, but the Benefice is holding one at Manea on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October at 10.30. I (Andrew) will be attending and am happy to organise lifts for anyone from our village wishing to attend. Please get in touch.

We will be holding a Harvest Supper on Saturday 9th October in the Community Centre, further details on page 21. We are also delighted to announce that Coffee, Cake and Chat will recommence on Thursday

14<sup>th</sup> October 2pm - 3.30pm in the church. Please note now Thursday rather than Friday. We will be discussing at this session the arrangement for future sessions. All are very welcome.

Complementary to the live services, throughout October we will continue 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.

See the church noticeboard or the updates on the

Christchurch Community Facebook page for any further news.

Regards,

Helen and Andrew



#### Thoughts from the Rectory

#### You Have All The Time In The World.

A friend of mine went to the garden centre and purchased a tree for his garden, and while in the garden centre saw a sign which read, "The best time to plant a tree was twenty-five years ago. The second-best time is now". If he had planted the tree years ago, he would be enjoying its shade in the summer, and autumn colours and - depending upon the tree - either brilliant blooms or fruits. Whereas now, he will have to settle for a sapling with only the promise of future elegance. But if he doesn't plant the tree, he will never enjoy its blessings or beauty!

Similarly, we have all the time in the world to do whatever we need, or feel called, to do for God. "For now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation". (2. Corinthian's 6:2). It's not like a holiday that always seems

impossible to schedule, when we have the time but we don't have the money; we have the money, but we don't have the time. Planting trees and living life to the full all happens in the here and now. The past has gone, along with those opportunities, but the future may be unknown and scary, but it offers the potential for *something*.

"Tomorrow never comes" for, as the song from the musical 'Annie' says, "You're only a day away". And if I could add a line of my own, 'and always only a day away'; whilst the past - which may have been filled with regret and disappointment - is gone for ever. You have all the time in the world to be all you can be - for those around you and for the Lord. You have all the time in the world to have the second chance at life that you desire so much - IF YOU DO IT NOW.

I'm off to the garden centre to get my tree.

Keep well, keep safe.

lan.

# STOP BEING OFFENDED

by Facebook posts, by a piece of art, by people displaying their affection, by what someone said to you.

BE OFFENDED by war, poverty, greed, injustice.

The Celtic Christian Tradition

#### **Parish Council Snippets**

Now that lockdown has relaxed, the meeting was held in the main hall at the community centre, and there was a great turnout from the village.

After the usual introductory items, Public time gave those present a chance to ask some questions. One relating to the Community Centre was passed on to the Community Centre committee - the PC has no say in the day to day running of the hall.

There was a long discussion on the problems of speed on Padgetts Road, with many people who live along that stretch present at the meeting. The clerk explained that due to the relatively low housing density (not enough housing within 800m), it's almost impossible to have this speed limit changed, despite the PC having tried numerous times to get it done in the past. The residents posed a very strong case, backed up by a petition, for a reduction in the limit along this stretch of road. There is no doubt amongst members of the PC that this stretch of road should have a reduced speed limit, but the decision on these matters is down to Highways rather than the PC. However, the PC decided that this year we will again attempt, via the LHI scheme, to get some sort of reduction along Padgetts Road. The PC would welcome any help and support from other local councillors and our MP, as this will strengthen our case.

A resident gave an update on the bus shelter improvements, with another giving some excellent suggestions on decoration. This project is being taken over by our local Street Pride group.

Back to the Agenda, and the clerk gave updates on the path to the new builds on Upwell Road - construction should start soon. Street lights that were due to be replaced have been done, but there are a couple of older ones that need repairing. This has been reported. The drain outside a resident's house, that has been causing problems with flooding, has been examined and the reasons for its blockage is down to damage caused to the drain when the sewerage system was installed about ten years ago. There are still many more that need to be cleared however, and an accurate map of those blocked will need to be created for the council to use when clearing them.

During the members and resident agenda item, the cutting of roadside verges was discussed, these have now been done. The Bowls Club was discussed. Sadly, unless someone can be found to maintain the green, it seems likely the club will fold. The PC briefly discussed alternative uses, but no decisions have been made.

There was a specific item on the agenda to discuss LHI and its implementation. The PC is adding its name to a letter to be sent to the Leader and Deputy leader of CCC to try and get the panel membership makeup changed, to prevent any favouritism when judges on the panel also have bids in place. In addition, as mentioned above, the PC decided that this year's bid will be another attempt to get a speed limit introduced on Padgetts Road.

At the end of the meeting, the public was excluded so the PC could discuss quotes received for arboriculture works to be done around the village. These works should commence shortly.

There have been enquiries about when the next village PC Elections are - they are on 4 May 2023 if anyone is interested in putting their names forward.

James Hughes

#### Christchurch Book Club

Book club met on 21<sup>st</sup> September. We had been reading The Thursday Murder Club" by Richard Osman.



The Thursday Murder Club is a whodunnit based in a retirement complex. A group of residents meet regularly to attempt to solve unsolved crimes and then encounter one of their own to solve. Most of the group had enjoyed the book - although some reflected that it had received an extraordinary amount of "hype" because of the TV fame of the author.

Our next book is "Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte. I suspect this may be a bit of a challenge - responses will be interesting!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 19th October 7,30pm at Elaine Reed-Hughes's house, 40 Church Rd.

New members are always welcome.

### Fancy a day out?

#### Here's what's on in October

1 & 2 October 2021 Friday 10.00 am - 4.30pm and Saturday 9.00am - 4.30pm

**Peterborough Festival of Antiques:** East of England Showground, Peterborough PE2 6XE Entry Fee Friday £7.50 Saturday £5.00 Under 16s free. Free Parking Disabled Access



2 October 2021 Saturday 11.00- 3.00pm

**Lego event at Murrow Village Hall:** 19 Murrow Bank, Wisbech St Mary, Wisbech PE13 4HB Tel: 07891 175649 Disabled access. £1 entry on the door. Mini figures and kits for sale.

2 October 2021 Saturday 10.00am - 4.00pm

Tack a Holics Annual Rug Raid: March Riverside, Upwell PE14 0LL

Second Hand turn out rugs, stable rugs, fleeces, hoods etc

10,17 & 24 October 2021

**Exhibition of Artwork by local artists Upwell Methodist Church**. (See page 4 for details)

17 October 2021 Sunday 10.00am-3.00pm

Antique & Collectors and Retro Fair: The Ivy Leaf Club, Gracious Street, Whittlesey PE7 1AP £3 Entry fee, Free Parking Tel. 01733 204353 Take small items to sell at the fair.

Selling jewellery, furniture, clocks, china, memorabilia, books, militaria.

17 October 2021 Sunday 2021. 10.00am-4.00pm

Artisan Market - Market Place, Wisbech PE13

Farmers produce, children and baby items, jewellery, handmade and locally sourced gifts

23 October 2021 Saturday 1.30pm- 10.00pm

Oktoberfest Newmarket: The Severals, Fordham Road, Newmarket CB8 Traditional Street food, live entertainment and beer! Over 18s only No pets www.skiddle.com/venues





**23–31 October 2021. Skylark Week of Wickedness:** Skylark Garden Centre, Manea Rd, March PE15 0PE Tel: 01354 741212 <a href="info@skylarkmaizemaze.co.uk">info@skylarkmaizemaze.co.uk</a> Pumpkins, Phantoms and Comedy.

30 October 2021 Saturday 6.30pm- 9.00pm Halloween Party: Leverington Sport Club Church Road, Leverington, Wisbech PE13 5DE Ticket Only event

Disco, Games and Prizes, Best Child Costume, Best Adult Costume All children must be Accompanied by an adult £8 per ticket (covers adult +1 child, £3 thereafter for sibling tickets) Tickets available behind the bar or phone Lisa 07813 973643.

#### A Point of View

Someone once said: "IF YOU DO NOTHING ELSE FOR THEM, TEACH YOUR CHILD TO THINK!" Thinking enables us to look at two sides of an argument; to make decisions based on discovering and understanding different aspects of the problem in hand. There are so many more examples!

Reading to very young children, among other positive effects, encourages them to think. They have to use their imagination to visualise the happenings in the story book or poem. They will then develop a love of reading and thinking/imagining when they are able to read for themselves.

There are many other ways to encourage children to think. All young children want to know things Here is an example of how not to encourage thinking and how to encourage thinking in a young child. Let's suppose you are walking along side a stream or river, holding on to a small hand. Suddenly a bird flies past you both in a flash of colour. How would you talk about it to the child? Here are 2 options. Which one encourages thought?

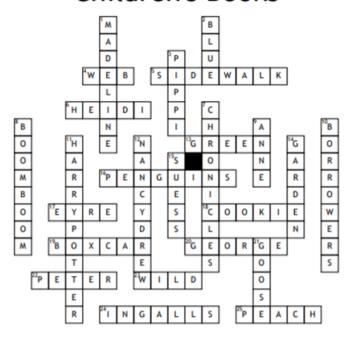
- 1. "Ooh. Did you see that Kingfisher? They catch fish to eat".
- 2. "Ooh. Did you see that bird? It's called a Kingfisher. Can you say that? What do you think it likes to eat? There's a clue in its name".

Answers from Kids Corner on Page 10

Useful Telephone Nu	mbers
Age UK Cambridgeshire	0300 666 9860
Alzheimer's Society (Fenland)	01945 580480
Churchwarden - Mr Andy Day	07740 056563
Citizens' Advice Bureau, Wisbech	03442 451292
Community Car Scheme (to book a journey)	07902 316360
Community Centre Bookings (Bryan Burfield)	07918 664402
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
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	
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 - Janet Harper	01354 638681
WI - Sheila Day	07946 635908
Jazz Club - Nigel Smith	01945 773121
Christchurch Eco - Nate Lansdell	07568 192940
01 1 1 1 01	07405 405445

Answers to book cover quiz									
The Gruffalo By Julia Donaldson	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone By JK Rowling	The Wind in the Willows By Kenneth Graham	Where the Wild Things Are By Maurice Sendak	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory By Roald Dahl					
Elmer By David McKee	The Cat in the Hat By Dr Seuss	Diary of a Wimpy Kid By Jeff Kinny	Charlotte's Web By EB White	The Tiger who came to Tea By Judith Kerr					

#### Children's Books





07425 165415

Christchurch Stargazers - Mark Andrews

#### Seaside Memories by Pat Rigby

Growing up in the 60s was a fun time if you were a child. Growing up near the sea was even better, because you had the beach to play on as well as other mischief you could get up to. Unless that sea happened to be at Aldeburgh in Suffolk. The lovely soft sand you see on seaside towns picture postcards is replaced by a very stony beach. Still, no matter, we had the model boat pond to float the model boats - or in my case, the paper ones I made, which always went soggy. The lifeboat used to be on the beach then (it's now in a boathouse) and to a child it was a huge boat and something that you really wanted to get into, to explore, like I did with the smaller row boats, but maybe on dry land rather than the water (perhaps a miracle that didn't

happen, knowing me!)



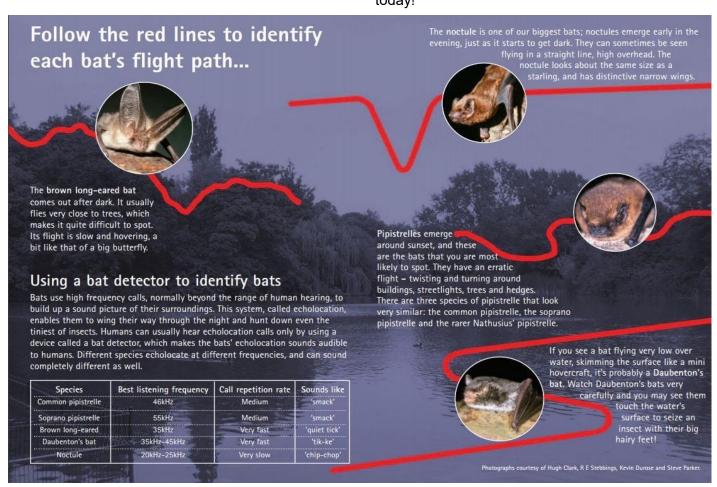
At the time I lived there, until we moved away in the 1970s, this small town was quiet and was known mainly for the fact that the composer Benjamin Britten lived

there. We lived on the edge of the fown near the golf course. It was a bit of a walk to get to the town. When we got our new Labrador puppy, I was more interested in him than my baby brother, and took my brother out of his pram, put the puppy in it and proceeded to walk to the town - until I got stopped and hauled back home! Luckily, I hadn't got as far as the steep town steps with the pram, and my brother was no worse for wear having being dumped in the garden, whereas I got a huge telling off.

Before we got our Labrador puppy, we had a Boxer dog called Sombre. My grandfather used to love to visit and taking him to the beach. Sombre was a quite a big leggy Boxer and was huge when stood on his hind legs. Being a Boxer, which are known for being rather excitable (maybe I encouraged that somewhat), one day he pulled my grandad over and then proceeded to stand and slobber all over him, whilst people were running from all over the place to pull the dog off him, thinking he was being attacked. My dad said everyone in the town was talking about it afterwards! Sombre got rehomed to my dad's friend, after coming home once too often with a live chicken in his mouth from the farm behind us. My mum still laughs at that now, after all these years- the beach incident not the chicken!

Living in Christchurch now, I marvel at the jets flying over our village and it was the same in Aldeburgh. At that time, the USAF was based at Bentwaters and Woodbridge. Seeing the planes flying over the sea and so low was exciting, but also a bit scary to a child, due to the noise. What was even scarier, though, was the TV programme 'Dr Who', at the time featuring the 'Sea Devils'. Many a nightmare was had, seeing those walking out of the sea and up our road to get me!

Aldeburgh today has lost none of its charm. The 14<sup>th</sup> century Moot Hall, the fish and crab shacks and the famous chip shop at the end of the town with queues of people lining up, is just how I remember it. It wasn't a place where you got the large number of visitors you get today, but if you have never been, it's a truly lovely place to visit, with Thorpeness, Leiston and Snape Maltings nearby. The bungalow I lived in is still there. The boat pond and golf club too. Would I live there again? I would love to, but not at the house prices there today!





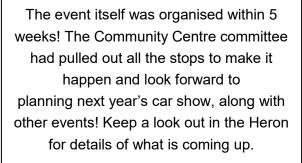




# CHRISTCHURCH CAR SHOW



from the Women's Institute and local producers selling everything from craft beer to hand painted watercolour cards, flower arrangements and food. There were stalls and amusements outside.

















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.

