

The Heron

Community Magazine

April 2022

Delivered to homes in Christchurch, Euximoor and Tipps End

No.96

Christchurch to twin with Christchurch New Zealand!

Information leaked by the only Parish Councillor who voted against the plan! See pages 6 for more details.





In this issue!

Townley School	2
Useful Numbers/Your Letters	3
Advertising/Diary Dates	4
Editorial/Heron News	5
Community Information	6
Christchurch Twinning	6
Being a Fenland Teenager	7
What's on in April/Top 10	8
Kids Corner	9
Easter Quiz	10
Church News/Lent Lunch	11
Thoughts from the Rectory	11
Point of View/Classical Gem	12
Farming in Past Times	13
WWT/Nature Notes	14
Christchurch Ukraine Effort	15
Recipe	16
Clubs	17-18
Tech Fun	19
Pivotal Moments	20
Quiz/Sudoku Answers	26
Local Events	27
March St George's Fayre	28

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Editorial Team Leader - Annie Nason

Treasurer, Advertising Manager, Publisher - Elaine Reed-Hughes

Editorial Team Members: Sue Norman, Liz Scott, Pat Rigby, Elaine Reed-Hughes

Deliveries Manager - Annie Nason

Support—Lewis Bennett (IT), the Delivery Team and Printers

ENQUIRIES

editor@theheron.info Tel: 01354 638088

adverts@theheron.info Tel: 01354 638310



Website: www.theheron.info



TOWNLEY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL

Christchurch, Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 9NA office@townley.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.townley.cambs.sch.uk

01354 638229

March 2022



Facebook—Townley School and Pre-School

Remember that our website has lots more information about school.

I am delighted to let you all know that funding for the new classroom build has been agreed by the council! I have met with the designers and the local authority. It should be ready to use by September 2024. In addition to the new class there will be remodelling work in the current Y5/6 classroom to make it one big room for EYFS to have as their classroom! We raised an amazing £280 for Ukraine by wearing yellow and blue, and selling keyrings made by one of the children.

We are extremely fortunate at Townley to have an amazing number of volunteers who support us is a variety of ways. As well as our amazing Governing Body, we have three volunteers who come in weekly and hear children read, this has been essential given the disruption children have faced due to the disruption the pandemic has caused. Friends of Townley School is made up entirely of volunteers who support with fundraising. We welcome volunteers, perhaps you have an hour or so to spare each week to hear readers, or teach the children a new skill? Or even to tidy up our forest area - get in touch, we would love to hear from you.



In Emperor Class (Years 5 and 6)

Our class reader this term is Malorie Blackman's poignant and thought-provoking award-winner Pig Heart Boy. Cameron is thirteen and his heart is failing. He needs a heart transplant - fast. Then a pioneering doctor approaches his family with a startling proposal... This is a must read for adults and children. We have been working with 20Twenty Productions, on a project about climate change, as well as learning some new computing skills, you can see some of our work on our weekly newsletter.

In Emerald Class (Years 3 and 4)

In **History**, our second lesson was asking the question: What was it like to live in Rome? We talked about a few famous Roman Emperors such as Julius Caesar, Augustus, Nero or Hadrian. We watched a short video showing us what Rome's forum (= town centre) would have looked like with the temples dedicated to various Gods, the basilica (courthouses, offices and shops), the plaza (open space or market place in the centre of the forum), the Colosseum where Romans would have gone for entertainment to watch gladiators or chariot racing and finally, the architecture.

In EYFS Class (Years N and R)

Reception have been learning how to subitise in maths (recognising an amount without counting). Throughout the setting, we have been talking about our history and showing photos of when the children and their parents were babies. Special thanks to Wisbech Museum for lending us an old fashioned washboard and flat iron for the children to explore alongside our story "Peepo". We have also explored growth as part of British Science Week, planting bulbs, exploring the forest and talking about the growth in population.

Hawker Class (Year 1 and 2)

We had an excellent World Book Day and it was lovely to share our favourite books with the Early Years pupils. We also created our own "reading rivers" of the recent books that we have read. Mrs Steer read children her favourite book "Tell me a dragon" and then they all created their own dragons on paper and wrote adjectives to describe them. We took part in a live lesson for British Science Week on growth.

Useful Telephone Numbers

Age UK Cambridgeshire	0300 666 986	30
Alzheimer's Society (Fenland)	01945 58048	30
Churchwarden - Mr Andy Day	07740 05656	33
Citizens' Advice Bureau, Wisbech	03442 45129	92
Community Car Scheme (to book a j	ourney) 07902 31636	30
Community Centre Bookings (Bryan	Burfield) 07918 66440)2
Community Fire Safety Officer	07717 85816	36
District Councillor - Will Sutton	01354 63802	25
District Councillor - Michelle Tanfield	07908 70712	29
Electricity Faults - UK Power Networ	ks 10)5
FACT	01354 66123	34
Fenland District Council	01354 65432	21
Floodline	0845 988 118	38
Library - March	0354 045 522	25
National Debtline	0808 808 400	0(
NHS	11	11
Norfolk Dial-a-Ride	01553 77031	10
Parish Clerk - David Gibbs	07932 19105	50
Parish Councillor - Jill Bliss	01354 63834	13
Parish Councillor - Sharon Pomeroy	07837 40753	36
Parish Councillor - Roger Gladwin	01354 63853	38
Parish Councillor - Geoff Harper	01354 63868	31
Parish Councillor - James Hughes	01354 63831	10
Parish Councillor - Peter Owen (Cha	ir) 01354 63884	17
Parish Councillor - Kay Miller	01354 63823	32
Police - PCSO Sue Clarke	07738 02522	20
Police - Emergency	99	99
Police - Non Emergency	10)1
Telephone Preference Service	0345 070 070)7
Townley School	0496469099	
Trading Standards	03454 04050)6
Train Information	03457 48495	50
Train Information Upwell Health Centre (and out of hou Upwell Health Centre - Pharmacy	urs) 01945 77367	71
Upwell Health Centre - Pharmacy	01945 77493	34
Upwell Health Centre - Pharmacy Veterinary Centre - The Crossings (E	O'Mkt) 01366 38221	19
Vicars - Ian & Lynda Brady	01354 74062	27
Water Emergencies	02157 11511	15
Art Club - Jan Clifford	01251 62021	17
Book Club - Sheila Day	07946 63590)8
Book Club - Sheila Day Gardening Club - Marion Hawthorn Short Mat Bowls Club - Janet Harper	01354 63823	30
Short Mat Bowls Club - Janet Harper	r 01354 63868	31
WL-Sheila Day)8
Jazz Club - Cat Johnson	musiciancat@hotmail.co.ul	
	07568 19294	10
Christchurch Stargazers - Mark Andr	rews 07425 16541	-

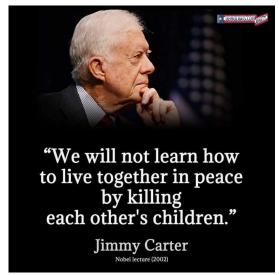
Your Letters

Dear Ed

I noticed in the article on trees in our village in the March edition of The Heron that there are quite a few Ash trees in the village. I recently went on a Graveyard Management Seminar and learned that Ash Die Back Disease is on the increase in the UK. In fact, it is estimated that 75% of Ash trees will die during the next decade. When diseased, the Ash tree becomes brittle and then poses significant safety issues. A diseased tree becomes dangerous due to falling branches and tree fall.

Unfortunately, I don't know how catching Ash Die Back can be prevented or treated but I did think it was worth alerting the readers and particularly those who might have an Ash tree on their land.

Helen Chappell.





Sue, Peter and the Norman family would like to thank everyone for the many cards and condolences that they received following the loss of Doris. Also for your presence at the funeral, and later at the Dun Cow.

It was a great comfort to us to see so many familiar faces.

Sue, Peter and the family



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

Advertising in the Heron

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.

Advertisers - all our advert rates and conditions can be found on our website www.theheron.info. 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).

Diary Dates

DATE	EVENT	TIME	PLACE	PAGE			
Sun 3 rd	Welle Cinema	2pm	3 Holes V Hall	20			
Tues 5 th	Mobile Library	12 noon	Lay-by (Fen View)	6			
Sun 10 th	Palm Sunday Service	10.30am	Church	11			
Sun 10 th	Lent Lunch	12 noon	Church	11			
Mon 11 th	PC Meeting	7.30pm	CCC				
Tues 12 th	WI	7pm	CCC	18			
Weds 13 th	Lunch Break	12-2pm	CCC	18			
Sun 17 th	Sun 17 th Easter Sunday Service		Church	11			
Tues 19 th	Gardening Club	7pm	7pm CCC				
Sun 24 th	Jazz Club	12.30-2.45pm	CCC				
Tues 26 th	Book Club	7.30pm	5, Fen View	17			
Weds 27 th	Lunch Break Special	12-2pm	CCC	18			
Every Mon	Short Mat Bowls	7-9pm	CCC	18			
Every Weds	Chair-based exercise class Kathleen Henderson	10-10.50am 07880 543821	CCC				
Every Thurs	Coffee, Cake & Chat	2-3pm	Church				
M,T,W,TH	Mobile Post Office	Various	Lay-by(Fen View)	6			
ALSO CHECK "WHAT'S ON?" p8 + DUN COW EVENTS p26							

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

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

Editorial

Welcome to our April magazine....and welcome to some gorgeous Spring weather, as I write! This part of the world looks lovely in every season, but in the Spring, it looks particularly beautiful. Catkins on willows, new pale green leaf growth, Blackthorn blossom and early prunus blossoms are all around us.

This month we have a focus on our Parish Council and the work that it does for us. Thank you to all the Councillors who voluntarily give of their time and energy for the good of our village. The central pages this month form a booklet which can be pulled out and kept, if you would like to do that.

Well done and thank you to one of our local teens, Tracey Jenkins, who has written us an article this month (p 7). Keep them coming, Tracey! Our village magazine is for every age group.

Once again, Christchurch has responded to a call for help. (p 15). We may be a small village situated on the way to nowhere in particular, but we definitely have a wider view of things.

There are lots of things going on in our area in April. (pgs 8, 11, 27,28). Maybe you could go to one of them.... Enjoy!

Annie Nason

Self Defence Class

Christchurch Community Centre hosted a self defence class on Saturday 19th March. The instructor, Vince Ford who runs an aerobics, boxing, martial arts and self defence class in Welney, gave important advice on being aware of your surroundings whilst out and about. The class was also advised on defence moves to immobilise an attacker, allowing time to escape to safety, and people were paired up to practise. Lots of tips and advice was given - including pressure points and what you can legally carry in your bag, that can be used to defend yourself, in the event of an attack. Nobody should be made to feel unsafe whilst going about their daily business but sadly attacks on people are becoming all too common. However, the people who attended this class left feeling more confident in going about their lives knowing what they learnt will put them at a good advantage if the situation does arise.

To find out more about the Welney Boxercize fitness club, held at Welney Village Hall, contact Vince on 07877 250079.

Pat Rigby

Heron News

OUR TABLE TOP SALE raised £308.70. Thank you to everyone who came along, had a stall, or helped with the organisation of the event and in the kitchen. Well done!

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday May 14th 10 till 1pm. Heron Fundraiser. Christchurch Plant Sale at the Dun Cow. Grow some plants for us.... come along and buy some....

SUMMARY OF OUR END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS:

INCOME

TOTAL	£6600.64
Subscriptions	125.00
Fundraising	1351.64
Donations	2607.00
Advertising	2517.00

EXPENDITURE

TOTAL	£5658.41
Expenses	384.22
Miscellaneous	209.00
Printing Costs	5065.19

Full details of our accounts will be available at our AGM on July 4th .

This year we've had a few impressive fundraisers which brought in over £1300 net profit for the Heron. Once again, we managed to secure a grant from the Parish Council at the end of last year - which means we can keep producing the magazine. To that end, we came out of this financial year with a profit of £942.23. The forecast for 2022-23 shows that we can carry on as we are (even without any additional funding or large donation) until the end of April next year - barring unforeseen expenditure.

Copy Deadline - The deadline for copy for the May edition of the Heron is 23 April 2022.

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!

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 0345 045 5225.

https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/ Select_and_Collect

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



Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah) 2022

In Israel will begin in the evening of Weds 27 April and ends in the evening of Thurs 28 April.

OVER 65s SAVE THE DATE!

We're back and ready to entertain you!

The Over 65s Parish Lunch Committee are holding an Afternoon Tea at the Community Centre, on **Saturday 2 July 2022**. Further details to follow.

If you or your partner are over 65 and live in the Christchurch parish, we'd love to see you. If you haven't been to one of our events before, please get in touch with us and we'll add you to the list. Please ring Ruth Ingram on 01354 638419.

Christchurch to Twin with Christchurch, New Zealand!

Four members of the Christchurch, New Zealand, City Council are coming to our village this summer - for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations - and they have asked that the Chair of the PC, the Vice-Chair and his wife plus two other members of our Parish Council, make a reciprocal visit in 2023. This visit is to take place over the long weekend of February 6th - for their New Zealand National Day Celebrations - with a view to discuss the twinning of our two communities.

A four-part Parish Council motion was put to the vote:

- i) the Chair and Vice-Chair will go to New Zealand as asked;
- ii) two other Councillors should be chosen by secret ballot. (However, the whistle-blower will not be eligible for the ballot);
- iii) the PC will pay their return fares and all other expenses;
- iv) this will be funded through an increase in the PC Precept of £150 per household, per year for the next 3 years.

This was voted through by 6 votes to 1.

I Continued on Page 10

Being A Fenland Teenager



Having lived in the tranquil Fenland countryside for nearly five years, I can hardly imagine living anywhere else; but when I first moved to the Fens with my family, it was a shock! Having moved from a small town on the Kent / Sussex border to what seemed like the middle of nowhere, I started to feel a strong sense of isolation, which was lessened greatly by the welcoming attitudes of our neighbours, who soon started to make us feel part of the community. Gradually I began to adapt to my new surroundings and instead of focusing on the lack of shops, or good Wi-Fi connection, I began to enjoy the infinite supply of tranquility, wildlife and nature that's so hard to come across living in suburbia.

As a teenager, I am guilty of over-using my mobile phone. Whether its phoning or texting friends, catching up on the latest gossip, or just checking the weather forecast, you can always find a reason to use a mobile. Sadly, phones have become an easy source of entertainment but, as I mentioned earlier, one of the many delights of living in the countryside is the pure unreliability of the Wi-Fi and mobile internet access! It's a brilliant way to motivate yourself to find new hobbies, and with no internet, there's not much choice anyway.

So, what does this Fenland teenager class as an alternative form of entertainment? Sure, there is reading, but that's best saved for cold winter nights by a log burner. You could binge watch your favourite TV series but let's face it, you've already done that! How about extra, extra studying for your GCSE's? Yeah, right! The local park perhaps, or is that for the younger children? None of these are appealing, let's be honest, not to any self-respecting teenager with time on their hands; so, what can you do? How about trying one of these:

You remember that mobile phone I referred to? Instead of just texting or phoning a friend why not arrange to
meet up and go for a walk? There's nothing better than seeing them in person, right? Especially after the last
two years.

What about that neglected cycle in your dad's garage? You know, the one you
haven't used for ages. How about getting it out, giving it a clean, getting dad to
check it over for you and going for a ride. It's a great way to travel; it will "blow
out the cobwebs". And best of all? It's the Fens, so no hills!

• If you cannot, or do not want to, go cycling, then walking is another great way to exercise and take in your surroundings. If you choose the right route, then one of the beauties of the countryside is that there can be very few vehicles passing you.

- Bird (or animal) spotting? To some, this may seem tedious and mundane but think about it. In the Fens there's such a diverse range of birds and animals it can be quite fun if you give it a go. Spotting rabbits, foxes, deer, kestrels or falcons is not exactly what I thought of living in a town, but the absolute delight I feel, every time I spot a robin never seems to change.
- Learn to draw or paint. It doesn't matter how good or bad you are, you're doing it for fun and relaxation, so if
 you're horse looks like a demented frog, or your clouds like exhaust fumes from an old diesel engine, who
 cares!

So come on fellow-teens! Forget the phone, the TV and the park. It may seem that the Fens are quiet and isolated but they have a lot to offer if you will give them a chance. There is so much beauty around you, and it will only get better as the year progresses!

Tracey Jenkins



Upwell Health Centre Updates

A new Patient Participation Group (PPG) has been formed at the Health Centre to discuss any issues between the Centre and the community. There was a recent comment on FB that someone going to the Health Centre had been told that they could not make an appointment in person, and needed to phone in. Although this was true earlier in the pandemic, patients should now be able to make in-person appointments and the Centre management agreed to reinforce

this with front office staff.

A new telephone system is to be installed which should improve communication and a new 'holding message' will be recorded as many members of the group said the existing message was too long!

Please continue to wear a mask if going to the Health Centre in person.

If you have an issue to put forward, please write to Emily Reeves, Asst to the Practice & Business Manager, using email. emily.reeves6@nhs.net saying that this is for the attention of the PPG.

Sudoku

Answers on Page 30

5 4		2	7		8			
4			3					
	6					τ-		
				2		6		8
2	1						7	
		4			3			
						3		
8		6			4			
1	7							2

Top 10 Hits For April 2^{Mp} 1978

- 1. "Matchstalk men and matchstalk cats" Brian and Michael
- 2. "Denis" Blondie
- 3. "Wuthering Heights" Kate Bush
- 4. "Baker Street" Gerry Rafferty
- 5. "I wonder why" Showaddywaddy
- 6. "If you can't give me love" Suzie Quatro
- 7. "I can't stand the rain" Eruption
- 8. "Follow you follow me" Genesis
- 9. "Ally's Tartan Army" Andy Cameron
- 10. "I love the sound of breaking glass" Nick Lowe

What's on in April 2022

9th April 2022 Saturday - Old Fashioned Jumble Sale at Outwell Village Hall, 136 Wisbech Road, Outwell PE14 8PF 9.00am-12.00 noon refreshments available. To donate unwanted to jumble clothes, toys, dvds/cds/vinyl Contact Alison on 07368 555212

10th April 2022 Sunday - Denver Playing Field Association, Downham Road, Denver, Downham Market PE38 ODF Sellers 8.00am. No entry to buyers until 9.00am admission 20p. Fortnightly boot sale.

12th April 2022 Tuesday – Easter Fun Day 10.00am- 2.00 Horsefair Shopping Centre, Wisbech PE13 1AR Uncle Micks Magical Punch & Judy, Fairground Ride, Easter Egg Hunt, Face Painting

14th April 2022 Thursday – Upwell Playing Field Car Boot starts then weekly - New Road, Upwell PE14 9AB Sellers 8.00am Buyers 9.00 am

16th April 2022 Saturday - Lakes End Easter Fayre , Fun Dog Show at Lakes End Village Hall, PE14 9QL in aid of village hall regenerate. Judging starts at 11.00 Show sponsored by Lakes End Dog Training club-Tel 07719 277937

23-24 April 2022 Saturday and Sunday 8am-6pm East Anglian Game & Country Fair, Euston Estate, Thetford IP24 2QH Dog Events, Equestrian Events, Displays, Live Music, Clay Pigeon Shooting, Starting Handle Club lots

tel 01263 735828 for advance discounted tickets or pay at the gate.

24th April 2022 Sunday- 10am-4.00pm St George's Family Fun Day at Marshland Hall & Tearoom, Smeeth Road, Wisbech PE14 8JB Farmers Market, Vintage Vehicles, Live Music, Mini Funfair, Food Vendors, Kings Lynn Miniature Railway, Craft and Charity Stalls.

Events in April 1978

- TV show Dallas first shown. Larry Hagman stars (pictured).
- Czech tennis star Martina Navratilova wins her first WTA Championship by beating Yvonne Goolagong-Cawley
- Goolagong-Cawley.

 April 12th/13th Academy of Country Music Awards: Kenny Rogers and Crystal Gayle win.

April 15th – Great Britain performs first nuclear test. April 26th – France sends troops into Chad.

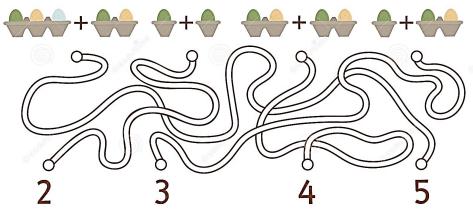




How to say HAPPY EASTER in 10 different European Languages

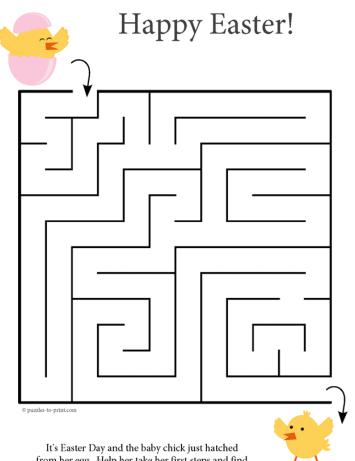
FRENCH: Joyeuses Pâques GERMAN: Frohe Ostern ITALIAN: Buona Pasqua SPANISH: ¡Felices Pascuas! DUTCH: Vrolijk Pasen POLISH: Szczęśliwej Wielkanocy! DANISH: God påske PORTUGUESE: Feliz Páscoa CATALAN: Bona Pascua ROMAINIAN: Paşte Fericit





Easter is a Spring Festival - right? Hummm. Wrong. Well, it IS a Spring Festival in the Northern Hemisphere, but it's an Autumn Festival in the Southern Hemisphere. The word 'Easter' may derive from Ostara, a spring goddess, and this, in the Northern Hemisphere, represented the season of new birth in nature, such as lambs and chicks.

In New Zealand, Easter Monday is the last day of a four-day weekend, which includes Good Friday. Many people return from short trips out of town, while others relax at home. Many families take part in an Easter egg hunt and other Easter related activities. Chocolate eggs are especially popular to eat. Easter is a Christian Festival in origin.







EASTER QUIZ:

- 1) On average, how many Easter Eggs do children receive each year? a) 8, b) 12, c) 4, d) 1,
- 2) Why are there 11 balls of marzipan on a traditional simnel cake?
- a) They represent a baker's dozen b) They represent Jesus and the apostles (minus Judas) c) Good Friday originally fell on 11th March d) Easter lunches were originally for 10 people and the 11th slice is

considered to be a holy offering.

- 3) Which of these ingredients is not traditionally in hot cross buns?
- a) Ginger b) Saffron c) Coriander d) Nutmeg
- 4) The Easter bunny was originally depicted as a hare, but from which European country does he originate?
- a) Germany b) Denmark c) Italy d) Wales
- 5. What does the rabbit in 'Alice In Wonderland' always carry with him?
- a) An Easter egg, b) A pocket watch, c) An umbrella, d) A mobile phone
- 6) How long does it take for an egg to fully form before it is laid?
- a) Three hours, b) 12 hours, c) 26 hours, d) A week and a half
- 7)The world's largest chocolate Easter egg was created by an Italian chocolatier. It was 10.39 metres tall. How much did it weigh?
- a) Around the weight of a giraffe, b) Around the same weight as a car, c) Around the weight of a large African elephant, d) Around the weight of a double decker bus
- 8) Some countries have a different animal delivering eggs instead of the Easter bunny. What bird delivers eggs in Switzerland?
- a) Penguin, b) Ostrich, c) Cuckoo, d) Puffin

Answers on page 30.



Continued ...

The Chair of the PC would like all Parishioners to note ... which month it is!

Gotcha! April Fool

However, the following is NOT an April Fool – There is no truth to a rumour that seems to be doing the rounds that our Christchurch Parish Councillors are corrupt and are "in it for the money". This is a malicious rumour and libellous. People spreading these lies should note that if they continue to do so, further action will be taken.

Peter Owen

Chair, Christchurch Parish Council

Church News

As I (Andy) write this, still testing positive for Covid after a week, please note

that we will be continuing to observe social distancing within the church building, and strongly encourage mask wearing.

These April services in Christchurch are at 10:30am: **Palm Sunday -** April 10th, MP; **Easter Sunday -** April 17th, HC; and April 24th, HC.

Special Eastertide services: **Maundy Thursday: 14**th **April 6.30pm** St Peter's, Wimblington; **Good Friday**; **15**th **April at 2pm**, there will be an 'Hour at the Cross' service St Peter's Wimblington.

For the time being we will no longer be holding Zoom services.

Other services in April in The Benefice.

APRIL 3rd – Manea,
HC 10.30am, and
Wimblington, MP at
10.30am. APRIL 10th –
Doddington, HC at
10.30am; Benwick, EP
at 3pm. APRIL
17thEaster Day –



Manea, HC at 10.30am; Welney, HC at 3pm; Doddington, HC at 10.30am; Wimblington, HC at 10.30am. <u>APRIL 24th</u> – Doddington MP at 10.30am.

Please check the church noticeboard or updates on the Christchurch community Facebook page for any further news. Everyone is always welcome.

Helen and Andrew



Thoughts from the Rectory

He's not here!

Passer-by to a man down a hole. 'What are you doing down there?' Man's reply. 'Everyone has to be somewhere'.

This is an extract from a 'Goon Show' and its typical of the writer Spike Milligan's humour, for everyone does need to be somewhere!

'He's not here', is what the angel said, referring to Jesus body being absent from the tomb, 'He's not here'.

Here's another bit of dialogue. Cynic to Christian. 'I'll give you £1 million if you can tell me where God is'. Christian to Cynic. 'I'll give you £1 million if you can tell me where God isn't'.

The Easter story never fails to astound those who give it thoughtful consideration. However many times they have heard the Easter story, it's still amazing. So let me tell you another story.

Two boys, who have been lifelong friends, who have shared life together from their very first day in school right up to their college days. One graduates at the top of his class and becomes a distinguished judge. The other dropped out of university, got involved in the drugs scene and was eventually caught by the police. Through an extraordinary turn of events the man stands trial before his old friend, who is now a judge. There is a great deal of murmuring in the court room about what the judge is going to do and how he will handle this trial. What will his sentence be? To the court's surprise, the judge sentences his friend to the maximum fine allowed by the law. There is much uproar in the court. The judge bangs his gavel down and asks for order; in the quietness that follows he then takes out his cheque book and pays the entire amount himself.

Is that not the glorious, wonderful, life changing message of Easter and Holy Week? Keep well, keep safe and have a HAPPY EASTER.

lan.



Christchurch Parish Church Lent Lunch 12pm - Sunday 10th April 2022

Lunch served after the 10.30am church service. We will be serving a variety of soups, bread and cheese.



There will be no charge but we do ask for a donation. All donations given to The Ferry Project in Wisbech. Any donations of groceries, toiletries, cleaning products, etc, will be given to the March Food Bank.

We warmly welcome you to join us in making a difference in our local communities.

We look forward to seeing you.

Helen Chappell 11

Rumination versus reflection:

An action such as *rumination* will have a particular arrangement in terms of the thoughts, body and emotions that go with it. These will be unique for everyone, but you might recognise certain aspects that you relate to. The key with understanding what's happening for you with something like this, is firstly learning to observe yourself closely. Below are the aspects of my experience:

Rumination

Thoughts: negative, loaded, emotionally charged e.g. "It's so unfair", "How dare she?" or "I'm going to make her see she's wrong".

Emotions: resentful including intense sadness (fighting the facts that have happened and can't be changed).

Body: ache in throat, tightness in lower back, shallow breathing, hunched neck and shoulders, churning in stomach and chest.

Reflection

Thoughts: neutral or factual e.g. "Even though I don't agree, what's happened has happened", "I wonder why she did what she did?" or "That's interesting".

Emotions: accepting, peaceful or curious.

Body: at ease, no tension or flexing / clenching in the muscles, effortless breathing, aligned posture, open chest, relaxed jaw, no 'hotspots' or burning intensity anywhere.

Getting granular like this allowed me to see how *rumination* took me from an open-minded, oxytocin-induced state to a closed-minded cortisol and adrenalin-generated one. This affected my cognitive ability, reducing my ability to think clearly, and instead, took me to an emotional and irrational state. I was less present when ruminating and felt at the mercy of my emotions and thoughts. Looking at it like this, it's easy to understand how spending a lot of time ruminating can lead to anxiety and depression.

Claudia Boers https://www.claudiaboerscoaching.com

Point of View



While democracy in the long run is the most stable form of government, in the short run, it is among the most fragile.

Madeleine Albright



PICTUREQU®TES



Classical gems:

The Minute Waltz:

Written in 1847 by Frederic Chopin, this waltz was first known as The Waltz of the Little Dog, because

Chopin watched a little dog - named Marquis - chasing its tail while he was composing the music! The dog was a friend of Chopin's and Chopin actually wrote about him in several of his letters.

KEEP UP THAT NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION -

"I resolve to eat less and move about a bit more in 2022"

Here is Kathleen's tip for April.

Now that Spring has sprung and summer is just around the corner, why not think about getting out and joining a club or a class? It's always easier to stick to a new regime when you are doing it with friends or as part of a group.

Kathleen Henderson



Why is Easter so late in 2022?

Easter is always on the first Sunday after the first full moon that follows the Spring Equinox. ... So there you go – in 2022 the first full moon after the 21 March is Saturday 16 April, hence why Easter is on Sunday 17 April.



Farming in past times Spring

As a couple of 80-year-olds, born during the war, with food rationing and the hard times that the country went through, we are going back in time with memories of how farming was carried out during those bleak times, on our respective family farms. We are going back as far as when horses were used to work the land, along with lots of farm staff per farm, who worked very hard manually to help feed the nation, as you will see from our following memories.

We were both born during World War 2. Who ever thought 80 years later we would see yet another war in Europe (the one that is going on at the moment). Our heartfelt thoughts go out to the families having to flee their homes, livelihoods and their country. Please let there be peace and tranquility as soon as possible. This war is going to cause hardship to them, this country, as well as the whole world. Farmers growing food crops are finding their inputs going up by 300-400%, that is even if we can get a delivery of our requirements.

Spring has arrived and the migrating swans have made their way back to Siberia and their other Northern destinations for their breeding season, only to be back with us in the late autumn again to glean potatoes, sugar beet and other crops left on the fields following harvest. March weather came in like a lion, with very damaging winds, hopefully to go out like a lamb at the end of the month, fingers crossed!

Back in the day, work on the land started in March, much as it does today, given favourable soil conditions. We endured much harsher and colder winters back in the 40/50s so it took longer for the soil temperatures to rise to give the good conditions for sowing spring crops and potato planting. In the 40/50s, seed drilling was still carried out with a horse pulling a Smythe seed drill (pictured) The drill man



would drive his horse whilst standing on a platform mounted on the back of the drill, behind the seed hopper. The drill man, with a hundred weight bag on his back, would step onto the platform and tip the

contents into the seed hopper which fed the "peg wheel". This then scooped the seed into the spout, which in turn fed the coulter which ran in the ground; the depth in the ground was adjusted by hanging weights. Some of these weights, lost back then, are

still coming to the surface today. The Smythe drill was approx. 10 feet wide, compared with the size of those used today. The drill was then followed by another horse pulling a set of harrows, which covered the drilled seed. Sometimes the emerging crop would be rolled if needed, especially on the lighter soils to conserve moisture. Sugar beet was also drilled with the Smythe drill – 5 x 20inch-wide rows, with natural seed - no pelleted seed in those days. The seed drilled 2-3 inches apart. Once the growth had emerged, the plants were manually 'chopped out' with a 6inch hoe by the farm workers, then 'singled out' by hand, usually by the farm workers' family members. leaving 70 plants per every 22 yards in every row through the field. This operation was followed about a month later by the farm workers with hand hoes, cutting out all the weeds. There was no chemical weed control in those days. This job proved to be very time consuming. In the late 50/60s this job was carried out with a tractor and mechanical hoe.

Potato Planting: a horse pulling a 3 row ridger would mark the field out. The potato seed was trayed by hand at a rate of 35lbs per tray, and then would be carried by 2 women (one each end of the tray), who would walk down the row placing one potato every 12inches. This would be followed up with the horse and ridger to cover the seed set. Once the potato plants had emerged in the field, they would be cultivated with a tool called a scuffler, again horse drawn, 3-4 times per season, depending on weed growth. After the final ridge/earth up, the crop would be systematically powder blight sprayed through the season, until the Autumn harvest. During the spring we would still be grading potatoes from the out-door 'graves'. Up to the late 50s, no corn crops, peas and sugar beet were sprayed; only the potato crops were sprayed with a copper powder spray for blight.



Picture: Lynn cattle market

Cattle: the fat cattle would be 'finished' and sent to market by May, and the young stock would be put out to grass. The empty stock yards would be cleared of 'muck' by the farm workers manually using a 4-tine fork and carted to make a large heap on the end of the fields to be fertilized for next year's crop, this to be spread when the fields were cleared. The fields would then be ploughed, ready for next year's cropping programme.

Jill and Gabriel Bliss



Pay us a visit!

Look out for Spring arrivals like avocet, oystercatcher and chiffchaff. Listen and look for displaying birds such as lapwing, black-tailed godwit, redshank and meadow pipit.

5 Amazing Facts about Lapwings

1. Other names for Lapwings.

The Lapwing's alternative name, peewit, mimics its distinctive, two-syllable call. The name for the bird in these other European languages also mimic its call: Croatian, German, Norwegian, Slovenian.

2. Legal protection for Lapwings.

Lapwings were once the sole subjects of a Parliamentary Act. The 1928 Protection of Lapwings Act restricts the taking of the birds and their eggs for food, a practice that had severely reduced their numbers.



3. How many?

Lapwings rear just a single brood of up to four chicks a year, but they may lay up to four replacement clutches if their eggs are lost.

4. How many Lapwing chicks survive?

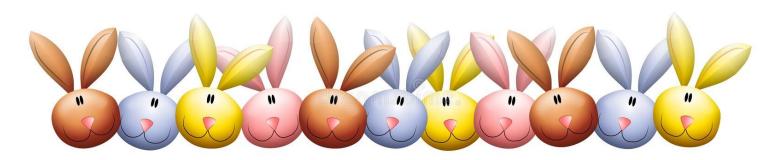
Less than 40% of Lapwing chicks survive to fledging. They are particularly vulnerable to predators soon after hatching, when their parents lead them from the nest to suitable feeding habitat.



5. Are Lapwings getting rarer?

Lapwing numbers fell by 49% in England and Wales between 1987 and 1998; the result of changing agricultural practices, though the species fared a bit better in Scotland. It is possible to halt and reverse the decline in lapwing numbers with sympathetic farming methods, which include the creation of a mosaic of Spring sown crops and grassland, managing grazing pressure and maintaining damp areas on unimproved grassland. Agri-environment schemes in each part of the UK provide grants to help landowners manage their land to help lapwings.

Find out more: www.rspb.org.uk





NATURE NOTES: APRIL

Plant annuals and perennials; single flowers as opposed to double flowers, to encourage pollinators into your garden. Plant up a hanging basket or window box for bees and butterflies using nasturtiums, English marigolds and lavender. Position somewhere

sunny. Bats are a good indication of a healthy insect-rich environment.

Keep garden lighting to a minimum. Now is the time they begin to move to their maternity roosts. There are 17 species of bat that breed in Britain, but their numbers have declined. The more common species are likely to be seen in gardens; the common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, brown longeared, noctule and Daubenton's. Bats eat flying insects at night, including mosquitoes, moths and beetles, and so help keep a natural balance. Garden ponds and night-flowering plants such as evening primrose encourage types of insects that bats like to eat. Leave out food for hedgehogs.

Christchurch Parish Council Annual Report 2020/21/22



2020/21 - What a couple of years we've had!

Well, it really has been an odd two years! The Parish Council met in person a couple of times at the start of the 2020, but then had to move to virtual meetings as the Covid crisis and lockdown hit. Parish Councils, by law, should meet in person, but obviously this wasn't possible, and the government had to pass a temporary law allowing virtual meetings. These on the whole went as well as could be expected, and we didn't have any episodes like those seen at Handforth, the only fly in the ointment being the Chairman's exceptionally squeaky chair and badly echoing microphone! The squeaky chair has now been replaced, but sadly not the microphone.

The High Court ruled on 28 April 2021 that virtual council meetings could not lawfully take place after 6 May 2021, so at that point Christchurch PC returned to meeting in the Community centre, making sure that masks were worn and social distancing was maintained!

Obviously the pandemic and associated lockdown has massively curtailed many of the Parish Council's activities. The bus shelter project has been furloughed and has now been taken over by Street Pride. Now that things are hopefully recovering, these projects will start to see some progress.

On 22 March 2022 we held our Annual Parish Meeting. We were delighted that so many villagers attended to hear presentations from both Parish Councillors and visiting speakers from Neighbourhood Watch and Cambs ACRE. We hope people found the talks interesting and informative.

What does the Parish Council Do?

This one comes up quite a lot! Parish or Local councils are the first tier of governance and are the first point of contact for anyone concerned with a community issue. They are democratically elected local authorities and exist in England, Wales and Scotland. Christchurch is one of over 10,000 local councils in England and Wales, and we represent the concerns of local residents and provide services to meet local needs. We have a wide range of powers including looking after community buildings, planning, street lighting, allotments etc.

The PC is also responsible for passing on residents comments on planning permission in the parish, and also provide their own views on planning. That said, all the PC can do is make recommendations to the next level up in the planning department, we do not have the power to either veto or push through planning applications.

Parish Councils raise money through the council tax to pay for local needs. This is done using something called the 'Precept'. This is an amount of money, determined by the Parish Council, that is added to the council tax of each house in the Parish. In recent years the PC has been able to slightly reduce the precept, now that the streetlight fund raising has been completed. However, in the January 2022 Precept Meeting, it was decided to raise the Precept by £3,250 to £16,000 in order to fund two new projects that the Parish Council will be undertaking over the next few years.

Streetlights

Some good news here! Many of the broken lights have been replaced, as have any posts that were deemed end of life. There are only a couple left to go. It's taken over 5 years to get this done, through no fault of the Parish Council, and it will be one less thing to worry about in next year's budget. The new lights use LEDs, and are very efficient, less light polluting and hopefully much longer lasting.



Tree Pruning

Some people may have noticed that the trees down Green Lane are looking a little bit tidier. Overgrown trees and shrubs were interfering with powerlines and generally looking untidy. The willows down the side of the playing field have also been pollarded and the wooded area in front of the Community Centre has had a prune and tidy.

These works are not cheap and, although they don't have to be done every year, the Parish Council have decided to put aside a small amount of money each year to cover these essential jobs.

Street Gullies

The PC has been trying to get all the gullies and road drains around the village cleaned out. A couple of times in 2021, heavy rain resulted in flooding for some residents, with the roads being awash. Some progress has been made in the centre of the village, but there is still work to be done - in both cleaning out the gullies and actually mapping where the underground drainage pipes are. It does seem odd, but no-one really knows where most of the under road drains actually are - including Highways!

STOP PRESS: Church Road gullies were cleaned and emptied on Monday 21st March!!

Grass Cutting Contract

A new contractor was put in place to cut grass around the village. The Parish Council is very happy with the new contract, with a number of residents praising the quality of the cutting, and also the fact that it is actually cheaper than the previous contractor!

Community Centre Canopy

Another great addition to the village can be seen at the Community Centre - a new full length canopy now installed on the field side. This will make the Community Centre even more attractive to hirers, and will make events there much more fun and provides more options when the weather is bad.

This canopy, designed and installed by Artistic Metallica in March, was mostly funded by a £15,000 grant we received from Cambridgeshire County Council's Communities Capital Fund, which paid for a large percentage of the cost. Sadly, some damage was caused by vandals, a couple of weeks after erection, but this has now been fixed. CCTV at the Hall will hopefully prevent



this in the future, as it just causes extra cost to those people in the village, who pay for these repairs via the Precept.

Exciting New Projects!

As mentioned in the introduction, the Precept has been raised to provide funds for two new projects in the village. These are:

- An extension to the play equipment to include gym-style equipment for older children and adults. The Parish Council is currently investigating suppliers and prices. £5,000 has been allocated so far and they are looking into further funding, for this project, via grants.
- Nature Walk, Orchard and Dog Walking Area. The field next door to the Recreation Ground, over the ditch, is owned by the Parish Council. Until recently this was rented out as farm land but now the Parish Council has applied for planning permission to change it into a recreational area to benefit the community. Plans are still in their very early stages, but the intention is to provide an area for dog walking, fruit trees, nature trail and outdoor classroom type facilities. The Parish Council has allocated £2,500 to the project so far, but this is expected to be a multi-year project, and eligible for various eco-grants that are currently available.

In addition, over the last two years, the Parish Council has also:

- Purchased two MVAS speed monitoring devices.
- Installed a new bin outside the Community Centre.
- Considered and commented upon 30 planning applications.
- Reported fly-tipping, potholes, street lights, blocked drains, missing or damaged street furniture.
- Awarded grants to the Heron, the Brownies, Christchurch ECO, Lunch Break, Citizens Advice and Air Ambulance.





Parish Council Accounts for 2020-21 and 2021-22

These are a summary of the accounts. A more detailed version is available on the Parish Council website.

All accounts are audited by independent auditors and have been confirmed as accurate.

INCOME	2021	2022
Precept from Council Tax	12750.00	12750.00
Grants from Fenland District Council	2566.00	2567.00
Allotment Rent & Rates	839.18	919.56
Grants	24250.00	-
Bank Interest	9.20	2.00
VAT Refunds	-	9014.76
TOTAL	40414.38	25253.32

EXPENDITURE		
Administration	5240.95	5547.59
Insurance	1243.16	1415.31
Drainage Rates	75.67	78.89
Recreation Ground Costs (Trees, etc.)	-	2381.00
Grass Cutting	3080.00	1864.00
Churchyard Maintenance	245.00	245.00
Community Centre	16595.64	7779.74
Street Lights	3086.80	1947.88
Local Highway Improvements	447.59	2150.00
Section 137 Payments	432.00	1850.00
Recoverable VAT	3952.22	3257.02
TOTAL	34399.03	28516.43
Total Income	40414.38	25253.32
LESS Expenditure	34399.03	28516.43
Surplus/Deficit	6015.35	-3263.11
Balance as at 31.3.21 and 31.3.22	43819.38	40556.27

Christchurch Parish Council continues to strive to provide the best services to our Parish. As ever, we are always open to new ideas and suggestions on how we can improve things in our village. The best way to do this is to come along to our monthly meetings (held on the second Monday of each month in the Community Centre). If, for any reason, you are unable to attend but would like to contact us, our details are in the 'Useful Telephone Numbers' section of The Heron.

The Parish Council is here to support the village clubs, groups and committees by offering their advice and often financial support in the form of grants to help keep these things running. We positively encourage new groups and clubs to get in touch if you feel we can help. For example - some people feel that opening a Youth Club would be a good thing for the village. Whilst the Parish Council are unable to create or run such a group, we would be willing to help get something like this off the ground by offering advice and financial support.

Here's hoping for a good year ahead!

Christchurch Parish Council



Well done Christchurch, and thank you Claire for making it possible for us to help....

I've known Damian Wawryzniak, who is Polish, for many years, we met at a networking event when I owned a Wedding planning business, and he had

just started as a private caterer. He catered for an event and his food was amazing. He went on to get quite a name for himself and opened a restaurant called 'House of Feasts' in Eye, near Peterborough. And he has been named one of the World's most influential chefs 2 years in a row, has cooked for Prince William and Kate, and the Polish Embassy.



As soon as the Ukrainian invasion began Damian decided he must help and organised a transit van to be filled with supplies for the Ukrainians heading to Poland. He quickly needed a bigger vehicle, and asked people to help, at which point I wanted to do my bit. I decided on Wednesday 2nd March to add to the massive haul that Damian was organising. I posted on the Christchurch Community page that I would take donations on Saturday 5th, and also told my work colleagues. On Friday 4th I drove home from

work colleagues. On Friday 4th I drove nome from work with a car boot full of donations and thought

that was a great result, but the following day car after car turned up with their donations in Christchurch. People were just grateful to be able to do something.

My car was completely full, so my husband Steve had to come down with his car - and that ended up full as well! The 2 of us then drove to Peterborough with our donations... unfortunately when we got there we then found out that everything had to be boxed and labelled, preferably in several languages in order for the items to get through customs easily... I got chatting to an amazing lady called Sylwia and her partner Piotr, who were helping with the donations, and she was happy to box everything for us; so India (our daughter) and I helped Sylwia unload her car and fill up the 40ft lorry and then we followed her to her home (which was completely filled with boxes and donations). We unloaded all our donations to be boxed and labelled. Whilst talking to Piotr I found out he was leaving to go to the Polish/Ukraine

border the next day to help the refugees. He'd got a flight there for just £5 and laughed because it was cheaper than a local Uber – so incredibly brave!

All the donations we collected left Peterborough on Monday 7th, heading to the Ukrainian/Polish border, and arrived safely a couple of days later.

The response from the village was incredible, and I can't thank everyone enough.



I've met and dealt with many Eastern Europeans in my job, and they are some of the most lovely, polite, hard-working and proud people I've ever come across. A couple of days of organising and moving bags and boxes seems very little to help these people but I hope it did help.

'House of Feasts' are doing a Charity Dinner in April, if anyone wants to help some more - whilst enjoying incredible food!

Claire Norman



WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO TO HELP?

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukraine-what-youcan-do-to-help

Two Mothers Remembered by Joann Snow Duncanson

I had two mothers – two mothers I claim Two different people, yet with the same name. Two separate women, diverse by design, But I loved them both, because they were mine.

The first was the mother who carried me here, Gave birth and nurtured and launched my career. She was the one whose features I bear, Complete with the facial expressions I wear.

She gave her love, which follows me yet, Along with the examples in life she set. As I got older, she somehow younger grew, And we'd laugh as just mothers and daughters do.

But then came the time that her mind clouded so, And I sensed that the mother I knew would soon go. So quickly she changed and turned into the other, A stranger who dressed in the clothes of my mother.

Oh, she looked the same, at least at arm's length, But now she was the child and I was her strength. We'd come full circle, we women three, My mother the first, the second and me.

And if my own children should come to a day, When a new mother comes and the old goes away, I'd ask of them nothing that I didn't do. Love both of your mothers, as both loved you.







How do I answer my dad with dementia when he talks about his mom and dad being alive?

Do I go along with it or tell him they have passed away?

Enter into his reality and enjoy it. He doesn't need to be "oriented." Thank God the days are gone when people with advanced dementia were tortured by huge calendars and reminder signs and loved ones were urged to "orient" them to some boring current "reality."

If dad spends most of his time in 1959, sit with him. Ask questions he didn't have time for before. Ask about people long dead, but alive to him, learn, celebrate your heritage. His parents are alive to him. Learn more about your grandparents. If he tells the same story over and over, appreciate it as if it's music, and you keep coming back to the beautiful refrain.

This isn't "playing along to pacify the old guy," this is an opportunity to communicate and treasure memories real but out of time.

SLOW COOKER SHREDDED BARBECUE BEEF

Serves 6

1 kg slow cook beef joint

2 tbsp olive oil

1 medium onion -chopped

200 ml barbecue sauce

4 tbsp brown sugar

2 tbsp white wine vinegar

1 tbsp Worcester sauce

2 tbsp American mustard ie French's

1 tbsp smoked paprika

200 ml water

- Turn on slow cooker. Cut beef joint into 2 pieces and heat frying pan with 1 tbsp of the oil. Season meat and sear both sides in frying pan then place into slow cooker. In same frying pan, heat remaining oil and sauté onion for 5 minutes then add remaining ingredients including the water and mix well. Pour over the meat and cook for 4 hours on high or 8 hours on low setting. Do not remove lid or it will take longer to cook.
- Remove from cooker and shred with 2 forks then mix any excess sauce with the meat.
- Serve with toasted buns, shredded lettuce, sliced tomato, onion and pickles.
- Don't have a slow cooker? Cook for 8 hours on gas ½, 110c or fan 90.

Recipe from Tesco Real Food





Christchurch Jigsaw Club

During lockdown I started doing jigsaws, and I've found it a great way to relax away from work and screens. Swapping with friends, I've

built up a collection of more than 50 puzzles, most of them 1000-piece good-quality designs from companies like Gibsons, House of Puzzles and Ravensburger.

I'd like to lend these out to other people in the village, so if you'd like to borrow a jigsaw please get in touch. I'll email or send you a list to pick from. I can deliver within the village, you can keep it for up to a month, and when you're done, swap it for a new one. All completely free of charge.

You can contact me on 07776 170118, or (preferably) email jigsaws@robertambrose.com

Rob Ambrose, Euximoor Drove.



Stargazers





Hello Stargazers. Check out these distances. Astronomical!

Stainforth Force on the River Ribble in the Yorkshire Dales, with the Andromeda Galaxy (M31) above the trees. At two and a half million light years away, it's the farthest it's possible to see with unaided vision. the Sun is only 8 light minutes away. M31 is our Milky Way's sister galaxy, but a fair bit bigger than the Milky Way and home to about a trillion stars. It's rushing towards us at 300 km/sec, so over the next few billion years it will grow bigger and brighter in our night sky until it merges with our Milky Way in 4 billion years or so.

Mark Andrews.

Source: Diamond Skies



We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month 1.30 -3.30 in the Village Hall (term time).

- Our focus is to explore and experiment with the various painting and drawing media
- To enable participants to develop their own style
- Above all to have fun and enjoy the sessions
- The sessions are planned and adjusted to suit, depending on the experience and interests of the group
- The group leader is experienced in a wide range of media, and has some art materials for you to try out if they are new to you. *We have suitable paper for a reasonable cost to purchase and materials can be borrowed until you have your own*. Our group is friendly and relaxed and we love to welcome new folk.

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. (clifford.jjr5846@gmail.com)

*(Please note 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.)

Christchurch Book Club



Book Club met on 1st March. This was meant to be the start of our meetings being on the first Tuesday of the month, but in the words of Robbie Burns...

> "The best laid schemes o' Mice an' Men Gang aft agley"

...and it seems the move to the first Tuesday was not the best plan...so its back to the fourth Tuesday (except in the winter where we can make use of the third Tuesday when gardening club does not meet!)

So the next few dates are: April 26th; May 24th; June 28th; July 26th.

We had been reading "Rod: The Autobiography" by Rod Stewart. Most felt that this was a rather predictable book about a "Jack the Lad" and a good number of attractive blonde women. There's a fair amount about his musical career and also, rather unexpectedly, his love of his model railway...Rod does not shy away from the less likeable aspects of his personality, so maybe his honesty is refreshing!

Our next book is "Persons Unknown" by Susie Steiner. This is a crime novel, a genre popular with our group!

Our next meeting is at Sue Norman's house, 5 Fen View on 26th April at 7.30. New members are always welcome, and if you would like a library copy of the book please contact Sheila at the number below.

If you would like more information, please contact Sheila Day on 07946635908.



We met on Tuesday March 8th.

Our speaker was Judith Cornwall, form March. The subject of her talk was Jim Hocking, an Australian airman in WW2 and of her subsequent ties with Australia.

On July 28th 1944, Royal Australian Air Force Officer Jim was captaining a Short Stirling Bomber during a night training exercise in this area, when flames

appeared from the inner starboard engine. The 'plane started to lose power and he ordered the crew of six to abandon the aircraft. He too had time to leave, but decided to try and manoeuvre the bomber away from the township of March. Because of this act of bravery, the 'plane crashed in a field about 1 kilometre from the town centre. He had saved the town, but lost his life, dying on impact. There is a memorial to him at St Wendreda's Church. Judith has subsequently visited Australia several times and has met several of Jim Hocking's family members.

<u>WI business:</u> Attention was drawn to "Coins of Friendship" and a brief explanation was given about its purpose. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday April 12th at 7pm. The competition colour is yellow.

Sue Norman



Christchurch Gardening Club

Petite Peonys

For the Clubs first speaker for over two years, due to Covid, we were pleased to Welcome David Wheatley, from Wisbech St Mary. David is a commercial grower of Peonys and supplies many of the supermarkets we all use on a weekly basis.

During the hour-long talk, aided by the Community Centre's posh new screen, which I must say is fantastic, David took the members through the best techniques to employ, as well as some of the pitfalls, when dealing with these beautiful flowers. I feel sure even our most experienced gardeners took some precious insights away with them.

This was an open meeting, and we were happy to welcome some new members, as well as prospective members who had come along to give us a try.

Next Month on Tuesday 19th April the club will play host to Mr David Reeve, who will be giving us the lowdown on the formidable task of putting on the Sandringham Flower Show. The show is one of the yearly highlights of the flower growers' calendar, so should be a very interesting evening.

As always, to become a member just show up on the night or call 01354 638 230.

Steve





Indoor Short Mat Bowls

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

ALL WELCOME! (Spare bowls available to loan.)

For further details call Janet Harper on 07941 465319.

LUNCH BREAKS IN APRIL – EVERYONE WELCOME - AND IT'S

FREE!! Come any time from 12-2pm. BYO Lunch. Hot drinks available.

Normal Lunch Break - Weds April 13th and A LUNCH BREAK SPECIAL – Weds April 27th, when Nikki Dekker will be with us to give us some tips about energy bills and energy saving in the home. With the energy price cap increasing, many people are anxious about their energy costs.

Nikki says – "I can chat about energy bills and how to save money on those, energy saving behaviours in the home, any grants that might be available to help out with costs, and I will also bring along some goodie bags with a few energy saving items for folks to take with them".

If you would like an energy advice call:

T 01733 568408 extension 313; T 0800 8021773

E Nikki.dekker@pect.org.uk

Tech fun..... enjoy!

The young woman who submitted the tech support message below (about her relationship with her husband) presumably did it as a joke. Then she got a reply that was way too good to keep to herself. The tech support people's advice was hilarious and genius!

The query:

Dear Tech Support,

Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and noticed a distinct slowdown in overall system performance, particularly in the flower and jewellery applications, which operated flawlessly under Boyfriend 5.0.

In addition, Husband 1.0 uninstalled many other valuable programs, such as Romance 9.5 and Personal Attention 6.5, and then installed undesirable programs such as: NBA 5.0, NFL 3.0 and Golf Clubs 4.1. Conversation 8.0 no longer runs, and House Cleaning 2.6 simply crashes the system. Please note that I have tried running Nagging 5.3 to fix these problems, but to no avail. What can I do?

Signed: Desperate



OF COURSE I TALK IN MY SLEEP - IT'S THE ONLY CHANCE I GET!



The response (that came weeks later out of the blue)...

Dear Desperate,

First keep in mind, Boyfriend 5.0 is an Entertainment Package, while Husband 1.0 is an Operating System. Please enter command: I thought you loved me.html and try to download Tears 6.2. Do not forget to install the Guilt 3.0 update. If that application works as designed, Husband 1.0 should then automatically run the applications Jewellery 2.0 and Flowers 3.5.

However, remember, overuse of the Tears application can cause Husband 1.0 to default to Grumpy Silence 2.5, Happy Hour 7.0, or Beer 6.1. Please note that Beer 6.1 is a very bad program that will download Snoring Loudly Beta version.

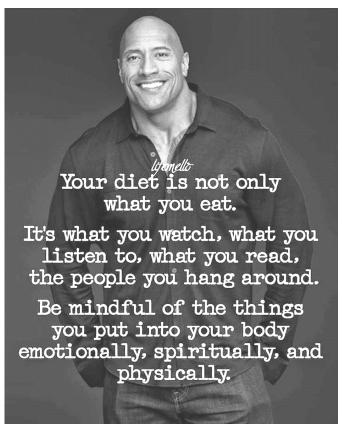
Whatever you do, DO NOT, under any circumstances, install Mother-In-Law 1.0 as it runs a virus in the background that will eventually seize control of all your system resources.

In addition, please do not attempt to re-install the Boyfriend 5.0 program. These are unsupported applications and will crash Husband 1.0.

In summary, Husband 1.0 is a great program, but it does have limited memory and cannot learn new applications quickly. You might consider buying additional software to improve memory and performance. We recommend Cooking 3.0.

Good Luck!

Tech Support



PIVOTAL MOMENTS IN EUROPE'S HISTORY

1789: French Revolution. Monarchy overthrown; republic founded

1815: Congress of Vienna redraws map of Europe, restores balance of power and ushers in decades of peace after the upheaval of the Napoleonic wars

1848: A wave of liberal and democratic revolutions across Europe

1919: Treaty of Versailles. New independent sovereign nation states replace old multi-national empires

1945: Yalta - great powers agree to partition Europe into Western and Soviet "spheres of influence". Iron Curtain falls across the continent

1989: Democratic revolutions in Soviet-dominated Eastern Europe tear down the Iron Curtain. The Soviet Union collapses two years later. Vladimir Putin calls this the "greatest catastrophe of the 20th Century"

2022: Russian invasion of Ukraine? Is this a pivotal moment in European History too?

This watercolour by French artist Jean-Pierre Houël (in the British Library) depicts the fall of the Bastille in Paris on the morning of 14 July 1789. Though containing only seven prisoners at the time, the building was a highly visible symbol of French absolutism and its fall embodied the wider attacks that took place on the French state itself.



Source: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-60767454



Workshop places now available to book

Saturday 2nd April 10.00-12.30 Learn to Crochet with Frances Wyatt

Monday 4th April 9.30–12.30 An introduction to Alexander Technique with Chris McKay

Saturday 9th April 9.30–4.00 Weaving on a simple loom with Frances Wyatt

Thursday 14th April 2.00–5.00 Makeup secrets for the over 45s with Caroline Smith

Friday 27th May 9.30–4.00 Dip pen and colourwash drawing with Tim Oliver

Saturday 18th June 10.00–4.00 Flute Day with Frances Wyatt

Friday 1st July 2,15–5.00 Alternative Therapies taster workshop with Jennie Mercer

Saturday 23rd July 9.30–1.00 Needle Felting with Jayne Andrew

> For more information and booking go to www.poplarartsandcrafts.co.uk or phone Frances on 01354 638374



THREE HOLES VILLAGE HALL charity No. 304483

Junction of Main Road & Squires Drove,

Three Holes, PE14 9JY



Sun. 3rd APRIL 2pm, THE DUKE

In 1961, Kempton Bunton, a 60 year old taxi driver, stole Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington from the National Gallery in London. He sent ransom notes saying that he would return the painting on condition that the government invested more in care for the elderly. What happened next became the stuff of legend. An uplifting true story about a good man who set out to change the world and managed to save his marriage.

NO NEED TO BOOK - Admission is £3.50 per person. Doors open 30 minutes before screening commences. Refreshments and licensed bar available. Tel. Anne, 01354 638405 www.threeholesvillagehall00.org.uk

SUPPORT WORKERS YOU CAN TRUST









PEOPLE WERE VERY POSITIVE ABOUT THE KINDNESS AND RELIABILITY OF THE

 PERSONAL CARE · POST HOSPITAL CARE · DEMENTIA PATIENT **CARE · PHYSICAL DISABILITY SUPPORT** ·SHORT AND LONG TERM CARE · COMPANIONSHIP REHABILITATION

CONTACT US TODAY TO SEE HOW WE CAN HELP T: 01945 773861 A: 130WISBECHROAD, OUTWELL, PE148PF E: ADMIN@PUREHEARTHOMECARE.CO.UK W:WWW.PUREHEARTHOMECARE.CO.UK

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



Russell's Family Butchers Family butchers for 5 generations. All of our meat and poultry is fresh free range from our own farm. Visit us at our shop in Upwell or at our market stall in March (Saturdays) or Wisbech (Thursdays and Saturdays). 97 School Road, Upwell, PE15 9EW Tel: 01945 773419

K PARKER

General Building and **Maintenance**

Carpentry

Glazing

Plumbing

Painting

Plastering

Decorating

Bricklaying

Rendering

Roofing

Guttering

Refurbishment

& Renovation

01354 638380

FRFF FSTIMATES

All types \sim Houses \sim Flats \sim Shops \sim Offices



The Dun Cow



Green Lane, Christchurch, PE14 9PG 01354 638323

OPENING HOURS:

Mon-Thur 4.00 pm - 10.00 pmFri 3.00 pm – 11.00 pm Sat Midday – 11.00 pm, Sun Midday – 9.00 pm

MONDAY FOOD

9.30 am till 11.00 am - Cooked breakfasts.

FRIDAY FOOD

4.30 pm till 8.00 pm - Phone to book your timed

SATURDAY FOOD

4.30 pm till 9.00 pm -A range of freshly cooked pizzas to eat in or takeaway.

Forthcoming Events:

Live Music - Easter Sunday 4.00pm to 7.00pm

•

ARCIII

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Family Independent **Business** Private Chapel of Rest Personal Attention 24 Hour Service

Full estimates given at all times

Golden Charter Funeral Plans



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

DR AC

- Any vehicle air conditioning
- . 25 years experience
- . Same equipment as a main dealer
- . R134A service from £40 no vat
- R1234YF service from £95 no vat

Any Vehicle:

- Dent repair on any panel from £50 no vat
- No appointment necessary just call in.

Call 01354 638635 or Mobile 07932 601716. Leave a message and I will call you back.

Laburnum House, March Road, Tipps End, PE14 9SG

CHRISTCHURCH ELECTRICAL

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

Tel:01354 638802 Mobile:07727 046439



Domestic electrical work undertaken.

No job too small. Free quotations / estimates.



CHRISTCHURCH

www.electricalcompetentperson.co.uk

www.electricalsafetyregister.com



www.allpestscontrolled.co.uk

WOODWORM BEDBUGS

MOLES

MICE

RATS

ANTS

Call Danny on

Tel: 01945 772 153

Mob: 07795 073 985



SQUIRRELS

RABBITS

WASPS

BIRDS

FLEAS

BEES

A JONES & SON

TELEVISION SALES/REPAIRS/INSTALLATION

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY
FIRST CLASS AERIAL INSTALLATIONS/ADDITIONAL POINTS

26 March Road, Wimblington, March, Cambs PE15 ORN

Tel: 01354 740320 CLOSED ALL DAY TUESDAYS

FOUR SEASONS TREE SERVICES Qualified & Professional Tree

and Client Care

PRUNING • LOPPING • FELLING
PLANTING • REDUCING & RESHAPING
CROWN RAISING • HEDGE TRIMMING

THINNING • POLLARDING • STUMP REMOVALS
OVERGROWN GARDENS PUT BACK INTO SHAPE

FRUIT TREES TREATED • LOG & WOODCHIP SALES

FREE ESTIMATES & ADVICE WITH NO OBLIGATION For quality jobs at a competitive price call:

Home: 01353 721665 - Mob: 07771 707921

All work carried out to BS 3998 Standard

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





645 Services Ltd

For your complete Oil Services

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

For a competitive oil quote, for delivery in the village and surrounding area, (Outwell, Upwell, Tipps End, Welney) please call 645 Services' local Representative, Elaine, on 01354 638310 or 07803 178824 (office hours only please) or Email: elaine@645services.co.uk

We will always try and be the best price around - with local deliveries scheduled for most weeks throughout the month.

Upwell Computer Repairs

Sales – Repairs - Maintenance - Upgrades

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



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

<u>Contact Lewis today for a free consultation</u>

01945 772717 - 07849 778525

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

Outwell Timber

For all your Timber and Building Supplies

ISLE ROAD, OUTWELL PE14 8TD Tel: 01945 77 21 16

FENCING, PANELS, TRELLIS TIMBER, PLYWOOD, DECKING

SAND, BALLAST, GRAVEL

SCREWS, NAILS, BOLTS

PAINT, SILICONE, HAND TOOLS

LOCKS, ELECTRICALS, PLUMBING, GUTTERING UNDERGROUND PIPE & FITTINGS

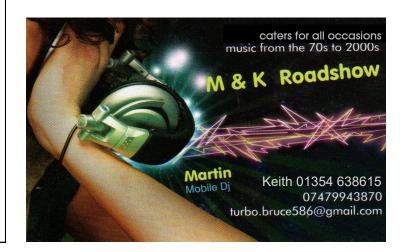
CEMENT, MULTIFINISH, PLASTERBOARD



Qualified Seamstress

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

Please contact: Sandra Kay
on 01354 638478





Your local picture framer

01354 638614

www.granarystudio.uk

The Granary
Hall Farm, Upwell Road
Christchurch
PE14 9LJ



Booklet Printing
Business Cards
Digital Photos
Leaflets
Newsletters
Banners

01354 656614

sales@marchsp.co.uk 5 Fenland Walk, March, PE15 8TW



LW Vehicle Services Ltd Car and Commercial Repairs

- Class 4 and 7 MOT Testing
- Full Diagnostic Service
- HGV Maintenance
- Batteries Tyres Exhausts
- Welding and Fabrication
- Timing Belts
- HGV PMI Inspections
- Aircon Service and Repair
- Courtesy Car Available
- All Service and Repairs Undertaken
- Car and Van Sales

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



March Road, Welney, PE14 9SE



Wisbech

Independent Family Funeral Directors



Personal, caring & affordable

Advice without obligation 24 hours a day







FUNERALS FROM £2,495
Inclusive of all fees

Chapel of Rest

Traditional, Modern & Eco-friendly funerals
Pre-paid & pre-arranged funeral plans

17 Old Market, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, PE13 1NB 01945 405950 (24hr)

www.wisbechfuneralservice.co.uk

STOVELINER

INSTALLATION OF MULTI FUEL WOOD BURNING STOVES. SERVICE & MAINTENANCE. FULLY INSURED. HETAS CERTIFIED.



COVERING CAMBRIDGESHIRE, NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, BEDFORDSHIRE, HERTFORDSHIRE, ESSEX AND LONDON.

STOVELINER@OUTLOOK.COM 07940 001 830

FIND US ON SOCIAL @STOVELINER

Beauty Treatments By Jane

N.V.Q. - i.b.d. - Babtac

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

Rose Cottage, Christchurch Telephone: 01354 638378



Sudoku Answers from page 8

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

Easter Quiz Answers from page 10:

- 1.a) 8.
- 2.b) They represent Jesus and the apostles (minus Judas)
- 3. c) Coriander.
- 4. a) Germany.
- 5. b) A pocket watch.
- 6. c) 26 hours.
- 7. c) Around the weight of a large African elephant.
- 8. c) Cuckoo





Reg Charity No. 1143390

Craft Fair

& 'Have a Go' Dog Agility

Saturday 25th June

Refreshments served all day

10am-4pm

Magpie Centre

Wallington Hall, South Runcton, on the A10 PE330EP

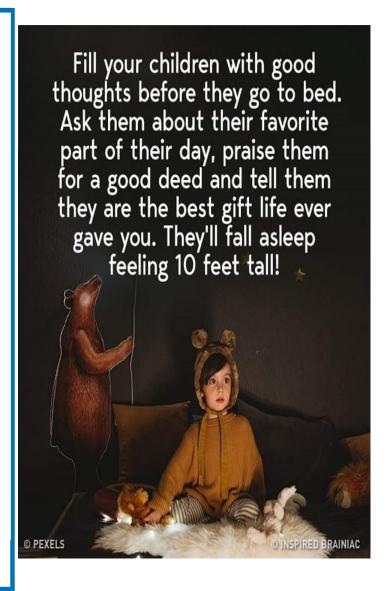
Enquiries: 07715 467866

Well behaved dogs on lead welcome
Craft stalls are undercover in Indoor School

Free parking

£2 entry Under 16's free

Dog Agility £2



Lakesend Happy Circle

Bus Trips 2022



MELTON MOWBRAY Tues 24th May





SHERINGHAM Weds 22nd June



Leaving St Peter's Road, Upwell, at 9am. Picking up in Outwell
Bus Fare £15
To Book, call Sue on 01945 773 638

Please leave a message with your telephone number if there's no reply.

We will get back to you.

March Town Centre - Sunday 24 April 2022 - 10am to 4pm

140 Stalls Fun Fair Street Food Live Entertainment
Children's Activities Commemorative Parade Vintage Vehicles
Music from the D-Day Darlings!

For more information, visit www.fenland.gov.uk/events

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.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Fenland District Council