

The Heron

Community Magazine

September 2022

Delivered to homes in Christchurch, Euximoor and Tipps End

A Very Close Call Stories and pictures from the recent fire in Euximoor Drove

Cambridge Fire and Rescue Service said that firefighters from Littleport, Ely, Soham, the North Roaming Fire Engine, Stanground, Whittlesey, Wisbech, Chatteris, Ramsey, along with a crew from Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service and one from USAF Base, Mildenhall responded.

LET'S HEAR IT FOR THESE GREAT PEOPLE! Thank you to all. [Full story and personal accounts on Page 2 & 6]



Photo: Helen Chappell

ENQUIRIES

editor@theheron.info Tel: 01354 638088

adverts@theheron.info Tel: 01354 638310



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Photo: Hollie Dorward

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Editorial Team Leader - Annie Nason Treasurer, Advertising Manager, Publisher - Elaine Reed-Hughes Editorial Team Members: Sue Norman, Elaine Reed-Hughes, Hollie Dorward, Wendy Yates, Marie Jenkins, Tracey Jenkins Deliveries Manager - Annie Nason Support—Lewis Bennett (IT), the Delivery Team and Printers

Website: www.theheron.info

Euximoor Drove Fire

A fire at Wrouts Farm, Euximoor Drove, claimed over fifty acres of farmland, a trio of farm buildings and jeopardised the homes of several Euximoor residents. The fire, which occurred during the afternoon and evening of Sunday 24th July, was believed to have been caused by reflected light from a car window or mirror.

Fire services attended from as far afield as the US Air Force base at Mildenhall, Ramsey, Soham and Stanground, Crops were cultivated around the edges of fields in an effort to impede the path of the fire and minimise the damage

caused, which informally has been estimated at a total cost of around £1,000,000 to Waldersley Farms given the size of the decimated buildings and the total value of crops.

The fire service was called by farm manager Adrian Kew at 3.41pm, but local residents reported that the blaze was ongoing into the night and embers were still smoking the following morning. The heat given off was considerable - the primary fire was contained within a large stack of straw bales, and the recent weather had dried everything out. There were several crews in

attendance, including at least one from Norfolk and one from the US base. The access road was blocked completely.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service issued a statement on its website, noting that it continued to observe the situation throughout the morning of the 25th and that the cause of the fire was accidental. It observed that a farmer assisted in creating fire breaks named in the local press as Paul Russell. Russell has been praised by local residents for his efforts, which undoubtedly helped to ensure that no homes were lost in the blaze.

Hollie Dorward

WELL DONE TO PAUL RUSSELL! Cambs Times headline August 29th 2022:

" 'Hero' farmer praised after battling major village fire. Farmer Paul Russell is being praised as the hero of the hour for helping to avert major damage when 100 acres of field, agricultural buildings and a stack caught fire".

In the article, Graham Chappell described Mr Russell as truly heroic for his efforts. "He came out with some farm machine with a big bucket on the front and was scooting round the fields shovelling soil and digging channels to protect people's homes".

Graham had been in March when he received a call from his wife and drove straight home. Except that by then,

the fire services had arrived and would not allow anyone down the road which lead towards the fire. The fire services did explain that everyone was safe, which was a relief. Graham says that he first saw Paul again a week after the fire, and expressed the heartfelt thanks "that I know were shared by all our neighbours that were affected by the fire. I was in awe of him once again as he was so incredibly humble in his response, saying he didn't feel he warranted special praise and that he had only done what he hoped someone else would do for him if he was in a similar situation. There's no doubt in my mind, he was an absolute hero, and his response made me feel this all the more".

Graham Chappell

On Sunday 24th July I was working at the dining room table when I smelt smoke. I thought someone was having a bonfire and was a bit annoyed because it was a hot day and all the windows were open. I then received a message from a friend in March saying that they could see smoke coming from Euximoor direction and enquiring whether I was alright. I went into the lane to investigate and saw a large bonfire two fields away, in the distance. I went back into the house and measured the ingredients to bake a cake. I was just beating the cake mix when a neighbour from about 500m away appeared at my door saying that the fire was just outside my house and that I should try to leave. It was too smoky to drive and the flames were close to the road. The heat was intense. I decided to stay in the house. Other neighbours checked that I was OK as they knew I was on my own. It was very frightening. Eventually, when the fire had passed by and the smoke had cleared, I decided to drive down the Drove to meet my husband Graham, and our son Fraser, who were waiting with other residents where the fire brigade had advised them to. When the Drove was clear enough, we drove to Welney and spent the night with Fraser and his partner there. That was when the shock set in and the 'what if questions' began swirling round my brain. It had taken just 7 minutes to spread from the straw stack through 100 acres of wheat crop. We returned the next day and began clearing the house of smoke and washing all the soft furnishings etc. It took several days for the air outside to be clear of the smell. On the day, the fire service, the local farmer and the support of the neighbours meant that all people and property were kept safe.

Helen Chappell.









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!

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 use the Select and Collect service online, 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.

Editorial

This month's edition is slim as we had no Holiday Cover for the publisher, and the magazine had to be put together quickly. But what a magazine! The articles about the Euximoor fire make tough reading. So glad everyone is ok. Fires spread so quickly and are so dangerous.

There are two village events early in October which are flagged up on the back cover...put them in your diary. Scarecrow feature and photos next month!

Christchurch Youth Club – How very exciting! Please **EVERYONE** - read page 9, and those who are interested, please fill it in, cut the page out, and get it to the address mentioned. Helpers needed too, of course. Please volunteer if you can.

Annie Nason



Community Information Useful Telephone Numbers

	NULLIDEIS
Age UK Cambridgeshire	0300 666 9860
Alzheimer's Society (Fenland)	01945 580480
Churchwarden - Mrs Helen Chappell	01354 638092
Citizens' Advice Bureau, Wisbech	03442 451292
Community Centre Bookings (Bryan Burfiel	
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 - James Hughes (Chair)	01354 638310
Parish Councillor - Kay Miller	01354 638232
Parish Councillor - Peter Owen	01354 638847
Parish Councillor - Andrew Sparrow	01354 638020
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)	
Water Emergencies	03457 145145
Club Contacts	
Art Club - Jan Clifford	01354 638217
Book Club - Pat Rigby	07776 142642
Gardening Club - Marion Hawthorn	01354 638230
Short Mat Bowls Club - Janet Harper	01354 638681
WI - Margaret Hayes	01354 653240
	iancat@hotmail.co.uk
Christchurch Stargazers - Mark Andrews	07425 165415



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 <u>www.theheron.info</u>. 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 4 th	CC Car Show	9.30am	CCC	6
Tues 6th	Mobile Library	12 noon	Lay-by (Fen View)	3
Tues 6 th	Book Club	7.30pm	tba	7
Sun 11 th	Church Service H/C	10.30am	CCC	15
Mon 12 th	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm	CCC	
Tues 13 th	Art Club	1.30-3.30pm	CCC	7
Tues 13 th	WI	6.30pm	CCC	8
Weds 14 th	Lunch Break	12-2pm	CCC	8
Tues 20 th	Gardening Club	7pm	CCC	8
Sun 25 th	JAZZ CLUB	12.30-2.45pm	CCC	
Sun 25 th	Harvest Festival Service	4pm	CCC	15
Tues 27 th	Art Club	1.30-3.30pm	CCC	7
Fri 30th Macmillan Coffee Morning		10.30-12.30	CCC	5
Every Mon	Short Mat Bowls	7-9pm	CCC	8
Every Weds	Chair-based exercise class Kathleen Henderson	10-10.50am 07880 543821	CCC	
Every Thurs Coffee, Cake & Chat		2-3pm	Church	15
M,T,W,TH	Mobile Post Office	Various	Lay-by (Fen View)	3
	SAVE THESE DA	FES IN OCTOBER!		
Sat 8 th	HARVEST SUPPER	6.30pm	CCC	16
Sat 15 th	SAUSAGE SUPPER	7.30pm	CCC	16

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.

What's on in September 2022

4th September 2022 Sunday Christchurch Car Show, Upwell Rd, Christchurch PE14 9LL. Classic Car and Bike Show, hot food, stalls including cakes, cookies and brownies, honey, floristry, plants, preserves, ice creams, custom made cards, sweet stalls, gifts. Bar Open. Disabled Parking available. Starts at 9.30am until late afternoon.

9th September 2022 Friday. "Complete Madness" -Madness Tribute Band, Childers Sports and Social Club, Manor House, 1a Station Rd, Whittlesey PE7 1SA. Starts at 7.30 tickets £15 call Colin 07526 664949 www.whittleseymusicnights@gmail.com

10th &11th September 2022 Saturday and Sunday 47th Haddenham Steam Rally & Heavy Horse Show, Sutton Road, Haddenham nr Ely CB6 3PT phone 07879 552872 Traditional steam and country fair, vintage tractors, cars, commercials and bikes, craft tent, beer tent, bygones and horse display (Heavy Horse Show Sunday) Opens 9.00am Tickets adults £12.50 kids free. Disabled Parking available.

17th September 2022 Thursday. Open Mic Night, Royal British Legion Club, Upwell PE14 9BB. Starts 8.00pm Booking required due to limited spaces phone 07540 235142 or email <u>jules@satdat.co.uk</u> Singers please take your own MIC, full PA available.

24th September 2022 Saturday. Boogie Nights at William Marshall Centre at Hurn Drove, Welney PE14 9SD 7pm-11.30pm Tickets £8 sales only in advance. Contact Paul Spears 07581 742028. Licensed bar and snacks available. Party to sounds of the 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s

25th September 2022 Sunday 11am-4pm Ramsey Rural Museum Plough Day and Country Fair, Wood Lane, Ramsey PE26 2XD Tel 01487 815715 tickets- adults £6, kids £2 free parking www.ploughday@ramseyruralmuseum.co.uk

Heavy horse ploughing, tractor ploughing, vintage vehicles, craft and trade stalls, food stalls, licensed bar, book shop, kids rides and much more.

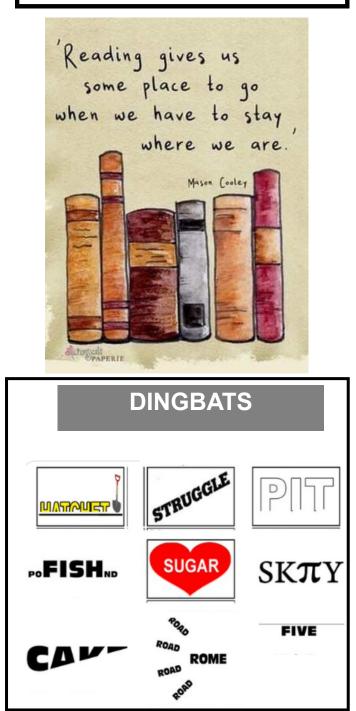
Copy Deadline - The deadline for copy for the September edition of the Heron is <u>23 September</u>.

Fundraising for C MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Coffee Morning Friday September 30th.

In the Community Centre. 10.30am -12.30pm.

Contributions of cakes and prizes for the raffle will be gratefully received. Contact Sue Simpson 638730 or Sandra Kay 638478.



Answers on page 6

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. The Heron will not share any contact details unless given permission.

Lee Morris and his family were among those who had to escape through thick smoke that engulfed Euximoor Drove as Firefighters fought a blaze on Sunday 24th July. Here, he tells of his terrifying experience.

"It went from a peaceful Sunday to the most terrifying situation ever! As I was walking up the lane to my home, the flames were coming across the fields at speed, and that's when I realised we needed to leave. By the time I got to my house the smoke was so thick - and the heat was really bad – it was terrifying!

It was absolute pandemonium as we fled with our pets in the car. We couldn't see anything, having to drive through thick smoke. I was blasting the horn just in case the Fire Brigade was coming the other way, or someone else was in the smoke. We made it through to where everyone had gathered in a safe-ish spot, and I was just so relieved we made it out.

Looking back, all we could see were flames and thick smoke up by our houses. The dread was unbelievable; not knowing whether our houses would be saved was truly gut-wrenching. At that point the farmer, Paul Russell, came through with his machine and started digging firebreaks. The Fire Brigade were rushing backward and forwards to the water hydrants. Paul went above and beyond to save our houses, and all up our end are very grateful to him. He didn't have to do such a thing, but he just went for it, just like he did when our house was flooded at Christmas 2020. The fire just kept spreading for hours, it seemed.

I now know what it feels like for people to have survived something like that, and the thoughts that go through your head as you are desperately trying to make sure everyone gets out. But we did, thank God".



Photo: Tony Willetts

Before the fire took hold of the field. Paul Russell in his digger making soil barriers to protect the trees, storage barns and house.

Hi Annie. I saw your post about the fire on Euximoor and wanted to add a few comments. I live in Chamberlains cottage and we were right on the edge of the fire. My son and I were on the shed roofs with a hosepipe, brush and rake to damp down the edges and move the pine needles away from the sides of the sheds. The land to the corner of the storage barns caught fire and we immediately reported this to the closest fire engine about 150m away and they said they knew and it was next on the list. The area is covered in fern trees and needles and was a tinder box waiting to go up. Whilst we were reporting this I saw a yellow digger type machine come flying across the field. It picked up a load of soil, broke through the trees and started

putting soil onto the fire. This continued for what felt like an eternity before an additional fire engine came and parked outside the storage barns to control that area. I have no doubt in my mind that the fern trees storage barns and my house would have been burnt down if it was not for this act. We even had an American truck from one of the bases assisting. I do not want to belittle what the fire service did as they were amazing, but they are trained for this and paid to do it. Paul Russell on the other hand was the driver of the digger, he is not trained or paid but his actions saved my house. Could you please mention the sterling job he did and pass on my sincere thanks for saving my house?

Thank you Tony & Sarah

Waking up to see another day is a blessing. Don't take it for granted. Make it count and be happy that you're alive.

Answers to Dingbats

- Bury the
- Hatchet
- Uphill
- Struggle
- Bottomless PitBig Fish in a
- Small Pond
- Sweetheart
- Pi(e) in the
- Sky
- Piece of CakeAll Roads
- All Roads
 Load to Rom
- Lead to Rome
- High Five



Please Follow Facebook page:- Christchurch Community Centre to register attendance



Christchurch Community Centre , Upwell Road , Christchurch near Wisbech. Cambridgeshire PE14 9LL (On the Recreation Ground)



TOWNLEY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL

Christchurch, Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 9NA office@townley.cambs.sch.uk **Website**: www.townley.cambs.sch.uk 01354 638229





Facebook—Townley School and Pre-School

Remember that our website has lots more information about school.

Goodbye Year Six

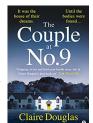
We ended the school year in a different way this year and without covid restrictions! Instead of our traditional leavers' assembly, this year Emperor Class put on a production of 'Pirates versus Mermaids'. It was a wonderful, cheerful way to celebrate the children's achievements. It meant the last day was full of reflection and positivity for our wonderful Year 6, who have been with me since the first day of my headship. (Secretly I don't think I could have stood up in front of them without crying, I feel very protective of them and we have been on a wonderful journey together!) They are a fabulous group of children and we wish them well for the future - and watch this space as one of them has her eyes on my job so I can retire, leaving the school in safe hands in a few years!



Christchurch Book Club

Book Club met on 2nd August, and we had been reading The Couple at No. 9 by Claire Douglas.

The Couple at No. 9 is a whodunit based on a young couple who take over a property from a relative but builders soon uncover two bodies during renovations. As the relative is still alive and was living there when the bodies were buried, who were the victims? Feedback from the group was that it was a very enjoyable book with a good twist at the end. One member enjoyed it so much they have gone on to source other books by the same author and said it was not a book they had ever considered reading.



BOOK-CLUB-

The next book is The Narrow Road to the Deep North by Richard Flanagan. This could be a challenging book but will see what the response is at the next meeting!

The books are currently chosen for us and supplied by March library, who charge an annual fee. A yard sale was held on 6th August in Elaine Reed-Hughes' driveway. A lovely Saturday afternoon was spent selling tea, coffee, cakes, bric a brac, books and puzzles raising a healthy £165.00. This will go into a fund to pay for the annual book club library fee and any author events - similar to the Elly Griffiths event some of us went to in Ely back in February. Her books are enjoyed by a few of the book club members who can relate to the places she writes about, as she bases crime novels in The Fens.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 6th September at 7.30pm at Pat Rigby's house at 75 Church Road. New members always welcome.

Christchurch Art

Group



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.

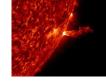


Christchurch Stargazers

Hello Christchurch Stargazers! This month is about Solar Flares. A solar flare is an intense burst of radiation coming from the release of magnetic energy associated with sunspots

(see last month's Heron). Flares are our solar system's largest explosive events. They are seen as bright areas on the sun and they can last from minutes to several hours. We typically see a solar flare by the photons (or light) it releases, at most every wavelength of the spectrum. The primary ways we monitor flares are in x-rays and optical light. Flares are also sites where particles (electrons, protons, and heavier particles) are accelerated. Solar Flares emit a lot of heat and energy, causing geomagnetic storms on Earth. This may have an impact on satellite transmissions as well as communications. Solar Flares are categorised between G1-G5 level, G1 being the smallest scale. Therefore, G1 solar flares are not that troublesome but G5 become matter of utmost concern. Last G5 storm

that hit earth was in sometime in 1859 causing massive destruction of telegraph system and power grid failure.



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

Mark Andrews



One thing that becomes very apparent about being a member of the Gardening Club, is that Supermarket Flowers can take on a whole new meaning. For

example, last Tuesday August 16th the members enjoyed a visit from "the Hyacinth Man, Alan Shipp. It transpires that Alan is one of Europe's acknowledged experts on the flower - said in Greek Mythology to have sprung from a mortal headwound, caused by an errant Discus to a young man called Hyacinth, as he lay dying in the arms of grieving God Apollo. In less fanciful terms, it is a very old flower possibly brought to Europe by The Romans (what did they ever do for us?). Hyacinths apparently. The flower grown from bulbs is also said to symbolise peace, commitment, beauty, power and pride. I feel sure that those present at Alan's

Christchurch Gardening Club

talk, will never feel quite the same as they push their trolleys past the displays of Hyacinths in the local supermarket or Garden centre. An extremely illuminating evening, I'm pretty sure as I write this, our members will already be beavering away planting their newly acquired bulbs. Should you wish to be equally illuminated about all things Garden, just pop along to our next meeting, or call 01354 638230 for details.

The next meeting is on September 18th when Mike Day will be speaking on" Vegetables in my time".

Steve

LUNCH BREAK



Lunch Break this month 14th & 28th – 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. Or just come for a cuppa.

Always the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

Contact: Annie on 01354-638088



Our speaker in August was Caroline Barnes, from Manea. She spoke about her time in China, illustrated by

images on the screen. She brought along a number of items from China, including garments, and a Chinese Tea set. She very kindly gave each member a set of chopsticks. She had lived in Beijing for 3 years with her husband, who was there for work. She learnt Mandarin, and enjoyed speaking it there. She spoke about the history of China, and how the Dynasties were begun by the Emperor Qin Shi Huang, who united various walls to make the Great Wall, in c 220 BCE. His mausoleum contains the Terracotta Warriors. Work on the mausoleum began in 246 BCE soon after Emperor Qin (then aged 13) ascended the throne. She visited the site, and other places in China, and saw people fishing with cormorants, and much more. A fascinating talk.

The September meeting is on 13th. The speaker is Hannah Padfield; subject: "From field to fork". *It begins at 6.30pm. This is the WI Harvest Supper. Members need to let the Committee know if they are able to attend.* The September competition colour is brown.

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.



8

CHRISTCHURCH YOUTH CLUB - HAVE YOUR SAY!

Dear Parents and Carers of Christchurch youth, there are a number of residents in the village who are interested in setting up a youth club to give the children a safe and fun environment to socialise, learn new skills and grow! We would really appreciate it if you could help your young people fill out the below survey so we can make sure the club we set up meets the wants and needs of the children and families it will be benefiting! Thank you.

Any questions, please feel free to contact Danielle Carver on 07599456983.

Please return completed forms to christchurchyouthclub@outlook.com or post through the door of 5 The Croft, Christchurch.

Q1. What is your age?

- 🔵 0-5 years
- 🔵 6-10 years
- 11-14 years
-) 15-17 years
-) 18+ years

Q2. Would you be interested in attending a youth club?

- Yes
- No

Q3. What are the best days for you to attend?

- Monday Evening
- Tuesday Evening
- Wednesday Evening
- Thursday Evening
- Friday Evening

Q4. What would you like to do at youth club? Please tick as many as you like!

Music	Hair & Beauty
Cooking	Business
Football	Computers
Table Tennis	Playstation
Watching Sports	Wii
Art & Crafts	Xbox
Photo Album maki	ing OMeeting Friends
Writing	Just hanging out
Reading	Other:
Dance	
Drama	
Film	

Q5. What life skills would you be interested in? Please tick as many as you like!

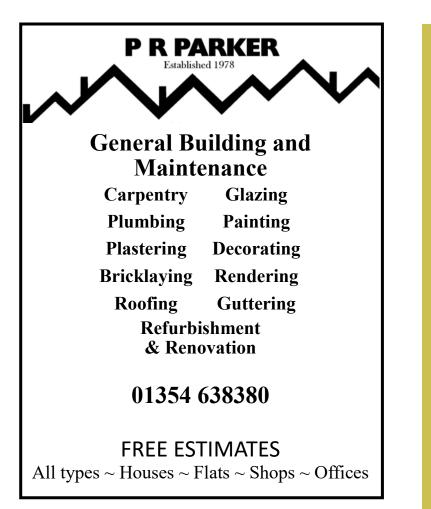
- Cooking skills
- Business enterprise
- Work experience
- Careers & University Advice
- Relationship advice
- CV workshop
- Learning about finances

Other:

Q6. Do you have any other ideas you would like to suggest?

Q7. One for the adults! Are there any activities you would like to suggest? Also, if you would be interested in volunteering, please leave your name and a contact email or number and I will be in touch in due course!







Opening times:

Mon-Thurs 4pm-11pm Friday 2pm-12am Saturday 9am-12am Sunday 12pm-11pm

Food available:

Monday Breakfast 9-11am Tuesday 6-9pm Fish Fridays 6-9pm (unless an event) Saturday Breakfasts 9-11am Saturday Pizza Night (unless an event) Sunday Lunch 12:30-3pm

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

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

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onlineplaygrounds.co.uk



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Please contact: Sandra Kay on 01354 638478



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Church News

Hello Everybody

Here we are at the start of September. Summer is drawing to a close and autumn is around the corner. We shared a lovely service of Thanksgiving and Farewell with Rev Ian and Rev Lynda. They have now finished their work in the Benefice and we are officially in interregnum.

You will have seen us beginning our fund raising for the new church ceiling in a small way; selling ice-creams at the Scarecrow Festival. We will be at the Car Show on 4th September with a variety of things on sale and the chance to win one of Karen Beers delicious cakes. The 8th October will be our annual Harvest Supper at the Community Centre (see back page for details). We will be holding our Christmas Fayre (sadly no tree festival) on 26th November. We would like to make this a wonderful event for the village community. Anyone who thinks they could help out please do contact myself or Kay.

The Community Centre continues to support us whilst the church is closed and this month our services are; 11th September at 10.30am, a service of Holy Communion in Christchurch Community Centre and 25th September at 4pm will be our Harvest Service in Christchurch Community Centre. There is a service every week somewhere in the Benefice (see table below).

We look forward to seeing you at our services and our fund-raising events. In God We Trust.

Helen and Kay

Helen 638092 Kay 638232



We are collecting for March Food Bank. Our Harvest Festival this year is on Sun Sept 25th at 4pm in the Community Centre. All welcome. Either bring goods to the service or drop them off any time at 5, Upwell Road.

	CHRISTCHURCH	MANEA	WELNEY	DODDINGTON	WIMBLINGTON	BENWICK
4th SEPT		10.30 MP			10.30 HC	
11TH SEPT	10.30 HC			10.30 MP		
18TH SEPT		10.30 HC BAPTISM			10.30 MP	
25TH SEPT	16.00 HARVEST			10.30 HC HARVEST		

Wildlife Watching In September



September brings an abundance of berries, and our recent sunny days will mean the pollinators have been busy helping to produce many fruits. The bright red rowan, dog rose hips, and honeysuckle, the deeper red hawthorn, and dark purple

elderberries and blackberries are often appearing this month. It is a welcome food

source for various creatures – foxes, badgers, wasps and many garden birds.

Unfortunately, this time of year, garden birds are spotted far less

often. This is partially because they have less need for bird food due to the bounty of food available in sheltered hedgerows and fields. However, it is also because most garden birds are moulting their feathers towards the end of summer. They are either replacing juvenile feathers or regrowing damaged adult feathers, so they will hide away from predators until they regrow them and regain their usual agility. Don't worry; the birds should return to our gardens when food is scarce in winter.



One group of wildlife that is often easier to spot in September are the reptiles. Autumn weather often comes with sunny days and cool nights, meaning that reptiles need to spend more time warming up in the morning sun. If you have a rockery or log in your garden or somewhere nearby, take a look in the early

morning sun, and you might spot basking grass snakes or adders. Adders are Britain's

only venomous snake. However, their bite is usually not dangerous (but medical attention should always be sought after a bite, just in case!). They usually only bite when trodden on or picked up as they prefer to slither away peacefully. There are also many reptile births around this time, so there will be lots of juvenile slowworms, lizards, adders, and grass snakes to be found.



Coffee, Cake and Chat

Come along on Thursday afternoons from 2-3pm and catch up with friends and make new ones. Held in the

Community Centre while repairs are made to the church.





In extremely hot weather, if you're walking your dog between 10am and 6pm, please wear a fur coat and no shoes, so you know how it feels.

Christchurch Parish Church Harvest Supper Saturday 8th October 2022 Christchurch Community Centre

Food will be served at 6.30pm and this will be followed by entertainment From singer and guitarist Simon Rogers.

> Menu Chicken and vegetable Risotto

Mushroom and vegetable Risotto Or Jacket Potato with a choice of filling and salad Dessert Tea and Coffee £12.50 per person

Soft drinks will be available but please feel free to bring your own alcoholic beverages.

There will also be a raffle. Tickets available from Helen 638092, Kay 638232 or Karen 638781

Over 65s Parish Lunch Fundraiser

No.

Sausage Supper

Saturday 15 October 2022 - 7.30pm Christchurch Community Centre

Dancing afterwards to "Brightside".

Bar open from 7.30pm. Raffle.

Tickets available from Belinda Gladwin on 01354 638538.

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.

