

The Heron

Community Magazine

Delivered to homes in Christchurch, Euximoor and Tipps End

October 2023

		In this issue			
Dog & Car Show	2	RAF Mildenhall	7	Finlandia	13
Community Info	3	Story of Macmillan	7	Puzzler	14
Diary Dates	4	Parish Council Snippets	8	Short Mat Bowls	14
Interested in Fostering a Dog?	4	Poppy Appeal	8	Wildlife Questions	15
Letter from the New Editor	5	Church News	9	Club News	15-16
Local library Events	5	Fire Service Advice	10	Advertising	17-22
Heron Donations	5	Townley School	11	Brimstone Butterfly	23
What's On?	6	Kid's Corner	12	The Aurora Borealis	23
Magpie Centre	6	Recipe	13	Who Drained the Fens?	24



Harvest Time

*Scarecrow's happy, crops are gold
Summer well spent scaring crows
Busy farmers, jobs to do
Driving combines, balers too.*

*Apples ripen on the trees
Fall to the ground in Autumn breeze
Berries, nuts and pumpkins too
It's harvest time, so much to do.*

HELP WANTED - Help create our monthly community magazine at The Heron! We're looking for someone to compile the magazine using Microsoft Publisher. Interested? Contact us at editor@theheron.info.

Heron Team

Editorial Team Leader - Clive Benjamin

editor@theheron.info

Editorial Team - Sue Norman, Elaine Reed-Hughes, Hollie Dorward, Wendy Yates, Liz Scott, Pat Rigby

Treasurer, Advertising - Elaine Reed-Hughes

adverts@theheron.info Tel: 01354 638310

Deliveries Manager - Annie Nason

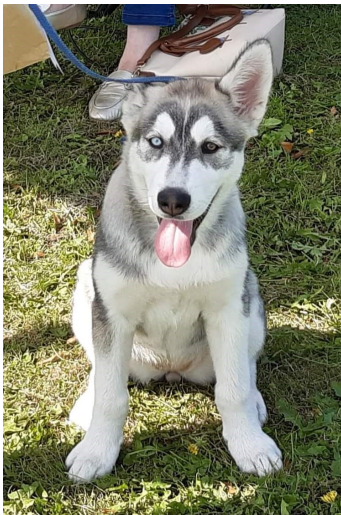
Publisher - Hollie Dorward

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

Website: www.theheron.info



Pictures from the Dog and Car Show



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

Anyone wanting their items to be posted on the day will need to get their post to the van by 4:40PM.

Mobile Library:

The mobile library comes on the first Tuesday of the month at 12:15 - 1:00PM.

The van parks in the lay-by on Upwell Road, opposite to the entrance of Fen View.

As well as a large range of library books, you can get your NHS hearing batteries, replacement walking stick ferrules and dispose of old household batteries.

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

Letters to the Editorial Team

We'd love to hear from you - Please email letters to: editor@heron.info

NOTE: Letters will only be considered for publication if accompanied by a name and contact details. The Heron will not share any contact details unless given permission.

Copy Deadline - The deadline for copy for the November edition of the Heron is 20th October

Useful Telephone Numbers

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)	07918 664402
Community Fire Safety Officer	07717 858166
District Councillor - Dal Roy	07885 381007
District Councillor - Matthew Summers	07725 629947
Electricity Faults - UK Power Networks	105
FACT Dial-A-Ride	01354 661234
Fenland District Council	01354 654321
Floodline	0845 988 1188
Library - March	0354 045 5225
MIND (Mental Health Crisis Line)	116 123
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 - Ryan Feeney	07785 907509
Parish Councillor - Julia Hayes	07591 537001
Parish Councillor - James Hughes	01354 638310
Parish Councillor - Peter Owen	01354 638847
Parish Councillor - Shaun Potter	07825 016990
Parish Councillor - Andrew Sparrow	01354 638020
Police - Emergency	999
Police - Non Emergency	101
Samaritans	116 123
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	01366 382219
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
Jazz Club - Cat Johnson	musiciancat@hotmail.co.uk
Christchurch Stargazers - Mark Andrews	07425 165415

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 £27.00 per year (including P&P).

Diary Dates

Date	Event	Time	Place	Page
Sun 1st Oct	A Man Called Otto	2pm	Welle Cinema	22
Tue 3rd Oct	Mobile Library	12:15pm	Lay-by (Fen View)	3
Tue 3rd Oct	Book Club	7:30pm	Fen View	15
Sat 7th Oct	Harvest Supper	6:30pm	CCC	9
Mon 9th Oct	Parish Council Meeting	7:30pm	CCC	8
Tue 10th Oct	WI Flower demo	7pm	CCC	16
Tue 10th Oct	Art Group	1:30pm - 3:30pm	CCC	15
Wed 11th Oct	Coffee/lunch break	11am - 1pm	CCC	16
Thu 12th Oct	Youth Club	5pm - 7pm	CCC	-
Tue 17th Oct	Gardening Club	7pm	CCC	16
Mon 23rd Oct	Movie in a matchbox	2pm - 4pm	March Library	5
Wed 25th Oct	Coffee/lunch break	11am - 1pm	CCC	16
Sat 28th Oct	Craft Fundraiser	TBC	CCC	-
Sat 4th Nov	Bonfire Bingo	3pm	CCC	-
Sat 4th Nov	Cabinet of Dr Caligary - Screening	7:30pm - 9:05pm	Ely Library	5
Sun 5th Nov	Double Jeopardy	2pm	Welle Cinema	22
Mon 6th Nov	Screen Printing Workshop	5pm - 7pm	Chatteris Library	5
Regular weekly events				
Every Mon	Short Mat Bowls	7-9pm	CCC	15
Every Tues	Christchurch Hobby and Craft Club	10.am – 1pm	CCC	14
Every Weds	Chair-based exercise class Kathleen Henderson	10-10.50am 07880 543821	CCC	-
Every Thurs	Coffee, Cake & Chat	2-3pm	CCC	9
M, T, W, TH	Mobile Post Office	Various	Lay-by (Fen View)	3
Every Sun	Car Boot Sale	7am - 12pm	Skylark Garden Centre	-

Are you ready for 2024? The Heron calendar is being planned, more details next month.

Are you interested in Fostering a Dog?

The Dogs Trust Freedom Project is a specialist dog fostering service for people fleeing domestic abuse.

They are urgently looking to recruit new foster carers across East Anglia, looking for people who are able to welcome a dog into their homes on a temporary basis and in turn support a family to get to safety.

All the costs are covered by Dogs Trust, and full support is provided throughout the placement so it's a great alternative for someone who would love a dog in their lives but isn't able to own their own dog.

You can find out more about them here: <https://www.dogstrustfreedomproject.org.uk/>



There is also a lovely video on YouTube which summarises the work they do: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hTQx75GvPM> or scan this QR code

A Letter from the (new) Editor



Hello everyone. I have been in the village for almost 2 years now and have enjoyed the Heron since I first read it. It is by far the best local Newsletter I have ever come across, and I've lived in quite a lot of places in England. Many thanks to Annie for the fantastic work she has done with the Heron, I hope the team and I can continue that work.

As Annie pointed out, I am pretty good at spelling and maths, but my geography is appalling, and so it appears, is my local knowledge – who knew that there was a prison in March? (A: apparently, everyone except me).

At the moment, I'm still settling into village life and our new home, so my time is pretty short, but in the past, I've built a couple of kit cars and I've flown for around 30 years – hang gliders, microlights and sailplanes, as well as dabbling in power kites, kite buggies and dinghies, plus numerous motorbikes in the past, so the car shows and the overhead aircraft fascinate me, but also I just love the village, it has a real sense of community, and I hope we can continue to encourage that in here.

Clive Benjamin

Local Library Events

Cambridgeshire libraries run a number of events at different libraries throughout the region, below is a sample of upcoming events that are within a reasonable distance from Christchurch

23rd October - Movie in a matchbox workshop – March Library

4th November - The Cabinet of Dr Caligari screening with live music – Ely Library

6th November - Screen Printing Workshop – Chatteris Library

16th November - 100 Years of Magic Workshop – Ely Library

18th November - Decorative Stars Workshop – Wisbech Library

18th November - Wow! Said the Owl (Puppetry) – Chatteris Library

28th November - History of Silent Cinema Workshops – Wisbech Library

9th December - Decorative Stars Workshop – March Library

For further information go to: <https://www.library.live/the-library-presents-events>

Christmas Fundraiser

Calendars (of local pictures taken by people in the village and surrounding area) available for purchase from 1st November.

Contact:

Elaine Reed-Hughes (01354 638310 or adverts@theheron.info) if you would like to buy some.

Enjoy reading the Heron?

If you haven't donated already and are interested in helping to support the production costs, you can now donate electronically at: www.madegreat.co.uk/sponsorship

100% of your donation goes towards printing costs.

You can choose to have your name printed in the next issue of the magazine or keep your donation anonymous.



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. Any views expressed in The Heron do not necessarily reflect the views of The Heron Editorial Team. We aim to provide a balanced view of village opinions.

Looking for somewhere to go? What's on this month

7th October 2023 Saturday 10.00am - 4.00pm - Record Fair at The Maltings, Ship Lane, Ely, CB7 4BB. Vinyl, CDs, DVDs, memorabilia and collectables. Free Entry

7th and 28th October 2023 Saturday 7.00pm - Haunted Ely Ghost Tour departing from Oliver Cromwell's House, 29 St Mary's Street, Ely CB7 4HF. Led by your ghoulish guide, wander the medieval streets with ghostly tales and scares aplenty! Tel. 01353 662062 to book your place - if you dare! Tickets £15.00 (90 minutes)

10th October 2023 Tuesday 10.00am-1.00pm - Glass Fusion class at The Community Centre, Christchurch. Tutor led class, light lunch available. £15.00pp. Contact Pat Rigby on 07776 142642 to book your place.

15th October 2023 Sunday 9.00 am-12.00pm (then 3rd Sunday of the month) **Indoor Table Top Sale** at Three Holes Village Hall, Squires Drove, Three Holes, Upwell PE14 9JY Free entry for buyers, single table £5 double table £7.50 sellers set up from 8.00am. To book a table contact yasminwallbanks@gmail.com or call 01945 773272 refreshments available.

21st October 2023 Saturday 10.00am – 2.00pm - Lego Show and Sell at Murrow Village Hall, 19 Murrow Bank, Wisbech St Mary PE13 4HB. Entry Fee £1, refreshments available.

21st-29th October 2023 - Week of Wickedness at Skylarks, Manea Road, Wimblington, March PE15 0PE Maize Maze, Pick your own pumpkin, pumpkin carving, spooky magic show, scarecrow smash, Pig Racing and lots more, tel 01354 741212 or email info@skylarkmaizemaze.co.uk for prices.

23rd October 10.30am – 12.30pm - Movie in a matchbox workshop at March Library - find out about the ancient scrolling picture art of the 'crankie' with storyteller Marion Leeper and artist Wendy Dacre. <https://www.library.live/the-library-presents-events>

27th Oct 6pm onwards – Outwell firework spooktacular – Fireworks (no exact start time), BBQ, Fairground and bar £6 adult, £3 child (cash only please) – Outwell Village Hall and Playing Field

4th November 7.30pm – 9.05pm - The Cabinet of Dr Caligari screening with live music – Ely Library – a screening of the 1920 silent film masterpiece 'The Cabinet of Doctor Caligari' <https://www.library.live/the-library-presents-events>

6th November 5pm – 7pm - Screen Printing Workshop at Chatteris Library - screen printing is colourful, fast and fun. Print a unique bag with images from your favourite story with Ricki Outis of Prickwillow ArtSpace <https://www.library.live/the-library-presents-events>

A Busy Autumn Lies Ahead for the Magpie Centre

The evenings may be drawing in, and ponies growing their winter coats, but there are no signs of slowing down at the Magpie Centre, home of West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled Association, based at Wallington Hall, South Runcton, PE33 0EP.

Children aged from five years are welcome to join us for some spooky fun at half term on Thursday 26th or Friday 27th October (various times available).

There will be an hour of treats, no tricks!, to include a Halloween Crafting Session, a Spooky Ride and a Treat to take home. The cost is £25 per child, and Fancy Dress is encouraged.

To book or for more info, email: magpiecentrewnrda@hotmail.co.uk.

And on Saturday November 25, we shall be holding a Quiz Night with Hog Roast Supper (plus vegetarian option) at Stowbridge Village Hall, Downham Road, Stowbridge, PE34 3PW. The meal includes a huge range of salads and home-made desserts. Dare I say 'All You Can Eat'?

Doors open at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Bring your own drinks. Teams of 4 – 8 people are usual, but singles and couples are welcome to make up teams on the night.

To book tickets, £12.50 each, call: 07715 467866 or email: magpiecentrewnrda@hotmail.co.uk. All proceeds go to the Magpie Centre.

And finally, a note to readers who are responsible for booking speakers for their local friendship groups. If your group would like to know a bit more about Riding for the Disabled in general and the Magpie Centre in particular, we have speakers who would be happy to come along, in exchange for a small donation to Magpie Centre funds. Just call the Centre on 01553 810202 to be put in touch with a local speaker.



RAF Mildenhall

RAF Mildenhall was built to meet a "Perceived Continental Threat" as a bomber base in the late 1920's. In 1934 it was the host of the Royal Aero Club's Prestigious MacRobertson Air race on 20th Oct 1934, at the time this was the longest air race ever, being visited by King George V and Queen Mary. The race from Mildenhall to Melbourne Australia was eventually won by a De Havilland Comet "Grosvenor House" in 72 hours.

Throughout WWII Mildenhall remained in active service flying twin-engined Wellingtons, four-engined Short Sterlings & finally the four-engined Lancaster Bombers. During this time the base lost over 200 aircraft and the sad loss of over 2000 Aircrew.

After the war, aircraft from Mildenhall flew home repatriated Prisoners of War in Operation Exodus and also participated in Operation Manna, dropping relief supplies to the people of Holland stranded by the flooding caused by the retreating German military.

The first now-called USAF Strategic Air Command unit to use the base was the 7511th Air Base Group being activated on 11th July 1950. In 1954 The base Mission was changed from Bomber to Aerial Tanker Dispersal Base operating KC-97 Stratotanker.

In 1976 Det 4 of the 9th Strategic Reconnaissance wing (9th SRW) Flying U-2 & SR-71 Blackbird Spy planes until the final SR-71 departure on 18th Jan 1990. on 1st July the 306th Strategic Wing was transferred from Ramstein Air base, Germany to Mildenhall Flying Boeing KC-135 Stratotankers and Boeing RC-135 reconnaissance Aircraft.



On 1st February 1992 the 100th Air refuelling Wing of USAFE (United States Air Force – Europe) is the Main Base Squadron. The base is made up of the following:

100th Air Refuelling wing / 351st Air Refuelling Squadron Using Boeing KC-135 Stratotankers

352nd Special Operations Group made up as:



76th Special Operations Squadron using Lockheed MC-130J Commando II (Hercules).

95th Reconnaissance Squadron Using Boeing RC-135V/W and OC-135



The Story of Macmillan

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

Following the Macmillan coffee morning a few days ago, this is what it was in aid of.

The Macmillan Cancer Support charity was started in 1911 as the Society for the Prevention and Relief of Cancer, by Douglas Macmillan following the death of his father from the disease.

His father's pain and suffering moved Douglas, he wanted advice and information to be provided to all people with cancer, homes for patients at low or no cost and voluntary nurses to attend to patients in their own homes.

In 1924, the name was changed to the **National Society for Cancer Relief**, the organization providing funding to support the work of the Breast Care and Mastectomy Association of Great Britain, which would later become Breast Cancer Care.

In 1989 when it was changed to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund (though nurses funded by the society had been known as "Macmillan nurses" since 1977), later changed again to Macmillan Cancer Relief, and then finally, from 5 April 2006, changed to Macmillan Cancer Support, as this more accurately describes its role in supporting people who have cancer. It has adapted the principles of being a "source of support" and a "force for change".

It is one of the 50 largest UK charitable organizations ranked by annual expenditure and works in partnership with other cancer research organisations and is a partner of the National Cancer Research Institute.

Unfortunately, Douglas Macmillan himself died of cancer in 1969.

Parish Council Snippets

11.09.2023 - The Chair opened proceedings by welcoming everyone. Almost a full Committee... just one person absent, as they were still on holiday. As per usual, nothing much County-wide went on during August. September is to be quite the opposite!

Public Time proved very interesting this month.

1. **Manhole** broken near the entrance to Fen View. It was pointed out that the position of this was exactly where people walk, which is awkward and could be dangerous. It happened weeks ago and needs repairing. The Clerk is to contact the correct team which is supposed to see to these things.
2. **The situation with regards to Kimberley House, Crown Road.** There has been some improvement in the well-being of a resident with mental health concerns. However, a letter has been sent to the Care organisation concerned, signed by neighbours and near neighbours. The Clerk will make things happen, they hope...
3. **Speed signs in the village...** These will be moved around again.
4. **Hedges.** A comment was made about untamed hedges overhanging neighbours' fences, and the pavement. It was pointed out that these are the responsibility of the home owners.
5. **Townley School.** The PC was very pleased to support Townley School's planning application and wish them all the best for their plans for the future. Well done Townley!

Matters Outstanding included:

the Skate Park ramp has been mended at last;

Crown Drove grass cutting...or non-cutting...hopefully it will be done soon.

The PC wants to update their methods of communication with the community, to listen as well as speak! There were several suggestions as to how to do this, including a Facebook page. They have a questionnaire which they will be putting through every door next month. They really hope everyone will want to become involved by filling it in and returning it. It's important.

Police: Report by The Clerk. Fenland police have had a difficult summer in Wisbech, tackling Antisocial Behaviour in the Town Centre. They are encouraging people to use the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. (Check their website).

Cllr Roy, (FDC) is, amongst other things, keeping his eye on the illegally positioned static caravan case. Things will be coming to a head soon.

Clerk's Report.

THE PROPOSED WISBECH INCINERATOR: The deadline for the FDC report to in is November 21st. No decision until February 2024

SUPPORT HEDGEHOGS: A county plan is to provide small hedgehog-sized doors to be put at the base of a fence to enable them to go from garden to garden without having to go on roads. It is hoped that this will stop so many being killed on roads. The PC loved the idea and will be giving one to every household represented at the school.

ROAD CLOSURES NOTICES:

1. **October 2nd - 6th:** The underpass (only) at the Stonea Railway Bridge is to be closed for refurbishment.
2. **October 26th 8am – 4.30pm: WAYSIDE ESTATE** closure for road repairs.

The next PC Meeting: Monday October 9th at 7.30pm in the CCC. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Annie Nason

Poppy Appeal



Hi there, I hope you have all had a lovely summer.

It's time to look ahead to this years RBL Poppy Appeal 2023. Once again I will be serving Christchurch, Manea and the surrounding areas in my role as Poppy Appeal Organiser for these areas.

I'm Sally Fawkes. I will be bringing poppy collecting boxes round during the last week in October.

I can supply all things poppy related - wreaths, altar poppies, lorry poppies, fundraising and collecting merchandise and collecting boxes and tins. You can reach me on 01945 351225 or 07884 478598 or email me at salnrog@sky.com.

I keep a stock of wreaths all year round for all your remembrance needs.

If you are interested in running a fundraising event during Remembrancetide I can help you. Last year Christchurch, Manea and surrounding areas raised an amazing £2,242.16! Lets go smash it in 2023!

Kind regards,
Sally Fawkes PAO

Church News

Services in the Benefice

All services are at 10:30am unless otherwise stated

1st October – Christchurch - Harvest
(with a collection for March Foodbank)
Doddington – Holy Communion

8th October – Manea – Holy Communion
Wimblington – Harvest
Benwick – Harvest -3pm

15th October – Christchurch – Holy Communion
Doddington – Morning Prayer

22nd October – Manea – Morning Prayer
Wimblington – Holy Communion
Welney – Holy Communion – 4pm

29th October – Welney - United Benefice Service
Wimblington – All Souls 3pm

A thought for October

One of our readings in church this month is The King's Son's Wedding (Matthew 22 1-14). In this parable a King wants to hold a huge banquet for his son's wedding. He sends out invitations to all his friends, important business men, politicians and other royal leaders. They all decline his invitation. The King can't believe it and asks again but again the invitations are declined – everyone is too busy or they have better things to do. So, he then sends his servants to invite anyone they meet in the street. Anyone. Good, bad, rich, poor, young, old, sick, healthy, any race, any creed, any colour. All welcome.

This was a parable used to describe God's Kingdom.

I'll just leave this here ... All welcome.

THANK YOU

A very big thank you to all who donated booze for our barrow and to all who bought raffle tickets. Thank you to Jackie Woods and Sheila Nicholson for organising the dog show. We raised a total of £735!



Cake, coffee and chat group continues to meet every Thursday afternoon in Christchurch Community Centre 2pm until 3pm.

All welcome.

Events

Christchurch Parish Church Harvest Supper

Saturday October 7th 2023

Christchurch Community Centre

6.30pm

Two course meal

A grazing platter of meats, cheese and quiche

With new potatoes and salad

And a selection of desserts

Followed by entertainment with

Rhiannon Rae



Adults -£12.50

Children Under 11 - £5

Bonfire Bingo

4th November 3pm

Christchurch Community Centre

Prize bingo followed by jacket potato with chilli or cheese. Bonfire themed dessert too!

£10 per person

Contact Helen 07702 225259
or Karen 07483272580

In other news, we continue to advertise for a new vicar to fill the vacancy in the Six Fen Churches Benefice.

Our grant application to CandG Trust was declined.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Working together to improve community safety

Take Charge and Be Safe!

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is urging residents to Take Charge and Be Safe by keeping in mind some simple steps when using electrical devices, especially those with Lithium-Ion batteries. By following a few simple safety measures, like adding fire safety to your bedtime routine and being awake when using and charging some devices or appliances, people can keep themselves and their families safe in their homes.

Over the coming weeks more information, including key advice for residents to Take Charge and Be Safe will be released on the fire service's social media channels. Make sure CFRS is in your feed by liking and following us.

Lithium-Ion batteries can be found in many electronic devices that are used every day. Things like mobile phones, laptops and tablets, vape cigarettes and games console controllers, as well as e-scooters and e-bikes.

Bedtime routine

Many fires in the home start at night while people are asleep. This can be down to a number of different causes, but can be easily avoided by following a few simple tips, as well as having working smoke alarms on each floor of your home.

A bedtime routine is a great way to help you and your family stay fire safe in your home. By following a few simple tips before heading to bed for the night, you can prevent a fire from happening or, if one does break out, stop it from spreading.

Tip 1

Switch off plugs and electrical appliances before heading to bed, as well as blowing out candles. Things like fridges, freezers and smart devices (e.g. Alexa) are designed to be kept on, but TVs, microwaves, washing machines and tumble dryers should all be turned off, as should wax melters.

Tip 2

Closing internal doors will help prevent a fire from spreading, if one does break out. Take the time to close any doors around your home, especially the kitchen door.

Tip 3

Work out the quickest way to escape your home should a fire break out and make sure it's clear before heading to bed. Keep stairs, hallways and corridors clear of clutter to ensure you and your family can get out quickly if needed.

Tip 4

Before going to bed, make sure you have quick access to your keys so you can easily leave the house if needed.

Batteries

When buying lithium-ion batteries, there are a couple of things you can look for to decrease the chances of buying a dodgy battery.

The battery should have a CE mark to signify it meets UK standard.

There are a few steps you can follow to increase your safety in your home when charging lithium-ion batteries. Where possible, buy from recognised manufacturers for example.

Lithium-ion batteries can't be disposed of in your regular household recycling. Doing so can cause fires. Many local shops have a battery bank where you can dispose of them and recycling centres can also take them.

If you're unsure you can check with your local council.

Residents can also use our online home safety check to carry out their own fire risk assessment of their home. This simple to use tool goes through each area of a property and generates a safety plan for the occupants to follow. The check can be carried out on behalf of a vulnerable family member. [Find out more on the fire service's website: www.cambsfire.gov.uk.](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk)

Editors note: I once bought a replacement laptop charger from eBay – it was all marked up with the relevant stickers etc, though the quality of the sticker wasn't quite right. I thought nothing of it and used this until one day, it literally went "bang" – fortunately, aside from my nerves, no damage was done. Although they are more expensive, I make sure that I now use reputable brands and suppliers when buying anything electrical.



TOWNLEY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

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.

September 2023

The start of the new term has been calm and purposeful, it is a pleasure to walk around school each day. We have restructured how we teach maths in KS2, which seems very popular with the children. We have welcomed several new families to the school and some new staff to the team.

EYFS Class (Nursery and Reception)

EYFS have had a great start to the new school year, we have welcomed some new faces to Nursery and the Reception children have settled into the new routines well. We have three volunteers supporting us during the week – including Mrs Higgins' mum! The new 'Little Wandle' phonics scheme is enabling the Reception children to quickly learn the phonemes (letter sound) and how to write them. We are loving the mud kitchen – if you have any pine cones, conkers, shells and feather you don't have a need for we would LOVE them! If you find yourself with out-of-date flour, oil, salt or shaving foam we can use it up for you – let the school office know, or drop them in!



Hawker Class (Year 1 and 2)

What a fantastic first week back! The children have all settled in very well and all told me that they have had a good week. There is so much positivity, it is really lovely. We have welcomed three new children to class, a year two pupil and 2 year ones. The rest of the class have made them feel included and they have made friends. We have started the learning with the 7 continents, seasonal changes, sentence construction, days of the week, number to and within 20 and tens and ones to 100.

Emerald Class (Year 3 and 4)

We started **History** with a lesson on chronology, looking at what BC/AD, BCE/CE mean and where they would be on a timeline. In French we are learning to count, our **Music** unit of work is called 'creating compositions in response to an animation', in **Science** our topic is 'Rocks' and we have already learnt about how rocks are formed. We started our **R.E.** unit 'What makes us human?'. Our first lesson was about thinking about what religions and world views are and exploring the ways the world can be seen.



Emperor Class (Year 5 and 6)

In Guided Reading we have begun reading 'Rooftoppers' by Katherine Rundell. We have been working on our retrieval skills. In Maths we started the term with learning about roman numerals and we are now working on the place value of number which increase in size each day. Our Science unit is the circulatory system. In Geography we are learning about OS maps and orienteering. We learnt about 6-figure grid references and identified the grid references of different physical and human features on a map. We also learnt about how to orientate a map. Our DT unit is 'Come dine with me' over the next half term the class will plan and prepare a starter, main and dessert.

Kids Corner

Hurrah! It's Pumpkin Season!

Are you going to be making a pumpkin lantern this year? These ones look a lot of fun.



NOW – WHAT do you do with the Pumpkin Seeds that most people throw away? Here's something you can do with them. Get an adult to help you, though, as it involves cooking.

Oven Roasted Pumkin Seeds: a fun snack.

- Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6.
- Wash the seeds thoroughly and remove any stringy bits of pumpkin flesh.
- Dry well using kitchen paper.
- Toss them in some olive oil and spread them on to a nonstick baking tray (no paper).
- Bake until they are nice and golden brown. It won't take long. Probably about 10 minutes.

Wait until they cool off a bit before you taste them. You might burn your mouth!

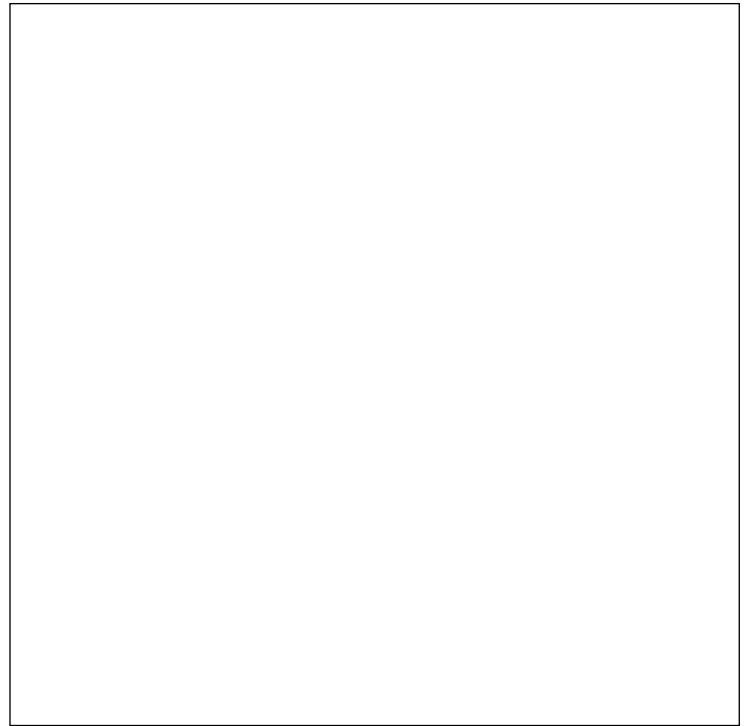
Most pumpkins are round. Why do we find circles so beautiful, I wonder?

Apparently, we have a love for circular shapes from when we were born! A 2011 eye-tracking study found that at five months of age, before we even utter a word or scribble a drawing, we already show a clear preference for curved lines over straight lines. That's just amazing!

Can you name these round things in nature?
Answers on page 22



How many round things can you think of? Draw a few of them in this box.




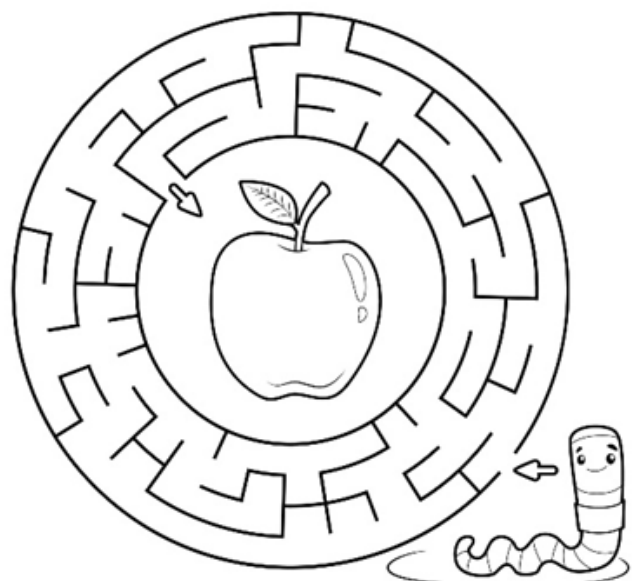
Can you go through the alphabet naming round things?

Here are a few difficult letters to get you started. I am sure you can find lots more!

G-Gobstopper; V-Volleyballs; Y-Yoyo

How does the worm get to the apple?

 **MAZE GAME**



<https://www.sciencefocus.com/science/why-do-we-find-circles-so-beautiful>

Pumpkin Tray Bake



INGREDIENTS

300g self-raising flour
300g light muscovado sugar
3 tsp mixed spice
2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
175g sultanas
½ tsp salt
4 eggs, beaten
200g butter, melted
zest 1 orange
1 tbsp orange juice
500g (peeled weight) pumpkin flesh -
grated

For drenching and frosting

200g pack soft cheese
85g butter, softened
100g icing sugar, sifted
zest of 1 orange and juice of half

METHOD

1. Heat oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4. Butter and line a 30 x 20cm baking or small roasting tin with baking parchment. Put the flour, sugar, spice, bicarbonate of soda, sultanas and salt into a large bowl and stir to combine
2. Beat the eggs into the melted butter, stir in the orange zest and juice, then mix with the dry ingredients till combined. Stir in the pumpkin. Pour the batter into the tin and bake for 30 minutes, or until golden and springy to the touch.
3. To make the frosting, beat together the cheese, butter, icing sugar, orange zest and 1 tsp of the juice till smooth and creamy, then set aside in the fridge. When the cake is done, cool for 5 mins then turn it onto a cooling rack. Prick it all over with a skewer and drizzle with the rest of the orange juice while still warm. Leave to cool completely.
4. If you like, trim the edges of the cake. Give the frosting a quick beat to loosen, then, using a palette knife, spread over the top of the cake in peaks and swirls. If you're making the cake ahead, keep it in the fridge then take out as many pieces as you want 30 mins or so before serving. Will keep, covered, for up to 3 days in the fridge.

Source: BBC Good Food

Classical Tales - Finlandia

Who was it said that there's nothing new under the sun? Think of what is happening in Russia right now ...

Finlandia, Op. 26, is a tone poem by the Finnish composer Jean Sibelius. It was written in 1899 and revised in 1900. The piece was composed for the Press Celebrations of 1899, a covert protest against increasing censorship from the Russian Empire. The premiere was on 2 July 1900 in Helsinki with the Helsinki Philharmonic Society conducted by Robert Kajanus. In order to avoid Russian censorship, *Finlandia* had to be performed under alternative names at various musical concerts.



According to Finland's tourism website, "While Finland was still a Grand Duchy under Russia, performances within the empire had to take place under the covert title of 'Impromptu'." Most of the piece is taken up with rousing and turbulent music, evoking the national struggle of the Finnish people. Towards the end, a calm comes over the orchestra, and the serene and melodic *Finlandia Hymn* is heard. Often incorrectly cited as a traditional folk melody, the Hymn section is of Sibelius' own creation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9x0j-LKuB18>



Puzzler

How well do you know your ants?

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. 5 ants + 5 ants | 14. An unwilling ant | 27. Wasteful ant |
| 2. Bring in a ant from another country | 15. Financial ant | 28. Careful ant |
| 3. Highly educated ant | 16. Resident ant | 29. Good smelling ant |
| 4. Ant looking for a job | 17. Huge ant | 30. Stubborn ant |
| 5. A spy ant | 18. Ant with a trunk | 31. Business ant |
| 6. A very young ant | 19. Sarcastic ant | 32. Ant no longer required |
| 7. An armed ant | 20. Extremely fast ant | 33. Ant with big dreams |
| 8. A specialist ant | 21. Noisy ant | 34. Ant suing in court |
| 9. Proud ant | 22. Ant that doesn't change | 35. unco-operative ant |
| 10. Cruel and Oppressive ant | 23. Annoying ant | 36. Happy ant |
| 11. Chilled ant | 24. Dirty ant | 37. Ant that doesn't agree easily |
| 12. A reformed ant | 25. Ant lacking knowledge | 38. Ant that skips school |
| 13. A well stocked ant | 26. Patient ant that accepts anything | |

Answers on page 22

Looking for something new to try? Christchurch Short Mat Bowls

Christchurch Short Mat Bowls Club has been a part of Christchurch Village life for many years, apart from a short break just prior to the Pandemic Lock Down, after which Phil and Hazel Spry along with a few others took over the resurrection and running of the club. We have a good balance of competent, competitive players, along with relatively new members who have been playing for little more than a year or two. However, over this last year our numbers have dwindled. This is due to some moving out of the area, and some retiring from the game, due to ageing or ill health. Therefore, we are inviting anyone who would like to have a try, to come along any Monday evening from 6.45pm until 9.00pm. No equipment is necessary as we have spare bowls. Just wear soft shoes/slippers with flat soles. You will be made very welcome.



A short explanation of SHORT MAT BOWLS for those that do not know

Short Mat Bowls is played on a long narrow mat, just short of the length of the hall. There are two teams per mat, with a maximum of 4 players per team. The objective of the game is to bowl your wood to stop as near as possible to the Jack which will be situated at the far end. Just to make things more challenging there is a piece of wood placed in the centre, which needs to be avoided. A bowling wood is weighted on one side, therefore depending on how weighted your particular wood is, it will naturally curve to varying extents when bowled. To become a competent player, we need to get used to how our wood performs in order to allow it to get around the piece of wood and then curve in to meet the target, without it rolling off the side of the mat.

I urge anyone interested to come along and have a go. We are a friendly bunch and for most our games are always a bit hit and miss, so you will soon realise that you will easily fit in, regardless of whether you have ever played before. Our treasurer Hazel Spry has just been selected to play for the England Team, so we are particularly proud of her. Having said that I, along with others, have little hope of ever aspiring to her level, but she is a good role model who will willingly help us with our game.

For further information, you can give me a call on 07941 465319 or just come along one Monday 6-45 to 9-00pm. Just come and observe or have a try. Be good to see you.

Janet Harper

Wildlife Questions

What eats snails?

Some birds, frogs, toads, hedgehogs, slow worms and ground beetles eat slugs and snails and these predators should be encouraged in gardens.

Raking over soil and removing fallen leaves during winter can allow birds to eat slug eggs that have been exposed



Not all birds will eat slugs and snails, but most of the slightly larger ones will. Thrushes, blackbirds, robins, starlings, gulls, jays, magpies, seagulls and owls are all known to eat slugs and snails. Attracting birds is quite easy, feed them and they will come!

How far do Swallows, Swifts, Sand Martins and House Martins fly?

Swallows and House Martins are long-distance migrants which generally spend the winter months in Africa before returning to Europe each year to breed. The distance these birds cover on their migration is truly incredible – often more than 25,000km per year! Although still numerous and widespread, recent moderate declines unfortunately earn them a place on the Red List.

Due to their long wings and short legs, swifts are unable to take off from a flat surface, so the young get one chance at becoming airborne. The House of Lords are currently debating whether to make swift bricks mandatory in all new homes.

Christchurch Hobby and Craft Club

**Every Tuesday
10.00 AM- 1.00 PM**

Christchurch Community Centre

Bring your art, craft or hobby along to the club to work on and share with like-minded friends.

Maybe you will introduce us to something new or find something you would like to try, i.e. artwork, needlework, crochet, card making, Lego, or maybe there is a jigsaw puzzle looking for someone to finish while you are thinking of what to start.

Interested?

Contact Janet Harper on 07941 465319 or Pat Rigby on 07776 142642

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.



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)

Christchurch Book Club



The Christchurch Book club met in September and we discussed the last book we read which was The Nanny by Gilly Macmillan.

The book club really enjoyed this book which tells the story of a nanny hired by a wealthy family for their daughter, before she disappeared one night. Years later a body is found in the lake and is thought to be the nanny, but when she appears back in town and is hired for the young granddaughter, old secrets also come to the surface, but then who is the body in the lake?

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 3rd October hosted by Liz Scott in Fen View, when we will discuss the current book, The Familiars by Stacey Halls.

The next book in October is The Crossing Places by Elly Griffiths. New members are always welcome. For further details or if you would like to come along to one of our meetings, please contact Pat Rigby on 07776 142642.



Our Harvest meeting on 12th September was a great success. The Committee provided us with a Ploughman's Supper and apple cakes were made by

several members for a dessert. All was very enjoyable and much appreciated.

We reminisced of past harvest times of how the crops were gathered in by land workers and anyone who offered their help.

Members brought in items for the Food Bank in March.

Our next meeting on Tuesday 10th October will be a Flower Arranging Demonstration by Ann Purt of Wisbech who is renowned for her artistic work. All arrangements will be put in the draw.

This is an open evening for all so do come along and join us. The cost is £5 which includes a free draw ticket but there will be some on sale if you wish to purchase more. We look forward to a great evening and hope you will be able to join us

Christchurch WI Open Meetings

Christchurch Community Centre PE14
9LL
All start at 7pm

Tuesday November 14th 2023
Christmas Craft Demonstration by Penny Hicks

Tuesday December 12th 2023
Musical Evening with Upwood Ukulele Group

Entry cost for all - £5.00
Including Light Refreshments and a raffle ticket.
More raffle tickets available to purchase.

***WI Open Meetings are always open to both men and women
who would like to come along***

We look forward to seeing you!



Christchurch Gardening Club

"From Holland to Wisbech"

The monthly meeting of the gardening club at the community centre, on Tuesday 19th September, featured a talk on commercial growing by the indomitable Michael Croot.

It's the first time the club had welcomed Michael although his connection with the playing fields stretches back 30 years when he used to captain the cricket team there. Quite successfully I might add.

As the name Croot suggests, Michaels family were originally from Holland, in fact his Great Grandfather came over to help drain the fens all around Terrington St Clements. It seems the Dutch who had helped reclaim the land were given three choices, firstly to be paid in cash, or given land and cash or to be given a larger parcel of land. Michael's Grandfather accepted the latter. When Michael started in commercial growing, he apparently was only allowed to water the plants for the first two years. He soon progressed up through the ranks and eventually put in charge of growing a huge order of Cyclamen of over 400,000 specimens. Now a successful grower in his own right he has a large nursery in Wisbech at Cromwell Road.

His plants come highly recommended as many of our members will attest, as they drove away with their cars full of plants. A fascinating and fun evening fuelled by the many anecdotes at Michaels disposal.

Next month 17th October we feature a return visit by Michael and Di Burns, who will be talking about the National Parks of the western USA.

For more information or to join the club come along on the night or call 01354638230

Steve.

Coffee/Lunch Break

By popular request, Lunch Break is changing its times.

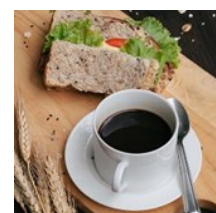
Come over for a coffee; bring your lunch as usual; just come for a chat...

Coffee/Lunch Break this month – Wednesday 11th & 25th October from 11 am - 1 pm, in the Community Centre. (A warm space!)

IT'S FREE! Everyone welcome.

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

Contact: Annie on 01354-638088



Advertising in the Heron

Quarter Page (14cm High x 9.5cm Wide)

Portrait Format

6 x issues £52

12 x issues £92

Eighth Page (6.5cm High x 9.5cm Wide)

Landscape Format

6 x issues £36

12 x issues £66

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.

SARAH JANE'S NURSERY

Mobile: 07905 368729

The Bungalow, Fifty Road, Manea, Cambridgeshire.
PE15 0HN

Sarah Cross

sarahjanesnursery@outlook.com

Also on Facebook



Qualified Seamstress

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

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

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

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

CHRISTCHURCH ELECTRICAL

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

Tel: 01354 638802 Mobile: 07727 046439



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



www.electricalcompetentperson.co.uk

www.electricalsafetyregister.com



**ALL PESTS
CONTROLLED**

Domestic & Commercial Pest Control

www.allpestscontrolled.co.uk

WOODWORM

SQUIRRELS

BEDBUGS

RABBITS

MOLES

WASPS

MICE

BIRDS

RATS

FLEAS

ANTS

BEES



Call Danny on

Tel: 01945 772 153

Mob: 07795 073 985



A JONES & SON

TELEVISION SALES/REPAIRS/INSTALLATION

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

FIRST CLASS AERIAL INSTALLATIONS/ADDITIONAL POINTS

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

Tel: 01354 740320

CLOSED ALL DAY TUESDAYS

FOUR SEASONS TREE SERVICES

Qualified & Professional Tree
and Client Care

PRUNING ● LOPPING ● FELLING

PLANTING ● REDUCING & RESHAPING

CROWN RAISING ● HEDGE TRIMMING

THINNING ● POLLARDING ● STUMP REMOVALS

OVERGROWN GARDENS PUT BACK INTO SHAPE

FRUIT TREES TREATED ● LOG & WOODCHIP SALES

FREE ESTIMATES & ADVICE WITH NO OBLIGATION

For quality jobs at a competitive price call:

Home: 01353 721665 - Mob: 07771 707921

All work carried out to BS 3998 Standard

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



THE NAME YOU CAN TRUST



This company offers a 7 day cooling off period



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.



HICKS & JONES
COATINGS



Air/Airless Spray Painting

*Interior & Exterior Buildings. *uPVC Windows & Doors.
*Brick, Timber & Steel Structures. *End Of Lease Refresh.
*One Off Projects.

Call: 07703459675 / 07541266639

Email: hicksandjonescoatings@yahoo.com



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

A.R. CLINGO

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Family Independant
Business

Private Chapel of Rest
Personal Attention

24 Hour Service

Full estimates given at all times

Golden Charter
Funeral Plans



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



Paul Braybrooke
Oil Fired Boiler Engineer

**Boiler Servicing
& Breakdown Service**

Commissions

Tank Replacements

**Phone: 01353 777788
or 07946 735691**



Rehabilitation



Short & Long-term



Companionship



Dementia



Physical Disabilities



Discharge from Hospital

Wisbech, March, Downham Market



"I can only say that I was treated with care, patience and above all respect from each of your employees. They were polite at all times and very helpful - a credit to your company. I would recommend them to anyone."



Excellence



Partnership



Respect



Dignity



Integrity

In need of support for yourself or a loved one? Please get in touch with our dedicated team today...

careathome
BECAUSE HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS



01945 773861



130 Wisbech Road, Outwell, PE14 8PF www.purehearthomecare.co.uk

Upwell Computer Repairs

Sales - Repairs - Maintenance - Upgrades

Sales & Support

Broadband Setup

Virus Removal

Tuition

Web Design

Email Setup

System Installations

Data Recovery Services



Laptop Screen Replacement

Windows Reinstallation

Hardware Upgrades

Software Upgrades

On-Site Services

Custom Built PC's

Internet Security

Network Installations



Contact Lewis today for a free consultation

Phone: 01945 772717 - 07849 778525

Email: support@upwellcomputerrepairs.co.uk

Web: www.upwellcomputerrepairs.co.uk

dermalogica®



Beauty Treatments by Jane

NVQ - op.i - Babcac.

Rose Cottage, Christchurch,
Cambs.

Telephone: 01354 638378



JESSICA®

JESSICA®
Manicures &
Pedicures



Microdermabrasion
Facials
& Gel Nails
& Pedicures



ST. TROPEZ
The Ultimate Tan

Non-surgical Face lifting Treatments



A & B SMITH
DOMESTIC APPLIANCES
SHOWROOM

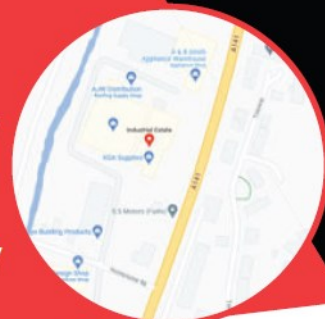
Unit 1
Honesome Industrial Estate,
Chatteris,
PE16 6TG

01354 575079

Open to the public
Open

Monday - Saturday
9am - 5pm

Same day delivery



BOSCH **vax™**

CANDY

BEKO



Hotpoint

Indesit

DeLonghi

GRANARY STUDIO

Your local picture framer

01354 638614

www.granarystudio.uk

The Granary
Hall Farm, Upwell Road
Christchurch
PE14 9LJ



March Stationery & Print

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 •FUNERAL SERVICE•

Independent Family Funeral Directors



Funeral Directors James
and Laura are proud to be
serving the community

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

WELLE CINEMA Three Holes Village Hall Sunday 1st October

A MAN CALLED OTTO (15)

WHEN A LIVELY YOUNG FAMILY MOVES IN NEXT DOOR, GRUMPY WIDOWER OTTO ANDERSON (TOM HANKS) MEETS HIS MATCH LEADING TO AN UNLIKELY FRIENDSHIP THAT TURNS HIS WORLD UPSIDE DOWN

Sunday 5th November Double Jeopardy (15) CHOSEN BY OUR AUDIENCE

Starts 2 pm doors open 1.30pm
£3 per person
NO NEED TO BOOK

BAR & REFRESHMENTS

www.threeholesvillagehall00.org.uk



Round Photos Answers

1. The planet Saturn with its rings
2. Tree rings
3. A human eye's Iris
4. A Sea Urchin shell
5. A Field Mushroom

Puzzler Answers

How well do you know your ants?

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. Tenant | 20. Instant |
| 2. Important | 21. Rant |
| 3. Brilliant | 22. Constant |
| 4. Applicant | 23. Irritant |
| 5. Informant | 24. Pollutant |
| 6. Infant | 25. Ignorant |
| 7. Militant | 26. Tolerant |
| 8. Consultant | 27. Extravagant |
| 9. Arrogant | 28. Vigilant |
| 10. Tyrant | 29. Deodorant |
| 11. Coolant | 30. Adamant |
| 12. Repentant | 31. Merchant |
| 13. Abundant | 32. Redundant |
| 14. Reluctant | 33. Aspirant |
| 15. Accountant | 34. Complainant |
| 16. Occupant | 35. Recalcitrant |
| 17. Giant | 36. Jubilant |
| 18. Elephant | 37. Reluctant |
| 19. Mordant | 38. Truant |

How many dogs does it take to change a light bulb?

Golden Retriever:

The sun is shining, the day is young, we've got our whole lives ahead of us, and you're inside worrying about a stupid burned out bulb?

Border Collie: Just

one. And then I'll replace any wiring that's not up to spec.

Dachshund: You

know I can't reach that stupid lamp!

Rottweiler: Make me!

Boxer: Who cares? I can still play with my squeaky toys in the dark!

Old English

Sheepdog: Light bulb? I'm sorry but I don't see a light bulb!



Labrador: Oh me,

me!!! Pleeeeeeaaassee let me change the light bulb! Can I? Can I? Huh? Huh? Can I? Pleeeeeeaaassee, please, please!

Australian Shepherd:

First, I'll put all the light bulbs in a circle

Greyhound: It isn't moving. Who cares?

Cocker Spaniel: Why

change it? I can still pee on the carpet in the dark!

Pointer: I see it! There it is! Right there!

Poodle: I'll just blow in the Border Collie's ear and he'll do it. By the time he finishes rewiring the house, my nails will be dry!

German Shepherd: I'll

change it as soon as I've led these people from the dark, checked to make sure I haven't missed any, and make just one more perimeter patrol to see that no one has tried to take advantage of the situation.

Jack Russell: I'll just

pop it in while I'm bouncing off the walls and furniture!

The cat's answer:

Dogs do not change light bulbs. People change light bulbs. So the real question is: How long will it be before I can expect some light, some dinner and a massage!?

The Brimstone Butterfly



Before our village was named Christchurch, it was known as Brimstone Hill. There are two possible reasons for this, and the nicer of the two is because of the commonplace occurrence of the Brimstone butterfly – it is thought that the very name butterfly comes from the buttery colouration of wings of the male. It is a commonly held belief that butterflies do not have a long lifespan because the cold winter weather usually concludes the adult stage of a butterfly's life, but sometimes the brimstone can make it through the winter by hibernating, then it will have lived in its adult form from July one year to May the next making it one of the world's longest-lived species of butterfly.

Male and female brimstones

It's easily recognisable because the brimstone is one of only two yellow British butterflies (the other, the clouded-yellow is a migratory butterfly that we see on the wing in September and October. If you've spotted a yellow butterfly in spring, it's a male brimstone butterfly). Female brimstone butterflies are more white or very pale green and might get mistaken for a cabbage white butterfly.

The butterfly has a single brood each year, laying its eggs during April or May usually on the leaf buds of alder buckthorn. The caterpillars emerge in June and begin to feed on the buckthorn. The bluish-green caterpillars mature in about a month before pupating.

In late July and early August, the caterpillars form chrysalides to start the metamorphosis into a butterfly. The chrysalides are camouflaged to look like curled green leaf and the process takes about 2 weeks.

Adult brimstone butterflies emerge in late August with a wingspan of up to 6cm. These butterflies will stay on the wing until September or October before finding a safe place to hibernate.

Clive Benjamin



The Aurora Borealis



Photographed over Christchurch by Kate Theobald on 18th September

The Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis) are caused by the interaction of particles coming from the sun, the solar wind, with the Earth's atmosphere – channelled to the polar regions by the Earth's magnetic field. It's actually a bit like iron filings and the field of a magnet.

The solar wind contains more particles when there are sun spots, as these are regions on the sun's surface where the magnetic field is interacting with the plasma in the Sun, and the particles can be released. Once the particles are channelled into the Earth's atmosphere they interact with molecules and have distinctive colours (eg oxygen molecules produce green light, nitrogen red light etc) and patterns such as light emissions that look like curtains or spotlights. These shapes over change quickly.

Professor Don Pollacco, Department of Physics at the University of Warwick (reported in the Wisbech Standard on 14 September)

How were the fens drained?

Who drained the fens?



Cornelius Vermuyden

Born in 1595 on the Isle of Tholen in the southwest of the Netherlands. He trained as a land drainage engineer and learnt the Dutch techniques for controlling water and draining marshlands. He became an English citizen in 1633 and died in 1677.

In the 1650s Vermuyden introduced the innovation of constructing washes, to allow occasional flooding of the area by the excess waters.

Vermuyden's motto was "Niet Zonder Arbyt" which means "Nothing Without Work"!

King Charles I

Was King of England, Scotland, and Ireland from 27 March 1625 until he was beheaded in 1649.

Charles understood that draining the Fens would reveal the super-fertile peat soil just beneath the water, making it ideal for farming. He saw this as a way of making money by collecting taxes from the farmers.

Charles had previously asked Vermuyden to drain his hunting grounds in Lincolnshire, so he was sure he was the man for the job!



Oliver Cromwell

Born in 1599, Cromwell lived in Ely from 1636 to 1646 with his family. He led Parliament's army against King Charles I during the English Civil War and also ruled the British Isles as Lord Protector from 1653 until his death in 1658.

At first, as MP for Cambridge, Cromwell opposed Charles' plans to drain the fens. He supported the fenlanders who protested at the loss of their common land - land which was essential to them for food and resources. Later on, however, Cromwell decided to support the second drainage plans for the region as he would make lots of money from it. This did not make him popular with local people!

Francis Russell, 4th Earl of Bedford

The Great Fen, between the Wash and Cambridge, is more popularly known as the Bedford Level after the 4th Earl of Bedford, who owned a large part of it.

In the 1630s the King asked the Duke to drain this land and the Earl and his 12 associates, known as the Gentleman Adventurers said they would fund the drainage in return for 95,000 acres of the reclaimed land.

They had several problems with their drainage plan, and in 1640 Vermuyden was asked to take on the rest of the project.

