



The Heron

Community Magazine

Delivered to homes in Christchurch, Euximoor and Tipps End

March 2024

British Summer Time - Here We Come!

See article on Page
23 explaining why we
“*Spring Forward and
Fall Back*” every year.



In this issue			
Tractor Run	2	Lent Lunch	7
Parish Lunch Notice	2	Christchurch Umbrella	7
Barking Dogs	3	What's On?	8
Diary Dates	4	Christchurch Graveyard	8
Advertising with us	4	Townley School	9
Editorial/Heron News	5	Kids Page	10
PC Snippets/Vacancy	6	Clubs Pages	11-12
Candles for Ukraine	7	Steve Barclay	13
Church News/Garden Gander	7	Christchurch Small Business	13
		Older Driver Initiative	14
		Children's Health	15
		What Flies Over	16
		Recipe	17
		Welle Cinema	20
		Community Info	22
		Useful Numbers	22
		A History of Daylight Saving	23
		A Sheep Farm in the Fens	24

Charity Tractor Run

Sunday 11th February saw another Charity Tractor Run come through the village - ending up at the Community Centre for refreshments.

Some 30+ tractors entered the event - all in aid of East Anglia Air Ambulance and MIND.



Christchurch Over 65s Annual Parish Lunch Sunday 14 April 2024 12.30pm for 1.00pm

If you or your partner live in the Christchurch Parish, and are 65 or over, you are very welcome to join us at our annual lunch on 14th April.

Invitations will be going out shortly, to all those people we have on file, but if you haven't received an invite by the end of March please call Ruth Ingram on 01354 638419 to book your place.

All those from the parish, who qualify, are very welcome and we look forward to seeing you.

Parish Lunch Committee



**Memorizing pothole locations is
a survival skill where I'm from**



MARS



MOON



Fenland





Is your dog barking too much?

All dogs bark, but if yours goes on all day or night, and the barking is upsetting your neighbours, it might be not only courteous, but also wise to take action.

Dogs bark to communicate with each other and us, and no one should expect to have a completely silent dog. It's unreasonable to expect dogs to be quiet if there is a knock at the door, for example – it's their duty to tell us someone's there! And living in the

country, as we do, most people not only own a dog as company, as a pet, they are a good early warning system to alert us to possible changes around us.

However, problems can arise when a dog barks excessively. Some people cannot tolerate persistent sounds and not only find them a little annoying but can become something that causes them extreme stress and upset, eventually causing an issue even when the dog isn't actually barking, just the not knowing of when it will start again and not stop can become an obsession.

If you think, or have been told, that your dog barks more than is usual, the first step is to consider *why* he is barking. Also make a note of *when* your dog barks and the type of sound it is, so you can address the underlying emotional cause better.

Is he uncomfortable, or in pain? Is he bored? Is he barking because he's been left alone and is trying to call you back? Or, if your dog is only left alone for short periods, has he become overly-dependent on you?

If your dog barks at things outside your yard or garden, don't let it go outside on its own. Keep it away from windows, so it can't see people or other animals.

If your dog barks at the same time every day, like when people in the house are going to work or school, try to keep it busy at that time. For example, you could take it for a walk.

Try to keep your dog calm. If it barks when it's excited, don't play with it at anti-social times, like very late at night or when you think others might be enjoying a snippet of limited peace and quiet.

If your dog's barking and you're in a flat or a semi, try to keep it away from any walls you share with your neighbours.

Don't leave your dog outside if it is barking to be let in, or if it is trying to alert you to something. Having a dog as an outside burglar alarm isn't much good if you don't pay attention to the alarm, let's face it when your car alarm goes off do you ignore it and carry on watching the TV?

See if you can get a friend or relative to look after your dog when you go out or take it with you.

Make sure your dog gets some exercise before you go out. A tired dog barks less.

Something to bear in mind ...

If you don't take steps to solve the problem, and your local authority receives complaints about the noise your dog is making, the authority has a legal obligation to investigate the complaint. The local authority may seek to resolve the problem by mediating between you and the complainants, but where it does not do so, or where such mediation is unsuccessful, and the authority is satisfied that the noise amounts to a statutory nuisance, it will serve you with an abatement notice requiring the noise to be reduced to an acceptable level. If you fail to comply with an abatement notice, you could face prosecution and, if convicted, a fine of up to £5,000 (and possibly further daily fines of up to £500 for each day on which the offence continues after conviction). You may even be forced to attend dog training classes at your own expense.

<http://archive.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/noise/neighbour/documents/barkingdog.pdf>



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.

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

Sun 3 rd Mar	Welle Cinema - Emily	1:30pm	3 Holes Village Hall
Tue 5 th Mar	Mobile Library	12:15pm	Fen View Layby
Tue 5 th Mar	Book Club	7:30pm	Contact Pat Rigby
Mon 8 th Mar	Hopefully, 16 Foot Bank reopens		
Sun 10 th Mar	Mother's Day boogie in the bar	3pm	Dun Cow
Mon 11 th Mar	Parish Council Meeting	7:30pm	CCC
Tue 12 th Mar	WI - Meeting	7:30pm	CCC
Wed 13 th Mar	Coffee/Lunch Break	11am - 1pm	CCC
Tue 19 th Mar	Gardening Club – Gary Wilmot "Developing a smallholding in Wales"	7pm	CCC
Wed 27 th Mar	Coffee/Lunch Break	11am - 1pm	CCC
Regular Weekly Events			
Monday	Short Mat Bowls	7pm - 9pm	CCC
Tuesday	Hobby & Craft Club	10am - 1pm	CCC
Sunday	Car Boot Sale	8am - 12pm	Skylark Garden Centre
Wednesday	Chair Based Exercise	10am - 10:50am	CCC - 07880543821
Thursday	Cake, Coffee & Chat	1:30pm - 3:30pm	CCC
Friday	Christchurch Umbrella Breakfast	9:30am - 11:30am	CCC
Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu	Mobile Post Office	4:10pm - 4:30pm	Lay-by near Fen View

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

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

Editorial

Another rainy month has come and gone. I am sure we are all fed up with the sight of the rain-filled potholes and lakes which keep appearing on the sides of the roads and in our farmers' fields. The tedium of the endless temporary traffic lights and of course, road closures! When will it end!?

So the clocks leap forward an hour at the end of March and Easter is on the horizon (early this year) so we have those to look forward to.

Our annual plant sale is scheduled for 11th May and we are looking for donations of plants, and all (good-quality) things garden-related that we can sell.

Enjoy this month's offering. Hopefully there is something in here for everyone.

Elaine Reed-Hughes



SAVE THE DATE!
Heron Annual Plant Sale
Saturday 11th May 2024
FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW

Heron News

Dear Readers

Thank you to all those that supported our Special meeting at Christchurch Community Centre which was held on 15th February. I am delighted to share that, following a vote, a unanimous decision was made to adopt the Charity Commission constitution. This is our first step in applying for The Heron to become a recognised charity. We believe that if we can secure charity status then it will help to put the Heron on a more secure and stable financial footing as we will then be able to apply for various grants to help us with our running costs as well as being able to re-claim Gift Aid on many of the donations received from private individuals.

Thank you again to all of those that supported our meeting.

Lorna Kirk
Chair of the Heron Executive Committee



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Copy Deadline - The deadline for copy for the edition of the Heron is 25th March.

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.



EDITORIAL TEAM:

Editorial Team Leader - Clive Benjamin - editor@theheron.info

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

Treasurer, Advertising Manager - Elaine Reed-Hughes - adverts@theheron.info Tel: 01354 638310

Deliveries Manager - Annie Nason - 01354 638088

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

General Queries - enquiries@theheron.info



Website: www.theheron.info

PC Snippets

There was a meeting preceding the Parish Council meeting to discuss Street Pride, more information on that to follow.

Public Time

Regarding the lighting on Church Road, the PC are going to adopt the lights at the end of The Croft and then repair these, and can then re-assess the lighting on Church Road, and there is a request to re-instate the missing light by the old Memorial Hall site.

No news yet on when the meeting will be for the end of Fen View access. The clerk pointed out that the meeting, when it takes place, can be viewed on YouTube and the public can only attend in person if they have registered to speak.

No new communication yet on potential bus routes through Christchurch.

Matters arising.

Affordable housing – no further news at present PC Facebook Page is up and running, and new members are welcomed to the group.

The bowls club donation is still carried forward for the moment.

The Outdoor gym is now finished and is being used. Ideas were suggested for the Annual Parish Council meeting – suggestions included the Chief Fire Officer, Food Bank information, and archaeology talks.

Police report – the police are now fully staffed so hopefully can concentrate on neighbourhood issues. Hare coursing is a priority issue at this time of the year, and there is a new crime of going equipped for hare coursing.

It was noted that we don't see much police presence simply because our crime rate is very low.

Clerks Report

At a meeting with the police, the 20mph schemes have been relaunched, but these are not currently planned to

be enforced where implemented. A flood resilience meeting was organised by the local flood group, but no issues locally.

There is a traffic order on the 16 Foot Road from 22nd Feb to 31st March (but actual closure is 11th to 13th March) at the Upwell end of the road, for experimental trials on resurfacing equipment. There have been successful prosecutions for fly tipping, but they are difficult due to the burden of proof.

Kings Lynn and West Norfolk councils – plans on travellers' sites location - Upwell seems to have the bulk of the burden.

Cambs Fire have launched a better driver course (details on Page 14 and online), and Cambridgeshire Community Services have launched an online platform for Childrens Services (more detail on Page 15).

Residents Issues

The accident on the 16 foot bank was discussed, officially. It was gritted, but there remain doubts as to how effectively. The accident details should be on the Council website in due course. Signs have been suggested for awareness of horses on the road, the British Horse Society can advise.

The recreation ground extension – 2000 trees now planted. Quotes have been received to clear the area, one quote is around £6000, plus fencing for the dog area. No timescale yet. But as soon as possible. Quotes are still awaited for the bridges.

Finance

Will probably have a small deficit by the year end, but currently as expected.

Barclays Bank are now co-operating slightly.

Planning & Applications

One for an ASHP and on Fen View, an extension and wall around the front.

Next Meeting is Monday 11th March

Christchurch Parish Council Vacancy

Due to the death of Councillor Peter Owen, a vacancy has arisen in the office of Councillor for the Christchurch Parish Council. The Parish Council intends to fill this position by co-option at the next meeting, which takes place on Monday 11 March. Anyone interested in applying for consideration for this position should submit a brief written statement outlining their relevant knowledge, skills and experience, their reasons for wanting to become a Councillor and what they hope to achieve in the role. Statements must be submitted to the Clerk **no later than Wednesday 6 March**. For further information or to discuss the role of Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk.

Dave Gibbs
Parish Clerk
clerk@christchurchparishcouncil.org.uk
01945 870083

Church News

Services in the Benefice for March

Services are at 10.30am unless otherwise stated.

3 rd March –	Christchurch Morning Prayer Doddington Holy Communion
10 th March –	Manea Holy Communion Wimblington Morning Prayer Benwick Evening Prayer 3pm
17 th March –	Christchurch Holy Communion Doddington Morning Prayer
24 th March –	Manea Morning Prayer Wimblington Holy Communion Welney Holy Communion 4pm
28 th March –	Doddington Agape 6.30pm
29 th March –	Wimblington Hour at the Cross 2pm

Lent Lunch

Sunday 17th March.
12 noon in CCC

Join us for homemade soup,
bread and cheese.

No charge.

We will be collecting monetary
donations for the Ferry Project in
Wisbech and non-perishable
items for March Food Bank.

COLLECT YOUR USED CANDLES OR DONATE NEW ONES TO THIS CHARITY FOR UKRAINE!

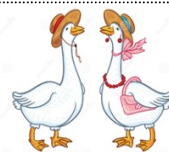
Our Church is asking people to do this during March, in the Christian season of LENT. There will be instructions as to when and where to put them ready for dispatch in the April Heron. Look out for that announcement. Meanwhile, collect all that you can. Scented or not, coloured or white, tea-lights, ordinary candle stubs, and ceramic and glass holders are all accepted. We will find a way to get them to Swindon in April. Perhaps you can help with that?



The Charity also asks for your recycled tins (clean), such as baked bean tins, which they use to make the trench candles. If you have new candles, these will also be accepted. They will be given as they are, to people in Ukraine who need them. I called the Charity's representative in Swindon, and asked whether candles would be used, as the year moves out of winter. The answer was "Yes. Please encourage as many people as you can to collect them".

P.S. They also send things like walking frames for the elderly/disabled, wheel chairs, and anything else that could be useful for people suffering in Ukraine. Blankets, good quality clothes, shoes, toys. You donate it, and they will dispatch it. Please be generous.

Annie Nason 01354 638088, or contact me on Messenger.



Christchurch Garden Gander Saturday 15 June 2024

We are holding another garden visiting day in the village in June after last year's successful Garden Gander. Would you like to share your garden with others for this?

The event raises money for our church, and we'd love to hear from you if you'd like to join in! Whether you have a little courtyard, family garden, large garden space or something else, we'd be delighted to hear from you – the more gardens, the better.

We'll also be serving tea and cake at the Community Centre, and we'll need lots of help with this. If you would like to help on the day, can bake a cake or can offer help with anything else, do get in touch.

Get in contact with Philippa Pearson on
07770 947284, or email
helenchappell3101@gmail.com



Lunch break alternate Wednesdays 11am-1pm
(13th & 27th March)

Coffee and Cake every Thursday at 1.30-
3.30pm (not 14th March CCC in use)

Breakfast every Friday 9.30-11.30am
(not 29th March - Good Friday)

Looking for somewhere to go?

What's on in March

1st March 2024 Friday- Welney Social Club starts at William Marshall Centre, Welney, PE14 9SD then every Friday thereafter. Table tennis, darts, board and card games, pool, free tea and coffee bring own refreshments and snacks. Starts 7.30pm - 10.00pm for further info see website welneysocialclub@gmail.com

7th & 8th March 2024 Thursday and Friday – Fleetwood Mac by Candlelight at Ely Cathedral CB7 4DL, featuring cast of West End singers and live band playing all the hits by candlelight. Shows start 7.30pm Tickets start at £25 for more info see website [concerts by candlelight](http://concertsbycandlelight.co.uk).

8th March 2024 Friday- Leap Year Charity Ball in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support at the Braza Club Hall,. Elm Road, March. Three Course Meal, dancing to Back in Time Band. Raffle. Opens 6.45pm for dinner 7.30pm. Dress Black Tie, Lounge Suit optional. Contact Paula Stokes for tickets 01354 650873 Ticket cost £40.00.

8th March 2024 Friday - talk by Paddy Lambert, Boudica Warrior Queen of the Iceni. St Peters Church Hall, High Street, March PE15 9JJ (opp March Museum) Starts at 7.30pm admission £4 Members £3 refreshments included.

9th March 2024 Saturday- The Ashby Little Big Band and Blitz Dancers at GER Club, Robingoodfellows Lane, March PE15 8HS. 1940s dance with 1940s inspired supper. Starts 6.30pm -midnight. Tickets 01354 652335 £15.00 each.

29th March 2024 until 14th April 2024 - Skylark Easter Funyard at Manea Road, Wimblington, PE15 0PE. Feed the lambs, comedy and magic show, scarecrow smash, tractor rides, go karts, giant slides, den building. Use code EASTERFUN at checkout for discount see website skylarkgardencentre.digitickets.co.uk or call 01354 741212.

Church Graveyard

We recently checked the stability of the gravestones in the church graveyard. We have had to lay down some broken ones already. There are several more that require some attention. I am trying to contact relatives of:

Elizabeth Ann Frost	Hilda Chamberlain
Harold Day	George Coulson Goodger
Albert Poole	George Cooper
George Ware Dalton	Alice Hutchinson
Martindale Tebbs	Russel Fate
Arthur Handbury	

If you are able to help, please contact me on 01354 638092. Many Thanks.

Helen Chappell (Church Warden)



TOWNLEY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

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

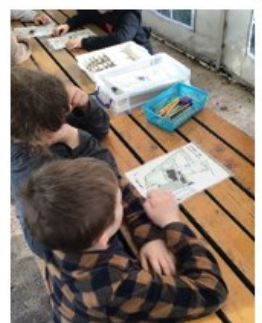


Facebook—Townley School and Nursery

February 2023

Remember that our website has lots more information about school.

Although a short month for us, we have managed to squeeze a lot into February! We have had several students from local secondary schools and a trainee teacher here on placements. We have employed some new staff and Year 5 and 6 have been to Burwell House for their residential. The children took part in activities with the Mental Health Support Team as part of 'Children's Mental Health Week'.



Emperor Class (Y5/6) stayed at Burwell House for two nights. Whilst away they recorded a news report, made clay faces, took part in some orienteering and the 'Great Egg Drop'. Not forgetting the campfire with toasted marshmallows and a sing song. The children were impeccably behaved and slept well!



Emerald Class (Y3/4) in Guided Reading, have been reading 'Sam WU is Not Afraid of the Dark'. They have been writing instructions, so in the class Story Café they made pancakes with their grown-ups from home. In Geography they have been learning about the UK.

Hawker Class (Y1/2) Year 2 are reading 'Here we are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth'. Year 1 are reading our Little Wandle phonics books. They have been learning to write 'Stories with familiar settings' that are set in the forest area within school.



EYFS Class (YN/R) have been enjoying their last few weeks with me as their teacher - I think I will miss them when I return to the office on the 1st March! We have been learning about Chinese New Year and making dragons. Mrs Ford gave us worms to look after and take on an adventure, we wrote about these adventures. Toothbrushing is a firm favourite after lunch!

Kids Corner - Tell me a story!

Who doesn't like listening to - or reading - a good story? Stories can be scary, happy, sad, funny. Everyone likes a story!

People all over the world have their own traditions of story-telling. Here's a story from people who live in the bamboo jungles of North West Myanmar (Burma). After you have read the story, maybe you can find the country on a word map. CLUE: It's between Bangladesh and Thailand. Many, many years ago there were wild tigers and elephants in those bamboo forests, along with monkeys, tropical birds and all kinds of wildlife. Enjoy the story.



'They say that once upon a time there was a Rat who had a most beautiful daughter, and who wanted her to have the strongest husband in the World, and obviously that would not be another rat.'

So Father and Mother Rat had a long discussion about this, and they decided that the Wind must be the strongest of all since it could blow down trees in the forest.

Mr Rat spoke to the Wind and said to him, "Sir. I have a very beautiful daughter and I wish her to marry the strongest of all those in the World. That is evidently you. Please will you take her to be your wife?". The Wind said, "Well, Mr Rat. That is very kind of you, but I am not the strongest; for although I can blow down trees, the ground remains where it is when I blow upon it. Therefore, the Ground must be stronger than I am".

So Mr Rat offered his daughter to the Ground. But the Ground said, "Whilst it is true I can resist the Wind, when a Bull comes along, he just tosses me about with his horns. Therefore, the Bull must be stronger than I am".

So Mr Rat offered his daughter to the Bull. But the Bull said, "Whilst it is true that I am stronger than the Ground because I can toss it about, which even the Wind cannot do, if a piece of Rope is tied round my neck and then to a post, I cannot do anything. Therefore, the Rope must be stronger than I am".



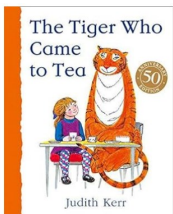
So Mr Rat thought that at last he had found the strongest in the World, so he offered his beautiful daughter to the Rope. But the Rope said, "Whilst it is true that I can hold the Bull so that he cannot move, even though he is stronger than the Wind because he can toss up the Ground, when a Rat comes along, he just chews right through me and I have no more strength. Therefore, the Rat must be stronger than I am".

So you see that Mr Rat was back just where he had begun!

Here are some quotes from some really great stories. Have you read any of these?

'Numbing the pain for a while will only make it feel worse when you finally feel it'. Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, JK Rowling

'Who in the world am I? Ah, that's the great puzzle'. - Alice in Wonderland, Lewis Carroll



'He's just a boy, pretending to be a wolf, pretending to be king.' - Where the Wild Things Are, Maurice Sendak

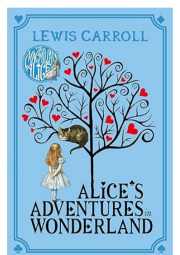
'Girls are just as clever as boys, and don't you forget it!' - The Railway Children, E. Nesbitt

'Things are always happening to me. I'm that sort of bear.' - A Bear called Paddington, Michael Bond

'The tiger said: "Excuse me, but I'm very hungry. Do you think I could have tea with you?" - The Tiger Who Came to Tea, Judith Kerr

'The moment you doubt whether you can fly, you cease for ever to be able to do it'. - Peter Pan, JM Barrie

'You have been my friend. That in itself is a tremendous thing.' - Charlotte's Web, EB White





EARN £30 Per Day Dog sitting in your own home.

Food supplied by us.

Our Dog SHIRO Japanese Akita male would stay with you when we are away.

If you are interested please email me.

kim.d.lucas@btinternet.com



Indoor Short Mat Bowls

We meet every Monday 7-9pm at Christchurch Community Centre.

ALL WELCOME! (Spare bowls available to loan.)

For further details call Janet Harper on 07941 465319.

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 Book Club



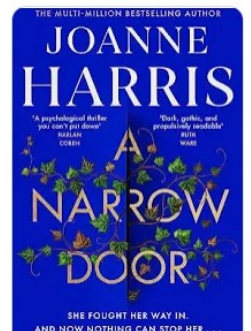
The Christchurch Book club met in February to discuss the latest book "The People on Platform 5".

This book was enjoyed by all, a real feel-good read, which tells of a group of people who board the same train each day without having spoken until an event on the train brings them together - with new friendships formed. As their lives are shared, they find that what they had assumed about each other was far from the reality.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 1st March when we will discuss the current book "Blood Orange" by Harriet Tyce. The next book will be "A Narrow Door" by Joanne Harris.

New members are always welcome.

For further details or if you would like to come along to the next meeting and require details of the venue, please contact Pat Rigby on 07776 142642.





Members welcomed back Ann Hicks, our president, after a short spell in hospital.

After a short amount of business, we had our annual games evening. This year it was a quiz with a connection to St. Valentine, devised by one of our members. A very enjoyable evening.

Next month 12th March at 7:30pm. Competition: Something round. The speaker will be Dr Henson, giving a talk on Olive Trees.

Christchurch Gardening Club



Each year as spring beckons and our gardens slowly shake off their winter slumbers, so the gardening club re-convenes for it's first meeting since November. It's always a time of year to greet old friends and look forward to the coming 12 months. This year however the meeting began with a minute's silence to pay our respects to one of our long-time members and stalwart of the committee, Jenny Farnsworth. Jenny was a keen gardener, with a wealth of knowledge of plants and flowers. She will be sadly missed.

Once again, the committee was voted in with no changes, they are, Steve Hawthorn Chairman, Marion Hawthorn Secretary, Peggy Warby Treasurer, Tracy Day, Graham Warby, Sandra Kay and Jennie Head.

The club is looking forward to welcoming its first guest speaker, Gary Willmott on 19th March giving a talk on developing a small holding in Wales. This is followed by two open meetings featuring on 16th of April David Reeve giving us the lowdown on protecting the Royals. David is always great fun, and this one is not to be missed. Great excitement amongst the members is being created by the forthcoming visit to the club of the owls on 21st of May. This will feature a talk and the chance to get close and personal with Live Owls. We can't wait.

This year the club is planning to start day- trips again for the first time since Covid, with the first planned in July with a trip to the Old Vicarage in Burley. This by all accounts is a fabulous garden, well worth a visit.

To join the club come along to a meeting or call 01354 638230 for more information. It could be the best thing you do all year.

Steve

Upside Down Sheep

Countryside users are being urged to look out for 'upside-down' sheep. At this time of year, sheep can get stuck on their backs with their legs in the air. This is referred to as a 'cast' position. And the consequences can be fatal.

It happens when the animals lie on their sides, then accidentally roll onto their backs, for example by rolling down a slope. It most commonly occurs with pregnant ewes. Unfortunately, once a sheep is lying on its back, it's unable to get up again - a bit like a tortoise. After a few hours on its back, stomach gas begins to build up and the sheep will die.



With lambing season now approaching, members of the public are being encouraged to look out for 'cast' sheep. The group Farmers Against Misinformation says: "if you happen to come across a sheep lying on its back with its legs up, it is cast. Please be so kind as to tip or roll them back over. If left like this, they can die as they cannot get up."

Farmers Against Misinformation says it's especially important for people to be vigilant at this time of year as most sheep will be carrying lambs. However, they say that thanks to increased awareness they have received 'lovely stories' of sheep being saved. The group is encouraging people to spread the word.

Image and information from Farmers Against Misinformation

From the Office of Steve Barclay

By the end of the month we'll be celebrating Easter, clocks will have gone forward and we'll be on the run-in to spring and warmer weather. Right now it still feels like mid-winter and makes us spare a thought for anyone still sleeping rough. Last month the Government announced another £17million (in addition to the £34.6million announced in September) as part of the wider funding for homelessness. Fenland District Council has secured a further £42,672 to help rough sleepers into long term housing and create more bed spaces. The council has done great work in recent years tackling rough sleepers with more than 150 supported into accommodation since 2020. If you're concerned about someone sleeping rough or are sleeping rough yourself go to www.thestreetlink.org.uk or call 01354 654321.

It's great to see that 135 pharmacies in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have signed up to the Pharmacy First scheme. It means those community pharmacies will be able to offer NHS consultations and supply prescription-only medicines for common conditions including ear ache, sinusitis, sore throat, impetigo, infected insect bites, shingles and uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women. This is a super initiative that should reduce pressure on GP appointments and allow residents to access services for minor ailments quickly and easily, freeing up GPs to deal with more complex conditions.

Well done to pupils at Park Lane Primary School in Whittlesey and to executive headteacher Rob Litten who have launched a monthly book swap to help encourage children to read more. This is a great initiative and I was delighted to join them to add my support. I hope all schools will encourage similar schemes as a way to expand the range of books each month for pupils to read.

Throughout my time as a local MP I have sought to secure funding for grassroots sports, so it's great that an additional £50,178 has been made available from the Government to help local clubs improve their facilities. This includes £20,985 towards an artificial grass pitch at March Town FC at Estover Playing Field; £7,059 for new floodlights at March Town United YFC at Elm Road sports field; £900 for goalposts at Wisbech St Mary Sport and Community Centre; and £21,234 for an upgrade to the Multi Use Games Area at Little Downham recreation ground. These are great schemes that will have a benefit in the community and build on the progress we have already seen at other local football clubs like Leverington.

Last month, I offered my congratulations to the 19 organisations that were successful in gaining support for their activities from the Fenland Cultural Fund. The list of recipients is now out and it's greatly encouraging for our cultural engagement ambitions that the quality of applications was so high that an extra £11,000 of funding was made available on top of the £23,000 original grant pot for a whole range of activities. Successful organisations include Wisbech and Fenland Museum to deliver free summer holiday activities linked to the "Beasts" exhibition, Wimblington Parish Council to commission a local artist to paint the pavilion and toilet block at the War Memorial Playing Field with graffiti-style murals, and Chatteris Town Council to fund new attractions at the Chatteris Midsummer Festival in June. Other projects include free dance classes at primary schools in March for children with additional physical and emotional needs, a student workshop at Neale Wade Academy to create a Dragon's Head for the St George's Festival parade in April, and a photographic exhibition at Whittlesey Library celebrating the volunteers who maintain the tradition of the Straw Bear Festival. I look forward to seeing the outcomes of this funding and hope it will pave the way for many more cultural and heritage projects in the constituency.



Do you run a business in Christchurch?

We are looking to highlight the businesses in and local to Christchurch so that our readers know what is available - if you would like to be included in this, please send a paragraph of what you do, along with publishable email and/or telephone numbers to me at: editor@theheron.info

Birdbear Repair – Apple Products Repairs

I live on Crown Road, and I run BirdBear Repair. I am an Apple certified repair technician, having worked for Apple for 6 years, and in the industry for 13 years. As such, I specialise in all iPhone, iPad, and Mac repairs, but I'd be more than happy to discuss any tech repair needs as I may well still be able to help.

You can find me and get in touch on Facebook at fb.me/BirdBearRepair

Rain

I opened my eyes
And looked up at the rain,
And it dripped in my head
And flowed into my brain,
And all that I hear as I lie in my bed
Is the slishy-slosh of the rain in my head.

I step very softly,
I walk very slow,
I can't do a handstand—
I might overflow,
So pardon the wild crazy thing I just said—
I'm just not the same since there's rain in my head.

Shel Silverstone

Ely Cathedral

Saturday · May 4th 2024 · 7.30pm

A sparkling evening of film music by
John Williams, William Walton,
Vangelis, Elmer Bernstein and others

Including themes from *Star Wars*,
Chariots of Fire, *Henry V*, *Jurassic*
Park, *ET* and many more

Steve Bingham: Conductor
Ely Sinfonia

Tickets from £10

Ely Cathedral Box Office · 01353 660349

box.office@elycathedral.org · www.elycathedral.org/events

www.elysinfonia.co.uk



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



CAMBRIDGESHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE
Working together to improve community safety

Older Driver Initiative

Cambs. Fire has launched a free initiative for drivers aged 65+. The pilot for this initiative was conducted with support from Wisbech Rotary members, and now we are pleased to offer workshops across the county that may be of benefit.

The Older drivers' Workshops are for drivers aged 65+ who wish to future-proof their driving career and learn about driving fitness in later age. Those under 65 can attend provided they are supporting a driver aged 65+ (relative, spouse, friend, carer etc).

The workshop aims to inform drivers about how to keep themselves safe in the latter stages of their driving career, including simple checks they can complete at home to help maintain their fitness to drive. The course covers age-related changes to driving, eyesight and the law, medical conditions and the DVLA, renewing a licence, signs to look out for in friends and alternatives to driving.

This is a FREE, in-person, 2-hour workshop hosted at locations around the county, including free refreshments, but contains no driver assessment at all.

More information, including dates and how to book onto workshops, can be found at [https://](https://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/community-safety/road-safety/older-driver-workshops/)

www.cambsfire.gov.uk/community-safety/road-safety/older-driver-workshops/.

Those unable to access the website should call Cambridgeshire Fire service on 01480 444500 and give their name and phone number for a call back to book onto an appropriate workshop.

Please note our Older Driver Workshop does not include a supervised drive. All activities and discussion occur at the venue and refreshments are provided.

Older driver workshops in 2024

:
Chatteris Fire Station:
Monday March 18 - 1pm until 3pm
Littleport Fire Station:
Wednesday March 27 - 10am until 12pm
Ely Library: Thursday April 4 – 10am until 12pm
March Fire Station:
Tuesday April 9 - 1pm until 3pm
Wisbech Fire Station:
Thursday April 11 - 1pm until 3pm
Yaxley Fire Station:
Wednesday April 17 - 1pm until 3pm
Sawston Fire Station:
Tuesday April 23 – 1pm until 3pm
Sutton Fire Station:
Wednesday May 1 - 10am until 12pm
Ramsey Fire Station:
Thursday May 9 - 1pm until 3pm
Sawtry Fire Station:
Tuesday May 14 - 1pm until 3pm
Stanground Fire Station:
Monday May 20 - 1pm until 3pm

Cambridgeshire Peterborough Children's Health



Cambridgeshire Peterborough Children's Health: A platform for Families

Introducing www.cambspborochildrenshealth.nhs.uk the new online NHS resource for parents and carers. Designed with local families, 0-19 Healthy Child Programme and other NHS children's services to be a go-to resource for children and young people's health advice.

Easy access to health information – with a family focused design, information is quick to access and easy to use on a phone, tablet or laptop. Accessibility has been prioritised to ensure information can be translated, downloaded and adapted to suit a family's reading needs.

Being a local resource connected with local services - seamless linking to local resources such as 'Keep Your Head', Cambridgeshire and Peterborough SEND Hubs and partner NHS services. There are also dedicated service pages where professionals can find the most up to date contact details, referral forms and guidance.

Evidence based topics for our families' diverse needs - offering a mixture of general and specialist NHS advice for families with children and young people. Covering many topics including:

- Behaviour, emotions and mental health
- Child development and growing up
- Common illnesses
- Feeding and eating
- Moving and being active
- Peeing, pooing and toileting
- Sleep
- Speech, language and communication
- Staying safe and accident prevention

Easy access from a phone, tablet or laptop



With a mixture of original content and linking to local information, Cambridgeshire Peterborough Children's Health is a resource supporting and connecting local services.

Built on the foundation of the NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough joint services, this new online resource combines all the online offers previously provided on the Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust website.



Swindon Humanitarian Aid Partnership Candles For Ukraine

Almost a year ago, SHAP announced a tentative plan to collect candles from local people to send to those struggling without power in Ukraine. The media got behind the initiative and now thousands of candles, some new, some partly used have been sent to us in Swindon from all over the country. The response has been overwhelming and magnificent. At our warehouse unit close to Swindon Railway Station we make trench candles to provide a heat source for cold Ukrainians - winter temperatures dip to an alarming minus 30 C - as well as creating large blocks of wax from odd ends that we send to volunteers in Ukraine, who make huge numbers of candles for the local population. Old candles are being melted down and made into new lights and wax tin heat sources by SHAP's wonderful team of Ukrainian volunteers. They are then dispatched to Ukraine, along with other vital supplies. <https://www.shapuk.org/candles-for-ukraine>

To find out how you can help these good people, as they work to help ease the difficult lives Ukrainians lead, please see page 7.

What Flies Over

USAF KC-135

Primary Role	Aerial Refuelling & Airlift
Power Plant	4 x CFM International CFM-56 Turbines
Maximum Thrust	Greater than 88,000lbs total
Wing Span	135 ft 10 ins
Length	136 ft 3 ins
Height	41 ft 8 ins
Max. Take off weight	Approx 322,500 lbs
Max. Speed	530mph @ 30,000 ft
Range	1,500 miles wit 150,000 of transfer fuel, over 11,000 miles ferry range
Ceiling	50,000 ft
Armaments/Load	83,000 lbs fuel, 6 pallet positions, 37 passengers
	Operator

Lockheed MC-130J Commando II

Infiltration, Exfiltration and Re-Supply Of Special Operations Squadrons By Air Drop Or Air-land, Air-air Refuelling of Special Operations Forces Helicopter/Tilt Rotor (Osprey) Aircraft.

4 Rolls-Royce AE-2100D3 Turboprops
Greater than 18,000 SHP combined
132 ft 7 ins
97 ft 9 ins
38 ft 10 ins
60,000lbs
415 mph
28,000 ft with 42,000 lbs load
masters



Solution

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



St Davids Day (1st March) Recipe

Pice ar y maen, a Welsh teatime treat passed on through generations and still as popular as ever. Perfect for making with the children.

Ingredients

225g plain flour
50g lard, cut into small pieces, plus extra for frying
85g caster sugar
50g currants
½ tsp mixed spice
1 egg, beaten
½ tsp baking powder
50g butter, cut into small pieces
splash milk

Method

STEP 1

Tip the flour, sugar, mixed spice, baking powder and a pinch of salt into a bowl. Then, with your fingers, rub in the butter and lard until crumbly. Mix in the currants. Work the egg into the mixture until you have soft dough, adding a splash of milk if it seems a little dry – it should be the same consistency as shortcrust pastry.

STEP 2

Roll out the dough on a lightly floured work surface to the thickness of your little finger. Cut out rounds using a 6cm cutter, re-rolling any trimmings. Grease a flat griddle pan or heavy frying pan with lard, and place over a medium heat. Cook the Welsh cakes in batches, for about 3 mins each side, until golden brown, crisp and cooked through. Delicious served warm with butter and jam, or simply sprinkled with caster sugar. Cakes will stay fresh in a tin for 1 week.

From BBC Good Food

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



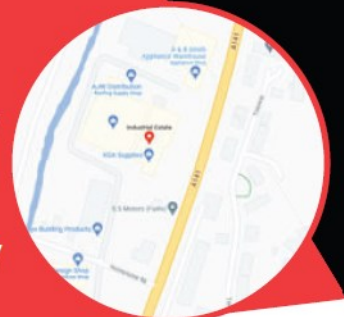
A & B SMITH DOMESTIC APPLIANCES SHOWROOM

Unit 1
Honeysome Industrial Estate,
Chatteris,
PE16 6TG

01354 575079

Open to the public
Open
Monday - Saturday
9am - 5pm

Same day delivery



BOSCH **vax**TM

CANDY

BEKO



Hotpoint

INDESIT

DeLonghi

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

BEEES



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 ORN

Tel: 01354 740320

CLOSED ALL DAY TUESDAYS

FOUR SEASONS TREE SERVICES

Qualified & Professional Tree
and Client Care

PRUNING ● LOPPING ● FELLING

PLANTING ● REDUCING & RESHAPING

CROWN RAISING ● HEDGE TRIMMING

THINNING ● POLLARDING ● STUMP REMOVALS

OVERGROWN GARDENS PUT BACK INTO SHAPE

FRUIT TREES TREATED ● LOG & WOODCHIP SALES



FREE ESTIMATES & ADVICE WITH NO OBLIGATION

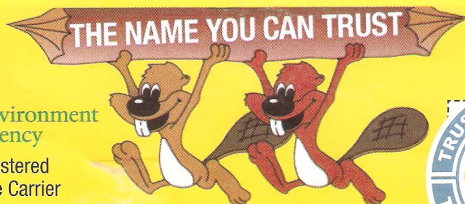
For quality jobs at a competitive price call:

Home: 01353 721665 - Mob: 07771 707921

All work carried out to BS 3998 Standard

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

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.



**Your Local, Professional Spray & Traditional
Painting Company**

Air/airless Spray Painting

Traditional Brush / Roller Paint & Decorating

Upvc Window & Door Painting

Exterior Timber Treating



Simply Contact Us On:

07703 459675 or hickscoatings@yahoo.com



March Stationery & Print

**Booklet Printing
Business Cards
Digital Photos
Leaflets
Newsletters
Banners**

01354 656614

sales@marchsp.co.uk

5 Fenland Walk, March, PE15 8TW

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

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

GRANARY STUDIO

Your local picture framer

01354 638614

www.granarystudio.uk

The Granary
Hall Farm, Upwell Road
Christchurch
PE14 9LJ

WELLE CINEMA Three Holes Village Hall Sunday 3rd March EMILY (15)

"EMILY" tells the imagined life of Emily Brontë, Haunted by the death of her mother, Emily struggles within the confines of her family life and yearns for artistic and personal freedom, and so begins a journey to channel her creative potential into one of the greatest novels of all time "Wuthering Heights."

Sunday 7th April DREAM HORSE (PG)

Starts 2pm doors open 1.30pm
£3.50 per person NO NEED TO BOOK

BAR & REFRESHMENTS
www.threeholesvillagehall00.org.uk



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



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 – Babtac.

Rose Cottage, Christchurch,
Cambs.

Telephone: 01354 638378



JESSICA®
Manicures & Pedicures



Microdermabrasion
Facials
& Gel Nails
& Pedicures



ST. TROPEZ
The Ultimate Tan

Non-surgical Face lifting Treatments



Qualified Seamstress

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

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

SARAH JANE'S NURSERY

Mobile: 07905 368729

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

Sarah Cross

sarahjanesnursery@outlook.com

Also on Facebook

Community Information

Mobile Post Office:

Visits Monday to Thursday in the lay-by on Upwell Road Monday and Thursday - 16.30 to 17:00
Tuesday and Wednesday - 16.10 to 17:00
Fridays - no service.

ANYONE WISHING THEIR ITEMS TO BE POSTED, ON THE DAY, WILL NEED TO GET THEIR POST TO THE VAN BY 4.40PM - WHICH IS WHEN IT IS COLLECTED.

Use it or lose it!

Mobile Library:

OUR MOBILE LIBRARY COMES ONCE A MONTH, ON THE FIRST TUESDAY, AT 12.15-1.00PM.

The van parks in the lay-by on Upwell Road, opposite to the entrance of Fen View. **USE IT OR LOSE IT?**

The Mobile Library visits March, Christchurch and Manea:

March Elliot Lodge 9:30 - 10:10
March Shaftesbury Lodge 10:20 - 10:50
March Upwell Park 10:55 - 11:15
March Fleming Court 11:30 - 11:45
Christchurch Layby 12:15 - 1pm
Manea Festival Close 2pm - 3pm
Manea High Street 3:10 - 4:30pm

As well as a large range of library books, you can get your NHS hearing batteries, replacement walking stick ferrules and you can 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 support your local Library Service, right in the heart of your community.



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

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 - 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

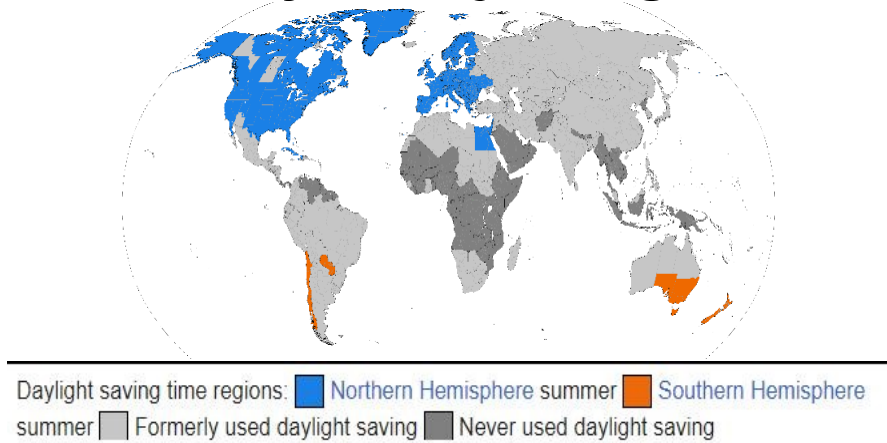
Art Club - Jan Clifford	01354 638217
Book Club - Pat Rigby	07776 142642
Gardening Club - Marion Hawthorn	01354 638230
Short Mat Bowls Club - Janet Harper	01354 638681
WI - Margaret Hayes	01354 653240
Jazz Club - Cat Johnson	musiciancat@hotmail.co.uk
Christchurch Stargazers - Mark Andrews	07425 165415

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, 1 Brimstone Close, Christchurch PE14 9EE*. **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.

We look forward to hearing from you!

A Brief History of Adjusting the Clocks



Summer time (United Kingdom, European Union, and others) or Daylight saving time (DST), also referred to as daylight savings time, daylight time (United States, Canada, and Australia), is the practice of advancing clocks (typically by one hour) during warmer months so that darkness falls at a later clock time. The typical implementation of DST is to set clocks forward by one hour in either the late winter or spring ("spring forward"), and to set clocks back by one hour in the fall (North American English) ("fall back") or autumn (UK English) to return to standard time. As a result, there is one 23-hour day in early spring and one 25-hour day in the middle of autumn.

The idea of aligning waking hours to daylight hours to conserve candles was first conceptualized in 1784 by Benjamin Franklin. In a satirical letter to the editor of *The Journal of Paris*, Franklin suggested that waking up earlier in the summer would economize on candle usage and calculated considerable savings. In 1895, New Zealand entomologist and astronomer George Hudson proposed the idea of changing clocks by two hours every spring to the Wellington Philosophical Society. In 1907, British resident William Willett presented the idea as a means to save energy. After some serious consideration, it was not implemented.

In 1908, Port Arthur in Ontario, Canada (today merged into Thunder Bay), started using DST. Starting on 30 April 1916, the German Empire and Austria-Hungary each organized the first nationwide implementation in their jurisdictions. DST is generally not observed near the Equator, where sunrise and sunset times do not vary enough to justify it. Some countries observe it only in some regions: for example, parts of Australia observe it, while other parts do not; conversely, it is not observed at some places at high latitudes because there are wide variations in sunrise and sunset times and a one-hour shift would relatively not make much difference at all. The United States observes it, except for the states of Hawaii and Arizona (within the latter, however, the Navajo Nation observes it, conforming to federal practice). A minority of the World's population uses DST—Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean generally do not.

Manipulations of Greenwich mean time, however, have often been controversial. In October 1999, the King of Tonga, Taufa'ahau Tupou IV, put the clocks forward one hour, ensuring that his island would beat neighbouring Fiji to the millennium. In 2001, the Mayor of Mexico City managed to spark a constitutional crisis by arguing with the president over who had the right to decree what the time was. In September 1999, three Arab Israeli terrorists were blown up by their own bomb after misunderstanding the timers set by West Bank Palestinians. The West Bank was on daylight saving time; Israel wasn't.

The Summertime Act of 1916 established two clock changes per year. During the second World War, double British summer time was invented as an energy-saving device, effectively putting the country on the same footing as mainland Europe - GMT+1 in the winter, and GMT+2 in the summer. In 1947, Britain reverted to normal.

Then, in 1968, a three-year experiment was conducted with British Standard Time, keeping the clocks fixed throughout the year on GMT+1.

However, the dark winter mornings were unpopular, particularly in Scotland. In 1971, MPs voted to return to the system that endures today.



A Sheep Farm in the Fens

- Lambing -

As the snowdrops start to appear, our thoughts at Fendale Farm turn to the forthcoming lambing season AND whether this dreadful weather will ever cease?!

This year at Fendale Farm, we hope to have approximately 4,750 lambs born during April. But before these lambs can be born safe and healthy, we must ensure that the mother (ewe) is in the best health possible. Over the past six weeks we have been busy vaccinating (for soil born diseases such as Tetanus), worming (similar to dogs), fluke treating (to kill a parasite found in wetland areas, which infects the liver), crutching and bellying (this is shearing the ewes 'bikini line' and belly to ensure that the ewe keeps clean and the lambs can find the teats for the ever important colostrum). Along with continually making sure the ewes have the correct amount of grazing and supplementary feed.



their lambing groups according to the number of lambs each ewe is expecting. All barren ewes will be sold. Once lambing hits, the ewes need to be monitored around the clock. At peak times, up to 200 ewes could lamb in a 24 hour period. As each ewe lambs, both herself and her lambs will be examined. The ewes colostrum will be checked for quality and quantity, the lambs will have their umbilical cord iodined to prevent infection. The mother and newborns are closely watched for the next 24 hours and, as long as all is well, both will be turned out to grass after this period.

I hope you will please join us in hoping and praying for a warm, dry Spring!!

Jim and Sue Fletcher and the rest of the Fendale Farm team.

Wow! So as you start your Easter celebrations, spare a thought for Jim, Sue and their team at this exceptionally busy time! - Ed



Towards the end of February all our ewes will have been pregnancy scanned, allowing us to know how many lambs each mother is carrying and thus feeding them the correct amount. Pregnancy scanning of ewes is very similar to the pregnancy ultrasound women have, however ewes are scanned while standing. Up to 250 ewes are scanned per hour and most of our ewes will be expecting multiple lambs (up to 5). Once scanning has taken place the ewes will be divided into



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.



The Heron is printed by
March Stationery & Print, 5 Fenland Walk, March, Cambs PE15 8TW
Tel: 01354 656614 Email: sales@marchsp.co.uk