

Lt. Thetford Newsletter.

August/September 2011

Items for the next newsletter to Mrs. J. Staines 38 The Wyches, by September 15th please. Copy may also be e-mailed to jennifer.staines@btinternet.com.

Little Thetford Baptist Chapel.

***For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord...
plans to give you hope and a future....***

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

(Jeremiah 29: 11.13)

May the Lord ease those who are suffering and bring us all closer to Him. It is in Him that we shall find rest.

Services at the Baptist Chapel

August:

Sunday 7 th August	10.30am – All Age Service with communion
Sunday 14 th August	10.30am – All age Service (Joint service cancelled for this month due to holidays.)
Sunday 21 st August	10.30am – All Age Service
Sunday 28 th August	10.30am – All Age Service

September:

Sunday 4 th Sept	10.30am – All Age Service and Communion
Sunday 11 th September	10.30am – All Age service
Sunday 18 th July	10.30am – All Age Service
Sunday 25 th September	10.30am – All Age Service

Church Fellowship Group

Meets alternate Thursdays 7pm for bible study, prayer and worship. Venue: Tudor and Karen's: 3, Chapel Close.

Coffee Mornings at the chapel:

Wednesday 3 rd August 10am	Wednesday 7 th September 10am
Wednesday 17 th August 10am	Wednesday 21 st September 10am

All very welcome to come along for refreshments and a chat.

Film Club: Dates to be confirmed

Church contact - Tudor Parsons - (Pastor) on 01353 648082

A.M. PEASE Taxi Service, Ely. 07802 507862 Airports – Seaports All Long Distance Work will do wait & return.
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St George's Church.

A warm welcome to any or all of our Sunday services. You may notice that the pattern of services for August and September is a little different from usual, due to staff holidays.

August

7 th Family Service with Baptism.	9.30am
14 th Summer Praise.	10.30am
21 st Summer Praise.	9.30am
28 th Holy Communion.	9.30am

September

4 th Holy Communion.	9.30am
11 th Girls' Brigade Annual Rededication and Service of Welcome	10.30am
18 th Morning Praise.	9.30am
25 th Morning Praise.	9.30am

As always, the Creche area and Sunday Club will be there to welcome children and families.

Enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, or any other pastoral matter: Rev Margaret Harper 01353 645128

Thank you to all who have supported Friends events and also Messy Church in the first part of this year. We hope to hold more in the autumn, and will keep you posted.

As I write, I'm looking at a picture of seahorses and tropical fish – may we all enjoy this amazing world over the summer, whether by an open window, in the garden, or further a field. Best wishes from All at St George's.

St. George's Revels.

A chance to be famous for 5 minutes!

You are invited to join in this village event - Saturday 17th September at the Village Hall a 'bring and share meal' and entertainment 'strictly ourselves'

The Band meet at St. George's Church Tuesdays between 6 – 7pm. We welcome singers, dancers-anyone! Come along as we are putting a few numbers together for the Revels and need some extra talent. For more information call 01353 649232 or just come along Tuesdays.

1st Little Thetford Girls Brigade.

We meet at St. Georges Church on Friday evenings during school term time. A welcome awaits new members, including boys, aged 5 -11 years. For more information please contact Jane Dunseath 649232

The Friends Of St. George's

The Friends Of St. Georges was set up over 20 years ago as a group of villagers who wanted to see this historic building maintained and kept in good repair. There are close ties with the Church's governing body, the Parochial Church Council, but you do not need to be a regular church go-er to join us. Over the years we have raised many thousands of pounds to pay for improvements and repairs to the Church. At the moment we have a list of repairs totalling £17,000 which we hope to start on this summer. As the building is so old keeping it in good order for future generations is a never ending task

and we must continually think of ways of raising funds and at the same time providing events for folk to attend and enjoy the beauty of the building. In June we had our Flower Festival when we celebrated Village life in the 20th. Century, many thanks to all the people who worked hard to ensure the success of the event and those of you who came along to enjoy the sights and smells of the arrangements. The home made cakes were pretty good too ! As always, Mike Petty's talk on the Saturday night was a great success, there really is nothing that Mike doesn't know about this area and it really is a great pleasure to have him come and speak to us with his wonderful selection of pictures and anecdotes. The weekend raised £600, which is a pretty good figure until you realise that repairs to just one window are going to cost ten times as much !

On 15th. July, twenty two of us welcomed the Rev. John Sansom back with his wife Judy, so that we could have another 'Brush with the vicar'. John is now retired, although he still officiates at the Cathedral from time to time, and this gives him more time for his painting. He really is a most accomplished artist and kept us spellbound as he painted a landscape whilst all the while explaining the techniques that he was using, how certain colours fooled the eye, and how important it is to use good materials. The end result was so well received that he has offered it to us for auction. Many thanks John. The evening raised £115. We are inviting sealed bids for the painting, and if you would like to view it and maybe make an offer, please contact Tony Shaw on 649470 who also has membership details of the Friends if you would like to support them.

CONSERVATION AGM.

The AGM of the "Little Thetford Parish Conservation Volunteers" (the 'Conservation Group') will be held on **MONDAY 8th. AUGUST @ 8pm. in the Village Hall.** It is OPEN to everybody.

Any one interested in and concerned about conservation, open spaces and footpaths in and around the village would be very welcome to attend. Don't be afraid, you won't have to do anything or get 'roped in' unless you feel committed to so doing, but at least come along and let your voice be heard.

- Robert Bullen

Coach day excursions and short breaks

direct from Little Thetford.

Contact: Eagle Tours Cambridge

01353 648950 or visit

www.eagletourscambridge.co.uk

VILLAGE HALL.

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTION

With her lemon and honey voice, the beautiful Chrissy Mostyn, and her outstanding acoustic guitar playing partner Rick Pilkington are **"Blackheart"** widely regarded as the fastest rising stars of the new folk generation whose live shows combine their joint talents with highly entertaining audience interaction as they tell the stories behind their songs. Blending folk, country and even rock influences their beautifully crafted and instantly memorable songs paint sensitive, intellectual pictures of everyone's life experiences with subjects such as hometowns, marriage, faith, redundancy, bereavement. Their international career has taken them to Ireland, Australia and New Zealand and for 2011 they are undertaking a six month tour of small towns and villages playing to ever increasing audiences in community centres and village halls the length and breadth of the UK.

Their ONLY venue in East Cambs. is **Little Thetford on Thursday 4th. August.**

Tickets, from 31 The Wyches, Little Thetford CB6 3HG or 01353 64926

are £8 and proceeds will be shared equally with the village hall.

This is an evening of love and laughter, sadness and joy, great and meaningful songs and easy-listening music to lift spirits and warm hearts. Listen to **"Blackheart"** on their website:

www.blackheartmusic.co.uk ; even better still, support the village hall and hear Chrissy and Rick *live* on **Thursday 4th. August, 7.30 for 8pm. Little Thetford Village Hall.**

Parish Council.

The Parish Council still has vacancies for two councillors. Anyone interested should contact the clerk – Mrs S. Thompson Tel. 666385 or ltcouncil.clerk@btinternet.com

One co-option has been made - Cllr. S. Hellyer attended her first meeting in July.

Following the June meeting the Police were asked to make some visits to the village during evening hours as there had been some minor incidents of poor behaviour reported. More were reported at the July meeting – this was taken to the Neighbourhood Panel Meeting on July 25th at Witchford EDF energy are to be contacted about the maintenance of the substation in The Wyches.

The July meeting looked again at the action plan for the Parish Plan. A number of steps had been taken to progress this and others were underway. Cllr Hunt has arranged to meet with County Council Highway Officials concerning the A10 junction. An officer from the P3 (Parish Paths Partnerships) is being invited to speak with Parish Councillors about the scheme, the maintenance of local footpaths and the possible provision of maps/leaflets about local footpaths.

The next full meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday September 12th at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Biggest Coffee Morning Ever!

Macmillan Cancer Support are this year marking a landmark year – it's their 100th anniversary and they are aiming to make this year's coffee morning the biggest ever. You can help them achieve this right here in Lt. Thetford on the morning of **FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 30th** by popping along to the **school between 8:45am – 11am** for a cup of coffee. Details have not yet been finalised but there will be other things on offer as well as a cup of coffee! Do make a note of the date and times and drop in for your morning coffee.

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LITTLE THETFORD WI

The June meeting of the WI was to be a party in the garden of one of the members but due to inclement weather was held in the village hall. There was a plant sale and a quiz which was enjoyed by all. Splendid refreshments were provided.

The July meeting was very special as we opened the meeting up to men and women. Our speaker was Wing Commander Patrick Shea-Simonds who has just returned from a tour of duty in Afghanistan. It was an extremely interesting and informative talk which was much enjoyed by the 45 people that attended. A collection was made for the RAF benevolent fund and realised £80. Many thanks to all those who contributed.

The next meeting in the Village Hall will be Monday 5 September when there will be a talk and demonstration of Glass Painting. For any further information please phone Christine Bullen on 01353 649268

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Little Thetford Acorns have enjoyed a busy, successful year. Recently the pre-schoolers enjoyed a great trip to Shepreth Wildlife Park getting to see lots of animals and even the chance to hold some creepy-crawlies! At the end of term the summer performance was a source of much excitement.

We are running a **Summer Activity Week** during the school holidays from **15 – 19 August**. Please contact Clair on 649234 or admin@LittleThetfordAcorns.org.uk to book a place or to find out more. The activity plans are on our website www.littlethetfordacorns.org.uk

The Rising 5's lunch club has once again proved to be a great success and all our big boys and girls have loved the chance to spend time in 'big' school. A leavers presentation was held at the end of term to wave a fond farewell to them all.

We have made the decision to extend our pre-school hours so that we now offer a service from 9.15am to 2.30pm, Monday to Friday. Unfortunately this means we will no longer be running our toddler group in the future.

Field Management Committee

Kevin Russell completed The Bike Ride to Hunstanton in just over 3 ½ hours and raised £600. Thank you to all who sponsored him.

Feast Day 13th August 12.30pm

It's that time of year again an opportunity for all the family and to support your local community. Bring the family & friends to enjoy:- Activity castles, Laser Clay Pigeon Shooting, Sport Races for the children, stalls with lots of different things to do and buy, Tractors, Pet Show, Cakes, Ice Creams, Wii Games and lots more.

Would like to have a stall to raise funds? please contact Rob Stead 648140

If you would like to donate items for the Bric-a-brac stall, people from the committee will be calling around the village during the week commencing the 8th August.

"Race Night" Saturday 3rd September 7.30pm

Come along, buy a horse, have a little flutter!

If you would like to sponsor a horse, please speak to Georgie 648265 or any of 'The Field' committee

Netball Club

"Beach Party" Disco – Friday 30th September 8pm Tickets £5. Samba dancing, hula dancing, sand castles, beach balls..... Dress for the beach but in Little Thetford!!! Call Georgie 648265 for tickets.

Want to keep fit? - Netball training, Tuesdays at 7pm on the M.U.G.A. at Oakfield.

The John Townsend Charity

Registered Charity no. 202685

Could you benefit from a one-off payment!
Are you on low income?
Are you sick or have a long term illness?
CAN WE HELP YOU?

The John Townsend Charity is for the benefit of the people living within the parish boundary of Little Thetford. Its Scheme enables its Trustees to consider requests for financial assistance from those who are sick or on low income.

A brief explanation of how the Charity could assist can be read on the parish notice board near the junction into Cowslip Drive. If in doubt about your situation, please contact the Clerk to the Charity who can answer any queries.

All applications received by the Clerk are considered on their merits by the Trustees at a duly convened meeting that excludes the public and press. Some applications are subject to the financial status of the applicant and of the Charity. No guarantee can be given that an application will be successful, and, if approved, the grant is offered as a one-off payment only, as the Charity is not able to provide on-going contributions from one application. Information received by the Clerk and the Trustees is held in strict confidence.

Requests can be considered for assistance towards half the mileage costs for parishioners using the Social Car Scheme to travel to local hospitals for appointments or to visit patients.

Social Car Scheme (Ely 666556) is available for hospital, dentist, chiropody and transport visits.

Enquiries relating to the Charity and grant applications should be made to the Clerk of the Charity, Mrs J Wardle, 30 New Close Road, Little Thetford, tel. 01353 648820, email: jtownsendcharity@btinternet.com.

MJS Gardening Services.

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HELPING HANDS GARDENING TEAM “Growing Communities”

The Helping Hands gardening mobile teams consist of a driver/supervisor, and a group of volunteers. These may be . . . people with additional support needs, young people who are working towards their Youth Community Action Awards and Duke of Edinburgh Awards or people who have been unemployed for a long time. We also have gardeners who work alone. For more information contact Voluntary & Community Action East Cambridgeshire 41e Forehill Ely CB7 4AA Tel: 01353 659639 e-mail: avril@vcaec.org.uk Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm.