

# Lt. Thetford



## Newsletter.

Dec. 2010/Jan. 2011

*Items for the next newsletter to Mrs. J. Staines 38 The Wyches, by January 15<sup>th</sup> please. Copy may also be e-mailed to [jennifer.staines@btinternet.com](mailto:jennifer.staines@btinternet.com).*

We wish all our readers a Happy & Peaceful Christmas.

### Little Thetford Baptist Chapel.

*As we approach Christmas, let us remember the truth that Jesus came into this world to seek and save the lost. He wants each one of us to draw close to him and discover all that He has for us. May His love shine in our hearts as we celebrate Christmas. 'Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.'*

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am**  
All Age Service

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January**  
No service

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am**  
United Christmas Tree Service  
(Donations kindly received for the  
Emmaus Community)

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30am**  
Joint family service at St. George's

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am**  
All Age Service

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30am**  
All age service

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm**  
'Journey to Bethlehem'  
Starting at St. George's and finishing at  
the Baptist chapel. (Mince pies and refreshments)

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 10.30am**  
All age service

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December**  
No service

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30am**  
All age service

**The Emmaus Community:** Many thanks to all those who donated food items at the Harvest Festival Service held at the Baptist Chapel on the 10th October. The many boxes of food produce were passed to the Emmaus Community on the 11th October. We have received a letter of thanks expressing their grateful appreciation.

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## United Tree Service.

The Emmaus project provides a home and a new start to individuals who have experienced hardship and great difficulties. This year, we'd like to support the companions who live in the community by providing gifts that can be donated at the United Tree Service. Donations may include socks, gloves, scarves, toiletries, biscuits or chocolates. (Currently there are 29 male companions). It would be wonderful for the community of Little Thetford to reach out to the community down the A10! Alternatively if you are unable to attend the service but would like to contribute please drop off your gifts to Tudor & Karen Parsons at 3 Chapel Close, or for further information contact Karen Parsons 648082

## Baptist Chapel Coffee Mornings

The coffee mornings continue to provide an opportunity to meet during the week whilst enjoying cake and refreshments. From December, the coffee mornings will be held on Wednesdays. We are so grateful to those running the mornings who give their time freely. A warm welcome is guaranteed to all. Come along and join us, especially during these cold winter months.

**Wed. 1<sup>st</sup> December at 10am & Wed. 15<sup>th</sup> December at 10am – Special Christmas morning**  
**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January at 10am & Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 10am**

## Baptist Chapel Family Film Club

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm & Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 4pm**

## Girls Brigade

Girl's Brigade meet at the chapel on Fridays at 6.00pm during term time. New members always welcome.

## ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH

You are warmly invited to any or all of these events over the coming weeks. May we wish everyone in Little Thetford a Peaceful Christmas and New Year.

### DECEMBER

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>**, 9.30am Morning Praise for Advent

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>**, 10.30am United Tree Service at the Baptist Chapel

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>**, 6pm School Christingle Service. All welcome.

The children will be making Christingles at school, ready for this service. There will also be a CHRISTINGLE PARTY ("Bring and Share" simple party food) starting at 4.30pm to make extras – just bring along two oranges, and everything else you need will be provided.

**Christmas Eve** 6pm, Journey to Bethlehem. Starts this year at St George's.

Join us for carols in church, then for a walk through the village to the Baptist Chapel for mince pies.

**Christmas Day**, 9.30am All Age Holy Communion for Christmas Day – a short service for all the family

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>**, Services for all in the Ely Team of Churches – 9am Holy Communion at St Mary's, Ely.

11am Morning Praise at St Leonard's, Little Downham

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December, St George's Christmas Fair**, in the Village Hall.

A great afternoon for all the family, 12.00 – 4.00pm

**Christmas with "Cadenza"** in the church, **11<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm**. This promises to be a wonderful evening as their musicianship is really outstanding. The programme of light classical music has an Advent and Christmas theme and the evening could be just what we need to get into the Christmas spirit. Organised by the Friends of St. Georges, tickets are priced at £7.50, which includes a complimentary

Dart Electrical Engineering Ltd.  
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Telephone 01353 649123  
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drink, and are available from either **Ruth & John Drewry (648819)** or **Trisha & Tony Shaw (649470)**.

### **JANUARY**

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>**, 9.30am, Morning Praise

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>**, 10.30am United Family Service at St George's

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>**, 9.30am, Holy Communion

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>**, 11am at St James, Stretham, Plough Sunday Service

**ALSO – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January** (in the church), next meeting for all who would like to discuss plans for the **2011 Flower Festival** – all village organisations are welcome to be represented (contact Tony Shaw or John Drewry).

**Weddings and Baptisms**, or other pastoral enquiries, to Rev Margaret Harper, Team Vicar,  
tel: 01353 645128.

### **Little Thetford School.**

Over the coming year there will be a number of opportunities for the residents of Little Thetford to further their involvement with the school. Among the new and exciting projects we have on our horizon is the Eco Schools project, the chance to work with our pupils and staff to build a large pond and wildlife area – we are looking for volunteers with a passion for all things wild and wonderful who could help us build a pond (we'd particularly like to hear from anyone who has access to a mini-digger). Also, our Living Histories project will soon begin: An oral history project where pupils will interview and record the memories and tales of times past. The recordings will be made available on our school website for all to listen to and enjoy. May be you have memories of the village before as a child or of an important event in the village's history that you would like to share and have recorded for posterity. If so please do get in touch with the school on 01353 649260. We'd love to hear from you. Please do remember that we always love to hear from people who feel that they have time or a good idea for the school.

### **Friends of Little Thetford School (FOLTS)**

FOLTS is a very active group of parents and staff who have fun raising money for the school to provide extra funds for the enjoyment of all the children. Last year was very successful for FOLTS, raising £4,220. All children enjoyed the traditional pantomime and summer trips along with a new shed for storage and a TV/DVD player for the library. So far this year we have helped the school to purchase new football posts, basketball hoops and balls for the playground. We have also pledged funds towards the school's ongoing new pond eco-project.

Our fundraising year so far has got off to a great start with a very successful film night for the children as well as an ever-popular cake stall. This term we have also held a school disco and Christmas Fayre which are always firm favourites. We would be delighted to see you at the forthcoming:

Do look out for further FOLTS events throughout the year.

### **School Christmas Bingo**

Please do come along and support the school Christmas bingo on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec, "eyes down" at 7.30pm. Please bring your own refreshments. Any donations of raffle prizes will be gratefully received at the school office.

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### **MJS Gardening Services.**

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### Little Thetford Acorns.

Little Thetford Acorns are enjoying a busy time in the run up to Christmas. Here is a run down of what we've got going on:

- A very successful Christmas Shopping Night was held on 10 November. A wide variety of lovely products were on sale and thank you to everyone

who came along.

- We will have a stall at Ely's Lighting Up night on 26 November, so if you are out enjoying the evening's entertainment please come and find us.
- We are holding a "Breakfast with Santa" morning on Saturday 11 December from 10am where children will be able to enjoy some yummy food, play games, do crafts and, of course, meet Santa!
- We are hosting a Pampered Chef cooking show on Wednesday 26 January at 8pm. Spaces will be limited so please contact Gayle on 648218 if you would like to book a place.

The pre-school and out of school clubs are getting increasingly busy which is wonderful. If you would like your child to be put on our waiting list please contact us. It is advisable for your child to be on the list, even if they are not due to start for another year or so.

We are recruiting for another pre-school assistant and out of hours play worker. Please check our website for details if you are interested. [www.LittleThetfordAcorns.org.uk](http://www.LittleThetfordAcorns.org.uk)

Finally, could we please request that all dog owners clean up after their dogs and use the dog bin at the entrance to the car park. We have had several instances where children have stepped in the mess on the path leading to our building, which is not pleasant for the children, or for the setting. Thank you.

### Little Thetford Parish Council

Christmas Whist Drive.

Lt. Thetford Village Hall

Friday December 10<sup>th</sup>

At 7:30pm

Proceeds – Lt. Thetford Acorns

At the November meeting Councillors heard that the new Recycling Centre at Lancaster Way is likely to be open within a year and that gritting stocks are in place, quad bikes may be used to grit pathways.

It was agreed to donate £50 to Magpas and £75 to Ely and Soham Dial a Ride.

Discussion took place about the repair/replacement of the broken picnic bench in Holt Fen research seems to show that it will be more economical to replace this.

Concern has been expressed to the Council about cars leaving the Car Park at Oakfields in a careless manner. Car Parking on pavements in the village is being monitored by the police.

Items to bring to the Neighbourhood Panel were discussed and agreed – see separate report.

The Working Party on Children's Play Areas was due to meet – see separate invitation to attend a public meeting.

County Highways had yet to report on their findings after an officer had been out to measure an area of Watsons Lane to define boundaries.

The final paperwork from BT to transfer ownership of the Telephone Kiosk is still awaited.

The Chair of the Parish Council laid a wreath at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. The lettering on the memorial has recently been re-done.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday December 13<sup>th</sup>.

## Library Reminder

**Christmas Bingo with Bert.**

**Friday December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

7:30pm in the

Village Hall.

Proceeds to the Netball Club.

The Mobile Library now visits the village once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, stopping outside the Church between 2pm – 2:40pm. The mobile unit has a wide range of books for all ages including large print and audio books. This service is free to join and is open to everyone.

Did you know that you can return items borrowed from any library to our local mobile library?

## Neighbourhood Panel - October Meeting

## **Flight Connections of Ely**

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On 25<sup>th</sup> October a variety of issues were as always covered either by paper information or by a presentation. Using sport to create safer and stronger communities and the Council's Register of consultees, Flood Management and Memories and the proposal for a Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) around the Cathedral, were all covered.

Jane Hollingworth, Head of Housing at ECDC, spoke about **Provision and care for older people** and the increasing proportion of the population who will be over 65, and over 85, by 2021 and the increasing pressure on all (related) services. A more detailed summary of Jane's presentation is available in the Newsletter (accessible from the Neighbourhood Panel webpage <http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/atoz/n> )

From the police a summary of the actions taken by the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) during August – October is in the current **Neighbourhood Profile** document (October 2010) for the Northern area of the District). The Profile can be accessed from [www.eastcambs.gov.uk](http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk) and then (under N) using the A-Z section from Neighbourhood Panel webpage.

Overall crime figures in the Panel area have increased compared to the previous 3 months (to July), but have remained at comparable levels to the same period in 2009 – the increase is mainly due to incidents in the Downham villages and Haddenham. More details on pp. 21/23 of the Profile.

Reported incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) have decreased compared to previous 3 months (to July), but have increased compared to the same period last year.

There was encouragement for representatives from ALL parish council areas to help identify more people to join the local **Speedwatch** team of volunteers. Please contact **Alan Roffey on 01353 – 775236** to find out more, and to volunteer your help)

### Issues of concern raised from our village: **Little Thetford**

- Litter on A10 verges (spoils walks/cycling by villagers going to/from Ely);
- Monitoring of the cars crossing the green in New Close Road continues,
- Concern about the impact on life in the villages of the increasing volume of traffic on the A10;
- A travelers site off the A10 designated as a single site, appears now to have multiple occupancy – advice is sought on this.

It was agreed by the Panel that for the next 3 months (to January)

### Policing priorities will be

- **Allegations of drug dealing/ASB at Lucas Court in Wilburton;**
- **Speeding, in consultation with Speedwatch team.**

**Non-police priorities** (for the next 3 months) will be

- **A multi-agency approach to the Windmill Walk, Sutton parking issues;**
- **The housing mix at Lucas Court (and lessons for other schemes)** – Sanctuary officers to be asked to attend the Panel meeting in January.

The next Neighbourhood Panel Meeting will be held in our  
Village Hall – Lt. Thetford  
**on Monday January 24<sup>th</sup> YOU will be very welcome.**

If you have an issue of concern, but are unable to attend the meeting,  
please contact

Cllr Jenny Staines, or Alan Williams (Neighbourhood Panel Coordinator)  
[alan.williams@eastcamb.gov.uk](mailto:alan.williams@eastcamb.gov.uk) or by phone on 01353 – 665555.

**Coach day excursions  
and short breaks**

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01353 648950 or visit  
[www.eagletourscambridge.co.uk](http://www.eagletourscambridge.co.uk)

**Meningitis UK.**

Residents of the village who have been here for a number of years will remember the Pease family and many will still be in touch with Hilda & Sam Pease and their son Andy. It is now twenty five years since meningitis claimed the life of Andy's brother Ken. Stuart Marsh and some friends who grew up in the village at the same time as the Pease family are organising an event to raise funds for Meningitis U.K. here in Little Thetford on Wednesday December 29<sup>th</sup>. Your support would be very much appreciated. This is what will be happening.

A football tournament kicks off at 11am. Each game lasts one hour with 10 minute half time, one hour break then play the finals. We have four teams, each team has a captain, Stuart Marsh, Mark Driver, Kevin Russell and Keith McCann. We have a memorial trophy being presented by a young lady who recently lost both legs to meningitis.

There will be refreshments throughout the day tea, coffee, bacon rolls, baked potatoes etc. We have a couple of raffles one with loads of prizes from a bottle of champagne, meals for two, vouchers to the value of £100 pounds, tickets to football matches, t-shirts, to footballs and many more items. The other raffle is for a ride in Ferrari 430 spider ( same as the Beckhams!).

There will also be an auction of donated goods from top football clubs (Arsenal, Liverpool, Manchester United, Bolton Wanderers and others).

Throughout the day there will a netball challenge and junior crossbar challenge, adult cross bar challenge and beat the goalies (all ages and sexes).

Meningitis UK's vision is a vaccine to eradicate all forms of meningitis – by supporting this event in whatever way you are comfortable will be a step to helping that vision materialize.

**The Parish Council**  
**Play Area Working Party.**

Would like to meet with any young  
people aged 11 + and/or their parents  
to discuss the development of an  
Activity Area specifically for the older  
children on **Wednesday January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.**  
in the Village Hall – please come along.

**A.M. PEASE**

Taxi Service, Ely.

07802 507862

Airports – Seaports

All Long Distance Work  
will do wait & return