

Little Thetford Newsletter.



April 2016/ may 2016

Items for the next Newsletter covering June/July 2016 should be with the editor Mrs. J. Staines by May 15th please, jennifer.staines@btinternet.com or 38 The Wyches.

VILLAGE HALL PUBLIC MEETING

Monday 25 April @ 8pm. in the hall

Your LAST chance to SAVE the village hall

As has been reported repeatedly over the last year a number of the current Trustees of the village hall will be resigning from the Board of Trustees at the next AGM (date to be confirmed, but probably early September.) From that date there will be too few Trustees to continue to oversee the continued existence of the hall. Under its Trust Deed the hall should be administered by SEVEN Elected members and EIGHT Representative members appointed by the Women's Institute, The Baptist Chapel, The PCC and the Parish Council. In practice, as organisations within the village come and go over the years, Representative members have been drawn from other organisations from within the village and other bodies that use the hall regularly although for several years now only the Parish Council has nominated any Representative members and the Charity has struggled to engage sufficient village residents and other representatives to continue to administer and operate the hall. The current Trustees have tried, and will continue so to do, to find alternative arrangements for managing the hall but to date only informal discussions with the Sports & Social Club along the lines of a form of joint administration have born any fruit. The hall charity Trustees may appoint whosoever they chose (for instance an agent or dedicated caretaker) to operate and manage the hall on a day to day basis but it must be overseen by a Board of Trustees which has the responsibility of ensuring that the hall is being run properly in accordance with its trust deed. Any alteration in status or proposal to liquidate the assets of the charity must be put to a public meeting. Thus a **Public Meeting** is being called as notified above. Money is not in particular the problem, but it has to be said that, unfortunately, a lack of willingness, desire and commitment from individuals, organisations and other bodies, hitherto, is. It may not be necessary – indeed it should be the desire of every village resident and user of the hall that it will not be - to liquidate the hall and its assets if, at that meeting, sufficient interest is shown in the continuation of the village hall. If there is insufficient commitment at that meeting it is very likely that the hall will have to close and its tenants and customers – Sports & Social Club, Ely Guild of Wood Turners, “Acorns”, Post Office, Parish Council and all its other users, both regular and occasional – will no longer have a 'home' or meeting place. No further bookings will be taken. (Bookings already taken up to the year end will be honoured if at all possible.) It is **essential** then that the **Public Meeting**, in the hall, at **8pm** on **Monday 25th April** has **your** attendance.

Little Thetford Fitness Classes
at the Village Hall:
Tuesday Evenings:
Kettlebells 18:55
Powerhoop 19:45
www.taniafitness.com
taniamcquilkin@hotmail.co.uk

Robert Bullen [retiring] Chair of Trustees.

The Newsletter accepts no responsibility for the services advertised within it –readers are advised to do their own research before making any agreements with the service providers

St. Georges Church

'How good it is to sing Praises to our God! How delightful and how right!' Psalm 147 v 1

APRIL.

Sunday 3rd 0930 Morning Praise. Preacher John Marshall.
Sunday 10th 1030 Family Service. Preachers Rev Julia Chamberlin & Pastor Peter Cockerton.
Sunday 17th 0930 Morning Praise. Leader John Marshall. Preacher Rev Julia Chamberlin.
Sunday 24th 1030 Holy Communion. Preachers Canon Linda Church. Rev Julia Chamberlin.
Rev. Natalie Andrews.

Uniting with the congregation of St. James' this will be followed by a bring and share lunch celebrating St. George's Day. Everyone welcome!

MAY.

Sunday 1st. 0930 Morning Praise. Leader Rev Julia Chamberlin. Preacher John Marshall.
Sunday 8th 1030 Family Service. Leader Claire McGinley.
Sunday 15th 0930 Morning Praise for Pentecost. Leader John Marshall. Preacher Rev Julia Chamberlin.
Sunday 22nd 1030 Holy Communion. Preacher Canon Linda Church. Rev Julia Chamberlin.
Sunday 29th 0930 Morning Praise. Preacher Rev Stephen Leeke.

At the end of all our services we have a time of fellowship over Coffee and Biscuits. Everyone is welcome to any of our services, we are quite informal. The Church is always open during daylight hours, do please feel welcome to wander around, sit in Peace or pray and reflect in quiet.

Regular events.

Tuesday 6-7pm Informal hymn singing and band practice (amateur) If you like to sing or make music do come and join our growing group.

Wednesday 9- 11am Our Community Cafe is open for Toast, Cake, Coffee and Chat, friendship and laughter in God's house.

Wednesday 2.30pm Whole school assembly with Stephen, Rachel and Hannah followed by 'Messy Church'

for Families. Crafts, Games, Cake and Fun. (Term time)

Thursday 6-7pm Brigade meet for school age boys and girls. Craft, Bible studies, Badge work, Hand Bells and so much more.

Brigade and Ashley Pease had a very successful weekend of Dinosaurs and Fossils. Thank you to all who came along and all who helped.

Supporting Christian Aid - Thursday 19th May 2.30pm- 7.30 'Enjoy Italy' - share holiday photos, pasta & pizza, Italian style & more at St. George's Church.

'Dragon Club' for adults. 2.30pm-4.30pm. Talks, Quizzes, Tea, Cake and Chat!

Tuesday 19th April. Talk by Alan Hampton on the work of the Rotary Club.

Tuesday 17th May. Illustrated talk about Cambridge Museum of Technology by the Curator Pam Halls.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK.

Thursday 19th May everyone welcome for an evening in 'Italy' at the Church 6pm - 7.30.

Advance notice - Music Marathon Saturday 11th June (9.00am - 7.00pm) @ St. George's Church. Be ready with your act & be part of this special event.

For all enquiries about Weddings, Baptisms or Funerals please contact Rev Julia Chamberlin 01223 861511 or julia.chamberlin@elyteam.org
For those who do not know Rev Julia is our new Minister (Sundays to Wednesday) other days a link will put you through to the Ely Team for enquiries.

St. George's Church is on Twitter @stgeorgesit and the website of a 'Church near you.'

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

Friends of St. Georges.

David Jacques Talk.

David is coming to St. Georges at 7.00 pm. on Thursday 7th April to give an illustrated talk titled 'Blick Mead, the cradle of Stonehenge?' David is a senior research fellow of Buckingham University and has spent more than a decade on the site of Vespasins Camp, an Iron Age hill fort, and one of the pivotal places in the history of Stonehenge. During this time he found evidence that Blick Mead had probably been in use for 3,000 years during the Mesolithic period. His work was featured in a television programme last year and we are thrilled that he has agreed to come and share his experiences with us. We need a big audience and therefore are offering tickets at just £3.00 for the evening, children are free if accompanied by an adult. Light refreshments will be available during the interval. Tickets are available from Ruth and John (648819), Trisha and Tony (649470) or on the door if there are any left !

Please support us so that we can make this a truly memorable evening.

100 Club. Tickets are now available from Tony Shaw (649470) Remember they are just £12.00 for the year and with a monthly draw, there are 12 chances of winning a prize.

Become a member of the Friends of St. Georges. Membership is open to anyone who would like to help us maintain this lovely historic building. You don't need any particular skills, just enthusiasm. We meet 3 or 4 times a year and organise fund raising activities when we can. Membership costs £5.00 a year with lifetime membership at £75.00. Please contact Tony Shaw if you are interested, we promise you a warm welcome.

LITTLE THETFORD WI

The next meeting is on Monday 4th April at 7.30 in the Village Hall. The talk and demonstration is about socialising a puppy who is going to be trained as a Guide Dog (Puppy Included). The meeting on the 9th of May same time and venue is an illustrated talk on the life of a ships surveyor. For more information please contact Christine Bullen on 01353 649268.

MJS Gardening Services.

**24 The Wyches. Lt. Thetford
649795 or mobile 07747864303.**

**Patios, Decking, Turfing,
Garden Maintenance.
Fencing & Odd Jobs.**



The Pre-school children have enjoyed their focus groups learning about "building relationships and making new friends" Fun was had by children and staff dressing up as their favourite book character for World Book Day and are now looking forward to their Big Toddle with an "Under the Sea" theme.

As we move into the Summer term we start our Rising 5's Club, getting the children prepared for the transition from Pre-school to Primary School

Little Thetford Toddlers

On Tuesday 8th March we celebrated our 1st Birthday and we would like to say a BIG thank you to all parents and children for their support over the year. The group takes place every Tuesday 9:30 - 11:30am in Little Thetford Village Hall for 0-5 year olds. Entry £2.50 per family, additional children £1 (under 1's free). Like our Facebook page for regular updates and planned themed activities

Link Decorating.

Painting & Decorating.

Wall papering.

Ceramic wall and floor tiling.

Coving.

Contact Simon on

Tel. 01353 648497 or 07596454345

www.linkdecorating.co.uk

Easter Holiday Club – 4th - 8th April 2016

It's going to be a cracking Easter with loads of fun themed activities, games, sports and arts and crafts. Session Times AM 9.00 - 12.00 PM 1.00 - 4.00 and if your child would like to stay for both we offer a lunch club too... Please contact us on 01353 649234 or admin@littlethetfordacorns.org.uk for further details
Our Summer Holiday Club will be running 25th July - 5th August 2016

Fundraising Events;

Our fundraising team have continued their efforts with some lovely events such as:- Valentine Cake Stall, Mother's Day Shopping, Easter Egg Raffle. The Summer term will see a Summer Fun Sports Day

We are also encouraging everyone to help us raise funds using the 'Easy Fundraising' website – **www.easyfundraising.org.uk** Please take a look it's easy to use; we are on there as 'Little Thetford Acorns' just click on us and then the chosen retailer you wish to buy from (there's hundreds on there, including all the high street names) and we receive a percentage of your total order with no extra cost to you. With many people now choosing to buy online this is a great way for us to raise funds for equipment and the little extras we need from time to time.

40th Birthday.....

We will be celebrating our 40th birthday as a Pre-School. Watch this space for further information...

We Wish Everyone A Very Happy Easter Break

For enquiries about our services please do not hesitate to contact us – 01353 649234 or admin@littlethetfordacorns.org.uk or via our website www.littlethetfordacorns.org.uk
Please be our friend on Facebook - "Little Thetford Acorns"

JOHN TOWNSEND CHARITY

REGISTERED CHARITY: 202685

Two Charity appointed vacancies in the offices of Trustee to the John Townsend Charity are due to expire. The new four-year terms of office will begin 30th June 2016.

A further vacancy which will be filled by appointment by the Parish Council will also run from 30th June for a 4 year term.

Application Forms and information may be requested from the Charity's Clerk, Mrs J Wardle, 30 New Close Road, Little Thetford, Ely, Cambs CB6 3HQ, Telephone no. 01353 648820 or via email: jtownsendcharity@btinternet.com .

Completed Application Forms must be received by the Clerk no later than 5.00pm on Friday, 20th May 2016. Co-option will take place at a Special meeting on 23rd May. Applicants will not be required to attend the meeting.

Applications to be considered by the Parish Council will come before the Council at their June Meeting.

PS Plumbing Services

4 The Wyches, Little Thetford

07984 017 213

ps-plumbingservices@outlook.com

Bathrooms, kitchens, maintenance and emergency work.

Coach day excursions and short breaks

direct from Little Thetford.

Contact: Eagle Tours Cambridge

01763 252870 or visit

www.eagletourscambridge.co.uk

D.K.Till & Partner

Approved Coal & Solid Fuel Merchant.

Tel. 01223 232947

Email: thecrisps@tiscali.co.uk

Ladybirds Childcare
Providing Professional
Homebased Childcare

- *Full time Day Care from 3 months old
- *Holiday Care - school age
- *Pre-School Sessions – AM & PM
- *Funding accepted 2,3, & 4year olds
- *Located in the Village

Neil Cutforth
Architectural Design and Planning
Services

- Extensions, Loft and Garage Conversions
- 30 years local experience.
- Tel: 01353 649600
- Email: neil@neilcutforth.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL & PARISH NOTICES

Planning: Councillors have raised no objections to a planning application for a roof extension at “The Acacias”, Ely Road, or to a slightly revised application for a small side extension and detached garage at 19 Main Street. Cllrs. have recommended the Planning Authority refuse an application for outline consent for an entranceway and up to 8 dwellings on land south of Two Acres caravan park, Ely Road, on the grounds that the additional traffic generated will further increase the problems at the A10 corner and the inadequate drainage at the corner and overall the village infrastructure will not be able to sustain further development at that site which is outside the development envelope.

Playground: A further report on the condition of the playground received from the ECDC inspector has been noted by Cllrs. Damage to the junior swing seats has been caused by vandalism. The Clerk has been tasked to order two new seats for the junior swings as well as two replacement seats for the toddler swings and new rope for the Burma Bridge which are showing signs of wear. Neither set of swings or the bridge are in a dangerous condition. ECDC direct workforce is to be requested to effect minor repairs to the fencing, gate and the swing safety surfaces. The bearings on the carousel are thought to be worn although this is very low risk. Cllrs. have been advised that repair could cost as much as £1,800. This situation has been noted and will continue to be monitored.

Highways: The potholes in Holt Fen will again be reported to the Highways dept. as is the continued concern at the deterioration in the road markings at the A10 junction. The Parish Council insists that this is a matter of safety and should receive priority. Highways are to be asked to again deal with the overgrown hedging on the path from New Close Road to The Wyches.

Street Lights: It is understood that, commencing on a date tbc in April, the street lights will be switched off from 2am.

Pavements: Residents are again asked to be more considerate of pedestrians, particularly the very young, elderly and infirm, and to NOT park on or obstruct pavements.

A CLT for Little Thetford? A CLT (Community Land Trust) is a non-profit organisation set up and run for the benefit of the community. It could help to provide some 'affordable' housing for local people and a small degree of local control over future development. (The new development at Stretham, some of which is CLT led is an example.) There are varying opinions as to whether or not a CLT would be viable or even wanted in Lt. Thetford and indeed if there is any need for affordable housing within the village. There are many issues to be considered, but it is important to realise that CLTs are set up and run by volunteers (with some professional assistance where needed) not necessarily Councillors. The leaflet delivered with this newsletter gives some information and the Parish Council has arranged for a presentation to be given by the CLT East professional adviser at the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on **Wednesday 18 May @ 7.30 in the village hall**. Attendance at that presentation and meeting will indicate the degree of interest/commitment (or lack of it) within the village for a CLT.

A village litter pick 'spring clean' is to be held on **Saturday 23 April starting from the carpark @ 10am**. This is NOT just for Councillors; everybody concerned with the appearance of our village environment is urged to attend – suitable equipment is provided – the more the merrier and the less time it will take. We will be linked into the “Clean for the Queen” campaign being promoted by VCAEC and Ely City Council.

Charity Run: Nothing to do with the Parish but we are advised that a “Wings for Life” charity run requiring rolling road closures will be held on Sunday 8 May. Neither the A10 or Little Thetford will be directly affected but if you are travelling it might be as well to avoid the Wilburton/Haddenham area from about 1pm – 3pm that day. A map and more information will be on the noticeboard.

"Responsible 16 year old from the village, good with children, available for babysitting.
Please contact Isobel

Waste/ Recycling Collections: On the noticeboard is information from ECDC/Veolia concerning changed dates for rubbish and recycling collections for the two May and August Bank Holiday weeks, when collections will be made a day later than previously advertised – Saturday instead of Friday.

Also the collection due on April 1st will now be collected on the following day, Saturday April 2nd.

Ely Guild of Wood Turners.

If you have ever wondered what goes on in the Village Hall on the first Wednesday evening each month then come along on Saturday April 16th to the Village Hall between 10am – 4pm. The EGWT have a Hands on Day, watch some of the Wood Turners using their skills and try turning yourself if you would like to. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. There is no charge and you will be welcome to stay as long as you wish.

Summer is Coming!
Let me fill your hanging baskets and containers to your specifications.
Plants and containers can be provided (competitive rates.) I live in Little Thetford. For more information please contact me:-
Sue 01353 649974 or email suewallis52@hotmail.com

The Police, Community Safety Officer, East Cambridgeshire..... Has advised that a number of shed burglaries have been reported recently in the Ely area and offers the following advice –

- Install security lighting positioned out of arms reach.
- Deny easy access to your rear garden with lockable 1.8m gating and fences - trellis could be in addition
- Lock your shed and consider an alarm - available at Ely police station at a cost of £8:50
- Mark your property to make it less desirable to sell on and easily identifiable as being stolen property, use bright coloured paint displaying your post code
- For further security advice please visit Cambs. Police website or speak with Ely Crime Reduction Officer on 101

This newsletter... Would all the organisations that contribute to the Newsletter please send a representative to a meeting to review the current process and publication of the Newsletter. Those who very kindly distribute the copies and anyone else who is interested in the Newsletter continuing is very welcome to attend The Baptist Chapel at 7:30pm on Tuesday May 10th

Did You Know??? If you missed the exhibitions you can still have your say about the Transport Strategy for East Cambridgeshire. It should be completed by **April 8th** and can be found on line at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/TSEC (It is an opportunity to comment on the A10/The Wyches junction.) There are a few hard copies in the Kiosk.