

# Little Thetford Newsletter.

Dec. 2015 /January 2016

Items for the next Newsletter covering February & March 2016 should be with Mrs. J. Staines no later than January 15<sup>th</sup> please, [jennifer.staines@btinternet.com](mailto:jennifer.staines@btinternet.com) or 38 The Wyches.



## St George's Church.

**'They ran to the Village and found Mary and Joseph, and there was the Baby Jesus lying in a manger.' Luke Ch2 v 16.**

### December.

- Sunday 6th** 9:30 Morning Praise. Preacher John Marshall.  
**Sunday 13th** 5pm Christingle Service. Leader Stephen Dove.  
Come and make a 'Christingle and learn the story of their light.  
**Sunday 20th** 3pm Service of Carols and Readings by Candlelight. Preacher John Marshall.  
**Thursday 24th** 6pm Big Crib service for Christmas Eve led by Stephen and Hannah.  
Inviting all Children (and Parents) to come dressed as a Nativity figure, (some costumes available in Church) to join in our Crib service, followed by festive refreshments.  
**Friday 25th** 9:30 Family Communion for Christmas Day. Preacher Canon Linda Church.  
**Sunday 27th** 10:30 Carol Praise. Come and join us to sing favourite Carols.

### January.

- Sunday 3rd** 9:30 Morning Praise. Preacher John Marshall.  
**Sunday 10th** 10:30 Family Service. Leader Claire McGinley.  
**Sunday 17th** 9:30 Morning Praise. Preacher John Marshall.  
**Sunday 24th** 10:30 Holy Communion. Preacher Canon Linda Church.  
**Sunday 31st** 9:00 or 10:30 Team service at St. Mary's Ely for all the team Churches to unite. No service at St. George's but do join us at St. Mary's!

Following all our services we have a time of fellowship over coffee and biscuits, and there will be festive refreshments after the Christingle and the service of Carols and Readings.

Everyone is welcome to any of our Services or weekday events, we are very informal. The Church is always open during daylight hours, do please feel free to wander around, pray or just reflect in Peace.

**Tuesday 6-7pm.** Informal hymn singing and Band Practice, do join us if you like to sing.

**Wednesday mornings** we shall be hosting a 'Drop in Café' for coffee, cake and chat with Rachel and Stephen, everyone welcome, 9am - 11am. except week of 21st December.

Neil Cutforth  
Architectural Design and Planning Services  
Extensions, Loft and Garage Conversions  
30 years local experience.  
Tel: 01353 649600  
Email: [neil@neilcutforth.co.uk](mailto:neil@neilcutforth.co.uk)

**Wednesday 3pm** 'Messy Church' follows the school assembly. Bible crafts, Cakes, Chat and games.

Restarts Wednesday 13th January.

**Thursday 6-7.30pm** Brigade for Girls and Boys, Fun, Craft, Badge Work, Camp, WiFi studies, hand bell ringing and so much more. Further details please contact Captain Jane Dunseath 01353 649232.

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

**Tuesday 15th December.** Christmas Quiz, Decorations, Traditions and Festive Nibbles.

**Tuesday 19th January.** Talk on working at 'Pye's' by Dave Buller.

For enquiries about Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals please contact Rev Chris Hill, 01353 662308 or revchill@stmarysely.org St. George's Church is on Twitter @stgeorgesit and on 'a Church near you website.'

### **Friends of St. Georges .**

We will shortly be having some more repairs carried out to St. Georges Church. As with all old buildings, it is an ongoing task to keep it in a good state of repair.

This time, repairs will involve the re pointing of parts of the walls and repairs to the stonework of two of the windows . We hope this will keep out the rain and prevent further damage. The work will cost just under £3,000.00 and use up most of our funds.

After Christmas we will be replacing the areas of damp affected plaster at the back of the Church as well as in the porch. Afterwards we will need to redecorate with several coats of limewash.

It is so important to look after St. George's not just because it is a listed historic building but because it has been our village Church for hundreds of years and is still open every day for anyone who wishes to pop in . In addition, as you can see from the notes above, we continue hold events through the week for all age groups.

If the future of this building is important to you, you may wish to become a Friend of St. Georges .

Membership costs just £5.00 a year . There are information leaflets in the Church, or, alternatively just call Tony Shaw on 649470.

We will be holding some fund raising events in the spring as we will need to replenish our bank balance. Look out for our adverts and try and support us if you can. Thank you.

### **Poppy Appeal 2015 The Royal British Legion**

The collection this year took place between 24th October and 8th November. The response was as usual very generous, the total amount collected was £571.23. Thanks to all the collectors, Sylvia Sadler, Ruth and John Drewry, Chris Piggott, Bob Rain, Hazel and Richard Poulter and Helen Dewey. It was a wonderful effort, and well up on last year. The organisers of this year's collection were Trisha and Tony Shaw.



### **Christmas "Bert" Bingo 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015**

Little Thetford Netball are hosting another

Bingo Night to raise funds

Eyes Down at 7.30 and doors open at 7pm

If you would love to try a new activity, come and see us on the 'MUGA' on a Tuesday evening from 7pm

**Link Decorating.**

**Painting & Decorating.**

**Wall papering.**

**Ceramic wall and floor tiling.**

**Coving.**

**Contact Simon on**

**Tel. 01353 648497 or 07596454345**

**[www.linkdecorating.co.uk](http://www.linkdecorating.co.uk)**

## Little Thetford Social Club

Events to finish off 2015 @ Little Thetford Social Club in style

5<sup>th</sup> Dec – “Race Night” 7.30pm Fun for all the family

12<sup>th</sup> Dec – “Bert’s “ Bingo 7.30pm Family entertainment, prizes for the kids & adults

19<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Family Party - Free Christmas party for the families of Lt. Thetford. Games, party food and much more.

Christmas Eve – Father Christmas will be making a special appearance - Not sure on the time but the bar will be open from 6pm

Christmas Day – Only open Lunch time

New Year’s Eve – Family disco - More details to follow

Thank you to the residents of Lt. Thetford for you continued support over the last year & wishing you a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year, from the committee.

### PARISH COUNCIL.

Parishioners are reminded that the Clerk, Mrs. Sandra Thompson, may normally be contacted directly by telephone (01353 666385) on Tuesdays (0830-0930) and Fridays (1530-1700). At other times leave a message on the answerphone or Email: [ltcouncil.clerk@btinternet.com](mailto:ltcouncil.clerk@btinternet.com). Parishioners may also care to note that the agenda for Parish Council meetings is posted on the noticeboard several days prior to the meeting (usually on the second Monday of each month), that Council meetings are open and that members of the public may comment where appropriate on any item on the agenda.

It is now understood that the cutting of the path between The Wyches and New Close Road, and the hedge in Green Hill is not on the Highways Dept. schedule and that department should to be informed when action needs to be taken at these locations. The matter will be in the Council's diary in future so that the Highways Dept. are informed in good time. At their meeting in November Councillors adopted the following policy to which, in the interests of the health and safety of all residents and the environmental integrity of the village as a whole, Parishioners are urged to comply. **“No Parishioner should undertake any work to public land or property within the Parish without the authority of the owner.”** (In this context 'the owner' will normally be taken to be the Parish Council, ECDC or Cambridgeshire County Council.) (This policy is not intended to inhibit those Parishioners who habitually mow the verges in front of their houses to a very high standard and whose efforts greatly enhance the appearance of the village which is appreciated by everybody.) The PC employs a professional contractor to undertake maintenance of the cemetery, grass cutting, tree and hedge pruning and other matters relating to Parish property and the ECDC direct works department to inspect the playground and undertake repairs to minor defects it identifies. With the assistance of several District Councillors, persistent pressure from the Parish Council finally managed to obtain a replacement dog waste bin and an assurance from ECDC that the recent problems the village experienced with the emptying of the bins will not be repeated; and that spraying and resealing the cycle path from the village to Angel Drove along the A10 will soon, at long last, be put into action. Councillors will continue to monitor all these issues and to apply further pressure to the relevant authority should it again become necessary. A wreath was laid by the Council vice chair at the war memorial in the cemetery on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the Parish. Our County Councillor, Cllr. Bill Hunt, attended the November Council and made it plain to Councillors that County Council services, already under extreme financial pressure are likely to have to suffer further cutbacks in the near future and that Parishes are to be urged to accept more financial responsibility for County Council services that are going to be reduced or stopped altogether in consequence. Councillors will consider the PC budget very carefully before setting its

**A.M. PEASE**

Taxi Service, Ely.

07802 507862

**Airports – Seaports**

**All Long Distance Work  
will do wait & return.**

next precept, but it seems probable that, if the Parish wishes to maintain the same level of service and in particular additional or enhanced services from the County, the next Parish precept may have to be increased to finance them.

### **MJS Gardening Services.**

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

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



Over the past weeks, the pre-school children have been enjoying many exciting activities; carving pumpkins, vegetable printing and creating a big natural collage with leaves and sticks for our Autumn Theme; creating firework pictures and learning about staying safe on

Bonfire Night; celebrating Diwali - The Festival of Light by making tea lights and rangoli pictures; supporting Children in Need by dressing up as Superheroes and selling cakes and we have taken a walk to St George's Church and laid a wreath for remembrance. This half-term is always an enjoyable one as we share the children's excitement in the lead up to Christmas. Our little actors will be performing in our Nativity Play on Tuesday 8th December, we will be having our Christmas Trip to Wicken Fen on Tuesday 11th December and our Christmas Party with a special visit from Santa will be on Tuesday 15th December. Out of School Club children are enjoying themselves at Arts and Crafts, Gardening, Science, Games and Cooking Clubs and also will be having their own Christmas Party on Wednesday 16th December.

**Toddlers:** Our friendly Toddler Group is held at the Village Hall every Tuesday (term-time) 9.30am-11.30am. We have varied craft activities, singing, messy play, small world area and provide a healthy snack for all the children. We'd love to see some new faces, so do pop along for a coffee and a chat whilst your children play with their friends.

**Fundraising Events:** We are always busy fundraising ~ the children have been designing and making their own Christmas Cards, we have been taking Organised Mum orders, have had a Bags2School collection and we have our stall at Ely Lighting Up Night for which we thank everyone who has helped support us and donated bottles. We are also selling our LTA Christmas Grand Draw Raffle Tickets - with a chance to win an Amazon Fire HD6 Tablet and other amazing prizes.

**D.K.Till & Partner  
Approved Coal & Solid Fuel Merchant.**

**Tel. 01223 232947  
Email: [thecrisps@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:thecrisps@tiscali.co.uk)**

**Holiday Club:** We will soon be starting the planning for our **February Holiday Club 15th - 19th February 2016 between 9am - 4pm** If you would like further details on this Holiday Club, activities on offer or wish to send your child, please contact us - 01353 649234 or [admin@littlethetfordacorns.org.uk](mailto:admin@littlethetfordacorns.org.uk)

**[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://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 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.

It just leaves us to say we wish everyone a very **"MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR"** For enquiries about our services please do not hesitate to contact us - 01353 649234 or [admin@littlethetfordacorns.org.uk](mailto:admin@littlethetfordacorns.org.uk) or via our website [www.littlethetfordacorns.org.uk](http://www.littlethetfordacorns.org.uk)

## LITTLE THETFORD WI

The next meeting is on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30** in the Village Hall. For further information please contact Christine Bullen on 01353 649 268.

**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.

Little Thetford Fitness Classes  
at the Village Hall:  
Tuesday Evenings:  
Kettlebells 18:55  
Powerhoop 19:45  
[www.taniafitness.com](http://www.taniafitness.com)  
[taniamcquilkin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:taniamcquilkin@hotmail.co.uk)