

LITTLE THETFORD NEWSLETTER.

APRIL 2015/ MAY 2015



Items for the next Newsletter covering June/July 2015 should be with the editor Mrs. J. Staines by May 15th please, jennifer.staines@btinternet.com or 38 The Wyches.

St. George's Church.

'The Heaven's declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.' Psalm 19 verse 1.

Please note: The Good Friday Walk of Witness begins on the Market Square in Ely at 10:15am

Sunday April 5th 07:30am Sunrise service at Holt Fen. (15min) Leader Stephen Dove. 'For He is Risen'.
All welcome to this informal Easter morning celebration.

Sunday April 5th 09:30am Holy Communion. Preacher Canon Linda Church.

Sunday April 12th 10:30am Family Service & Baptisms. Preacher Canon Linda Church & Claire McGinley

Sunday April 19th 09:30am Morning Praise. Preacher John Marshall.

Sunday April 26th 09:30am Morning Praise. Preacher Scott Eversman.

Sunday May 3rd 09:30am Morning Praise. Preacher John Marshall.

Sunday May 10th 10:30am Pet service for all the family joining with the school. Leader Claire McGinley.

Sunday May 17th 09:30am Morning Praise. Preacher John Marshall.

Sunday May 24th 10:30am Holy Communion. Preacher Canon Linda Church.

Sunday May 31st 09:30am Morning Praise. Preacher John Marshall.

After all our services we have a time of fellowship and chat over coffee and biscuits. Everyone is welcome to all our services and weekly events, if you have never been, come along, we are very informal.

Tuesday's 6-7pm Informal Hymn singing, if you enjoy singing do come along.

Wednesday 3pm (Term Time) Messy Church for Families, craft, cake, fun, do join us. Led by Stephen Dove and Rachel Hilditch.

Thursday 6-7.30 pm (Term Time) Brigade for school age girls and boys. New members always welcome. Craft, badge work, camp, hand bell ringing and so much more. Contact Captain Jane Dunseath. 649232.

Enquiries for Baptism's, Weddings and Funerals contact Rev Chris Hill. 01353 662308. or revchill@stmarysely.org

St. George's Church is now on Twitter, follow us on St Georges (@stgeorgeslt) or 'A Church near you' website.

NEW TO ST GEORGE'S. 'THE DRAGON CLUB' Starting Tuesday 21st April. 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Why sit at home when we are calling all adults to join us monthly for afternoon tea, chat, a quiz. and lots more. We will collect anyone who would like to come but has mobility difficulty. Please contact John 01353 648819 or Alan on 01353 648131 we would be delighted to see you. Further dates for your diary. 19th May, 16th June, 21st July.

LITTLE THETFORD WI

On the 27th of April we will be having a demonstration on **How to make a fabric flower** and on the 1st of June we will be hearing about **The history and work of the Royal School of Embroidery.**

Both events will start at 7.30 in the Village Hall. For further information please contact Christine Bullen on 01353 649 268.

**Coach day excursions
and short breaks**
direct from Little Thetford.
Contact: Eagle Tours Cambridge
01353 648950 or visit
www.eagletourscambridge.co.uk

Friends of St. Georges.

We now have the 100 club tickets available. They cost £12.00 for the year and we have a draw each month with prizes of £20.00, £10.00 and £5.00 and a final one in March with Prizes of £75.00, £40.00 and £20.00. Please contact Tony Shaw (649470) to (hopefully) join the long list of winners.

We will hold our AGM on Wednesday 13th May at 7.30pm. in the Church. Please come along to see how we have progressed with our work to keep this wonderful building in a good state of repair, and our plans for the future.

Christian Aid Week 10th - 16th May.

Christian Aid was formed by British and Irish Churches in 1945 to help alleviate the sufferings of ordinary people in war torn Europe. In the 1950's work was expanded to support development work in newly independent nations in Africa and Asia as well as responding to emergencies worldwide. For instance, skilled workers were sent to help Palestinian, Chinese and Korean refugees who were displaced following conflicts in their countries. The first Christian Aid week was held in 1957. Since the beginning, Christian Aid has worked tirelessly, when necessary challenging government policies, and by 1980 worked in 40 countries funding over 100 different projects. In the 1990's their campaigns highlighted Third World debt and pressed the world's leaders to do something about it. They also highlighted the working conditions in businesses worldwide supplying U.K. supermarkets.

In the 21st Century, life for many is not getting any fairer, with almost half of the world's population living on less than \$2.00 a day. Life expectancy for women in Zimbabwe now 34 years, down from 65 twenty years ago. So Christian Aid cannot stop now, and needs to continue to support local groups throughout the world to give real practical help so that everyone can fulfil their right to have a decent life.

This year in Little Thetford we will not be having a house to house collection, but instead our fundraising takes the form of an **open afternoon at the Church on Thursday 14th May** and is organised by the members of the 1st Little Thetford Brigade under the guidance of Jane Dunseath. The theme is "9 Million Bicycles in Beijing" We will be open from 2.30pm. until 7.30pm. and will have refreshments, (Oriental style) games, quizzes, crafts and gifts. There will also be a bicycle wash and Scooter Rally, with a prize for the best decorated scooter. Please come and support us.

"Let it Go Music Marathon." An early call on this which will be held on Saturday 13th June in the Church. It's your chance to perform, play, sing, or dance. There will be refreshments available throughout the day and a bring and share meal at the end. For more details please contact Jane Dunseath (649232) or John Drewry (648819).

Maria Gass
Lady Gardener/Home Help.
Friendly Reliable Service.
Tel. 07900837575

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

VILLAGE HALL NEWS:

Just two thank yous, but very big ones. The Village Hall now has a new treasurer and Trustee. Many thanks to those people from the village who answered the call to take on this absolutely essential role. It would have been nice to have engaged everybody who volunteered but we only needed one treasurer. However, there is always room on the Board of Trustees for new members so if anyone still feels that they have something to offer the Village Hall please don't be put off by one vacancy having been filled, we can and will use your talents, so please do talk to any of the Trustees.

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

The recent evening with "The Lonely" was very successful and raised very nearly £800 for Village Hall funds. The money will probably be used to install improved electric hand-drying facilities in the ladies and disabled loos and in the kitchen. There may also be some left to go towards new and much more economical water heating for the toilet hand basins, expensive to install but far cheaper to run in the longer term. Thank you to everybody who supported the event and to those who organised it and the many others who gave contributions in lieu of attendance. For those who had a great evening with a tasty supper and such a super band, the good news is that "The Lonely" will hopefully be appearing in the village again before the end of the year.

Please make a note in your diary of the **Village Hall AGM - Thursday 25 June 8pm.**

Little Thetford Fitness Classes
at the Village Hall:
Tuesday Evenings:
Boxercise & Kettlebells 7pm
Powerhoop & Kettlebells 8pm
07983440187
Taniafitness.com
taniamcquilkin@hotmail.co.uk

MJS Gardening Services.

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

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

Little Thetford School.

As I write this we only have two weeks left of this term. However, we still have lots of exciting things to do! Years 1,2, 3 and 4 are going to the Stained Glass Museum where they will produce stained glass for our library window, which has been designed by a local artist. This should be a very enjoyable and exciting experience with a permanent reminder of what they have produced.

Our reception class are going to the Raptor Centre where they will watch a flying display and get to see the birds in action. They will also have the opportunity to dissect pellets and draw the beautiful birds. Years 5 and 6 are going a little further afield as they are going on a residential trip to France, organised by their French teacher Natalie Bending.

Also in our last week we have our popular Easter egg hunt. The children will spend their break time searching for a plastic egg with a special number in it. That number is then matched to a chocolate egg which they take home. As always we are grateful to our generous parents who provide us with the eggs for the children.

As well as the excitement of chocolate we will be reflecting on the life of Jesus at Easter. Reverend Fiona Brampton will deliver calm, thoughtful assemblies and there will be a service in church for the children and their families.

East Cambs. District Council (ECDC) have advised the Parochial Church Council (PCC) that they should invite tenders for grass cutting and upkeep of the Churchyard. This pays approx. £265.00 a year with the person appointed to provide their own equipment. It is anticipated that about 10 grass cuts a year will be needed. Any heavy work such as care of trees will be done by ECDC. Applications please to Mrs Judy Young, Secretary to the PCC. 1 Green Hill. Lt. Thetford.

Apologies – this should have been included in the last Newsletter. – A big thank you to the residents of Lt. Thetford for their kind donations to the Salvation Army door to door collection last autumn – the total from Lt. Thetford was £346.55 and this will all go towards funding the social work in the UK. You can read about their work at www.salvationarmy.org.uk

Link Decorating.

Painting & Decorating.

Wall papering.

Ceramic wall and floor tiling.

Coving.

Contact Simon on

Tel. 01353 648497 or 07596454345

www.linkdecorating.co.uk

Parish Council.

A reminder that nominations for Parish Councillors need to be submitted by **4pm April 9th**. If you are looking for a way to serve your community and would like to be a Parish Councillor information and nomination forms are on the East Cambs. Website

www.eastcambs.gov.uk

The Neighbourhood Support Officer at East Cambs. District Council is reminding the public that anti-social behaviour can be reported directly to the Police by residents either on the 101 tel. number or if it is an emergency situation on 999.

The spring Litter Pick was held on the first Saturday in March and a record number of bags of litter were picked up. Thank you to all who volunteered on the day – as usual more help could have been used so please watch for the next date to be organised and volunteer for an hour or so if at all possible. One issue was noted that needs bringing to the attention of the public. A number of bags of dog waste have been thrown into ditches and hedges – there are a number of dog bins around the Parish which have been provided for the disposal of these bags by the PC and therefore the residents of the village. Please use them. Most dog owners are conscientious about this and it is a shame that a few are spoiling our village in this way.

A regular inspection of the Play Area by trained ECDC staff is being looked into, this would be in addition to the PC inspections which are currently done on a regular basis. The work on the entrance area has now been completed.

Two Councillors toured the village with a County Council Highways official to look at and discuss what action could be taken about areas which flooded after a heavy rainfall. Following the visit a maintenance crew has attended and identified one or two problems which will be dealt with by the Highways Authority when funds allow. One area of concern was drainage into local ditches and who was responsible for the state of the ditch - this is often the neighbouring landowner so if your property is next to a drainage ditch is keeping it clear your responsibility?

East Cambs. District Council's contractors have completed the fencing in New Close Road.

The Annual Parish Meeting which is an opportunity for all local residents to update themselves on what has been happening from all the organisations within the Parish in the last 12 months, will be held on **April 29th in the Village Hall at 7:30pm.**

The John Townsend Charity has a vacancy for a Parish Council appointed Trustee – details are on the Village Noticeboard and applications should be with the Clerk, Mrs S. Thompson, 9 Cole Close, Witchford, CB6 2JX or ltcouncil.clerk@btinternet.com by April 10th please.

The next PC. Meeting is on April 13th at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

"Responsible 16 year old from the village, good with children, available for babysitting. Please contact Isobel 07508656278."

Bingo with Bert.

**Friday April 10th 7pm for
7:30pm
in the Village Hall.
Proceeds for Little Thetford**

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

**Tel. 01223 232947
Email: thecrisps@tiscali.co.uk**



The Pre-school children have enjoyed their recent topics - From "Around the World" to "Transport" to "Superheroes" to "Dinosaurs' & Jungle Animals" - Fun was had by children and staff dressing up as their favourite book character for World Book Day and taking part in Red Nose Day too...!!

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

Tuesday 3rd March was our opening session for our new baby and toddler group, which has been very well received. 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 new Facebook page for regular updates and planned themed activities

Easter Holiday Club - 30th March - 2nd April

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... 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

Fundraising Events:

Our fundraising team have continued their efforts with some lovely events for the children and their family's such as a Valentine Cake Stall, Mother's Day Shopping, Easter Egg Colouring Competition. The Summer term will see a Summer Fun Day, Father's Day Shopping and a School Disco...

We are also encouraging everyone to help us raise funds using the 'Easy Fundraising' website - www.easyfundraising.org.uk

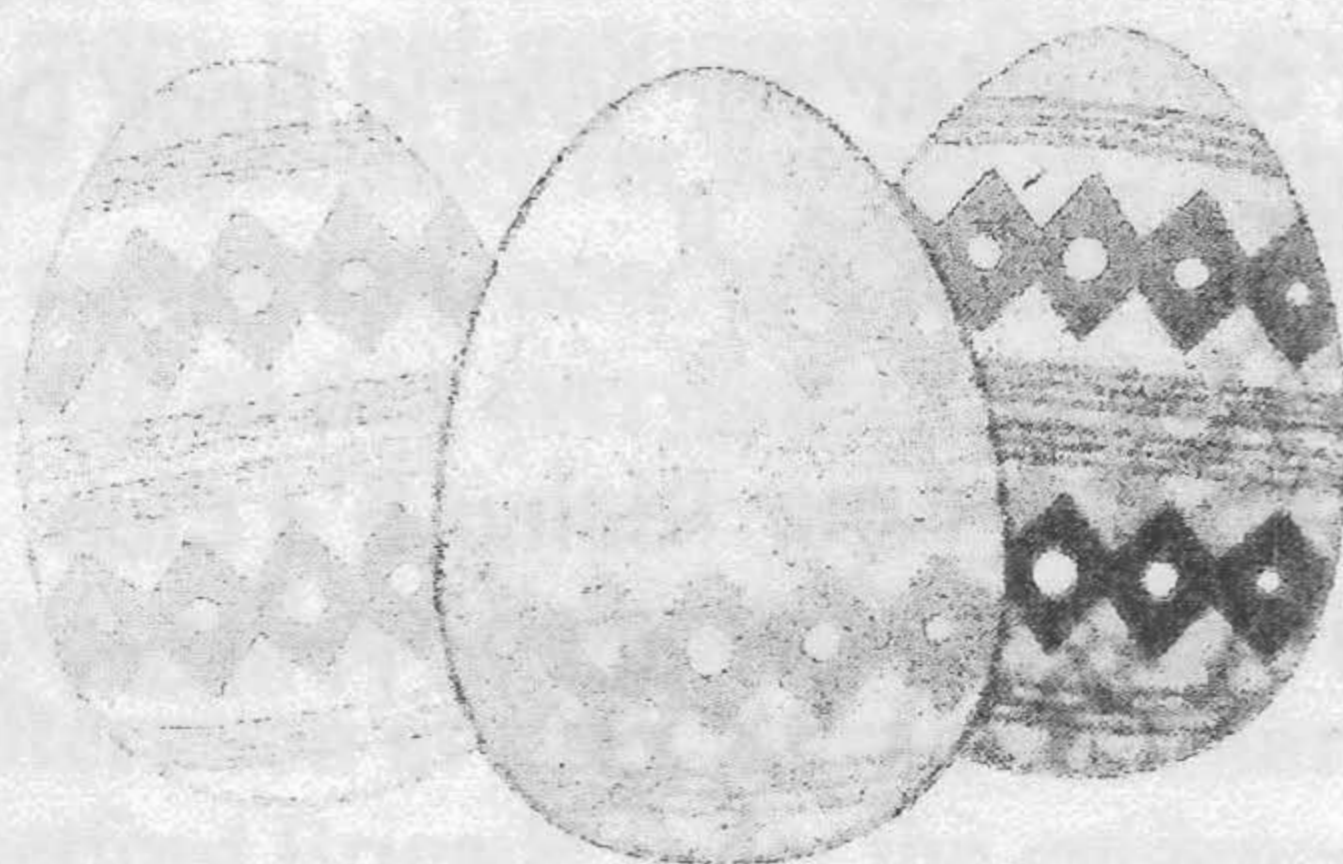
Please take a look it's easy to use; we are on there as 'Little Thetford Acorns' just click on us and then the chosen retailer you wish to buy from (there's hundreds on there, including all the high street names) and we receive a percentage of your total order with no extra cost to you.

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.

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 Drewry (648819)

Marie Goss
Lady Gardner
Tel. 07900837575

30 years local experience
Tel. 01353 649234