



LITTLE THETFORD NEWSLETTER. APRIL 2014/ MAY 2014

Items for the next Newsletter covering June /July 2014 should be with the editor Mrs. J. Staines by May 15th please, jennifer.staines@btinternet.com or 38 The Wyches.

St. George's Church.

April 6th	09:30	Morning Praise. Preacher John Marshall.
April 13th	10:30	Family Service for Palm Sunday, led by Claire McGinley.
April 18th	10am	Walk of Witness for Good Friday in Ely, starting at St. Marys Church, ending at the Cathedral.
April 20th	07:30	Sunrise United service (approx 15mins) at Holt Fen for 'He is Risen'.
April 20th	09:30	Easter Day Family Communion service.
April 27th	09:30	Morning Praise.
May 4th	09:30	Morning Praise. Preacher John Marshall.
May 11th	10:30	Family service with Claire McGinley.
May 18th.	09:30	Morning Praise. Preacher John Marshall.
May 25th	09:30	Holy Communion service.

**? A Youth Club in
Lt Thetford ?
See page 6.**

Regular events at St. George's. Tuesday 6-7pm Band practice and informal hymn singing. All welcome who love to sing.

Thursday 6-7.30pm (term time) Brigade for Girls and Boys of school age.
Contact Captain Jane Dunseath 01353 649232.

We take an after school club on Tuesdays 3-4pm and Thursdays, once a month, an 'Open the Book' assembly at school. We are looking for extra volunteers with either of these outreach projects. 'Open the Book' tells a 15minute Bible Story with actions.

For further information please contact the School or John and Ruth Drewry 01353 648819.

For Wedding and Funeral enquiries please contact Rev Margaret Talbot 01353 698410

For all other enquiries please contact Rev Chris Hill 01353 662308

May we wish all readers a Happy and Joyous Easter. 'For He is Risen, Alleluia!'

Friends of St. Georges Church.

It is **Christian Aid week from 11th - 17th May** and we will again be delivering envelopes around the village. Christian Aid supports people in need throughout the world, including here in the U.K. Last year we were able to raise over £400 to help them with their humanitarian work and it would be nice to raise the same amount this year. If you would like to become involved in the collection, please contact Trisha Shaw on 649470. Thank you for your support.

The Friends 100 Club. Tickets are available for the new year which starts in April at £12.00 for the 12 months. Prizes are £20, £10, and £5. for 11 months and the big draw of £75, £40, and £20 which is held in March. This is a major fund raiser for the Friends and over the years we have been able to carry out many repairs to St. Georges with the money raised. If you would like a ticket please contact Tony Shaw on 649470.

The Friends A.G.M. will be held in the Church on 13th May at 7.15 p.m. Please come along if you can, we have events planned for the year and you can be sure of a warm welcome.

Cream Teas at St. Georges. The first event will be Cream Teas in the Churchyard on Saturday 17th. May 2.00 p.m. until 5.00 p.m. Come along and have a chat and watch the world go by in a stress free zone !

St. Georges Flower Festival . We are holding our Flower Festival over the weekend of 20th. 21st.

September. The theme will be " Lest We Forget " a commemoration of the First World War. As well as the displays , Mike Petty has again agreed to come and give one of his wonderful talks - this time on the effects of the conflict on communities such as ours. More details nearer the date. On the Sunday evening we will have a service of evensong at 6.00 p.m. The Rev. John Sansom has kindly agreed to take this for us.

Commemorative plaque. In the Church, near the organ, is a plaque commemorating the sacrifice that young men from this village made during the first world war. There are the names of ten who lost their lives, but we believe that two more should also be there. The plaque is 90 years old and needs renovation and we believe that this year is the time to do it and at the same time add the two missing names. We hope that the Flower Festival will raise money towards the cost of this work, but it is unlikely to be sufficient to cover all the costs. We intend to ask for support from other organisations in the village, and indeed, anyone who, like us, feels that this is a worthwhile cause. Please contact Tony Shaw, if you would like to help. If all goes according to plan, we intend to have the Rev. John Sansom rededicate the plaque at the evensong service on 21st. September.



Baptist Chapel.

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in Heaven and glory in the highest." (Luke chapter 19, verse 38)

Sunday 6th April at 10.30am
Morning Service with communion

Sunday 4th May at 10.30am
Morning Service with communion

Sunday 13th April at 10.30am
Palm Sunday Service

Sunday 11th May at 10.30am
Morning Service

Sunday 20th April at 10.30am
Easter Sunday Service

Sunday 18th May at 10.30am
Morning Service

Sunday 27th April at 10.30am
Morning Service

Sunday 25th May at 10.30am
Morning Service

Coffee Mornings at The Chapel:



Wednesday 2nd April at 10am

Wednesday 7th May at 10am

(Please note, from April we will be running just one coffee morning a month until further notice.)

Coffee mornings provide an opportunity for villagers to stay in touch with friends and make new ones. All welcome to join us. Home-made cakes and hot beverages served.

Chapel contact: Tudor Parsons (Pastor) 01353 648082



The Pre-school children have enjoyed their recent topics - From "People who Help Us" - Doctors, Nurses, Builders, Farmers, Recycling Centres and Post Offices. 'All About Me' - learning about themselves and what makes us different from each other. 'Spring' - what makes this season different from the others and 'Growing & Change' - life cycles of a Butterfly, Frog and Chicks. Fun was had by children and staff dressing up as their favourite book character for World Book Day and taking part in our Pancake racing...!!

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.

Easter Holiday Club - 7th to 11th April

8am - 6pm on Monday 7th, Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th and 8am - 1pm on Tuesday 8th, Friday 11th. 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 to look out for: Book signing by author of 'Winnie the Witch' Pippa Goodhart - **Saturday 5th April.** Summer BBQ & Fete - **Saturday 5th July**

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 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"

Link Decorating.

**Painting & Decorating.
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**Contact Simon on
Tel. 01353 648497 or 07596454345
www.linkdecorating.co.uk**

MJS Gardening Services.

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

**Patios, Decking, Turfing,
Garden Maintenance.
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This spring term FOLTS have run successful film nights, cake stalls and a new event called 'Big Night Out'. This is a youth club themed evening with lots of fun activities and crafts, which we hope the children enjoyed.

The summer term will see the FOLTS family BBQ with fun games and stalls on Saturday 7 June to take place after the children's sports day. Cake stalls will give way to Ice Cream stalls so let's hope the weather is nice!

Easter Bingo with Bert.

April 11th at 7:30pm in the Village Hall – Lots of prizes, fun for all the family. In aid of Lt. Thetford Netball.

Easter Eggstravaganza

Come and join the Easter Bunny on **Saturday April 12th at 12:15** for an Easter Egg Hunt at Lt. Thetford Village Hall - £2:00 per child. In addition to the egg hunt there will be a colouring competition, fun crafts for the children, raffle, tea, coffee and cake. Funds raised are for the Village Hall improvements.

Scrabble Club.

If you enjoy playing Scrabble, regardless of age or ability, we would love you to come along to Ely Library to join us for a few games and refreshments. The Scrabble Club meets fortnightly on Thursdays from 1- 3pm. £1:50 for members (membership £5.00) £2:00 for non- members to participate.

We are a friendly small group (too small) and are keen to see some new faces. For more information please contact Gill Norman at 22 Main Street Lt. Thetford or telephone 01353 649370 /07841435303

Lt. Thetford C. of E. School.

The Spring term in school is now drawing to a close and it has been another busy and lively term. The children have all been working hard on a range of different topics. Years 5 and 6 have been investigating plant life and the environment culminating in a trip to the Botanical Gardens. This is a wonderful natural outdoor classroom which helped bring their learning to life and develop their observational skills, as well as supporting their science work.

Years 3 and 4 have been contrasting our island with the beautiful Caribbean island of St Lucia. Through DVD, internet and books the children have been able to explore life on St Lucia with its rainforests, mountains and tropical sea life. Unfortunately, first hand experience was not possible for this topic!! The infants have been busy developing their historical skills by learning about life for children in the Victorian times. They have explored school life and home life with as many opportunities to have first hand experiences as possible. They have had visitors from Denny Abbey and Ely museum and completed their topic with an exciting and enriching day at the Museum of East Anglian Life.

There have also been fun days, such as 'pyjama day' on World Book Day, raising funds for books for children in Africa. The children continue to do well in the football tournaments and gymnastic competitions and we are very proud of them for always doing their best.

Our last week of term will see a focus on Easter with daily assemblies from Rev. Fiona Brampton and a whole school service in church on the last day of term.

Coach day excursions and short breaks

direct from Little Thetford.

Contact: Eagle Tours Cambridge

01353 648950 or visit

www.eagletourscambridge.co.uk

A.M. PEASE

Taxi Service, Ely.

07802 507862

Airports – Seaports

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

Little Thetford Fitness Classes

Fitness Classes coming soon to the village hall, starting with a **FREE Taster session on Tuesday 22nd April** book on to either session at 18:30 or 19:45 which will include a taster of 3 fantastic types of fitness classes; Powerhoop a effective cardio training particular for your core & back but also targeting the legs and arms using a weighted hoop, FitSteps a fitness dance based class using Latin and ballroom moves to make the class fun & Body Conditioning an all over body toning class to stretch, strengthen, improve balance & flexibility like Pilates. Everyone is welcome, it will be a fun evening and a regular timetable will begin from May, contact Tania now to book onto 1 of the FREE taster sessions & for more information; 07983440187, taniamcquilkin@hotmail.co.uk & like TaniaMcQuilkinFitness on facebook!

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

**Cambridgeshire Acre Oil Buying
Scheme.**
A community- based, oil - buying scheme.
More Information – contact
Steve Merrell -648751 or
littlethetfordoil@gmail.com

Parish Council

From the February meeting Councillors agreed to send a letter of support to Ely & Soham Dial a Ride regarding the proposed cut in funding from the County Council.

Planning permission has been granted retrospectively by East Cambs. District Council for the change of use for a parcel of land in Ely Road. Permission for a wood burning stove and installation of a flue at 7c Main Street was sought and a proposal for the removal of a hedgerow on a public footpath near Braham Farm had been submitted for comment. The PC supported both applications.

The grass cutting contract for 2014 was awarded to MJS Gardening Services.

A donation was made to the Magpas Helimedix funds.

At their March meeting Councillors were pleased to hear that the bid submitted for the Local Highways Improvement Initiative had been successful and thanks were given to the clerk for her written submission.

This bid was to move back the kerb just past the bus stop so that when there is a queue of cars at the A10 junction those wishing to turn towards Stretham can get through to the slip road so lessening the queue. The Parish Council will be asked to pay a small percentage of the cost.

The litter pick at the beginning of March was successful in that the volunteers rounded up approximately 12 bags of rubbish and other assorted articles which were later cleared by Veolia. A sincere thank you to all who turned up to help with this annual event.

Many of you will have noticed that the benches around the Parish have been treated and some repairs made – we are most grateful to Mr Dewey for giving his time to do this.

An opportunity had arisen for the Parish Council to comment on the Draft Ely Gateway Supplementary Planning Document the response was to ensure there was great improvement to parking at the station and to consider including a safer cycleway from our area to the station.

The damage to Holt Fen caused by contractors using heavy vehicles on the wet ground has been reported to Network Rail and a response awaited regarding the making good of the damage.

Commemoration of the outbreak of World War 1 was considered and Councillors were pleased to hear that St Georges Church and The Brigade will be marking this occasion (see St Georges Church entry). It was decided to organise a short event at the War Memorial early in August – further details nearer the time. It is also hoped to plant poppies in the conservation area.

Cllr. Bullen, as the designated local footpath person, had consulted with the Rights of Way Officer at the County Council and agreed to speak again with the resident who had brought a concern to the Parish

Council about Holt Fen Drove. A letter from a resident about the signage for Watsons Lane has been passed to East Cambs. Council who are responsible body for road signage.

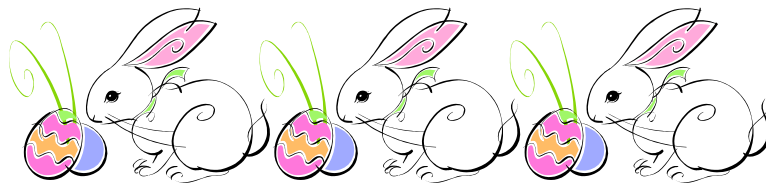
The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday April 14th in the Village Hall.

The Annual Parish Meeting.

Will be held on Wednesday April 30th at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. This is the meeting where all local organisations are invited to report on their activities, it is hoped that County and District Councillors will be present and all who live in the Parish are invited to attend.

Moving forward with Youth Work in Lt. Thetford..... you will have read in the last Newsletter that the Parish Council had been in contact with the Connexions 'Bus Project about some Youth Work in the village. Sadly their Projects Manager is still unwell and cannot commit to being present at a meeting. However the Parish Council is keen to further this project and has arranged a public meeting to meet with parents, members of the community and of course some of the young people to see if, with the support of the community, a Youth Club can be formed.

The date of the meeting is **Thursday April 24th at 7:30pm in The Village Hall.** It is important that parents are involved with this project from the start because without adult input this will not happen. So please come along have a cup of coffee and talk to us about how you think this can be developed as a community project. There will be an agenda but there will be ample time for input from all present. If you have a young person in your family between the age of 11 – 16 then do please come along.



D.K.Till & Partner
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Maria Gass
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Home brew beer and wine kits.
For Price List email
sgvegandbrew@hotmail.co.uk

Witchford Parish Council are preparing for their WW1 Commemoration events and would like to trace relatives of a John Dunham that they believe live in Lt. Thetford- please contact me if you believe that this is your family and I will pass on contact details. Jennifer Staines - contact details on front page.