

Includes: Littleport Advertisers & What's On

Welcome

It's that time of year when poets wax lyrical, and the more practical among us contemplate the many activities that autumn brings with it.

Living in the countryside, Keats' season of mists and mellow fruitfulness is a bit noisy and has tractors driving our harvested food-stuffs round and through our village. And many are the small placards outside keen gardeners' houses proclaiming fruit and veg surplus to their own requirements for sale.

Although we don't have immediate locally sourced meat - we do have onions - and there's a recipe for an autumnal warmer beef and onion pie on page 41 courtesy of Littleport's thriving WI.

As well as Littleport WI, which as its name suggests is for women, for men and women there are many places to go, and clubs and groups to join, or just attend as a welcome visitor, and you will find reports on them and their whereabouts in this autumn issue of your magazine.

There's no end to people's talent in littleport - for instance, confessed outer space enthusiast Colin of Anglia MediaTransfer is a techno wizard - vids and old film etc to DVD and CD. (01353 864779).

Littleport Life is grateful to all our advertisers without whom it would not be possible to produce and print the magazine.

And to our sturdy distributors who deliver them to your door. All of them, and of course the people who put your Littleport Life together, are also volunteers who love Littleport's community. It seems strange to me that community work is given as a 'punishment' to criminals!

And we must emphasise that thanks are due to all the advertisers who through their paying for space in Littleport Life, keep it going, quarter after quarter, and year after year!

All Littleport Life advertisers are also supporting the life of Littleport with their services to the



Littleport village sign was donated by the Littleport WI

community, making it the vibrant place it is.
One of those community minded Littleport Life
advertisers is Geoff Glover Van Sales and Glovers
Auto Centre at Chettisham on the Lynn Road
between Littleport and Ely.

Established since 1956 by Harold Glover, Geoff and Kay Glover are continuing to provide an excellent and expanding service. They have just opened a workshop extension with all the latest equipment to service cars and light commercial vehicles.

They also have a range of new and used vehicles and are members of the RMI Independent Garage Association, Trust My Garage. As Geoff says, "We are always striving for customer satisfaction first and foremost. We are committed to providing a genuine service backed by a 12month warranty which is second to none."

We also thank RPM Garage Services with their 24 hour rescue and recovery (they sell quads as well) for their support. Find them over the Wishech Road roundabout and off Wishech Road on Faraday Road, Thanks too to Littleport Life supporters, LG MOTs and Car Sales, who have a collection and drop-off service and loan cars if you're having a combined service and

mot. They are in the Saxon Business Park off the A10 bypass. You'll find them on our pages every quarter.

Every quarter's edition, we who put your community magazine together, unpaid, and happy to be volunteers I might add, highlight at least a couple of Littleport Life advertisers - like the pet groomers on pages 14 and 15, YPL on page 18 and Clair'Marie on page 47 this time.

On behalf of everyone involved in this effort. I hope that you enjoy this latest edition of Littleport Life!

Fditor

Lyn Gibb-de Swarte

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The Royal British Legion is recognised as the national custodian of Remembrance.

Remembrance Sunday, the second Sunday in November, is the day traditionally put aside to remember all those who have given their lives for the peace and freedom we enjoy today.



Littleport Royal **British Legion**

I need to start his article on a sad note. On Friday 7 July 2017 Rex Strawson passed away. Rex was, for many years, the Branch Chairman of Littleport Royal British Legion.

At a time when recruiting new members, in particular committee members, was difficult Rex played a vital part in keeping the Legion alive in this community.

On behalf of the current committee members I would like to pay tribute to his work and offer our commiserations to his family in their loss. We Will Remember Him.

On a happier note by the time this edition of Littleport Life lands on your doormat the Royal British Legion poppy Appeal for 2016 will be nearing its finish.

In the last edition I mentioned the hope that the 2016 appeal would top £9000 for the first time ever in Littleport.

Now I'm delighted to report the £9000 target has been passed and we may even manage to reach £10,000. The Funday at the Leisure Centre, the Armed Forces Day bucket collection and the sale of our Summer Draw tickets have all been well supported.

So once again many thanks to all those people who support our efforts to raise money; to help those service and exservice personnel who find themselves in need of our help.

Garth McGowen

WHAT IS THE POPPY APPEAL?

The Poppy Appeal is the Royal British Legion's biggest fundraising campaign held every year in November, the period of Remembrance.

Each year, an army of volunteers distribute our iconic paper poppies throughout the nation, collecting donations in return to help support the vital work we do for the Armed Forces community.

Members of the public wear the paper poppy on their chest as a symbol of Remembrance: to remember the fallen Service men and women killed in conflict.

A number of Remembrance events, such as Remembrance Sunday, are held during the Poppy Appeal to commemorate the fallen.

Our main fundraising events during the Poppy Appeal are all about bringing communities together to fundraise and enjoy themselves in the process.

Numerous cities across the country dedicate a day to distributing poppies and getting the public involved through activities and entertainment, from military bands to NFL cheerleaders.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

The first Poppy Appeal was held in 1921, the founding year of The Royal British Legion. Red silk poppies, inspired by the famous First World War poem In Flanders Fields, sold out instantly and raised more than £106,000. The funds helped WW1 veterans find employment and housing after the war.

The following year, the Poppy Factory was set up, employing disabled ex-Servicemen to create the poppies to sell during the appeal. Today, the factory still produces millions of poppies each year.

Remembering Bill Sharp's Uncles - 100 years after Passchendaele



Bill Sharp at Cecil Harley's grave

Bill Sharp's full name is William Cecil Sharp.

Well, what of it you may ask.

Bill's mother's maiden name was Susan Harley - and both her brothers, William and Cecil Harley, were killed in 1917, fighting for their country in the first world war.

They were only 19 and 17 years of age.

Bill and his wife Joan and their family, went to visit the Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery where Cecil is buried, on the 100 years anniversary of Passchendaele.

They stayed in a converted farmhouse called Victory Farm that back in 1917 was used to store arms and ammunition.

Outside there is a road called Victory Walk that circumvents a large field where the bomb craters are left as a reminder of the barrage endured.



Bill and Joan Sharp with family; children Beverley & husband John, son Graham, son Simon & wife Sharon, grandchildren, Adrian Harley, Liam, granddaughter Eleanor & Luke her partner, & Natalie.

Using that as their base, the Littleport party toured the cemeteries and museums before visiting the one that has special meaning for them.

Although William was listed as missing presumed killed in action and unfortunately, many thousands of bodies were never found, he could be among those who were formally buried there, and on whose grave-stones is inscribed, 'Known only unto God.'

There are 10,754 men buried in that one cemetery alone - and one woman. She was 26-year-old Army Staff Nurse Nellie Spindler of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, who was killed that August when the Germans shelled the hospital...



The commemorative certificate received by the Sharps

Joan Sharp was shocked to find out that only officers were buried in coffins, and other, lower ranks were wrapped in blankets, remarking that the class system was operating even in death.

But as was commented by the writer, those soldiers are in the best company, as Jesus was also buried wrapped in a cloth.



Bill and Joan at the Canadian memorial statue, the **Brooding Soldier**

Something is known of Gunner Cecil's life in the army, as he wrote home as regularly as he could, and every letter ended with, 'Hopefully, this war will soon be over.'

His letters are now in the Museum out there.

He was wounded at the battle of Nieuwpoort on July 7, and it took 3 long days to get him the 45 kilometres to the hospital. Tragically, Bill's Uncle Cecil died on the day he arrived, July 10.



The Poppy made from a Passchendaele fuse case and soil from the battlefield

To commemorate the centenary of the Battle of Passchendaele, The Royal British Legion has created a limited edition lapel pin made from the brass shell fuses used in the battle. They have even mixed a little of the soil from the battlefield into the enamel. Joan and Bill Sharp are now the proud owners and have a certificate with Cecil's name on, to go with it.

Lyn Gibb-de Swarte



Littleport has always been spoilt for choice when it comes to sports like cricket and football - be it Saturday or Sunday of total cricketing commitment, or a Saturday afternoon of blood and thunder gutsy footie.

The village has always prided itself of having a top cricket club competing against the best season after season. Now into their 129th year, no one, not even their President or past successful fast bowler Norman South, would have predicted that as early as July this year, the club would have to temporarily withdraw from the CCA Junior 1 North league in July after struggling to field a regular team which gave them no alternative but to quit.

Doug Marsh is one of the club's longest

serving cricketers having played for the Littleport cricket club for almost 25 years, and recounts the time the club won both their Saturday and Sunday leagues in 2012, and then claim the Lower Junior Cup and finish unbeaten to win the Division 4N league in 2013.



James South in the nets

There are so many unsung heroes who have given their all for the club including Robin Freestone, club chairman and captain Chris Farnell (since retired and now playing golf) whose son Nik, whose name can be found on the ECB's Play-Cricket Cambridgeshire's Bowling Honours Board 2016 for June 13 - 19, placed 9th for taking 4 wickets for only 11 runs! August 1-August 7, placed in 10th spot for taking 5 wickets off 50 runs, the talented James 'Jinna' South, who became an ECB Cambs bowling record breaker by finishing in 16th spot by taking 4 wickets for just 14 runs, while Scott Connop is also named on the ECB's Cambs Batting Honours Board for the 2016 season where he claimed 8th place by hitting a total of 162 runs.



Doug said: "We tended to lose quite a few players last season, but somehow we managed still to continue regardless - finishing the season strongly which in fact gave us hope for the new 2017 season. As time went on we were having increasing problems fielding a team of 11 players. Of course, you can't expect people to turn up because of constant work and home commitments, but those who wanted to play regularly have now moved on, and are now turning out for other teams.

"It was becoming increasingly obvious that we just couldn't carry on, but I know we will still have a Littleport Cricket Club when the time is right," concluded Doug, whose son Nik said it 'broke his heart' having had to resign as the club captain, and which left him no alternative but to ioin Sutton cricket club for the rest of the season

The versatile Nik, is also a pretty good footballer too, a sturdy but no-nonsense defender who has been named this season's club captain, and the pairing with defender Jason Walker (who has returned from Australia to team up his brother Harry), could well be a mean double combination at the back. Fellow cricketer Liam Heaps who only heard the demise of his beloved cricket team when returning from a well-earned holiday abroad is Littleport Town FC's vicecaptain.

And so the Football Season Begins!

During the pre-season there has been quite a shake-up of personnel, including the departure of Manager Kevin Scarff, as well as the shock departure of last year's Assistant Manager and player Jamie Gayfer, who had been with Littleport Town FC for 16 years.

"I did spend 3 seasons playing for Ely before my return to Littleport Town, but it was a very hard decision for me to make. I know we had an up and down season, and I was playing with a great bunch of lads who I wish well for the new season. But for me personally I felt that I needed a new challenge, even though it means playing less football for Ely City Reserves, so I can spend more time with my two very young daughters," said Jamie, who has complete faith in Littleport Town's newly appointed Player/ Manager Will Rolls, formerly a reserve player who became a first team player after the Reserve team folded in 2015.



"This season we have signed a few players including Matthew Wheeler from Chatteris, who like me also plays for a deaf team," Will who plays for the Peterborough deaf team told Littleport Life, who said he was born profoundly deaf, but a coccygeal implant when he was 11 helped him to speak, hear, lip read and communicate better.

"I don't know of anyone as young as me at 23 running a football team, but I also have the backing of Jason Walker who is assisting me with the training, and I am really looking forward to the challenge," said Will, who commented that the club could do with some financial assistance to help them to purchase training goals and footballs, and Littleport Life Magazine are pleased to be sponsoring their training tops and jumpers for a consecutive season.

Great news for the club is the return of their Reserve team which is made

up of at least 8 of last season's Under 16's playing together, and amongst the signings are Doug's other son goalkeeper, George, defenders George Thurlow, Henry Harrison, defender/midfielder Calvin Lock, central midfielder Mateusz Pawlik, two attacking midfielders Josh Fraser and Ellis Yearn plus attacker Daniel Nicholson to name but a few.

And it certainly made their Manager Lee Yearn's day when he took it upon himself to come on and play for 30 minutes with his two sons Ellis and Bailey which he confessed "was the best day of my life," despite ending on the losing side in their friendly match against visitors Isleham on Saturday July 29th. The magazine are also sponsoring the Reserves.

The Reserves' first game in the Mead Plant & Grab 5B Division of the Cambridgeshire County League is away to March School School Academy on Saturday 9th of September which kicks off at 3 pm. While the first team playing in Mead Plant & Grab 1B Division begins



Left to right: Jamie Gayfer and Will Rolls

their season a week earlier on Saturday 2nd September with a home fixture against Alconbury First at 3 pm. Then for the next two consecutive Saturdays they will have home advantage over Buckden First and cup opponents Chatteris Town Reserves respectively.

Why not come and support your local Littleport Town FC teams, and see how they both progress this season. You

can find all their details either on their Facebook page, or follow either the 1st team or reserves on the Cambridgeshire County League website Cambridgeshire FA.com long on to Cambridgeshire County League (Kershaw and Mead Plant and Grab) where you can find all the information you need from fixtures to stats and results.

Littleport Town First's Fixtures 2017/2018

KO 2 pm or 3 pm (where specified) at Littleport Leisure Centre

02/09/17	Littleport Town First v Alconbury First	(3 pm)
09/09/17	Littleport Town First v Buckden First	(3 pm)
16/09/17	Littleport Town First v Chatteris Town	(3 pm)
23/09/17	Hemingfords United Reserves v Littleport Town First	(3 pm)
30/09/17	Eaton Socon Reserves v Littleport Town First	(3 pm)
07/10/17	Littleport Town First v Ives Rangers First	(3 pm)
21/10/17	Littleport Town First v Fordham First	(3 pm)
28/10/17	Buckden First v Littleport Town First	(3 pm)
04/11/17	Little Downham Swifts v Littleport Town First	(2 pm)
11/11/17	Fenstanton First v Littleport Town First	(2 pm)
18/11/17	Littleport Town First v Houghton & Wyton Saturday First	(2 pm)
25/11/17	Littleport Town First v Chatteris Town Reserves	(2 pm)
02/12/17	Fordham First v Littleport Town First	(2 pm)
09/12/17	Littleport Town First v AFC Barley Bow First	(2 pm)
16/12/17	Littleport Town First v Hemingsfords United Reserves	(2 pm)
06/01/18	Chatteris Town Reserves v Littleport Town First	(2 pm)
13/01/18	Littleport Town First v Mildenhall Town FC Reservwes	(2 pm)
20/01/18	Houghton & Wyton Saturday First v Littleport Town First	(2 pm)
03/02/18	Littleport Town First v Little Downham Swifts First	(2 pm)
10/02/18	Mildenhall Town FC Reserves v Littleport Town First	(2 pm)
17/02/18	AFC Barley Mow First v Littleport Town First	(3 pm)
24/02/18	Littleport Town First v Fenstanton First	(2 pm)
03/03/18	Ives Rangers First v Littleport Town First	(3 pm)
10/03/18	Littleport Town First v Eaton Socon Reserves	(3 pm)

Littleport Town FC has a full complement of sides. Under 16's, Under 10's etc. See the Facebook page for contact and details.

Pet Grooners A-Plenty

Cathy Gibb-de Swarte takes a look at some pet grooming services that advertise in Littleport Life!

Cathy Gibb-de Swarte takes a look at some pet grooming services that advertise in Littleport Life!

"My dog isn't the easiest of dogs to groom and cut. In fact, she must be one of the worst to do as she is very nervous and frightened, but Beth has done a brilliant job today for Tilly's very first haircut. She is so patient with Tilly and has made her look beautiful," said one satisfied customer of Beth Broker at the Nails to Tails grooming parlour, one of the pet grooming salons that advertise in Littleport Life.

21 year old groomer Beth has had many such compliments since opening last October in the Jurassic Bark pet shop's premises on the Saxon Business Park.



Beth Broker

Co-incidentally, Beth was offered a shop assistant's job at Jurassic Bark some time ago, but turned it down, only to become a groomer - and now works there!

On one busy day, I caught up with Beth, who armed with a trusty pair of scissors was beautifying yet another pampered doggie which seemed to be blissfully lapping it all up.

"We do 'puppy grooms' which means first just getting them into the bath, and then drying them off. After all, they are going to be groomed for the rest of their lives, so they have to get used to it," said Beth, who after leaving college started working at kennels.



Victoria Harwin

She progressed to becoming a groomer in Sutton before branching out herself where she ran her own a mobile grooming business last January before finding in-house premises in Jurassic Bark.

"I still do mobile grooming on Mondays and Thursdays which enables me to visit older clients who cannot get out with their dogs, or for nervous dogs who would feel more comfortable being groomed in their own homes."

And she also told me, "Even though I don't advertise the fact, when asked I have occasionally groomed older long haired cats as well as do their nails."

Beth's ambition is to eventually employ another groomer so she can expand her business, but for the time being she is quite content with the good feedback she gets from her clients.

Another great groomer who regularly advertises in the magazine is none other than 'The Dog Bathing Company/Cats by Elaine Groomed to Purrrrfection'

Here you will find Victoria Harwin, originally a dog walker for 7 years, before being trained by the doyen of her trade, Elaine Power, who has 47 years' experience to her name.

Elaine's 'retirement' has seen her students popping up everywhere happily running their own grooming businesses just like Nastasha Chambers of Northfen Grooming fame.



Elaine Power with her own dog Tanzv

There is so much to learn, not only about all the different breeds, their welfare, diseases

and disorders, but what you can or can't do when grooming a dog.

"We take on the difficult dogs that no other groomers want to take on," joked Elaine, who is also an expert in cat grooming and dismisses the myth that all moggies loathe

"The majority of the cats that come here do like water, but I also use a calming spray, or a small muzzle or a happy hoodie," said Elaine who opened up her conservatory at home in Queen Adelaide as a grooming salon, where both Vicky and Elaine now work.

"We are usually booked 3 weeks in advance but we like to work on a more relaxed one to one basis rather than on a busy conveyer belt basis," Vicky told Littleport Life, whose customers come from as far afield as Newmarket and Chatteris.

"All the groomers in the area get on very well, and we tend to have meetings every Christmas time which enables the local groomers to get together, so we can see each for a sociable catch up, and share information and experiences.

"Let's face it we are all in the same industry, and it is important to get on with one another," concluded Vicky.

And the ever popular, growing industry of grooming parlours for pets, according to Vicky, is "down to the sudden influx of new breeds like doodle dogs which need a lot of grooming."

And for local qualified expert groomers like Elaine Power, Beth Broker, Victoria Harwin, Helen Dino of Riverview Mobile Grooming, Fran Parkes, Natasha Chambers and Cheryl's Clip & Cut, the dog and cat owners who want their pets groomed expertly in and near Littleport, really are spoilt for choice.

363MCC Bikers Support the Community!

After the very successful Crowning Around annual fundraising event, held every year in May at the Crown Inn in Littleport, money was distributed to deserving causes.

First to receive a cheque for £2,000 was the East Anglian Air Ambulance service; then ThePort, the extremely popular youth initiative received £500, and £500 was given to Littleport Youth Bikes.







East Anglian representative is delighted to be given a cheque in support of their work by 363MCC.



Members of the thriving youth club, ThePort are presented with a helpful cheque.

YPL's Bike Shop Keeps Andy Busy!

Andy Ross has been living in Littleport for about 3 years now. Like many incomers he has added to the well-being of people living in the village with the skills he brought with him.

From 9-5, Tuesday to Saturdays, you can find him at the YPL bicycle shop down Henry Crabbe Road, advising members of the public about all things to do with bicycle maintenance and doing repairs and restoration on second hand bikes.

These renovations are of a high quality, and when they are ready for sale, as Andy puts it, "You could say they are fully MOT'd and sparkling clean."

The bike shop itself is open on Mondays too, 9-5, and although it's Andy's day off, Steve Malkin staff's the shop, where very

decent bikes are on sale from around £70 to £80 upward.

And of course, as proprietor Phil Malkin comments, "it's the only shop in Littleport where people can get their own bikes fixed - as well as being able to buy one that's new to them!"





YPL Cycle Shop

Sales - Repairs - Service



Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm

YPL Indoor Arena Henry Crabb Road Littleport Cambs CB6 1SE



T: 01353-864-611 yplittleport@btinternet.com Facebook/YPL Bike shop

Registered Charity No. 1127679

Littleport Players will take you to Neverland this Winter!

From Thursday December 7 at 7.30pm when the curtain rises on the first night of the Littleport Players Pre-Christmas panto, followed by the Saturday matinee at 2pm, and the evening's performance at 7.30pm, through to the finale of Sunday's matinee that begins at 2pm, the Littleport Players will be delighting their audiences with the modern Hollywood version of JM Barrie's Peter Pan.

Tickets will be available online, from the Bargain Centre in Main Street, and from Make-up artist, Hairdresser and Director, Karen Booth's hairdressing salon, Bizzie Lizzie, on Ponts Hill.



'I Will Find You' - a book by local author, John Taylor (A jolly good read!)

'I Will Find You', is a tale of mystery and intrigue which starts in wartime Fenland near Ely and then moves halfway across the globe to Australia.

John Taylor's story is colourful, poignant and moving as it charts the journey of young Robbie Spalding and his path from a Dr Barnardo's Home in Cambridge to a new life on the other side of the world. Robbie becomes Nick Thorne and this account of his arrival into adulthood is more than a little tragic and filled with unexpected twists and turns.

Touching, funny, sad and filled with drama, 'I Will Find You' is an authentic and pacey read, gripping and compelling, and will certainly keep the readers' attention until the last page is turned.

Expect to shed a tear for the casualties of war.

The author, John Taylor says, "I was born in Ely and brought up in Littleport although I now live in Cambridge after much globe-trotting. The book, my second, is predicted to be a best seller by the publishers. It features the fens, Mepal, Ely and Cambridge, with a large slice of Australia and some of New Zealand. The most common remark from those who have read it is 'I couldn't put it down.'

It is available internationally but at the moment it is only available in Littleport through the Littleport Society, and in Ely through Burrows Book Shop. Of course, it is available on Amazon too, but I like to see local business benefit first!

Littleport's Adams Community Market Celebrates Second Successful Year

Saturday September 2 2017 marks the two-year anniversary of the opening of the Littleport Community Market at the Adams Heritage Centre in Main Street.

The market was one of the initiatives of Littleport Town Team's first year Action Plan and its partnership with the Adams Heritage Centre introduced a much needed facility for Littleport's town centre and supports the existing shops and businesses.



David and Susan Porter Trustees of the Adams Heritage Centre

The market, run by volunteers, which is held on the first Saturday of each month, hosts a variety of local traders selling high quality products such as bread, cakes, cheese, pies, coffee, eggs, fruit, vegetables, meat and even probiotic cabbage!. This monthly event has done much to revitalise the town centre and increase footfall as well as raise awareness of Adams Heritage Centre.

The Heritage Centre creates the perfect backdrop for our traders and there is a

real buzz each month as people come together to shop and have a catch up. We are very grateful to our loyal traders as well as customers so if you haven't had a chance to pop along yet, we urge you to do so on any 1st Saturday of every month.

A birthday has been provided for the 2nd of September, and a raffle to win a hamper of goodies that was kindly donated by our wonderful traders.

This years' birthday cake was kindly donated by one of our new traders - Just 4U Cakes. Owner Clair'Marie Mackness, who is based in Pymoor, has used her creative skills to portray the Adams Heritage Centre on one of her fabulous cakes. September is her first time at the market with her array of handmade cupcakes, cookies and healthy fruit bars.

www.facebook.com/ littleportadamscommunitymarket



Happy shoppers and stall holders at the Adams Community Market



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

Here at St George's we've had a very busy 2017 so far already. The Food

Bank is making a huge difference to peoples' lives through not only food parcels, but advice on housing, benefits and for two families, schooling too. The bible study groups, consistently well supported, have spent this year looking at John's and Mark's gospels as well as Paul's letter to the church in Rome. It is very encouraging to hear parents (and grandparents) say how much they and the children enjoy the two weekly parent & child groups and it's heartening to see faces known and new at the various services. And finally, several people have completed the Discipleship course which has been an excellent opportunity to talk about being a Christian. And there's more in the pipeline.

There are many facets to the life of St George's which the bible calls the generosity of God and which Jesus came to make visible. I've been reflecting on that as we draw into autumn and harvest. The harvest is where we speak of all we have been given and for the Christian that comes from God's ordering of His Creation – as a famous dinosaur film puts it, "Life finds a way".

In our modern 24/7 world, many feel we have lost touch with the cycle of the seasons and whilst that may well be true, my guess is that our forebears would see that as a small price to pay for no

longer having to worry over whether the food stocks would last the winter. But that serves merely to emphasise how important it is to celebrate the harvest; celebrating harvest is the corrective to remind us of our dependency on nature and for the Christian, our dependency on God's provision. God is not somewhere above the clouds or confined to a theology of sterile control. Rather, God is in the world and we are partners with Him – a practical outworking of what it means for us to be made in God's image.

So this harvest time, we at St George's will be celebrating the harvest using a trebuchet; correct, that is a military engine for throwing stuff only we'll be throwing fruit. Let me explain; the fruit of the harvest calls us to reflect on the "fruit" of our own life. In his letter to the Galatian Church, Paul calls this the fruit of the spirit. God works through his whole Creation which includes you and me and He throws out fruit. The big question is do we want to receive it? So when we use our trebuchet to chuck fruit, the question is can we, do we wish to catch it? (we'll use bed sheets, it'll be great fun).

There are so many opportunities for the life of church and community to mutually inform, uphold and yes, sometimes challenge one another and so develop and grow. I hope that this harvest time when we can reflect that we are given so much, that we will reflect also on the fruit of our own living.

With every blessing,

Reverend Howard Robson

THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD

New Covenant House, YPL Building, 11 Victoria Street, CB6 RLU

New Covenant House is a parish of the Redeemed Christian Church of God, City of David, Cambridge. It's a place where Jesus Christ can be known, loved and served in a new power of His spirit.

Sunday Service at 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Wednesday Interactive Bible Study and Prayer Meeting at 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Special Service 1st Sunday of every month: Thanksgiving Service at 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Our mission and vision statement is in line with The Redeemed Christian Church of God, RCCG as follows:

- 1. To make heaven
- 2. To take as many people with us.
- 3. To have member of RCCG in every family of all nations.
- 4. To accomplish #1 above, holiness will be our lifestyle.
- 5. To accomplish #2 & #3 above, we will plant churches within five minutes walking distance in every city and town of developing countries and within five minutes driving distance in every city and town of developed countries. We will pursue these objectives until every nation in the world is reached for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Our desire is to faithfully love and serve Him. Aware of His unfailing love towards us and His matchless power to change our lives, we are discovering the liberty of sins forgiven and the joy of our inner voice at peace with God and man.

Through His death Christ offers everyone who believe a new emergence and a new relationship with God.

We believe in bringing the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to everyone starting in

our immediate community so that lives will experience positive transformation.

His New Covenant gives everyone who believes the chance to have a new inner man, a new heart of service to God and humanity and a new spirit to enjoy the advantages and responsibilities between God and humanity.

New Covenant House is a family of loving people from different nationality growing in faith and love charged with the zeal to impacting the globe positively.

New Covenant House is a place where a person with no church background can come and feel comfortable and enjoy the service because the atmosphere will be friendly. The sermons are always practical, biblical and relevant. The music is contemporary and upbeat with a praise team and full band.

A church that is fun for the entire family, a church where kids want to go because they have a great time experiencing God's love. A church that builds families.

New Covenant House is church that helps every member find their ministry and lets them use their gifts and abilities to meet other's needs. We believe the church is at her best when the doors are open to all of who have an interest in learning about the Christian faith. Wherever you are on your journey, regardless of where you fall on the deep questions of faith, our community is open to you.

For more information please log on to: www.rccgnch.org.uk



The Vine Fellowship

Time



I am sure that as you read this little article you will be able to connect with some of the thoughts and above all that you will take time to think!

Last month Carol Driver wrote about the Vine Community Church being 30 years old and to many that might seem like a long time, but in comparison with other things, it is a fairly short.

Since we were born, even when we were unaware, our lives were controlled by time.

On many a summer evening as a young lad I would be most upset, when playing outside, to hear mum shout: "John its bedtime!" I would often ignore and pretend I did not hear her and carry on playing with my friends and knew that ignoring that shout for a little time would be okay. Conversely if I heard my dad shouting: "John its bedtime, come in now or else!!" I would come quickly fearing the consequences of ignoring that call.

As we grow up time becomes more and more controlling in our lives and how often do we use the expressions, "I don't have time!" "There are never enough hours in the day!" "If only I had time!" and so on, as we journey through life.

The Bible has a lot to say about time. Hosea who was a prophet in the Old Testament part of the Bible told the people of Israel in his writing, "It is time to seek the Lord!" Not seek religion, not seek church, but to seek God. The people of Israel had turned their back on God despite what God had done for them; bringing them out of Egypt from slavery, providing for them during forty years in the desert and so on.

We then move forward in time by about 500 years and Paul is speaking to the people in the city of Corinth, where he says to them, "Behold now is the accepted time, behold now is the day of salvation." - people very similar to ourselves living busy lives in a prosperous area in Greece. Paul was reminding them what Jesus had done for them in making a way to get right with God and telling them that they had to take time to sort themselves out with God.

As our fascination with time continues in all sorts of ways: time capsules with Doctor Who, various sporting activities counting in tenths or even finer divisions of seconds, let us take time in our busy schedules to seek God.

If you want to find out more on how to find God, take time to come along any Sunday morning to the Vine Church in Globe Lane at 10.30 am.

John Cherrie

Vine Community Church Meetings

Toddler and Baby Group with Parent and Carers Monday 10 to 11.30 Play, Crafts, Story and Social Time. Contact Julie 07790 304099 Children's Holiday Club in August - ring for dates.

House groups Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and Wednesday at 10 am

Coffee Break Thursday 10.30 to 12.30 with homemade cakes.

Morning Worship Sunday 10.30 am with Creche and King's club.

Bible discussion most Sundays 5 pm

All welcome, for further information on any of the above please leave a message on 861478 and we will return your call. The Vine Community Church. Globe Lane, Littleport, CB61PW

Littleport Independent **Food Bank**

Littleport Independent Food Bank is open between Tuesday's and Friday's between 10am - 12 noon at St. George's Church Littleport.

Vouchers can be obtained from the Littleport Primary Schools, St. George's Medical Centre, Vine Fellowship, YANA and St. George's Church.

If you have any queries please come and see us at the Church or contact Susan Green or Elaine Law on Facebook, alternatively ring 07933190856

A Message from St John's Methodist Church

When I arrived in the Ely and **Newmarket Methodist Circuit four** years ago, I knew little about the origins of St John's Church on the High Street. Thanks to the loan of a booklet produced for the Centenary Anniversary in 1990, I was able to find out some interesting details about the history of the building and the Methodist Society in Littleport. I hope you find the following extracts from the aforementioned booklet of interest about one of the familiar and prominent buildings at the centre of your village. I have made some minor edits to Reverend John Flintham's text for the purposes of this article.

John Wesley the founder of the Methodist Movement came to the Fens in 1774, preaching in Ely, Sutton and Earith. Even though Wesley did not visit Littleport on his travels his preaching must have kindled a fire of enthusiasm in the Fens around Ely.

We discover from documents that the Methodist cause in the village was first established in a cottage in Crown Lane until a small Chapel was built in 1806 in the area then known as Nill End – now called High Street. Many and often humorous are the tales told of those early days of Methodism in the Fens. From 1808 to 1812, the Littleport Circuit reached to Cambridge, Chatteris, March and Manea, with many small places in between. The two ministers appointed to this vast area both lived in Ely. Having

preached at Littleport on a Sunday the minister would then be required to travel to Dairy Houses, stopping the night at the farm of a Methodist where he had to share the farmer's bed, whilst the farmer's wife was sent to stay with a neighbour. It is said that in the mid 1850's when Haddenham boasted a minister of its own, this gentleman would preach at Littleport and then visit the surrounding chapels and it would be a week before he was able to return home.

In the Littleport Chapel there was no heating and it was lit only by candles. Those were hard days also for the tough and fiery preachers – one of whom was known to have walked 23 miles to fulfil his preaching appointment at Littleport. The Preaching Plans of those days would bear such strange sounding instructions as 'Horse Hire Fund' and 'Worn Out Preachers Fund'.

Such was the enthusiasm and growth of the Littleport Society that their Chapel had to be enlarged in 1835, and by 1889 they had laid the stones of a new Chapel on the adjoining site. This building was completed in 1890 at a total cost of £1,600... It was noted that the carpeting of the rostrum and communion area, together with linoleum in the aisles was an exceptional feature, reflecting credit on the Trustees and all concerned. Heating by means of hot water pipes was a great innovation – the pipes being fed by apparatus in the cellar under the Vestry... It was not until 1909 that a pipe

organ was installed which had to be pumped by hand.

How times have changed in the last 127 years. Sadly, we do not have the same large congregations of days gone by except of course for baptisms, weddings and funerals. On these important occasions we are always pleased to offer a welcome and hospitality to Littleport friends and neighbours who see the Methodist Chapel as their spiritual home.

What makes us distinct as a Methodist People today?

The Methodist People have always been active on matters of Social Justice in our own country and the wider world. We are also known for our enthusiastic hymn singing, expressing in song the Christian faith in which we believe. Methodists have also gained a reputation for making

delicious cakes and putting on a good spread for special occasions. However, what is central to our brand of Christian discipleship is a personal relationship with God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ by the help of the Holy Spirit present with us today. Our calling is to follow Jesus Christ, to be like him in thought, word and deed and to share the great love of God that Christ has revealed for all the world and which is recorded in Holy Scriptures. I will finish with Wesley's 'Four All's' which Methodists still hold to today: All need to be saved, All can be saved, All people can know they are saved, All people can be saved to the uttermost. This is still the best news ever and if you want to know more we would love to see you at St John's.

Many Blessings Reverend Joanne Sherwood

St John's Methodist Church



High Street, Littleport

Sunday Services

Morning: 10.45am – weekly

6.30pm – 2nd & 3rd Sundays of each month Evening:

5pm – 4th Sunday, at St George's

Flower & Friendship Club: 7pm on the last Monday of the month

Coffee Mornings: 10-12noon on the first Saturday of each month

(2nd Sept. 7th Oct & 4th Nov)

Minister: Rev. Joanne Sherwood (01353 662426)

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals by arrangement

http://www.elyandnewmarketmethodists.org.uk/littleport

Alive in Christ..... Worship, Mission and Service

Greater Littleport and District New Christian Spiritualists' Society

If there is a God, why do bad things happen?

There was once an architect who had the idea of creating the greatest home for people there had ever been. He had it all worked out in his mind to build the nicest block of flats in the universe, it would be perfection. He put his plans down on paper and listed everything he felt would be needed, not just to actually build it, but to permanently sustain those who would live there. He needed to ensure the residents would never want for anything, and could live free, happy and in peace.

There would be an unending well, that would supply the water, a huge garden that would bring beauty and as much food as would ever be needed, as well as plants that would grow materials to make clothes. The actual building would be big enough to give more than enough space for those who lived there, and was designed and placed in a location that meant all would get light and warmth from the sun, even in winter.

After he finished the building he went for a look round at how nice it was, he was pleased, but waited a little while for the garden to grow, and everything to settle and be ready, then the day came when it was ready and he invited people to move in. He told them, they had everything they would ever need in abundance and would not even need to pay rent, as he did not need anything, only to know that they were happy, and to that end all he asked, in return for their living there, was to have their thanks, and let him know how things were going.

They all lived there, in that wonderful place,

for a time, in harmony, it went well, and although the architect stopped by from time to time and he was shown thanks, to know the residents were happy, and self-sufficient he left them alone more, as the whole point of the exercise was to have them need or want for nothing.

One day, the emails and letters of thanks stopped coming. He was concerned, and wondered what was going on, so he stopped by, to find the wonderful block of flats he had built, was in disrepair, damaged, and generally in mess and confusion.



Rt. Rev. Nick Brown in full flow!

He found that the residents had been squandering his gift to them, they had wasted and squandered the garden, had cut down trees and ransacked the plants, and inside it was worse. Some of the residents had decided they wanted more than they had, and had taken rooms and resources from the weaker ones. They had kept things to themselves, like food and cotton, forcing

others to trade to get them, meaning they had to work twice as hard as they needed to in order to survive. What hurt him the most, was that the stronger more dominant ones had told the others that it was all the idea of the architect in order to keep them in line.

He was horrified.

He decided to send his son, who he wished to learn the family business anyway to work as caretaker, to live with the people.

Some did not believe him at first, thinking he was not the son of the architect, believing him to be playing the games that they had been, in order to gain control. However, in the end, he taught them to work together again, helped them rebuild, showed them the error of their ways, helped the weaker to become stronger, and gave them all they needed again to succeed. He also gave them some simple rules on how they could prevent the previous problems from happening again.

His father was so pleased; he brought him back home, and made him his right-hand man in the family business.

'Thank you' notes started again, and order, balance, and peace ruled their lives, for a time of course...

Ask yourself one question. Who was to blame in this story? Was the architect, who lovingly built the wonderful home, or the ungrateful residents, who became bullies, and imposing on the weaker one, sent the order into chaos?

We have been given the same such gift by God, to live freely and in peace, with all we ever needed, but that gift is squandered by the strong, forcing the weak to work harder than they should need to.

Is it not people who cause the problems of this Earth, not God, and it is us, my friends, and only us, who can fix them once again.

There is a deeper message in this story too, that goes beyond simply the first question posed.

The problems that we face in the world are very much money related at the moment; economy this, resources that, governments, parliaments and kings all bedraggled and in shock, and this is passed down to the people. who end up footing the bill for fixing things.

Who invented the economy, trade, commerce, and giving people the power to run our lives?

People.

God did not say in the beginning thou shalt float heaven on the stock exchange and I will charge an entry fee, or rent for eternity. God did not suggest that we should argue, fight or kill each other over a piece of cloth, meant to represent a piece of land that is 'owned'.

Most importantly, and here is the clincher, God, at no point, wanted us to kill each other. over the different ways we feel we should say 'thank you' to him.

No, humans made that choice. Which in turn sours the 'thank you', does it not?

There is an old saying, 'You've made your bed, now lay in it.' I have always found this to be somewhat defeatist, I could never understand the logic behind it. If you don't like how the bed was made, learn from it and start again.

If humans are the architects of their own troubles, learn from it, and start again. Sometimes the simplest of answers truly are the only way forward, are they not?

God Bless you all,

Rev Nick



Children in Need Disco

Come along to the Ex-Servicemen's Club on Friday 13th October to have a good time and support a great cause.

Derek Timbers will be dusting down the decks one more time on Friday 13th October for Children in Need.

All the money raised at the disco will go to the appeal. Come along to have fun while supporting a great charity.





Littleport Lions

The Lions Club of Littleport are once again hosting Breakfast with Santa at The Almonry High Street Ely on 21st - 23rd December 2017 from 8 - 10am.

The cost will be £6.50 children and £3.50 adults. All children will receive a present from Father Christmas.

This very popular event sells out very quickly, so to book your place and full details contact David Ellis 01353 664318 / 07817 592438 or email breakfastwithsanta1@yahoo.co.uk with a contact phone number.



Littleport Lions and the SightFirst **Programme**

"I hope you will adopt me. I am the youngest here," Helen Keller said in her famous "Knights of the Blind" speech to Lions at the 1925 International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio, USA.

Keller was speaking figuratively, of course. She was 45 years old at the time. But the story she shared of her early childhood blindness and her heartrending struggle for independence as a girl left a lasting impression. It was one of a few key moments that led many Lions clubs to adopt sight as a major global service area.

"Will you not help me hasten the day when there shall be no preventable blindness; no little deaf, blind child untaught; no blind man or woman unaided?

I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness?"

That quote is from her speech. Lions accepted and embraced her challenge, dedicating the past 100 years to serving people with visual impairments.

Lions Clubs International Foundation's SightFirst programme funds the efforts of Lions, nongovernmental organisations, government agencies and others to fight the major causes of preventable and reversible blindness, and provide services to persons who are blind or have a visual impairment. This is accomplished through the support of eye health care delivery systems, training and infrastructure development.

How does the SightFirst programme battle global blindness?

The SightFirst programme builds eye care

systems, fights blindness and vision loss and assists blind and visually-impaired persons in underserved communities throughout the world.

It serves as a leading member of IAPB, a coalition of organisations dedicated to the elimination of the the main causes of avoidable blindness and to prevent the doubling of avoidable vision impairment. Since the programme began in 1990, SightFirst has helped save the sight of more than 30 million people worldwide.

What kind of projects does SightFirst support, and is funding available for projects in developed countries?

SightFirst helps Lions and their partners address the world's leading causes of preventable or reversible blindness, as well as provide services to persons who are blind or have low vision.

The Lions Club of Littleport is holding a SightFirst awareness day to celebrate World Sight Day on Saturday 7th Oct outside Wades Opticians High Street Ely from 10.30am -12.30pm.

The deputy Mayor Mike Rouse will don a blindfold and be led around the town to see what it's like to be unsighted.

The club has sent over 5,500 pairs of used spectacles for recycling and will have a collection point for used spectacles.

Local Sight charities will be in attendance to answer any questions

David Ellis

The Lions Club of Littleport 07817 592438

Boxing - the Noble Art in Littleport!?

The future of boxing in Littleport looks bleak - unless a reasonably priced venue can be found!

Potential boxing and kickboxing champions are in training with the East Anglia Kickboxing and Boxing Club that has been based at Littleport Leisure Centre on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Under the experienced eyes of trainers Paddy Paddock, and past champion Mark Johnson, boys, and even girls, have come in to the sessions at £4 for under 16's (£5 adults) and learned new skills and have tried out their combative strength in a supportive and friendly environment.



Steven 'Paddy' Paddock and Mark 'The Champ' Johnson

Over the 14 years they've been going, many fighters have found success, and the latest hopeful is 15-year-old Kyron Humphries, 6'1" tall, and weighing in at 65 Kilos.

Under the auspices of the Canterbury Round Table and Kent Boxing Organisation, he fought at a 'White Collar' fund-raising dinner aid of Pancreatic Cancer UK and other charities.

Kyron is now with the Left Hook Boxing Club in London preparing for what could well prove to be a famous future that he will owe to Littleport's dedicated duo, Mark and Paddy.



Kyron Humphries at the punchbag

Paddy says, "We've been told that the new Leisure Centre venue will cost much more than we pay now. We run three nights a week, Mondays and Wednesdays for adults, and a children's club is run on Thursdays from 6 pm 7.30 pm. We have attracted over 25 to 30 kids and our adults. We have promoted ourselves constantly on Facebook, in the papers and we put shows on here as well. We don't do this for a wage, we do it for love of the sport. And any shortfall is funded by us. Adults pay £5 per session and the children pay £4.

Continued on page 44



The Active Learning Trust



Letter from Scott Gaskins

The main work during completion of the building work itself in the summer, was the installation of the IT hardware, the kitchen and some of the specialist rooms in Highfield Littleport. Then, throughout August, the newly appointed Site Manager and Campus Business Manager trained in all aspects of the building, from servicing the hydrotherapy pool to managing the security systems.

Both Heads of School have been working with Dawn Holmes at the Leisure Centre to ensure the campus will be a harmonious place to study, work and relax. Every effort is being made to co-ordinate the management of all the buildings on the campus to make it a safe. relaxing and enjoyable place to spend time.

Transition week for LECA took place at Neale Wade Academy in early July meaning the students did not miss out on Secondary school experience despite not being able to visit their own school. Students took part in a sports festival on the Monday, growth mindset activities on day two and then spent a whole day in lessons on the Wednesday. Thank you to all the primary staff who accompanied the students and helped out on what was a very busy but very rewarding week.

Highfield Littleport Academy has experienced a huge influx of requests for placement and we are staffing the school accordingly. We look forward to being able to meet the needs of a wide

range of learners. Working in partnership with LECA we will be able to have a comprehensive curriculum offer which we are excited to commence.

The final recruitment drive was also in July with a variety of key support staff posts advertised from Science Technician to Midday supervisors. The campus team is now in place and ready start in September. The roles are all vital for the smooth running of the campus and everyone will have their part to play in making the transition to Secondary as smooth as possible for our students.

Two dates for those who are keen to look around the new Academy and for those considering sending their child to us in 2018/19. The first is Thursday 21st September where we will open the doors to the general public from 4.30 - 7pm. Students will be on hand to tour groups of people around and the teaching team will be there to answer your questions and talk about the school. Then, on Wednesday 27th September from 5pm onwards, we are running our Year 6 Open Evening for parents who are considering sending their child to LECA the following year. We look forward to welcoming you in September after what promises to be a very busy Summer holiday.

Scott Gaskins, Head of School -Littleport and East Cambs Academy

Yvonne Skillern, Head of School -Highfield Littleport Academy



Millfield School



We have reached the end of another school year and one in which we have achieved a great deal. As ever, the end of year performance was wonderful. All our children did themselves proud in 'Pirates of the Curry Bean' but I have to say a special 'well done' to Year 6 who were amazing- some of them really do find their niche when it comes to the show and it's great seeing how they have grown in confidence over the years. Without the hard work and enthusiasm from staff, parents and children these events couldn't happen - so 'thank you'!



Some of our particular Achievements this Year

This has been a particularly busy year but a great deal for us to be proud of. Here are just a few of them:

- Fantastic sets of statutory test outcomes and teacher assessments which are above the national average
- Highly successful visit from a consultant to the Department of Education who was impressed with the children's excellent behaviour and attitudes to learning as well

- as the impressive quality of their writing
- Introduction of Accelerated Reader in KS2 which has really engaged and motivated our children to be avid readers
- Our provision in the reception classes was judged to be 'Outstanding' by the Trust
- Ms Hopkins has been appointed as a LA Lead Practitioner for EYFSso she will be running training sessions across the county and will be supporting schools who want to develop and improve their EYFS
- Nursery opening in September
- Stay and Play after school- so now we provide wrap-around care
- Family Support Adviser- Tara
 O'Loghlen who I know has worked
 to support many families, some of
 whom have found themselves in
 crisis
- Two members of staff trained in Forest Schools - we plan to roll this out to certain year groups from the start of next year



For me, being the headteacher in a community school means just that - we don't work and exist in isolation but as part of the whole community, responding to the local context. Linked to this there are 2 things in particular that we are proud of: the work of Tara O'Loghlen in terms of family learning and the opening of Millfield Nursery in September.

Tara O'Loghlen wins an award on behalf of the School!

Tara O'Loghlen, our Family Support Adviser, was invited to an event recently to celebrate Adult Learning and Skills within Cambridgeshire. Tara has linked up with Family Learning and is our school lead in this. Along with Zoe, the Family Learning tutor, we have had weekly family learning events over the whole year- from helping your child with maths, to developing your skills as a listening parent, to improving your own English and maths skills. As a result of Tara's enthusiasm and because of the number of families who have engaged in family learning, Millfield received the 'Excellent Partner Award'!



Millfield Nursery

Within Littleport there is an increasing demand for pre-school places which currently can't be met. Last November, the Local Authority approached both primary schools and all the pre-schools in the village to see if anybody wanted to expand or start a pre-school- we expressed an interest. As a consequence, we were asked in February by the LA to set up a pre-school for children the term after they turn 3 years old; this means we won't be in direct competition with Busy Bees (on our site) who have 2 year olds. Millfield Nursery will be open from 8am until 5:30pm which will offer great flexibility to parents who may need that due to work patterns.



It will cater for up to 24 children at any one time. Staff have been appointed and the lead practitioner will be Ms Debbie Papworth; Debbie has worked in our reception classes for the last 4 years and before that was a pre-school manager. Therefore she will be well placed to ensure the outstanding provision of reception is also extended to younger children. Already we have a good number of children registered and we are very excited to be able to offer this to the local community.

Deborah Hannaford Headteacher



Littleport Community Primary has been in Littleport since 1847, and this is our 170th Year Anniversary. It is also our 10th Anniversary since a new school was built on this site in 2007. This is why we are celebrating our anniversaries this year!

We are a Research School!

We were delighted to find out recently that we have been chosen to be the Research School for East Cambridgeshire and Fenland. The announcement was made by Justine Greening, the Education Secretary, and means that we will be part of the national Research Schools network, linking up with schools across the country to share best practice and look to improve outcomes for children. There is more information on our 'News' section on the home page of our website.

Sports Days and further Kwik Cricket Success!

We were very impressed with all of the wonderful sporting talents on display at our sports days. So many children took part, trying their best, enjoying the challenges and supporting people in their team as well as others in school. A special award for sportsmanship was given to Archie Spencer in Year 6 who stopped running and turned to someone behind him to help them over the line. Hereward were the winners so well done to them. The team to beat next year! Littleport cricketers also performed brilliantly and beat Lantern School on our field!

Our Y5/6 Girls' Team and our Y5/6 Mixed teams both qualified for this year's County Finals at Histon and Clare College Sports Grounds. This is a massive achievement and a first for our school! Both teams represented the school wonderfully, playing with great skill and confidence and we were very proud of their efforts. Games were won and lost on the days and they performed really well. A special mention for James Prior in Year 6 who bowled a wicket in one game on the very last ball to win a match! Well done all of you for making everyone proud!

School Trips

Cambridge trip

Year 5 took to the River Cam in June after learning all about Cambridge and how it has evolved over the centuries. They took in its rich history first hand, and were able to make excellent links with their learning in class. The children took part in a walking tour as well as taking in the city views from the comfort of the punts. Punting has been a traditional leisure activity in Cambridge for over a hundred years, and our children got to tread in the footsteps of their ancestors. It was a wonderful day and the children were a credit to our school.

Year 6 London Trip

Year 6 pupils had an amazing time in London for their end of year trip.

They enjoyed a river cruise along the Thames, lunch by the river, a walk past Trafalgar Square and then saw an incredible performance of Aladdin in the West End. For many children this was their first experience of the theatre, and it is something everyone will never forget. Our huge thanks to the PTFA whose wonderful work and fundraising made this trip possible for the school. My thanks also to Mr Clark and Ms Hoal for all of the organisation and planning of the trip beforehand.

Victorian Day!

It was wonderful to see everyone dressed up as part of our 170 year anniversary celebrations! Short trousers, mop hats, dresses and waist coats - it felt like a Victorian School!



Victorian Assemby

There were slates and chalk in classrooms too, with plenty of discipline and rote learning. I am sure children went home knowing a lot about how different school was back then... Thank you to Ms Swindells for organising the day, parents for donations, and the PTFA for arranging the Victoria Sponges - and of course to all staff for dressing up as well!

And finally - the Littleport Anniversary Celebrations

Red Arrows Fly Past: We were delighted to have a flypast over the school by the Red Arrows on Thursday 20th July.



Red Arrows flypast over the school

One of our Governors, Kev Fox, organised this, and we are very grateful to him.

Back to the 1950s: We will be going back to the 1950s in September as part of our Anniversary Celebrations. To coincide with the new Secondary school opening in Littleport (LECA), we are looking back at the time when a secondary school was last opened in Littleport in 1956, on this school site!

For the first 2-3 weeks of term, all children in school will be learning about life in the 1950s, including the music, culture, national and local history, and we aim to organise an event involving the local community too.

We think this will be an exciting way to start the new term. Let's rock n' roll!!

John Cattermole Headteacher

Littleport Rotary Club — Update

July — we start a NEW ROTARY YEAR — and a new president takes over.

David Ambrose smith is President for 2017-2018



<David, Right

During the weekend of May 19 - 21 — we organised a sponsored walk along the historical 46 mile Peddars Way. 15 Rotarians participated in the walk we raised— £1000 for Charity.



On Peddars Way >

Early summer — We organised a golf tournament at Sheringham golf course.— raising £2000 for Charity

Once again Littleport Rotary had a presence at Ely's Aquafest

Providing a range of delights Including **Rotary Roulette** Raising a further £350 for Charity





If you want to have a chat about becoming involved in Rotary, call

David Ambrose Smith on: 01353 861010

If you want to find out more about our Rotary Club. Take a look at our web-

site: www.littleportrotary.org.uk Paul Cox

THE INSPIRING WOMEN

Littleport W! -New Visitors Welcome!

Ladies! Are you interested in joining us for one of our meetings? We would very much like to see some new faces.

Why not join us at one of our meetings? This is a great way to make new friends, especially if you are new to the area! All ages are catered for - age is no barrier - as well as talks and demonstrations, we have outings, visits to other WI's and a speaker or entertainer at all our meetings. We also have a small competition each month if you want to enter, a raffle and much more!

Last quarter we have been entertained by Pat Bernacki who showed us how to make cakes in the microwave by using a cup! Very interesting and very tasty.



Pat Bernacki demonstrates cake baking in a microwave

In June, we had a brilliant talk from Helen Ackroyd on Lord Fairhaven and Anglesey Abbey, with slides giving us a view and history of the interior and contents of the house. Very enlightening, and a great speaker.

In July, the illustrated talk with exhibits was interesting, educational and humorous. Entitled 'Corsets, Crinolines and Camisoles', by Fran Saltmarsh.



Fran Saltmarsh shows us Victorian underwear

This was the history of underwear and how fashion dictates what we wore...
This was well illustrated and the exhibits were exquisite. Most of the early items were hand sewn and superbly executed.

At the Littleport Fun Day we served tea and cakes - an effort that was very well supported by the public, making this a good day.

For more information please call: Rosemary Coleman on 01353 969783 Or Linda Whytock on 01353 863761

Fenland Corned Beef & Onion Pie

By Jean Constable



To fit a 9" plate. Serves 4-5 people

Ingredients:

Pastry; 10 oz self-raising flour 3oz margarine 3oz lard (or margarine if preferred) Pinch of salt and cold water to mix

Method:

Rub fat into flour and combine with a little water to make the dough

Filling:

1 large tin corned beef - softened not chilled straight from the fridge 1 large onion, peeled, chopped and gently cooked

Cut up slab of corned beef, mash with a fork and combine onion. Turn oven on to heat, 190 C, 375 F, Gas mark 5.

Method:

Grease plate.

Divide dough in half.

Roll out to fit plate base with ½" border extending out around the edge.

Spread the filling on to the pastry leaving the border.

Roll out the rest of the dough to make the lid.

Place it on top of the pie and flute the edges to seal them together.

Make a small hole in the centre of the pie to release steam during cooking.

Take the pastry trimmings and form them into a decoration for the pie top.

Baste with beaten egg or milk to produce

Put pie on baking sheet/tray and into the oven for 20-30 minutes until cooked through and golden brown on top.

Lovely! Serve with boiled or mashed potato, new carrots and peas.





Natasha Chambers



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LITTLEPORT & DISTRICT FLOWER ARRANGEMENT CLUB

The Club has progressed well this year with some very interesting Demonstrators who have all brought a different dimension to the art of flower arranging.



We are beginning to interest a few more people who have joined as members and who assure the Club they are enjoying the different aspects of flower arranging that are being demonstrated to us all. This is encouraging for the committee and gives us all a sense of purpose to keep this wonderful Club going into the future.

Taking a look back at the summer, at our June meeting we had the return of Brenda Tubb, who gave another inspirational demonstration, and once again, as is always the case with Brenda,

the village hall was full of laughter from her wonderful sense of humour and tales of her life in general. She did say that she always enjoys coming to the Club as we are so inviting and friendly and this always inspires her to bring along her sense of fun.

We didn't meet in August, but on the 15th September Jo Pollard will be returning to Demonstrate and help us celebrate our 50th Anniversary as a Club. This is a great accolade for Littleport as so many NAFAS Clubs are having to close for lack of support for various reasons; mainly that Clubs are not able to get committee members to help keep clubs running. So we are very lucky that at present we have a brilliant committee, but we will need more volunteers for 2018 to step forward as we will be needing a new Programme Secretary and Secretary.

Visitors are always welcome to our meetings at a fee of £5, and anyone wishing to find out more about how the Club is run, should please contact the Chair, Pam Hayes, on 01353 860102 or the Secretary, Pam Sole, on 01353 863421.



Branching Out in Littleport!

"Branching Out is a local charity based in Littleport opposite Millfield School on Grange Lane. We support people with learning disabilities to lead active and fulfilling lives during the day time, and part of the way we do this is by doing what we can to help the local community." writes Susan Wiggans General Manager of Branching Out.



General Manager Susan Wiggans

"Did you know we have an apprenticeship scheme? We have recently taken on a new apprentice called Alice Bacon who lives locally in Prickwillow and is completing her Health and Social Care Level 2 while she is with us. She started a work placement with us earlier in the year and started her apprenticeship in June after deciding this is what she wanted to do. One of our apprentices from last year Kelsey Linney who is from Littleport has just accepted a full-time job at Branching Out after completing her Health and Social Care Level 2 alongside a huge amount of other

training relevant to her role. Kelsey was also sponsored to do her apprenticeship with us by East Cambs District Council and is now on her first steps towards building a career in social care.



Branching Out Apprentice, Alice

We are currently starting a new volunteers scheme where we will give people who want an introduction to working in social care some voluntary experience and some basic training. So that volunteers can see if it is something they are interested in and find out more about how to get into it as a career. To find out more about this contact us on 01353 863221 or via Facebook - just search for Branching Out Charity Volunteering.

For those of you who might be interested in volunteering in our charity shop in Littleport on the High Street, you can also contact us on those contact details, or ring the charity shop directly on 01353 863561. If you have recently retired and you are looking for something to do for a few hours a week to keep you busy and get to know people in the community,

then volunteering in our shop may be just the ticket. You will be given a warm welcome by the team in the shop.

At the moment, we are also working on a new Safe Places Scheme in the village with several local shops and organisations already agreed to take part. In the next issue of the Littleport Life Magazine we will explain more about it and how it is going, but basically people with learning disabilities will be able to go into the organisations taking part and receive help if they are feeling unsafe when they are out and about in Littleport.

We recently bought a hospital grade treadmill to help the people we support to lead more active lives, giving them the confidence to be more physically active and flexible. This would not have been possible without the help of the people of Littleport who selected us as the charity they wanted to support with the Main Street Co-op's Community Fund. We

received £1,200 towards the cost of the treadmill, so thank you everyone.

We are currently raising money towards the cost of replacing some old wooden doors on our workshop. We need to raise about £20,000.00 to do this and we have been fortunate enough to have received support from the local community and businesses. If you have got an idea of how you can help us with fundraising for this contact us on 01353 863221 or via Facebook, just search for Branching Out Charity Volunteering.

I would like to finish by saying Littleport is a village with an active community with lots going on and lots of support out there. If you want to put your skills to use and get to know people there are various groups/organisations in the magazine that would love your help. Did you know the magazine needs volunteers to help with the deliveries and it's a great excuse for a walk!"

(Continued from page 32)

We've been going for 15 years and we are trying get kids off the streets. We do put leaflets out now and again, but Facebook is the main thing that attracts the kids and we update daily. We have 700 followers so far. Two other lads we have on our books have two titles apiece, Tom Carlin is from Littleport, and Callum Frogg is from Ely, both 18."

Steven Paddock, Paddy to his friends, is an ex doorman, and was big in security from London. When he moved here he used to do security for ex-champ Mark, and as he says, "we just snowballed from there. We try and get ourselves out into the community and recruit kids who we feel will benefit from learning the noble art as so many youngsters have done before them. Boxing is all about discipline and it is good fun as well."

We are always looking for sponsorship, and would like to mention Criteria Cars have sponsored us and so has LG Car Sales and MOTs.



Kyron Humphries champ in waiting



ThePORT



The PORT opening hours are:-

MONDAYS 5-6.30pm at Littleport Ex-Servicemen's Club on Ponts Hill.

(Extending the time by 30min may be possible if we need to)

We have use of the Garden, Pin Ball Machine, Table Tennis, Pool, Air Hockey, Retro Games Machine, Xbox One, Table Football, Tuck Shop, Hot Food, Wifi -

Entry £1

The PORT currently has 164 registered members which is fantastic!

Each week a variety of games are on offer such as Table Tennis, Table Football, Air Hockey & Pool. We also have an Xbox One.

Music is always available along with Wifi.

Hot Food and a fully stocked Tuck shop offer a variety of goodies.

Our dedicated staff provide a structured but relaxed environment for youths wishing to socialise with friends. ThePORT is a much needed Group within our Community our youths are more than happy to support other groups - We currently support Littleport Time Bank, The Food Bank and have supported Yana over the last few months.

Youths also deliver Littleport Life Magazine to over 600 residents.

New to the area, Clair'Marie makes cakes - Just 4 You!

In March 2017, Just 4U Cakes, moved to the outskirts of Pymoor. Since 2014, Clair'Marie has run a successful cake business, gaining much credibility for her delicious, fresh bakes and artistic

talent. She has won four International Awards to date and has received an overwhelming, positive response from local customers since opening her doors here in April.

Clair'Marie grew up in the small village of Kempston, Bedfordshire and was encouraged to bake for local competitions from an early age. Her inspirations come from a family line of great bakers and where many traditional methods are used today in her present baking. She set up Just 4U Cakes after taking voluntary redundancy as an orthopaedic nurse in 2014, she is a self-taught cake artist specialising in cakes, cupcakes and cookies, catering for family, corporate occasions and professional photographers for Cake Smash cakes.

Over the years she has raised much needed funds for charities: a solo bike ride raising £300 for the

homeless and celebration memory cakes for the children at Keech Children's Hospice, Luton.

Just 4U Cakes is a fully licensed and insured business, certified to create Allergen and Dietary requested orders and completed Level 2 in Health & Hygiene. To reach Clair' Marie's high standard of baking, quality ingredients and local produce are always used.

> recently received Clair'Marie overwhelming response to her 'Owls for End of Term Gifts' Blog.

"The orders came flooding in, which brought happy tears to my eyes (being the new girl in town). I created the owls because my mum loves them, so many customers messaged me saving 'They are too cute to eat and others not believing they were actually cake!' To be embraced

locally so quickly has been truly wonderful, making cakes is my life passion; bringing a smile to someone's face is magical."

With exciting plans ahead and classes for adults and children next year be sure to contact her.



Just 44

Cakes

Looking back at the unveiling of the Thomas Peacock Blue Plaque Saturday, 4th June 2011 with Maureen Scott of the Littleport Society

The day finally arrived when Thomas Peacock, the founder of Hope Brothers factory was officially recognised for all that he did for his home village of Littleport.

Thanks are due to the family of his brother William (to whom he was very close) a plaque was presented as a gift to Littleport and unveiled by Valerie Beattie. Thomas was her great, great, great uncle.



Before the plaque was unveiled

The Whitfield Group, who purchased the factory after its final closure proceeded to convert it to luxury flats, they gave the Littleport Society permission to mount the plaque on the side of the building in White Hart lane. The weather was good and thankfully a very large crowd had assembled for the unveiling. I am sure Thomas would have appreciated every moment, from the Ely Town Crier, to the people dressed in Victorian costume including a Mary and Thomas look-a-like.

An opening speech was given by the Chairman Grenville Goodson, followed

by Valerie Beattie who stated that before last November she knew very little about members of the Peacock family. She said that as a child she had heard mention of Hope Brothers but it meant nothing to her – until she and her partner John were looking through a box of items left by Valerie's late mother, a postcard with an address on the back, which stated: Miss Flanders, Vanbrugh House, Victoria Street, Littleport. Valerie was aware of a Flanders connection and that was it, a iubilant Valerie contacted Bruce Frost. the information she received left her speechless and partner John was on the case. Vanbrugh House was one of the houses Thomas had built for family members and Amelia Flanders was found. The guest then started in earnest. Amazing when you think what finding one postcard can do.

The curtain was opened to loud clapping by the crowd, who were then invited to partake of refreshments and view the exhibits in the Village Hall (formerly called the Constitutional Hall). Thomas would have been very proud and pleased at the venue, as he had a hand in building the hall.

The W.I. is to be commended on the super display of food, which not only looked good but tasted as good as it looked. A penny farthing cycle and another Victorian cycle were on display, kindly loaned by Mr & Mrs David and Beryl Smith. Attending were Mr & Mrs Colin and Margaret Bedford from the

March cycle club, Mr & Mrs John Smith had a wonderful display of Victorian skates and lots of skating pictures, Mr Garth McGowen (Mac) was in charge of the bookstall. Mr Des Smith decorated the stage with a picture of Thomas in pride of place, in front of this were family photographs loaned by Valerie, the large bell and the later whistle that were used to call the employees to work. A very long family tree which made a lot of work for Mr Bruce Frost, and many artefacts from the Society archive which included wills, photos, recipes and information on the family. Thanks to Mr Des Smith and Mrs Ann Lightowlers for all their help. A cake was then cut by Valerie Beattie and Mr Whitfield.



The plaque is now revealed

It was a truly remarkable morning and enjoyed by all, such a joy to see so many interested people, in particular many of the former factory employees. It was great for them to get together, I think everyone will agree it all went like a dream; I would like to add my personal thanks to anyone who helped in any way and to everyone for attending, not forgetting those who have donated photographs of the day.

Thomas Peacock, The Skater!

Thomas Peacock was such a keen skater that he bought the 28 acre field, called The Moors, so that he could flood it and make it into an ice ground in the freezing winters to hold all skating activities, and specially ice speed skating races, in which everyone could take part.

Of those different ice pursuits, bandy was also a popular team sport played on the fens in those days by many speed skaters.

He was also happily able to see his field from his factory.

Not only did this benefit the village residents directly, but indirectly too as thousands of keen skaters and spectators travelled from far and wide to Littleport.

Trains from Kings Cross were packed on skating days in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Surely he would be smiling on the plan by another dedicated skater to erect a new ice ground on The Moors in this 21st century...

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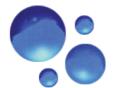
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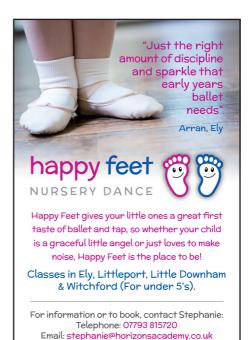
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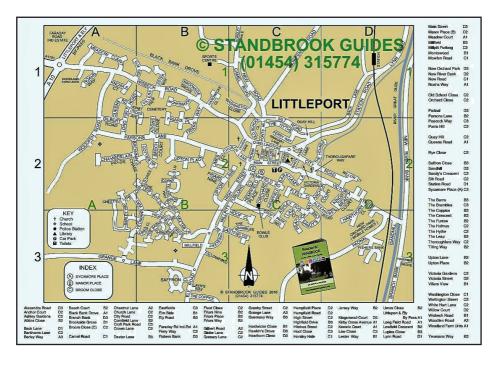
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What's on in Littleport

LITTLEPORT LEISURE CENTRE EVENTS							
	SEPTEMBER						
	10/09	SUN	QUIZ NIGHT IN AID OF THE KORFBALL CLUB	7.00 pm START			
	13/09	WED	PRIZE BINGO	7.00 PM			
	29/09	FRI	MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING	10 AM – 12 AM			
OCTOBER							
	01/10	SUN	QUIZ NIGHT IN AID OF LEUKEMA	7.00 PM START			
	07/10	SAT	PRIZE BINGO	7.00 PM			
	18/10	WED	PRIZE BINGO	7.00 PM			
	29/10	SUN	QUIZ NIGHT IN AID OF THE JUDO CLUB	7.00 PM START			
NOVEMBER							
	04/11	WED	PRIZE BINGO	7.00 PM			
	•		PRIZE BINGO	7.00 PM			
	19/11		QUIZ NIGHT IN AID OF YANA	7.00 PM START			
	LITTLEP	ORT EX-S	SERVICEMEN'S CLUB				
	SEPTEN						
	02/09	SAT	FLASHBACK (NEW BAND)	8.45 PM – LATE			
	,	SAT	TABLE TOP	9.30 AM – 12 AM			
	•	SAT	PRIVATE PARTY	8.45 PM – LATE			
	23/09		THE 142 BAND (NEW BAND)	8.45 PM – LATE			
	30/09		GET BACK				
	ОСТОВ						
	07/10	SAT	CATCH 22	8.45 PM – LATE			
	13/10	FRI	CHILDREN IN NEED DISCO D+M	7.00 PM – LATE			
			ROADSHOW (TICKETS ONLY)	7.00 TWI LATE			
	, -	SAT	MARK STEELE	8.45 PM – LATE			
	•	SAT	GO JOHNNY GO	8.45 PM – LATE			
	28/10	SAT	PRIVATE PARTY				
	29/10	SUN	CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN DISCO	4.00 PM- 6.30 PM			
NOVEMBER							
	- /	SAT	ROCKING REVIVAL	8.45 PM – LATE			
	11/11	SAT	SPLASH	8.45 PM – LATE			
	18/11	SAT	BOB'S CHARITY DO 'JUST FOR KICKS' FOR ADDENBROOKE'S BREAST CANCER UNIT	8.45 PM			
	25/11	SAT	TBC				

THE CROWN INN EVENTS

THE CROWN HAVE EVENTS									
SEPTEMBER									
02/09	SAT	THE LONELY	8.30 PM – LATE						
09/09	SAT	ROCKING TJ	8.30 PM – LATE						
10/09	SUN	MARK JOSEF	3.00 PM - 6.00 PM						
16/09	SAT	CARL CHAPMAN	8.30 PM – LATE						
23/09	SAT	FREDDIE HALL BAND	8.30 PM – LATE						
30/09	SAT	WHISKEY TWIST	8.30 PM – LATE						
ОСТО	OCTOBER								
07/10	SAT	VT11	8.30 PM – LATE						
15/10	SUN	FREDDIE HALL	3.00 PM - 6.00 PM						
	SAT	HI ENERGY KARAOKE	8.30 PM – LATE						
28/10	SAT	ROCKING TJ	8.30 PM – LATE						
29/10	SUN	THOMAS BAINBRIDGE	3.00 PM - 6.00 PM						
NOVE	MBER								
04/11	SAT	CARL CHAPMAN	8.30 PM – LATE						
05/11	SUN	BONDY	3.00 PM - 6.00 PM						
10/11	. FRI	HI ENERGY KARAOKE	8.30 PM – LATE						
11/11	SAT	ZIGGY	8.30 PM – LATE						
17/11	. FRI	THE LONELY WITH GRAHAM	8.30 PM – LATE						
18/11	SAT	CARL CHAPMAN	8.30 PM – LATE						
25/11	SAT		8.30 PM – LATE						
26/11	SUN	GOODGES A	8.30 PM – LATE						
THE P	LOUGH &	HARROW PUB EVENTS							
	MBER								
02/09	SAT		9.00 PM						
04/09	MON	POOL COMPETITION	7.30 PM						
09/09	SAT	HALO BAND	9.00 PM						
13/09	WED	QUIZ NIGHT	8.30 PM						
16/09	SAT	SNATCH BAND	9.00 PM						
23/09	SAT	WHISKEY TWIST BAND	9.00 PM						
27/09	WED	OPEN MIC NIGHT	8.30 PM						
30/09	SAT	THREE GREAT SHOES	9.00 PM						
OCTOBER									
02/10	MON	POOL COMPETITION	7.30 PM						
07/10	SAT	ELVIS	9.00 PM						
11/10	WED	QUIZ NIGHT	8.30 PM						
14/10	SAT	ETON RIVALS BAND	9.00 PM						
21/10	SAT	HOLLY JEAN (SOLO ARTIST)	9.00 PM						
25/10	WED	OPEN MIC NIGHT	8.30 PM						
28/10		MAX HEADROOM BAND	9.00 PM						

	NOVEN	1BER						
	04/11	SAT	THE OFF BEATS	9.00 PM				
	06/11	MON	POOL COMPETITION	7.30 PM				
	11/11	SAT	DELTA PILOTS	9.00 PM				
	15/11	WED	QUIZ NIGHT	8.30 PM				
	18/11	SAT	MAN ALIVE BAND	9.00 PM				
	22/11	WED	OPEN MIC NIGHT	8.30 PM				
	25/11	SAT	BEER BELLIES	9.00 PM				
	29/11	WED	PSYCHIC SUPPER	7.00 PM				
	THE SH	IP INN, B	RANDON CREEK EVENTS					
	SEPTEN	1BER						
	01/09		GRAHAM BUXTON	8 PM – 11 PM				
	THE FLO	THE FLOWER CLUB EVENTS						
	Flower	Flower Arranging Club Littleport Village Hall 3rd Friday of the mont						
	SEPTEN							
	15/09	FRI	DEMONSTRATOR – JO POULTER 'ALL	7.00 PM				
			SHAPES AND SIZES'					
	ОСТОВ							
	20/10	FRI	IN HOUSE – 55 YEARS ONWARDS AND	7.00 PM				
	1101/51	40.50	UPWARDS					
	NOVEN		ODEN MEETING DEMONSTRATOR WHILE	7.00.014				
	17/11	FRI	OPEN MEETING DEMONSTRATOR – JULIA KNIGHTS 'CHRISTMAS ALPHABET'	7.00 PM				
KNIGHTS CHRISTMAS DECEMBER			KNIGHTS CHRISTIVIAS ALPHABET					
	15/12		PRACTICAL EVENING	7.00 PM				
	JANUAF		PRACTICAL EVENING	7.00 PIVI				
JANUARY		VI	NO MEETING					
	WI DAT							
		2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.15pm						
	SEPTEN	-	ne month at 7.15pm					
	12/09		BIRTHDAY SPECIAL WITH KATHRYN BUCK	7.15 PM				
	ОСТОВ			7.20				
		TUE	BRUSH EMBROIDERY ICING BY RUTH SINDALL	7.15 PM				
	-	TUE	GROUP MEETING WITH OTHER WI GROUPS					
	,		& FLOWER DEMONSTRATION BY ANN PURT					
	NOVEN							
	14/11		AGM AND A TALK BY DR BOLINA (ST	7.15 PM				
	•		GEORGE'S MEDICAL CENTRE)					

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Contact Details, Opening Hours and Clinics

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