

Includes: Littleport Advertisers & What's On



elcome to your Winter Warmer edition of Littleport Life!

You will find many interesting items from and about the many groups and organisations that are active in Littleport, as well as stories highlighting individuals in this 'Winter Warmer' issue of Littleport Life.

The What's On pages at the back of your magazine cover December, January and February, listing plenty to do at local venues and group meetings over the Christmas and New Year festive periods!

Our advertising pages are choc-a-bloc, and not only do they give you great information about services and goods on offer in Littleport, but the payment for those adverts by those businesses make it possible for this magazine to be produced and brought to you free of charge!

In the pages of what we call editorial, not only will you find news of regular community activities, like the Rotary, WI, the Flower Arranging Club and Littleport Society etc., but tips on caring for your garden equipment by Fen Spirit Services proprietors Carol and Stuart Palmer, and delicious recipes from WI member Mary Sherman.

The various faith groups also bring you their messages for this winter's festival, led as always on the first page, by the vicar of the Littleport Parish Church.

On behalf of the volunteers who put your magazine together, administer its affairs behind the scenes, and the army of willing helpers who deliver Littleport Life to your door every quarter, may I wish you a very merry Christmas 2018 and a wonderful New Year 2019.

Lyn Gibb-de Swarte
Editor



Editor

Lyn Gibb-de Swarte Email: editor@littleportlife.co.uk Tel: 01353 861448

Assistant Editor

Michelle Davey Email: assistanteditor@littleportlife.co.uk

Editorial Matters

Email: editor@littleportlife.co.uk assistanteditor@littleportlife.co.uk cockneyinthecountryside@gmail.com

Advertising Manager/Photographer

Cathy Gibb-de Swarte Email: advertisingmanager@littleportlife.co.uk cathygibb@yahoo.com Tel: 07874 261893

Distribution

Chris Hook Email: distributionmanager@littleportlife.co.uk

Secretary

Jacqui Burford Email: secretary@littleportlife.co.uk

Treasurer

Susan Wiggans Email: treasurer@littleportlife.co.uk

Assistant Treasurer

Chris Hook

Email: assistanttreasurer@littleportlife.co.uk

Webmaster

Christian Mayne of www.watchthedot.com Email: webmaster@littleportlife.co.uk

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The Plough & Harrow

The Plough & Harrow Christmas Party Menu



The Ship Inn, Brandon Creek

Introducing Michelle

Here the newest member of your Littleport Life magazine team tells you a little about herself.

So here I am with all my worldly possessions precariously crammed into the back of a Luton. My husband, his crazy uncle and my father sigh a huge sigh of relief as we finally pull down the hatch

I have lived in the East End of London for 30 years at this point. With 3 children in tow I made the decision that London wasn't the place for my children to grow up. So with a sadness in my heart but excitement for our new beginning I say goodbye to my beloved city.

My father, Hoxton born and bred, and I follow the van out of the depths of London and onto a 2 and half hour journey into Country life. Our easy chatter and laughter becomes stilted as we come off the motorway and into the miles and miles of flat lying fields and farms and the true immensity of my move becomes apparent. I am no longer 'just around the corner.' There are no shops walking distance, I've never seen so many tractors and the scenery is breath-taking, in a non-London skyline kind of way. Can I do this? I look at my children's sleeping faces in the back and know this is all for them.

Of course, I've viewed my new home in a village called Littleport and started to acquaint myself to the surrounding area on family day trips over the past months. I've described it to anyone who will listen as "like being on holiday." Except now this is my life and not a holiday and I am excited and apprehensive with my new beginning.

This has been my journey from Cockney to country life. I have a blog in which I share what I have learnt so far, challenges faced and my chaotic family life with an Irishman, 3 children, completely bonkers dog and fat, ginger cat.

I write about our local area, and also articles about parenting and family life. www.cockneyinthecountryside.com

Harvest Festival is so different in the Countryside!

Michelle Davey writes...

In October I attended the children's Harvest Festival service at the church which was beautiful with uplifting songs and prayers and thanks for what food we have and where it comes from. The church was beautifully decorated adorned with displays of fruit and vegetables, which is a tradition of the harvest festival, as well as donations from the local schools and congregational. All donations from this year's services were gratefully received by the wonderful food banks serving Ely and Littleport. I am so glad I now have a better understanding of the Harvest Festival and hope future generations continue to hear its important message of thankfulness and gratitude.

We are all now looking forward to Christmas and New Year celebrations and all the charitable efforts by the community that accompany them here.







Rita Williams tells us how she was welcomed by Littleport WI

I moved to Littleport 4 years ago to be nearer my son, but I knew not a soul.

I had been a WI member many years ago. I rang the then President Mrs June Bird and asked when they met, thinking it would give me some time to steel myself to walk into a room full of ladies I did not know. Her reply was: "We meet tonight my dear, see you about 7".

She spotted me as I walked in "How nice to see you, come and sit next to Maggie".

I can't remember who the speaker was but as I was leaving Marion said: "We have a social afternoon next Tuesday, bring your knitting or sewing or just come for a chat".

Since then I have made the nicest, kindest friends you could wish for.

I have been to Cromer and the end of pier show, and many other venues, met ladies from other WIs at their birthday parties and Harvest Festivals. Listened to the likes of Michael Portillo, Eric Knowles, and Pru Leith to mention just a few speakers at our Federation Meetings, and having been to Jigsaw Mornings and Quizzes the list goes on.

So! What have we been up to this year.

January, Heather Gee told us she had held a long time wish to work in an orphanage in one of the poorer countries, a chance came for her to spend some time in one, so she told us about her time there. She made us laugh recalling how they had to feed so many babies all at one time, with one bowl and one spoon going up and down the line of high chairs. The heartbreak hearing of so many abandoned babies because their parents could not afford to feed them.

Our annual guiz was in February, a very light hearted affair.

March, Siobhan Carew told us how she became a writer, the ideas, research etc, and the struggle to get work accepted by publishers.

April, due to a sudden illness, our Speaker couldn't come, so at the last minute, the Committee arranged a social evening reminiscing about school days.

In May, we had a visit from Soham Heritage and Tourism. We learnt about the Civil War. What clothes were worn at the time: their beliefs; and some very odd medical practices. And that Oliver Cromwell's real name was Oliver Williams.

June, a fascinating talk from Karen Goodman (Top Spin Tennis) on how top rank players have their rackets restrung after every game and practice. Each player has his or her preference as to how they want their rackets strung. At every top tournament throughout the world a team of stringers spend their whole time restringing rackets as most players have 8 to 9 rackets which keeps them very busy.

July, John Bedford spoke about his many years of farming in the Fens and how 'Mechanisation' has changed the ways of farming. What crops suit the Fenland soil, and showed us some of the objects dug up on the farm; bones, coins and pottery etc.

August, we celebrated 100 years of 'Women Getting the Vote' and Sue Slack told us of the struggles women went through, imprisonment, force-feeding etc, to enable us to have the right to vote. We also had a display to celebrate this centenary in Adams Heritage Centre window. This was in partnership with the Field Theatre Group. We also had a visit to the Houses of Parliament which was very interesting.

September was our Birthday Party, where we were joined by members from neighbouring WI's Naomi Porter entertained us with favourite songs from the musicals. Brilliant! Of course we had nice food supplied by members.

Malcolm Busby joined us in October with folk tales from Cambridgeshire and explained how each county has its own version of some of the tales.

So ladies, if you are new to Littleport and wondering whether to give the WI a go, it's a wonderful way to make friends. You will find us a very friendly group and you will not regret it.

Anyone interested in coming along, please contact: President: Pat Ollive - 01353 864830. Secretary: Linda Whytock - 01353 863761.

Eat Well With The WI

Orange Shortbread



Ingredients:

4 oz Plain Flour

2 oz Cornflour

4 oz Butter

2 oz Caster Sugar

Grated rind of 1 large orange

Caster sugar to dust

Method:

Sieve flour and corn flour together Cream butter until soft then add caster sugar Beat until the mixture is pale and creamy Add the orange rind then work in the flour mixture

A little at a time

Put mixture on a baking tray, roll out to an 8" circle,

Pinch the edges and prick the short bread with a fork

Cut into 12 sections

Then sprinkle with caster sugar Leave to chill in the fridge for 15 minutes Bake in oven for 35 minutes or until golden brown

At Gas mark 3 or 325f or 170c

Mary Sherman Littleport Women's Institute

LITTLEPORT & DISTRICT FLOWER ARRANGEMENT &LUB

The Club is coming near to the end of a very good year of demonstrators. There was a very successful workshop in August. This was a new venture and proved very popular.

In December we will be having a 'Practical Evening' when members are able to have a hands on session of arranging something appropriate for Christmas.

January 2019 there is no meeting and in February 2019 we will be having our AGM with the usual meal beforehand provided by Fairways Catering of Littleport. Hopefully this will go well.

A full Programme for 2019 is already booked with demonstrators old and new coming to bring along their expertise and help our members to enjoy an evening of flowers and friendship.

The Club is now in its 57th year and to help it move forward once again it is imperative that we have new blood come onto the Committee to make this happen, so please give it some thought! And anyone wishing to know more about the Club how they can help, would they please telephone Pam Hayes the Chair on 01353 860102 for more information





Littleport Lions

Lions Commonwealth Celebration

Mayor of Ely Michael Rouse writes: "Thank you to the Lions Club of Littleport and New Century Alpha Leo Club for inviting Cassie and me to their Charter Party celebrating the Commonwealth at Prickwillow Village Hall today in September".

All the guests were well fed and entertained at a very enjoyable event. The Lions do sterling work within the community for others and they are always looking for new members, as are the Leos who will be the future of the organisation.



Photograph: Lions Vice President Ann Ransley, President Michael Stares, the Mayor of Ely Michael Rouse, Leo President Isaac Stares, and the Mayoress Cassie Rouse.

We Need Your Help

Over the past two years our club has collected over 8000 pairs of used spectacles to be used, mainly in third world countries. They also go to homeless charities in the UK.

The glasses are sent to our Chichester club for checking and then transported free of charge to Le Havre in France for grading. Every part of the frame and glasses, even broken ones, are used

A 93 year old gentleman in Honduras said "Thank you Lions, I can now read my Bible for the first time in 15 years"

With your help we would like to top the 10000 mark by Christmas

Please take your old spectacles to Wade's High St Ely, Vision Express in Tesco Angel Drove Ely, Loach & Wade Littleport & Soham or Witchford Post Office.

For more details about the Lions Club of Littleport contact; lionscluboflittleport@gmail.com or phone 07817 592438



THE LIONS CLUB OF LITTLEPORT





Breakfast with Santa

at The Almonry, High St, Ely 8am start

21st, 22nd and 24th Dec 2018

Tickets £3.50 Adults, £6.50 Children (includes a present for every child)

Contact; David and Jenny Ellis 07817 592438

email; breakfastwithsanta1@yahoo.com **Booking Starts 10th September**

Supported by Tesco, City Cycle Centre, Waitrose and Sainsbury's of Elv

This event sells out fast so please book your tickets early

Littleport Rangers get Sponsorship!

Thanks to local companies Littleport Life magazine Advertisers!



Under 10's sponsored by Rumbles



Ashco sponsor Under 13's. In their 2nd year of Colts and won their league last season.



Topps Tiles sponsor Under 10's Navy team.



Sigma Embroidery sponsor Under 11's.



Topps Tiles sponsor Under 10's Navy team.



Dave Silcock of DA Silcock Construction sponsors Under 7's

Good News from Ely Roller Skating Club

Ely Roller Skating Club held their first Gala in Cambridge on 15th and 16th of September.

It was a huge success with 14 clubs attending this, their first ever event.

Ely Roller Skating Club would like to thank local sponsors, The Plough & Harrow, Littleport Leisure, Sigma Embroidery and of course Littleport Life Magazine.

Well done to the skaters who competed, and a big thanks also goes out to all the parents who helped on the day and behind the scenes. The Club are indebted to their Coach Brian Paddington for

their successes over the years. And this year is no exception. Four of the club's skaters were chosen to represent Great Britain with 3 of them Sophie Woodbridge, Chantel Lyon and Bryony Figgins competing in Germany, while Amie Bowen competed in the European Championships in Malaga, Spain in October.

Over all it's been a fantastic achievement by the Club who are continuing to produce high standards and are looking forward to host yet another Gala in the not too distant future

Lisa Simmonds



Images from the Gala on the card!

Thank you Littleport Life Magazine for your sponsorship of our Gala

Thank you message inside the card from the club

From all at Ely Roller Skating Club



Lewis Jones won the Littleport Life cup for the Novice Free category





Yep you guessed it, we got drunk and decided it would be a good idea to have another bike show! So here it is.

Put this date in your diary for 2019 for another awesome action-packed show raising money for worthwhile charities. Come show your bike, kick back, relax, have a beer and enjoy yourselves!

Saturday May 4th at 11:00 · The Crown Inn Littleport · 34 Main Street, Littleport, Cambridgeshire, United Kingdom

L&R for 363MCC



Wreaths from 363MCC at Littleport War memorial in November



Memory of a good night out for 363MCC LL 51With Iain Mackenzie, Mark Robinson and Spencer Lee at British Sugar Sports And Social Club.



Christmas Toy Run gather at the Harley Memorial every year!



Presenting a cheque to Youth Bikes



The President of 363 MCC himself Mark Robinson



Fun round the bonfire 363MCC



The Port receives a cheque



Editor of Littleport Life at Crowning Around with the meet and greet members of the 363MCC committee - a great gang of charity fundraisers!

Wise Warrior Kung Fu in Littleport!

Kaira Smith writes: We went to our first competition as a club at the Peterborough Championship Series on the 30th of September 2018.

We took part in continuous sparring and are pleased to say that we did well against some very tough competitors.

Our instructor Robert Smith and one of our junior students Jack Gregory gained first place in their categories, and Andrea Rosenboom won second place, with all of our competitors gaining valuable competitive experience.

They all did us very proud and did extremely well for their first competitive effort, and we hope to enter more competitions in the future and improve on our performance.

We train Thursdays at the YPL Performing Arts Centre, kids 6-7pm, adults 6-8pm.

Our first session is free and then it's £5 a session with an annual membership of £30 payable on the fifth session.

Our training is a mixture of traditional drills and techniques, combined with modern self defence and sparring. We emphasise fitness, so expect a tough workout!

We welcome complete beginners and all levels of fitness, so feel free to come along and try. Our email is: wisewarriorkungfu@gmail.com, our website is:

www.wisewarriorkungfu.co.uk



Kung Fu team



Fighting in action



Zumba has moved!

Black Horse Drove has had to wave goodbye to Zumba teacher Russ Welch. (Pictured)

Sadly, there were not enough regulars to keep it going - but not far away in Southery at the village hall, Littleport enthusiasts can join Russ's Zumba session on a Monday night!

Zumba Gold is from 6.20-7.20pm and Zumba Fitness from 7.30-8.30pm.

For more information call **07851 149526** or

email: rmmwelch13@hotmail.co.uk

The Field Theatre Group News

The Field Theatre Group are delighted to announce the launch of our brand new Button Tree website. Please visit:

www.littleportbuttontree.com

To find out more about the project, and to view the beautiful images and fascinating stories produced by our lovely community participants.

We also have a newly revamped website of our own:

www.fieldtheatregroup.co.uk.

This gives full details of our past, present and future projects and productions. And showcases fifteen years work in our community.

Deborah Curtis Watson

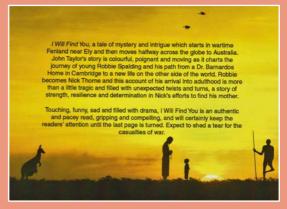
I Will Find You

John Taylor is from Littleport born and bred! He has written this riveting and easily read book that once you start reading it you will not be able to put down!

SUPPORT WOOD GREEN **CHARITY AND THE** LITTLEPORT SOCIETY.

They now have more signed copies of "I Will Find You." It makes a great Christmas present. Profits go to those organisations.

www.youtube.com/ watch?v=UUEsuCvpdGc





Sailing, gliding, diving, hiking, climbing and, of course, camping just some of the fun activities the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts of 1st Littleport Scout Group have been up to in the past 12 months.

Add to this baking, acting, sleepovers, dementia-awareness raising, and community activities such as the Remembrance Day parade, litter picking and delivering Littleport Life, and you'll see why so many of Littleport's young people want to join.

Back in 2016, the waiting list for the youngest section - Beavers, aged 6 to 8 - was so long that leader Julie Double - known in Scouting as Dove - opened a second group for Beavers.

That was soon full too, and the young people loved making new friends, camping and trying new things, including climbing at Cambridge Clip n' Climb, exploring Duxford Imperial war Museum to earn their Air Activities Badge, and even spending a night sleeping with the fishes at Hunstanton Sea Life Centre.

Lots of the six-year-olds who joined the new Colony are now at the age when they move up to Cubs - which is for those aged eight to ten and a half. Dan Seaman - known to the young people as Akela - has run the Pack for two years and has been joined by new leader Chris Twinn (Rama), who is now in charge of the second Cub Pack, which opened this summer.

"The new Cub Pack has allowed us to open a route into Scouting for a number of Littleport children who weren't Beavers previously," Dan explains. "It has been gratifying to see the new Pack get to know each other and form friendships."



Both Packs have recently enjoyed making bug hotels, earning their athlete activity badge, sailing, and hiking around Ely. "I really liked when we make toys, such as the boats that we floated on water," says Bethany, aged 9.

Scouts - for those aged between 10 and a half and 14 - has also seen a

surge in numbers to 24, and a second Scout Troop will open in the new year. The Troop is lucky to be able to use the Ryston Estate for outdoor meetings and camps in return for some forestry care, including building owl boxes for nesting birds. "I really enjoy the woodland camps - they are awesome!" enthuses Jorja, aged 12 and leader of the Troop's Puma Patrol.

Scouts from the Ely district also had the opportunity to spend 10 days in Le Mans, France, over the summer which they absolutely loved. Activities included hiking, rafting, and denbuilding and the trip ended with a visit to Disneyland Paris. "It was amazing," says Bob, aged 13. "I can't wait to go on another district camp."

Stuart Cree - known as Skip - has run the Troop for the past two years and is keen to make sure the Scouts get out and about as much as possible. "Scouting is a confidence-building exercise, learning through doing and having fun at the same time. Life has no remote - you have to get up and change it yourself - and that is what the Scouts are doing!"

Mike Philbey - known as Jester - has been the overall leader of the whole group. He believes that getting into the outdoors and learning new skills is what attracts the young people, although he is keen that the Scouts learn the value of community work

too. It is important too, for the older Scouts to be involved with the younger members of the Group, and vice versa. In September, the whole group of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts went on a Roald Dahl-themed camp for the weekend, where they learned archery, cooked over a campfire and made their own lava lamps.



Inspired by a love of the outdoors and keen to inspire the younger generation to look beyond a screen for entertainment, the leaders seek to teach new skills, offer the chance to try new activities and, most of all, encourage friendship and fun.

The leadership group is supported by an Executive Committee of parents and leaders, who organised a family day out at Thetford Forest for Scouting members and their families earlier in the year, which consisted of a session of Battlefield Live, games of cricket and rounders, and a big barbecue.

"My children love the opportunities that Scouting gives them: they have fun, meet new people and develop a sense of awareness about their community," said dad Darius.

New helpers are always welcome you don't have to commit to a weekly session - or if you have a hobby or expertise in an activity or knowledge of a historic period or social issue that you would be willing to come and talk about with the young people, please do get in touch at info@1stlittleportscoutgroup.org.uk

Beavers

Tuesdays 6-7.15pm Fridays 6-7.15pm Contact info@1stlittleportscoutgroup.org.uk

Cubs

Tuesdays 6.45-8pm Wednesdays 6.30-8pm Contact Dan on sandhill. cubs@1stlittleportscoutgroup.org.uk

Scouts

Wednesdays 7.30-9.15pm Contact Stuart on stuartwcree@gmail.com

Louise Parfitt



SPOTLIGHT ON THE LITTLEPORT SOCIETY

In a work written in 1180 by a certain William FitzStephen, a clerk to the Archbishop of Canterbury, is the following passage: "When the great Fenne or moore is frozen, many people play upon the ice; some stryding as wide as they may; some do slide swiftly; some tye bones to their feet and under their heels and shoving themselves by a little staff do slide as swiftly as a bird flyeth in the air or an arrow from a crossbow."

It was probably the Vikings who introduced bone skates to England, and they may well have been in use up to Stuart times, when the Dutch introduced the wooden skate with an iron blade.

The Fenmen later developed their open skate known as the Fen Runner.

Although Littleport has a long skating heritage, with great races being held on the river, and from 1892 on The Moors skating ground, Littleport produced no skating champions, unlike our neighbouring villages of Welney and Southery.

The December issue of the Littleport Society Magazine has a feature on the little known Henrick Lindahl, the Norwegian champion skater, and the Littleport Challenge Cup, which he won on three occasions, even beating the great James Smart of Welney.

It accompanies a skating exhibition at the Barn during the winter months, telling the story of the Challenge Cup races and the champions who won it.

The Littleport Society Collection is open at The Barn in the Main Street Car Park every Tuesday afternoon from 1pm to 4pm.

Books about ice skating in the fens: Fen Speed Skating - an illustrated history (£6.99 postage extra); and The Welney Division (£5.00 postage extra), are available for purchase from the Society.

Roger Rudderham - Chairman of The Littleport Society

More on the discovery of the Littleport Baton in Oz!

John Taylor, the author, of the book featured on page 17, told Littleport Life of his amazement when he discovered the baton that featured in the article written by Cathy Gibb-de Swarte about Bill Sharpe and the Littleport Band in our last issue.

As he says, "There I was, ambassador for the Littleport Society, a Littleport lad, on the other side of the world when this baton, presented to Littleport band conductor Teddy Dring in 1916 on his departure for Australia, came into my possession just by chance!"

THE LITTLEPORT SOCIETY EVENTS

Held in the Village Hall 7.30 pm.

Monday 10 December

Christmas Concert with Johnathon White on the organ

Monday 7 January

Old Littleport + Pathe Newsreel film of Littleport War Week

Tuesday 5 February

AGM (Members Only) + Quiz Night with James Gilbert

Tuesday 5 March

The People who Drained The Fens – Dr. Philip Saunders

Rotary Club of Littleport — Update



Above—The **Quiz Master** surveys his contestants—20 teams. The event, as the pictures will show, proved to be more than just entertaining, it was a great evening for everyone — Look at the laughter.



Food & refreshment — thanks must go to Rotary members who provided the wine and drink. Together with the "**Codfather**" which provided fish and chips, in record time, for all to be fed within 30 mins!



3rd Team—Paul's Friends—2 Councillors, Ex Parish Clerk/Sister, Plumber & IT Spec.



Joint 3rd Team — Swansong

2ndTeam — Wicken 1

Below—The inimitable **Quiz Master** Tony Winchester, entertaining his audience, at one point, he tried some voice impressions—mercifully for a brief moment only.





The budding thespians of the **Littleport Players** entertained us throughout the evening. Ladies please book in your team for next year.

Winners & Losers

During the proceedings all of the result on the answer sheets were loaded into the computer and displayed on the projector screen. At the end of the evening the computer, computed and first place went, to **Ely Rotary Club**, closely followed by one of the teams from the National Trust centre at Wicken Fen and in joint third place was a team from the Wildfowl and Wetland Trust at Welney and **Paul's Friends**



Above— the Winning Team Ely Rotary club

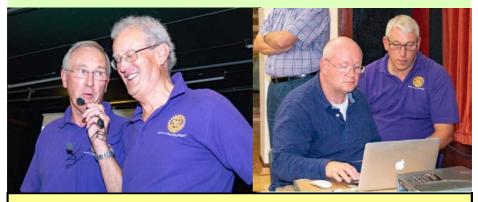
To those of you who attended thank you so much for your support. and we hope to see you all again next Quiz.

Money Raised—the Club was delighted to raise over £600—which will go towards the support and upkeep of local organisations.

Team Effort

Many Rotarians and spouses helped with the event, in the Kitchens, Collecting & distributing Fish and Chips, Procurement Wine Etc, Setting tables, Researching & preparing Quiz, Photography, Setting up IT & AV systems, Financial & Banking Services. Below Rotarians -

Colin Every (Gaffer), Tony Winchester, Leigh Shaw & Clive Webber



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

Ron Bradney on: 01353 864949

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

site: www.littleportrotary.org.uk *Paul Cox*—Design Studio



Littleport Life Editor Lyn visits YPL Auctions

I needed a filing cabinet and was delighted to find one for sale in the YPL auction run by Phil Malkin.

When I went along to collect my purchase I must say I was pleased to find it was in as good condition as I would expect in a new one.

In fact there were new items in the hall ready for the next auction. These are held twice a week, on a Wednesday evening at 6pm and Saturday mornings at 11am.

I couldn't resist a look round and spoke to Phil himself who was organising a display of fascinating ornaments.



YPL charity organiser, Phil Malkin with happy customer Lyn

He told me that he makes a point of only accepting items for auction if they are in good condition. There were already some very interesting pieces that would be fetching quite high prices in a London auction house.



Dee of Dee's Delights and the cafe

Metal and wooden signs, beloved of Antiques Road Trip and other similar programmes, 60's coffee and tea sets, musical instruments, tools, 40's furniture that just needs a bit of TLC with paint stripper to give it that 21st century appeal, and countless other artefacts like glass dressing table sets and candelabras from the mid-20th century now fashionable retro chic.

I admit to probably spending more time browsing than I should have - but it was a very relaxing way to spend an hour! And then upstairs is Dee's Delights – an eclectic mix of items for your home ranging from large ornamental china elephants to zebra print chairs and art deco mirrors, all have a ticket price, so you don't have to ask.

Dee also serves refreshments in the very clean downstairs café area, needless to say, with a smile.

The whole place is geared to raising money for the YPL charity. The auctioned items give a donation of 20 pence in every pound with 80

pence going back to the owners of the goods.

I certainly enjoyed the experience both of buying a good quality filing cabinet for a fraction of it's cost new, and going along to pay for it, and having a chat with Phil whose heart is definitely in the right place as far as Littleport is concerned and having a well-made cup of tea and a delicious snack too!

Find them at the indoor arena, Henry Crabb Road, Littleport.

Call 01353 861391



Littleport Parish Council – Consultation



Following the handover of The Paddocks, the Parish Council would like to know your thoughts on the following proposals. We are seeking to implement works during the spring/summer of 2019. The works will, we hope, provide open space to be enjoyed by all groups in the community (dog walkers, families, free-running enthusiasts etc). It is hoped that part of The Paddocks can also be utilised to hold public events, such as fetes during the summer months, with the installation of services such as water and power along with provision of parking.

The open space is currently in need of clearance due to non-maintenance over the last few years and these works are planned to commence very shortly. The Parish Council would therefore like to gather residents' views over what facilities could possibly be provided.

The plan below outlines initial thoughts about what could go where and on the reverse of this page are some questions which it is hoped will further inform plans going forward.

This consultation is also available on our website (www.littleportparishcouncil.gov.uk) but if you prefer to complete this paper copy, when finished please pop it back to The Barn.

The closing date for the consultation is 31st January 2019.



Paddock 2 : Free running/Parkour facility, skate park/BMX/play equipment.



Paddocks 3 and 4: Both remaining paddocks to have paths, benches, wildflower areas for dog walking/general use.

Purely for illustration, below are a few ideas for Paddock 2:

Parkour Equipment



Youth Shelter



Wheelchair Roundabout



Littleport Parish Council – Consultation



Please note that due to the provisions of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, we cannot guarantee you confidentiality, as all replies will be available for public inspection. You do not need to put your name, but your address is essential as that will indicate your proximity to the Paddocks.

Name:							
Address:							
Please tick one box on each line below							
Are you Male	Female						
Your Age							
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree			
New Recreation Facilities	Agree			Disagree			
Playground equipment 0-5 yrs*							
Playground equipment 5-11 yrs*							
Youth play facilities 11-16 yrs*							
Parkour/Free running facilities							
Skateboard or BMX area [please circle							
preferred option]							
Youth shelter(s)							
New 'Park' Amenities							
Benches							
Picnic Tables							
Litter / Dog bins							
New paths to aid walking/jogging							
Wildflower area(s)							
Noticeboard(s)							
Please write your own comments/ideas/suggestions below:							
Please return your completed form to The Barn, Main Street or email it to us at							

info@littleportparishcouncil.gov.uk by 31st January 2019. Thank you for taking the time to participate in this consultation.



^{*} To include provision for disabled (ie wheelchair accessible roundabout)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Autumn/Winter 2018



'It's everyone's business' Update

Following the exceptionally well attended public meeting in August, the Parish Council have been kept updated by the Police about how they have been working to tackle the incidents of anti-social behaviour around the village. Residents will have noticed the increased patrols around the village. Significant progress has been made in respect of identifying criminality and the perpetrators. Arrests have taken place and dispersal enforcement taken. This work is ongoing and a further update from the Police has just been published on our website and Facebook.

We will be having a Community Action Day late March/early April 2019 which will see representatives of various organisations such as Environmental Services (ECDC), Street Scene (ECDC), housing officers, housing associations, police, fire and rescue and others who will be present in the village for a whole day dealing with things that they come across like street sweeping, cutting back unruly hedges encroaching on pavements and answering residents' questions face to face on issues that they may have. This will culminate with a drop in surgery at either the Village Hall or The Barn (venue yet to be decided at time of printing) where people can have more 'in-depth' discussions with the relevant organisations.

Don't forget to please keep reporting anything you see that appears to be 'wrong' via either 101 or online reporting at https://www.cambs.police.uk/report/Report-Shared/Report-a-crime.

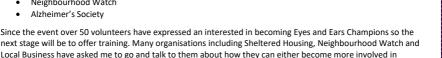
Community "Eyes and Ears" event at Ely Cathedral on 13 September 2018

The launch on the 13 September was very successful and was supported by several agencies including:

- Cambridgeshire Constabulary
- Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue
- East Cambridgeshire District Council
- Trading Standards
- ROSMINI
- Action Fraud
- County Safeguarding Board
- Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership

email: communityeyesandears@eastcambs.gov.uk.

- Neighbourhood Watch
- Alzheimer's Society



The Parish Council have successfully bid for, and received, some grants from ECDC to enable additional works on the CCTV to be ordered and the rooflights at the village hall to be replaced/repaired. Further applications for grant funding will be submitted soon for other works that we've identified. These grants are primarily from the Section 106 monies that the District Council hold on behalf of the Parish Council (for the village) which come from payments that developers have to pay when they apply for planning permission to build homes in the village.

supporting the scheme or simply learn about how they can use the referral process. If you are interested you can



Littleport Business Partnership

Su has started to pull together a database of all businesses in the village with the aim of inviting every business to become part of the new Littleport Business Partnership. It is hoped that this new partnership will foster good communication across the whole of the business community, identifying opportunities for local employment and promotion of the village. There will be quarterly meetings of the partnership where people can exchange views and ideas. We'll also be inviting guest speakers who will be able to provide advice on various things like lone working, security etc.

Paddocks

They're now the property of the Parish Council after 10 years waiting but we're there now and so work can start in earnest bringing them into use for all residents. A consultation document has been prepared and you'll find a copy of it in Littleport Life along with paper copies in some of the shops along Main Street (and at The Barn of course). Please take the time to fill this in and get it back to the Clerks either by paper copy or via email (info@littleportparishcouncil.gov.uk). The more responses we receive the better so that we can pull together a comprehensive plan for what you, as residents, would like to see on the land. The closing date for the consultation is 31st January 2019.

New Facebook Group

We've created a new group on Facebook to get information out to everyone. It's a closed group so please search it out and send a request to join – the more people in the group the further we can reach with important information which may (or may not) affect you. Please search for "Littleport Parish Council Group" and send a request.

Local Highway Initiative Bid

At the time of going to press we have been invited to attend the Panel Hearing at Witchford for the current round of LHI bids and representatives from the Parish Council will be attending to put our case for having two additional MVAS units. As soon as we know the outcome of our bid we'll publish this on the website and our group on Facebook.

Christmas Lights

The remedial works have started on the switch boxes and catenaries [wires across the street] in preparation of the festive lights being put up in time for Christmas and we're hopeful that all will be in place for the switch on at the beginning of December. Unfortunately our previous fantastic helpers are unable to assist with the installation this year so if there are any fit and able persons willing and able to join a few of us Parish Councillors please let the Clerks know and we can then sort out days/times when we can get together.

Summing Up

All that's left to say is that I, and my fellow Councillors, wish everyone a happy, joyous, peaceful and enjoyable festive season and prosperous 2019.



Su Field Parish Clerk on behalf of Cllr Clive Webber - Parish Council Chairman

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH



We have family in Australia and in a recent skype call, our son said "the weather is warming up now"

because of course, in the southern part of the globe they are preparing for summer.

The world keeps turning with its cycles of light and dark, warmth and cold, growth and rest and after our very hot summer, autumn is well under way and soon winter will be upon us; the damp and darkness, the ice and snow. And we will celebrate Christmas.

I once asked a group of school children (not in Littleport) whether it would be Christmas in Africa; they thought for a bit and then said no. it wouldn't be Christmas in Africa. Rapidly, I revised what I had been going to say in the assembly and asked why not? The answers came back that it is hot in Africa and it has to be cold for Christmas, the people are poor and can't buy presents and finally, Christmas is about happiness and people in Africa aren't happy.

It was astonishing because these were ten and eleven year olds, broadly from privileged and well-travelled backgrounds, at a school which prided itself on its multicultural awareness (!) We chatted for a bit; about time zones, calendars and stuff, and gradually the realisation dawned that actually, it would be Christmas in Africa.

I have acknowledged in these pages before that the early Church did Christianise the winter festival of Saturnalia, saying that the Light of Christ is the true light you are looking for. As an exercise in visual aids it was a stroke of genius, but the downside is

that the celebration of Christmas becomes the antidote to feeling cold and wet. So, the fact that Christmas will be celebrated in hot climates too is the corrective we perhaps need; that the Light of Christ is the gift to the whole world, a world which had forgotten God, but God had not forgotten it. Or us.

Christmas is the promise that God is with us, always. Christ came into the biggest empire the world had yet seen, at a time of oppression (nothing much new in that) and whilst into a family, it wasn't a straightforward family arrangement. And whether we are cold or hot, damp or dry, the message of joy and promise is the same whoever we are

There is a New Zealand carol called "An upside down Christmas" - I once got a church choir to hastily sing it when we found there were New Zealanders in the congregation. The last verse is:

Right side up Christmas belongs to the universe.

Made in the moment a woman gives birth;

Hope is the Jesus gift, love is the offering,

Everywhere, anywhere, here on the earth.

With every blessing, Reverend Howard Robson



A Message from St John's **Methodist Church**

From the Minister

It seems that I am back again. I have the privilege and joy of serving the Methodist church at Littleport. It looks like a return fixture as I served this church some eight years ago and am doing so again while we wait for the new minister to come.

So who am I? My name is Bernard Arnold and I have been a Methodist minister for forty-eight years. I am married to Ruth who is a Methodist Local Preacher and was a teacher. We have two children. Our son runs his own painting decorating business in London having attending Camberwell college of Art and a daughter who is an Anglican Priest working in Coventry.

What is the Methodist Church? We are of the non-conformist tradition and each church is part of what we call the Connexion (correct spelling) that goes round the world. There are some eighty million Methodists in the world. Many of these churches are growing rapidly unlike the ones in this country.

Two Anglican brothers, John and Charles Wesley who found at the time that the Anglican Church was not reaching all parts the country because of its lack of evangelical preaching started a movement within the Anglican church which was eventually expelled and Methodism was founded. The movement was to spread throughout the country especially in the rural areas and in the large cities formed by the industrial revolution.

I first became a Christian in 1955 when I gave my life to Christ at a beach mission in Sheringham and ever since then I believe that God has guided me. I have served overseas in Jamaica. I have served in Reading, Godalming, Colchester and Chelmsford. I have been a prison chaplain and a police chaplain and a time as a hospital chaplain as well as working in Reading University.

As I said at the beginning of this letter to you it is a privilege and a joy to work in Littleport and I hope I get to meet with you in the short time that Lam here.

Rev Bernard Arnold



Greater Littleport and District New Christian Spiritualists' Society

Spiritualist meetings in Littleport

There have been Spiritualist meetings in Littleport since 1998 writes Lyn Gibb-de Swarte.

Begun in the old Leisure Centre, it moved to the Village Hall soon after, and has remained a weekly Thursday night fixture ever since.

It was started by a group of Littleport people who had joined a spiritual and psychic development circle run by a well-known medium and healer who had relocated from London. She was also the editor of the old established weekly Spiritualist newspaper, Psychic News based at Clock Cottage in the grounds of Stansted Hall, home of the Arthur Findlay College for Psychic and Spiritual Studies.

Some of those circle members are still with us in Littleport. Cathy Gibb-de Swarte, Jacqui Burford and Nick Brown. Mike Goodall too, now with the Ely group, and Hazel Gaskarth. Now passed on into the world of spirit, the realms of light also called heaven, and most fondly remembered, are 5 others who together with me, Cathy, Hazel, Mike, Jacqui and Nick, founded and ran the church.

There was quite a vocal opposition to the meetings at first, but gradually the Spiritualist gathering at the hall became part of the Littleport scene, and those attending talked about what it was like and what went on with their friends and neighbours, and so that went a long way to dispelling much of the negativity propelled towards it.



Service time Rev Nick and Chair Linda Brown

So now, 20 years later, this Spiritualist conclave has evolved into a splendid New Christian Spiritualists' Society church, complete with a NCSS Bishop leading a happy regular congregation.

Yes, the Right Reverend Nick Brown, ably assisted by a council, is there most Thursdays, welcoming regular attendees and newcomers alike, to the services that always provides mediums to demonstrate life after death, with messages from Beyond, healing prayer and spiritual upliftment.

Earthly sustenance by way of refreshments is always available after the service, thanks to that council in the

persons of Francis and Linda Brown and other church members.

I am glad that I can confess to having been the medium who instigated all of this as that 1998 circle leader.

And glad I am to introduce this message from my one-time diffident student, now ordained minister, Rev Nick Brown.

'As I sit to write this update from the perspective of Littleport Spiritualism for our community magazine, my view is somewhat different than usual, as I am currently under the shadow of the Acropolis in Athens.

Yesterday, I was sat on the side of Mount Parnassus, the home of The Temple of Apollo, and the seat of the Delphic Oracle of ancient Greek times It was a long walk, although I was offered a donkey at one point - I declined in this instance.

The journey there reminded me very much of home, with so many parallels to our fenland, small communities that were self-sufficient: with farmland (growing olives, not wheat this time) and farm animals grazing in fields by the road and of course more tractors than you can shake a stick at!

Delphi was called the navel of the world, seen as the centre of creation by the ancient Greeks and the Oracle was at the very centre of it all, in fact going further, to act as an independent old-world United Nations.

The Oracle aimed of course to give 'Prophecy', a word much associated with religion and perhaps even more so with Spiritualism. The thing is, as ever, the meaning of that word and deed is so often misinterpreted, especially in these days of freely accessible information, where opinions and not always accurate information can be passed off as facts without relevant research or question.

Prophecy literally is 'an utterance of a prophet', and a prophet is 'one who utters divinely inspired revelations' and 'one gifted with more than ordinary spiritual and moral insight, to reveal the will of God.' It's not all about fortune telling!



Psychic Teas feature every season of the year!

The tour guide showing us round told us that the 'Prophecy' give by the oracle, was often seen as open to interpretation, when asking of future events, and the reason for this is because it was considered that the information given should encourage something very important and very important to those of a Spiritualist understanding, 'Personal Responsibility'.

As one of our Principles of Spiritualism, many deem this to be one of the most important, although in truth they are all equally important.

The basic purpose was to say 'if you do this, that will happen, if you do that, this will happen' educating the enquirer on

the finer nuances of cause, effect, and the understanding of consequence, but also hard work, and its associated payoff.

At this time of year, we all look to the future, we naturally bed ourselves in for the winter, storing what we need to get us through the darkness and cold, ready to begin again in the light and warmth of spring, spending our time plotting and planning what we will do with that 'new year'.

But in an age of heating, electric lights and a shop on almost every corner, for some of us at least, the act of winter preparation should be more about storing knowledge, and the acquisition of wisdom to be better at using that knowledge, ready to change that which needs changing in the light of a new dawn.

Personal Responsibility teaches us this, to make things happen for ourselves, just as the Oracle at Delphi did to all-comers, from all nations and cultures, back in ancient times.

As for the application of the knowledge and wisdom we acquire? A good suggestion, and one I am sure the Oracle herself would back me up on, would be our second Spiritualist Principle, 'The Brotherhood and Sisterhood of Humankind', because, after all, not everyone will have that so common heat and light, nor money to nip to the shops for food, even in so called modern society, let alone in other less developed regions of the world.

What we learn, we share (after checking the facts of course) to help, aid and benefit our fellow siblings of the Earth, with compassion, with love.

That is a Springtime I look forward to, a light worthy of shining upon our black soil of the fens.

May your own search for the light be as rewarding, and if you need a boost, you know where to find us, at Littleport's very own independent navel of our world, Littleport Village Hall, Victoria Street, every Thursday night, with Healing from 7pm and our main service of mediumship, together with, dare I say it, now you know its truer meaning, Prophecy!'

God Bless you all.



Vine Community Church



Every Carol tells a Story



Christmas is coming! And by now you might have heard quite a few carols on the radio, each telling the Christmas Story in their own way. There's Mary aetting the news that she's going to be the mother of Jesus - 'The Angel Gabriel from heaven came.'

There are shepherds in the fields watching their flocks by night and a heavenly choir turns up. The lead angel says 'Fear not, glad tidings of great joy I bring to you...' So the shepherds go into 'Royal David's City' and have a look, and what do they see? 'The cattle are lowing', they 'See him lying on a bed of straw' and they wonder 'What child is this?'

Some time later, three wise guys arrive with the first ever Christmas presents. 'Gold I bring,' says Caspar. Wow, what a present! They all understand that 'Unto us a child is born.'

Each of our carols gives us an angle on the Big Story that's going on - God coming to right where we are, up close, so that we can know for sure just how much he really does love us, whatever we've had to face in our lives this year or any year. Jesus is God's special gift to each and every one of us.

Two of my favourite carols end with prayers -

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;

Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us todav.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.

And one carol ends with this challenge -What can I give him? Give my heart.

Forty years ago I asked Jesus Christ to be my friend and saviour, and through good times and difficult times he's always been there, never let me down.

Everyone's waiting for something. What are you waiting for?

Make this Christmas special - give him vour heart.

Ian Silk

The Vine Community Church



Vine Community Church Meetings

Toddler and Baby Group with Parent and Carers Monday 10 to 11.30 Contact Julie 07790 304099

House groups Tuesday evenings, and Wednesdays at 10.30 am Coffee Break Thursday 10.30 to 12.00 with homemade cakes.

Morning Worship Sunday 10.30 am with Creche and Stars.

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



The Redeemed Christian **Church of God**

New Covenant House, Littleport, Ely 11 Victoria Street. CB6 1LU

Service & Times - Weekly Meetings

Sunday Service: 10:00am - 12.00pm

Wednesday: Interactive Bible Study, 7.00pm - 8.00pm

Special Services:

First Sunday of the month: Thanksgiving Service: 10am - 12.00pm

Fourth Sunday of the month: Hour of Divine Touch: 11.00am - 12.00pm

M: 07469699557 / 07469699554 E: info@rccgnch.org.uk rccgnch.org.uk

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 Sunday of each month



- Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals by arrangement http://www.elyandnewmarketmethodists.org.uk/littleport

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



About The Royal British Legion

The British Legion was formed on 15 May 1921, from four Organisations of ex-Servicemen, established after the First World War.

We help members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, veterans and their families all year round. We also campaign to improve their lives, organise the Poppy Appeal and remember the fallen.

WHAT THE POPPY MEANS

The poppy is

- A symbol of Remembrance and hope
- Worn by millions of people
- Red because of the natural colour of field poppies

The poppy is NOT

- A symbol of death or a sign of support for war
- A reflection of politics or religion
- Red to reflect the colour of blood

Wearing a poppy is a personal choice and reflects individual and personal memories. It is not compulsory but is greatly appreciated by those it helps - our beneficiaries: those

currently serving in our Armed Forces, veterans, and their families and dependants.

In commemoration of the First World War centenary, the Legion and Decca Records have released a very special album of spoken words and music that includes "In Flanders Fields" read by Stephen Fry and another version, read by the descendants of WW1 VC recipients.

In addition, there are readings by Danny Dyer, Sarah Millican, Dan



Snow, Sean Bean and Jim Naughtie with music by The Central Band of The Royal British Legion.

Littleport has its own Royal British Legion branch. Littleport Branch committee meets on the second Thursday of the month, except January and February (no meeting), at 19.30 hours, at The Barn, Main Street car park, Littleport.



BBC Children in Need Ramble and funds needed to help a young person in Littleport communicate by her laptop

When BBC's Countryfile announced that their 'Children in Need' charity ramble was coming to Ely, without hesitation I was among 1,999 people who applied instantly to take part and was lucky enough to be picked out of a ballot and win a place to take part in such an amazing event. Writes Cathy Gibb-de Swarte

On the morning of Saturday 7th October, the day of the charity ramble, everyone gradually gathered on the green of the Ely Cathedral site and dutifully queued up before having our IDs checked and we were presented with our identifiable yellow Pudsey hats before embarking on yet another queue to pay for a welcome cup of coffee as the cold was beginning to set in.

The Ely Cathedral green was now brimming with a sea of yellow hatted ramblers as yet more queues began to form for a photo opportunity with one of the Countryfile television programme presenters, Ellie Harrison, and the mascot himself Pudsey, before being put through our paces with some limbering up exercises instructed by a Keep Fit expert.

Then all 1,300 of us slowly trudged off to enjoy the picturesque sites of Ely.

Many of us got chatting along the way meeting up with people like the kilted couple David and Angus who were taking a break from their own business, and many enthusiastic single ladies who seemed seasoned ramblers only happy to be part of this once in a life time experience.



Elle with mum Tina

Those who were raising money for the 'Children In Need' charity either through sponsorship or/and a 'Just Giving Page' were asked by the Countryfile presenter Ellie Harrison if they wanted to talk on camera about a special person they wanted to highlight about their everyday

struggles and how they managed on a daily basis. I declined such a request although I was aware of one lady's story who had touched me greatly and did not wish to embarrass her or her daughter.

However, she was happy to speak to readers of Littleport Life Magazine about her life caring for a young 19 year old with Retts Syndrome.

Tina Copsey and her daughter Elle live in Littleport, together with her two older children and a grandson, and I met up with them both one Friday afternoon.

Having briefly met Elle previously at MCC363's Crowning Around event, I was delighted to see her face light up when I presented her with Sharon Bishop's superbly knitted Pudsey and Blush chocolate orange holders which just happens to be Elle's favourite chocolates.

Lasked Mum Tina how she has managed, and whether she had been getting the support she needs.

"Elle was born a normal baby. She was around 6 or 7 months when I mentioned that she was sleeping a lot and I had to wake her to feed her and as a mother of 4 other children you have that instinct that something isn't quite right.

"There was an incident where Elle poured a jug of hot water over herself, but luckily her Dad Dan was on it right away dousing her with cold water, but we still had to go to the hospital. We were living in Plumstead, Woolwich, London, so Greenwich was the nearest hospital.

The next day we had Social Services on the door because I had been reported - which did give me a chance to explain to them what was going on and the help I needed.

I reeled off all the problems I was experiencing with Elle because right at the beginning the medical professionals couldn't help me saving that she was far too young to be diagnosed. And once they listened to me I got a referral which took two and a half years for a proper diagnosis, revealed Tina.

Retts Syndrome is a genetic brain disorder which makes Elle susceptible to infections and seizures nearly every day.

Flle who also has rheumatoid arthritis, is non-mobile and nonverbal, although able to speak random words. Since coming up to Littleport 10 years ago to be near Tina's parents who live in Coveney, it has been one constant struggle receiving no support, no physio, and no Occupational Therapy.

Tina who has been on a roller coaster ride with generally being let down by those who might have been expected to help in a professional capacity, looks like she is finally being

rewarded for her perseverance and dogged determination.

"Elle has spent a year with me at home which is great, but it has meant that she's not getting any help or being educated. I was unaware of the new Highfield Littleport Academy LINC (Learning, Independence, Needs and Care) for 19 to 25-year-olds.

It was only when I bumped into Elle's old OT worker who suggested I contact them that I instantly got an interview. They offered Elle 3 days a week from 9.30 am to 3.45 pm to start off.

"It means Elle will again be able to go to swimming which she loves by using their hydro pool; shopping, cooking and eye gaze sessions, which means she can communicate through her laptop, and better still she will be with her own peer group. Already she knows three of the girls who attend", Tina told me.

It's hoped that through some local organised fund-raising in 2019 it will be possible to raise the funds needed to buy the £10,000 eye gaze equipment that would enable Elle to communicate from her wheelchair at any time.



WWT -**Welney Wetland Centre**

The North wind doth blow and we shall have swans. Wrap up warm and watch the wildlife this winter at your local Wetland Centre.

During this season, the Ouse Washes and WWT Welney become the home of our three species of swans: mute, whooper and Bewick's. With a range of swan feed events you have a good chance of finding these wonderful waterfowl on the reserve.

For the early birds why not book onto one of the Swans Awake events? Watch the sun rise and the swans with it as they head off to the surrounding fields to feed. At the other end of the day view the swans flying back in as they glide onto the surface of the water ready to roost. At each of the commentated Swan Feeds learn. more about these marvellous birds, including the story of their migrations to and from the Ouse Washes each

winter. Enjoy close-up views of these birds as they are fed right in front of the Main Hide. When visiting after dark for a floodlit feed listen out over Lady Fen to the whistling of wigeon and the honking of whooper swans. For full times of Swan Feeds visit https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetlandcentres/welney/whats-on/

Looking closely at the swans you can see that some of them are wearing brightly coloured leg rings in order to identify individual birds. If you spot a leg ring the interactive swan touchscreen will help paint a picture of that bird. By reporting leg ring sightings you can actively help us follow their incredible journeys.

Increased water levels on the Washes sees an increase in waterfowl. Thousands of wigeon, pochard and tufted duck, along with pintail, goldeneve, plus mallard, teal and

gadwall populate the Washes. Follow their activities closely to see how the ducks feed in different ways; some diving down deep under the water, whilst others dabble on the surface. Watch wading birds: Icelandic blacktailed godwits, dunlin and snipe feeding and roosting on the islands. You may even catch a glimpse of a bird of prey, as peregrine falcons or merlin as they soar along the Washes.

Get closer to our wetlands by joining one of our guides to explore Lady Fen, an area of the reserve not normally open to explore. Watch hares racing through the short vegetation, lapwing, golden plover dancing in the wide fenland skies and flocks of skylark, meadow pipits and starlings.

Over the festive period, why not enjoy the view Lady Fen with a Christmas Lunch? From the 15th – 24th December, Wigeon Café will be offering a festive Christmas carvery available from 12:00-2:30pm daily. Whilst tucking into your roast or sipping on hot chocolate look out for swans, hares and our smaller birds taking their meals at the bird feeding station.

Join us for a Festival of Swans (19th -20th January), a weekend of activities to celebrate and learn about the amazing species which are whoopers and Bewick's swans and the incredible journeys they make each year. Guest speakers will be hosting talks over the weekend and be available to answer your questions. Our daily swan feeds will be taking place alongside hare walks, drop in wildlife filming workshops and a selection of family activities including the opportunity to make a bird feeder or even your own swan ring. Keep an eye on our website and social media for announcements of guest speakers.

How about a game of GIANT
Top Trumps? Top Trumps cards
highlighting wetland wildlife are
located around the reserve. Collect
a scorecard on arrival and compare
your animal scores to see if you can
beat WWT Welney. Each top trump
features interesting facts about our
favourite wetland species allowing
visitors of all ages to learn more
about the wonderful creatures whilst
experiencing them first-hand.



Adams Heritage Centre Thriving in Littleport

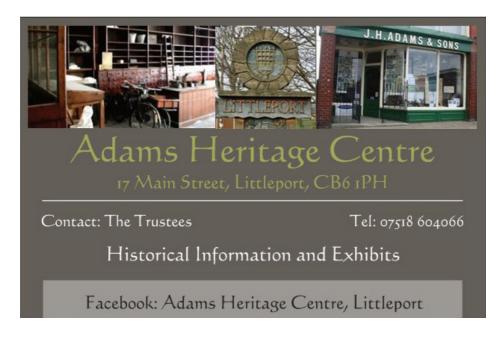
We've had a busy and exciting year at the Adams Heritage Centre, we began with organising and displaying some of our beautiful, memorabilia whilst encountering some surprising hidden finds tucked away. Our centre is open to visitors on Tuesdays between 2pm -4pm, with wheelchair access.

Our market's Christmas Special will be hosting an array of delicious produce on the 1 December, 9am - 1pm. Raffle tickets are being sold now to WIN a tasty selection box comprising an item from each of our stallholders.

In November we marked 100 years Remembrance Day and asked the communities of Littleport to make poppies for our special window display. The local schools got involved and produced some amazing pieces which were joined together to make one big poppy ring.

In September we celebrated our market's 3rd anniversary seeing an increase of customers. Every 1st Saturday of each month 9am - 1pm we open our doors and host an abundance of local produce which include meat, honey, cakes, jams, chutneys, vegetables, bread, flowers and pastries. We introduced Pop Up Stalls for those wishing to give us a go which are ideal for small, new food businesses or as alternative promotional outlet.

In May we held our open weekend displaying local history and



commemorating special events. We met 70 visitors and plan to hold another next year.

In April Timebank and the Littleport Crafters were busy making red, white and blue Poms Poms for VE Day and the Royal Wedding, our centre looked beautiful alongside the many other shops down Main Street.

In March we welcomed the PortRocks who organised a cheerful Easter window display, showing all the amazing rock creations the children had designed.

In January The Field Theatre Group started their Button Tree Project, many hours and months were spent developing this memorial project which looked amazing once completed.

Our centre is available to small community groups with our main window available to hire. If you're interested to find out more please email us @ adamsheritagecentre@gmail.com

We would like to thank everyone for making this year another successful one, we are aiming to plan more events next year. To keep updated please join us on Facebook @ Adams Heritage Centre, Littleport.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, see you all in 2019!

The Trustees David, Susan, Debra, Clair'Marie



One of the regular users of the Adams Heritage Centre is the Littleport and Ely Timebank. On one of their regular Thursday morning social meetings, they held a successful Macmillan coffee charity event which raised £232.40. Roger Bramford, Timebank member, said: "We had a steady flow of visitors and residents which helped bump up the charity coffers."

Littleport Leisure the place to be!

Magical parties, wonderful weddings or sombre events, the Fieldside Suite offers a blank canvass to paint your everlasting picture.

Fieldside Suite is available to hire, together with a private bar area, for all celebration events.



At Littleport Leisure

Saturday 15th December 7pm til late 3 course dinner by Housdens Catering

With Live singing from Chrissie Cadillac including

Disco £26 per ticket

Parties of any size welcome

Every group booking will have their own table

For tickets and menus please call

Littleport Leisure Centre 01353 373800

Or email





ThePORT

Youth Group

Mondays (Term Time)

4.15-5.30pm School Year 5/6 5.30-7pm School Year 6 to 12 £1.50 per week

Please see our Facebook Page 'ThePORT' for further details / activities

Or contact Joanne Coe on

07988 477255

Email: theport@mail.com

Littleport Events -

New Year's Eve Party with Intercity Disco Village Hall Victoria Street 7.30pm - 12.30am £5 per person All Ages Welcome Payment in advance

Bring your own food and drinks 07988 477255



Toasting Marshmallows!



Happy group photo!



The Gate House Gets Top Award!

'Fantastic B&B I would give it 5 stars thanks for looking after us. The breakfast was great too, loads of choice for everyone. I will definitely stay again when visiting friends in the area,' commented Paul

'The Gate House is just fabulous. Edna and Peter are wonderful hosts. They helped with my luggage on arrival and on departure, carrying my bag into my boot. They have really thought of everything, chocolate and biscuits in the room too. Breakfast was lovely, nothing is too much trouble. They even gave me bananas and muffins for my long journey home. The big hotel chains should come and see real hospitality in action. Outstanding!' stated Clare.

These are just two of the many compliments from visitors when you log in to The Gate House, Littleport on the internet. And not surprisingly, this local B&B has picked up yet another yearly award. This time the "Visiting England Rose Award 2018 In Recognition of Service Excellence."

There is no big headedness about the establishment's owner Edna Mycawka who also gets a helping hand from her partner Peter Slee-Smith whenever he can if he's not away in Kings Lynn wearing his other employment hat as an engineer.

"I have been very, very lucky because the Hotel Inspectors who are the ones who visit you unannounced put you forward for these yearly awards and believe it or not they have never ever failed me on anything from cleaning or my breakfasts.

"I have been very fortunate to have received four-star golds from the AA and Visit England since we started our B&B in February 5 years ago. I even received a Breakfast Award which I am pretty chuffed about," said Edna, who also prides herself on her homemade vegetarian shortbread, gluten free cereals, plus homemade marmalade, jams and fish cakes.

"It's just not B&B's who get these awards you are competing against the like of hotels, holiday parks up and down the country. The AA themselves do give out different awards. For instance a few years ago I got put forward for the friendliest B&B and claimed the runner-up spot which I was pleased about." stated Edna, who's visitors come from as far as Australia, America, Japan, China and Canada.

"Do you know we've had one of the busiest summers since we opened which just proves that Littleport is becoming a thriving place.

"We truly are so proud of the services we provide," concluded Edna who makes you feel at home, which is what ethos of The Gate House in Littleport is all about.

Cathy Gibb-de Swarte





Firefighter David Murfitt has retired!



There are many unsung heroes in Littleport - and not too many actually ever know about

their achievements. David Murfitt for instance who is often seen helping out marshalling regularly at Littleport's Parkrun. This is a man who has served 25 years with Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service at Littleport fire station.

Announcing his retirement only this September, his wife Amanda said: "Today my husband retires from CFRS after exactly 25 years as a retained firefighter for Littleport.

I am so proud of him and all that he has done for the local community over the years.

It's not easy juggling being on call alongside a full-time job and family life.

Often it is the family life that suffers usually missed events because you can't get off call and change plans at the last minute."

There have been highs and lows and according to David; "Nothing beats the feeling when you are able to help someone in distress, but to all those we could not help - sleep peacefully,

and those we have, enjoy life and do the things you have always wanted to do.

"The fire station alerter has now gone which will enable me to spend more time with my family, and dog walking. To all the firefighters out there, stay safe and carry on the great work. Finally to the lads of BO4 Littleport you know what a fantastic job you all do. Keep up the good work.

If anyone is thinking of trying to become an on-call firefighter I would say give it a go. It can be very rewarding, and you would be helping your community, family and friends. It has been a privilege to have been part of a team protecting the village I have lived in all my life", concluded David Murfitt.

Cathy Gibb-de Swarte





Millfield School



The new school year at Millfield has started well and we have welcomed some new members of staff.

Ms Rudkin has joined key stage 1 and Ms Turner key stage 2. We welcome back Ms Atkin who joined the School when I did back in September 2011 and has had a short break to spend time at home with her family - it's lovely that she wanted to return.



Ms Woodbridge has taken on a permanent role as a class teacher with Ms Atkin and Ms Ashby has become a permanent member of staff, specialising in PE provision. They are all strong teachers and Millfield children are fortunate to have them.

Soon into the year, Year 6 children took part in a residential visit to PGL Caythorpe in Lincolnshire.





We have been a number of times and it never ceases to amaze me how very different children can be away from school

and home - those who you think might not enjoy such physical activity absolutely thrive on it, and those parents who say their child "won't eat this, won't eat that"... Well, all I can say is, it's amazing what days of physical activity out in the fresh air can do for their appetites!



Year 4 this year went to Whitwell Hall which was a new venture for us. Previously we have done a similar residential, under canvas, at Cuffley Camp; but that has sadly closed so we found a similar centre in Norfolk.



The weather was fantastic and so too were the children - undertaking such activities as fire and den building, bat walks and river dipping, and then of course, peeling potatoes ('Potato peeler? What's that?" was heard by staff!) and then cooking their food on a camp fire.

Deborah Hannaford *Headteacher*





Littleport Community Primary School News

Our aim is to provide an excellent education for all of our children, helping them develop the confidence, skills, curiosity and understanding to grow and progress academically, socially and emotionally. Learning opportunities are created in class, in our wonderful school grounds, around the school, on visits and by guests who come in to work with the children.



We pride ourselves in developing the 'whole child', and our personalised approach to learning means that children are supported, challenged, stretched and inspired in a wide range of exciting learning opportunities through our broad and balanced curriculum. As you'd imagine, academic progress, learning and excellence are key for everyone, and so is the chance to shine in sport, music, the arts and all other areas of learning. We want all of our children not just to reach their potential but to exceed our expectations, be the best and 'spread their wings and fly'.

Our success is based on our passion for teaching and learning. Our professional and supportive staff work closely with parents, families, governors, volunteers, outside agencies and the wider local community to bring about the best possible provision for our pupils.

Learning and enjoyment happen throughout the day; we offer a wide range of extra-curricular clubs in sport, the arts, music, dance, gardening, ICT and Maths all provided free of charge to all ages.

Littleport Community Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff, parents and volunteers to actively share this commitment. Our Designated Persons for Child Protection are me, with Mr Clark (Deputy Head), and Mr Parrin (Children's Inclusion Manager).

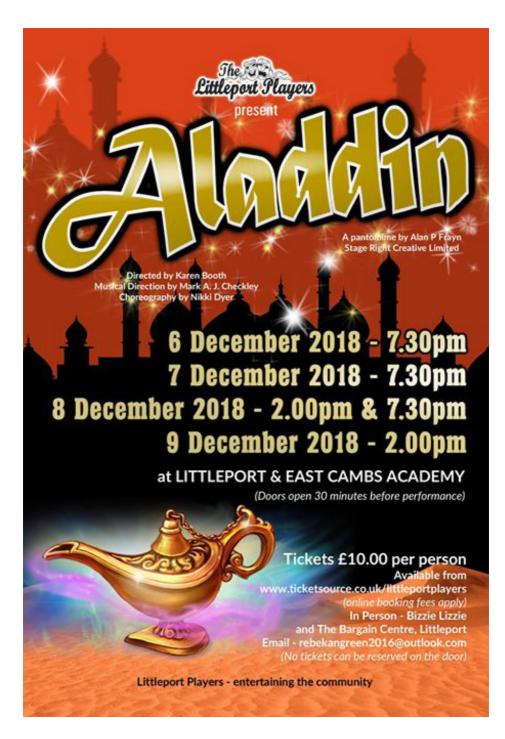
Our school is a special place to learn, with modern learning facilities, in a purposebuilt building from 2007, which we share with Littleport Community PreSchool and the Children's Centre for the whole community.

We welcome visits to our school. Please get in touch if you would like to find out more.

We look forward to meeting you!

Best Wishes Adam Rivett - Headteacher





Preparing your garden tools for storage

As you're putting your garden power tools away for the winter, it's worth taking some time to ensure they'll be good to go next year.

Use these five tips to prepare your garden tools for storage – and keep them in top condition for spring:

1. Make sure all tools are clean and dry

Mud, dirt and old bits of garden plants can cause your tools to work ineffectively. If you're anticipating that your machines aren't going to be used for a while, give them a thorough clean - and make sure they're dry before going into storage.

2. Drain excess oil and fuel

Old oil and fuel can affect the performance of your gardening tools once they make a reappearance after long periods in storage. You can prevent this by draining excess oil and fuel beforehand.

3. Get rid of rust

Rust happens when metal objects are exposed to chemicals in the air. You can prevent rust from damaging your machine when they're in storage by rubbing the area with sandpaper.



4. Replace or sharpen blades and chains

Unsharpened lawnmower and chainsaw blades can make the tools run ineffectively. However, you can prevent this (and save time in the spring) by replacing or sharpening the blades and chains before they go into storage.

5. Get your tools serviced and repaired professionally

There are some gardening activities that can be done by a novice DIY-er... Servicing and repairing garden tools isn't one of them.

Call Fenland Spirit Services on 0775 383 6499 for help with repairs and servicing. With years of experience working with all types of gardening tools (from lawnmowers to hedge trimmers), we can take the hassle off your hands.

Littleport Independent Food Bank

At St George's Church - soup and a roll £1

Tuesdays at 12noon - 12.45pm

Susan Green of Littleport Independent Food Bank that is there on Tuesdays and Fridays says, "Everyone welcome please join us!" They are urgently in need of donations, particularly meat products (tinned) long life milk and coffee

Focus on Flooring in Littleport!

Enkay Flooring alias Nigel Keith Jacklin continues to put customers first when it comes to his family-run business. In July they opened up a brand-new showroom literally on their doorstep where they live in Wisbech Road.

Nigel felt that the village needed a flooring shop/showroom since the village no longer had a carpet shop to call their own.

25 years of experience in the flooring business and having spent 19 years living in Littleport after moving from Cambridge, his reputation goes before him and everyone now knows Nigel as Mr Enkay himself.

Nigel's expertise is second to none. He even taught his son Paul (who he calls Charlie) everything he needed to know about this highly skilled craft. And both are part of this very successful family business which includes his daughter Katie and wife Jane. Daughter Katie regularly updates their Enkay business Facebook page and assists with customers gueries, while Jane will also help out her daughter answering phone calls taking customers' orders if Nigel and Paul are away on call.

The beauty of turning their garage into a showroom has meant that Enkay Flooring will open their doors as late 7 o'clock in the evening if customers rang up in need of urgent flooring needs.

They are closed on a Monday, but at the weekends they are open for business.

"Prices are evenly matched with internet prices because we are here to provide a competitive quality service," Nigel told Littleport Life.

Enkay Flooring do everything from the top to the bottom of the house and large corporate buildings, for instance they were called upon

to fit the reception area flooring prior to the opening of Littleport Leisure.

According to these local experts, laminated flooring is naturally cleaner than carpet and there are many styles and types designs from which you can choose and buy, and Enkay will fit at your request.

Nigel recalls when he first started fitting laminated and wood flooring they had to glue them all together, whereas today the job is made that bit easier with modern click methodology.

Contrary to popular belief Nigel believes that youngsters today prefer to go with the oldfashioned carpet style of flooring especially when it comes to bedrooms.

Enkay Flooring has just completed laminating a new Bridal Shop floor in Little Downham, and his son Paul will continue to undertake those big jobs like laminating a huge store in Great Yarmouth, something the company have been doing to customer satisfaction for many years.

Cathy Gibb-de Swarte





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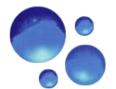
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Littleport Village Hall, Mon 9.30am Haddenham, Mon 6.15pm & 7.30pm Lt Downham Village Hall, Tues 9.20am Fordham Victoria Hall, Tues 7pm Fen Farm, Wicken, Wed 9.30am Haddenham, Wed 6pm & 7pm Sutton, The Pavilion, Thurs 9.30am City of Ely Bowls Club, Thurs 6.30pm Wicken Village Hall, Thurs 7pm Witchford Village Hall, Fri 9.30/10.30am

Contact: Liz (07768) 155278 or liz.dolman@lovepilates.co.uk for further info



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Christmas Party Menu 2018 available December 3rd - 23rd

Starters

Tomato & Basil Soup (V)

Served with warm homemade roll

Crayfish & Mango Cocktail

Served with brown bread

Trio of Terrine

Served with toasted ciabatta slices

Mushroom & Garlic Toast (V)

Served with salad garnish

Mains

Roast Turkey

Served with roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, pigs in blankets & seasonal vegetables

8oz Rump Steak

Served with hand cut chips, fries or jacket potato, onion rings, flat mushroom & side salad

Smoked Haddock & Leek Fishcake on a bed of spinach Served with a poached egg and Hollandaise Sauce

Roasted Beetroot, Butternut Squash & Pumpkin Seed Tart (V)

Served with basil new potatoes

Desserts

Christmas Pudding

Served with brandy sauce, ice cream or custard

Raspberry Crème Brulee (V)

Served with shortbread

Apple & Blackberry Crumble (V)

Served with cream, ice cream or custard

Festive Cheeseboard

Served with crackers & grapes

Coffee or Tea & Mince Pie

(Any allergies please inform at the time of booking)
2 courses for £20.95 or 3 courses for £25.95
Free bottle of home wine for groups of 64 or more choosing 3 courses
£10 deposit per person at time of booking

Tel: 01353 863512 or email **ploughandharrow16@outlook.com**Please note if you require a party after Christmas then please let us know and we can accommodate.

Christmas Day meal available from 12 - 4 pm
Three courses and a glass of bubbly with coffee or tea and mince pie to finish: £60.00



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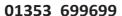
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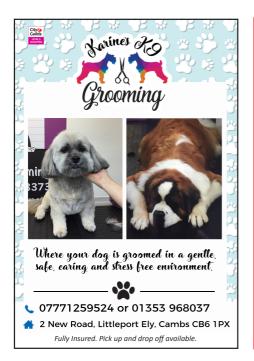
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Supporting adults with learning disabilities to live active and fulfilling lives'

Have some spare time? We would love you to come and volunteer for us!

There is no such thing as a typical day at Branching Out, you could be helping in the garden, or getting involved with one of our many crafts in the workshop or even in our charity shop in Littleport.

What we can offer you...

- Fun and laughter in abundance
- A supportive environment focused on making sure you get out of it what you want
- Work experience to help boost your CV

Why volunteer for Branching Out? This is what one of our volunteers said:





"If you have time to give and want to do something rewarding you will not find a more enjoyable fun job to do! Be made to feel part of a team, learn new skills

and be inspired by everyone around you! You will smile all day long!"

To volunteer helping people with learning disabilities

call 01353 863221







To volunteer in our Littleport Charity shop call 01353 863561

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Old-established Erika's Barber Shop offers a new service!

Erika Urboniene is well-established as a first-class hairdresser in Littleport's Main Street.

First being taken on and working alongside proprietor master barber David Houghton for four years, when he retired 10 years ago, Erika stepped up to the number 1 Chair, and took over the rental of the shop.

As well as the regular clientele from those days, there have been more customers joining their ranks since more and more people have moved into the village. Erika and her team attend to all ages and women are also made to feel just as welcome if they want a stylish haircut.

Erika and her staff are pleased to see you whether you are an old customer returning for your 'usual' or making your first visit to the comfortable premises.

An Exciting Development!

There should be many more customers queuing for the expert tonsorial services of Erika who is assisted most ably by Laura, as she is now qualified to perform modern shaving and beard trimming and design!

Erika's opening hours

Erika's Barber Shop opening hours are:

Tuesday 9.00am - 5.00pm

Wednesday 9.00am - 5.00pm

Thursday 9.00am - 7.00pm

Friday 9.00am - 6.00pm

Saturday 9.00am - 4.00pm

There are special rates for pensioners until 3.00pm every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.



Erika and Laura at work



Plenty of parking outside or in the free carpark entrance 1 minute away



Congratulations to Ian Knapton's Littleport Brass!

On their informative website, www. littleportbrass.co.uk we are told that Littleport's Brass Band came 2nd overall at the recent Oxford Entertainments Contest, and were also 2nd section band winners, with best instrumentalist and best music.

The admin of the site goes on to say that Littleport Brass has been entertaining the public since around 1880 performing all styles of music from a traditional brass band repertoire to arrangements of modern pop songs, film soundtracks and swing band music.

As well as performing in numerous summer concerts, they say, we also compete in local and national contests two or three times a year. In 2008 under the musical direction of Nigel Bramley the band became winners of the 3rd section areas, this gave the band an opportunity to perform at the Finals in Harrogate.

Today we are a second section band entertaining the public at concerts throughout the year and competing against other brass bands in various competitions.

These are their festive dates for your diary!

St GEORGE'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT All day Sunday, December 9, 2018

ELY CATHEDRAL CHARITY CAROLS All day Saturday, December 15, 2018

Littleport Brass will also play Carols at Morrisons at St. Ives on Sunday, December 16.

from 11:00am-1:00p

Cornets: Principal - James Stygall Soprano - Andrew Keen Solo - Nigel Markwell Rep - Simon Sharp 2nd - Rhiannon-Jane Smart 2nd - Yvonne Boyle 3rd - Howard Russell 3rd - Joseph Winters

Horns: Flugel - Jan W-Hall Solo - Ron Robinson 1st - Sarah Bowe 2nd - Adrian Revell

Euphoniums/Baritones: Euphonium - Sean Brodrick Euphonium - Paul Speed

1st Baritone - Shaun Pope 2nd Baritone - Sue Peacock

Trombones: 1st Theo Barfoot, 2nd Howard Roberts. Bass - Steve Biggs

Percussion: Kit - Nathaniel Revell Percussion - VACANCY

Basses: Eb, Giles Philbey. Eb,Charlie Dowdeswell. Bb,Steve Garwood. Bb,Tom Pearson



What's on in Littleport

LITTLEPORT & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB

LITTLEPORT & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB								
Littleport Village Hall								
DECEMBER 2018								
1	4/12	FRI	A PRACTICAL EVENING NO MEETING IN JANUARY 2019	7 PM FOR 7.30 PM				
1	5/02	FRI	THE START OF THEIR NEW YEAR OF MEETINGS WITH	7 PM FOR 7.30 PM				
			DAVID WRIGHT - "ALL THINGS BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL"					
	TTLEPO	RT WI						
	Littleport Village Hall							
DECEMBER 2018			JACQUI HUGGINS POETRY AND MUSIC AND A BUFFET MEAL	7.15 PM FOR 7.30PM				
1.	11/12 TUES JACQUI HUGGINS POETRY A		JACQUI HUGGINS PUETRY AND MUSIC AND A BUFFET MEAL	7.15 PIVI FUR 7.30PIVI				
	ANUARY	2019						
8,	/01		AMEY RECYCLING	7.15PM FOR 7.30PM				
FI	EBRUAR	Y 2019						
1	2/02		PETER ALLEN WITH A QUIZ	7.15PM FOR 7.30PM				
	•	DT EV CEDV	/ICEMEN'S CLUB					
		ER 2018	VICLIVILIA 2 CLOB					
	ECEIVIDI 1/08	SAT	JUST US	8.45 PM – LATE				
	8/12	SAT	TBC	U.43 FIVI - LAIL				
	5/12	SAT	PRIVATE PARTY	5 PM - 11 PM				
	2/12	SAT	TBC	2 LINI - II LINI				
	3/12	SUN	CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY	4 PM - 6.30 PM				
	1/12	SAT	AFTER MIDNIGHT	8.45 PM - LATE				
·				0.43 TWI LAIL				
	ANUARY							
	6/01	SUN	PANTO (LITTLEPORT PLAYERS 'ALADDIN')	4 PM				
	2/01	SAT	MICKEY JOHNS	8.45 PM - LATE				
	9/01	SAT	PRIVATE PARTY					
20	6/01	SAT	TBC					
FI	EBRUAR	Y 2019						
0	2/02	SAT	JUKE BOX MONEY	8.45 PM - LATE				
2	3/02	SAT	SPACE HOPPER	8.45 PM - LATE				
т	HE CRO	WN INN PU	JB					
		ER 2018	· -					
	1/12	SAT	BETHAN	8.30 PM – LATE				
	8/12	SAT	DAN STAR	8.30 PM – LATE				
	9/12	SUN	GREG	3 PM - 6 PM				
	5/12	SAT	HUSH	8.30 PM – LATE				
	6/12	SUN	GLITZ	3 PM - 6 PM				
	1/12	FRI	CHRISTMAS DRAW	7.30 PM				
	, 4/12	MON	CHRISTMAS EVE – KARAOKE	8 PM - 11 PM				
	, 6/12	WED	BOXING DAY - GREG	8.30 PM – LATE				
	1/12	MON	NEW YEAR'S EVE - GRAHAM BUXTON	9 PM – LATE				
JANUARY 2019								
	4NUAKY 6/01	SAT	TBC					
21	0/01	SAI	TUC					

3 PM - 6 PM

THOMAS BAINBRIDGE

SUN

27/01

FEBRUAR 02/02 03/02 09/02	SAT SUN SAT	MIKKI JONS GREG TBC	8.30 PM - LATE 3 PM - 6 PM					
10/02 16/02 23/02	SUN SAT SAT	MEAN EYED CATS WHITE CHALLIS ED CUSICK	3 PM - 6 PM 8.30 PM - LATE 8.30 PM - LATE					
24/02 SUN CARL CHAPMAN 3 PM - 6 PM THE LITTLEPORT SOCIETY Meetings held at Littleport Village Hall DECEMBER 2018								
10/12 MON		CHRISTMAS CONCERT WITH JOHNATHON WHITE ON THE ORGAN	7.30 PM					
JANUARY 07/01	2019 TUES	OLD LITTLEPORT + PATHE NEWSREEL FILM OF LITTLEPORT WAR WEEK	7.30 PM					
FEBRUAR 05/02	TUES	AGM (MEMBERS ONLY) + QUIZ NIGHT WITH JAMES GILBERT	7.30 PM					
MARCH 2 05/03	2019 TUES	THE PEOPLE WHO DRAINED THE FENS - DR PHILIP SAUNDERS	7.30 PM					
THE PLOUGH & HARROW PUB DECEMBER 2018								
01/12	SAT	VICTIMS OF TIME	9 PM					
08/12	SAT	GRAHAM BUXTON – SOLO ARTIST	9 PM					
12/12 15/12	WED SAT	QUIZ NIGHT KARAOKE	8.30 PM 9 PM					
19/12	WED	OPEN MIC NIGHT	8.30 PM					
22/12	SAT	OUSE VALLEY SINGLES CLUB BAND	9 PM					
31/12	MON	NEW YEAR'S EVE DISCO (FREE ENTRY)	9 PM					
JANUARY 2019								
16/01	WED	QUIZ NIGHT	8.30 PM					
23/01	WED	OPEN MIC NIGHT	8.30 PM					
26/01	SAT	TBC						
FEBRUARY 2019								
02/02	SAT	BIG CHEESE BAND	9 PM					
09/02	SAT	TBC	0.20.004					
13/02 16/02	WED SAT	QUIZ NIGHT TBC	8.30 PM					
23/02	SAT	TBC						
27/02	WED	OPEN MIC	8.30 PM					

WWT Swan Feed – 3.30pm daily

Join us for our fantastic commentated swan feeds in the afternoon. The sight of hundreds of swans and ducks being fed at WWT Welney is enhanced further by the flight in of more swans at dusk shortly after the feeding time.

Floodlit Swan Feed – 6.30pm (Thurs-Sun each week until Thurs 28 February)

Experience the evocative sight of swans gliding on the floodlit lagoon after dark. The commentated floodlit feed is an event that can be enjoyed by the whole family as the swans get their last feed before it is time to tuck their heads under their wings for the night.

Swan Feed - 12noon (Daily from Wednesday 26 December)

Join us for our fantastic commentated swan feeds at lunchtime. After Christmas the swans and ducks get an extra feed during the coldest part of winter. Listen to the commentary and watch the feed as the hundreds of pochard ducks make the water bubble.

Hare Walks - 2-3pm Mondays, Thursdays & Saturdays

Join us for a guided walk out on Lady Fen to get close to the hares and other wildlife. Find out how creating wetlands has been so successful at WWT Welney and enjoy watching the hares that also take advantage of this protected site as they get ready for the spring boxing.

Booking essential.

Sat 1 Dec, Sat 9 Feb, Sat 9 Mar - 10am - 4pm

Willow Weaving Workshops

Join expert willow weaver Jane Frost for a day teaching you how to create garden structures and basket forms from natural materials. Places are limited so contact Jane Frost to book at jane@frostart.co.uk or on 01353 861944. £55 per person, booking essential.

Sat 8, Sun 9 Dec, Sat 19, Sun 20 Jan, Sat 16, Wed 20 & Sat 23 Feb Swan's Awake

Join us before dawn breaks across the washes to watch thousands of swans wake up from their roosting sites on the reserve. With a warden, watch them take to the skies as they fly out to feed in the fields for the day. It's worth the early start! Dawn event, see website for individual event times.

£12 per person, £5 per child, Optional breakfast - £8.25 for a cooked breakfast or £4.95 for a hot butty.

Sat 15 - Mon 24 Dec

Christmas Lunches

Enjoy a Christmas dinner in the Wigeon cafe, with stunning views overlooking wetlands filled with wildlife. There is no need to book a table unless you are a party of 7 or more. Main course only - £10.25, two courses - £14.00, three courses - £16.50

Tues 11 Dec - 7.30pm start

Title of event: Australia Evening Talk

Description: An evening talk by Richard & Joan Munns on their experiences birdwatching in Australia, hosted by the Friends of Welney group. All welcome. Funds raised go towards WWT's work at Welney. £3 (£2 Friends of Welney Members).

Wed 19 Dec - Wed 2 Jan

Swan researchers

Join us over the Christmas holidays to witness the stunning scenery and incredible wildlife that wetlands offer us at this time of year. Lots of family activities to help you get an insight into the lives of our amazing swans and ducks! See website for details.

Sat 19 & Sun 20 January

Festival of Swans

Join us for a weekend celebrating all things swan. Enjoy swan feeds, guided swan watching, talks and more...

Sat 2, Sun 3 February

Wildlife Photography Workshop

Learn how to get the best from your camera with expert, David Featherbe. Access the wildlife photo hide for eye-level access to swans and ducks. 10am – 4.30pm, £60 per person, booking essential.

Tues 12 February

Wissington Sugar Beet Factory Talk

An evening talk by Richard Smith of British Sugar. All welcome. Funds raised go towards WWT's work at Welney. 7.30-9.30pm, £3 (£2 Friends of Welney Members).

Sat 16 - Sun 24 February

East Anglian Puddle Jumping Championships

See if you can make the biggest splash this half term! Take part in the competition, enjoy trails and activities throughout the day and watch commentated swan feeds.

MEDICAL CENTRE:

Contact Details, Opening Hours and Clinics

St George's Medical Centre is located at Parsons Lane, Littleport, CB6 1JU
The Surgery telephone number is 01353 864100

Surgeries are by appointment only which can be booked by telephoning, attending in person or online (register for online services first). Ring before 10am for essential home visits.

Monday to Friday 8.00am – 12.30pm 1.15pm – 6pm Saturday & Sunday CLOSED

For medical emergencies outside of normal surgery hours, call 999, or the surgery number 01353 864100 to be put through to the out of hours service.

USEFUL CONTACTS							
Cambs County Council	General Enquiries	03450 455200					
Highways Department		03450 455212					
Street lighting (Balfour Beatty)		01954 233322					
Citizen's Advice Bureau	Ely Branch	0844 2451292					
East Cambs.	Main Switchboard	01353 665555					
District Council	Out of hours emergencies	07710 978900					
Report Fly Tipping: Mark Meha	affey	01353 665555					
Utilities – (Emergencies)	Anglian Water	0845 7145145					
EDF Energy (Electricity)		0800 7838838					
Transco (Gas)		0800 111999					
Medical	N.H.S. Direct	0845 4647					
Princess of Wales Hospital		01353 652000					
Dentist		0844 3756454					
Parish Council	Enquiries, Village Hall hire, Allotments	01353 860449					
Police	Enquiries / non urgent crime	101					
Samaritans	If you need help	0845 7909090					
Schools	Littleport Community Primary	01353 860235					
	Millfield Primary	01353 861612					



SA Mastercare



GAR. VAN. MPV & MINIBUS RENTAL

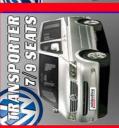
ALL CARS & PANEL VANS NO MORE THAN 7 MONTHS FROM NEW

WE DELIVER CARS WITHIN 'ONE HOUR' DURING OPENING HOURS























<u>Call an Office Manager Nearest You 7am to 11PM, 7 days a Week</u> BURYSTEDS HUNTINGDON ELY MILDENHALL

NEWMARKET

WWW.MILDENHIRE.COM

SUDBURY CAMBRIDGE

414656 01480

702702

01284

DAVID@MILDENHIRE.COM