

LITTLE THETFORD NEWSLETTER.

DECEMBER 2013/JANUARY 2014

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

Christmas and New Year at St George's Church

The Christmas Bazaar, at the Village Hall, on **Saturday 7th. December from 12.noon until 4.00 pm.** All the usual stalls, including Cakes, Christmas gifts, Tombola and Draw as well as the ever popular hot and cold snacks, and drinks (lovely jacket potatoes, straight from the oven with a multitude of fillings)

December 1st Morning Praise **9.30am** **December 8th** Morning Prayer **10.30am**

December 15th CHRISTINGLE, with Little Thetford School **5pm**

December 22nd CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT **3pm**

CHRISTMAS EVE "Journey to Bethlehem", starting at the Baptist Chapel **6pm**, then on to St George's for carols and mince pies.

CHRISTMAS DAY a short service of Holy Communion for All Ages **9.30am**

December 29th Christmas Morning Prayer **9.30am**

January 5th Morning Praise **9.30am**

January 12th **11am at St James Church, Stretham.**

ANNUAL UNITED PLOUGH SUNDAY SERVICE with Bring and Share Lunch.

January 19th Holy Communion **9.30am**

January 26th **9.30am**, service TBA.

For Weddings, Baptisms, and other pastoral enquiries, please contact
Rev Margaret Harper 01353 645128.

Regular details of Sunday Club for children, and 1st Little Thetford Brigade, for boys and girls, from Mrs Jane Dunseath 01353 649232

A Peaceful Christmas to all in Little Thetford.



Little Thetford Baptist Chapel.

“Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests.” Luke 4 v.14

Sunday 1st December at 10.30am
Morning Service with communion

Sunday 5th January at 10.30am
Morning Service with communion

Sunday 8th December at 10.30am
*Carol service and gift giving service
For Ely Food-Bank*

Sunday 12th January at 10.30am
Morning Service

Sunday 15th December at 10.30am
Morning Service

Sunday 19th January at 10.30am
Morning Service

Sunday 22nd December at 10.30am
Morning Service

Sunday 26th January at 10.30am
Morning Service

Tuesday 24th December at 6pm
Journey to Bethlehem
Starting at the chapel

Sunday 29th December
No service.

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



Coffee Mornings at The Chapel:

Wednesday 4th December at 10am

Wednesday 8th January at 10am

Wednesday 18th December at 10am
Christmas Special!!

Wednesday 22nd January at 10am

Chapel News:

The refurbishment work at the Chapel has now been completed and we continue to praise God for His provision. The building is now watertight and warm!

This year at our annual gift giving service, we hope to receive Christmas food items in support of the Ely Food-bank. Please feel free to come along to our carol service on this day. However, we are happy to take donations if you are not able to attend the service.

Our twice monthly coffee mornings are providing an opportunity for villagers to stay in touch with friends and make new ones. All welcome to come along. Home-made cakes and hot beverages served.

Chapel contact: Tudor Parsons (Pastor) 01353 648082

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

A happy and peaceful Christmas to
all our readers
and all best wishes for 2014



Bert's Christmas Bingo

20th December

7.30 eyes down

Lots of prizes, plus your chance to win a turkey. Fun for all the family.

The Royal British Legion Poppy Collection.

Thanks to the generosity of those who gave, we raised £520 which is an amazing sum and a suitable reward to the collectors, Doug, Hazel and Richard, Ruth and John, Sarah, and Sylvia. Very many thanks to you all.

Friends of Lt. Thetford School.

Since the start of the school term in September, we have raised nearly £500, through a cake stall, Film Night and Disco. FOLTS are delighted that sufficient funds have been raised to enable all the school children to enjoy their annual trip to the Pantomime again in January.

We are looking forward to some festive fundraising this half term, we have several events planned including a Festive Film Night for the children to enjoy. Our annual Christmas Fair is on Saturday 7th December in the School, from 2-4pm and as always we welcome local villagers and their families to join us, we are expecting a visit from Father Christmas himself too! Your support at this event is very much appreciated.

Little Thetford Sports & Social Club

As another year comes to a close, we would like to thank all of our members and guests, who have continued to support the Social Club this year in what are very difficult times for everybody. We look forward to seeing you all again in the coming new year.

The Social Club will continue to promote various events & social evenings throughout 2014 that members, non- members, residents & guests, we hope will attend. To keep up with current events & news visit our website www.littlethetfordssc.org or look out for notices posted on the boards at the entrance to the car park. Immediate events and opening times are:-

Dec. 13th Christmas Karaoke

Dec. 23rd Christmas Quiz Night.

Christmas Eve open 6pm – midnight.

Christmas Day Middy – 2pm

Boxing Day Middy – 2pm & 8pm – 11pm

New Years Eve 7pm – late

New Years Day Middy – 2pm & 8pm -11pm

May we wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy & prosperous New Year.

The Management Committee. Little Thetford Sports & Social Club

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

Link Decorating.

Painting & Decorating.

Wall papering.

Ceramic wall and floor tiling.

Coving.

Contact Simon on

Tel. 01353 648497 or 07596454345

www.linkdecorating.co.uk

MJS Gardening Services.

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

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



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

Welcome to our New Committee Members

Little Thetford Acorns have had some changes on the Committee in the last few months with some members leaving us. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their hard work and dedication. We held our AGM on the 15th October and welcomed Karen Hankin into the role as Chairperson and wish her well with her new post. We would like to say thank you to all the parents who attended and to those who agreed to come onto Committee. We welcome you and your support is very much appreciated.

The children are enjoying a busy time; we have many planned activities over the next few weeks, along with all the normal excitement of the Christmas season. Our topic this half term is learning all about our "Family". We created a poppy, which the children placed in St Georges church, ready for Remembrance Sunday, along with joining in the fun with Pudsey Bear for Children in Need. Our Christmas Trip will be to Wicken Fen on Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th December, the children will enjoy a lovely winter walk around the Fen, followed by the opportunity of taking part in some craft activities and meeting Father Christmas. They'll also have the opportunity to meet him again at our "Breakfast with Santa" on the 7th December. Our final few days of term will be our Christmas Concert and party, which is keeping us all very busy!

Fundraising Events: We've had a busy month with our Halloween Disco, Pumpkin Competition, Cake stall, LTA Personalised Christmas Puddings and Individually Designed Children's Christmas Cards. A BIG thank you to everyone who has supported us.

Forthcoming Events; Festive Book Signing with Jean Adamson - "Topsy & Tim Meet Father Christmas" - **Saturday 23rd November at 10am**

Ely Lighting Up Event - Bottle Tombola - **Friday 29th November**
Breakfast with Santa - **Saturday 7th December at 10am**
Grand Christmas Raffle - **Wednesday 18th December**

Dart Electrical Engineering Ltd.
8 Palisade Court
Lt. Thetford, Ely, Cambs CB6 3YE
Telephone 01353 649123
Fax 01353 649130
Mobile 07976 275 122
Email: pat@dartelectrical.co.uk

We recently did a village collection for bottles to go on our tombola at this year's Ely Lighting Up Event and would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who kindly donated towards this.

Holiday Club: We will soon be starting the planning for our **February Holiday Club – 17th – 21st February 2014 between 8am – 6pm**. If you would like further details on this Holiday Club, activities on offer or wish to send your child, please contact us – 01353 649234 or admin@littlethetfordacorns.org.uk

www.easyfundraising.org.uk Please take a look it's easy to use; we are there as "Little Thetford Acorns" just click on us and then your chosen retailer (there's hundreds on there, including all the high street names) and we receive a percentage of your total order with no extra cost to you. With many people now choosing to buy online this is a great way for us to raise funds for equipment and the little extras we need from time to time.

It just leaves us to say to everyone a "**MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR**"

For enquiries about our services please do not hesitate to contact us – 01353 649234 or admin@littlethetfordacorns.org.uk or via our website www.littlethetfordacorns.org.uk

Flight Connections of Ely
Your Airport Taxi Specialist
Door to Door Service
Airport Booking Only.
Office: 01353 69 88 88

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

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

VILLAGE HALL (your village hall)

Still time to get your tickets for the next fund raising event for improvements to the front of the hall.

BOOGIE - SOUL - MOTOWN DISCO NITE Saturday 7 December from 8 until late ONLY £5

It'll be a great evening's music, dancing, grooving and fun. Come along and help village hall funds.....Remember = "USE IT OR LOSE IT!!!"

Tickets from Sam: 07747778966 or Robert: (01353) 649268

Other news: No doubt you have seen by now the latest improvements to the front of the hall area. The very old gate that looked like it had been made out of scrap metal (it probably had!) has been replaced by brand new green double gates to the driveway. The old, broken wooden picket gate has been removed and the space is now occupied by a brand new noticeboard - which will be for village hall notices ONLY. Consequently pedestrian access to the hall is now

only through the swing gate to the side of the double gates. As further funds are raised and become available it is hoped that the next phase of improvements will be the removal of the wooden picket fence and replacement by railing type fencing matching the new gates. Some remedial work will hopefully be done on the garden over the winter - we shall see! There will be a programme of fund raising events throughout next year so watch this space and the new noticeboard for news of future happenings. YOUR village hall needs YOU

Coach day excursions and short breaks

direct from Little Thetford.

Contact: Eagle Tours Cambridge

01353 648950 or visit

www.eagletourscambridge.co.uk

Lt. Thetford Parish Council.

During the annual Remembrance Sunday ceremony at the War Memorial Cllr Russell laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Parish Councillors have recently reviewed the number of Councillors serving on our Parish Council and the Co-Option Procedures. At present we should have 9 Councillors but at no time during this present term has there been a full Council, in spite of repeated reminders to the local population that there are vacancies. After some discussion and research on recommendations for a small Parish of this size the decision has been made to begin the process of reducing the number to 7. ECDC has been notified of the intention and it is hoped the procedure can be completed by the 2015 election.

Routine matters recently dealt with have included setting The Precept for 2014/2015 at £14250 a small increase of £250. Reviewing land rents, agreeing recommended changes to the Code of Conduct receiving advice on the Register of Interests and reporting on the external audit. A new bench for Holt Fen and one for the Play Area have been received. A donation of £50 has been made to Victim Support from S137 funding. The John Townsend Charity approved accounts were received. Councillors were nominated to attend a variety of meetings including the Neighbourhood Panel. ECDC have advised that it is likely that the last Neighbourhood Panel in its present form will be held in January. The new signs in New Close Road asking people not to drive across the grass are considered to be in the wrong place and ECDC are being asked to consider moving them to a more prominent position.

The response to the recent questionnaire regarding facilities for the 10 – 16 year olds in the Parish was small, but helpful. ECDC have reported approval for the planning application to extend 3 Holt Fen and a planning application for a new house to the rear of 40 The Wyches was considered by the Parish Council and some recommendations made to the Planning Department at ECDC. The PC were contacted as part of the consultation process on the A142 Southern Bypass and agreed to send a short letter of support.

Thank You to all who have throughout the year supported the Newsletter in any way – either by submitting news, delivering, placing on the website or simply reading it – your help is appreciated.

Special Delivery!

It's the time of year again when thoughts turn to Christmas shopping and sending Christmas cards.

This year, Ely District Scouts are going to be helping to make life just that little easier with our "Scout Post" service. Available in Ely and the surrounding villages⁺, Scout Post will be collecting and delivering Christmas cards for you, while at the same time raising money for Scouting in the Ely area.

The areas covered by the Scout Post service are: Ely, Littleport, Sutton, Haddenham, Witchford, Witcham, Stretham, Little Downham, Wilburton & Little Thetford.

To avoid disappointment, please don't try to use the service to post items outside of these areas.

How are Scouts allowed to collect and deliver mail? Under the Telecommunications Act of 1981, charitable organisations such as the Scouts are allowed to collect and deliver mail which conveys Christmas or New Year greetings from 25th November to 1st January.

Sounds great! Is there a cost? There is a cost, but it's less than the price of a 2nd class stamp. Priced at just **25p per item**, we think it's great value, plus it helps to raise funds for Scouting in Ely.

Do I have to buy a stamp? Yes you do, and the great thing is that they've been designed by the young people involved in Scouting within Ely. There's several designs to collect, all designed by your local Beavers (6-8 years old), Cubs (8 - 10^{1/2} years old), Scouts (10^{1/2} to 14 years old) and Explorer Scouts (14 - 18 years old).

Where can I buy the stamps and post the letters? Stamps are available in the following locations:

- Roly'sFudge Shop, Market place
- The Eel Catcher's Daughter (Gift shop), High Street
- Betty Marshmallow, Chequers Lane
- Exquisite (Gift Shop) Market Street
- Scope (Charity Shop) High Street
- One-Stop, St John's Road, Ely
- Spar, New Barns, Ely
- Holmes Furnishers, Littleport

More shops will be coming on board to help us soon, especially in and around the villages.

Stamps and a Scout Post box will be available from these locations during their normal trading hours.

When will my letter arrive? We will be making two deliveries, which will take place over the weekends of 14th-15th and 21st-22nd December, so your cards will arrive by Christmas.

When's the last posting date? The last posting date for Scout Post will be **December 20th**.

What can I send via Scout Post? We can only accept Christmas and New Year greetings cards under the provision of the Telecommunications Act of 1981. We aren't allowed to deliver anything else.

Where will you be delivering to? See the list above of **the areas covered by the Scout Post**.

Please help by writing your post code and house number on the back of each envelope.

Where does the money go? Any money raised after costs such as printing the stamps will be split between Scouting in Ely, and the Mayor of Ely's charities