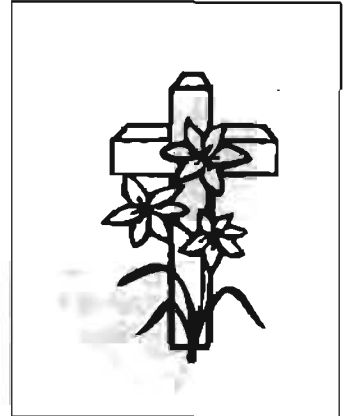


# Little Thetford Newsletter.

## April / May 2012



All items for the next Newsletter covering June & July should be with the editor Mrs J. Staines by May15<sup>th</sup> please – [jennifer.staines@btinternet.com](mailto:jennifer.staines@btinternet.com) or 38 The Wyches.

### Little Thetford Baptist Chapel.

‘ God save our Gracious Queen’ – We recognise these words from our National Anthem, but the thought crossed my mind the other day that before long, groups, wishing to marginalize our Christian heritage as a country will no doubt raise objections to it being sung. We live in an age where values once held dear by this country are being eroded as the weeks go by. The message from the cross of Jesus is for us to make a choice. Jesus’ choice was to give his life in sacrifice for us. This Easter, why not come along to one of the services held to celebrate and give thanks for the price Jesus paid for each and every one of us.

If you have children there is a separate club for them midway through the service.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 10.30am**  
Palm Sunday All Age Service  
Including Holy Communion

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am**  
Good Friday Service at Waterbeach  
Joint service with Salvation Army,  
Baptist and Anglican churches.

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm**  
Easter DVD at 3, Chapel Close  
Service

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am**  
Service  
Easter Sunday All Age service  
(including Easter egg hunt!)  
Service

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am**  
All Age Service

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 10:30am**  
All Age Service  
**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 10:30am**  
All Age Service.

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May**  
All age Service Including Holy Communion  
**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 10:30am - All Age**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 10:30am – All Age**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 10:30am - Pentecost**

**Church Fellowship Group:**

**Alternate Thursday Evenings: 7pm Venue: 3, Chapel Close.**

**Community Coffee Mornings:**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 10am**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 10am**

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 10am**

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 10am**

It's lovely to see some new faces coming along for this time of refreshment and chat. All welcome.

**Contact:** Tudor Parsons (Pastor) On 01353 648082

**Welcome to St George's Church in April and May**

**1<sup>st</sup> April** Palm Sunday Morning Praise 9.30am

**6<sup>th</sup> April** Good Friday Ely Walk of Witness 10.30am. **Quiet Service** at St James, Stretham 12noon

**8<sup>th</sup> April** Easter Day Sunrise Service Holt Fen 7.30am **Holy Communion 9.30am**

**15<sup>th</sup> April** Morning Praise 9.30am

**22<sup>nd</sup> April** St George's Day - Celebration for all the family 11am with "bring and share" lunch together

**29<sup>th</sup> April** Joint Baptism Service at St James, Stretham 11am

**6<sup>th</sup> May** Morning Praise 9.30am

**13<sup>th</sup> May** Family Service 10.30am

**20<sup>th</sup> May** Holy Communion 9.30am

**27<sup>th</sup> May** Morning Praise 9.30am

**Sunday Club** for children runs alongside the services.

**St George's is part of the Ely Team Ministry**, Team Vicar Rev Margaret Harper 01353 645128

**Brigade** meets Thursdays in term time, at St Georges, 6pm – 7:30pm. Listen for the Church bell to announce our opening time! Brigade is open to boys and girls and offering a time to enjoy crafts, learning new skills and games. New members welcome - details from Jane Dunseath Tel: 649232.

**St Georges Revels**. Advance Notice – this family evening entertainment will be at the beginning of July – more information contact 649232.

**The Friends of St. Georges.**

**Link Decorating.**

**Painting & Decorating.**

**Wall papering.**

**Ceramic wall and floor**

**tiling. Covings.**

**Contact Simon on**

**Tel. 01353 648497 or**

**07596454345**

**[www.linkdecorating.co.uk](http://www.linkdecorating.co.uk)**

The '**100 Club**' year begins again in April. Tickets are £12 for the year and with £500 worth of prizes paid out each year and just 100 tickets in circulation, winning something has far better odds than the Lottery. Contact Tony Shaw to book your ticket now!

The '**Friends**' A.G.M. will be held on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 7:30pm** in the Church. **Members please note** that this is a week later than the original date. We are always looking for new members, if you would like to join us in our work to raise funds towards the maintenance of this important building please come along on the 15<sup>th</sup> or contact Tony Shaw for more information.

**Flower Festival:-** arrangements for the 'mini' Flower Festival to celebrate the Queens 60 year reign are progressing. If you would like to help in any way, please contact either Jennifer Bedford 662318 or Tony Shaw 649470. One important feature will be 'teas in the Churchyard' from early afternoon. This will give us all a chance to enjoy a relaxing time with friends and watch the world go by in Main Street! Please don't forget Mike Petty's talk at 7:30pm on Friday June 1<sup>st</sup> on Elizabethan Fenland – tickets at just £5 will be available from the Drewrys 648819 or the Shaws 649470 or on the door. Mike always entertains us mightily, so please come along if you can, this will be a good time to get a preview of the Flower Festival as there will be time to wander as you enjoy your refreshments after Mikes talk. We do hope that you will join us and that these events will tie in nicely with the Village Picnic.

### **Neighbour hood Panel Meeting.**

Neighbourhood Panels are your opportunity to tell agencies working in your area what you would like to see improved and will ultimately make your locality a better place to live. The next meeting is on Monday April 16<sup>th</sup> 7pm at Witcham Village Hall.

**D.K. Till & Partner**  
**Approved Coal & Solid Fuel**  
**Merchant.**  
Tel. 01223 232947  
Email: thecrisps@tiscali.co.uk

### **2012 Little Thetford Feast.**

The first meeting of this years Feast Committee took place on March 12<sup>th</sup>. You may recall that the 2011 Feast made a profit of £262, it was agreed by the committee that £62 would be donated to the Village Hall with the remaining £200 being retained in the Feast Fund as running costs continue to increase. Any profits generated this year will be distributed to Village Organisations.

We were asked if this years Feast could be arranged earlier to avoid villagers missing out due to holidays being taken in the school summer break. Therefore this year the date is set for **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July**. The Feast Committee will be making its annual collection for donations from the week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> July.

If there are any village residents who would like to run a stall themselves or on behalf of an organisation you would be very welcome. We would only request a small donation to the Feast Fund. Alternatively if you would like to volunteer to help on any of the existing stalls again you would be very welcome. Contact Rob on 648140 or Georgie on 648265.

Further information will be dropping through your letterbox soon!

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

### **MJS Gardening Services.**

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

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

### **Diamond Jubilee Picnic.**

Plans are being made to hold a Village Picnic to mark the Queens Diamond Jubilee on June 4<sup>th</sup> on Oakfields. If you would like to help with the organisation of this event please contact Georgie Heaton tel. 648265 who has the details of the next meeting. Watch for information coming through your letter box and do make a note of the date. Please also see page 5 - Diamond Jubilee Mugs.

### **Little Thetford School**

#### **Years 1/2 and Reception Wicken Windmill Trip:**

Yrs 1/2 and Reception have enjoyed a fun day out at Wicken Windmill. Leaving in the morning, the children were greeted by the friendly volunteers who have painstakingly restored the mill.

#### **Years 5/6 Cathedral Trip:**

Yrs 5/6 travelled to the beautiful Ely Cathedral and sang with many different schools and singing coach, (Mrs Duckworth). This was a great time to socialise with other schools.

#### **Year 6 France Trip:**

Year 6 will have an action packed day in France as they show off their French skills whilst having a tour around the sea-life centre, the sweet factory and the stunning castle in Boulogne. Waking up at

5:45 they will travel to Wilburton and then through the Euro Tunnel, coming out with a view of the sea-front at Calais!

**Disco:**

The disco on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2012 was a fun opportunity to strut your stuff on the dance floor! There was a great raffle, and pizza and garlic bread was served for a tasty snack half way through the disco. Sweets and glow sticks were given to the dancers by the friendly DJ (Simon).

**Football/ Rugby/Cross Country:**

Many tournaments and matches have been held around Cambridgeshire and Little Thetford has had lots of winning victories –including qualifying for the County Tag Rugby Final.

**Easter Service**

Children and adults join Mr Litten to think about Easter time and its real meaning in St George's Church. This is another special moment for deep thought and love.

**Mother's Day service:**

Many mothers play an important role in household and the Mother's Day service marked everything they give to us and cards and flowers were given as thoughtful gifts. This was also a relaxing time for mothers to socialise with their friends.

**Year 3/4 Burwell House trip:**

Burwell House was a great opportunity for year 3/4 to learn about Cambridgeshire in the Victorian times and the local wildlife whilst having lots of fun! Yr 3/4 enjoyed this trip very much and are looking forward to the next time that they go.

**Cake Stall:**

At the end of the term, Yr 5/6 will be holding a cake stall, where lots of beautiful sponges, cupcakes, muffins and biscuits will be sold to parents and children of the school. Ingredients will be named in case of allergies and all of the money helpfully raised, will go to FOLTS to organise trips and buy equipment for the school.

**Easter Egg Hunt:**

The children all take part in an Easter Egg Hunt, finding coloured plastic eggs. Inside is a raffle ticket, which the child can swap for a chocolate egg!!

By Charlotte Alexander, Katie Compton and Georgina Melia Year 6

**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](mailto:pat@dartelectrical.co.uk)**

**Coach day excursions**

**and short breaks**

direct from Little Thetford.

Contact: Eagle Tours Cambridge

01353 648950 or visit

[www.eagletourscambridge.co.uk](http://www.eagletourscambridge.co.uk)



Little Thetford Acorns would like to thank everyone for their generous donations during our Village Collection in March and to those who supported our Bingo evening with Bert.

We are running **Summer Holiday Club Weeks** from 30<sup>th</sup> July – 10<sup>th</sup> August. Please contact Clair on 649234 or [admin@LittleThetfordAcorns.org.uk](mailto:admin@LittleThetfordAcorns.org.uk) to book a place or to find out more.

We will be holding a **Thai/Malaysian Cooking Evening on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April** from 7.45pm and we are holding a **Mini-Olympics event on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July** from 2pm on the sports field.

We hope everyone has a lovely Easter!

### **John Townsend Charity.**

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

This small local charity is seeking to appoint or re-appoint trustees over the next 2 months to serve for a term of 4 years. The first vacancy is a Parish Council appointment and is currently advertised on the Village Notice Board. Anyone interested in becoming a trustee should put a written application in to the Clerk of the Parish Council, Mrs. Sandra Thompson [ltcouncil.clerk@btinternet.com](mailto:ltcouncil.clerk@btinternet.com) or 9 Cole Close Witchford CB6 2JX by April 10<sup>th</sup>.

The John Townsend Charity was set up to benefit the poor, needy and sick of the parish and has a board of trustees to administer its income under those headings – it generally meets 3 or 4 times a year. Applicants must be over the age of 18. A further notice for later appointments will be placed in the Notice Board mid April and again interested parties may apply – this time to the Clerk of the Charity Mrs J. Wardle application details will be on the notice board along with the relevant dates.

### **Diamond Jubilee Mugs.**

The Parish Council have agreed to purchase commemorative mugs for the children of the parish to mark the Queens Diamond Jubilee as they did for the Golden Jubilee. In order to ensure all children receive a mug parents of pre-school children, those attending Secondary education and primary aged children not attending the village school are asked please to let the Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr Jennifer Staines have their children's details either by email [jennifer.staines@btinternet.com](mailto:jennifer.staines@btinternet.com) or dropping a note through the door of 38 The Wyches giving the following information – child's name, date of birth, and first line of the address. Please ensure this information is received by April 10<sup>th</sup>. Presentation details will be made available in the next Newsletter.

### **Parish Council.**

Early in March some Parish Councillors and volunteers from the village helped with a litter pick giving up a Saturday morning to collect from the verges 10 large bags of rubbish. Sadly they were unable to cover all the village in the morning and so some areas may not have been cleared. We are mainly a cul-de-sac village with no through traffic and there are a number of litter and dog waste bins in the village so there is really no excuse for this amount of litter to accumulate. Apart from having a cleaner village the other good thing that came out of this was that 5 people who saw what was being done volunteered to help with any future litter pick should it be needed.

Volunteers have worked on cutting back the hedge in the play area. A contractor has been asked to 'make up' the slide mound so this may be out of action for a few days at some time in the near future. It was noted that some work is needed on the seat and repairs to the soft surfacing are also planned. Emergency repairs to the guttering on the bus shelter have been done and more work on this has been ordered. A councillor has volunteered to give the shelter a good clean inside. A spring tidy up and trimming of the hedge in the cemetery has been completed.

A boat sunk at the moorings on the river has again been drawn to the attention of the Environment Agency.

Salt bins have been refilled and hopefully will not now be needed until next winter. It was agreed to respond to the request from Ely & District Citizens Advice Bureau for a donation to their work. Following a recent survey some trees in the Cemetery and on Oakfield are due to be cut back because they are getting near to overhead electricity cables, as are others on private property - there will be no charge to the parish for this work.

Correspondence has been received from Cambridgeshire ACRE regarding a heating oil bulk buying scheme for parishes – more information can be obtained from their website -cambisacre.org.uk Each parish would need a local co-ordinator and members of the scheme are asked to pay a small membership fee – this would be recouped easily by the lower price paid for the oil. The Parish Council would like to hear from anyone willing to act as a local co-ordinator – full details of what would be involved are on the Website. Enquiries about the scheme can be also be obtained by speaking to Julie Weeks on 01353 860850. This would seem an ideal opportunity to pick up one of the aims of the Parish Plan so do please give this some thought.

Finally a reminder that the Parish Council is still short of two councillors – if you think this is something you could do for our village please speak with the Parish Clerk, Mrs Sandra Thompson about the possibility of co-option onto the Parish Council. Telephone 01353 666385 or [ltcouncil.clerk@btinternet.com](mailto:ltcouncil.clerk@btinternet.com)

The next Parish Council Meeting is to be held on **Wednesday April 11<sup>th</sup>** 7:30pm in the Village Hall and on **April 25<sup>th</sup>** **The Annual Parish Meeting** will be held – this is an opportunity for all the local organisations to report to the residents their work in the parish over the past 12 months – usually an interesting and informative meeting.

#### BUS SUBSIDIES - WHAT YOU MAY LIKE TO KNOW

Around 80 per cent of public transport in Cambridgeshire is run commercially with the remaining 20 per cent being subsidised by the County Council, at a cost of around £2.7 million per year. Work is already underway with operators to see if changes to routes and timetables could make some marginal subsidised journeys commercially viable and therefore reduce this financial commitment.

The Council has also reviewed the way subsidies are currently paid and has started a phased three year change programme. Over the next three years the Council will be transforming how these subsidised services are delivered, resulting in an annual investment of £1.5 million.

Before any subsidy is removed it is planned to carry out consultation to find out people's public transport needs. Everyone will be invited to contribute and work together to find the best and most cost effective way of meeting that need.

The results will vary across the County and one size will not fit all. Solutions may include local operators, smaller vehicles, links to commercial hubs, such as the Busway or Park and Ride as well as direct routes to certain destinations and flexible dial a ride type services. If there is enough demand it could lead to more travel opportunities, not less. If the best solution to deliver an essential service is to retain the current form of subsidy, then that will still be an option.

The new initiatives will be rolled out under the banner of Cambridgeshire Future Transport starting from April 2012. Subsidised services have been grouped into 13 geographical areas which have transport links within them and these areas will be reviewed in three tranches over the next three years. This is so that the services can be looked at as a whole and alternatives explored.

More information will be released and public engagement will be carried out as each phase of reducing the subsidy starts. For more information contact Cambridgeshire County Council Passenger Transport Service. Dan Clarke on 01223 729079 or Paul Nelson on 01223 715608.

N.B From Sunday April 1<sup>st</sup> all **Non Emergency** calls to the Police should be made on the 101 telephone number - the old 0345 number will be discontinued.