

LITTLE THETFORD NEWSLETTER.



JUNE /JULY 2016

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

St.George's Church.

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.

JUNE.

Sunday 5th June	0930	Morning Praise with Baptism.	Leader Rev Julia Chamberlin. Preacher Pastor Peter Cockerton.
Sunday 12th June	1030	Family PET Service with the School.	Leader Claire McGinley. Preacher Rev Julia Chamberlin.
Sunday 19th June	0930	Morning Praise.	Leader John Marshall. Preacher Rev Julia Chamberlin.
Sunday 26th June.	1030	Holy Communion. Chamberlin.	Preacher Rev Alan Jesson. Rev Julia

JULY.

Sunday 3rd July	0930	Morning Praise.	Leader Rev Julia Chamberlin. Preacher John Marshall.
Sunday 10th July	1030	Family Service.	Preacher Stephen Dove.
Sunday 17th July.	0930	Morning Praise.	Preacher Rev Julia Chamberlin.
Sunday 24th July.	1030	Holy Communion.	Preacher Canon Linda Church.
Sunday 31st July	0930	Morning Praise.	Preacher to be arranged.

Following all our services we have a time of Fellowship over Coffee and Biscuits. Everyone is welcome, we are quite informal.

The Church is always open during daylight hours, please feel welcome to come in, wander around, pray or just sit in Peace and Reflection.

Regular events.

Tuesday 6-7pm informal singing and band practice. All who love to sing or play an instrument do come and join our growing group.

Wednesday 9-11am 'Pop In' to St. George's each week for Coffee, Cake and lively discussions, friendship and laughter. **New to Wednesday mornings** – story time session for under fives with 'George' the Bear.

Wednesday 2.30pm whole School Assembly with Stephen and Hannah followed by 'Messy Church' for all families, with Bible crafts, Games and Cake!

1st. Little Thetford Brigade Thursday 6-7.30 pm - meets for school age girls and boys. Badge work, Bible studies, Wi-Fi, Hand bell ringing, Refreshments and much more. If anyone has a Brigade uniform that is no longer required could it be left in at the church please. Leader Jane Dunseath.

Dragon Club for any age adults. 2.30pm - 4.30pm Talks. Tea and Cake. Quizzes. Chat and make friends.

Tuesday 21st June. Talk by Robert Saggs on the work of 'CHESS' a homeless charity.

Tuesday 19th July. Talk about the 'Secret life of Sweets' by David Learner. Mr Simms!

Saturday 11th June - Our 5th year of 'Music Marathon' 9am -7pm at the Church. Do come along for Varied Music during the day from the School singing, Rocking Ukuleles, Hand Bell ringing, popular tunes

on the keyboard, Recorder Group, the Humpty Band and much more ending with a 'Bring and Share' meal for all. Refreshments served throughout the day. Programme so far on display at St. George's.

For all enquiries about Weddings, Baptisms or Funerals please contact Rev Julia Chamberlin on 01223 861511 or julia.chamberlin@elyteam.org Julia works Sunday to Wednesday inclusive, other days a link will put you through to the Ely Team Rector Rev Chris Hill.

Coach day excursions and short breaks

direct from Little Thetford.

Contact: Eagle Tours Cambridge

01763 252870 or visit

www.eagletourscambridge.co.uk

The Friends of St. Georges. Firstly, a big thank you to everyone who came to listen to David Jacques talk on Blick Mead in April. It was an evening that will remain in our memories for some time, a truly wonderful presentation from an incredibly knowledgeable guy. The icing on the cake was that thanks to everyone's generosity, we made a profit of £275.00 as well.

Our next fundraising event will be an evening of popular music with the 'Skylarks' on Saturday 9th. July at 7.30 pm. . This is the small group that Judith Short takes to a few select venues in the area. She has visited us previously with her young musicians and always produces an entertaining evening. There will be music from the shows, as well as one or two more formal pieces.

Tickets will be the usual £5.00 with a complimentary drink during the interval. Please make a date in your diary and support us if you can.

Our second event in July will be the popular 'Cream teas in the Churchyard' We will be holding this on Saturday 16th. July and are praying for fine weather. Come along for as long as you can and chat with friends old and new as the world of Little Thetford whizzes by outside!

If the event goes well again this year, we will try and repeat it in September.

Village Hall

Fifty or so people attended the "last chance to save the village hall" crisis meeting on April 25th., some representing organisations within the village and other users of the hall, others on behalf of themselves and their families and everybody concerned about the future of the hall. A number of other parishioners indicated their interest and sent apologies for not being able to be there. The result of the meeting was that more than a dozen people indicated their willingness to become Trustees of the hall and thereby help to ensure the hall's survival for the foreseeable future. Included in their number are several current Trustees who have agreed to continue to serve for at least a further year to help with continuity. The next step will be for those who have indicated their willingness to become or continue to be Trustees to fully commit at the AGM and be elected to the Board. It will be up to the new Board to decide on future operation – things will not have to be done in the same ways as hitherto – but for the time being I feel confident to continue to take bookings for the rest of this year and indeed for next year, which are already starting to come in.

The AGM, which of course is open to EVERYBODY, not just the committed few, will be on

WEDNESDAY 20 JULY at 8pm. In the hall

Robert Bullen (retiring chair of Trustees: Little Thetford Village Hall)

PARISH COUNCIL

At its meeting on 9 May the Council elected Robert Bullen to be chair for the next year. The election of a vice chair is to be held over until the June Council. Cllrs. Stubbs and Bullen were nominated as village hall representatives; Cllrs. Ballantyne, Bullen and Stoeber to the Planning working group and Cllrs. Stubbs, Kilby and Dickenson to the Cemetery working group. The required annual reviews were conducted. 'Standing Orders and Financial Regulations' and the 'Complaints Procedure' were re-adopted without alteration. The 'Asset Register' was adjusted and amended as necessary. Insurance is satisfactory although the Clerk will investigate an alternative insurer to secure a price reduction if possible. "Council and Employees Memberships of Other Bodies" was further endorsed with the exception that the Council decided to cease its membership to the C.P.R.E. as it was felt that little or no benefit to the parish is derived from the continued contributions and a small saving on expense could be made. The Accounts to year ended 31 March 2016 were approved. Council learned that applications for planning consent had been approved by

ECDC for land/dwellings at 11, 13 and 15 Main Street and at 19 Main Street, as was, in principle, the application for land opposite 12 Holt Fen. Cllrs. found no objections to applications for rear extensions at 2 Chapel Close or 12 Palisade Court. Some reservations were considered regarding permission for an extension at 38 New Close Road but decided to recommend approval to ECDC. Councillors gave serious consideration to an amended application for land south of "Two Acres caravan park" to increase the proposed development from 8 to 10 dwellings but were adamant that their considerable objections expressed with regard to the original application remained and these were to be strongly re-emphasised to the Planning Authority. The Highway Authority is again to be urged, as a matter of safety, to expedite the improvement of white-lining at the A.10 junction. Mrs. Christine Howard has been appointed to fill one PC vacancy to the "John Townsend Charity". A Parishioner has, with the approval of the Highways Authority, kindly cut back the overgrown hedge along the link path from The Wyches to New Close Road. However, your Council wishes to remind residents that a gardening contractor is employed to carry out environmental maintenance to the cemetery and parish land and in the interests of the safety of all Parishioners no grass cutting or hedge or ditch maintenance (with the exception of highway grass verges in front of individual properties) should be carried out without the approval of the land owner(s) (usually the Parish Council or Highways Authority.)

Next Parish Council Meeting, Monday 13 June 7.30pm. in Village Hall. Community Land Trusts on the agenda. Anybody wishing to add to the debate will be welcome to speak at the appropriate time.

Neil Cutforth
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30 years local experience.
Tel: 01353 649600
Email: neil@neilcutforth.co.uk

Little Thetford CE Primary School

The Summer Term is very much full steam ahead as I write this piece. The Year 6 children have just completed their annual SATs assessments and as always we are very proud of all their hard work and dedication that has gone into these statutory assessments. We have also recently had an OFSTED inspection which of course always proves hard work and

pressured but we are pleased with the outcome.

Our Assistant Headteacher, Mrs McPherson has recently announced her retirement after an amazing 24 years at the school. Mrs McPherson has contributed so much to the school over her time and will be sorely missed by the whole school community. Mr and Mrs Saggs have also recently announced their decision to retire which they have both very much earned following many years of dedicated service. We will of course be saying goodbye to Mrs McPherson, Mr and Mrs Saggs properly through a special assembly at the end of the term.

Over the remainder of the school year we look forward to events such as our Key Stage 2 Production and the end of year trips which all year groups get to enjoy a trip; these are part funded by our hardworking PTA called FOLTS. We also have our annual Sports Day on Saturday 18th June and our Picnic Evening on Tuesday 12th July. The residents of the village are warmly invited to join us for these events.

Jonny Wallace. Head Teacher

LITTLE THETFORD WI.

The next two meetings of the WI are on 6th June and 4th of July both at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

For further information please contact Christine Bullen on 01353 649 268.

MJS Gardening Services.

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

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

"Responsible 16 year old from the village, good with children, available for babysitting. Please contact Isobel 07508656278."



Little Thetford Social Club Summer Music Events

Vision 25/6/16
Take That Tribute 16/7/16
60s band High Tones 27/8/16
Tickets now on sale Call in at the social club for more details

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

Little Thetford Netball Club

Our Club warmly welcomes new members for games of netball and keep fit.
Ages are from secondary school to 99. Time for training is 6.30 to 8pm most Tuesday evenings.
Come along for your free trial.



All the children have settled back into the Summer term well and are enjoying their time in the pre-school garden enjoying the lovely weather.

It is that time of year again when we are supporting our Rising Five children and their families to prepare for the transition to Primary Schools in the area. For those children attending Little Thetford Primary School we have begun our weekly visits to Little Thetford Primary School.

After half term the children will be looking forward to their Summer school trip to Anglesey Abbey to enjoy a day of forest school activities including den building, whittling and nature craft activities. Later on in the Summer term we will be getting ready for our exciting end of year events including our Sports & Fun Day, Leavers party and leavers presentations.

We will be holding our **Summer Holiday Club ~ 25th July - 5th August 2016**

Session times and prices are:-

Full Day (9am-4pm) - £23.20

Short Morning Session (9am-12noon) - £9.60

Short Afternoon Session (1pm - 4pm) - £9.60

Lunch Club 12noon - 1pm - £4.00

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

PS Plumbing Services

4 The Wyches, Little Thetford

07984 017 213

ps-plumbingservices@outlook.com

Bathrooms, kitchens, maintenance and emergency work.

Our **Toddler Group** has been running during term time on **Tuesdays** 9.30am - 11.30am at the Village Hall for over a year and it has become very popular. It's full of fun activities for the children, craft, messy play, singing, role play.... and we provide all children with a snack and drink. If you have young children please do come and join us for a coffee whilst your children play.

Future Fundraising Events to look out for: Sports and Summer Fun day - 2nd July 2016
Summer Grand Raffle will be taking place, please contact the office for tickets

We are also encouraging everyone to help us raise funds using the 'Easy Fundraising' website –
www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Please take a look it's easy to use; we are on there as 'Little Thetford Acorns' just click on us and then the chosen retailer you wish to buy from (there's hundreds on there, including all the high street names) and we receive a percentage of your total order with no extra cost to you.

With many people now choosing to buy online this is a great way for us to raise funds for equipment and the little extras we need from time to time.

For enquiries about our services please do not hesitate to contact us –
01353 649234 or admin@littlethetfordacorns.org.uk or via our website www.littlethetfordacorns.org.uk
Please like us on Facebook - "Little Thetford Acorns"

The Newsletter accepts no responsibility for the services advertised within it –readers are advised to do their own research before making any agreements with the service providers

Little Thetford Fitness Classes
at the Village Hall:
Tuesday Evenings:
Kettlebells 18:55
Powerhoop 19:45
www.taniafitness.com
tianamcquilkin@hotmail.co.uk

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

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



Cambridgeshire Handyperson Service

Age UK Cambridgeshire are delighted to offer a new Handyperson service covering the whole of Cambridgeshire. The service is aimed at people aged 65 and over or those with a disability. The new service is now up and running.

An Age UK Trusted Assessor will visit you in your own home to complete a Wellbeing and Home Check assessment. Grab rails can be provided and installed free of charge and any handyperson works will incur a charge of **£25** per hour plus the cost of the materials used. We are also able to offer Keysafe installations which will be charged at **£45** including supply of the item. All works will be carried out by approved Age UK contractors.

Examples of the types of handyperson works we can offer are:

- Fixing dripping taps
- Making telephone cables and extensions safe
- Changing light bulbs (unless these can be fitted during the Home Assessment)
- Replacing a fuse
- Small carpentry work
- Changing curtains
- Hanging pictures
- Putting up shelves

The above list is by no means exhaustive, and if there are any other small jobs you feel we can help you with please get in touch with us and ask.

To make a referral to the Handyperson service on or after 1st April please call our Handyperson team on **01480 700205** or our Helpline on **0300 666 9860**.

Thank You.

Ian, Helen and I would like to thank the many village friends who sent cards, letters, messages and flowers as expressions of sympathy following Terry's sudden death. We have really appreciated them all and also the presence of so many of you at the Service of Celebration for Terry's life. Thank you – it has re-affirmed my belief that this is a good community to live in!

Jenny Staines.

A Reminder:

Waste & recycling collections will be one day later following the Spring Bank Holiday, Saturday June 4th instead of Friday June 3rd.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Neighbourhood Watch in East Cambs. is growing in numbers, but unfortunately not in Little Thetford. You might wonder whether this is important to which the answer must be YES. We are in a period of cuts which is resulting in a reduction of staff within the police and local authority support services. It may not be admitted by the authorities but reduced staff numbers invariably result in a reduced service. Neighbourhood Watch is in some way filling the gap.

Neighbourhood Watch was established to work with the local police force to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and also the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. This support to the police force is as important now as it ever was. But it is also there to encourage neighbourliness and to tackle problems other than serious crime, e.g. graffiti, fly tipping, dog fouling, abandoned cars, noisy dogs or noisy neighbours and numerous more. Many residents, particularly the elderly fight shy of contacting faceless officials on such matters, but a neighbourhood watch coordinator would be there to fight your corner.

You might ask who this coordinator might be; it is the person designated to oversee a neighbourhood watch scheme usually of about 20 to 50 houses. Might you be such a person?

If you want to keep your neighbourhood safe, or improve safety and security in your neighbourhood, find out how Neighbourhood Watch can help. Phone Kevin Evans on 01353 614892.

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

From the Newsletter Meeting held on May 10th.

It was agreed by those present that the Newsletter would continue in its present form and thanks were expressed to all who, in whatever way, enable this to happen every 2 months. It was also agreed to make a small donation to the cost of maintaining the village website which carries copies of our Newsletter each time it is published. The Newsletter is delivered to each home in the parish – free to every household – bi-monthly and this has been maintained since its first publication in April 1974. Then it was a painstaking operation to type and duplicate the copy now it is a much more efficient process but of course more copies are needed. We are grateful to the Village School for allowing us to use their photocopying facilities and to all who work 'behind the scenes' to keep this local publication going.