Kingston Parish & Church Magazine



February 2018

Village Diary

Saturday 3rd February Village Pub Night – Village Hall, 6pm-10pm

Wednesday 7th February Village Coffee/Tea – Village Hall – 10.30am

Saturday, 14th July Kingston Church Fete—South Sea Farm

Wheelie bin collection dates

Wednesday 7th February Black bin

Wednesday 14th February Blue and Green bins

Wednesday 21st February Black bin

Wednesday 28th February Blue and Green bins

Please Note: The use of paper caddies has been discontinued from Monday 11th December. Paper should be placed directly in the blue bin from now on.

Editorial

It's February but no leap-year this year. We do still have Valentine's Day on the 14th, however; the annual festival that has pagan and religious origins. Between February 13th to 15th the Romans celebrated the feast of Lupercalia and one version of events has Emperor Claudius II executing two men both named Valentine on February 14th on different years in the third century AD, their martyrdom later being celebrated by the Catholic church on St. Valentine's Day. At some point in the shrouds of history the "Saint" was dropped and the Day became associated with courtly love. Today Valentine's Day is big business: in 2015 £1.9 billion was spent on cards, flowers, chocolates and other gifts. If only we all loved the NHS as much!

A few words about the front cover photograph. It is a photo of Dusty Coleman's painting of Kingston Church. As many of you will be aware, Dusty was laid to rest on January 11th at Woodland Burial Site in Barton. This picture is a fitting tribute to his life as an artist.

Peter Holly pjholly45@gmail.com 01223 264 556

Vicar's Letter

There's a proverb which I've seen several times recently "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together".

There's a deep truth there: I certainly know that when I'm driving around the villages, if there's nobody else to worry about rattling around the car, it's possible to put the foot down a bit more.

But it also means there's nobody else to compare notes with when you get a bit lost, nobody else to watch the bag while you nip to the loo, nobody else to go "Ooh, look at that!" when something interesting appears, and nobody else to reminisce with later on about the highs and lows.

When Jesus sends his disciples ahead of him to the towns he intends to visit, he sends them out in pairs for precisely that companionship, protection, and accountability.

What applies to our physical journeys also applies to our 'journey of life'. In the Bible's creation parables, God makes the first man, and says "It's not good for the man to be alone" and so makes woman as the best possible companion. We are social beings, and we live better when we live together – looking out for each other, and helping each other along. Even the people we don't get on with are part of the journey: thinking about why we don't gel can help us to understand ourselves better.

And the principle applies to our spiritual journey, too. It's very hard to be a Christian on your own, and not just because most of us aren't good solo singers! Sometimes the journey is easy, sometimes it isn't. In the hard times, having someone to pray for us when our own prayers won't come, someone to hold our hand and God's when we can't find God's hand for ourselves, someone to come looking for us when we've wandered off in the dark, is what makes the difference between staying on the journey and giving up.

If you want to go far on your spiritual journey, let's go together.

Revd. Steve Day

Church Services for February

Sunday 4th February Family Communion 10.30am with Bishop David

Sunday 11th February Evening Prayer 6.00pm

Sunday 18th February Family Service 10.30am First Sunday of Lent

Church cleaning

1st Sunday Peter and Suzy Stokes

2nd Sunday Donal and Monica O'Donnell

3rd SundayPeter Reynolds4th SundayJanet Clear5th SundayLinda Rimmer

Church flowers and brasses

4th February Henrietta Burbridge

11th February Joan Reynolds 18th February Kay Forsythe 25th February Linda Smith

Home Communion

If you cannot get out and would like to receive Holy Communion at home please let the office know and we will arrange for the sacrament to be brought to you on a regular basis. If you are having difficulty getting to church, but a lift would make that possible please contact the team office on 01480 839933 and we will be able to help.

BISHOP DAVID IN KINGSTON 4th FEBRUARY

for service of Family Communion at 10.30am

On Sunday 4th February at 10.30am The Right Reverend David Thomson, Bishop of Huntingdon, will be leading our worship in Kingston. This will be a Family Communion service, for all ages, and EVERYONE is warmly welcome to attend – you don't have to be a church member and you aren't required to take communion. There will be refreshments in the Village Hall after the service.

Bishop David has been in office in our diocese since 2002 and was also acting Bishop of St Edmundsbury in 2012-13. He is originally from Sheffield and studied English at Oxford where he did a doctorate on the teaching of Latin in the middle ages, before reading theology at Selwyn College, Cambridge and training for the ministry at Westcott House. He is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and is the current Chairman of the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust. He serves as Chair of the national Church of England Schools Development Group. Bishop David has the widest experience of ministry and he blogs at https://bpdt.wordpress.com/ He is always good value and we look forward to welcoming him to Kingston.



Fay Black 1931-2017

Fay Black died peacefully at Addenbrooke's Hospital on the 31st December 2017, after a long illness. A Service of Thanksgiving for her life, conducted by the Revd Stephen Day, was held here on the 17th January, with readings by Alison Lee, Matthew Lee, Peter Black and Caroline Hudson. Following the service, she was laid to rest in the churchyard, according to her wishes.

Fay Bice Goodyear was born on the 4th of September 1931 in Barnsley, Yorkshire. She was educated at Barnsley Girls' High School before going to Newnham College to study French and Spanish. She married Michael Black in 1953 and they moved to The White House in Kingston soon afterwards. Michael was already working for the University Press where he became Chief Editor and University Publisher. Fay's career was as a teacher of languages, mostly at The Cambridgeshire High School for Girls, but also at The Friends' School, Saffron Walden and at King's School, Ely. They had three children: Catherine, a cellist; Peter, a curator in the Hunterian Gallery in Glasgow; and Alison, a psychotherapist.

Fay Black has been an integral part of Kingston for more than 60 years: dynamic, practical, outspoken, kind, always fully alive — most familiar in the memory, perhaps, riding our lanes and bridleways (and sometimes well off-piste) on her horse, Topsy. **R. I. P**.

The Life of Fay Black: Eulogy by Catherine Black

Mum was a powerhouse. She was a strong personality, kind, funny and interested in many, many things – in art, literature, gardening, nature, music, human nature and us, her family. As a girl she had her own ponies and became an experienced horse rider. As a teenager, she became a successful show jumper and earned money jumping people's horses for them. The love for horses was strong and we had a series of lovely mares. She also loved swimming and diving. She was a fabulous cook. We loved her French soups, trifles, her salads and amazing salad dressing, her bread rolls and sponge puddings to name just a few. She was also a bit of a maverick.

Fay grew up in Cockerham Hall, a grand house, with huge gardens and stables in Barnsley. She was the only child of a mother who couldn't really work her out (and had social aspirations for her) and a father who had survived, miraculously, the 1st World War. He did understand her more than the young Fay realized. Mum didn't fit any prepared boxes but had an ally in Ada, the Goodyear family's cook who became like her older sister, showing kindness and with whom she could speak in the Yorkshire accent she loved so much! As a child, Fay's mother had her hair trained into long ringlets. She was put in frocks and party shoes when all she wanted was to be out riding horses, swimming or eating fish and chips.

At 11, she went to Barnsley High School where she thrived from the start. She was curious about many things. She had inspiring teachers, friends and she wanted to be a Doctor. We think Grandpa was persuaded to take her away from the High School and send her to Harrogate Ladies College in the vain attempt to turn a tom-boy into someone more lady-like. Mum's aspirations were very different from those of her parents and life was difficult.

At Harrogate she was lonely and depressed. She was, though, blooming smart. She hated Harrogate so much she smoked. That didn't work. She didn't speak to anyone – no one noticed. She was also frequently starving (this was war time and someone took her apples she had asked to be sent from home). In the end, she decided to escape by pretending to be bonkers. She hoped she was risky enough and just to cap it all, climbed down a drainpipe from a couple of floors up, to prove she was a liability if you are producing well-behaved, compliant young ladies. On the ground, she wandered as if sleep-walking, quoting Keats. The Head saw her and thought it time for her to be sent home.

Fay thankfully returned to Barnsley High but had lost several years of learning and so didn't have the right subjects to consider studying medicine. So someone suggested she become a linguist. She worked like a fiend in the evenings to develop her French and Spanish. It was around this time that she met Michael in Falmouth while on holiday and everything changed. He was at Cambridge studying English and Modern Languages and

encouraged Mum to apply too. She got a place at Newnham College and cut her hair off (to Granny's horror) and wore trousers. A lot!

Mum and Dad married after she graduated and after a couple of years they moved out to Kingston. We all followed after a while. Mum had a career teaching Languages at the High School, The Perse Girls and at The Friends' School Saffron Walden. She also taught English and Art History – two of her passions.

She was a brilliant teacher. Her Virgo-ness meant she could clearly analyse, explain and lead people one step at a time. For a short time, she taught me for English Literature. It was my best result. An old friend said she would never have managed her French O level if Mum hadn't been her teacher.

Mum also loved music and we have her childhood baby grand piano and its elegant stool. As children, she got us all playing the piano. Peter was good. We weren't and then Lil took up the Oboe and was very good, and I was asked to start the cello as one was needed in the school orchestra. In between teaching, marking, shopping and cooking, Mum ferried us to many events: music lessons and later on to orchestras. I tell my little ones (and bigger too) how I know that playing in an orchestra for the first time is petrifying, because my Mum came with me and pointed to where we were in the music as I was bewildered.

Mum and Dad were very good to friends of theirs who were hitting bad times. We grew up with people staying long term with us while they righted their boats and they also welcomed our friends. Caroline often had two suppers a day as she came up the road to us to chat and be with us. For decades, my friends have loved coming over and eating in the garden on summers' evenings talking with Mum and Dad.

Mum's passion for food was part and parcel of Mum and Dad's love of travel. We were incredibly lucky kids. In the '60s we jumped into the green Cortina DCE 29C armed with a Tupperware box of sweets to keep us quiet and took off for France. When Dad drove, Mum would read us fabulous books really well. I remember *King Solomon's Mines* coming alive with her reading it.

An English friend of theirs, Oscar Watson, had moved to an idyllic cottage near Blois so we worked our way through France, via the Loire (and Oscar), to a lovely *Pension* on the south coast where we would swim, dive and explore.

Peter and I used to come to Sunday school here in this church, in the corner, with Lucy and Zillah. We were teeny and loved the glamorous blue and gold stamps we put in our booklets each week. So we went from here, to the cathedrals of Chartres and Vezelay. I can still remember the moment I looked up at the Rose window in Chartres. I'd never seen anything so spectacularly soaring and beautiful. Mum and Dad showed us fabulous places in France, Switzerland, Belgium, Germany and Austria. I will never forget Mum doing a spectacular U-turn on the Vienna Ringstrasse. The adrenaline rush was epic.

Mum was grounded, stalwart and amazingly patient. When my life up-ended 5 years ago, she called me every day, sometimes twice for a long, long time. She listened and listened. She and Dad were a very good support team and age didn't stop them. They were practical, kind and thoughtful and helped get us through, and out the other side.

Finally I would like to say how sad it was that her last ten years were physically such a strain for this always active person. Mum had a tough time dealing with a semifunctioning heart. She was possibly the least still person I've met. She was in motion all the time until the heart condition took hold of her. For her, being still was very hard. Her spiritual heart however continued to function well. In the '60s I can remember every few months, Mum pulling blankets and clothes out of drawers for us to take into Cambridge for Refugees. She was very concerned to help in whatever way she could. If a cat appeared wanting to be adopted by us, it got fed. The birds were high up her list of priorities too. She cared about so much and wanted to know what was going on in the world. As I've been going round the house, I've seen envelopes waiting to be posted. Mum sending cheques to animal, and other charities. Quietly getting on with doing good.

A short, prayerful service of

Holy Communion

Wednesday 7 February & Ash Wednesday 14 February (including the Imposition of Ashes)



Anyone from around the Team or beyond is welcome to attend.



Official Switch On 9 Feb from 6.00pm Cambridge Guildhall, CB2 3QJ With talks, Light painting workshop, trail of light, glow sports and glow fitness www.cambridgelivetrust.co.uk/e-luminate

As day turns to night, see Cambridge's most iconic buildings transformed by an array of breathtaking light-art installations, created by some of Europe's leading artists. We'll explore the complex relationship between light and colour from various perspectives, combining art, science, and technology.

<u>Britten Sinfonia Academy</u> perform at the Fitzwilliam Museum's Twilight event at 4.30pm on 13 February. Outside the building will be lit up by Ross Ashton's beautiful projection of objects from across the University of Cambridge Museums' collections. Inside, families can explore fun encounters with colour, demonstrations, and play.



Date	Title	Bourn	Kingston	Caxton	Longstowe
Feb 4	2 nd Sunday before Lent	10.30am FHC Bishop David	10.30am HC	10.30am W4A	
Feb 11	Sunday next before Lent	10.30am W4A	6.00pm EP	10.30am MP	8.30am HC
Feb 18	1st Sunday of Lent	8.30am HC	10.30am W4A		
Feb 25	2 nd Sunday of Lent	10.30am FW		8.30am HC	10.30am MP
Mar 4	3 rd Sunday of Lent	10.30am FHC Bishop Stephen	8.30am HC	10.30am MP	
Mar 11	Mothering Sunday	10.30am W4A	6.00pm EP	10.30am W4A	8.30am HC
Mar 18	5 th Sunday of Lent	8.30am HC	10.30am W4A		
Mar 25	Palm Sunday	10.30am FW		8.30am HC	10.30am MP

HC = traditional Holy Communion (BCP)

MP= traditional Morning Prayer (BCP)

EP = traditional Evening Prayer (BCP)

FHC= Common Worship/All Age Holy Communion

W4A/FS = Family Service

FW = All Age Worship/Morning Prayer/Prayer & Praise/Morning Worship



The Doghouse Caxton

Dog Walking and Home Boarding

We provide a flexible home/day boarding service for dogs in our family home. Dogs are cared for as they would be in their own house. A dog walking service is offered providing regular or one off walks. We hold an animal boarding licence with South Cambridgeshire District Council and have public liability insurance.

For further information contact

Hannah Hope

hannah@thedoghousecaxton.co.uk

01954 719057 07522 964975

Parish Council News

Useful national emergency or information phone numbers

- 101 National number for any non-urgent police call. You will be offered the option of being connected to the nearest police station for your location, or an alternative police station. (Always use 999 or 112 for emergencies or if a crime is actually in progress.)
 - Note that you can also contact the police for any matter, including non-emergencies, on-line at https://www.cambs.police.uk/report/Report.
- NHS health advice. Through a structured series of questions based on your symptoms you will be given advice, passed on to a nurse, doctor or other healthcare professional, or advised to see your GP or go to A&E at your nearest hospital
- **105** Power cuts or damage to electricity power lines
- **999** Emergency services fire, police or ambulance
- **Alternative to 999.** This will work on a mobile phone even if it is locked or has no credit. Will also work in most European countries.

Blue bins: South Cambs District Council has changed its guidance regarding what to do with blue bin overflow. They now advise as follows:

If the blue bin is full, excess recyclable material will be collected if placed in **one** transparent sack next to the blue bin. Please put any glass in your blue bin, not in the sack for safety reasons. One bundle of cardboard may be left next to your bin if it is of a size which would fit inside the bin if there were space. Please tape or tie into a bundle to assist collection. Please do not use other colour wheeled bins for your excess recycling. You can get an additional blue bin free of charge. Contact: email refuse@scambs.gov.uk, tel 03450 450 063.

Fibre broadband: most households in Kingston are now able to receive fibre broadband, but a small number are still having difficulties, with various excuses being offered. Please contact Julie Conder if you are unable to be connected, whatever the reason, as she may be able to help:

Kissing gate near Toft: the County Council are being extremely slow in getting this long-standing problem resolved. We have now recruited Lina Joseph, our

County Councillor to add her influence and have a 'promise' that the gate will be repaired no later than the end of February, weather permitting. We shall see!

Planning

The Parish Council recently considered the following planning applications. The Parish Council's decision is given in each case:

- \$/38759/17/FL replacement of outbuildings with garden studio, small extension to house, insulated render to house, replacement of gutters and downpipes at 1, Field Row (amendment to previous application): agreed to respond 'support'.
- **S/4133/17/PA** change of use of agricultural building at Kingston Pastures Farm, Old Wimpole Road: agreed to respond 'support'.

Peter Stokes, Parish Clerk

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Village Carol Singing

On behalf of the PCC, a huge thank you to all who donated towards this annual event, which raised an amazing £858.10 which will amount to £1072.62 when Gift Aid has been added. This is very much appreciated and we thank you for your continuing support.

Also I would like to thank all the carol singers who turned out on what was an unusually warm evening for December, Torrie and Linda Smith for hosting our after singing refreshments and to all ladies who supplied such tasty goodies. Once again, thank you to everyone who made this fundraising event so successful.

Janet Clear

From the editor

As is evidenced by the photos in this issue, Christmas in Kingston was a resounding success, with the Nativity in the South Sea barn being, according to one participant, "the best ever... in such a natural, appropriate setting".

Many thanks to Torrie Smith for providing the photographs of both the Carol Singing (opposite) and the Nativity play on p14.

Services on Ash Wednesday, 14 February

8.00am Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at Conington

12.00 Noon Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at Bourn

7.30pm Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at Papworth



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Village Carol Singing



New Bus Timetables

Longstowe / Eltisley • Cambourne • Comberton • Cambridge



route number	1.8	18	18	18		18		18	18	18	18		18	
		#Sch	Sch						#5dh	Sch				
Cambourne Business Park	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	-	1742	
Great Cambourne High Street	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	-	1745	
Lower Cambourne Woodfield Lane	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-		1747	
Caxton Brockholt Road	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	-	1753	
Great Gransden Post Office	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	-	1900	
Longstows Fox	0631	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	-	•	
Ekisley The Green	•	0651	0651	-		-		-	-	-	-	-	1909	
Great Gransden Post Office	•	0658	0658	-		-		-	-	-	-	-	•	
Caxton Brockholt Road	0635	0705	0705	-		-		-	-	-	-	-	▼	
Great Cambourne High Street	•	•	•	0841		41		1341	1441	1441	1541	1646	•	
Lower Cambourne Woodfield Lane	0641	0711	0711	0845	THEN	45		1345	1445	1445	1545	1650	▼	
Great Cambourne Morrisons	0643	0713	0713	0847	AT THESE	47		1347	1447	1447	1547	1652	•	
Camboume Business Park	•	₹	•	1280	TIMES	51	UHTL	1351	1451	1451	1551	1656	▼	
Bourn The Willow Tree	0652	0722	0722	0900	EACH	00		1400	1500	1500	1600	1705	1824	
Kingston Green	0657	0727	0727	0905	HOUR	05		1405	1505	1505	1605	1710	1829	
Toft Red Lion	0701	0731	0731	0909		09		1409	1509	1509	1609	1714	1833	
Comberton opp. Village College	0704	0734	•	0912		12		1412	1512	•	1612	1717	1836	
Comberton Village College Grounds	•		0734	•		•		•		1517	•	•	•	
Barton Conkers bus shelter	0711	0741	0741	0919		19		1419	1519	1524	1619	1724	1943	
Grantchester bus shelter	0717	0747	0747	0925		25		1425	1525	1530	1625	1730	1949	
Newnham Grange Road	0723	0753	•	0931		31		1431	1531	1536	1631	1736	1855	
Trumpington High Street	•		0805	•		•		•		•	•	•	•	
Long Road South Form College	•		0818	•		•		•	₹		•	•	▼	
Hills Road Sixth Form College	•		0828	•		•		•		•	•	•	•	
Cambridge Drummer Street	0733	0803	0838	0941		41		1441	1541	1546	1641	1746	1905	

SATURDAYS EXCLUDING BANK HOL	IDAYS						
route number	18	18		18		18	18
Ekteley The Green	0656	-		-		-	1909
Great Graneden Post Office	0703	-		-		-	•
Caxton Brockholt Road	0710	-		-		-	•
Great Cambourne High Street	•	0841		41		1641	•
Lower Cambourne Woodfield Lane	0716	0845		45		1645	•
Great Cambourne Morrisons	0718	0847	THEN	47		1647	•
Cambourne Business Park		1280	AT	51		1651	•
Bourn The Willow Tree	0727	0900	THESE	00	UHTE	1700	1824
Kingston Green	0732	0905	TIMES	05		1705	1829
Toft Red Lion	0736	0909	HOUR	09		1709	1833
Comberton opp. Village College	0739	0912		12		1712	1836
Barton Conkers bus shelter	0746	0919		19		1719	1843
Grantchester bus shelter	0752	0925		25		1725	1849
Newnham Grange Road	0758	0931		31		1731	1855
Cambridge Drummer Street	0808	0941		41		1741	1905

LEGEND

Sch This bus operates on School Days Only #Sch This bus operates on School Holidays Only SUNDAYS & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS - NO SERVICE

This timetable starts 7 January 2018



All of our vehicles are low floor and wheelchair accessible. Each vehicle can carry one wheelchair user.

Cambridge • Comberton • Cambourne • Longstowe / Eltisley



MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS EXCLUDING BANK HOUDAYS														
route number	1.8	18	18		18		18	18	18	18	18	18	18	
	Sch	#Sch						#5th	Sch					
Cambridge Drummer Street bay 5	0740	0750	0850		50		1350	1450	1450	1550	1650	1810	1910	
Newnham Grange Road	0752	0800	0900		00		1400	1500	1500	1605	1705	1825	1920	
Grantchester bus shelter	0759	0805	0905		05		1405	1505	1505	1610	1710	1830	1925	
Barton Conkers bus shelter	0805	0810	0910		10		1410	1510	1510	1615	1715	1835	1930	
Comberton adj. Village College	•	0816	0916		16		1416	1516	•	1621	1721	1841	1936	
Comberton Village College Grounds	0816	•	•	THEN	•		•	•	1516	•	•	•	▼	
Toft Red Lion	0819	0819	0919	AT	19		1419	1519	1519	1624	1724	1844	1939	
Kingston Green	0823	0823	0923	T145%	23	UHTL	1423	1523	1523	1628	1728	1848	1943	
Bourn The Willow Tree	0828	0828	0928	TIMES	28		1428	1528	1528	1633	1733	1853	1948	
Cambourne Business Park	0837	0837	0937	EACH	37		1437	1537	1537	1642	1742	•	•	
Great Cambourne High Street	0840	0840	0940	HOUR	40		1440	1540	1540	1645	1745	1902	1957	
Lower Cambourne Woodfield Lane	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	1747	1904	1959	
Caxton Brockholt Road	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	1753	1910	2005	
Longstows Fox	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	•	•	2009	
Great Gransden Post Office	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	1900	1917	-	
Ekteley The Green	-	-	-		-		-	-	-	-	1907	1924	-	

SATURDAYS EXCLUDING BANK HO	DUDAYS							
route number	18		18		18	1.8	18	18
5145 545	2052				1550	1.000	1010	1010
Cambridge Drummer Street bay 5	0850		50		1550		1810	
Newnham Grange Road	0900		00		1600	1700	1820	1920
Grantchester bus shelter	0905		05		1605	1705	1825	1925
Barton Conkers bus shelter	0910		10		1610	1710	1830	1930
Comberton adj. Village College	0916		16		1616	1716	1836	1936
Toft Red Lion	0919	THEN	19		1619	1719	1839	1939
Kingston Green	0923	AT	23		1623	1723	1843	1943
Bourn The Willow Tree	0928	11-636	28	UHTIL	1628	1728	1948	1948
Cambourne Business Park	0937	TIMES EACH	37		1637	1737	•	•
Great Cambourne High Street	0940	HOUR	40		1640	1740	1857	1957
Lower Cambourne Woodfield Lane	-		-		-	1742	1859	1959
Caxton Brockholt Road	-		-		-	1748	1905	2005
Longstown Fox	-		-		-	•	•	2009
Great Granaden Post Office	-		-		-	1755	1912	-
Ekisley The Green	-		-		-	1802	1919	-

LEGEND

Sch This bus operates on School Days Only #Sch This bus operates on School Holidays Only

This timetable starts 7 January 2018



All of our vehicles are low floor and wheelchair accessible. Each vehicle can carry one wheelchair user.



Kingston's Nativity







Village Hall Renovation Update

After a long break over Christmas, Phase 2 recommenced at the beginning of January. Joists, insulation and plywood underfloor have been laid and will be planked with oak before you read this article. The sound insulation wall has been boarded and will be plastered in time for the Quiz and Chips. Radiators will have been installed for this event. Window-fitting and painting will take place in early February and curtains have been ordered. The delivery of chairs and tables will take place in March. Please come along to the pub evenings in February and March to inspect the vast improvement to your community facility.

Mark Stalham, Chairman, Kingston Village Hall Management Committee.



20 December 2017

Cambridgeshire residents offered exclusive energy rates



The Council has partnered with iChoosr, the UK's leading expert in collective energy switching, to deliver bespoke and highly competitive energy tariffs. Now is the ideal time for residents, especially those on standard tariffs, to switch. The scheme gives residents an opportunity to join together and use their collective bargaining power to bid for better prices for electricity and gas.

Residents are encouraged to register on the Cambridgeshire Energy Switch scheme to see if they can secure a good rate for the year ahead as wholesale energy prices are likely to continue to increase in the coming weeks.



If you haven't signed up to the scheme yet, you are able to do so by simply signing up via the website Cambridgeshire Energy Switch web link below:

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cambsenergyswitch

Or visit Cambridgeshire County Council's website and click on the Cambridgeshire Energy Switch logo on the front page.

An auction will be held on Tuesday 13 February 2018 after which individuals will receive a personal offer, and can then make a decision on whether to switch to the winning supplier. The rates are exclusive to residents switching through the scheme and are not available direct from the suppliers or via price comparison websites.

There is no obligation for people to accept an offer, but if you do it's easy and straight forward and the new provider will take care of the whole process.

The deadline to accept the offer is **Tuesday 27 March.** If you have any issues registering please contact the helpdesk on 0800 048 8285 which is open Mon-Friday 08.30am - 5.30pm or contact the Energy Investment Unit at Cambridgeshire County Council on 01223 715349.

Our MP Heidi Allen's Newsletter

This is my first newsletter of 2018 and I would like to begin by wishing everyone a happy and heathy new year! It was an incredibly busy end to last year and is shaping up to be more of the same in 2018!

Having recovered fully from being sawn in half(!) at the Cambourne lights switch on event, I was able to join local residents for some of their Christmas celebrations. I always enjoy carol services and this year was no exception. I joined residents in Papworth Everard ("Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" a highlight for me!) for their community carol service and attended the Christmas service at Holy Trinity Church in Elsworth. I was honoured to be asked to read one of the lessons and reflected on the work local community and faith groups do to bring people together not just at Christmas, but throughout the year. Our communities are stronger because of them.

I was also pleased to be asked to record a message for "Talking News for the Blind" which is provided to about 200 blind and partially sighted people in Cambridge and surrounding villages. This local charity does vital work to bring information and news to people who may feel isolated otherwise.

Last month, I invited Robert Halfon MP to South Cambs so he could see the excellent work undertaken at Villiers Park in Foxton.

Robert is the Chair of the House of Commons Education Select Committee and understands the role education plays in social mobility.

Villiers Park are a phenomenal education charity who actively seek out the brightest kids from the poorest backgrounds, in the most deprived parts of the UK. They work with them over a number of years, mentoring and supporting them to achieve their potential and a place at a top University or high level apprenticeship. I am keen to help them expand, so if you work for an organisation who may be interested in sponsoring them, please do get in touch with me or them directly at www.villierspark.org.uk

Back in Westminster, the Agriculture Minister George Eustice kindly agreed to meet with some of my South Cambs farmers to discuss what life might be like for them outside the EU. We had a full and frank discussion about what small and large farmers will need to keep this vital industry profitable. We all agreed it was a very worthwhile meeting and took great reassurance from George's understanding of the challenges the industry faces.

A common theme in my newsletters is my ambition to get round every school in South Cambs. First off, I took some pretty tough questions from Great and Little

Shelford Primary's School Council! It was also great to be back at Cambourne Village College to hear from students who are members of CAMnesty, the Cambourne Amnesty youth group. The optimism and straightforwardness of young minds gives me a great energy boost. Finally, I visited Vine Inter-Church Primary School in Cambourne to understand the challenges facing a rapidly growing village with a constantly shifting population. The dedication of the staff and head teachers I meet in every school is humbling. It is always evident that every member of staff is completely and utterly committed to the children they teach.

Oakington's latest community facility is now open!

Crossways CommuniTea Café at 1 Longstanton Road, Oakington is a social enterprise with the aim of bringing the community together in a warm and welcoming environment.

It was a pleasure to do the honours and cut the ribbon (I was allowed proper grown up scissors on this occasion!) I hope you will be able to support the café by popping in soon for a cuppa. I can confirm beyond all doubt that they make a cracking brew!

Cambridgeshire's Police and Crime Commissioner is seeking views on their share of your council tax. They are proposing to increase it by £12 per year per household (based on a Band D property) in order to provide more front line police officers. The survey runs until the 29th January and can be found at -

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/W3CD8P3

Since my last newsletter in December, I have held two surgeries - one in Gamlingay and one in Great Shelford. Listening to the views and concerns of constituents and helping them with issues affecting their lives is an important part of my role.

My next surgery will be on 3rd February 11am–1pm at the Hare and Hounds, 60 High Street, Harlton CB23 1ES. All are welcome so I like to run a "no appointment necessary" system, but the last surgery was incredibly busy so I'd recommend you get there early if you can.

Details of all upcoming surgeries can be found on my website - www.heidisouthcambs.co.uk. To contact me, please email heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk. You can also phone my Westminster office on 020 7219 5091 about national issues or my constituency office on 01223 830037 for local concerns.

See you next month!

Re-launching the Raft onto Lake Malawi

In the late 70's and early 80's, Suzy and I lived in Malawi for 6 years, with our three young children. We lived in Blantyre, which was the commercial centre and largest city in the country. 240 miles away lay the enticing and serene Lake Malawi. The company I worked for (like many others) owned a little cottage on the lakeshore, for the use of senior managers and their families.

We booked up weekends at the cottage as often as the rules allowed, usually inviting another family to join us. You had to take all food and drink with you – there was no shop for miles. Felix was the resident 'houseboy' who kept it clean and tidy, and cooked for visiting families. Because of its remoteness, and because my boss (the MD) liked to save money, we operated a sort of DIY policy for getting odd repairs done.

It worked like this. One family there would find a problem (something broken or missing, water pump not working, etc), and report back to Blantyre HQ on Monday morning. The MD's secretary would then organise the solution. Where rectification was within the scope of the next visitor, any materials required were obtained and the next family going would take these and sort the problem out. As head of the Service Division, with the company workshops part of my empire, any problems with a technical dimension were usually thrown into my lap!

A couple of hundred yards off the beach at the cottage was permanently moored a raft. A simple affair made of a wooden floor fixed on top of 6 oil drums, it provided a pleasant focus to swimming activity. But one year, a violent storm broke it free from its mooring, and it was found washed up on the beach by the next visitors. I was assigned the job of getting it back into position.

First I needed a suitable anchor, something really heavy. There was no hope of finding the old one. I cast around our Blantyre workshops and found the discarded cast-iron block from an old V8 Cummins diesel engine. Perfect! It must have weighed nearly half a ton. I arranged for this to be transported to the lake cottage to await the next stage in the project.

I then bought a long length of galvanised chain and a few shackles, and took these with us on our next weekend at the cottage. As soon as we arrived on the Friday afternoon, I spoke to Felix. "I need a few labourers, Felix, to help me move this heavy anchor and re-launch the raft. I think 7 or 8 men would be about right. Could you organise that?" He assured me he could. He gave me useful advice on suitable remuneration for the task (no doubt including a generous cut for himself) and later confirmed that all was arranged, they would be here at 7 o'clock the following morning.

And there they were at the water's edge the next morning, in their ragged shorts, jostling and laughing, shoving each other about, looking forward to this mad white man's foolish escapade, a chance to relieve the boredom of daily life in a fishing village

and earn a bit of money. We pushed the raft back into the water with much hollering and shouting (Felix jumping up and down nearby, translating my commands), and floated it round to where the old engine block lay. We then heaved the engine block down to the water's edge, and with sweat pouring off us, managed to roll it up onto the raft. The raft sank very low, dangerously listing until we got the thing centralised. I shackled one end of the chain to the block and the other end to the metal frame under the raft. Grunting and heaving, we then pushed the raft off into the water, and with some paddlers and some swimmers, we made our ponderous way out into the lake.

When I judged we were in a suitable position, and from a vantage point in the water a dozen yards away, I gave the order to roll the engine block off the raft. This was the best bit we had all been looking forward to! The engine block was heaved bit by bit to the edge of the raft, and with alarming tilt on the raft, it was rolled off into the water. KAAASPLOOOOOSH!!!! The raft rocked violently this way and that, flinging its occupants into the water in all directions. We all swam back to the beach to review our handiwork. There was the raft, once more floating out in the water, where it should be! The men were paid off, and I returned to the cottage for a well-deserved breakfast.

Peter Stokes

Here are Marion Leslie's Current Pet Peeves

- 1. The condescending, plummy, female, disembodied voice announcing "Doors open, doors closed, going down, 2nd floor" etc. in the Grand Arcade parking lot. Who is this obnoxious person?
- 2. The fact that every time I turn on Radio 4 it is either Women's Hour or the Archers and they are on twice a day.
- 3. Women's Hour or Misery Hour. This is not something to listen to when in need of cheer.
- 4. Noisy hot air hand dryers. Any loose germs can travel further.
- 5. Tasteless background music in shops and restaurants. None is preferable to being irritated.

Now how about a list of things that bring joy!

For example: Other people's friendly dogs, i.e. the pleasure without the responsibility.

Being negative is probably funnier.

Marion Leslie

MARK STEELE

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George Thorogood and the Destroyers

In last month's magazine I mentioned that George Thorogood and his band are the perfect antidote to music that is perfection. This was not a put-down; far from it. My point was after playing the likes of Katie Melua and Eva Cassidy for any considerable time, you might be in need of a change of style, pace and volume. And this is where a dose of George Thorogood's raucous imperfection comes in. Rock and roll does not have to be perfect; it's the impact it has that matters. And Thorogood's music certainly has impact. His music is loud and brash, rough and ready, gutsy and played with gusto. Hailing from Wilmington, Delaware, his raw, blue-collar, warts and all approach is ideally suited to bar-room blues boogie. This is why his live albums tend to steal the show. Grounded at a point where the blues and rock and roll intersect, his music attacks your feet and your senses simultaneously. I challenge you to remain unmoved when his music hits the speakers: get those legs working!

I first came across his music in the later '70s. I bought two of his early singles (one of which was "Madison Blues" coupled with "Delaware Slide", a brilliant two-sided 7-inch record) and an early LP containing a straight-ahead version of Chuck Berry's "Nadine": no frills, no embellishments, just dancing party music at its best. His slide guitar work launches the band into outer space. His LP George Thorogood Live released in 1986 contains rousing versions of "Who Do You Love?", "Night Time", "Bad to the Bone" (a top forty hit), and "Reelin' & Rockin'". The circle of his career was completed in 2011 when he released his album 2120 South Michigan Avenue, his homage to the original recordings of electric rhythm and blues on the Chess brothers record label based in Chicago. Titled after a little known Rolling Stones b-side recorded at the legendary studios in 1964, the album includes covers of songs popularized by the likes of Chuck Berry ("Let It Rock"), Bo Diddley ("Bo Diddley"), Little Walter ("My Babe"), Howlin' Wolf ("Spoonful") and Tommy Tucker ("Hi-Heel Sneakers"). As one reviewer commented, "If you are looking for airbrushed, machine-tooled, designed-by-numbers AOR, please look elsewhere. However if your interest extends back to the origins of our glorious rock'n'roll musical heritage, and/or if you associate heart, soul and sweat with your musical preferences, then this is one for you." What is certain is that after forty years of performing, George Thorogood is still peddling revved-up, high-energy blues boogie. Long may he reign! And now for some down time; time to return to Eva Cassidy!

Peter Holly

Twilight at the Museums - A FREE night of exploration for families

Tuesday 13 February 2018, 4.30 - 7.30pm

This February half-term, take a leap into the unknown and explore 14 local museums and collections after dark... discover somewhere new, and unearth some remarkable objects. Twilight at the Museums is a FREE after-hours event for families where museums and collections across the city turn down the lights and open their doors for drop-in activities and themed trails, with plenty for families to enjoy. Pack a torch and experience some 'Neon Navigation' at All Saints Church, meet some Arctic explorers at the Polar Museum, set out on a scientific expedition across the Whipple Museum, and try your hand at code cracking with the Museum of Technology.

There is more information on the website and Twilight What's On programmes will be available from all participating museums and other venues with a downloadable version on the webpage.

https://www.museums.cam.ac.uk/whats-on/twilight-at-the-museums

LONGSTOWE HISTORY SOCIETY

Ancient Roads and Track-ways in South Cambridgeshire



A survey of lines of communication in the south of the county, from prehistoric times to the 19th century

> illustrated talk by Jonathan Spain

Tuesday 27th February, 7.30 for 8pm LONGSTOWE VILLAGE HALL

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Email: papworthteamministryoffice@gmail.com

Web: www.papworthteamchurches.org

Our Team Administrator, Chris Westgarth, works in the office normally on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings; serving the parishes of Bourn, Boxworth, Caxton, Conington, Croxton, Elsworth, Eltisley, Graveley with Papworth St Agnes, Kingston, Knapwell, Lolworth, Longstowe, Papworth Everard, Toseland and Yelling. For enquires about weddings, baptisms, funerals and general parish matters, please contact Chris (as above), visit the website or speak to one of our clergy...

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Dispensary

Mon-Fri 9:00-10:00 & 4:00-6:00 01954 718101

Comberton Surgery Opening Times

tel. 01223 262500

Reception

Mon-Fri 8:15-12:30 & 1:30-6:30 (Out of hours for duty doctor's number ring: 01223 262500 or 262579)

EMERGENCY 01223 464242

Dispensary

Mon-Fri 8:30-12:30 & 1:30-6:30

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Quarter page: £3 (£30 for 12 issues)

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