

THE VENTURE



February/March 2016

FROM THE EDITOR

I don't know about you but I just wish it would snow so we can get it over with. I must admit the change in temperature was a shock to the system but I'm getting used to it now. I quite like it when it is cold as you know that if a few weeks/months time it will warm up, spring will have sprung and Mother Nature will be working her magic and making our gardens green and lush with new shoots. Until that time we just need to add layers, keep moving to get the circulation going and put on a brave face.

How was your Christmas? Mine was quite, just me and my family around the open fire listening to the Queen give her annual message. Ben, our annual visitor at Christmas, decided to stay at home but we did see him between Christmas and New Year with his house mate Od.

I do have a question for you all – do people who marry multiple times do so because they love their partner and want to spend the rest of their lives together or because they like wedding cake?

PS Less than 340 days until he comes again!!!

Don't forget to let me have anything you would like included in the February/March 2016 issue please let The Editor by **16 March 2016** at the **very latest**. Articles can be emailed to: venture@horseheath.info. To advertise your business please contact the Venture Team on 01223 891086 for more details.

Dear Friends

'February fill-dyke', they used to call it in the fens. We certainly saw more than enough rain in December and January, so I guess we're hoping the old description won't be true of this February. Of course, wet weather has its own beauty, with waterfowl turning-up in unexpected places to glide over the swamped grasses below. But, on the whole, we don't enjoy periods of persistent rain, nor flooding, even if it only means the odd diversion on country roads, or huge puddles collecting round blocked drains in the towns, to drench hapless pedestrians and cyclists when vehicles pass through them. And flooding which affects houses, schools and people's businesses is a real misery.

But floods are a far more serious disaster for many people across the globe than our periods of winter inconvenience and upset here in the UK. Extreme events have always happened, but they do seem to be becoming more frequent, and more destructive. Many of us hope that the Paris agreements of last December will lead to some real restraint on the forces which make for climate change.

Water is, of course, central to Christianity; it was over the waters that the Spirit of God brooded at the beginning in the creation story as poetically told in Genesis 1 (we know of course, scientifically speaking, that water was the necessary pre-cursor to the rise of life on our planet, so the biblical poetry is intuitively 'right'). In the New Testament story, God's Spirit and the water are once again present at the beginning of his new act of creation, when Jesus is baptised in the Jordan by John, to begin his ministry. Because of this, Christians trace the origin of their personal lives 'in Christ' to the time of their own baptism – the water breaking over their heads as the sign both of washing, and of new

birth (just as the 'waters break' in natural birth). Water is essential, of course, to refresh us and revive us, so Jesus promises in John Chapter 4 that his presence will be with us like a well of water springing-up to eternal life. Water is a sign of gift and grace.

Yet, of course, in the Bible water also has another side to it: the story of Noah graphically draws on human experience of floods to tell a really frightening tale of wholesale destruction (why do we consider it especially suitable for children?). In the book of Job, the great monster, Leviathan, who is the symbol of all that threatens us, is a water-monster. In the last book of the Bible, Revelation, one of the signs of the harmony of the 'new creation' is that there is 'no more sea' (Rudyard Kipling wrote a poetic riposte to this, envisaging sailors in heaven begging God to give them back their sea!). This shows, I think, how different our island culture is from that of the Israelites, who saw the sea as the sign of chaos and threat – not as something beautiful and exciting, the arena for adventure and travel.)

Water – it's one of those very basic symbols which can speak to us in so many ways. But let's respect the real, physical stuff – so essential to us, so much part of us; something which isn't equally or justly shared between different human beings (let's do something about that), and something which is proving a barometer of our relationship with creation and climate.

Maggie Guite
Rector of the Linton Team Ministry

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Thank you to Maggie Guite for taking our Sunday 6 December Christingle Service the collection of £60.00 was forwarded to the Children's Society.

Saturday 12 December our Festive Coffee Morning was held and raised £235.00 for the up keep of our Church.

We welcomed over 120 parishioners and families to our Christmas Eve Crib Service £400.00 was donated in the collection for the J's Hospice (a charitable organization for transforming the lives of Young Adults with life limiting conditions throughout Essex).

The PCC thank everyone who took part in the coffee morning and the Christmas Service for their assistance. A local company Designer Drapes of Hadstock refurbished our Altar.

Alan & Audrie will host at 5 Cornish Close the Tea and Chat on Wednesday 10 February and our Valentines Brunch will be on Saturday 13 February at 11am in Church do come and taste our Homemade Soup there will be a raffle and Tombola.

Sunday Club resumes on Sunday 7 February in Church 10am and will continue on the 1st Sunday of the month for children of all ages.

Wishing you all a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful 2016 and look forward to you visiting our church.

Pat & Judith

Church Flowers and Cleaning

<u>Date</u>		<u>Cleaning and Flowers</u>	
January	31	Mrs Mayes & Mrs Wheeler	
February	7	Mrs Miller & Mrs Harrison	
	14	Mrs Miller & Mrs Harrison] Lent – No Flowers
	21	Mrs Newman & Mrs Pearson	
	28	Mrs Newman & Mrs Pearson	
March	6	Mrs Smith & Mrs Jolley	
	13	Mrs Smith & Mrs Jolley	
	20	Mrs Mizon & Mrs Gouldstone	
	27	EASTER – CONGREGATION	
April	3	Mrs Mizon & Mrs Gouldstone	
	10	Mrs Mayes & Mrs Wheeler	

HORSEHEATH PARISH COUNCIL

www.horseheath.info

A meeting was held on Monday 11 January in the Village Hall. In attendance were the Parish Clerk Bernard Yallop, our District Councillor Richard Turner, our County Councillor Roger Hickford, District Council Planning Committee member Robert Turner, one parishioner and our future Clerk Melanie Laing.

County Council news - www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

- The presentation of a report on the A1307 was postponed last December and is now on the agenda for the Greater Cambridge City Deal Joint Assembly at The Guildhall in Cambridge on 12 February. Papers should be available on their website by 5 February. The report will bring together the study to draw some conclusions from the 2014 A1307 traffic survey together with the Greater Cambridge City Deal A1307 report, which has been expanded to look at the Haverhill/Fourwentways section as well as Fourwentways/Cambridge. Funding will be needed for any road scheme from Fourwentways to Haverhill.
- The County Council have decided to keep the increase of the precept (the amount they get from Government) at 1.99%.

District Council news - www.scamb.gov.uk

- The Local Plan has been rejected by Government due to insufficient housing Information and is now due at the end of the year.
- The changes to the Planning Delegation procedures, which set out how appeals are handled, will be implemented in May.
- There has been a review of polling district boundaries/wards and The Boundary Commission has now agreed a reduction in South Cambs. District Councillors from 57 to 45 with about 2500 people per councillor. It is likely that a smaller number of villages will share a single councillor rather than the existing system where a number of villages share two councillors. We should know the final arrangements by the summer and then the changes will come into effect in 2018.

County and District Council liaison

Proposals are due next month to start a new a monthly meeting for County and District Councillors plus Council officers to meet Parish Council representatives to receive news and answer questions. This would replace the current system of County and District Councillors attending each Parish Council meeting.

Annual Parish Meeting

While this is not a Parish Council meeting we have a responsibility to set the date, which will be Friday 22 April in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. The meeting will include reports from our County and District Councillors along with Village clubs and organisations, such as the Village Hall. It is an opportunity for villagers to discuss these as they wish and to speak on any matter of local interest. The report on the A1307 should have been published by then and the road has been a key topic of debate in the last few years. I would encourage everyone to come along and make their voice heard on this important matter for us all.

Maintenance

- The window in the bus shelter up near Alington Terrace is being fixed.
- The pathway that runs from Montfort House to Alington Terrace has become overgrown with grass and weeds. Also in places trees have grown over the pathway so that it is no longer passable. This has been reported to CCC Highways.

Burial ground access

We will hope to hear in February whether our grant application to construct a reinforced grass layby by the allotments on the West Wickham Road has succeeded.

S106 payments

Section 106 agreements, also known as planning obligations, are agreements between developers and local planning authorities that are negotiated as part of a condition of planning consent. We have now received about £3,700 to spend in Horseheath due to development of The Stables, the new house by the Cricket Field. This is in addition to the £8,000 received last year from the new houses in Audley Way. The money is stipulated to be used for community projects within ten years.

Parish Council budget

We have agreed to keep the application for the precept (the amount of money we get from the District Council) at £10,200, the same level as the last 3 years.

Parish clerk

We are pleased to welcome Melanie Laing as our new clerk to replace Bernard Yallop, who has decided to retire. She lives in Castle Camps and is also replacing Bernard as that village's clerk.

The next meeting will be on Monday 14 March 2016 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall. All welcome.

Stuart Miller, Chair

t: 893250

e: stuart@stuartmiller.co.uk

1ST HORSEHEATH BROWNIES

A New Year and a new start for Eliska who has joined us from Castle Camps. At the end of last term we said Goodbye to Morgan, who has moved on to Balsham Guides, and Eowyn who were both 10.

Our Over 60's Luncheon, in December, was a great success and many guests have said it was 'the best ever'. The Brownies entertained our guest with violin solos, magic tricks, dancing, carol singing and many piano solos. We'd like to thank Audrie and Gloria for their soups; Pat for her

soup and ham; Judith and Pat for fabulous table decorations; Mother for cooking the other meats and making the pickles; Sarah, Grace, Tony and Emma for all their work in the kitchen; Stella for being in the right place at the right time to sort out whatever needed sorting, along with Katie, Hera and Lauren . I'd finally like to thank all the guests and Brownies for being there, for without you there wouldn't have been a party.

We will be attending our District Thinking Day Celebrations at Linton Village College at the end of February, which this year has been organised by the group of new Leaders who are completing their Leadership Qualification.

We are also getting ready for our annual holiday to the Jarman Centre. As we haven't had any snow this year I'm expecting it all to arrive when we are away, like it did a few years ago.

Finally, Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers will be out again soon. If you don't have anywhere to donate your vouchers to then please place them in the box in Horseheath Post Office for the Brownies.

If you think your daughter may be interested in joining us please register her at www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested. If you would like more information on what we do or would like to help us with a special skill you may have then please drop us an email.

PAULINE, KATIE and HERA
E: brownies@horseheath.info

A604 CLUB

A Happy New Year to you all.

At the beginning of December the A604 Club were invited to Coffee and Carols at Linton Village College. It was very enjoyable. The Linton College Band entertained the guests with beautiful Music and Singing.

We returned on Wednesday 20 January for our belated Christmas Tea.

The programme has been organised for this year. We have some interesting meetings planned with Fish and Chips, a visit to Anglesey Abbey to see the snowdrops (if they haven't finished) at the beginning of March.

Another visit from Peter Jackson (of Scotsdales fame) with his plants is planned; flower arranging and a speaker coming to talk about the beginnings of the LSA Abington (Land Settlement Association). We will also be having a bring and buy later on in the year.

If anyone would like to come along to any of our meetings please ring Don on 01223 893428 for more information.

CHRISTINE
Secretary/Treasurer

HORSEHEATH VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

After a quiet start to the year the committee are getting ready to host the Annual Horseheath Burns Night Supper. With a week to go we have already sold 42 tickets and are hoping to fill the last few seats in the next few days. Burns Night always brings the community together despite the majority of those attending having no Scottish connections whatsoever - it is also one of the few occasions where members of the community help with the cooking!

As always the committee have a number of events lined up for 2016 including Christine and Pauline's quiz, the possibility of another barn dance and a supper evening later in the year. If there is something you would like to see on at the hall please drop us a line – we are always looking for new ideas – be it a children's disco, a swing night (no, not that kind!) another film night (haven't done one in a few years!) please let us know.

The village hall AGM will take the same format as last year and will be held separately to the Annual Parish Meeting with the committee will take their place along with the rest of the village organisations at Annual Parish Meeting giving a brief overview of what we have been up to over the past 12 months. Everyone is welcome to attend the village hall AGM and we will publish the date later in the year.

If you are interested in what we do please do get in touch – the committee always has room for new ideas! We are contactable at villagehall@horseheath.info

100 Club Winners

December:	Judith Jolley	£30.00
Christmas:	Bev Nash	£150.00
January:	Heather Mizon	£30.00

Yes it is that time of year again. In this issue of the Venture you will have the application forms for the Social Club and 100 Club. Please fill it in you may win one of the monthly prizes or one of the specials. Hand the completed form with your payment to Christine or hand it in at the Post Office

Adrienne Powell
Chair – Horseheath Village Hall
01223 891691/07932 360589
Villagehall@horseheath.info
Facebook: Horseheath Village Hall

CASTLE CAMPS C OF E (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL *Learning together with faith, hope and love*



On behalf of all the staff and children at Castle Camps Primary School, I would like to wish you all a very happy new year. I hope you all had a pleasant Christmas and found time to relax with family and friends.

At the end of last term, we were delighted to welcome a number of new families to school for our 2016 Reception Intake Open Morning. During the morning, parents had the opportunity to listen to presentations from members of staff, our Chair of Governors (Fiona Larcombe) and former Chair of FOCCS (Simon Marchant). Time was also spent in classes with the children and parents were

treated to a preview performance from our Young Voices Choir. Special thanks must be passed on to William and Lily in Deer Class, who wrote a superb speech for the parents explaining their experiences at Castle Camps and how they found their first day at school. If you know of any parents that are interested in a place for their child at Castle Camps, we will be happy to arrange a tour. Please contact Mrs Gouldstone in the School Office (01799 584 270) to book an appointment.

Thank you to all the families that came to support our Christmas Fayre in December. It was a wonderful event and a fantastic £963 was raised for school computing equipment. The Friends work tirelessly to raise funds for our school and their donations enrich the learning opportunities of all our children. You can also support the school at home through the easyfundraising. By ordering via the easyfundraising website, you will receive a cash reward which can then be donated to the school. So far, and with only 13 supporters, we have raised £221.80. Please follow the link below for more information and encourage your friends and family to do the same. Thank you. <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofcastlecamps/?t=Easyfundraising-lo&v=a&>

After the excitement and activity at Christmas, it seems that this term will be equally as busy. We have many fantastic events planned, including: a Theatre in Education performance (Destination Democracy/British Parliament); singing at the O2 Arena as part of the Young Voices Choir; cooking (in Spanish) with the staff at Nana Mexico; and a trip to Ely Stained Glass Museum. Building on from last year's successful Science Week, we will be celebrating Science Fortnight ('Sensational Science') from Monday, 29th February – Thursday 10 March. During the two weeks, we will be welcoming the Education Outreach Team from the Dog's Trust who will be running workshops for the children on: 'Evolution and Adaptation', 'Senses' and 'Teeth and Eating'. Other events and workshops planned include visitors from the University of Cambridge, ZooLab, the Mad Scientists and workshops with Wood Green Animal Shelter. We will even be celebrating Castle Camps Book Day (Friday 4 March) with a Science Theme. All these events will provide the children with a number of engaging activities to stimulate their interest and develop their knowledge and understanding in a practical way.

The start of a new year is a time for us, as individuals and as a school, to reflect on the year that has passed and to look with enthusiasm towards the new challenges and adventures ahead. At Castle Camps, we believe that 2016 will be another positive year for us and we are looking forward to the new experiences and challenges it will bring.

Please accept my very best wishes for the months ahead and I look forward to writing again later in the term.

Miss Alexandra O'Connor
Headteacher

THE MEADOW SCHOOL, BALSHAM

At the end of last academic year we asked the children what they wanted the teachers and staff to do in 2015/16 for the school. One of the most popular requests was to have exciting, new and interesting topics that let the children go on lots of trips! The teachers worked hard over the summer to plan 3 topics that would meet the children's tough requirements. In autumn term, 'Best of British' was amazing and we wondered if they would be able to beat that in spring term, well they have!

Three new topics have been created, the Infants have launched 'Footsteps through Time', studying different periods of time from dinosaurs to the ice age. The children had an amazing day at the Natural History Museum to start their topic. I don't think I have ever heard the word 'Wow!' said so many times in such a short space of time. The children were in awe of everything they saw. The grandeur and size of the museum on its own inspired them to look carefully at everything they saw, noticing all of the little details. The dinosaur skeletons were a huge hit, as was the giant escalator that led to the volcanoes and earthquakes section. Being surrounded by fossils, skeletons, animals, birds, crystals, creepy crawlies ensured the children were kept busy.

Years 3/4/5 have started 'Eureka', examining inventions and studying famous inventors. The children spent a day at the Science Museum in London to inspire their learning. With the help of the museum staff, they explored how forces worked in building bridges and tested how strong eggs were! The workshop leaders even got Miss Copare to be the meat in the human sandwich to test how spreading force over a large area lessened the impact. After investigating the galleries to see how technology has developed over time, the children visited the Imax and watched a 3D film about the development in robotics technology and saw many different amazing robots. It really was an inspiring start to their new topic.

Year 5/6 have begun, 'Keen to be Green'. A topic with a focus on the world we live in, climate, pollution, recycling and other ecological issues. They launched their topic with a split trip. Despite the jokes in school that Year 5/6 were visiting the 'dump', they had an incredibly interesting and thought provoking day.

Half of the day was spent at Amey Waste Management Park and the other half at Denny Abbey. The day started with the children being kitted out in wellies, hard hats and hi visibility jackets. The visit involved sorting household rubbish according to the bin colour it should be disposed in and finding out some interesting, yet alarming, facts. Did you know that it only takes us eighteen months to fill a landfill site? In 20 years, we will run out of landfill sites unless we recycle more! Afterwards, the children went on a tour of the Recycling Park and visited the Material Recovery Facility, where all of the rubbish is sorted. After lunch they visited Denny Abbey to find out how people were less wasteful in the past. They made a rag rug, visited a village shop from 100 years ago and learnt how archaeologists found out about life in the past by looking at rubbish. The children certainly learnt lots about the importance of re-use and recycling and they even saw a rat!

We share photos and news of everything that happens at The Meadow on our twitter page, @Meadow_Balsham. Take a peek!

Nichola Connor
Headteacher

LINTON HEALTH CENTRE

Just a couple of months now until Linton and Sawston merge to form one large partnership to be known as Granta Medical Practices.

It has been an incredibly busy year and there has certainly been no winding down into retirement for me. I set my retirement date as March 2016 such a long time ago, back in January last year, and this last year has simply flown by. The merger work has certainly ensured that I have been kept busy right to the end.

Granta Medical Practices will move forward with a new management structure. Gerard Newnham, the current Business Practice Manager at Sawston, will be the Senior Manager across both sites providing strategic direction and overview for the newly formed partnership.

Another senior role in the management structure is that of IT Manager and Haley Suttle is already in post, working across both sites. Haley has years of experience in general practice IT systems and her knowledge and skills will be invaluable as we merge our computer systems in mid April.

Instead of a Practice Manager at Linton we would like to welcome Tracy Ho, who has been appointed as Practice Operations Manager with responsibility for HR and Finance across both sites. Tracy will join us on Tuesday 1 March and will be based primarily at Linton. She will be ably supported by Carol Thexton, our Office Manager, and the rest of the practice team.

This is an exciting new chapter in the history of both Sawston and Linton Practices. As a merged practice, we feel that we will be well prepared to take on the challenges and the opportunities that the NHS environment will present us with over the next few years.

More detail next time on how we will manage the booking of appointments in April when we have to prepare for merging the two computer systems.

Sheila Griffiths
Practice Manager and Partner
Linton Health Centre
www.linton.gpsurgery.net

REMEMBERED.....

Mr Barney Staples, late of Springfield Cottages, Horseheath
Mr Ken Simpson, late of Devana, Cardinals Green

We send our deepest sympathy to the family of the dearly departed and we are thinking of them in our prayers.

WEST WICKHAM AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

On Monday 18 January Alex Summers, Glasshouse Supervisor at Cambridge Botanic Gardens gave us a comprehensive talk on South African "Fynbos". Alex is an excellent speaker and knows all there is to know about this unique area in the Cape that has more indigenous species than anywhere else apart from perhaps Borneo.

Fynbos is native vegetation including Proteas, Ericas and Restios found right around the coast of the Cape and inland up to the escarpment and Karoo desert. These plants thrive on almost pure sand which holds no nutrients so they need the occasional fire to provide potash and the fires are also necessary for the seeds of some plants to germinate. It was a fascinating talk accompanied by beautiful photos.

Our next meeting, on Monday 15 February, will be about "Feeding, Weeding and other Gardening Secrets" by David Coop from Westlands Compost. At a time when we begin to think about the garden once again this will give us all a prod in the right direction.

If you are reading this and think perhaps you might come along to one of our meetings- please do. We will give you a warm welcome.

For further information contact me on 01799 584262, Rosemary Yallop.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

THINK the fire service is all about putting out fires and rescuing people from road crashes? Think again.

At Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, the men and women on our frontline deliver important fire safety advice to dozens of different communities. From visiting schools to care homes, mother and toddler groups to community fetes, our firefighters play an integral role in keeping YOUR community safe.

And we'd like **you** to think about joining us.

The role of a firefighter is varied and exciting but most importantly, it can make a real difference to people's lives.

The next recruitment process for wholetime firefighters opens on February 6. To find out more, log on to www.cambsfire.gov.uk.

Find us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

Contact details for publishing with any articles if required: www.cambsfire.gov.uk - 01480 444500 - firefire@cambsfire.gov.uk

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VILLAGE DIARY

January	25	Blue Bin ONLY collection
	31	Church Flowers and Cleaning – Mrs Mayes & Mrs Wheeler
February	1	Black Bin collection
	3	A604 Club AGM
	7	Church Flowers and Cleaning – Mrs Miller & Mrs Harrison Sunday Club, 10am Horseheath Church
	8	Green and Blue Bin collection
	10	Tea and Chat, 5 Cornish Close
	13	Valentine's Brunch, 11am Horseheath Church
	14	Church Cleaning – Mrs Miller & Mrs Harrison
	15	Black Bin collection West Wickham and District Gardening Club – talk by David Coop
	21	Church Cleaning – Mrs Newman & Mrs Pearson Holy Communion, Horseheath Church, 10am
	22	Blue Bin ONLY collection
	28	Church Cleaning – Mrs Newman & Mrs Pearson
	29	Black Bin collection
	March	6
7		Green and Blue Bin collection
13		Church Cleaning – Mrs Smith & Mrs Jolley
14		Black Bin collection Horseheath Parish Council Meeting, 7.45pm
20		Church Cleaning – Mrs Mizon & Mrs Gouldstone
21		Green and Blue Bin collection
25		Good Friday Liturgy, Horseheath Church, 10am
27		Church Flowers and Cleaning – EASTER – Congregation
29		Black Bin Collection
April		3
	4	Green and Blue Bin collection
	10	Church Flowers and Cleaning – Mrs Mayes & Mrs Wheeler
	22	Annual Parish Meeting, Horseheath Village Hall