

# New Life

The Monthly  
Magazine for the  
Parishes of  
St Mary the Virgin,  
Fen Ditton,  
St Peter, Horningsea  
and  
All Saints, Teversham

February 2021



St Mary the Virgin



All Saints



St Peter

50p

**THE PARISHES OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, FEN DITTON,  
ST PETER, HORNINGSEA AND ALL SAINTS, TEVERSHAM**

**For all Parish enquiries:  
either telephone 07434 640992  
or e-mail parishesthree@gmail.com**

**Assistant Priests**

Rev'd Canon Ben Quash email: ben.quash@kcl.ac.uk  
Rev'd Pam Thorn (864262) email pamandrevorthorn@btinternet.com

**Lay Minister**

Trevor Thorn (864262)

**Lay Minister Emeritus**

Colin Shaw

**Churchwardens**

**Fen Ditton:** at the present time, Fen Ditton church has no churchwardens

**Horningsea:** Ms Jennie Pratt (864513)

**Teversham:** Mr David Taylor (880424)

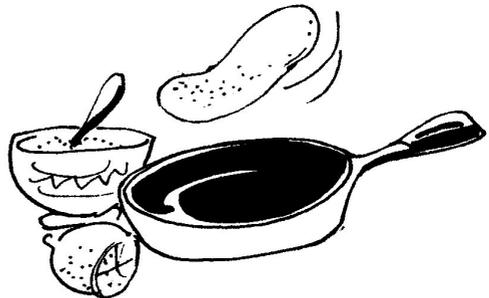
For Baptisms, marriages, Banns, Funerals etc.  
please contact the churchwardens or for Fen Ditton  
email: parishesthree@gmail.com

Material intended for publication in New Life should be with  
the editor by the 15th of each month.

**EDITOR:** Kerry Sayer  
email: newlife.editor@gmail.com

# February 2021 Contents

Page	
4	Beatitudes for our times
5	New Life subscriptions are now due Horningsea Lockdown Short Story Competition
7	Our Parishes
8	Fen Ditton 200 Club
9	Alpha Course run by Trumpington Church
10	Sunday Club Real Easter Eggs—already!
11	Fen Ditton Gardening Club
14	Festive Figures Competition Three Parishes Quiz
15	Ash Wednesday Service Wed 17 February S.O.S. Support our Schoolchildren
16	Thanks from The Besom
20	Village Life
22	Fireball: An Unusual Holiday Experience
26	All in the month of...
27	Mouse Makes
30	Easy Fruit Cake recipe Ancient Shepherds' Book Club
31	Fen Ditton School Laptop Appeal Bottisham Village College Appeal
32	Church services



## **Beatitudes for our times**

I found this in a new book from the Iona Community (a Christian Justice and Peace group with a base in the Abbey on the beautiful Hebridean island of Iona) and thought it might be helpful to at least some of us. The book is entitled 'Voices Out Of Lockdown'. *Pam Thorn*

### **Beatitudes for our times.**

Blessed are those who wash their hands,  
for they shall hold living water;

blessed are those who keep their distance,  
for they shall draw closer to God;

blessed are those who self-quarantine,  
for they shall help others;

blessed are those who do not hoard,  
for they shall feed families;

blessed are those who sing songs to sheltering neighbours,  
for they shall be members of the heavenly host;

blessed are those who learn to teach at home,  
for they shall learn from their children;

blessed are those who shop for older folk,  
for they shall receive everlasting thanks;

blessed are the frontline health workers,  
for they shall be called healers of humanity.

(c) Thom M Shuman (Wild Goose Publications ISBN 978-1-84952-733-0)

## New Life subscriptions are now due—£5 for the year

Your New Life distributor will continue collecting the subscription throughout February 2021. Thank you to everyone who subscribes – and don't forget the magazine needs you to contribute something: a story? something about times past in the villages? A poem? A recipe? An account of a journey? A new skill you have acquired during lockdown? Send your contribution to the editor for the next edition.



## Horningsea Lockdown Short Story Competition

As the lockdown weeks drag on it is time to get creative! We have launched a new Short Story writing competition following on from the successful competition a couple of years ago. The theme is “Light”. Entries must be submitted by 31 March 2021. All the details are on the poster which is included in this edition of New Life. For adults there is a maximum of 2000 words, for older children 1000 words and younger children 500 words. You can email your entry and entry money to Fran Johnson (details on [horningsea.net](http://horningsea.net) or [franjohnstone@me.com](mailto:franjohnstone@me.com)) or drop them in to Richard Pleasant's barn in St John's Lane Horningsea. We will arrange an awards day sometime in May – depending on the Covid rules at the time that event may include a series of talks by local authors.

**HORNINGSEA  
LOCKDOWN  
SHORT STORY  
COMPETITION**

Open to all. Entries close March 31st 2021  
Prize giving event May Bank Holiday  
11 years and under (up to 500 words)  
12-16 years (up to 1000 words)  
entrance fee (both classes) £1 per entry

Over 16s (up to 2000 words)  
entrance fee £5 per entry

theme for all entries: Light

for prizes and rules of entry see  
[www.horningsea.net](http://www.horningsea.net) or  
email [franjohnstone@me.com](mailto:franjohnstone@me.com)

So get your pen and paper out – or open your computer and start writing.

PS You don't have to live in Horningsea to enter!



# Plumbing & Electrical

## Industrial and Domestic energy user?

**Hutt Industrial Engineering** offers a fully integrated service for all energy users including a comprehensive service for:

Air conditioning

All aspects of plumbing

All heating systems

Drainage

Electrical

Oil and Gas

Renewable energy

Ventilation and Air handling

For a **FREE** competitive quote, on either a repair to an existing system or a complete new build installation, please contact Hutt Industrial Engineering on **01223 292 295** or email us at **[info@huttie.com](mailto:info@huttie.com)**



For all your domestic and commercial requirements, **call Huttie!**

## Our Parishes

Thank you to all the lovely people in Fen Ditton who have baked delicious cakes and delivered them to people shielding in these difficult times. They are much appreciated and a wonderful reminder of how kind the community is. I was very touched to receive a Christmas card, letter, bookmark and decoration all made by children at Fen Ditton School, as well as a box of chocolates from Fen Ditton Friends.

With grateful thanks, Margaret Buxton

Margaret Parker, of Wrights Close, would like to thank all her neighbours and friends from around the village for the great comfort and sympathy shown to her on the death of Mick. It was a big shock as he was only ill for three weeks. I received 83 cards and many flowers. They were all a great comfort to me.

Thank you all, Margaret.

We are sad to announce the death of Sandra Oliver, who died 10th Dec 2020, aged 79. She had been ill for some time. She lived in Green End. She used to do a lot of good work, taking her dogs to Addenbrooke's for the patients to stroke and enjoy.

Our thoughts are with her family and friends.

## **FEN DITTON 200 CLUB**

The lucky winners for **February** were:

£50 Joanna Santer (65)

£20 Claire Hawkins (24)

£10 Ben Quash (28)

£10 Claire Smith (100)

£10 Dorothy Smith (144)

### **Fen Ditton 200 Club!**

It's been a funny old year and, because of that, it seems even stranger to be back here again where it is nearly time to start the process of re-newing 200 Club subscriptions!

For those who are not aware of the 200 Club, it is a small lottery we run every year to raise funds for the church. It's called the 200 Club because 200 people get to buy a number (from 1 to 200). Each month (April to April) I draw five winners from those numbers. The monthly prizes are £50, £20 and three £10 prizes. The cost of becoming a member of this lottery is relatively small—£12 for the year, so only £1 per month.

If you are already a member I do hope that you will choose to resubscribe. It's an important little fundraiser for our church, especially in these times when there are so few opportunities to fundraise. If you are not already a member and would like to become one, or if you would be interested in purchasing some additional numbers (they make great presents!), then please do get in touch.

Prize winners are announced every month in New Life and I usually try to get hold of winners via their coordinator or by email. As life is complicated at the moment I am happy to pay prizewinning money directly into your bank account (I will ask for details if you win) if that suits you. I can also receive payment for the 200 Club subscriptions directly by bank transfer. Please let me know if you would like details.

If you need to contact me I am easiest to get either by email ([schia.mitchell@gmail.com](mailto:schia.mitchell@gmail.com)) or by phone (01223 411 199).

Stay well everyone and I wish you the best of luck with your numbers!

## **Alpha Course run by Trumpington Church**

We are all invited to join the Alpha Course which is being run virtually by Trumpington Church. Anyone from the three parishes of Horningsea, Fen Ditton and Teversham are warmly invited by Revd Dr Mandy Maxwell and Revd Diana Johnson\* to join an online course that takes you on a journey of Christian exploration.

The Alpha Course offers a perspective on the essentials of the Christian faith that is ecumenical with roots in the charismatic evangelical tradition.

It could be the lockdown project you are looking for. Please email [diana.johnson@cantab.net](mailto:diana.johnson@cantab.net) to get more information or to sign up to receive the Zoom link.

\*(The Revd Diana Johnson is helping out at Horningsea during the vacancy, as well as being Assistant Priest at Trumpington church.)

STARTING TUESDAY FEBRUARY 2nd, 7.30pm:

2nd Feb – Is there more to life than this?

9th Feb – Who is Jesus?

16th Feb – Why did Jesus die?

23rd Feb – How can I have faith?

2nd Mar – Why and how do I pray?

9th Mar – Why and how should I read the Bible?

16th Mar – How does God guide us?

23rd Mar – How can I resist evil?

30th Mar – Why and how should I tell others?

6th Apr – Does God heal today?

13th Apr – What about the Church?

There is also an intention to have a day session face-to-face, though that might have to be delayed. Talks on the Saturday or Sunday:

Who is the Holy Spirit?      How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?

What does the Holy Spirit do?

How can I make the most of the rest of my life?

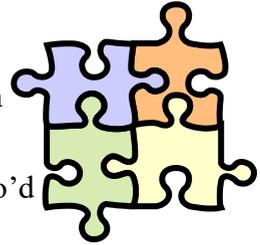
## SUNDAY CLUB NEWS

**We are hoping to resume soon, look out for more info.**

### **Sunday Club: Come and join us!**

**What?** Bible stories, craft, drama, and other fun activities!

**Who?** For children and any parents/carers who'd like to come



**Where?** Church Community Hall, Church St, Fen Ditton

**When?** First Sunday every month, 10—11.30am (excl. August)

**Want more info?** Contact Jo at [fdsundayclub@gmail.com](mailto:fdsundayclub@gmail.com)



### **Real Easter Eggs—already!**

With all that's going on we need to share the hope of Easter. Last year we ordered Real Easter Eggs for the churches and the Food Bank. We can do that again this year—you can't buy these in the supermarkets as apparently after last year's experience they have cut back the ranges they offer. The Real Easter Eggs are the only ones which are FairTrade and have the Easter story in them. The eggs come in milk, plain and white (new!) with no plastic or palm oil and there is a new booklet for the Easter story. The milk and white eggs also come with a prize competition, and are £4.50. The dark egg is £5.50. There are some other goodies too but let's keep it simple!

Jennie Pratt would like to know if there is interest in:

- getting a case for the churches—Jennie will collect orders and deliver to the churches or to you (free delivery if we order by 8 March)
- sponsoring a case for the Food Bank—Jennie will arrange this for the churches
- sending eggs direct through the post to family friends or yourself! This has to be done online and Jennie can send you the link.

As many of us are not in the churches, can you let Jennie know by phone if you are interested—01223 864513.

# FEN DITTON GARDENING CLUB

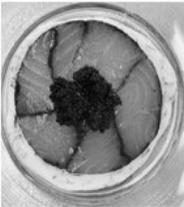
The Fen Ditton Gardening Club meeting on Tuesday, 16th February will be by Zoom and Mike Petty will be talking about Victorian Cambridge.

In January, Members of the Club have been able to view a Wellness Wander through the Winter Garden at the Cambridge Botanic Garden.

The speaker for March is unable to give a Zoom meeting, but videos of gardens in the National Garden scheme are also being sent to members.

If anyone would like to join the Club, please contact Pamela Hutt on 01223 292493 and information will be given on how to join the Zoom meetings.

Everyone is having a difficult time with coping with the COVID-19 Pandemic and the Committee of the Club are trying to offer a service for members.



Restaurant, Lounge & Rooms



Formerly "The Ancient Shepherds" in June MJP have refurbished this beautiful property into a relaxed dining area offering modern British cuisine in a small or large plate setting which is adaptable to each guests' individual requirements.

Expect to see unique dishes, packed with flavour from award winning chef patron, Mark Poynton. Served in a relaxed setting along with a standout wine list offering distinctive style to suit all palates.

Throughout the Coronavirus pandemic we have been offering our MJP@Home reheatable meals, with a weekly changing menu being delivered straight to your door. £15 for 2 courses and £18.50 for 3!

See our latest menu for MJP@Home or sign up to our mailing list here – [MJPrestaurant.com](http://MJPrestaurant.com)

For any questions or queries please contact us below;

[info@mjprestaurant.com](mailto:info@mjprestaurant.com) | 01223 293280 | [MJP@TheShepherds](mailto:MJP@TheShepherds), 5 High Street, Fen Ditton, CB5 8ST

# PEASGOOD & SKEATES

## THE FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICE

Purpose built funeral homes with private chapels of rest  
Arrangements can be made in the comfort of your own home  
Funeral pre-planning - A wide range of memorials

617 Newmarket Rd  
**CAMBRIDGE**  
(01223) 415255

12-14 Queen St  
**HAVERHILL**  
(01440) 840140

45 Moorfield Rd  
**DUXFORD**  
(01223) 833463

Shire Hill & High St  
**SAFFRON WALDEN**  
(01799) 523314



*A personal, caring service from a local business day or night*

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



Darwin Nurseries  
*encouraging growth*  
*supporting adults with learning disabilities*

## A FARM SHOP FOR ALL SEASONS

Local Fresh Produce  
Seasonal Foods  
Bird & Pet Food  
Plants, Shrubs & Seeds  
Composts  
Garden Sundries  
Logs & Coal



*Come and see our animals*

**NHS**  
Cambridgeshire and  
Peterborough  
NHS Foundation Trust



## Darwin Farmshop & Nurseries

5 Quay Water, Newmarket Road  
Cambridge CB1 9AT

**01223 293911**

*Find us  
here!*



## OPEN EVERY DAY

Monday - Saturday 9am - 4.50pm  
Sunday 10am - 3.50pm

**PAUL  
BRAYBROOKE**

**OIL FIRED BOILER  
ENGINEERS**

*Oftec Registered*

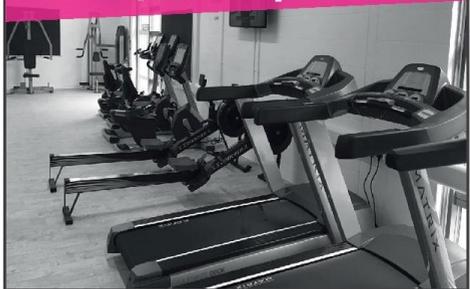
- Boiler servicing
- Breakdown Service
- Oil Tanks replaced

Tel: 01353 777788  
Mob: 07946735691



**Netherhall  
Sports  
Centre**

**New Fitness Suite  
Now Open**



[www.netherhallsports.com](http://www.netherhallsports.com)



# Having Computer Problems..?

**Specialist Advice and Information  
Hardware and Software Installation  
Firewall - AntiVirus - Security  
Broadband - Cable - DSL - ADSL  
Networking - WiFi**

**Glenn Jobson**

**glenn@colour-mad.co.uk**

**www.colour-mad.co.uk**

**01223 526110 / 07748 517609**



**LINKSYS  
NETGEAR  
BELKIN.**

**EPSON**

## Festive Figures Competition

We had 21 entries in the festive figures competition. Thank you to everyone who made the effort, I feel sure that these figures have brought a smile to many faces. Dee and Kim Butler walked around the village in very soggy weather in order to judge the competition.

1st place: 16 Green End (a bottle of Champagne)

2nd place: The Weathervane, High Ditch Road (box of chocs)

3rd place: The Alms Houses, Church Street (box of chocs)

Photos of winning entries, below, kindly taken by the Butlers.



**Saturday, 6th February at 7pm: Three Parishes Quiz (by Zoom) in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support**

Suggested donation of £5 via <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AndyClarke24>

Look out for a link to Zoom on the weekly parish email.

## **Ash Wednesday Service Wed 17 February**

This year we plan to join Chesterton Church where our former Rural Dean will be taking a virtual Ash Wednesday service. The details will be included in the weekly e-pew sheet sent out by Trevor and Pam. Expect to be asked to burn your palm cross from last year to make ash to do your own “ashing”.



## **S.O.S. SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLCHILDREN**

Mark Askew, the headmaster, has already asked for help in providing spare IT equipment, mainly to help some children take part in remote learning. There has been a generous response to this in the community. The PTA has also had success with crowd-funding to raise money for books required to help children to catch up.

Children have fallen behind, particularly in reading and communication. The government has given the school £16.5k to expend in the present academic year on catching up. This assumes that other money will be available locally, but currently it is not. This grant has already been allocated to extra staff and extra teachers’ hours. Mark would like to provide more tutorial programmes, more one-to-one teaching and further training of staff in counselling. He would also like to build up a contingency fund, to take opportunities and meet unexpected needs when they arise. He reports that his team has been superb in the dedication, determination and flexibility it has shown throughout the emergency.

Although many of us will have suffered badly from the economic setbacks of the last 10 months, others will have found that their costs have greatly reduced during this time and savings have been made. Let’s invest whatever of that surplus we think we can afford and do what we can now to repair this long term damage to society, focussing on this very local need.

Please send your donation straight to the school by a BACs transfer. Its account name is Anglian Learning - Fen Ditton Primary School, its a/c no is 03631435 and its sort code is 20-17-68. Please say how you would like your donation spent e.g. on catch-up teaching, counselling or equipment, and ask for a receipt by e-mail. Could anyone wishing to donate email the Headteacher at head@fendittonprimary.org, so that he can acknowledge receipt.

Also please provide funds to the PTA for the special books required by using the crowd-funding link <https://donatemyschool.com/fen-ditton-ptfa-2394> If you have any queries about this appeal, please contact David Yandell on 07957 177558.

# The Besom – Histon and Impington

*Local churches meet local need*



To: the people of:

St Andrew's, Histon

St Andrew's, Impington

St Peter's, Horningsea

St Mary the Virgin, Fen Ditton

All Saints, Teversham

Histon Salvation Army Church

Histon Baptist Church

New Life Church

## Christmas hampers 2020

On behalf of the clients of *The Besom in Histon & Impington*, please accept our sincere thanks for your generous donations for the Christmas hampers. Thanks to your kindness and generosity, we have been able to distribute approximately 75 hampers.

As you are aware, we had to adapt the hamper process this year to accommodate the COVID-19 guidelines. This meant that fewer people could be involved in packing and distributing the items and that quarantine time had to be factored in to the timetable. We are grateful to those churches which made their own collections, and to Jo and the team at the St Andrew's Centre, Histon for allowing Besom to place a donation box there. Besom also received over £1500 in donations which allowed us to include a supermarket voucher in the gift. We are very grateful to some young people at IVC who, supported by their chaplain, so carefully made the cards for each recipient.



This year we have received from clients many expressions of gratitude and amazement that they had been remembered and cared for in this way. It was also humbling to realise that for some this will be their only Christmas gift and card.

One of the joys of delivering the hampers is the chance to speak to people we had met when they were at a very low point and have opportunity to learn how God has answered prayer for them. Here are a few of the thanks we received this year.

- **C:** his daughter is now settled and doing well at school and he is getting back into looking for trade work to use his flooring and carpentry skills.
- **M:** "Thanks again for the hamper it's greatly appreciated and the card is lovely. Thank you for the voucher it will go a long way xx"
- **M (2)** "It is Advent, so I did take a little peek at the contents of my lovely red bag. Honestly I would never have been able to get together such Christmas cheer myself. Thank you so much to all for your kindness. And the team even made my bed for me after putting it together! May the peace of God which is beyond all understanding remain with us all, now & always."
- **H:** "Thank you so much, I've been really struggling, the gift is really going to help me."

- **J:** finally in a more suitable house and very excited at having just got a permanent job. So, after several of us supporting her for about 18 months, she is now looking healthy, in a better/smaller house, and with a job and better prospects for the year ahead. Praise God!
- **L:** “After you came, I waited for my daughter to come home, do school work etc., I let her open the card and bag together, honestly I can't put into words what a massive help/impact Besom have had. I've had the worse year on top of Covid, I didn't know if at times I would see the light, but all you lovely people at Besom have helped, you've shown me light to give my daughter light, you've shown me kindness, which she has taken into herself, you all have given me the best start on my journey from an abusive past, and I thank you to the bottom of mine and her heart. I wasn't expecting a voucher, but as well as a voucher a lovely homemade card! I'm into making things at the moment for my well-being and I appreciate the time and effort taken to do this and the lovely bag, thank you x”
- One of the clients is a Christian and she commented particularly on how nice it was to have the Christmas story and verse in the card. The lady has multiple health problems and has been at home for most of the year as she is not very mobile as well as needing to shield and she said having the Christmas message like this was like having some light brought back to her.
- **T:** “Thank you so much for all you have done for my daughter and me. At Besom you are all amazing people and spread kindness and joy. Thank you again for the Christmas bag of goodies.”
- **L&L:** “Thank you so much for the lovely hamper. Our lives have changed so much since we last saw you. We are now both working, have a lovely, cosy flat and my daughter is living with us again which I would not have thought possible this time last year. Love and support can change people's lives for the better.” (NOTE: we met this couple when they were moved to a hostel having been living in a car for 2 weeks).

May God bless all who have received the hampers and also each donor who has made it possible for us to bring this cheer to our clients.

Do follow <https://www.facebook.com/BesomHI/> to stay up to date with news of Besom. There you will find details of recently completed projects and deliveries as well as our monthly prayer meeting updates. Do please get involved with the ministry of The Besom during 2021. This year Besom has been busier than ever and there have been many more requests to support people fleeing domestic abuse. It is anticipated that this will sadly continue to be the case next year.

Every blessing and Happy Christmas!

The team for *The Besom Histon and Impington*  
[BesomHI@gmail.com](mailto:BesomHI@gmail.com)



Donated items in quarantine



Festive bags ready for delivery

## MOBILITY EQUIPMENT

SCOOTERS, WHEELCHAIRS, RISER/RECLINER CHAIRS, BEDS,  
WALKERS, FOOTWEAR, TOILET & BATHING AIDS, KITCHEN &  
HOUSEHOLD AIDS, CONTINENCE CARE, CUSHIONS, STAIRLIFTS  
AND MUCH MORE

HOME VISITS AVAILABLE  
EQUIPMENT HIRE, SERVICING AND REPAIR  
FRIENDLY AND CONSIDERATE SERVICE GUARANTEED



Scotsdales Garden Centre  
Horningssea, Cambridge  
CB25 9JG  
Tel: 01223 863908  
[www.orchard-mobility.com](http://www.orchard-mobility.com)  
Monday to Saturday 9 am - 5 pm

### Ian Brown Painter & Decorator

*City & Guilds Qualified*  
*Established since 1985*  
*Interior & Exterior*  
*Free Estimates*

*46 The Westering*  
*Cambridge*  
*CB5 8SF.*  
*Tel: 01223 293433*  
*Or*  
*Mobile no: 07768985845*



## ASPIRE GARDENING SERVICES

20 years' experience  
All aspects of gardening undertaken

Honest reliable service

Mark Sturme  
47 High Ditch Road  
Fen Ditton, Cambridge  
CB5 8TE

07739 715911  
[marksturme@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:marksturme@yahoo.co.uk)

# PHYSIOMOBILE

Laurie Woolfenden MCSP Grad Dip Phys

Registered with the Health and Care Professions Council

- Back and neck pain
- Post operative rehabilitation
- Arm, hand and shoulder problems



- Hip, knee and ankle pain
- Repetitive strains
- Postural problems

Self referral accepted

Recognised by most major insurers

Mallard House, 18 Stanbury Close, Fen Ditton, Cambridge CB5 8UP

**01223 295711** - [www.physiomobile.co.uk](http://www.physiomobile.co.uk)



**RED LION**  
RESTAURANT & BAR  
SINCE 1620

Over the last two years The Red Lion in Soham has been lovingly restored by Peter Leonard to bring the building back to its former glory.

Lucy Jarman (formerly of The Old Fire Engine House in Ely) has now opened the Red Lion as a restaurant, serving a rustic menu of Mediterranean and British food, using seasonal and local produce throughout the year.

Private dining available and an event space with seating for up to 70 people will be open from July.

[www.redlionsoham.com](http://www.redlionsoham.com)

*'I dearly loved the Red Lion'*

Grace Dent,  
The Guardian, February 2018

**Opening hours:**

**Lunchtime: Weds to Sunday**

**Evenings: Thurs to Saturday**



[info@theredlionsoham.co.uk](mailto:info@theredlionsoham.co.uk)

17 High St, Soham, Cambs, CB7 5HE

01353 771633

## Village life

It is not the first time in my life I have been advised to regularly and thoroughly wash my hands to avoid a serious disease. I spent a few years whilst growing up as a boy in the small town of Brinkworth in rural South Australia, about a hundred miles north of Adelaide. They call it a town although, with a population of around 200, it's about the same size as Horningsea. It's similarly situated in a crop growing area, albeit on a much bigger scale and there was, and still is, a strong farming community.

My father was the local GP for the surrounding area and it was he who impressed the hand washing instructions on my brothers and I due to the prevalence of hydatids at the time. This is a tapeworm disease transmitted by dogs, who have picked it up from eating infected mutton and any worm eggs, if picked up by a human touching the dog and ingesting can cause cysts in the liver which can be fatal if they burst. The regular advice given was to “wash the dog off your hands”, after touching an animal and definitely always before eating. To this day I have the link in my brain from those years ago and always follow the advice after touching a ‘little hydatid menace’, as my father referred to them in his jocular way.

Brinkworth, founded in 1892, some 75 years after Joshua Moore left Horningsea to sail to Sydney, is about 20 miles from Clare, of wine growing fame and of about ten times the population, but ‘Brinkie’, as we referred to it, retained an independent character despite its larger neighbour. As well as a hotel, general store, a post office, local institute and a police station, it had about four churches of different denominations. These were Anglican, Methodist, Catholic and Lutheran, the last one catering for the German population who had emigrated and were predominantly involved in agriculture, quite a few of the farmers being members of the Weckert family. There was also a local garage run by E.A. Grigg and sons, and by coincidence my opposite neighbour in Horningsea, Duncan Griggs, had a vehicle service business in operation at one point. The town was served by a broad gauge railway line linking it to the deep water port of Wallaroo to the west and to Adelaide in the south. We used to go and explore the turntable in the railways yards. The line was removed in 1991, lasting about 30 years longer than the now dismantled Cambridge to Mildenhall railway line. It was a spark from a train which caused the back paddock of wheat to go up in flames. Fortunately the voluntary fire team turned up

quickly and dealt with it.

The house we lived in was a large, single storey building with a corrugated iron roof and which was skirted by a large verandah. It was a short distance away from the village centre and came with about five acres of land, including a small pine plantation. One of the paddocks was farmed by a local and I remember eating and enjoying the young peas boiled up, never knowing till years later that the fancy name for this in Europe is mangetout. My brothers and I crossed the field every day to go to school and one year, for a few weeks, we were 'swooped' by an Australian magpie which has a very sharp beak. Apparently 'swooping' is characteristic of magpie behaviour and unfortunately, in this case, it was quite dangerous and so the bird had to be dealt with by the local constabulary. On the plus side, apart from their habit of swooping, the sound of the Aussie magpie is to me the most beautiful of any bird – mellifluous, cascading, seemingly random and so evocative of the nature of the land.

The Eudunda Farmers store was run by Mr Twigden and I remember being bought, and being immensely proud of, a pair of black leather ankle boots, after much persistence at home. They were the first of many pairs of boots I have owned over the years. Mr Thompson, the policeman, had recently moved down with his family from Oodnadatta, one of the remotest outback parts of South Australia, so they must have felt Brinkworth to be quite a metropolis. I remember sitting one day on the verandah of a house in the High Street and seeing a car coming down the road at some speed before turning sharply into Grigg's garage. Mr Thompson followed purposefully and more slowly, I presume searching for the car, but he didn't spot him.

Every year there was a Strawberry Fair in the Institute and it was literally that. When you entered the hall all you saw were plates and plates of strawberries to be eaten. Spring time brought the mushrooms in the paddocks and there was a special trip out to bring back dozens of them, to be fried and eaten that same day. One of the local characters was nicknamed 'Rocket' Gunther, for what reason I never knew, but he was a friendly, down-to-earth, 'rough diamond' character who used to supply rabbits to eat. Meat of most sorts was fairly plentiful in Australia, as one might expect. We grew melons, and clingstone peaches were also grown locally. Pumpkins and pears serve me here.

My brothers and I attended the local area school which was attended

by children from round about. My first lessons were in a separate building, about the same size as the Horningsea School house, before our class moved to the main buildings. While most children were reasonably well off some were not so. There was one family in the village with 14 children, one of which boys we used to know quite well, but they must have struggled to make ends meet. The rodeo came to town one year and one little lad defied his father to walk several miles to come in and see it. My father offered to drive him home but he refused the offer, and in the knowledge that he would get a thrashing when he got back late that night. All in all though we were a happy bunch and played and explored round the area and in the town.

I've happy memories of life in Brinkie. There were certainly the wide open spaces there and I feel lucky to look over fields and open space now in Horningsea. The landscape round here can be very beautiful and well worth protecting, bearing in mind attempts to despoil it. It doesn't have the scale and wildness of the Australian landscape though and I sometimes get flashbacks of those places of years ago and yearn for them.

Although Brinkworth is a lot younger than Horningsea, both villages have the same characteristics, being small communities where people live together and depend on each other to varying degrees to carry on their lives and work.

*Frank Hopkirk*



## **Fireball: An Unusual Holiday Experience Between Lock-downs**

We were very fortunate to be able to take a holiday in late September in Orford, a quiet small town almost on the Suffolk coast, fronting onto the river Ore, with a castle and very dark skies.



We chose to have the bedroom on the attic floor of 'our' rented house with a clear view to the North from one of the windows. At about 3am on Thursday 24th

September, I had needed to get up, and as we were in an unfamiliar setting, I was using my mobile as a light source. Before going back to bed, I went to the window to just enjoy looking at the stars for a minute or two. To my utter astonishment, I saw the fireball pictured above and was able to time it very precisely at 03.07 from my phone display. I knew there is a website where any such sighting can be reported, so I spent part of the following morning filling in a web-based form. Quite quicky I got an acknowledgement with a report reference which I filed on my computer desktop. I then more-or-less forgot about it, thinking I could not imagine anyone else would have seen the fireball at that unearthly hour of the morning. I even half-doubted what I had seen, it was so spectacular.

One evening recently (mid-November), I caught sight of the report, was about to bin it, but thought I'd just see if there was any further information.

Well! The fireball had been reported by 6 other people, three in Belgium, two in Holland and two in the UK. Four of the reports gave exactly the same time (after adjusting for time zone differences). The photo was taken in Holland by someone called Kees H. The picture is itself remarkable, since almost all the reports agreed that the whole display took just 3.5 seconds. The photo is completely faithful to my own recollection of the short-lived burst of light.

The reporting agency describe any fireball sighting as a 'once in a lifetime' experience, so I feel truly thankful for the surprise of witnessing this amazing 'God's universe in action' moment of a sizeable piece of rock burning itself out as it flamboyantly enters the earth's atmosphere.

From the seven reports, the agency was able to calculate that the meteorite entered the atmosphere somewhere in the sky between Brussels and Ghent and flared out above the North Sea a little to the east of Orford.

Just one more detail, if you look hard at the photo, you should be able to make out the stars of the plough above the second tree from the right – they will give you some idea of the comparatively brightness of the fireball. It was several times brighter than any clear full moon.

If this interests you and you would like to see more detail, you can find it at <http://crossandcosmos.blogspot.com>. The post will be in the left hand column.

*Trevor Thorn*

# Richard Stebbings Funeral Service

- Independent family business
- Personal 24 hour service
- Pre-payment funeral plans
- Monumental masonry
- Floral tributes



Funeral Director: Richard Stebbings Dip FD, LMBIFD  
Kendal House, Cambridge Road, Impington, Cambridge

## Tel 01223 232309



The Ultimate  
FLOOR SANDING  
Company

AFFILIATED SERVICE PROVIDER

### Dust Free Wood Floor Sanding & Restoration

Is your Wooden Floor  
in need of Sanding?

Call today on

## 01223 863 632

Please quote "New Life Mag"

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



### Fine Rugs, Carpet, Upholstery & Stone Floor Cleaning

Call today on

## 01223 863 632

Please quote  
"New Life Mag"



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

Window and Door Replacements and Repairs  
Broken or Misted Glass  
Lock, Hinges and Handles  
Fascias and Soffits  
Conservatories

Mobile: 07980267088  
Email: a1.ws@live.co.uk  
Certass Registered



# The Kings Head

*13th Century Inn*

50 High Street • Fen Ditton • Cambridge CB5 8ST

---

---

***Real Ales & Beer Garden***

*For a comfortable relaxed village atmosphere*

---

---

Derek & Julie welcome you

## All in the month of February

It was:

200 years ago, on 23rd Feb 1821 that John Keats, the poet, died of tuberculosis, aged 25.

125 years ago, on 1st Feb 1896 that the premiere of Giacomo Puccini's opera *La boheme* took place in Turin, Italy.

75 years ago, on 11th Feb 1946 that The Revised Standard Version of the New Testament was published. It was the first major English-language update of the Bible since the King James version published in 1611.

70 years ago, on 27th Feb 1951 that the 22nd Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified. It limits the President to two terms in office.

65 years ago, on 11th Feb 1956 that two members of the Cambridge spy ring, British diplomats Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean, announced that they had defected to the Soviet Union. They had both vanished in mysterious circumstances in 1951.

50 years ago, on 15th Feb 1971 that the UK's currency was decimalised.

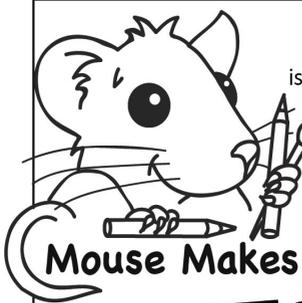
40 years ago, on 24th Feb 1981 that Buckingham Palace announced the engagement of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer.

30 years ago, on 28th Feb 1991 that the Gulf War ended at midnight when a ceasefire came into effect.

25 years ago, on 15th Feb 1996 that the oil tanker Sea Empress ran aground near Milford Haven, Wales, causing a major oil spill along the coastlines of Wales and Ireland.

20 years ago, on 19th Feb 2001 that the first case of foot-and-mouth disease in the 2001 UK outbreak was detected at an abattoir in Essex. The EU subsequently banned all British meat, milk and livestock exports.

10 years ago, on 22nd Feb 2011 that the Canterbury earthquake in New Zealand took place. 185 people were killed and up to 2,000 injured, and there was widespread damage across the city.



**WHAT AM I?**

The last letter of one word is the first letter of the next ....

E \_ \_ \_ F

• What two things did God create first?  
Genesis 1:1

\_ \_ S \_ \_

• What was the Earth without? Genesis 1:2  
• What came before morning? Gen 1:5

\_ \_ \_ \_ G

• Who is the creator?  
Genesis 1:1

\_ \_ \_ \_ D

• What was separated from light? Gen 1:4

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_

S \_ \_ \_ • Which day did God finish work? Gen 2:2  
\_ \_ \_ \_ • Who was created God's image? Gen1:27

\_ \_ \_ \_ H

• Who moved over the water? Gen 1:2

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_

L \_ \_ \_ \_ S

By the **seventh** day God finished the work He had been doing. God *blessed* the seventh day and made it *holy*. When God gave Moses the Ten Commandments the **forth commandment** said to *remember* the seventh Sabbath day, to *keep it holy* and set apart for God.

**FIND THE CREATION PAIRS**  
from Genesis 1 and 2

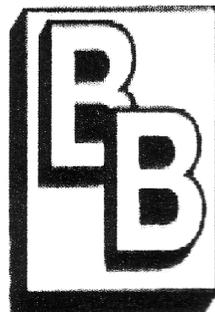
EARTH	MORNING
LIGHT	FRUIT
DAYS	SEA
TREES	NIGHT
LAND	FISH
EVENING	YEARS
ADAM	HEAVENS
DAY	DARK
BIRDS	WATER
SKY	EVE

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
The first word of the Old Testament in Hebrew is **bereshith** which means "in the beginning". The Greeks translated this word as **GENESIS** which means *creation, origin and generation*

C R E A T U R E H G O D P  
D G A L R E F F R U I T E L  
L O R I E S L B M O S E A  
A O T G E T Y D A R K P N  
N D H H E A V E N I G H T  
D A Y T R R S P I R I T W  
A S E E D S K Y B I R D O

Can you find these words in the word search?  
GOD • HEAVEN • SPIRIT  
FLY • DEEP • EARTH  
DARK • DAY • LIGHT  
NIGHT • STARS • SKY  
SEA • LAND • BIRD  
CREATURE • HUMAN  
TREE • PLANT • SEEDS  
FRUIT • GOOD • TWO

# BORLEY BROTHERS



General Engineering & Crane Hire  
6 CHURCH ROAD, TEVERSHAM

**Whatever Your Requirements**

**FULLY EQUIPPED FACTORY FOR**

- ° *General engineering*
- ° *Maintenance / structural work*
- ° *Fabricating / Plant removal*
- ° *M.I.G., T.I.G. & Arc welding*

Also crane hire available

[www.borley-brothers.co.uk](http://www.borley-brothers.co.uk)

**CAMBRIDGE 01223 294156**

**FAX 01223 294201**



**HEATING & PLUMBING SERVICES LTD**

**ALL PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN**

Serving Cambridge for over 35 Years

- **GAS SAFE REGISTERED**
- LPG Registered
- Boiler Installation - Gas & Oil
- Boiler & Fire Servicing
- Power-flush
- Bathroom Installation & Refurbish
- Tiling
- Landlords Safety Certificates
- General Plumbing Work

**01223 242544**

**E-mail:** [info@mjpotts.co.uk](mailto:info@mjpotts.co.uk)

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



2163

Unit 8, Ronald Rolph Court  
Wadloes Road, Cambridge CB5 8PX

# Barnwell Florists

FLORAL DESIGNERS

*Creating Fine Designs Since 1965*

Modern & Traditional Floristry

Tel: 01223 350761

James Reynolds House

263 Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8JE

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

# TH Tree Surgery Limited

All Tree and Hedge Work Undertaken

Garden/Site Clearance

Seasoned Fire Wood

NPTC Qualified and Fully Insured

[info@thtreesurgery.co.uk](mailto:info@thtreesurgery.co.uk)

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

**07442534712**

**01638724000**

Based in Horningsea and Fordham

Registered Office No. 09024849

# C&C BLINDS

*Specialists  
in blinds*

VERTICAL  
BLINDS

*Any size,  
any colour*

ROLLER BLINDS

*Free  
estimates*

VENETIAN  
BLINDS

ROMAN &  
PLEATED BLINDS

**T: 01223 211171**

**M: 07761 262070**

REPAIRS

## All Saints Church, Teversham Easy Fruit Cake

### Ingredients:

8oz Self Raising Flour	12oz Mixed Dried Fruit
2oz Glace Cherries (less if preferred)	6oz Margarine
1 level tablespoon Golden Syrup	2 Eggs (beaten)
1/4 pint Water	4oz Sugar

### Method:

1. Place fruit, margarine, sugar and water into a saucepan (this swells the fruit).
2. Simmer slowly for 20 minutes.
3. Allow mixture to cool.
4. Add beaten eggs and slowly stir in cherries and flour.
5. Add Golden Syrup.
6. Turn mixture into a greased and floured 6" cake or loaf tin.
7. Bake in very moderate oven (300—350 degrees F) for one and a half hours.  
(I suggest 325 degrees F or 130—140 degrees C Fan.)

*Pamela Bartram*



## Ancient Shepherds' Book Club

Via Zoom, email [carol\\_e\\_parker@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:carol_e_parker@yahoo.co.uk) for the link.

**Wed, 3rd February, 7.30pm, 'A Gentleman in Moscow' by Amor Towles**

**Wed, 3rd March, 7.30pm, 'Summer' by Ali Smith**

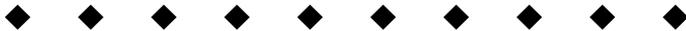
## **Fen Ditton School Laptop Appeal: Can you help?**

Pre-loved laptops, less than five years old, are needed to help school children who have fallen behind during lockdown. Any laptops donated will be handled securely and will be professionally wiped clean ahead of use by the school. Please deliver to Fen Ditton Primary School between 10am and 2pm during the school week.

Any donations for computer equipment and books would also be very welcome. Fen Ditton school finances are currently very stretched. Please email [george.devine@fenditton-pc.org.uk](mailto:george.devine@fenditton-pc.org.uk) or call 07900 325 336 for BACS details or how to donate by cheque.

If you are a student at Bottisham Village College in need of help or financial assistance and you live in the village, please contact George Devine in the first instance on 07900 325 336. Bottisham Village College is also in need of money to buy webcams for students needing extra catchup tuition. Please contact Friends of BVC directly if you wish to make a donation at [www.bottishamvc.org](http://www.bottishamvc.org).

David Yandell, of Fen Ditton, is developing a longer term initiative to help our local students. If you want to find out more, please contact George Devine in the first instance on 07900 325 336.



## **BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE APPEAL**

Bottisham Village College provided over 200 much-needed hampers to families over Christmas. Continuing donations are still needed for food and other support to families in the new year. If you would like to contribute or find out more, please contact Friends of BVC directly at [www.bottishamvc.org](http://www.bottishamvc.org).

Account name: anglian learning t/a bottisham village college (all in lower case; Account number: 43596184; Sort Code: 20-17-68

If you would like to contribute to or access our local food banks, please contact: Abbey People ([www.abbeypeople.org.uk/](http://www.abbeypeople.org.uk/)); Email: [info@abbeypeople.org.uk](mailto:info@abbeypeople.org.uk); Phone: Food Hub on 07736 966683; Follow: 'Abbey People' on Facebook.

The Abbey Food Hub needs: tins of tuna or mackerel, tins of baked beans, tins of sweetcorn, semi-skimmed or whole milk UHT, chopped tomatoes, soup (a mix of vegetable, tomato, or meat), jars of pasta sauce, rice (bags or microwavable), toilet roll.

## CHURCH SERVICES

All services subject to change and government guidelines. For 'live' services please let the Churchwardens or Ben Quash know if you plan to come. This pattern will be kept under review as Covid rules are reviewed.

### ONLINE, ZOOM

Every Sunday	10.00 for 10.30	Online Service
February 17th	TBC	Evening Virtual Ash Wednesday Service
February 28th	10.00 for 10.30	Online Service

### ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, FEN DITTON

February 7th	10.30	Parish Eucharist
February 21st	10.30	Parish Eucharist

### ST PETER, HORNINGSEA

February 14th	10.30	Parish Eucharist
---------------	-------	------------------

### ALL SAINTS, TEVERSHAM