

July/August 2024

The Journal

Fen Drayton • Fenstanton • Hilton

Hilton 50 years ago

See page 16

Relive the African Queen

See page 20

Local artists open their studios

See page 65

Fenstanton FC brings home the silverware

See page 60

Incorporating Spectrum and Focus

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If you think we may be able to help, contact the Clerk to the Trustees at janet@vacfrance.com or Clerk to the Fenstanton Town Trust c/o 10 Conington Road, Fenstanton PE28 9LB

Each case is considered individually and treated in strictest confidence.

Events at a Glance

Fen Drayton Fenstanton Hilton

July 2024

- 06 The BIG Village Fun Day, School Field
- 06 Swavesey Community Choir Music Picnic, Fen Drayton Village Hall
- 07 National Garden Scheme Open Gardens
- 14 Parish Picnic at Grafham Water
- 19 Medieval Banquet, Village Green
- 20 Books and Jigsaws Sale, URC
- 21 -27 Feast Week
- 21 Feast Week Sports Day
- 27 Feast Week Produce Show

August 2024

- 17 Books and Jigsaws Sale, URC

September 2024

- 08 Pimms & Pate Garden Lunch, Parish Church
- 14 Hobbies, Crafts & Collections, URC
- 22 Service of Thanksgiving, 150 years, URC

Oct 2024

- 13 Harvest Festival, Parish Church
- 13 Harvest Festival/lunch, Parish Church

Dec 2024

- 07 Seasonal Sing-Along

If you have an event coming up that you would like to have listed on this page please send the details to Anne at fenstanton@thejournal.life



SUMMER *of* SPORT

As we move into the height of summer the sporting events come on stream like buses, not one but a whole number together. July and August will see us glued to our televisions as we enjoy the Olympics and Paralympics, Euro 2024, Tour de France, The Open Golf, British Grand Prix, Wimbledon and various cricket Test Series to name a few! In between all this action we have in The Journal some fantastic articles if you want a break from sport. You can relive the African Queen with our travel piece this month or enjoy two recipes that will challenge preconceptions. Also not forgetting all the other regular features and news.

It is almost a year since we started planning the first edition of The Journal. It has been an adventure that would not have been possible without the dedicated help of our village editors, production team, distribution team and the support of our loyal advertisers. And, more importantly the support of Hilton, Fenstanton and Fen Drayton Parish Councils, whose desire to maintain this village asset enabled us to embark on this journey. Here's to the next twelve months.

From all at The Journal we hope you enjoy this edition

Editors

Gill Parrish - fendrayton@thejournal.life

Anne Mustill - fenstanton@thejournal.life

Malcolm Lynn - hilton@thejournal.life

Circulation

Denise May - circulation@thejournal.life

Advertising

Nigel Ferrier - info@thejournal.life

Please submit any copy by 5 August 2024 latest for the September edition.

Front cover: 1950 Bedford Duple, 29 seater coach. Available for hire from Carriages 01954 233279.



TOMBOLA PRIZES FOR THE BIG VILLAGE FUN DAY

Good news!

Jean is planning to run her usual fantastic tombola stall at Fenstanton's BIG Village Fun Day on Saturday 6 July. Donations of full bottles and tins greatly appreciated. Collection points at Ron's Farm Shop in Chequer Street, and at 28 Bell Lane, Fenstanton. **Thank you!**

Hilton Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings in aid of EACH
(East Anglia's Children's Hospices)



are held in
the Hilton
Methodist
Schoolroom



on the first Saturday of each month.



6 July 10:00am to 12 noon

3 August 10:00am to 12 noon

7 September 10:00am to 12:00 noon

Hope you will be able to join us!

Hilton Community Hub



The Warm Hub in the Village Hall on Wednesday mornings throughout the winter was so successful that, after a short Easter break, it is continuing until late July then pausing until October.

It is now not so much a place in which to keep warm as a wonderful community one, well attended by a mix of residents who are making even more new friends.

From 10.30 to around 12.30 there is a very warm welcome with tea, coffee, biscuits and sometimes chocolate, always plenty of games, a quiz, conversation about Hilton and the world and ending with a light lunch. We are even hoping to enjoy any remaining good weather Wednesdays on the Green.

And it's all free!

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Village News



Incorporating Sports Day and the PTA Summer Fair

Don't miss out on the chance of collecting a trophy at the Fenstanton BIG Village Fun Day.

Here are the produce categories:

Children - Baking (sweet or savoury), Photography, Model (including Lego) and Home Grown (vegetables or flowers).

And for Adults - Baking (sweet), Baking (savoury), Jam and Chutney, Flower arrangement, Home grown vegetable display, Home grown wonky fruit or vegetable, Craft, Alcoholic beverage and Non-alcoholic beverage.

**Bring your entries along at the start of the Fun Day.
Saturday 6th July - Noon to 6pm**



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Hilton Parish Church**

Coffee, Cake & Church

It's church, but not as you know it....

Sunday 25 Aug

Sunday 22 Sept

Sunday 27 Oct

and every 4th Sunday, (excluding Dec)

11.15am HILTON VILLAGE HALL

A welcome for all, good coffee, delicious cakes, crafts & activities, time to talk, music and prayer

**For more information, call
Rev'd David Busk on 436400
or Rachel Wood on 830866**

We'd love to see you there!



Hilton Feast Week 2024

It isn't long now until Feast Week begins on Sunday 21st July. Below you can see all the activities on offer during the week. You can find more information in our full programme found online at www.feastweek.co.uk.

Sunday 21st July	
12 noon - 5.00pm	Sports Day on the green starting with the penalty shoot out. Bar and kids' bar at the pavilion.
5.00pm - 6.00pm	Songs of Praise with live band in the marquee.

Monday 22nd July	
10.30am - 11.30am	Family yoga with Gosia in the marquee.
2.00pm - 4.00pm	Children's crafts in the village hall.
6.00pm - 8.00pm	Adult cricket match on the green. Bar and kids' bar at the pavilion.

Tuesday 23rd July	
10.00am - 11.00am	Hilton Baby and Toddler Group host a special session with Parafunalia Clap and Sing in the village hall (suggested ages 0-5 years, older siblings welcome).
11.00am - 12 noon	Guys and Gals rehearsal in the marquee - all children welcome to come and learn the dance routine.
12 noon - 4.00pm	Visit to Monach Farm.
1.00pm - 6.00pm	Drop off Art Show entries at the village hall.
5.00pm - 7.00pm	Family games on the green. Bar and kids' bar at the pavilion.

Wednesday 24th July	
11.00am - 12 noon	Guys and Gals rehearsal in the marquee.
12.15pm - 1.45pm	Children's Feast Week Service in Hilton Parish Church followed by a teddy bears picnic (bring a picnic and a furry friend).
2.00pm - 3.30pm	Canasta and board games in the marquee.
5.00pm - 6.00pm	Devilstick Peat show on the marquee stage.
5.00pm - 10.00pm	Bar, kids' bar, BBQ & Hiltwrap food van. Stand Up, Sit Down Bingo (from 7.00pm) followed by Eclipse Disco.
6.00pm - 7.30pm	Art Show - view and vote in the village hall.

Thursday 25th July	
11.00am - 12 noon	Guys and Gals rehearsal in the marquee.
2.00pm - 5.00pm	The History People bring us an afternoon of medieval fun alongside The Raptor Foundation.
5.00pm - 10.00pm	Tavern on the Green complete with duel jousting, bar and kids' bar. Food options - BBQ, 400° Pizzeria and Papa Locas. Music from Acoustic Street (from 8pm) and Eclipse Disco.
6.00pm - 7.30pm	Art Show - view and vote in the village hall.

Friday 26th July	
10.00am - 12 noon	Activities in the Community Garden.
3.00pm - 4.30pm	Friday Feast in the marquee.
5.00pm - 10.00pm	Bar and kids' bar, BBQ along with Sam's Thai food van.
7.00pm - 9.00pm	Art Show - view and vote in the village hall.
7.00pm until late	Guys and Gals perform on stage, followed by a children's disco. Live music from Poke (from 8pm) then Eclipse Disco.

Saturday 27th July	
8.00am - 10.00am	Drop off your Produce Show entries.
1.00pm - 4.00pm	Produce Show in the marquee. Circus skills by the pavilion. View the Art Show in the village hall. The John Croft Vehicle Show.
2.00pm - 2.30pm	Fancy dress parade in the maze.
4.00pm - 5.00pm	Village 'tea and cake' - gather for hot drinks, sweet treats and the presentation of prizes for both the Produce and Art Shows. This will be followed by the Summer Grand Draw and the Feast Week lottery July bumper draw. Collect your Art Show exhibits.
5.00pm until late	400° Pizzeria will be serving.
7.00pm until late	Bar, kids' bar and BBQ. Barn dance (from 7.30pm) followed by Eclipse Disco.

JOIN US FOR FRIDAY FEAST

- ✿ Free All Age event
- ✿ Get creative
- ✿ Food & Fun
- ✿ Informal gathering
- ✿ Churches of Hilton together
- ✿ For all faiths, and none
- ✿ 26 Jul (FW), 13 Sept & 11 Oct
- ✿ To find out more, call Rachel on 830866

- ✿ Second Friday of month
- ✿ 5.30pm – 7pm
- ✿ Parish Church
- ✿ Hilton



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Fenstanton United Reformed Church,

formerly known as the
Fenstanton Congregational
Church is 150 years old this year.



The Church members would like
to invite anyone with a previous
connection to the Church to join us in
a service of thanksgiving on

Sunday 22 September 2024
at 9.30am. All welcome

The St Ives Carnival and Music Festival is back with a bang!

Kick start your summer at the St Ives Carnival and Music Festival from Friday 12 July to Sunday 14 July at Hill Rise Park!

The carnival and music festival lineup is back for it's 25th year and some of the highlights include:

Friday Night Opening at 6pm with the amazing St Ives Musical Theatre Choir who will get the crowd warmed up for the Proms in the Park with the Haverhill Silver Band ending with a firework display!

Saturday from 12pm we have an afternoon filled with fun and entertainment for all ages. Leading to our very popular open-air cinema on the big screen from 4.30pm. DJ Ian Brown will kick start the evening session from 6:30pm before the headline performance from Ozone Breakdown, who are back by popular demand after a massive success at last year's event.



Sunday Music Festival kicks off at 12pm with a very popular line up from seven amazing bands.

This family-friendly event offers more than music. The entire weekend is free entry which is funded by grants and sponsorship from local businesses.

This is an event not to be missed!

Weeds need your help

You may have noticed with the wet weather we have been having recently, that the weeds in our villages have been enjoying these conditions. As a result the gutters of our roads are becoming overgrown. It is the responsibility of the County Council's Highways department to maintain these gutters. Currently they are dealing manually with reported cases from 2023. Your Parish Councils have been pushing for an earlier solution and have now had it confirmed that chemical weed killer treatment will hopefully start County wide on 24th June followed with HDC road sweeping within 3 to 6 weeks of spraying to clear dead weeds. The chemical weeding schedule will shortly be confirmed and published by County Council Highways. A second chemical weeding exercise will be conducted during October 2024.

In the meantime we can do our part to improve the situation. If we all simply maintained the gutter outside our own property our villages would look neater immediately. Similarly if you have weeds growing against your boundary fence or wall please find time to remove them.

Unfortunately no one else is going to do it. Between us we can make a difference to the appearance of our great villages.





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Nisa
Making a Difference Locally

Updates from Clare Tevlin, your District Councillor

In Focus: Grants

In June, it was wonderful to commemorate the 80-year D-Day anniversary in our villages. In Hilton, as District Councillor it was an honour to light the Beacon alongside the village's own Town Crier. In addition, there was a poignant commemoration service at the Lych Gate where a wreath was laid. The weekend of summer fun, marking this occasion, brought our community together. It was a delight to have 'games on the green' and an outdoor production of the Wizard of Oz. A big thank you to organisers of the various events from the village's new Community Hub, the Village Hall Committee, Hilton Feast Week and Hilton Community Gardens.

It has been fantastic to see both Hilton and Fenstanton, supported by Huntingdonshire District Council funding, flourish in the growth and evolution of two fantastic community hubs. Whilst we await further decisions on funding opportunities for our communities at HDC, more advice on community support available can be found: <https://www.wearehuntingdonshire.org/> and <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/people-communities/community-spaces/>

Huntingdonshire's Place Strategy Grant Funding available

Local organisations can now apply for grants of up to £2,500 for initiatives that support their communities and the Huntingdonshire Futures Place Strategy. The Strategy sets out a vision to make Huntingdonshire a better place to live, work, and visit over the next 30 years.

The grants will provide funding of £500 to £2,500 to enable groups to put on events or activities that support the Huntingdonshire Futures vision, such as improving physical and mental health, protecting and supporting our environment and celebrating our sense of history and place. To find out more see: <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/council-democracy/grants/>

Do you have any queries or questions? You can contact me by: clare.tevlin@huntingdonshire.gov.uk or 07565350014.





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Deadline for September's magazine

To allow our production team to take well earned holidays, we are bringing the deadline for the September edition forward.

Please work with us on this occasion and have your copy for September in early with your village editors.

The deadline is 05 August.
Thank you for your understanding.

Fenstanton United
Reformed Church

Hobbies, Crafts and Collections

On Saturday 14 September
10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Vintage/Classic Cars/Tractors On show outside

In the church will be
Books and jigsaws
Handmade crafts
Handmade jewellery
Homemade jams
Cards and paper craft
Investigate family/local
history

Refreshments on sale
And lots more

Entrance fee is just £1.00
Children free



The BIG VILLAGE Fun Day

Saturday 6th July

Bring your tables and chairs and enjoy an afternoon of live music from The Stylus Band and the City of Cambridge Brass Band to help us make this day really special.

Lots of food available including hog roast from Little Piggy, BBQ, ice creams, cakes and bar.

Fun for all the family

Incorporating Sports Day and the PTA Summer Fair

Games Stalls Tombola Traditional Races Tug of War
Penalty Shoot Out Archery Bouncy Castle .

And, don't forget to take a look at our **Vintage Vehicle Display.**

Why not enter the
Produce competitions
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Full list to be announced.



Noon to 6pm • F&H Primary School Playing Field
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Step into the Past

The growth of Hilton 50 years ago: Church Leys Estate

By Gillian Sheail

Hilton's population was 245 in 1921. Fifty years later, in 1971, it had more than doubled to 550, mainly due to building in Tithe Close, Westbrook and Chapel Close. In the next few years it expanded dramatically with the construction of 52 homes on farmland to the south of the village, previously owned by the Britten and Furniss families.

The builders, Falcon Development of Guildford, started work on The Church Leys Estate in 1973, after planning consent was granted by the Rural District Council - Hilton Parish Council had no say in the matter. The Parish Council's minutes indicate that a letter was sent to the Rural District Council in September 1972, deploring

“.....the action of the County Planning Officer on passing plans for 52 houses in the Parish of a uniform design of limited architectural

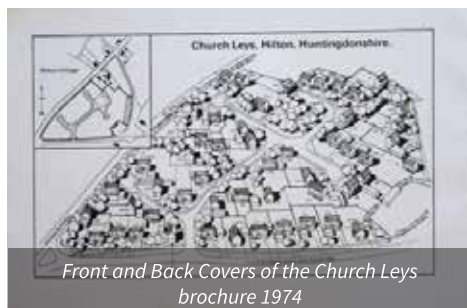
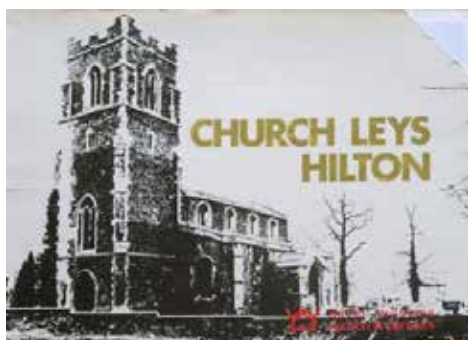
*interest, having previously advised the Council that the buildings would be of different styles and that those on the road frontage would be of a Georgian style” **

The spacious design of Church Leys featured scattered detached houses, with open plan front lawns interspersed with 'green areas' planted with many different species of trees. Initially Rutland Green, the largest of the green areas, constituted the builders' yard with a corrugated iron hut and office for the site foreman, Fred Willers.

The houses had a uniform rectangular footage and were of three sizes. The smallest, type A, was three-bedroomed; the medium, type B, had four bedrooms; while the largest, type C, had four bigger bedrooms, an en-suite, and the addition of a study on the ground floor. All had full length windows to the main ground floor rooms, front and back. Type A had small upper storey front windows, while type B featured a narrow full-length landing window, and type C had a broader version of this full-length window. The same distinctive porch was a feature of every house, and all houses had a detached garage (single, double or tandem) with a flat-roof. Initially an attempt was made to diversify the overall appearance of the estate by adding tile-hung or white cladding to the upper storey of selected houses. There were certainly no Georgian facades!

The Parish Council was invited to suggest road names. George Peterken (a Westbrook resident with detailed knowledge of the parish field-names) provided a list. To his surprise, all of the names on his list were used. Rutland Green led from Church End to the green area now also known by that name. Smeeffield and Flackdale, were chosen for two cul-de-sacs (although the latter inexplicably became Flackdale Road), while Mill Hill End was an odd choice for a road with two ends!

Building proceeded in three phases. The first focused on the houses in the south bordering the Potton Road, and its junction with Church End, together with the west side





Type A House with tile-hung upper storey and original porch 2022

of Rutland Green. Phase 2 began in 1974 along the east side of Rutland Green and in Flackdale, but came to an abrupt end in 1975 when Falcon Development was bankrupted by another housing development at Little Downham, and went into receivership. The estate was taken over by Barclays Bank, and slowly the partly-built houses along the east side of Rutland Green and Flackdale were completed.

The final Phase 3, began with the completion of Mill Hill End, followed by Sparrow Way and then the north part of Church End. However there were changes. Although the overall appearance and size of the houses remained the same, the 'occasional ornamentation' of the upper storey was abandoned and, internally, type A became type D with the



Type B House, with original porch 2022

addition of a fourth bedroom and type C became a five-bedroomed house, type E. The Parish Council became directly involved later on, concerning the narrow strip of Common Land between the houses and road in Church End. The issue of trespass was avoided by the construction of a private driveway to allow vehicles from 4, 6 and 8 Church End access to the road beyond this Common Land. At the request of residents,

in 1976, the Council agreed to the erection of a guard rail where the footpath from Mill Hill End joined the B1040, to lessen the risk of children running directly into the road.

For the first couple of decades after completion the estate had a spacious ambience with broad greensward front gardens, a variety of healthy trees, and cars usually tucked away in large garages. No alterations were permitted in front of the building-line of each house, but gradually the original windows were replaced with double-glazed units, and sometimes the lower portions of the floor-to-ceiling windows were bricked-up to reduce heating costs.



Type C House with white cladding upper storey 1974. Just completed but front lawn not yet laid

The estate has changed dramatically during the last three decades as planning restrictions have been relaxed. A few of the houses still belong to those who purchased them 50 years ago, but most have changed hands. The distinctive porches, a unifying feature of the estate, have been modified or replaced, so today only three remain. Major alterations and extensions have resulted in smaller front gardens. Lawns have often been replaced by paved parking areas or enclosed by hedges and fences.

Today the houses no longer have a unity of shape, size, or style. After 50 years it is often difficult to determine which of the three house types was originally built on any particular plot. However all the houses share one unifying fact: they were the first 52 houses in Hilton to have gas central heating. The Church Leys development brought the gas grid to Hilton, which was a landmark change, later benefitting many other households in the village.

**Hilton Parish Council Minute books were consulted in the Huntingdonshire Archives at Huntingdon Library*



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Friday 19th July

The Feast Week Marquee, Hilton Village Green

Medieval Entertainers
bringing fun and japes
Disco



Doors
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Hog Roast
Fancy Dress
(optional)



Tickets
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Trains, Boats and Planes

A truly epic Southern African adventure

By Clare Dudley, owner of Ponders Travel

Back in November I was an extremely lucky lady and enjoyed a truly epic adventure to Southern Africa. I enjoyed it so much that I wanted to share my adventures with you.

As guests of CroisiEurope, my husband and I were invited to embark upon a safari-cruise in Southern Africa and it really was one of the most wonderful trips I have ever had the privilege to take. In August I will have been in the travel industry 40 years and have been so lucky to have travelled extensively. So to say that this holiday experience is my favourite to date.

On this trip we visited five countries in one holiday over just nine days! South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Zambia. When I saw the itinerary the fact that we were visiting so many countries I was daunted and thought to myself that there was going to be so many long journeys to get to each destination. I was so wrong, and simply looking on a map would have shown me how wrong I was.

We spent most of our time travelling on the water along the River Chobe and then onto Lake Kariba where we saw so many animals. A water safari is quite different to a land safari. Firstly the animals cannot hear you coming so you truly do have the opportunity to get much closer to the animals in their natural environment. You also feel at peace knowing you are not affecting the animals as you simply meander on past quietly.

I genuinely didn't have any idea that we would see so many hippos and elephants! We also saw antelope, impalas, kudu, baboons, buffalo, crocodiles, warthogs and so many wonderful species of birds.

We started our journey flying from London to Johannesburg. On arrival we were taken straight to our hotel, which was a lovely 4 star central hotel. We were so pleased to learn that we could have our rooms straight away, despite the fact that we were checking in very





early (10am), so we managed a few hours sleep after having had a night flight, which was very welcome.

We were then taken on a city tour or Johannesburg and enjoyed learning all about the former troubles and how the city is moving forward. We visited a very interesting Apartheid museum and were treated to a educational tour and learnt lots about Nelson Mandela and his quest for all to be treated the same and much of his story The Long Road to Freedom. We visited a township area and were surprised at the poverty in towns such as Soweto, where the living conditions are beyond poor yet everyone seemed happy. The city has always been renowned for being far from safe. But much has been done to improve this and I have to say I felt safe at all times.

The next morning we took a short flight of approximately two hours, from Johannesburg to Kasane. Arriving here I felt immediately that we were now in true Africa. We were soon on our way in open-sided jeeps for a short drive to the river, at this point we embarked on our first boat.

We then sailed along for about two hours and started to embrace the magical nature from the water, the land and indeed in the air. Our boat was small and allowed us to very adventurous.

Our first sighting of a hippo was from a distance, as we saw the large head simply bobbing above the water. The size seemed daunting and at first I felt quite frightened of what I know to be in the top 10 most dangerous animal in this world. But I have to say by the end of the trip I became quite at peace with these magnificent creatures and didn't flinch even when I was almost close enough to touch one!

The next three nights were spent at the

beautiful Kaza Lodge. Each lodge was beautifully designed, had its own infinity pool and separate bathroom with roll top bath with full floor to ceiling windows so you don't have to miss a second of the wonderful nature that is all around.

The highlight of my stay here, was on the first morning, when I opened the patio doors of our bedroom and stood out on the balcony that was situated above the river, only to find we had a hippo in our garden. Now that is not a sentence I ever thought I would say!

During our three days, I enjoyed many boat rides to different parts of the river



to allow us to see as much nature as we could. Crocodiles, birds and hippos were in abundance.

On day two we were taken on a land safari to Impalila Island. During our visit our exceptional guide took us off the beaten track so we could see everything possible. We saw vultures, warthogs, elephants, hippos, buffalo, zebra, impala, baboons and so many different species of bird. An exceptional day and one I will hold with me always.

On our third day after breakfast we went to visit a local village. I learned how they live their lives and enjoyed a wonderful dance show. Watching the children playing with a toy car they had made from a coat hanger

Trains, Boats and Planes



and a couple of paper plates was really inspiring.

When our time at the lodge came to an end, we sailed back to towards the airport and then took a light aircraft flight (about an hour) as we headed to Karib. On arrival here I truly thought we had stepped back in time, the airport was so old and antiquated.

We then took a short car journey to Lake Kariba and to our next home – Zimbabwean Dream, the most special cruise ship. The boat which has eight cabins was decorated throughout in African artwork and is styled beautifully. It is immediately apparent that we are going to have a super time here and that the staff will be a pleasure to be around.

Over the next three days we enjoy a further land safari, where animals were in abundance and we got so close. We sailed around Lake Kariba and saw so many sightings of large groups of elephants and even larger groups of hippo. We also visited Kariba Dam and learn't all about its history, and enjoyed sunset sailings and fishing trips.

We really did enjoy the cruise and the staff, food and service were exceptional. I seriously can't recommend this experience enough. Although we were onboard for just three nights, I honestly felt like we made friends for life.

After three nights we then took a light aircraft from Kariba to Victoria Falls, again a short flight of about an hour. This time, my husband and I had a flight for just the two of us in an even smaller aircraft that takes just three passengers. What a unique and incredible experience that was. The views from the airplane were incredible. I felt like a celebrity with our own private aircraft!

In my naivety, I thought we had now left the animals behind and was quite sad that I wouldn't see any more. How wrong I was. Our drive from the airport to our next stay which was the Victoria Falls Safari Lodge hotel, provided yet more sightings of impala and zebra. We were taken for a fabulous lunch cruise on the Zambezi River, where once again we saw many hippos wallowing



in the sun. In the afternoon I enjoyed a fabulous walking tour of Victoria Falls. It is quite something to be up close to something that you have seen film footage and photos of for many years. The Falls are 1708 meters wide with an average depth of 100 meters. The sheer drop of the giant waterfalls takes your breath away. The UNESCO World Heritage site has been creatively planted with lots of information along your walk as you enjoy every angle of the Falls. Be prepared for a little (or a lot depending on the weather) spray.

We enjoyed a lovely evening at the lodge and saw elephants and warthogs in the vast lands that are rooms looked over. The birds were in abundance here too, so the whole wildlife dream continued. There was me thinking I was going to be in some modern hotel in a city for this part of the trip, how happy was I that I got this bit wrong!

A further highlight for me was on our last day. We took a helicopter ride over the Falls. The cost was £100 and was so worth it. To see these awesome Falls from the air was quite something. We also saw the Dams and enjoyed the unique land that surrounds us.

Later that day we started our journey back to the UK and arrived back in the UK early the next morning.

Most of the travelling we did was on the water, which was idyllic. I did not miss cars and traffic one bit! I have to say it was a little inconvenient waiting for some hippos to slowly cross in front (I jest of course!).



Every day during the trip, I went to bed thinking 'this day has been the absolute highlight', feeling like it couldn't possibly get better tomorrow. Each day, I was wrong. In truth every day just got better and better, as we had new exciting experiences.

To finish off the safari/adventure, we took a trip to Victoria Falls which was quite something.

On top of watching the incredible wildlife and scenery by land and water, we also travelled on light aircraft, one of which just held the two of us! In all my travels I don't think I have come back from a trip where I genuinely cannot find one single thing I would change. The holiday was incredible!

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Top 10 hardies for sustained Summer colour

A few hardy plants flower throughout the summer and into the autumn without pruning. They will give you exceptional value and months of colour. Here are my top ten.

Ceratostigma (shrubby plumbago) has masses of small blue flowers from June till the autumn frosts.

Eryngium Karvinskianus from Mexico has a continuous display of white daisy flowers. Self-seeds.

Erysimum 'Bowles Mauve' is a perennial wallflower growing up to 45cm (18"). Easy from cuttings.

Beloved Hardy Fuchsias come in a wide range of colours. Drought tolerant and also easy from cuttings.

Hardy Geraniums flowering continuously include 'Ann Folkard', 'Russell Prichard' and 'Mavis Simpson'. Many other varieties will flower again after trimming off spent flowers.

Hydrangeas Annabelle produces large flat panicles up to 200cm (8") across. Light thinning in early summer induces new flowering shoots into the autumn. There is a new pink flowering form.

Lavender Stoechas. French and Spanish lavenders send out new flowers throughout the summer.

Osteospermum. Hardy varieties of African Daisy flower all summer and include 'Cannington Roy' (purple) and 'Weetwood' mauve tinged white. They are good doers in full sun on free draining soils.

Roses! One of my favourites is *rosa rugosa* 'Frau Dagmar' with large scented single pink flowers. Later in the year they are accompanied by large flattened orange/red hips. Rarely suffers from black spot!

Salvia Microphylla. The baby sages are twiggy shrubs with scented foliage and a profusion of small flowers all summer long. Many varieties are available with white, pink, red and purple flowers.



Other suspects include scabiosa, verbenas, glandularia, abutilon, penstemon, rudbeckia, for example.

Tasks for July

Tips for preparing pots and baskets for a holiday. Make sure you use a good quality compost especially designed for pots and baskets. Move pots and baskets to a shady area of the garden. Place pots in saucers to add a reservoir. Dead head and trim bedding plants before you leave. Water and then feed with liquid fertiliser shortly afterwards and pots will stay moist for longer. Alternatively set up an irrigation system. Ask family, friends or friendly neighbours to check and water your plants every couple of days.

July Top Tips

- Water/feed containers
- Dead head geraniums
- Low mow lawns
- Take cuttings
- Sow hardy biennials

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News from the Pews



St Mary's, Fen Drayton

St Peter and St Paul, Fenstanton

We look forward to welcoming you!



There are two churches in our benefice: our Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul in Fenstanton and our Chapel of Ease, St Mary's, Fen Drayton

Both our churches look forward to welcoming you to any of our services.

We hope to see you soon!

Please note - services held in St Peter & St Paul's Church, Fenstanton are live streamed where possible, details via <https://www.fenchurchbooking.org.uk>

JULY & AUGUST 2024 – SERVICES AND EVENTS		
Sunday 7 July	10.30am Fenstanton	Holy Communion with Sunday Club
Thursday 11 July	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer For Zoom details, please contact Rev Rosie
Sunday 14 July	9.15am Fen Drayton 10.30am Fenstanton	Holy Communion Worship For All and Parish Picnic (<i>see poster</i>)
Thursday 18 July	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Sunday 21 July	10.30am Fenstanton	Holy Communion
		No Evensong
Thursday 25 July	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Sunday 28 July	9.15am Fen Drayton 10.30am Fenstanton	Morning Praise Family Communion
Thursday 1 August	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Sunday 4 August	10.30am Fenstanton	Holy Communion
Thursday 8 August	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer For Zoom details, please contact Rev Rosie
Sunday 11 August		<i>No service at St Peter & St Paul's, Fenstanton</i>
	10.30am Fen Drayton	St Mary's Patronal Festival with Communion
Thursday 15 August	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer For Zoom details, please contact Rev Rosie
Sunday 18 August	10.30am Fenstanton	Holy Communion
Thursday 22 August	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer For Zoom details, please contact Rev Rosie
Sunday 25 August	9.15am Fen Drayton 10.30am Fenstanton	Morning Praise Family Communion
Thursday 29 August	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer For Zoom details, please contact Rev Rosie

Rector: Rev Rosie Tallowin: 01480 467393 email: rosie.tallowin@btinternet.com
Churchwardens: Philip Blunt 07855 481697 and Ian Hucklesby 01480 465211

For your information: please note that the Parish Church, Fenstanton has a ramp for disabled access which can be deployed upon request. There is also a toilet, with disabled access, in the church.

St Mary's has a small threshold that may be possible to navigate with a wheelchair. There are no toilet facilities, yet (on our list of things to do).

Although we have fixed pews in both churches there are plenty of spaces available for wheelchairs, prams and buggies. We will be happy to help you find a space if that helps you to feel welcome among us as we worship.

Meet our new curate – Rev Claire



Hi, I'm Claire and I am looking forward to starting out in my new role as Assistant Curate in the parish of Fen Drayton with Fenstanton, working alongside Rev. Rosie.

A bit about myself.... I grew up near Spalding in Lincolnshire, where I have very happy memories of being active in the local church as a child, singing in the choir. On leaving school, I trained as a nurse, specialising in palliative care and working in a Macmillan Centre in Kings Lynn. Later, I moved to Cambridge and very recently to Fenstanton, where I now live with my two children, who are both teenagers.

I have spent the past three years studying at Westcott House in Cambridge, and have felt privileged to study in such a beautiful college. However, I am more than ready to put down the theology books and to take a pause on studying for a while.

In my spare time, I enjoy going to the theatre and cinema, reading, and walking (sometimes with my dog, Mango.) I love being outside and I am hoping to find lots of new dog walks as I settle into my new home. Do say hi if you see me (and Mango) around, I look forward to meeting you.

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everybody along to a

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Sunday 14th July

from 1pm

at Grafham Water

For more details please contact Katie: 01480 465211 or
ikhuck@virginmedia.com

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Hilton Methodist Church



I recently attended a family wedding – at least the reception. Ours is a small and mostly aging family, so a rare and very welcome opportunity to share a joyous time together.

There is a but coming. The bride suffers from a rare, acute anxiety condition. To mitigate the risk of a debilitating attack, attendance at the actual ceremony was restricted to parents and siblings only. Whilst completely getting it, I am a very close relative and really wanted to be part of their big moment.

Wanting to present at significant times, part of the unfolding history of those nearest and dearest, included in the photos for posterity – is understandable. But really it's the day to dayness of our contact with others, that really count. Not the big one offs. How many of us attend a wedding, or even a funeral, but find years go by before we are in touch again with those we shared the occasion?

Likewise faith. Few of us experience dramatic encounters with God. And if we do, they are few and far between. Rather it's the day to dayness of living with the awareness of God through our experience of the world and those we meet that deepens our relationship

and helps us on our way.

Like small and often meals rather than occasional banquets where the only exchanges are pleasantries and platitudes, no matter how deeply and genuinely felt.

It was a lovely reception. And I am in the photos! But my prayer is I can remain in couples' day to day life, offering encouragement and support where I can as they begin a new stage of their journey together. Just as God journeys with me, each and every day.



Sue

You can contact Revd.Sue by email: sue.bakermaher@methodist.org.uk or by phone: 07483 153948

Services in July

07 July	10:00am	Mr. John Green
14 July	11:15am	United Service at the Methodist Church
21 July	10:00am	Mrs. P Zähler
21 July	5:00pm	United Songs of Praise Service on the Village Green
28 July	10:00am	Rev. Barbara Garwood

Services in August

04 August	10:00am	Dr. Barbara Spencer
11 August	10:00am	Mr. John Bridge
18 August	10:00am	Ms. V. Almond
25 August	10:00am	Local Arrangement



Hilton Parish Church

Dear Friends,

Summer is here, at least officially - holiday time (for some). It is well known that the word 'holiday' comes from 'holy day'. In times past, the only relief from the daily grind of work for most people was on the major festivals of the church.



Taking a trip for recreation was not only beyond the means of most, but would not have been relaxing, as travel was a dangerous activity undertaken only when necessary. So times of refreshment were all associated with the Christian faith. As, of course, is Hilton's Feast Week, which takes place around the feast of St Mary Magdalene, to whom the parish church is dedicated.

In the book of Genesis, God creates the earth and heavens in six days, and then rests on the seventh and declares it holy. I have often wondered about the idea of God resting. It can't be that he was physically fatigued. I think it is more to do with the idea that God simply wanted to delight in all that he had made – "He saw that it was very good." The commandment to rest on the seventh day is to enable us to appreciate the life we otherwise fill with work and busyness.

That is essentially what our church worship is for – it is for many the one space in our week when we can stand back and look at the big picture. You are always welcome to do so too.

With love

David

Services in July

Sunday 07 July	8:00am Holy Communion
Sunday 14 July	11:15am United Communion Service at the Methodist Church
Sunday 21 July	8:00am Holy Communion
Sunday 28 July	11:15am Service of the Word
	No Coffee, Cake and Church service this month – back on 25 August
Friday 26 July	3:00pm Friday Feast (Messy Church)
	In the Feast Week Marquee on the Green

Services in August

Sunday 04 August	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 11 August	11:15am Holy Communion
Sunday 18 August	8:00am Holy Communion
Sunday 25 August	11:15am Coffee, Cake and Church
	Coffee, Cake and Church service is held in Hilton Village Hall

Weekly Online Services (Via Zoom)

Holy Communion Wednesdays (2.30pm) Bible study Fridays (10am)

Please contact Revd David Busk (01480 436400) for Zoom access details



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Open Gardens

NGS Open Gardens in Fenstanton was a massive success!

Four gardens in Fenstanton opened, under the National Gardens Scheme, for two afternoons in May. Preparations for the opening had gone on for months before and everyone was delighted when the sun came out for both afternoons.

Refreshments for the event were centred around the United Reformed Church, ably organised by a wonderful team and supported by many cake makers including donations from neighbours in Church Lane and The Bumbles, the garden owners themselves and other kind bakers. Refreshments sold like hot cakes, and we even had to send out for emergency supplies on our busiest afternoon, Sunday.

Astonishingly, more than 600 people visited the gardens over the two days and as a result they managed to raise a massive £4126.28 for the many charities supported by the NGS. Visitors came from all over East Anglia and further afield as well as Fenstanton. Many visitors enjoyed walking around this lovely village as well as visiting the gardens.

The garden owners would like to thank everyone who supported and helped us to make this weekend such a notable success. Tired but happy, they toasted the successful

opening on the Sunday evening and started planning the next opening in 2026.

Hilton Open Gardens

Don't forget that Hilton are opening gardens for NGS on Sunday 7 July where six gardens will be opening. These include 12 Westbrook; a well established and medium size mature, lawned garden. It has a large herbaceous border, a good variety of roses and a rose bed, alpine beds, a variety of shrubs and a pond.

The other gardens include 27 Scotts Crescent, 8 Graveley Way, the private garden of the Prince of Wales, The Moat House and finally Sherwood House. In total six gardens to visit each unique in character.

Refreshments will be served in the Methodist Chapel School on Potton Road and parking is available by the Village Hall on the Green with additional Blue Badge parking at the Methodist Chapel.

The Hilton gardens will be open from 2-6pm with a price of £7 per person (free for children under 15). Tickets including a map and guide will be available at each garden.



Fenstanton United Reformed Church

Chequer Street, Fenstanton

We are pleased to welcome you to our friendly church.
Sunday morning services are at 09.30. All are welcome.

2024 Services

July

- 07 Led by Alison Jiggins
- 14 Revd Christine Davies - Holy Communion
- 21 Led by Geraldine Swain
- 28 Led by Richard Lewney

August

- 04 Revd Christine Davies
- 11 Revd Christine Davies - Holy Communion
- 18 Led by Geraldine Swain
- 25 Revd Christine Davies

September

- 01 Led by Pauline Zahner
- 08 Revd Christine Davies - Holy Communion
- 15 Led by Keith Cakebread
- 22 Revd Christine Davies
- 29 Revd Christine Davies

Meditation – Led by the Free Church St. Ives

- Tuesday 09 July 2.30 - 4pm
- Tuesday 13 August 2.30 - 4pm
- Tuesday 10 September 2.30 - 4pm

Geoff Hawkins Fenstanton URC Secretary

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D-D Remembered



On 5 June a large number of Hiltonians gathered at our Lychgate Memorial to remember and commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings, led by Dr Roland Randall, and to pay particular homage to the courage and fortitude of the British armed forces and our allies, each of which were represented.

With sadness we acknowledged the number of Allied and German casualties, especially the many young men of 16-20 years and the stark comparison with our own sons and grandsons today. As we know, only a very few remain, now aged around 100.

Prior to a minute's silence, David Lindo, Royal Air Force retired, recited the Exhortation and Alan Claridge of the Household Cavalry, retired, reverently placed a wreath at the World War 2 plaque.

Margaret Andrew spoke movingly of her father, Senior Chief Petty Officer David Haswell RN, who on 5 June 1944 was on board his ship at Chatham Dockyard and she read a tender letter written by her five year old brother saying 'when are you coming home. Daddy, if you are not coming I will cry'.

During Dr Randall's prayers he was joined by Master Sergeant William Pickett of the United States Airforce and the ceremony concluded with the traditional Kohima by Monica Thompson of the Royal British Legion and Dr Roland's blessing.

We were also pleased to welcome Michael Williamson, President of the St Ives Royal British Legion, Grace McLaren, Chair of the Women's Section Julie Briggs, as our Standard Bearer and finally a supporter of the RNLI.

We then enjoyed refreshments and warm conversation at the Village Hall.



Have a go at Archery!

£5 each Ages 5+

20 minute taster session

1st Fenstanton & Hilton Scouts will be running archery taster sessions at the Big Village Fun Day on Saturday 6th July. The sessions will be run by our fully-trained volunteer leaders - you'll get the chance to perfect your shot and see if you can hit the bullseye!

Everyone age 5+ is welcome.

Spaces are limited so reserve your place in advance to avoid disappointment - scan this QR code and fill out the form. We'll also be taking bookings at our stand on the day. We recommend having long sleeves and close-toed shoes with you.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Sign up now!



Scouts



Hilton Parish Council

Report from the Meeting of the Council dated Monday 13 May



A Civility & Respect
Pledge Council

Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Cllr Peter Balicki was re-elected as Chairman and Cllr Ett McCarthy was re-elected as Vice-Chairman for the 2024/25 municipal year.

Policies and Committees

As this was the annual meeting of the Council, it reviewed and approved all policies, committees, terms of reference and memberships for the coming municipal year.

Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)

The Council reviewed and approved the AGAR for 2023/24. The dates for the period of electors' rights was set as Monday 3rd June to Friday 12th July. A copy of the return is available on the Parish Council website.

Earmarked Reserves

Based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Council reviewed the allocation of the earmarked reserves and reallocated them appropriately.

Box Hedges

Unfortunately, the box hedges in the village garden have been blighted by the box moth. The Council has asked the Green Open Spaces working group to present a recommendation to a future Council meeting for their replacement.

The Ware

The Council approved the work for the drainage holes in the Ware at cost of £980.

HGV Sign

Cambridgeshire County Council has advised that the cost of the agreed warning sign on the approach to the Shilpa roundabout has increased and Hilton Parish Council has agreed to increase their contribution from £220 to £583.

Potton Road Bus Stop

The Council has authorised expenditure of £500 for a privately funded highway improvement application to establish the feasibility and cost of improvements to the bus stop on Potton Road.

County Broadband Telegraph Poles

The Council considered the response from County Broadband to state that if the Council insists that the telegraph poles are removed then several houses will not be connected to the new hyperfast network. County Broadband has also offered to double the compensation amount due to the fact that the telegraph poles were installed without permission. The Council has therefore resolved to accept the wayleave agreement for the telegraph poles and the double compensation amount of £1,260.

Car Park

Hilton Parish Council has authorised expenditure of £212 for the maintenance of the car park adjacent to the Village Hall.

Electrical Waste Recycling

Electrical Waste may be recycled at any household recycling centre. Bulky electrical items can be collected by Huntingdonshire District Council and further information

can be found on their website <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins-waste/bulky-waste-collection> or by calling 01480 388640. Alternatively, charities such as the British Heart Foundation or Cambridge Re-Use will collect furniture and electrical appliances free of charge.

Playground Inspection

Hilton Parish Council has authorised Wicksteed to conduct their annual playground safety inspection at a cost of £132.

Events

The Council granted permission for the Community Garden to hold a plant sale on Saturday 8th June and for the Community Hub Sub-Committee to hold their weekly meetings on the Green and utilise the games equipment.

Report from the Meeting of the Council dated Monday 03 June

Pavilion Electrics

The Council considered the Electrical Installation Condition Report for the pavilion and approved the expenditure of £2,121 for the remedial works to both category C2 and C3 faults. £774 of this expenditure will be recharged to Hilton Feast Week CIC for their electrical box.

Model Financial Regulations

Hilton Parish Council considered the new NALC model financial regulations and resolved that the Responsible Financial Officer will complete the blank sections of the model document and then the Policy Group will then review the document before presenting to a future Council meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 8th July 2024 in Hilton Methodist Church. Agendas will be issued in advance on the village notice boards and the Council's website www.hiltonparishcouncil.com. Parishioners are welcome to speak at council meetings on agenda items.



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Find a defibrillator near you

We hope you never need a defibrillator, but if you did they are located in various places throughout our villages. The locations are below with the  what3words location references.

Fen Drayton Village Hall on Cootes Lane
moons.grumbles.admires

Fenstanton Ash's Store (NISA) on the High Street
pouting.cabinet.washroom
Church Centre on School Lane
reclusive.creeps.deleting
Zaza barbers on Headlands
thing.pylon.relatives

Hilton Prince of Wales Pub on Potton Road
mindset.skip.pulps
Hilton Cricket Pavilion
clerk.farmland.unroll



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Fenstanton Parish Council

Making Fenstanton an even better place to live

Cherry Tree - Honey Hill and Box Tree - Churchyard.

We are sorry to announce that the tree on Honey Hill, that we were trying to save has been felled. The tree technically belongs to the County Council and after it lost its second branch they declared it unsafe. Despite our best efforts to have the tree saved and a report from a highly qualified arborist that suggested it could have a life span of a few years it has been cut down.

Our plan is to replace this tree with two new cherry trees later in the year when the stump of the old tree has been ground out by the County Council's contractors. Obviously as your Parish Council we will be working hard to have the area returned to its former glory albeit with two new young trees.

Following an inspection by an arborist, it has been confirmed that the Box Tree in the Churchyard has succumbed to a severe infestation of Box tree moth caterpillars. Unfortunately, due to the extent of the damage, the tree will need to be felled.



Hall Green Lane/Manor Drive - collapsed drain.

The Chair of your Parish Council has been working with CCC Highways to press for the repair of the collapsed drain for some time. A 13-week work order has been raised and following a meeting with County Councillor Doug Dew, he is going to follow up with the CCC Drainage & Resilience Team & Projects Team to provide a date for remediation.



Fly-Tipping

Your Parish Council wants to remind everyone about the importance of proper waste disposal. Recently, a well-intentioned individual left a bed base at the bus stop, likely intended as a resting place for weary travellers due to the infrequency of the buses. While we appreciate the gesture, leaving unwanted items on the street constitutes fly-tipping, which is illegal. It not only detracts from the appearance of our community but also diverts valuable council resources that could be used elsewhere. Here is the good news: Thankfully, the bed base seems to have found a new home, hopefully with someone who needs it. This incident serves as a reminder: If you have unwanted items, please dispose of them responsibly. Our local council recycling sites offer an excellent and legal way to get rid of bulky waste. Let's work together to keep our village clean and beautiful!

Chequer Street carpark – further improvements

Your Parish Council plans to make additional improvements to the Chequer Street carpark. The metal barrier will be replaced with wooden bollards, the ditch will be reinstated, and a variety of wildflowers will be planted. Additionally, there are plans to install a mixed species hedge between the carpark and the Anglian Water pumping station.

Chequer Street play park - Improvement proposal

Your Parish Council is pleased to share plans for improvements at Chequer Street play park.

The proposal has been based on the feedback received and reviewed from the survey on play park requirements in the village.

The photograph shows the ideas recommended to us which include a trim trail, basket swing and a new main climbing structure. To install these new features we will be removing the two concrete drainage pipes. We would be delighted to hear from you regarding this proposal.



Northern Lights over Fenstanton

The night of 10 May 2024 was truly spectacular for skywatchers. A powerful solar storm triggered an incredible display of the aurora borealis, commonly known as the Northern Lights. This phenomenal event caused widespread excitement as the vibrant colours were visible much further south than usual. People across the country were treated to a breathtaking light show. It even reached our village of Fenstanton.

Councillor Surgery – dates

Councillor surgeries are now held once a month on a Saturday morning between 10am – 12pm at The Hub, 6 High Street, Fenstanton. Surgeries give Parishioners an opportunity to pop in to discuss any issues they wish to bring to the attention of your Parish Council. Please pop in.

27.07.2024

Nigel Ferrier

Anne Mustill

28.09.2024

Matt Tandy

Paul Kent

*Please note that there will be no Councillor Surgery held in August.

Next Parish Council meetings

Your Parish Council meets next on **Thursday 11 July** and **Thursday 12 Sept** at 7 pm in the Church Centre.

Fenstanton Parish Council

Making Fenstanton an even better place to live

Raising a flag

Having successfully obtained planning permission, your Parish Council has been busy installing a flagpole next to the clocktower. The idea was originally to commemorate Colin White who had wanted the village to have a flagpole. We hope you agree it's a great addition to the village that allows the community to mark national events with the raising of the Union Flag.



Hedges and Trees

As summer arrives and plant growth flourishes, your Parish Council kindly reminds all residents to maintain their hedges bordering public pathways. Overgrown hedges can obstruct the paths and make it difficult, especially for pedestrians with limited mobility, prams and pushchairs, to navigate safely.



A third defibrillator for Fenstanton

Your Parish Council is delighted to announce we have now installed the third defibrillator, dedicated to the memory of Geoff Pryke, who served as a Parish Councillor for many years. Thanks to Zaza Barbers who allowed this to be mounted on the exterior wall of their premises at Rookery Place.

Heritage Trail – Information Boards

Fenstanton is fortunate to have a rich history including the internationally important archaeological find of a crucifixion.

Your Parish Council has supported the development of a heritage trail around the village to help celebrate and raise awareness of this fantastic history. With the help of parishioners Jean Ding and John Deeks, Councillor Matt Tandy has led the creation of the trail which will see a number of information boards installed at key locations across the village. There will also be a heritage trail map and instructions, available at The Hub and the Church of St Peter and

St Paul. A digital version will be available at: <https://fenstantonparishcouncil.gov.uk/trail>

Your Parish Council hopes the heritage trail will prove interesting to parishioners of all ages, attract visitors to the village and make Fenstanton an even better place to live.

An official opening event is being planned for August and further information will be shared via the community notice boards and Facebook. If you would specifically like to be contacted about the event, please email the Clerk.

The Community Hub

The Church Centre, School Lane, Fenstanton, PE28 5NE

FPC Welcome Space

Chair & Standing Exercise Class Every Monday 10am

Join us for a FREE Chair and Standing Exercise class, for strength and balance. The class lasts approximately 50 minutes and is suitable for all fitness levels. Following the class we serve FREE Tea, Coffee, Biscuits or Toast.

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FPC Welcome Space

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Don't Miss it!

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FPC Welcome Space

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Sandwiches

Tuesday August 6th. 2pm to 4pm

Join us for **FREE Afternoon Tea**

Tea Cakes

Parish Councillor – Vacancies – Make a difference!

Are you interested in making a positive impact in your local community? If so, your Parish Council would like to hear from you. Currently, there are four vacancies for co-option, and the Parish Council would love to hear from you if you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor.

If you are interested or would like to know a little more about the role of a Parish Councillor, do not hesitate to contact your Clerk for further information.

To contact your Parish Council Clerk

Telephone: 01480 465 300

Email: clerk@fenstantonparishcouncil.org.uk

Website: www.fenstantonparishcouncil.gov.uk



Beware online fraudsters!



Keep in mind when grabbing those online summer buys this season... fraudsters are lurking!

- Scammers may lure you in with 'irresistible' and 'limited' bargain prices for popular items that don't really exist
- They might use fake sites and fake imagery of goods
- They may usher you away from recommended payment sites and encourage you to pay via a bank transfer
- They might even pressure you to transfer payment or a holding deposit before you've seen the item in person

Stay alert and double check before you part with any cash!

For more information, visit: cambs.police.uk/fraud



Summer Favourites

Strawberry Salsa

This is a unique way of using one of our very favourite fruits in a savoury dish. Ideal with grilled chicken, lamb and salmon, it's a slightly sweeter version than the tomato salsa we all know and love.

Ingredients:

- 1 punnet fresh Strawberries
- 1 Red Onion finely chopped
- 1-3 Fresh red or green chilli's according to how hot you like your salsa, deseeded and finely chopped
- 1 bunch of fresh coriander
- 1 Lime, zest and juice
- 2 tbsp White Balsamic Vinegar, you can use normal balsamic but the salsa will be quite dark in colour
- Salt and Pepper to taste
- Sugar to taste – although start with none, the strawberries may be sweet enough.

Method:

Add all ingredients to a bowl and mix together. This is best served immediately.



Cucumber and Orange Syllabub

This desert is both refreshing and unique. Cucumber isn't just for your salads!

This recipe serves 6

Ingredients:

- 1 cucumber
- 3 tbsp of Cointreau
- 2 tbsp of Orange or Elderflower Gin
- 150ml German fruity white wine
- 1 x Orange (medium sized - finely grated zest and juice)
- 50g Caster sugar
- 300ml Double cream

Method:

Top and tail the cucumber, cut 12 small round slices, this is the garnish, so put aside.

Slice the rest of the cucumber lengthways and deseed – using a spoon. Then chop up the cucumber so that you can half moon shapes. Put even amounts of cucumber into 6 wine glasses, and sprinkle on 3 tbsp of the Cointreau. Half a teaspoon in each glass.

Stir together the white wine, orange zest (leave one teaspoon of zest out for decoration) and the juice and the gin with the caster sugar until the sugar has completely dissolved.

Pour the cream into a bowl and whisk until it begins signs of thickening, then gradually add in the fruity wine mixture whilst whisking to make a thick and creamy syllabub.

Pour this syllabub into the glasses on top the the boozy cucumber, top with the saved slices of cucumber and use the left over orange zest to decorate.

Put in the fridge and chill for two hours.

Serve with an amoretti biscuit or shortbread thins.



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Like father, like son and son

When the school bell rang the last time for Jason, aged 15, he knew exactly what he wanted to do. *"I didn't really enjoy school, so as soon as I could leave I was out of there and into my Dad's van. My father was a painter and decorator, like his father before him and I wanted to follow in his footsteps,"* Jason explains.

Jason completed his three year apprenticeship and was looking forward to working with his father. Unfortunately a year later it all went wrong. His parents divorced and he found himself out of a job and homeless. *"To be honest I was scared, I had no job and no home but I did have my trade card. So I hit the phones looking for work. However, a lot of the rival firms would not employ me as they suspected that I was a spy for my father, thinking I was only there to nick their clients."*

Eventually, Jason was given his first break and working wherever he could find a job he slowly started to build a reputation. *"If someone rang up and said there was a job in London I had no hesitation, it was yes when can I start. I was working all hours and weekends to earn as much money as I could."*

"Gradually things started to turnaround and I bought my first van for £500, which I had to borrow and I was in debt everywhere but I had the dream of making the business successful. I advertised in as many local magazines as I could afford like The Journal, as these have always been a good source of work for me."

Now 26 years later Jason employs 18 people and has 15 vans. His big breakthrough was being invited to work for St. John's College in Cambridge. One college lead to another, then to another and then came the various builders in Cambridge to the point where he felt he was the only painter and decorator in Cambridge.

JASON KIRBY Professional Painting & Decorating Ltd

"We were doing really well financially but I was not enjoying it. We were being put under amazing pressure to deliver projects and our standards were dropping. My guys weren't enjoying it, so enough was enough. I had a major re-think about what I wanted to do with the business. So we went back to our roots of providing good high quality work. I was privileged to be able to pick and choose what we wanted to take on. Now years later we have select group of private residential clients and everyone is much more relaxed, me included!"

Jason has built a fantastic reputation for the quality of his work and he would have

no hesitation for any new prospective client speaking to an existing one. His clients trust him explicitly often leaving him the keys to their homes whilst they are away on holiday.

When not working Jason enjoys time with his three boys. He is not a big traveller keeping holidays fairly low key. *"I think I would get a nose*

bleed if I want too far from Cambridge! I do however like driving fast cars and love a good track day. My own toy is a BMW M5 which is an indication of my age as it's really a family saloon car."

It took five years for him to patch things up with father, who interestingly ended up working for Jason. *"It was a complete turnaround for my Dad to come a work for me. Now my middle son is joining the firm to undertake his apprenticeship. He wants to run the business eventually which is OK with me but he is going to have to put in a lot of hard graft before that happens!"*

Jason Kirby is open normal office hours five days a week at Unit 35, Dry Drayton Industries, Scotland Road, Dry Drayton, CB23 8AT



Jason with his first vans at 20 years old

update



Message from the chair: the Fen Drayton beer festival!

What a fantastic day! Huge thanks go to Francis and Lois from the Three Tuns for their hard work, planning and organising the whole day, and finding so many generous sponsors who made the event a success.

Francis set the casks up the day before to allow them to settle. He showed us how to work the card machine and pull pints (a few were substandard and had to be drunk by the bar staff!) and he and Lois kept an eye on everything ensuring it all ran smoothly.

Members of the football club were superb behind the bar and on the BBQ. I heard many compliments about the bands and the children enjoyed the bouncy castle and having their faces painted – my own granddaughter opted for a rainbow tiger!

Many thanks also to members of the parish council who manned the till and card machine, and a special shout out to Chris

Gray who spent seven hours on the till!

The weather was kind and it was a pleasure to see so many people bringing garden chairs and enjoying the atmosphere. The village turned out in force and although the primary focus was to raise funds towards a new pavilion, it was an event that brought our community together.

The festivities continued into the evening with the comedy event. The headline act, Matt Price, had the audience in the palm of his hand, but I'm glad that my name wasn't Simon from Fenstanton and I wasn't sitting near the front!

As we go to press the event raised just over £6000, an fantastic amount and all credit must go to Francis and Lois, plus the support from the football club.

Well done everyone involved with the setting up the event, running it and clearing up. Without all of you it wouldn't have been such an amazing success!

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Contact:

email: fendrayton.clerk@gmail.com

website: www.fendrayton.org

post: PO Box 1102, Fen Drayton, Cambridge CB24 4WZ

District Councillor, Sue Ellington 2023-24 report

South Cambridgeshire District Council has had a busy year focusing on the experiment of introducing all staff to a four-day week. The desk staff started in the spring of 2023 and were encouraged to reduce meeting times, use virtual meetings when possible and complete their five days' work in four, while continuing to be paid their full salary.

In the autumn the refuse collectors also started a four-day week. It required the introduction of two additional teams and two new refuse lorries.

The government office for levelling up intervened in October, requiring the administration to produce weekly productivity data to support their supposition that the level of activity has not declined. The data will be evaluated this summer to determine if the changes should be confirmed as general practice.

I have expressed my concern that this experiment, in addition to the policy of working from home for two days a week, reduces the opportunity for new staff to learn from colleagues and for councillors to talk to staff informally about local issues.

The budget for 2024 was set to include raising council tax by the maximum allowable in order to pay for additional administration costs of £4.5million and an increase in councillor remunerations. I felt this was unnecessary, especially as council housing tenants were also required

to pay more rent at a time of a significant cost of living crisis.

Last summer the council undertook a corporate peer review which involved a number of senior councillors from other areas looking at all aspects of council work.

This involved talking to key groups such as councillors, officers and the public. They concluded in very general terms that waste and recycling are performing well, but there were issues about the speed of responses to queries and the closure of accounts.

Road charging was a controversial issue during the year and eventually put on the back burner by The Greater Cambridge Partnership (made up of leaders of the city and district council as well as Cambridge University leaders).

Finally, parking enforcement by the district council was introduced from February 2024. This has been welcomed by many schools and streets across the district but has also surprised those who park on verges inside yellow lines, as that is also an offence.

Fen Drayton Community Cafe

The next cafe date is Saturday 13 July,
10.30 to 12.30 in Fen Drayton village hall.

The Gardening Club meets at 10.45 in the committee room. All are welcome. If you love gardening come along and meet like-minded people and enjoy a hot drink and delicious homemade cake.

News from Fenstanton and Hilton Primary and Preschool



By the time you read this, we will be coming to the end of another school year and getting ready to bid farewell and good luck to our Year 6 leavers as they prepare for secondary school. We will also be reflecting on a successful school year and the pride we felt in achieving our 'Good' Ofsted grading. Whatever you are doing this summer, we hope you all have a happy and peaceful time.

colourful faces! The Headteacher was also beaming with the money raised by the PTA and all of our parent volunteers!

We hope that many of you will enjoy the Big Village Fun Day on Saturday 6 July. We are proud to be involved with this event, along with our hard-working PTA, and to provide the space for the community to come



This summer term has been full of activity. We had a very busy day on Friday 24 May, with a visit from the Royal Institution for our Science Day (some very engaging and entertaining recreations of the human digestive system!) and our first PTA Colour Run. This second event was a spectacular and happy way to end the half term. The sun shone, the children smiled and the adults relaxed in good company and happy surroundings. We have included several pictures of the children's beaming and

together and celebrate life in Fenstanton. Let's hope the weather breaks for us and we all have a fantastic day!

The first week of the summer holiday will also mark Hilton Feast Week. We hope lots of you will enjoy a week of Medieval Merrymaking and sharing happy times with friends and neighbours!

**With best wishes, from all of us at
Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School
and Preschool.**



Fen Drayton Primary School



Last term may have been a short half term, however we squeezed lots in. Our Y6 children completed their KS2 SATs and after their final test were delighted to receive a leavers' hoody each, kindly donated by our PTA.

Y5/6 had a really fun afternoon at Cambridge University's Department of Engineering making launch pads and rockets. There was a lot of good group collaboration and problem-solving taking place. Thanks to Form the Future for inviting us to take part in this amazing opportunity.



Lots of our children enjoy cycling to school so we feel it's important they receive the correct training. Last term, it was the turn of the Y4's to take part in Bikeability Level1.

Our school is set in beautiful surroundings and we love getting outside. Swallows and Ducklings love getting out into their outdoor area to continue their learning. Lots of hard



work has gone in to developing this space and we are very excited about our new quiet area which will be finished soon.



As we head into the final half term at Fen Drayton Primary School, we've still got lots of exciting things happening before we finish in a few weeks' time. We have trips to the seaside, sports days and our Y5/6 production to look forward to. Our PTA has been busy preparing for our Summer Fayre and the Y6 parents are organising the Y6 leavers party. We will also be inviting our new Reception parents and children in for visits.

If you would like to find out more about us, take a look at our website www.fendraytonprimary.co.uk. We have spaces in most year groups but it's always worth giving us a call to discuss further. Please email office@fendrayton.cambs.sch.uk or call 01954 273346 to arrange a visit.

Nina McQueen
Headteacher

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What you're Missing

News from the Scouts



Hello from 1st Fenstanton and Hilton Scout Group! We've been making the most of the lighter evenings and (slightly) warmer weather recently by getting outside as much we can.

The Beavers (ages 6-8) were invited along to Fenstanton allotments to learn about bugs, growing your own and designing an allotment (and got to work digging a few holes!). They've also had a go at firefighting and camped out for a night in St Ives with around 100 other Beavers from across Cambridgeshire at the annual 'Beavers in Tents'!

Meanwhile, Cubs have been out and about building dens in Hinchingsbrooke Park, going on a murder mystery tour of St Ives where they searched for clues on local landmarks, and orienteering around Meadow Lodge Farm in Bluntisham. They'll also be off camping at the end of term for a night under canvas in Great Wilbraham.

Finally, the Scouts enjoyed a camp in Thetford Forest, have been on a bike ride together, put their pioneering skills to the test, and had a visit from the police.....to learn about being a police officer! The older Scouts have also organised their own evenings, including an indoor Olympics, shelter building and a water fight.

And that's not it - all our young people have also had chance to take part in water activities such as kayaking, sailing and bell boating, and the Cubs and Scouts are looking forward to their annual visit to the Aqua Park at Little Paxton at the end of term! We also make sure every Beaver, Cub and Scout has a go at archery every summer - and if you've never tried archery before, we'll be running taster sessions at the upcoming Big Village Fun Day, so come and have a go!

None of this happens without the dedication of our brilliant adult volunteers - we are always in need of more support to help prepare local young people with skills for life. Anyone can be a Scout - if you think this sounds like fun and want to start or continue your Scouting adventure, find us on Facebook or email comms@1st-fenstantonandhilton-scouts.org.uk.



What you're Missing

You look like a role model!

At 1st Fenstanton and Hilton Scouts, we LOVE doing what we do – empowering young people with skills for life, helping them make friends for life and starting them on the adventurous journey through Scouting – which can last for life.

But with more than 50 children waiting to join our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts sections, we need your support. Could you be one of our amazing volunteers who can guide the next generation through their Scouting journey?

With roles to fit around your skills and commitments, volunteering with us is a hugely rewarding experience – and looks great on your CV too!

To find out more about starting or continuing your Scouting journey with us, visit our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/1stFenHilScouts>, or email us at comms@1st-fenstantonandhilton-scouts.org.uk.



Hilton Art Club



In May, we had an all day workshop with Jane Fellows, who demonstrated her subject of a barn owl peeping out of a hollow in a tree trunk. Starting with gesso, then coloured acrylic inks to bring out the darks in the texture of the bark. She finished with drawing the owl and adding some lighter shades with pastels. We were quite pleased with our pictures, which were all different!

Thanks to Jane for a most enjoyable and instructive day, if tiring. There were also cakes, chocolates and refreshments to keep us going.

5 July, 10.00am – 12.30pm Outside visit to Norris Museum, St Ives. En plein air painting and drawing.

19 July, 9.30am – 12.30pm Exotic East / Year of the Dragon. Please bring your own pictures or props.

24 – 27 July, Times To Be Advised Feast Week Art Show, Hilton Village Hall.

2 August, 10.00am – 12.30pm Outside visit to Houghton. En plein air painting. Meet outside the café.

16 August, 9.30am – 12.30pm Your Choice of Subject, Earth Colours only. Please bring your own pictures/props.



Hilton Art Club - May Workshop



Hilton Women's Institute

After birthdays and Christmas when we were young we had to write our thank you letters to aunts and uncles and we members have some similar thanks just now.

Firstly, to Amanda for organising the visit to Johnson's Zoo and afternoon tea which was one of our typically happy outings and left us with lovely memories. On behalf of the WI but also everyone in the village, thank you to Rosemary and Peter for creating and installing the hanging baskets at the village hall year by year, they always look so colourful.

When the organising group for the D-Day anniversary asked the WI to provide teas, well, WI Tea and Cakes are some of our famous watchwords, so sleeves were rolled up and a room full of cakes was the result.

These events don't 'just happen', they take thoughtful planning but we also had Jan, who was our champion and thought of so much detail that we had not, and the success of the afternoon was very much due to her.

So Jan - A Huge Thank You from us and on behalf of the village

At the May meeting we were treated to a fascinating talk and demonstration by Jacqui Speed on spinning and the treatment of the sheep's wool, what a skill it is and has also been clothing human beings for centuries. Our new group who are looking at places to visit now have a growing list making us realise how much there is without travelling far and Federation is telling of a circus skills workshop, a play based on the WW2 spies in Godmanchester and a variety of events.

As ever the clubs and groups are thriving with some thought presently being put on how to create a French group with

ladies with skills from O and A level to degrees, conversational French and the bilingual. Oh, dear! In June we were treated to a very interesting talk by Jason Middleton on Gems of the Rich and Famous and what a treat it was to enter a world where jewels and glamorous women go hand in hand - for example, Elizabeth Taylor's amazing jewels, one pearl alone cost Richard Burton \$29,000. Early royalty, Kings and Queens all wore precious gems until Cromwell banned them, only to for them to return in abundance and only three royal houses possess crown jewellery; - our own, Russia and Iran.

It was as late as the Edwardian period when it was possible to cut diamonds and then grade them according to value. Jason finally chided us for wearing our diamond rings whilst gardening not because they would be damaged but because their settings are so much more delicate. We learnt so much more that evening that time over ran so we shall have to invite Jason back again

New members of all ages are always welcome.

hiltonwisecretary@gmail.com



What you're Missing

Fen Drayton Lions

by manager Simon O'Neill

Our last game of the season saw us take on Coton FC – always a good game against these guys as they can field a very strong team! After warming up, it was clear that they, too, wanted to finish off the season with a win. For the first 15 minutes you couldn't split the two teams. Slowly, we started to build into the game and were creating more chances for ourselves. It wasn't long before Greefy took his chance and put us ahead and as we piled on the pressure a long range shot from Ben Colmer found its way into the top corner, giving us a nice two-goal cushion. Not long after Greefy added a third and we were cruising. But we then got a little complacent and conceded two goals in the space of 10 minutes so went in at halftime three-two up.

There wasn't much to say at halftime in terms of tactics, as the lads were playing brilliantly. I said that if we carried on the second half with the same attitude and passion, we would get something out of the game. My team never fails to amaze me – just when I think we can't play much better, they step it up another couple of gears. The football was just fantastic to watch – we created chance after chance and they couldn't live with us. Another four goals in the second half saw us finish the game, and the season, off in great style winning seven-two!

As always, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank my amazing family for all their help and all they do for the football club. They really are appreciated, not just by myself but all the players and everyone involved in the club.



I would like to thank all the committee members for all the work they do. We are lucky to have such a great team behind us. And also a big thank you to all who come along and cheer us on – it's amazing to have your support.



My last big thank you, on behalf of myself and the football club, is to everyone in Fen Drayton and the surrounding villages that came to support our beer festival fundraiser for the new pavilion – it really was a great afternoon. We are so grateful for all the help and support from the businesses that donated and members of the public too. Thanks also go to the PC for helping out and trying to raise extra funds.

As you know, none of this could have happened without superb organisation. A massive thank you goes to Francis and Lois of the Three Tuns for putting so much time and effort into making the event possible. As I said on the night, we are blessed as a village to have such a wonderful landlord and landlady – we are truly grateful for all you've done.



Fenstanton Friendship Club

If you would like to meet new friends and socialise, please come along and help the club grow. Age is no barrier and we welcome everyone into our fold. It is always good to get new ideas and suggestions for meetings. We meet every other Wednesday at 2.00pm, in the building of the United Reformed Church in Chequer Street. Although we hold our meetings in the church building, we are not affiliated to the church. Our activities are varied and as well as the yearly trips out to lunch, cream teas, boat trips on The Ladybird, strawberry tea and Christmas celebration, we will have various speakers and entertainers.

Come along and check us out, you will find a friendly group and a warm welcome.

8 May We had a wonderful talk and display of "Quilts around the World", given by Margaret. She has travelled extensively with her husband who was in the Royal Air Force. Whilst travelling she collected beautiful quilts from each country, which we were privileged to see. It was so interesting to hear about each one. It was a really nice afternoon.


22 May Unfortunately, it was necessary to cancel our trip on the Ladybird as the river was under caution. This meant we could not go under bridges, resulting in a much shortened trip. The weather was really bad and indeed the following day the boat was not able to negotiate the lock at Houghton. We were sad to cancel but feel we made the correct decision.

5 June Another meeting where again things were cancelled. Our firefighter crew were sent to a fire in Cambridge. Fortunately no one was hurt but it meant they couldn't come to us. We are going to reschedule. We had a good afternoon discussing upcoming events, drinking tea and coffee and eating cake.



Upcoming Meetings

19 June If you are a Brass band enthusiast, you are in for a treat. We have Andrew Bannister coming to play for us, B and E flat cornet player, who has played for Grimethorpe Colliery Band, Brighouse and Rastrick and many others. Sure to be a great afternoon.

3 July Strawberry tea. 

17 July A talk from a Gemstone specialist about pearls with the opportunity to purchase designer jewellery.

31 July A visit to Madingley Hall.

14 August An afternoon with the lovely voice of Caroline Foster.

28 August Visit to Burghley House with a guided tour.

11 September Another visit from Martin John, brilliant musician.

Any questions please contact me. Marie Newns bubblenews@gmail.com 01480 350119

What you're Missing

Fenstanton Football Club finish the season in style!

As the long season finally draws to a close for all our teams it was an absolute delight to see so many teams finish with silverware.

Let's start off with our Under 8's who capped off their season with a thrilling victory over Little Paxton in the Hunts Youth League Plate final. On a gloriously sunny day in front of a bumper crowd at Eaton Socon FC ground, the boys and girls were perhaps unfortunate to find themselves 3-1 down going into the final quarter. However, they turned on the style and dug deep, scoring 4 cracking goals to eventually win 5-3!! The team showed great togetherness to keep their heads up and it was pure joy to see their faces when they lifted the trophy in front of cheering parents.



Each season a team from every league gets nominated to win the Fair Play trophy. This is judged in many areas, including respecting the league rules, respecting the referee, playing respectfully, and respect for team mates, opponents and coaches. We are delighted that both our Under 11's and Under 13's team won their respective league trophies this year. Thank you to all those players, parents and coaches involved. This is a fantastic achievement (photo below is of the Under 11's)

For Fenstanton U13s, this season followed on from the success of winning the Priory



Parkside Invitational Cup in May last year, giving real confidence that this could be a season to challenge for the league. Playing in the Hunts U13 B league, the team started the season winning 2 and drawing 2 of the first 4 league games. We then had a month of cup games which saw the team win another 4 games in a row. The awful weather hampered the league fixtures, only playing once in December which secured another win! In January and February the team played very strongly, winning all four of their league fixtures. With the weather still playing havoc we had accrued a lot of games in hand, we suffered our first defeat of the season late in February going down 1-nil to St Neots Town Youth. However, from this point onwards the team went on a remarkable unbeaten run winning 11 from 14 fixtures. This resulted in the team winning the league on Saturday 18 May, beating Priory Parkside 12-1 with two games in hand over the teams still to play. Hunts FA were in attendance to present the lads with the their league trophies and they celebrated in true style.

A fantastic season, topped by the team also winning the Hunts FA U13 B League Fair Play award. Well done lads, and we look forward to the forthcoming season which will start in September.

Last, but not least, the story of our Under 16's, which we have highlighted in a previous article. In a highly competitive league, it was a fantastic achievement for them to finish 3rd this year. After a challenging start and



Fenstanton Under 13s celebrate with trophies

disruptions due to the weather they went on to finish the season strong, winning 13 and drawing 2 games in the final 15 games. This unbeaten run took them all the way through to the League Cup final against Buckden at St. Neots FC ground. It was a night to remember, with several hundred supporters from the village cheering on the boys under the floodlights. It was a tight fought game with Fenstanton having the best chances.

However, after the full time whistle the score was still nil-nil and the dreaded penalty shoot-out was to come. So, by the narrowest of margins, unfortunately we lost the shoot-out but the boys should be so proud of what they have achieved, with some fantastic lasting memories. The core part of this squad has been together since the age of six, so it

was brilliant to see what are now young men perform so well in front of a big crowd, but if that memory wasn't enough the team played again just a few weeks later in a friendly game at Peterborough United ground, drawing 2-2 in a highly entertaining game.

So, what a season and although our other teams didn't get the silverware this year it was still a hugely successful season for our village teams. Well done to all the players, coaching staff, volunteers, parents and committee. Without you we wouldn't be where we are today. As always if you are reading this and would love to be involved, or indeed play for any of our teams, please do get in touch by emailing us at fenstantonfootball@outlook.com



The Under 16's with their runner up trophy after the League Cup Final



The Under 16's Team Photo at London Road Peterborough United FC

What you're Missing

Hilton Flower Club

13 May Our meeting was a talk and slide show about Capability Brown and the wonderful work he did around the country, landscaping stately homes and parklands. It was a most interesting afternoon, it gave us food for thought of places we have been to but didn't realize the landscape was designed by Capability Brown.

By the time you have read this month's Journal we will have been on our annual outing to Beth Chatto's amazing garden which we are all looking forward to.

I will report about it in the September Journal.

2 September is our next meeting. It's our workshop so don't forget your scissors.

7 October Ann Purt will be our demonstrator.

Hope all our ladies have a great holiday.

See you in September
Beverly / June



Fenstanton Bowls Club

We have had a fantastic start to the season in all our leagues albeit not helped by the wet weather when some matches have had to be cancelled and rescheduled!

Our open weekend was very successful and we have welcomed new members down to the club who have enjoyed playing social bowls on Sunday mornings. Anyone who would like to have a go is welcome to come and join us between 10am and 12pm – all you need is a pair of flat shoes and we will provide the rest including tea and biscuits at half time! If you would like to find out more, please email Barry at barryward30@hotmail.co.uk or visit our website at fenstantonbowlsclub.co.uk

We have played in two friendly matches at home against Houghton & Wyton and Gt. Gransden and these provide a great opportunity for new members to try out playing in a match before joining one of our league teams, if they would like to - there is no pressure to join a team if you don't want to!

There is nothing nicer than being down at the club on a warm sunny day. It is so peaceful and a great way to have fun, enjoy good company and get a bit of light exercise in at the same time!

We will be at the Big Village Fun Day Fenstanton on 6 July so please pop along to see us and have a game of target bowls!





Navigating Parental Disputes over School Holiday Arrangements

It is that time of year where two parents are separated, disagreement can arise in regard to their child's living arrangements throughout the school holidays and often revolve around conflicting holiday plans, travel arrangements, and concerns about childcare during breaks. These issues can escalate quickly, leading to heightened stress and strained relationships between parents and for the children involved.

If, after exhausting all dispute resolution avenues, an agreement cannot be reached, an application to the court for a Child Arrangements Order (CAO) may be necessary. CAOs offer a structured approach to resolving such conflicts, providing clarity and stability in determining where children will spend their holidays both short and long term.

Understanding Child Arrangement Orders

Obtaining a CAO for school holiday arrangements involves considering various legal factors, the priority being the children's welfare and the ability of parents to cooperate. Whilst some parents may be able to reach agreements through negotiation or mediation, others may require court intervention to formalise arrangements.

CAOs are legally binding court orders that outline where children will live and how much time they will spend with each parent. They come in various forms, including Specific issue orders (addressing particular matters like schooling or healthcare) and Prohibited steps orders (restricting certain actions by one or both parents).

CAOs can provide a clear framework for parents to follow. These orders can specify holiday schedules, allocate holiday time between parents and establish communication protocols. By outlining expectations and responsibilities, CAOs can help reduce conflict and promote cooperative co-parenting.

Benefit for the Children

CAOs are granted in the child's best interest and as described, their welfare is paramount. CAOs aim to promote stability and consistency for the children, ensuring they have a structured routine during breaks. A CAO leaves no room for debate, these orders are legally enforceable and compel the parties to adhere, minimising disagreement and the emotional stress often experienced by the children themselves.

Help is at hand

If you require further advice on the process of obtaining a Child Arrangement Order (CAO) or any other family related matter, please make an appointment to see Lisa Leader or any member of the family team at Leeds Day. Alternatively you can complete the contact enquiries form on the website: www.leedsday.co.uk/contact or if you would prefer to speak to someone then please do contact Leeds Day on 0333 577 2250. **Quote this article when making an appointment before 31st August 2024 and your first 30-minute consultation will be free.**



Lisa Leader - Senior Associate Solicitor

To find out more or to book an appointment contact Leeds Day on 0333 577 2250, send an email to family@leedsday.co.uk or visit our website: www.leedsday.co.uk/family.

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Local Cambridge Open Studios 2024

Fen Drayton Watercolour Artist Chris Lockwood, Hilton Mixed Media Artist Lynn Norton and Fenstanton Ceramic Artist Paula Armstrong are all busy preparing their studios ready to welcome you this July as part of the Cambridge Open Studios Festival.

It's a great opportunity to meet the artists in person and find out more about how their work is created and what inspires them. Look out for the bright yellow flag with the Open Studios logo in black and red hanging outside the studios. All artists are open from 10am – 5pm.

Chris will be opening her studio on the first two weekends in July, at Garden House, 33 Cootes Lane, Fen Drayton, CB24 4SL (Opposite the Village Hall) She will be exhibiting her watercolour paintings of flowers and animals as well as landscapes (Yorkshire and the Lake District) and seascapes (Cornwall). Her studio is in a light-filled garden room with paintings, cards and prints on display and refreshments available in her garden. www.chrislockwoodwatercolours.co.uk email: chris.lockwood08@ntlworld.com



Lynn will be showing her latest pastel landscapes and beautiful acrylic ink animals. Her new studio at Manor Farm, The Green, Hilton, Huntingdon, PE28 9NA (located on the north side of the Green, behind the Manor House) will be open on the second and third weekend in 13/14 July and 20/21 July. Lynn loves to use mixed media and is influenced by the natural world, painting in both pastels and acrylic ink. www.lynn-norton.co.uk email: norton.lynn@btinternet.com



Paula, a ceramic artist and teacher, will be opening her studio on the first and third weekend 06/07 July and 20/21 July at 5 Rookery Place, Fenstanton, PE28 9LZ (in the shop with the yellow door.) She creates distinctive ceramic sculptures and vessels. Hand building courses and workshops are offered in her studio. Paula enjoys trying new techniques with clay and loves to create work that speaks to the viewer and aims to make distinctive one-off pieces that tell a story. www.parmstrongceramics.co.uk email: paula@parmstrongceramics.co.uk



It is a special year this year as COS celebrates its 50-year anniversary. Today the membership is around 500 with over 250 artists participating each July.

For more information on Open Studios, visit the website at camopenstudios.org where full details of all artists can be found along with directions.



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email: plammiman@btconnect.com

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Mobile Library service

Route H9 – 2nd Tuesday In The Month

Fen Drayton
Primary School 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Fen Drayton
War Memorial 3.40pm – 4.10pm

Route H11 – 2nd Tuesday In The Month

Hilton Village Hall 2.00pm – 2.40pm

Fenstanton Headlands 2.50pm – 3.40pm

Fenstanton Chapel Green 3.50pm – 4.20pm

Route H25 – 4th Thursday In The Month

Fenstanton Chapel Green 9.30am – 10.00am

Fenstanton Headlands 10.10am – 10.45am



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Mama Jo's Mischief

Welcome to Mama Jo's Mischief. Here, you will find an array of new craft activity ideas every month for children of all ages, as well as occasional places of interest and recommended local events. Happy mischief making!

Day out inspiration

As a parent, we want to be able to provide our children with fun (and sometimes secretly educational) days out. As a mum myself, I can sometimes find myself struggling with ideas of places to take my 3 year old for some quality time together, so I thought I'd take a moment to list a few of our favourite places, to save you a bit of trouble. Tried and tested, these get our seal of mischief making approval!

Days out in Cambridgeshire

- South Angle Farm Park - Soham
- Skylark Maize Maze - Wimblington
- Johnsons of Old Hurst - Huntingdon
- IWM Duxford - Cambridge
- Audley End Miniature Railway - Saffron Walden
- Shepreth Wildlife Park - Shepreth
- Cambridge Botanical Gardens - Cambridge
- Grafham Water - Grafham
- Bury Lane Fun Barn - Meldreth
- Hamerton Zoo Park - Sawtry

Days out further afield

- National Space Centre - Leicester
- Hitchin Lavender - Hitchin
- Colchester Zoo - Colchester
- Go Ape - Thetford
- Sea Life - Hunstanton/Gt Yarmouth
- BeWILDerwood - Norfolk
- Wicksteed Park - Kettering
- Woburn Safari Park - Milton Keynes
- Diggerland - Kent
- Gullivers Land - Milton Keynes



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An update from Fen Drayton Lakes

Our year on the reserve is split into two halves: the autumn-winter habitat management season and the spring-summer breeding season.

During the colder months of the year there is plenty for us to do. With our volunteer groups, we are kept busy as we go around the reserve carrying out work to maintain or enhance areas for our key breeding species. Nesting islands and rafts on the lakes are cleared of vegetation, willow is removed from reedbeds, scrub is coppiced, and many other tasks are carried out to provide the ideal habitats for our target breeding species.

The spring and summer are when we get to see the results of all this hard work as millions of birds pour into the UK to take advantage of the warmer weather for breeding. There is always some apprehension early in the season as we wait to see which species arrive on site to set up territories and nest. Many of our breeding birds are long distance migrants, spending the winter throughout Sub-Saharan and Southern Africa.

Some, like the Common Whitethroat may have been in Nigeria for the winter. Averaging just 14g, this small bird will fly thousands of miles over its lifetime, often coming back to the same patch of scrub year on year to nest.

As the summer progresses, why not come down to the reserve to look for these, and many other, charismatic birds around the trails.

Upcoming events at Fen Drayton Lakes

Wild(ish) Camping for Groups - A unique opportunity for groups to camp on site.

Guided Canoe Trail - Slink through the reeds on our new water-based trail to discover one of the harder to view lakes from a new perspective.

Wednesday Wander Guided Walk - Join our knowledgeable volunteers for a walk around the reserve.

To see further details and book for all the events mentioned, please visit:
events.rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes

Volunteering opportunities

We are looking for new volunteers to join our visitor engagement team here at Fen Drayton Lakes. In this role you will be giving visitors a warm welcome and finding out how you can help them enjoy their visit, whether that's pointing out where they can see wildlife, advising on which trail to go around or providing information about Fen Drayton Lakes and what makes the reserve a special place.

To find out more, please get in touch.

Email: fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk

Visit rspb.org.uk/days-out/reserves/fen-drayton-lakes



The Yellow Pages

Venues for hire

Fen Drayton Village Hall	07596 576515
Fenstanton Church Centre	01954 230471
Hilton Village Hall	07752 678415

Councils

Cambridgeshire County Council	0345 045 5200
Fen Drayton Parish Council	07704 023534
Fenstanton Parish Council	01480 465300
Hilton Parish Council	01480 830605
Huntingdonshire District Council	01480 388388
South Cambs District Council	0345 045 0500

Community Groups and Clubs

Books and Jigsaws at FURC	01480 498221
Fen Drayton Bowls Club	01480 385297
Fen Drayton Lions FC	07718 900880
Fen Drayton Parent and Toddlers	07549 630124
Fen Drayton Tennis Club	01954 231752
Fen Shanty Folk	07841 599492
Fenstanton Baby and Toddler Group	07742 259653
Fenstanton Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	07531 863368
Fenstanton Bowls Club	07541 968125
Fenstanton Community Hub	07949 453767
Fenstanton Football Club	07968 081874
Fenstanton Friendship Club	01480 350119
Fenstanton Glebe Allotments	07817 786298
Fenstanton Town Trust	01480 464753
Fenstanton Indoor Bowls	01480 497202
Fenstanton Knitter and Natters	01480 498221
Fenstanton Litter Picking	07949 453767
Fenstanton Rainbows, Brownies and Guides	07730 369565
Fenstanton Speed Watch	07949 453767
Hilton Art Club	01480 830696
Hilton Baby and Toddler Group	07527 394945
Hilton British Legion	01480 831186
Hilton Community Garden	01480 830707
Hilton Flower Club	01480 830571
Hilton HGV Watch	07768 294878
Hilton Neighbourhood Watch	01480 831658
Hilton Rainbows and Brownies	07970 404569

Community Groups and Clubs

Hilton Speed Watch	07540 811115
Hilton Town Trust	01480 830866
Hilton WI	01480 831186
RSPB	01954 233260
Slimming World	07568 444140

Community events

Fen Drayton 10k run	07919 254467
Hilton Feast Week	01480 830605
Hilton Produce Show	01480 830412
Hilton Summer Ball	01480 831299
The BIG Village Fun Day	01480 370973

Education

Fen Drayton Primary School	01954 273346
Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School	01480 375055
Hilton Day Nursery	01767 688715
Ladybird Day Nursery	01480 469166
Sunhill Nursery	01954 230030
Swavesey Village College	01954 230366

Churches

St Mary's Church, Fen Drayton	01480 465211
Fenstanton Parish Church	01480 465211
Fenstanton URC	01480 352058
Hilton Methodist Church	01480 830686
Hilton Parish Church	01480 830866
St Ives Roman Catholic Church	01480 462192
The Particular Baptist Church	01480 830142

Emergency numbers

A&E Addenbrooks Hospital	01233 217118
A&E Hinchinbrooke Hospital	01480 416416
Environment Agency (Flood Line)	0845 9881188
Fenstanton pharmacy	01480 495159
Fenstanton surgery	01480 461873
Fly Tipping	0345 0450500
Gas leak	0800 111 999
Non emergency medical	111
Non emergency Police	101
Papworth pharmacy	01480 831415
Papworth surgery	01480 830888

Emergency numbers

Peterborough City Hospital	01733 678000
Power cut	0800 678 3105
Samaritans	116 123 Free
Swavesey surgery	01954 230202
Water leak	0800 316 7676

Buses

A2B	0800 001 6255
Dews Coaches	01487 740241
Stagecoach	01223 423578
Whippet Coaches	01954 230011

Pubs and eating places

Carriage's of Cambridge	01954 233279
Little Piggy Cafe	07764 336911
The Duchess, Fenstanton	01480 350859
The Three Tuns, Fen Drayton	01954 230242
The White Horse, Swavesey	01954 231665
The White Swan, Conington	01954 267251

Retail

Alan's Carpets	07790 681317
Ash's Store	01480 466225
Denise Jackson Interiors	07910 507541
Eye Specs	01480 499606
Post Office and OMIA Store	07533 240954
Pamela Ann Soft Furnishing	01480 831771
Ron's Farm Shop	01480 495127
Rosegate Farm Shop	07922 588171

Garden services

G G Landscapes	07889 848117
Hamptons Groundcare	01480 274848
Hemingford Arboriculture	01480 463674
Ray Puddefoot	07501 684935

Decorators

D Moody	01480 465400
Jason Kirby	01954 211775

Design, printing and copying

St Ives Quickprint Ltd	01480 465215
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Household services

Cambridge Light Removals	01480 352220
Clean Direct	01480 412875
Easton & Cook Funerals	01480 310400
Fairy Dog Mother	01480 461959
Get Refurbed	01223 752947
Hamptons Pest Control	01480 274848
Hilton Private Hire	07521 293434
J L Wright Chimney Sweep	01954 253315
More Space Storage	01480 830130
Red Driver Training	07816 492758
Television Mobile Repair Service	07887 887319
Z Cars Taxis	01480 462046

Electricians

DSS Electrical	0800 019 7992
TW Electical	07810 710826
Twin Electical Services	07796 492953

Plumbing and Heating Engineers

J Halstead	01480 830329
MDS	01480 800810
RDS	01954 770309

Building services and supplies

Bannold	01954 231666
CanDo Roofing	01354 629575
G B Builders	01487 479253
G C Bricklaying	07375 359035
GCE Groundworks	07737 884643
R D B Flooring	07970 256237
Stormguard Building Services	01480 270744

Car servicing and repairs

Graveley Garage	01480 830462
Wilderspin Garage	01954 230273

The Journal

Advertising	07768 274456
Circulation	07876 446565
Editorial - Fen Drayton	07711 442473
Editorial - Fenstanton	07952 838121
Editorial - Hilton	07793 794431

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Commercial/Domestic
References Available

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Mobile 07714 261836

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