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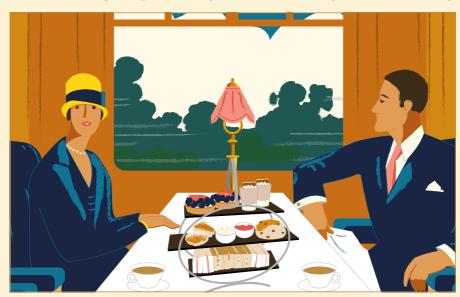
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# Events at a Glance

Fen Drayton Fenstanton Hilton

#### July 2025

28 Jun-5 July Scarecrow Competition

05 BIG Village Fun Day, school field

08 Strawberries and Cream, Welcome Space

19 Books & Jigsaws Sale, URC

19-20 Cambs Open Studios in Hilton26-27 Cambs Open Studios in Hilton

27-02 Aug Feast Week

#### August 2025

02 Hilton Produce Show

09 Community Café & Quiz, Village Hall

13 History Society pub crawl and talk, Three Tuns

23 Books & Jigsaws Sale, URC

30 VJ Celebration Tea, Village Hall

#### September 2025

13 Hobbies, crafts and collections, URC

13 Macmillan Coffee Morning, Village Hall

13 Vegetable produce sale, Village Hall

14 Pimms & Pate lunch

#### October 2025

08 History Society talk (St Ives-Cambridge railway) Three Tuns

25 Everything Poppy Appeal, Village Hall

#### November 2025

08 Craft Fair, Community Café, Village Hall

22 Non-psychic séance, Village Hall

29 Mulled Wine Evening

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

## ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER PAGE

It is two years since a local team of volunteers started producing The Journal. In that time our editors and contributors have produced over 1,680 pages of text and our distributors have delivered 52,000 magazines door to door. None of this would have been possible without the backing of our advertisers both old and new and the financial support of Fen Drayton, Fenstanton and Hilton parish councils to whom we say a big thank you. We hope you all still enjoy reading The Journal as much as we enjoy producing the magazine.

Before you head off for your summer holidays don't miss in this edition the fascinating story of a mystery cruise or looking after your pet in the summer. More locally, we continue with a series about village historical figures with the life of Thomas Coote.

As always if you feel we are missing something that should be in The Journal please get in touch as we would love to hear from you.

#### 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 08 August latest for the September edition. Cover photograph by Gill Parrish

## Village News

## Get Ready, Go Digital, Stay Connected

#### Is your landline ready?

Landlines are changing. By January 2027\*, traditional landlines will be upgraded with digital technology. This national upgrade is known as the Digital Switchover and will mean that landline calls will be made over the internet instead of the old telephone network. Telephone providers are responsible for switching customers to the upgraded service, but everyone is encouraged to check if and how the change will affect them, especially those who rely on their landline or use a telecare device.

For many, the change will be simple. All you will have to do is plug your landline phone into a broadband router instead of a traditional phone socket. But for others, especially those who rely on their landline for care alarms, medical devices, or staying in touch, it's important to understand what the change means and what action they need to take in order to stay connected.

Connecting Cambridgeshire is running the Get Ready, Go Digital, Stay Connected campaign to help local residents prepare for and feel confident about, the change.

#### The switchover will mainly affect

- People without an internet connection at home
- Those who rely on a traditional land line not already upgraded to a digital phone service
- Users of telecare and personal alarm systems, eg fall monitors or lifelines.

\* Deadline confirmed by Openreach at time of publication.



#### Three things to do today

- 1. Contact your phone provider to find out if the change affects you.
- 2. Need support? Ask a trusted friend or family member to help.
- 3. Use a personal or fall alarm? Contact your provider to ensure it will still work with the new system.

#### Look out for scams

The switchover doesn't require upfront payments. If you get a suspicious call, hang up and contact your phone provider using the official number from a recent bill.

#### Support each other

Know someone who might need help? A quick conversation or offer to help them call their phone provider could make a big difference.

No one should be left behind. Whether it's you, a neighbour or a relative, now is the time to ask the question: Is your landline ready?



For more information, visit: www. connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/ digitalswitchover or scan the QR code.



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Casual	£15.00	£10.00	£17.50	\$10.00

#### **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.



5 July 10:00am to 12:00 noon 10:00am to 12:00 noon 2 August 6 September 10:00am to 12:00 noon

Hope you will be able to join us!

## Village News

## The Royal British Legion in Hilton

Question - What is the Poppy Appeal?

Answer - Annual Fundraising by donations in aid of support for past and present members of the Armed Forces. The only requirement for help is to have been in receipt of Service payment of ONE DAY.

The St Ives and district branch has a membership of 140 and again military service is not required, merely support of the cause.

This district is fortunate and privileged to have many ex and present servicemen and women living in our midst, most of whom are fit and well but it is safe to assume that some are struggling in some way due to ill health, money worries, etc. just like we civilians. However, pride is a huge issue, together with the 'just get on with it' attitude, well known by all who know and live with them.

Mental health often involves bottling things up, doesn't it?



PLEASE- if you know of anyone who needs any form of support, even just a friendly chat - get in touch! We in the St Ives branch have a qualified team of welfare officers who of course know all about confidentiality.

We have a Drop-in Day on the third Friday of each month at the Ivy Leaf Club, the Broadway in St Ives from 11:00 ish to 1:00 ish. It's all about chat, welcoming new friends and meeting 'old' ones and of course biscuits, cake and Ye-Olde-Tea-Bagges are much in evidence!

Finally, a date for your diary with no Journal now until September.

Saturday October 25th - Hilton Village Hall -Everything Poppy Appeal. More to come in September!

## Fen Drayton village hall

Two major projects to improve the village hall and the playing field facilities are underway. The village hall is reducing carbon emissions and saving money by installing solar panels and a suspended ceiling in the main hall. The solar panels are now in place and have reduced electricity purchased from the grid by nearly 90%. The suspended ceiling is expected to be completed in June.

The village hall is going from strength to strength. The table top sale and raffle in May was a huge success, raising nearly £2,000. Our thanks to the generous local business sponsors, the residents who contributed materials and prizes and, as always, the

volunteers who gave up their time to make it happen. A bingo evening was held in June and more events are planned for later in the year.



## Village News

## **Hilton Feast Week**

It isn't long now until our "Heroes & Villains" themed Feast Week begins on Sunday 27th 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.



Senday 27th Jely		
11.15am - 12.15pm	Coffee Cake and Church in the Village Hall.	
12.15pm - 5.00pm	Sports Dayon the Green starting with the penalty	
	shoot out. Bring along a picnic. Monach Farm will be	
	selling their Caprilatte ice cream.	
	Bar and kids' bar at the Pavilion.	
5.00pm - 6.00pm	Songs of Praise with live band in the marquee.	

	Monday 28th July	
1	0.30am - 11.30am	Line Dancing in the marquee.
Г	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Children's crafts in the Village Hall.
Γ	6.00pm - 8.00pm	Adult cricket match on the Green.
L		Bar and kids bar at the Pavilion.

	Tuesday 29th July
10.00am - 11.00am	Hilton Baby and Toddler Group host a special session
	(page 17) with Disco Baby in the Village Hall
	(suggested ages 0-5 years, older siblings welcome).
11.00am - 12.00pm	Guys and Gals rehearsal in the marquee - all children
	welcome to come and learn the dance routine.
12.00pm - 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 (with inflatable slide!)
	Bar and kids' bar at the Pavilion.

Wednesday 30th July		
11.00am - 12.00pm	Guys and Gals rehearsal in the marquee - all children	
	welcome to come and learn the dance routine.	
12.15pm - 1.45pm	Children's Feast Week Service in Hilton Parish	
	Church followed by a teddy bear's picnic (bring a	
	picnic and a furry friend).	
2.00pm - 3.30pm	Capes and Counters - board games in the marquee.	
5.00pm - 5.45pm	Mr Bean Children's Magic Show on the marquee	
	stage.	
5.00pm - 10.00pm	Stand up Sit down Bingo in the marquee. Bar, kids'	
	bar, Feast Week BBQ & Purple Pepper Mexican food	
	van. Followed by Eclipse Disco.	
6.00pm - 7.30pm	The Art Show opens for viewing and voting in the	
	Village Hall.	

Thursday 31st July	
11.00am - 12.00pm	Guys and Gals rehearsal in the marquee.
1.00pm - 5.00pm	Animal Experience in the marquee.
5.00pm - 10.00pm	Baddles and Bevvies! - bar and kids' bar, food
	options: Feast Week BBQ & Pizza Mondo.
	Mad Science at 5.30pm, Rock Choir performance at
	6.45pm.
	Music from the Over n' Outs (from 8pm) and Eclipse
	Disco.
6.00pm - 7.30pm	View the Art Show in the village hall and place your
	votes.

Friday 1st August	
10.00am - 12.00pm	Be a Wildlife Hero with the Community Garden.
3.00pm - 4.30pm	Friday Feast in the marquee.
5.00pm - 10.00pm	Bar and kids' bar, Feast Week BBQ along with Sam's Thai food van and the Churros Bar.
7.00pm - 9.00pm	View the Art Show in the Village Hall and place your votes.
7.00pm untillate	Friday night in the marquee. Guys and Gals perform on stage, followed by a children's disco. Feast Week Interactive Quiz (from 8pm) then Eclipse Disco.

	Saturday 2nd August
8.00am - 10.00am	Drop off your Produce Show entries in the marquee.
1.00pm - 4.00pm	Produce Show in the marquee. Circus skills by the
	Pavilion. View the Art Show in the Village Hall. The
	John Craft 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 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 from the Village Hall.
7.00pm untillate	Saturday Night in the Marquee - Bar, kids'bar, Feast
	Week BBQ and Hitwrap food van.
	Stylus take to the stage (from 8.00pm) then Eclipse
	Disco.

Sunday 3rd August		
10.30am - 12.30am	Clear up and nut away - any help gratefully received.	

## T.N Walsh

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Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2025 – 2pm to 5pm Hilton Village Hall



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Fenstanton United Reformed Church

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On Saturday 13 September 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

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Local History

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Each case is considered individually and treated in strictest confidence.

## Village News

## Hilton Community Garden News

Back in March in The RHS magazine "The Garden" there was an item asking people to send in a letter telling the Wildlife Forum what one had been doing for wildlife in your community. There were 20 signed books written by Chris Baines on Wildlife Gardening to be given to the best entries. I sent in an entry explaining about our community garden and what we had done there a worths lost 2 years and

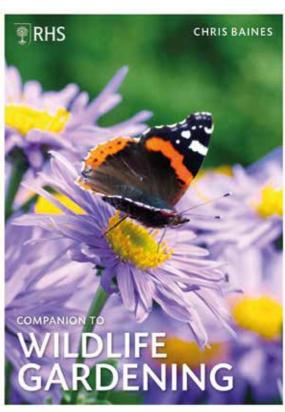
there over the last 3 years and was lucky enough to be awarded one of the books. This is what I sent in.

"I helped start a community garden in my village of Hilton, Cambs, three years ago. The plot was offered for a peppercorn rent by a local farmer but was just rough pasture and it has been developed with wildlife in mind. We grow vegetables and fruit organically for anyone from the village to pick. We have planted native hedaina as well as a wild flower meadow and trees. There is a small pond and an herbaceous border. We are always looking for ideas to encourage wildlife. We try to involve the village with regular events and hopefully the book would provide some fresh ideas. This weekend we have a bird box building session and we have plans to build hedgehog boxes in the summer at the village Feast Week. We also enjoy visits from local Rainbows, Brownies, Beavers and Cubs who come to the garden to learn about gardening, wildlife and undertake badge

work. We recently have two teenagers who come and work every Saturday in the garden as part of their Duke of Edinburgh project. Local residents often come and visit to sit and enjoy the peace and watch the birds that visit the garden. It has become a valuable community asset and friendships have been made from working together in the garden.

If I was lucky enough to receive the Chris Baines book I would hope it would enable me and our committee to learn new ways to garden to encourage more wildlife into the area and also provide us with ideas for teaching the youngsters we see about the importance of gardening with wildlife in mind"

Sandy Monk



## Village News



# Fen Drayton History Society Talks schedule - 2025

6.30pm start at the Three Tuns Pub

Village pub crawl - visiting the 7 pubs / drinking houses in Fen Drayton – followed by brief talk - Wednesday 13th August

Speaker: Richard Treeby

St Ives to Cambridge railway - Wednesday 8th October

Speaker: Roy Stoner (Local railway expert; Swavesey resident)

Talks are free – apart from the cost of drinks on the pub crawl! PLEASE email nigel.fenner@ntlworld.com for more info / to book a place.

## Fund-Raising for Help For Heroes



Following the event by Simon and Emma of the Prince of Wales in celebration of 80 years since VE Day on 08 May, £80 was raised by donations for Help for Heroes.

I have received a letter of thanks on its behalf today from Vicki, an ex member of the Royal Signals who has benefitted from support by the charity.

Part of her letter explains "your support is a beacon of hope for so many people and I can attest to the life-changing impact your contributions have made".

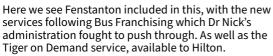
Margaret Shardlow





## In Focus: Briefing by the new Mayor of Cambridgeshire Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA), Paul Bristow

In June, I attended the first briefing by the new Mayor for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA), Paul Bristow, at Huntingdonshire District Council's (HDC) Pathfinder House. A lot of the CPCA's work continues to build on the previous administration, of former CPCA Mayor, Dr Nick Johnson; building on the strategic vision of the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan, from resident engagement, and now into the delivery and implementation phase.



At the briefing, I questioned new CPCA Mayor, Paul Bristow on whether he will continue to support the Tiger buses and initiatives, especially as services including **Tiger 1** were just launched in May. He assured me they will be continuing with the delivery of the new bus routes and timetables and focussing





on publicity, as well as building public trust in public transport that works. However, he wants to see a public infrastructure that is sustainable for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, including looking at investing in Light Rail, and the continued financial monitoring and evaluation of all CPCA launched schemes.

As District Councillor, I will continue to advocate for restoration of regular reliable buses. I too remember the good old days of a bus every 15 minutes from Fenstanton High Street, and regular buses from Hilton, direct to our towns - I hope this can be restored in time with continued lobbying.

Please do share your views and experiences with me on as it all helps towards improving services.

[For Hilton] You can book Tiger on Demand now using the Tiger on Demand app, call 01480 595 440, or visit https://www.tigerondemand.co.uk/

[For Fenstanton] Tiger 1 connects you to key destinations including Cambridge City Centre, Cambridge Science Park, Cambridge Business Park, Cambridge North Station, Cambridge Regional College, Hinchingbrooke School, Swavesey Village College, and more.

You can now explore the full timetable and all stops https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/tiger-bus-routes/

Do you have any queries or questions?

You can contact me by: clare.tevlin@huntingdonshire.gov.uk or 07565 350 014.

## Village News

## Hilton community garden activities

The community garden was delighted to receive a grant from National Highways. We have been able to make bird boxes with villagers to take home and put in their own gardens and run a seed planting event. We also will be making hedgehog houses on 1 August (10:00 – 12 noon) as part of Feast Week.

We have purchased a gazebo which is a fantastic feature in the garden.

Do pop down to enjoy sitting in the garden, or call in on Saturday mornings at 11.00am to enjoy a cuppa, cake and chat.





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

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Bring your entries along at the start of the Fun Day.
Saturday 5th July - 1pm to 7pm

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Thurs 17th July
Thurs 31st July
Thurs 14th Aug
Thurs 28th Aug



Bingo Nights £10 per book 7.30pm start Cash prizes!! Thurs 10th July Thurs 7th Aug Thurs 21st Aug Thurs 4th Sep

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## Trains, Boats and Planes

# An unexpected cruise

by Malcolm Lynn

My wife, Carole, and I have wanted to visit the Faeroe Islands for a long time but the cruise that we booked to the islands some years ago had had to be cancelled by the company at very short notice, so when the opportunity came up for a cruise to the Faeroes in May this year, we booked it straight away.

As the cruise was starting from Liverpool, we decided to spend some time there and see something of the city first. Unsurprisingly, The Beatles have now become a major tourist attraction in the city and the statues of the



Fab Four near the Pier Head include the only two statues I know of that are of living people anywhere. Such fame!

The 'Story of The Beatles' exhibition is excellent and it was a real trip down memory lane for us, as we left our teenage years long ago.

So, on to the cruise terminal where, much to our surprise, we were told of a last-minute



change of plan. Even though the ship, the Bolette, is quite big – and at 62,735 tonnes it is rather bigger than the Titanic was – the weather can still play havoc with its schedule. Faced with both of our intended ports of call refusing to accept the ship, the Captain decided to head for calmer waters and take us and almost 1100 other passengers to Cherbourg and Belfast instead of Stornoway and Torshavn.

Our first day was spent at sea and as it was a Sunday, there was a short interdenominational service for anyone who wanted to attend as well as about 40 other events throughout the day including talks, quizzes, bingo, sports TV, music, dancing and a song and dance show. When you add the facilities offered by the bars, restaurants, library, pool and the fitness centre, you can see that there was no shortage of things to do on the ship. The shops on board also provided opportunities to browse or buy gifts and luxury items!



The following morning we arrived in Cherbourg where the company had arranged a choice of four tours to places of interest in the area for anyone who wanted to go further afield.

I decided to go on the trip to the Utah beach, which was the westernmost beach used for the D-day landings in 1944. On the way there, we called at the town of Sainte Mère Eglise, which was the first town to be liberated after D-day. Its church tower is unique as it is adorned with a mannikin paratrooper, suspended by his parachute. This commemorates the misfortune of an American soldier, John Steele, who landed on the tower when being dropped behind enemy lines. (He was injured and taken prisoner but escaped later.)

On arriving at the Utah beach, I was impressed by its vastness and emptiness and I tried to imagine what it must have been like all those years ago. There are a number of memorials there and a tank, as poignant reminders of the battles 81 years ago.

What a contrast to the luxury of the ship and the fine dinner that awaited us on our return! And to round off the day as the ship was leaving the port, we were entertained by a very energetic "Tennesea" country music show by the Bolette theatre company. It was remarkable to think that we were seeing their second performance of the evening – I couldn't have done some of acrobatic moves on land even once when I was young – and these athletic entertainers were doing them many times on a moving ship!

The next day was another 'sea day' and although the sea was a bit choppy with winds at Force 7, it was nothing like what it would have been if we had been to the Faeroes. Some words from my schooldays came to mind -

"The fair breeze blew; the white foam flew, the furrow followed free".

Belfast was to be our second port of call, so we decided to go to the talk about the history, sights and the city's numerous claims to fame in the morning.

The speaker gave an excellent presentation and reminded us that the city is vibrant and welcoming and that it is now a top tourist destination. Inadvertently, she also reminded me that it was over 30 years since I



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had visited the city, when things were rather different. (Not least because I had arrived just before President Bill Clinton's visit, when security precautions had been especially tight.)

The talk we went to in the afternoon was very different. The speaker, a professor from Aberdeen University, spoke about the history of the Scots Gaelic language and culture, a subject which was obviously chosen with the original schedule for the cruise in mind. Although the language is classed as being endangered, various government initiatives have helped to increase the number of speakers in recent years, to about 70,000 now.

Later, we were well entertained by a very talented comedian and impressionist, Danny Posthill, though we decided to give the latenight party and the midnight karaoke a miss.

For our time in Belfast, Carole and I had decided to take the city tour that had been organised by the cruise line as one of the three options on offer. (The other options were a visit to the Giant's Causeway or the Titanic exhibition). We were treated to a very entertaining and informative tour of the city,



including visits to Stormont, Belfast Castle, Queen's University, the City Hall and some of the areas that had featured prominently in the Troubles. The photos show Queen's University and the Titanic memorial near the City Hall.

And then back to the ship for the final showtime - which was another action-packed show, based on musicals including Les Miserables and Chicago - and the last leg of the cruise back to Liverpool.



It was a thoroughly enjoyable cruise even though we had only five nights at sea. So, we will be keeping our eyes open for cruises to the Faeroes in the future and who knows, maybe it will be third time lucky!

## And finally, a couple of observations for would-be cruisers:-

- You will not put on weight while on board a cruise ship even if you take full advantage of the fine dining and the cakes on offer. However, you might find that you have suddenly put on weight as soon as you get home!
- 2. You should not have any problems if the sea gets a bit rough other than if you are trying to stand up or walk around!

# Fen Drayton

# for sale!

According to reports in the Palm Beach Bugle, a local property developer is planning to buy the parish of Fen Drayton.

Apparently, there are rare earths in the fields near the A1307 and the lakes and surrounding land are ideal sites for a golf course and holiday resort. The property developer is quoted as saying "The resort, Decandenza-a-Lago, will be BIG and BEAUTIFUL and make me LOTS OF MONEY."

Asked about his plans, he said "As the BEST negotiator in the world I have already made an offer to the authorities in England. I have proposed that they PAY ME to take Fen Drayton off their hands. Let's face it no one else will buy it!"



"In keeping with my policy of free speech, I will also bar entry to people who disagree with me, unless of course, they provide me with a flattering portrait of ME!."

"This is a GREAT OPPORTUNITY for Fen Drayton. What's not to like?"

On hearing the news, customers in the Three Tuns responded with three key questions:

- Will I have to wear a Mickey Mouse or Donald Duck outfit?
- Will I have to use fake tan to get a job?
- Will the pub have to sell Budweiser?

Welcome to the new world order!

To help make Fen Drayton great again and boost local jobs, a 100% tariff will be imposed on imported tomatoes and 200% on those from China!





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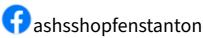
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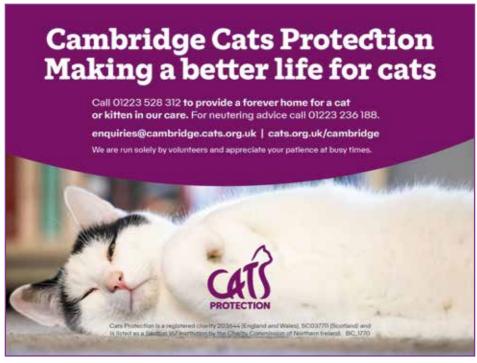


# TOMBOLA PRIZES FOR THE BIG VILLAGE FUN DAY

#### Good news!

Jean is planning to run her usual fantastic tombola stall at Fenstanton's BIG Village Fun Day on Saturday 5 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!





## Step into the Past

## Fen Drayton village halls, Manor Farm and Larke Cottages

by Richard Treeby

Prior to the introduction of the Land Settlement Association (LSA) Fen Drayton had never had a village hall. The new arrivals mainly embraced the new way of life, utilising the premises of the village school to maintain the camaraderie of the clubs and institutes in their home mining villages.

On 17 January 1936, the Weekly News reported that the Fen Drayton village school was crowded out in celebration of the arrival of the men from Durham. The miners entertained the villagers with "songs and choruses which were greatly enjoyed", and the intention was expressed that more such entertainment would follow. On 16 October 1936 the Gardeners' Society held its first flower and vegetable show. This was run in connection with the LSA, the intention being that the settlers should become integrated into village society.

The LSA considered it necessary for each estate to have a hall in which to hold meetings, dances and other recreational activities, and to help foster community spirit. For this purpose, it provided land to be leased to the parish council at a peppercorn rent. The hall was built with funds from the Carnegie Trust and the National Council for Social Services on land close to the central





services area, containing packing sheds etc near the bottom of Cootes Lane. The opening ceremony took place on 30 September 1938. The newly built hall was registered under the Charities Act. The hall became the focal point of the village, hosting many dances, birthday parties and wedding receptions.

In the 1980s the hall was in need of costly repairs and upgrading. The parish council looked at the most beneficial way of either upgrading or replacing the building and decided to replace it. When the field adjacent to the school in Cootes Lane came up for sale, they purchased it, meeting the cost by selling a field down on the fen to ARC. In March 1985 plans for the Wilcon development of the ex-LSA area were made, providing new homes to be phased in over the next three years in the area that now comprises Vermuyden Way.

However, the old village hall site was within the proposed development area, and this became an issue. In March the following year after a lot of negotiating Wilcon decided the development of the old LSA land plus village hall would be a more sensible option, and agreed to purchase the land on which the old hall stood. The village agreed that the development of a new hall on the site by the school was an effective way forward, so various schemes were explored and finally plans were proposed and accepted, and in June 1988 plans for a new village hall were approved and passed. The sale of the land to Wilcon together with various grants, mainly from South Cambridgeshire County Council, provided the funds.



Building work commenced in the winter, the hall was completed in the spring and opened on 11 May 1989. The opening ceremony was performed by the parish clerk, Beryl Golding, cutting the tape, watched by chairman of the village hall committee Peter Fox and a large gathering of local residents.

The Cambridge Cottage Improvement Society were owners of the Old Manor Farm, purchased at auction for £150 in 1938. The house was in poor condition, infested with rats and had only an outside water supply.

It was deemed necessary that improvements should be made to give tenants better conditions. In 1958 the building was converted into three cottages. In 1989, the barn on the site was converted to form a two-bedroom dwelling, all were let on an assured rent. There were now four dwellings on the half an acre site.

The society then started planning to further develop the area. This included persuading the district council that the site, which is in a



conservation area, was suitable for the construction of rented homes for local people. The society eventually obtained planning permission, subject to a Section 52 Agreement in which it is stated that the houses remain for the use of local people.

Building started on 28 August 1990 and the five houses, named Larke cottages were completed in nine months, in budget. The first of the new tenants moved in on 1 June 1991, the houses being let on assured tenancies.

As president of The Rural Housing Trust, an organisation which promotes the cause of providing



Highness the Princess Royal officially opened both Larke Cottages and the new village hall on 12 November 1991.

On the day HRH The Princess Royal arrived by helicopter; it landed in the field behind the village hall where she was greeted by, and mingled with, a large enthusiastic crowd.

Members of the official party were taken to Larke Cottages and after presentation to the official guests, the princess visited two of the cottages, meeting with the tenants and the architect. At 10am the party arrived back at the village hall and met the management committee, those involved with the building scheme and others from the local community, before HRH signed a commemorative document.



# Hilton Open Studios 2025

19th & 20th July 26th & 27th July

Open from 10am to 5pm Free entry

## **Lynn Norton**

Manor Farm, The Green, Hilton

Lynn's work is influenced by the natural world. Her landscapes are painted in acrylic and pastel, and she will also be showing her vibrant acrylic ink wildlife paintings, together with her sketchbooks and a selection of greetings cards.



### **Kieron Dunk**

Orchard House, The Green, Hilton

Kieron is a landscape painter but he will take on any subject that catches his eye. Working quickly in oils on board, his style and technic have developed to capture the essence of a moment.

Manor Farm and Orchard House are situated next to each other on the north side of Hilton Green



This is an ideal opportunity to meet the artists and find out more about their work.

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



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Fen Drayton

Primary School 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Fen Drayton

War Memorial 3.40pm – 4.10pm

#### Route H11 - 2nd Thursday 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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## Paws for thought



## Summer pet care: How to keep your pets safe and happy in the sun

As the summer sun begins to shine (hopefully!), our pets - whether dogs, cats, or small furries - face a range of seasonal challenges. As a local vet, I often see an uptick in preventable conditions during warmer months, from heatstroke to flystrike. So here are some essential tips to help you safeguard your furry family members this summer.

#### Dogs: Beat the heat, safely

The most common summer issue I see in dogs is heat exhaustion and heatstroke. Dogs don't sweat like we do; they pant to cool off, and some breeds, such as like Bulldogs or Pugs, can struggle more than others.

#### Top tips:

- Walk early or late: Avoid midday heat. If the pavement is too hot for your hand, it's too hot for paws.
- Cooling mats and frozen treats: Invest in a cooling mat or make dog-friendly ice lollies using chicken broth or plain yogurt with blueberries.
- Never leave dogs in cars, even for a few minutes. It can be fatal, even with the window cracked.

I recommend is "snuffle paddling pools" - fill a shallow children's pool with water-safe toys and treats for enrichment and cooling in one!

## Cats: Sun worshippers with hidden dangers

Cats often bask in the sun, but white or light-coloured cats are at risk of sunburn, especially on their ears and noses, which can lead to skin cancer.

#### Tips for cat care:

- Apply pet-safe sun cream to exposed areas (never use human sun cream—it can be toxic).
- Encourage shaded naps by placing cool mats or damp towels in shaded areas or indoors.

 Monitor hydration: Add extra water bowls around the house and garden or try a cat fountain to encourage drinking.

For indoor cats, freeze a small bottle of water, wrap it in a tea towel, and place it in their bed—many cats love to curl up beside it during peak heat.

## Small furries: Rabbits, guinea pigs & hamsters

Rabbits and guinea pigs, in particular, are vulnerable to heatstroke and flystrike. Flystrike occurs when flies lay eggs on soiled fur, which hatch into maggots - this is an emergency that can be fatal within hours.

#### Vital summer care:

- Keep hutches in the shade, ideally inside during very hot spells.
- Check your pets' rears twice daily for cleanliness. A dirty bottom is a magnet for flies.
- Use fly screens or pet-safe repellents around hutches.
- Provide ceramic tiles or frozen water bottles for them to lie against and cool off.

Novel idea? Try herb ice cubes: freeze mint, parsley, or basil in water cubes - great enrichment and hydration rolled into one.

#### **General tips**

- Parasite prevention is crucial: fleas, ticks, and worms thrive in summer. Speak to your vet about a tailored prevention plan.
- Groom regularly: Excess fur can trap heat. For long-haired breeds, consider a summer trim.
- Always provide ample shade and fresh water.

Summer can be a wonderful time for pets and owners alike, but awareness and a few clever tricks can make the difference between fun and a veterinary emergency. Enjoy the sunshine - and keep it safe!

Dr Hayley Baker MA VetMB GPCert(endo) MRCVS, Vet for Pets





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# Coffee, Cake & Church

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

Sunday 27 July Sunday 24 Aug Sunday 28 Sept

and every 4th Sunday, (excluding Dec)

#### 11.15am HII TON VILLAGE HALL

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

For more information, call Revd David Busk on 436400 or Rachel Wood on 830866

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# PARTY FOR RON'S **BIG BIRTHDAY!**

Ron Jacob, a village treasure, will be 80 in July. And we're going to mark his birthday with a big party to which you're invited!

Please join Ron and his friends in a big village celebration of his life dedicated to serving Fenstanton.

Licenced bar, food by Little Piggy, musical entertainment and lots of memories of the village through Ron's life.

Saturday 19 July 2025 on the Football Field, Fenstanton, 2pm to 6pm.

Open to all, bring your family, tell your friends help Ron enjoy his big birthday.

Parking available at the Field. No dogs allowed on the Football Field.



2nd Prize - £150 Pencil Drawing Portrait by Local Artist 3rd Prize - £90 Sports Therapist Treatment

Plus....Football Fun Factory Voucher, Cambridge Rugby Family Pass, Rumble Live Voucher, Comedy night tickets and many more......

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#### Afoot in the Garden

## **Highs of summer**

Gardening is about creating an outdoor space that is not only beautiful to look at but also a joy to spend time in. A good garden should provide spaces for parties, afternoon tea with friends, peace and play. It should also have sunny areas and cool shade for that inevitable summer heatwave. 'Grass under your toes, scent up your nose.'

When you're visiting gardens in the summer look for ideas you can introduce into your own garden. Arbours create sheltered, shady corners and sunny areas so you can enjoy the warmth of the morning and evening sun. They don't have to be expensive; you can make an arbour out of four sections of trellis and create a sunny seating area simply with a chair or bench.

#### Summer garden care

July and August are really a time to love the garden. The grass grows slowly and only occasionally needs mowing while many a summer flowering plant flowers for a long time.

Water and feed pots and tubs with liquid feed regularly. Water before you feed, ideally an hour or so before. This will ensure your pots are fully moist and keep moist for longer – it's a good tip if you're away for a couple of days. For a holiday, move pots, tubs and baskets to a shady area of the garden and place them in saucers or trays to add a reservoir. Before you leave, water and then feed, as above, dead head and trim. You could set up a simple irrigation system quite easily. I especially like the Diivoo timer available on Amazon. Family and friends can also be very helpful.

Prune early summer flowering shrubs like philadelphus and choisya. Summer prune roses and fruit trees (summer is the best time to prune plum trees). Trim perennials that have finished flowering and reduce fruiting side shoots of grape vines to half trusses for quality fruit.



# Top Typs

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



raypuddefoot@gmail.com



Saturday 5th July

Bring your tables and chairs and enjoy an afternoon of live music from the Simply Wed band and the Somersham Town 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.

1pm to 7pm • F&H Primary School Playing Field
Sponsored by your Parish Council



# Fun for all the family

Games Stalls Tombola Traditional Races Tug of War Penalty Shoot Out Trampolines Bouncy Castle Archery. And, don't forget to enter your dog into the Dog Show.

Why not enter the **Produce competitions** including cakes, jams, liqueurs and more.

A day out for the whole family • Free entry Making Fenstanton an even better place to live

#### News from the Pews



#### St Mary's Fen Drayton St Peter and St Paul

Fenstanton

We look forward to welcoming you in both churches!



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

Do contact us if you would like the Zoom links for Morning Prayer.

#### July 2025 - Service And Events

Thursday 17 Friday 18	8.30am on Zoom 6-8.30pm	Morning Prayer  Fen Youth Group Fenstanton Church
Friday 18	6-8.30pm	Fen Youth Group, Fenstanton Church Centre – last meet-up for the summer.
Sunday 20	10.30am Fenstanton 6pm Fenstanton	Holy Communion <i>with Baptism</i> Sung Evensong
Thursday 24	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Sunday 27	9.15am Fen Drayton 10.30am Fenstanton	Morning Praise, St. Mary's Family Communion <i>with Baptism</i>
Thursday 31	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer

Sunday 3	10.30am Fenstanton	Holy Communion
Thursday 7	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Sunday 10	10.30am Fen Drayton	St. Mary Patronal Festival, St. Mary's (No service at the parish church, Fenstanton)
Thursday 14	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Sunday 17	10.30am Fenstanton	Holy Communion

Thursday 21	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Sunday 24	9.15am Fen Drayton 10.30am Fenstanton	Morning Praise, St. Mary's Family Communion
Thursday 28	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Sunday 31	10.30am Fenstanton	Holy Communion

# Lift up your eyes on high: Who created all these? He leads forth the starry host by number, he calls each one by name.

Summer is often referred to as the 'growing season', and it is also the time when the children are off school, the weather is (hopefully) conducive to being outdoors and the nights are lighter. The picture on the previous page captures St. Peter and St. Pauls on a summer evening, with the sun setting behind, and the full fields ready for harvest in the forefront. Mango (the dog) and I are enjoying summer evening walks, out in the fields and by the river, rejoicing in this season of warmth, light and rest and feeling the presence of God in nature. As we watch the fields bulge with the harvest that is to come, why not pop Sunday 12 October in your diary. We have harvest festival services in both of our churches on this day, and it is an opporunity to show God our gratitude for the food we eat and the land that is entrusted to us. There will be a collection for our local foodbank during both of these services too.

By the time this edition of 'The Journal' is laid on your coffee table, I will (God willing) have been ordained priest at Ely Cathedral and will have presided over my first Holy Communion in the benefice. I continue my training with you for the next couple of years, so you will continue to see me in your churches and community as I get to grips with what being a priest in the Church of England entails. I am thankful to everyone for making me feel so welcome here. I am looking forward to the year ahead; it is such a joy to be doing God's work in such a beautiful and friendly place. Do say hello if you spot me around.

#### **Rev Claire - Curate**

Fen Youth has now broken up for the summer, but what a year it has been! There's been chocolate fondue eating, planting, making birdboxes, village walks, the young people leading worship and writing songs together, junk modelling, Play Doh, Hama beads and lots and lots of other crafts! We mostly meet once a month, and we always enjoy a meal together before getting stuck into games, crafts and activities. No matter how busy we are, or how much fun we're having, we always share a Bible story and pray together too. Our first session back is on Friday 19 September and is for school years 6 and above. If you have a young person(s) who might be interested, drop us a line and we will make sure you are made to feel very welcome (ikhuck@virginmedia.com).



Accessibility in our churches: The Parish Church (Fenstanton) has a ramp which can be deployed upon request. There is a toilet, with wheelchair access. St Mary's (Fen Drayton) has a small threshold that may be possible to navigate with a wheelchair. There are no toilet facilities. Although we have fixed pews in both churches there are plenty of spaces available for wheelchairs, prams and buggies.

Rector: Rev Rosie Tallowin: 01480 467393 email: vicar@fenchurches.org.uk Assistant Curate: Rev Claire Brockelsby: 07769 106562 email: curate@fenchurches.org.uk Churchwardens: Philip Blunt 07855 481697 and Ian Hucklesby 01480 465211

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#### Hilton Parish Church Fabric Fund

Please consider donating your loose/ unwanted change to the upkeep of the fabric of Hilton Parish Church.

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# Hilton Methodist Church



As I prepare to move on from being the Minister for Hilton Methodist Church, I want to say a heartfelt thank you.

I came to the St Neots and Huntingdon Methodist Circuit during Covid – strange times to arrive, yet from the beginning in Hilton I found a warmth and resilience here that has stayed with me.

In little pieces I have offered The Journal over the years, I've tried to offer words of encouragement - reminders that God is not confined to church buildings, but present in everyday life: in kindness shared, burdens carried, and beauty noticed.

I've been proud to serve as minister at Hilton Methodist Church, which has long been a small but faithful part of village life. Members work closely with the parish church and many others in the community, and I want to commend all both churches do – quietly and consistently – to serve, support and bring people together.

Much has changed in recent years. Life is busier, more pressured, and in recently times more uncertain then we could have ever anticipated – even during Covid. But the needs remain the same: connection, purpose, hope, love.

The churches have something deep to offer in this – not just in worship, but in the spaces they hold, the welcome they give, and the values they live by.



So I leave with gratitude, and with hope: that new voices will rise, new ways be found to explore faith in new ways relevant to all, and that together this village will continue to grow in grace and compassion.

God bless you all – and thank you for letting me be part of your story.

Revd. Sue moves to Ringwood in Hampshire at the end of July.



Revd.Sue Baker-Maher

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

#### Services in July

6 July	10:00am	Local Arrangement
13 July	11:15am	United Service at the Methodist Church
20 July	10:00am	Dr. B. Spencer
27 July	10:00am	Rev. B. Garwood
27 July	5:00pm	Songs of Praise in the Feast Week Marquee

#### **Services in August**

3 August	10:00am	Dr. B. Spencer
10 August	10:00am	Local Arrangement
17 August	10:00am	Rev. H. Walker
24 August	10:00am	Mr. W. Thomas
31 August	10:00am	Mr. J. Bridge

Minister: Rev Sue Baker-Maher email: sue.bakermaher@methodist.org.uk

#### News from the Pews

#### **Hilton Parish Church**

#### Dear Friends,

Recently a saying of Richard Rohr, a Franciscan priest and writer, has stuck in my mind: 'God comes to us disguised as our life.' If I start asking where or who or what is God, I am quite likely to end up in a cloud of mental vapour with no grounding in reality.'

But if I take time to look steadily at what my life is, I might just begin to see something that takes me beyond what I think I already know. So, for example, I sit down to eat a meal. My food has come to my table by the work of many hands, including some very far away, possibly some struggling or oppressed. And it is the product of the natural world, on which we all depend.

If I pause even for a moment to reflect, my meal already takes me out into the world. My daily bread – if I have remembered this day to pray that I might be given it, or if I haven't, here it is, and I could at least remember to give thanks for it. Or I suddenly find myself thinking of someone. Might it perhaps be a good idea to give him or her a call?

They are endless, aren't they, the opportunities to make something a little bit more out of the infinite multitude of happenings we call everyday life? And moment by tiny moment, a very quiet sense can begin to emerge that all of this matters, and it can shine, even the hard bits can shine, with an unexpected light. God is beginning to come to me disguised as my life.

With love,

David

Revd David Busk (01480 436400)

#### Services in July

Sunday 6 July 8:00am Holy Communion

Sunday 13 July 11:15am United Service at the Methodist Church

Sunday 20 July 8:00am Holy Communion

Sunday 27 July 11:15am Coffee Cake and Church in the Village Hall Sunday 27 July 5:00pm Songs of Praise in the Feast Week Marquee

#### **Services in August**

Friday 1 August 3:00pm Friday Feast (Messy Church)

Sunday 3 August 8:00am Holy Communion Sunday 10 August 11:15am Holy Communion Sunday 17 August 8:00am Holy Communion

Sunday 24 August 11:15am Coffee, Cake and Church in the Village Hall

Sunday 31 August 8:00am Holy Communion

Weekly Online Services (Via Zoom)

Please contact Revd David Busk (01480 436400) or Rachel Wood (830866)



# Fenstanton United Reformed Church

Chequer Street, Fenstanton

Sunday morning services are at 09.30. All are welcome.

#### 2025 Services

#### July

06 Revd Christine Davies

13 Revd Christine Davies - Holy Communion

20 Revd Christine Davies27 Flders led Service

#### **August**

03 Revd Christine Davies

10 Alison Jiggins - Holy Communion

17 Revd Christine Davies
24 Elders led Service
31 Revd Christine Davies

#### Meditation - Led by the Free Church St. Ives

Tuesday 08 July 2.30 - 4pm - Led by John Williams Tuesday 12 August 2.30 - 4pm - Led by John Williams

**Geoff Hawkins** Fenstanton URC Secretary fenstantonurc@stivesfreechurch.org

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www.sacredheart-stives.org Mass Times: Saturday 17.00, Sunday 09.00 and 11.00

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# A view from the Old Manse

At the end of May, I was reminded of our human vulnerability. I went to a funeral in Suffolk, of a man that I had known for over 20 years. We had met through our love of classic cars, and he was a delight to know, and pass the time with; a family man who gave freely of his time, and advice, to others, wanted or not!

What struck me at his funeral was the sheer number of people wanting to say their last goodbyes. The church was packed, and parking attendants were needed to manage the large number of cars. The man was loved by all, and had made a positive impact on people's lives. They came from all walks of life, a testament to a man living a good life. Contrast this with a couple of funerals that I had been to where there were few to mourn their passing. Were the deceased's lives not full? Were they ungenerous with their time, and humanity? Should we measure a person's life by the number of mourners? If we touch but one life

in this world, give joy to just one person, that is better than to not make a positive impact at all. The man that I knew didn't live his life for the glory, for the accolades of others, he did it probably without realising the joy that he brought to others, and because he was kind in spirit. How many people do we encounter who do good works, but for the glory, and their own self-satisfaction, and not selflessly. Good works alone do not make a good life.

We all need to examine our lives from time to time; are we living a good life, and making the most of it, or are we so wrapped up in ourselves that we cannot see the harm we are doing to others? From the English translation of the final verse of Robert Burns' poem The Louse,

'Oh, would some Power the gift give us To see ourselves as others see us! It would from many a blunder free us And foolish notion: What airs in dress and gait would leave us,

What airs in dress and gait would leave us And even devotion! ...'

Geoff Hawkins Fenstanton URC Secretary fenstantonurc@stivesfreechurch.org







#### Village meeting 2025

At the annual village meeting on 19 May, Fen Drayton PC presented a summary of its activities over the past year. They covered support from the Town Lands charity to help residents and the school, new projects, flood management, housing and roads, including the request for a 20mph limit. The full presentation is on the PC website: www.fendrayton.org.

After over eight years of fund raising from residents, the football club, local businesses, the parish council and the National Lottery and with support from District Councillor Sue Ellington, the PC was successful in obtaining a grant from the Thalia WB Community Fund, delivered by SCDC, to replace the 60-year-old dilapidated pavilion. Work is expected to start in a month or so with a target completion date of end September.

#### Community warden scheme update

The community warden scheme covering Fen Drayton is the Cambridge North West Villages scheme, which now encompasses Longstanton as well as Fenstanton and Lolworth. Information about the scheme, and contact details, can be found on the village noticeboards, in the village hall and on the PC website.

This is an excellent scheme for those needing assistance to enable them to remain living in their community. Our warden is Nanci DelaMare-Lyon, who can be contacted on 07016 007712 or via email at wardens@ageukcap.org.

#### Wanted: 5 to 18 year olds ...

To let us know your opinions about the sports triangle on the village hall field (see photo below).

The PC plans to apply for a grant which, if successful, would provide funds to move the triangle to a more accessible location, further from the pump track.

To find the best site for it, we would like to hear what our young village residents think. We would do this by having a meeting on the village hall field itself.

If you would like to be involved, please email: fendrayton.clerk@gmail.com, giving your name and age and we will get back in touch with you.



#### Contact:

email: fendrayton.clerk@gmail.com website: www.fendrayton.org

post: PO Box 1102, Fen Drayton, Cambridge CB244WZ



#### Districe councillor, Sue Ellington

I thought it would be useful to provide the latest information about a subject which affects Fen Drayton - water! This is mainly about the proposed programme to address water scarcity, particularly with the demand for increased housing.

Water Efficiency Programme Phase 1 targets social homes, public buildings and schools with retrofit water efficiency measures. Funding has been provided to implement it. A Programme Implementation Manager has set up a board that meets every six weeks for monitoring and assurance of the programme. SCDC is appointing a contractor to supply and fit flow moderator retrofit devices. It has signed a data sharing agreement with Cambridge Water to develop a plan to engage with tenants and publicise the programme.

Water Efficiency Programme Phase 2 explores water reuse and addresses leaks with measures such as LeakBots, efficiency audits and working with local efficiency campaigns.

Water credits To explore the operation of a credits system to secure funding to offset water impacts of development. This allows developers to offset new developments through the purchase of credits (underpinned by savings achieved through retrofitting).

Nature-based solutions To explore how land management measures can be used to improve aquifer recharge.

Agricultural programme Trialling supply/demand balance assessments for Agricultural Water Resource Management Plans (AWRMPs), and Local Resource Options (LROs) in the Cambridge catchment area, to increase water supply and efficiency. Includes exploring feasibility for using farm water storage to assist with public water supply.

Water reuse Tracking and engaging with government actions regarding legislative changes as part of the review of the planning framework to enable water companies to supply communal-scale water reuse systems to reduce demands on the public water supply.

It is reassuring to know that plans are being implemented to reduce water waste. I hope we will soon see a similar positive programme to deal with the inevitable increase in waste water and reduce the risk of flooding.

As always, if I can help, phone me on 07774146331 or email cllr.ellington@scambs.gov.uk

Cllr Sue Ellington, Swavesey ward.

#### The next Community Cafe is 12 July



#### Who's lived here?

This is the second of a short series of famous Fenstanton residents. With all the new housing erected in the village over the past few years it is more than likely that many of the people new to the village will not have heard of these people..

#### Thomas Coote D.L. J.P.

By John Deeks

Thomas Coote who lived in Oaklands House (sometimes known as The Oaklands) was a nonconformist Christian and a member of the Liberal party. He was the dominant figure in Fenstanton in the middle to later years of the nineteenth century.

Thomas Coote's father John Coote was a corn merchant based in Wisbech Huntingdonshire. John moved his family from Wisbech to St Ives and then to Fenstanton both at dates unknown. John Coote was a brewer based in Chequer Street. In 1850 he had the Fenstanton Brewery built on the High Street. Thomas Coote was born on the 10th March 1817 in Fenstanton. Thomas was taken to London to be baptised, a journey that took four days by trade wagon. This was a way to avoid having to register him as a member of the Church of England.

John's wife died whilst his son Thomas was young and Thomas was not well treated by his stepmother. In 1834 at the age of 17 years, Thomas left home and set up in business for himself. One day whilst walking from Fenstanton to St Ives Thomas he was offered a lift by a local farmer. As they journeyed on they got to talking about the price of oats. Thomas offered to buy the farmers load which he did. On arriving in St Ives, Thomas sold the load at a good profit and so started his business life. He soon prospered.

He had been in business for three years when he met and married Ann Green. The wedding took place on 10th March 1837, Thomas being 20 years and the bride seventeen years old. Together they produced fifteen children and their marriage lasted sixty-six years. Their first home together was a house next to the gasworks on the London Road,



(the gasworks site is now a dilapidated car dealership building).

Thomas Coote purchased Oaklands House from Captain Daintree, three years after his marriage to Ann Green. Here they raised their fifteen children. As his fortune increased so did the staff that were employed to help with the house and many children. This help included a number of pages, cooks, ladies maid, housemaids, kitchen maids and gardeners.

The greater part of Thomas's business life was attending various markets and this had to be done on horseback. During the barley malting season from September to November he went to Birmingham once a week. At that time railways were few and far between so Thomas had to ride his horse to the nearest railway station at Thrapston which was twenty six miles from Fenstanton. He would ride for three hours to Thrapston his money hidden in the heel of his boot. In Thrapston he would see to his horse, have breakfast and then catch the train to Birmingham.

Having completed his business he would make the journey home arriving around 8.30 pm. He did this once a week for three years. When the railways were extended Room for plenty more paws! Bar Hill cats

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#### Who's lived here?



Oaklands House

closer to home his travels became easier. He later added coal sales and distribution to his business but by 1856 he had given up the corn trade and concentrated on coal.

Although a Nonconformist, Thomas Coote was, by virtue of the property that he owned, the Lay Rector of the parish church and was always on good terms with the Vicar. The only duty connected with his office consisted of insuring the chancel and seeing that it was kept in proper repair. He succeeded in getting the Vicar to deal with the question of the village school.

There were two schools in the village at that time, the church school, which had the building but few children and the Nonconformist school, which had the majority of the children but a very poor building. The Vicar and Thomas Coote came to an understanding and the two schools amalgamated, the stipulation being that the schoolmaster must be a churchman but there was to be no sectarian teaching.

Thomas was a great benefactor to the village and some of the items he gave to the village

included; 1856 he built the library institute, 1872 he paid forty-four percent of the cost of enlarging Fenstanton School (today the Church Centre), in 1880 he rebuilt the Literary Institute and in 1887 he funded the school gymnasium (now the building next to the Church Centre).

In 1874 Thomas Coote instigated the building of a Congregational chapel in Chequer Street (now the United Reformed Church). He gave the land and paid much of the cost to build the chapel which was completed in 1875. In the mid nineteenth century the parish church churchyard was considered to be full, so in 1852 a burial board was formed and in 1874 they accepted from Thomas Coote the gift of half an acre of land for a cemetery.

On their Diamond wedding in 1897 Thomas and his wife established a trust to fund the education of certain young people who showed great promise. He gave encouragement and financial assistance to his cousin Octavia Hill the founder of the National Trust. A local school teachers', Miss Munns, showed an aptitude for languages.

Thomas paid for her to receive training in London and she went on to teach English to the daughter of the Russian Grand Duke.

Thomas Coote had been advised for his health to spend the winter months in Bournemouth, then a small coastal village. Here in 1865 he built himself a large and magnificent house on the East Cliff.

In 1874 Thomas Coote filled the office of High Sheriff for Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire. In 1884 he was the Liberal candidate for a Cambridgeshire by-election. He lost the election and although he was offered several safe seats he declined to stand for parliament.

Through careful management and astute dealings, Thomas Coote acquired five local farms with extensive acreage. In addition he owned a seven acre Osier (a species of willow used for basket making) plantation and a large number of fields, buildings and houses in and around Fenstanton, Hilton and Fen Drayton. At the time of his death Thomas Coote owned in excess of one thousand acres

of land making him the largest land owner since Lancelot Brown's days in the eighteenth century.

On the 31st of March 1906 when he was 89 years old, Thomas Coote died at his home in Oaklands House. His wife Ann had died on 2nd July 1903. The Oaklands House was sold by auction in July 1906.

On the 16th June 1906, Thomas Coote's will was proved and the value of the estate amounted to £523,000, or £70,000,000 in today's money.

Thomas Coote and his wife Ann are buried in a brick vault especially built for the Coote family in an enclosed part of the cemetery. The Coote Headstone is a large cross on a stepped base within a large kerbstone: In loving memory of ANNE BROWNING COOTE of Oaklands born June 9th 1819 died July 2nd 1903

Also of THOMAS COOTE her much loved husband born March 10th 1817 died March 28th 1906.





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Tuesday 8 July 2pm



Tuesday 12 August 2pm

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# Hilton Parish Council

Report from the Meeting of the Council dated Monday 2 June

#### Land West of Wychwood (25/00781/REM)

Hilton Parish Council considered the Reserved Matters Application relating to the approval of appearance, layout, landscape and scale in respect of the construction of 16 Dwellings. It was resolved that this deeply unpopular application should be recommended for refusal. In view of the comments made by the Hemingfords, this site is not in accordance with the criteria set out for rural exception housing. Due to the number of objections from statutory consultees, including the Lead Local Flood Authority, Police, Fire Service and Archaeology which seem to render this application untenable, the Council recommends that this unsustainable application is refused. The appearance and layout of the proposed estate is too uniform and out of keeping with the design and character of the village. There is insufficient parking incorporated into the design and consideration should be given to the fact that on road parking on Church End is not possible. Hilton Parish Council would like clarification regarding the ongoing maintenance responsibilities for the street lighting, roads and SUDs.

#### **Street Lighting**

The Council has decided to convert the remaining eight streetlights to LED.

#### Vacancy - Join Hilton Parish Council -Clerk or Deputy Clerk

#### An excellent opportunity for a committed and organised local resident

Hilton Parish Council is seeking an enthusiastic and capable Hilton parishioner to join our team in the role of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, or alternatively as a Deputy Clerk to support the Clerk in their duties.

#### We're looking for someone who is:

- A strong team player with good interpersonal skills
- Reliable, well-organised, and self-motivated
- Confident using computers and digital systems
- Comfortable with numbers and has solid written and verbal communication skills

Experience in local government or administration is a plus, but not essential. Full training and

support will be provided as needed.

#### **Key Responsibilities:**

- Advising the Council on legal procedures and ensuring compliance with all statutory requirements
- Organising and attending all Council meetings, preparing agendas and minutes
- Managing the Council's financial records and processes
- Monitoring the implementation of Council policies
- Coordinating and responding to planning applications
- Carrying out general administrative duties for the Council

A full job description is available on our website: www.hiltonparishcouncil.com

#### **Role Details:**

- Home-based, part-time position (12 hours/ week)
- Evening attendance required for Parish Council meetings, plus availability during standard office hours for correspondence
- A six-month probationary period applies
- Salary will be based on the NJC pay scale and reflect your experience and qualifications
- Clerk SCP 24-28 (£17.79-£19.66 ph)
- Deputy Clerk SCP 18-23 (£15.84-£17.29 ph)

A full Job Description and required key competencies, along with an application form, are available from Nicola Webster, Clerk. Questions concerning the role should be addressed by email in the first instance to Nicola (clerk@hiltonparishcouncil.com).

Applications forms demonstrating how the applicant meets the key competencies and job description should be sent by email to: clerk@hiltonparishcouncil.com by close of office hours on Friday 11th July 2025.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 7th July 2025 in Hilton Village Hall. 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.

### Fenstanton Parish Council

Making Fenstanton an even better place to live

#### Meet your new Parish Councillor – Hayley Howatt

Having lived in Fenstanton for the last 17+ years, I feel like part of the furniture! Born and raised in Cambridgeshire, educated at St. Peters Comprehensive and Huntingdon College, I then worked for three different local Insurance companies over the next 20 years. Then, due to illness, I spent much of my time training my dogs and being involved in dog related activities, like Agility.

I also attended courses and an exam to become a Kennel Club Agility Judge.

Currently I run my own local Dog Walking business, covering Fenstanton & Hilton, and also work part-time as a School Contract Taxi driver.

In my years here in Fenstanton, I've seen our community change, not always for the better! But that welcoming community spirit, that made me feel at home when I moved here, has never faltered. Hence, maintaining those standards and improving our village for the residents within are very important to me.



#### **Parish Councillor Saturday Surgeries continue!**

Saturday surgeries continue to be held at The Hub, 6 High Street, Fenstanton, from 10:00am to 12:00pm. We encourage all Parishioners to take advantage of this opportunity to meet with their Councillors and discuss any local issues or concerns.

28.06.2025	Mike Collison	<b>Hayley Howatt</b>
26.07.2025	Tina Yates	Peter Hayes
27.09.2025	Martin Hewitt	Anne Mustill
25.10.2025	ТВС	Simon King
29.11.2025	Tina Yates	<b>Martin Hewitt</b>

\*Please note that there may be changes to the Councillor/s scheduled.

#### **Next Parish Council meetings**

Parish Council meetings occur on the second Thursday of each month, except in August and December unless there is pressing business to discuss.

Your Parish Council meets next on Thursday 10 July at 7.00pm in the Church Centre.



# JOIN YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Fancy making a splash of positivity in your community?

Your Parish Council is inviting you to step up and make a difference by becoming a Parish Councillor!

We currently have two vacancies for co-option and we're looking for passionate, community-minded individuals to fill them.

Curious about what's involved?

If you've got questions or just want to learn more, get in touch we're happy to chat and share all the details!

Clerk@fenstantonparishcouncil.org.uk
01480 465300
or pop into the office
The Hub, 6 High Street Fenstanton.







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#### Fenstanton Parish Council

Making Fenstanton an even better place to live

# Connections Bus Project – A new venue for Fenstanton Youth

Your Parish Council is pleased to announce that the **Connections Bus Project** will soon be coming to Fenstanton on a regular basis, offering a safe and engaging space for the young people of our village.

We're delighted to be working in partnership with Fenstanton Football Club, who have kindly agreed to host the bus at the football ground. We are currently awaiting permission to carry out a small amount of tree trimming at the entrance to ensure the double-decker bus can safely access the site.

This is an exciting opportunity to provide a dedicated venue for local youth to socialise, participate in activities, and access support in a safe and welcoming environment. We'll share more details soon, including dates and times—so keep an eye out!



#### Information from ;- https://www.connectionsbusproject.org.uk/

Our bespoke double-decker youth buses are a common site around Cambridgeshire communities providing a self-sufficient youth club venue for communities without suitable buildings.

The new youth buses, which have recently been converted, aim to provide a safe and welcoming space for young people to gather, access support, and participate in various activities.

#### They include:

- · Comfortable seating areas
- Dedicated spaces for crafts, tabletop games and puzzles
- Up-to-date games consoles and PCs with internet access
- Facilities for playing music and phone charging point
- A snack bar
- Outdoor sports equipment
- An undercover outdoor area

All sessions are staffed by at least three of our youth workers who are there to ensure it is a safe environment, encourage involvement in positive activities and provide support and advice where needed.

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#### Navigating Parental Disputes: 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 above, 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 or email lisa.leader@leedsday.co.uk



Lisa Leader - Senior Associate Solicitor

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#### Life on a Plate

#### **Crispy/Crunchy Apple Crumble**

#### Ingredients for the crispy/crunchy topping:

5oz./140g. Self-raising flour

1oz./25g. Rolled oats

2-3oz./55 - 85g. Caster sugar (according to your taste)

4oz./115g. Margarine/butter

#### For the filling:

1lb. Baking apples

1lb. Rhubarb

A combination of the two above works well or add blue berries, raspberries (or fruit of your choice) to the apples.

#### Fruit filling method:

Cook with sugar to your taste until just tender.

#### Crumble method:

- 1. Weigh all ingredients into your mixing bowl.
- 2. Combine ingredients to a crumbly texture.
- 3. Spread the mixture onto a baking tray.
- 4. Cook at 160 degrees in a fan oven 180C, until golden brown (about 20 minutes).
- 5. Leave to go cold.
- 6. The topping may go into big chunks in the oven this is fine.
- 7. Place the topping in a plastic bag and break it up with a rolling pin.
- 8. Fill your serving dish with the fruit and top with the crumble.

**N.B.** The big advantage to preparing the crumble topping in this way is that it totally prevents the crumble having a soggy middle, which often happens due to the excessive moisture in the fruit.

Also it means you can prepare the crumble in advance and keep it in the fridge, in an air tight container for a couple of days until required.

# 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 08 August. Thank you for your understanding.



#### **Summer Vegetable Soup**

#### Ingredients:

- 1 Butternut squash
- 1 Large or two small parsnips
- 6 Sticks of celery
- 3 Carrots
- 1 Leek

Sprinkle of mixed herbs

Salt to enhance the flavour

Small amount of sunflower cooking oil

#### Method:

- 1. Peel then chop all vegetables.
- 2. Sauté the leek, followed by all other vegetables.
- 3. Add 1 pint of water (adjust to your liking).
- Simmer until all the vegetables are tender.
- 5. Blend with a food blender.
- 6. Skim off any excess oil on the surface of the soup.
- 7. Serve with fresh bread.

**N.B.** A tip when preparing celery for the above recipe is to carefully almost cut through the stick of celery and draw down the length of the stick to remove the celery 'strings', which are much better removed before cooking.

# 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
Fenstanton Ash's Store (NISA) on the High Street
Fenstanton Church Centre on School Lane
Fenstanton Zaza barbers on Headlands
Hilton Prince of Wales Pub on Potton Road
Hilton Cricket Pavilion

moons.grumbles.admires
pouting.cabinet.washroom
reclusive.creeps.deleting
thing.pylon.relatives
mindset.skip.pulps
clerk.farmland.unroll



#### **Fen Drayton Primary School**

After what's been a eventful year for us, we are one step closer to moving back into the main building. We'll be receiving the keys back in July, and the mobile classrooms that have accommodated us this year, will be removed at the beginning of August.

Ducklings (Reception) and Swallows (Years 1 & 2) recently visited Shepreth Wildlife Park as part of their learning on animals and minibeasts. The children had a fantastic time exploring the park and discovering a wide range of animals – though there was a touch of disappointment when the tiger decided to stay hidden in his enclosure!



Year 4 pupils took part in their Level 1 Cycling Proficiency session and did brilliantly. They're already looking forward to tackling Level 2 in the autumn term.



We were thrilled when Olivia in Year 2 won a competition with Little Tiger Books, securing

us a visit from children's author Sufiya Ahmed, known for her Time Traveller series. Sufiya spoke to pupils in Years 2 to 6 about her journey to becoming an author, and the children loved listening to excerpts from her books before having a go at writing their own time-travel adventures.



In just a few weeks, we'll be saying a fond farewell to our wonderful Year 6s. A big thank you to our amazing PTA for gifting them their leavers' hoodies – they look fantastic!

We are looking forward to our fresh start in the new building. Keep an eye out in September for an invite to come and take a look at our new and improved building. We're also pleased to be launching a new wraparound care provision from September, designed to support our working families with extended childcare options.

We have spaces in most year groups so please go to Fen Drayton Primary School - Admissions to find out how to apply for a place.

Nina McQueen Headteacher

Email: office@fendrayton.cambs.sch.uk

Phone: 01954273346

Website: www.fendraytonprimary.co.uk
To donate to our fire appeal, please go to:

https://gofund.me/4e6cccab

# News from Fenstanton and Hilton Primary and Preschool

Happy Summertime from everyone at Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School!! We have been having a very busy but productive time in school. It was a pleasure to be included in Fenstanton's 'VE Day 80' celebrations on 8 May. Our classes made visits to the United Reformed Church and enjoyed seeing artefacts, trying on clothes, and, for our older children, listening to the talks from John Deeks. It was also enjoyable to visit the 'Street Party' later in the day and to see some of our children and families enjoying the events.

Our PTA has been as busy as ever. A real highlight was the Colour Run at the end of May. We have included some pictures from that event. This year's Colour Run included the chance for adults to enjoy the course and it was a pleasure to see so many happy children, parents and family members enjoying the evening. We are always thrilled that the PTA events are so enriching for our community whilst raising amazing sums of money for the school at the same time. Our PTA will be involved in supporting The Big Village Fun Day on 5 July. We look forward to seeing lots of you on the school field for that event!

We have continued to provide extracurricular activities and curriculum-linked trips for our children.
All of our classes
enjoyed visits from
Cambridgeshire
Police; Reception
children visited Shepreth Wildlife Park; Year



1 and 2 children enjoyed a day out at Wicken Fen; and our Year 6 children will be off for their PGL adventure at Caythorpe Court in early July. After that, these children will present their end of year production of Let Loose! as they celebrate their final days at primary school.

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







## What you're Missing

#### **Fenstanton Friendship Club**

Here we are halfway through 2025 and the club is enjoying many different activities. We were founded in 1949 by a dedicated group of villagers and the Club has gone on in different forms, evolving into our present group. We would love to welcome new members or visitors to enjoy the things that we do. Please come along, meet new friends and bring your ideas for meetings to the table. 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.

#### We look forward to seeing you.

**7 May** We had a lovely day on the "Ladybird" boat travelling up to Brampton, enjoying the locks and the scenery. Doubling back we were tied up in Godmanchester near the Chinese bridge, and with tables out in the park we had fish and chips delivered by Rumbles. It was a beautiful day, a little breezy but the sun was hot. A very nice trip, made great by the helpful crew.





**21 May** We had a wonderful talk and discussion about the effects of WW11 on

civilians, led by John Deeks. Civilians were not mentioned by the media during the VE celebrations so it was interesting to hear personal stories of how lives were affected. There were so many brave people and lives lost during the war. Lives were changed forever. Great talk John, thank you.



**4 June** Our "Bring and Buy" afternoon was a great success with all members contributing both with goods and help setting up and serving. We had a different afternoon but an enjoyable time and are able to donate £120.00 to "Operation Smile", a worthwhile charity.

#### Upcoming meetings

**2 July** Our annual strawberry tea, celebrating Summer and the delicious berry

**16 July** An afternoon of games and chat.

**30 July** Martin John will entertain us with his guitar and piano playing.

13 August A trip to Bletchley Park.

**27 August** An afternoon of music with Caroline Foster.

**10 September** We will be entertained by the "Merrymakers".

24 September TBA.

Any questions or problems please contact me. Marie Newns bubblenewns@gmail. com 01480 350119





If you have a car and are happy to help for an hour or so 10 times a year The Journal would love your help.

We need someone to join the team distributing packs of magazines to the amazing people who tramp the streets putting them through our letterboxes.

Currently this is for Fen Drayton and for Fenstanton.

Are you interested in joining us? Email circulation@thejournal.life or call Denise on 07876 446565

## What you're Missing

#### **Fenstanton Bowls Club**

We have had a fantastic start to the season in all our leagues and this year the weather has been very kind to us with no matches rained off!

Our open weekend was a great success and we have welcomed 12 new members to the club, who are already very active and have enjoyed playing social bowls on Sunday and Thursday mornings.

This year we are really pleased to have reintroduced two club competitions. We have two singles leagues being played during the season and will result in a play-off at our finals day in September and a one-day pairs competition will take place in June.

Our first friendly of the season gave us a win against Gt. Gransden and we were delighted that some new members took the plunge and enjoyed the match. Afterwards we hosted our guests with afternoon tea and cakes!

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! So, if you would like to join

us, please pop down on a Sunday morning



# **Hilton Art Club**

In May, the club welcomed well-known artist, Christine Lockwood, who specialises in beautiful, lively and colourful watercolour paintings. Chris brought along flowers for us to use as reference in our newly acquired concertina sketchbooks.

The resulting, elongated floral artwork was very impressive and the day was enjoyed enormously displaying some of the artwork produced on the day).

18 July 10.00-12.30pm In The Style Of ... Paint in the style of an artist you like

27 July - 2 Aug Feast Week - Art Show, Dates TBA. We will be exhibiting within the art show.

1 Aug 10:00 - 12.30pm Carriages Of Cambridge, Fen **Drayton** En plein air painting, meet outside carriage.

15 Aug 10:00 - 12.30pm In Cold Blood:- Reptiles. Bring your own reference material.



#### **Hilton Community Hub**

## Here's a typical scene on a Wednesday Hub.

Officially open from 10:30 but people begin to roll in at any time after 10:00 to find Jan and her team have everything ready, urn singing in the kitchen and mugs standing to attention beside the tea and coffee.

In the Britten room every table bears a plate full of chocolate biscuits, a quiz, various activities of the day; that fiendish jigsaw, colouring books (back to that childhood time we all loved) something crafty - look at this lovely photo of summer door wreaths simply made with strips of colourful material. The morning rolls along with plenty of chat about Hilton and the world in general, we always put it right you know, the quiet group in the corner are playing cards, the Scrabble group over there, the kitchen noises are getting louder.

One week, no quiz, just this challenge: survivors must choose the most important of 12 items to rescue from a plane crash.



Oh what controversial disagreements that caused, even when the official answers came. Top answer - a mirror!

Now Lunch is coming - quiche, salad and cakes today.

By 1pm we are drifting reluctantly home, looking forward to next Wednesday, more tempting surprises and those lovely friends.

Hilton, we are so fortunate to have our Community Hub.

#### Hilton Baby and Toddler Group

On Tuesday 20 May Hilton Baby and Toddler Group headed to Monach Farm to meet the animals for our summer trip. This was very kindly funded by the Parc 2006 funding mentioned in the previous edition of The Journal and enabled the group to pay for a Monach Memories session.

The children enjoyed meeting the lambs, goats and ponies as well as Geraldine the wooden milking goat! Fun was had on the tractors and playing with puzzles, and we







were all grateful that the sunshine made an appearance just as we arrived at the farm.

Hilton Baby and Toddler Group have sessions every Tuesday in term time at the Village Hall from 10am to 11.30am – we generally have a craft activity out, and snack and story time together and the rest of the session have a relaxed free play set up.

We would love to see you and your little one(s) and to keep the group running for Hilton and surrounding villages.

## What you're Missing

#### **Fen Drayton Lions**

Well, it's not often I've said this in all the years I've been managing, but I'm glad to see the back of the last season!

We never really got off to a good start, having to play a newly-formed club, Cambridgeshire Hunters, in our first game, who fielded a team consisting of half a dozen semi pros! We obviously gave it our best, but suffered a 9-0 loss – one of our biggest defeats. Deflated by that, we struggled to find the form that we showed in previous seasons and couldn't buy a win, it seemed. However, the lads battled hard and gave it their best, which is all I ever ask of them.

We did pick up a little bit towards the end, but not enough to have any kind of impact. Losing three or four key players really made it a struggle for us, but hopefully we can get off to a better start next season.

I would like to thank the football committee members for all their hard work and also my amazing family for everything they do for the club – you really are appreciated by all of us, but especially me.

Thank you, also, to the parish council for continuously trying to get grants for a new

pavilion. We hope we are now, finally, close to seeing a new one.

Lastly, a big thank you to everyone who



brought a 300 Club ticket to support the club and help towards the new pavilion. There are too many winners to list all the £5 and £10 draws, but below are the winners of the bigger prizes from the last draw in May.

Thanks again to everyone for all the support and let's hope next season is a better one.

£200 - no 231 Tim Egan (donated £50 back to the club)

£125 - no 21 Mike Orbell

£75 - no 99 Claire Dominy

£50 - no 89 Christine Wilderspin

Congratulations to all the winners!

Simon O'Neill Manager



#### **Hilton Women's Institute**



For our June meeting we invited Graham Short, a most gifted Micro-artist who engraves quotes on the minutest of items and we were treated to riveting and humorous accounts of his work, finer in detail by far than that of any surgeon.

It is such intensive work that to keep a steady hand he can only work from midnight to 5:00am to avoid any external vibrations of traffic, etc. and first having to medicate in order to slow his heart rate and Graham is one of only 5 such Micro artists in the world. He uses letters 5 microns high on nail heads a human hair is 10 microns - and he engraves on pinheads or needles. Can you imagine Winston Churchill's entire 'fight on the beaches 'speech on the top of a WW2 bullet?

Graham has also been the Royal Engraver for 35 years, providing such stationery as the invitations to Royal weddings, he once worked the Golden Temple of Amritsar on a gold pin and needed 9 months to complete the word 'impossible' on the side of a needle.

It was a truly riveting talk and we want him to come again to hear more about his commissions for famous customers!

Graham's amazing and fascinating work forcefully reminded us of the value of his precious sight and our own.

With our precious sight this year some of us have read The Salt Path, seen the film and watched bees gathering nectar. The members of the Craft club are always amazed at the exquisite work by, among others, Heather, Donna, Gill Walsh, so sadly not now with us after years of eye treatment - and let us not forget

Joan Wilding's amazing patchwork coverlet completed shortly before her 100th birthday

without the need for glasses! So we have the Summer Buffet, trips and visits to enjoy until our wonderful Journal returns with the September edition and

express a huge thank you to Malcolm and The Journal team for their immense editorial support.

A footnote: The WI is a huge supporter of youth initiative, one such being Joseph Holdaway who can clean your car if you like to avoid the chore. Just ring him on 07368 422 963.

As ever, we love new and present members.



Graham Short with WI members and a picture of the Lord's Prayer inscribed on the head of a pin.

#### **Hope Against Poverty Active Project**

The Hope Against Poverty Active Project is a new initiative focused on enhancing the well-being of seniors (60+) through physical activities, social engagement, and mental health support. The program aims to create a supportive community where seniors can stay active, build meaningful connections, and access essential resources to improve their quality of life. With fitness classes, wellness workshops, and social events, this project empowers older adults to lead healthier, more fulfilling lives.

Come join us every third Monday of the month completely free of charge 10am - 12pm at the Village Hall Grove End, Hilton, Huntingdon PE28 9PF

## 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**

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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	07876 343900
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 Speed Watch	07949 453767
Hilton Art Club	01480 830696
Hilton Baby and Toddler	
Group	07527 394945
Hilton British Legion	01480 831186
Hilton Community Garden	07488 351128
Hilton Flower Club	01480 830571
Hilton HGV Watch	07768 294878
Hilton Neighbourhood Watch	01480 831658
Hilton Rainbows and Brownies	07970 404569
Hilton Speed Watch	07540 811115

#### **Community Groups and Clubs**

 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
Fenstanton Parish Church
Fenstanton URC
Hilton Methodist Church
Hilton Parish Church
St Ives Roman Catholic Church
The Particular Baptist Church
01480 465211
07710 240363
07710 240363
07710 240363
07480 830686
01480 830866
01480 462192
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



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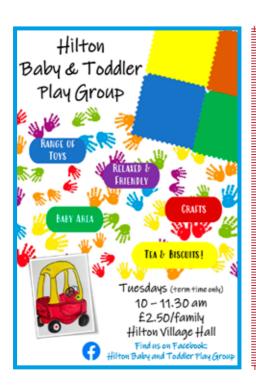
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