

October 2023

The Journal

Fen Drayton ▪ Fenstanton ▪ Hilton

**Fenstanton Village Hall
Update** See page 8

**For an ooh and aah!
see Hilton Fireworks**

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What to do with windfalls

See Life on a Plate page 53

For the life of Frank Stukins

See Step into the Past page 54

Incorporating Spectrum and Focus

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Swinging into Autumn

As the evenings draw in we have lots in The Journal to keep you entertained. Whether it is an active village organisation or simply your favourite pub, there is loads going on.

If you are watching your food miles then see page 31 for an insight into sustainable farming and learn how David lives his dream to grow and sell his own produce on his farm.

You can learn more about how Rachael, Age UK Warden for Fenstanton and Fen Drayton, has been helping Phylliss on page 15.

If you are looking for a staycation then you'll enjoy our tour around Dorset on page 18

In the first issue we had some comments about the legibility of the text and we wanted to remind readers who need a larger print version that The Journal is published on both Hilton and Fen Drayton Parish Council's website along with www.fenstanton-village.co.uk

Please let us have your thoughts on the magazine and if there is anything you would like us to include, just send your ideas to info@thejournal.life



From all at The Journal we hope you enjoy the magazine

Editors

Dawn Fairey - fendrayton@thejournal.life
Anne Mustill - fenstanton@thejournal.life
Malcolm Lynn - hilton@thejournal.life

Please submit any copy by 12 October latest for the November edition.

Front cover image - View from footpath 15 at the bottom of Fen Lane

Butterflies and Moths

The Huntingdonshire Local Group of the Wildlife Trust invites you to come along to listen to Martin Davies, who will provide an illustrated talk on Butterflies and Moths. This will be held on Wednesday 11 October at 7.30pm at Brampton Memorial Hall.

Martin is an all-round naturalist, but his main focus is now on butterflies. He worked for the RSPB for more than 40 years and founded his own consultancy company working within the conservation movement in 2012. This talk will be a follow up to his guided walk which was held at Therfield Heath in August and will concentrate on the butterflies and moths of this region.

Everyone is most welcome to attend. Booking is not necessary. The charge is £3.50 and payment is by cash or card. We meet at Brampton Memorial Hall, Thrapston Road,



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Part of the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire. Registered Charity No: 1000412



Poppy Appeal 2023

If any organisation in Fenstanton would like me to order Poppy Wreaths for this year can you please let me know as soon as possible on gilldartford@hotmail.co.uk

Gill Dartford
Poppy Appeal Organiser
Fenstanton

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We need help for the Fen Drayton Poppy Appeal

We will be doing the usual door-to-door collection again this year for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Several of our long-term collectors are now unable to do this so if anyone would consider helping out, I would really appreciate it. Everything you need is provided, and should take a maximum of an hour or two, depending on which "route" you're able to do.

Money collected is used to help members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, veterans and their families, supporting serving and ex-serving personnel (for more information see www.britishlegion.org.uk).



Collecting date

We start collecting from 22nd October and, as usual, hope to have boxes in our local businesses as well. For more information, my email is gonecompletelybonkers@gmail.com

Thank you! Jo Hitchins



Fenstanton Village Hall

Fantastic news! The full plans for the new Fenstanton Village Hall, to be constructed on Crest Drive, have been presented to Huntingdon District Council planning department. Outline planning permission has already been granted for the hall, so gaining full planning consent should be straightforward and with funding of over £1,000,000 secured, we are confident that building can commence in 2024.



The Fenstanton Village Hall Trust trustees have worked long and hard to reach this milestone. Prior to securing the Crest Drive site no less than twelve other sites, in and around the village, were investigated and discussed with HDC planning development. None of the sites, for a variety of reasons, were considered suitable.

a number of activities, such as the Christmas Fayre, race nights, and barn dances.

On acquiring the Crest Drive site, work began on the detailed planning application and the drive began to raise the additional funds needed to bring the dream to fruition. Trustees applied for and were successful in achieving grants from Cambridgeshire County Council, Huntingdon District Council and Fenstanton Parish Council, giving sufficient funding to commence.

While the search for a suitable site continued, trustees worked hard to raise funds through

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The Library Presents



The Library Presents is back for a jam-packed autumn season of arts activities in libraries across Cambridgeshire.

As always, there are performances and workshops to suit all ages, with music, theatre, dance, magic, puppetry and even some film. The season has just started with a reduced version of Macbeth, 'the Scottish Play', and runs through to mid-December, with arts and crafts workshops and many more performances.

There is a theme of horror, murder and chills, with Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde, murder mystery and sinister silent film; but the season also

has a lighter side, with fairytales, magic and balloons. Altogether there is a glorious mix of uplifting, enchanting and playful treats for the autumn months ahead.

Tickets available are available now.

For ticket information please follow the online links at:

www.library.live/the-library-presents

Telephone: 01353 616991. In person at Participating Libraries (cash only)

On the door at all activities (subject to availability/cash only)

By Exchanging Digital Time Credits



If you would appreciate help to purchase books or items needed for further education, then apply to this trust. Founded in 1728, the trust has helped many residents of Fenstanton and Fen Drayton.



The fund is not a large one but every little helps.

A little help can go a long way.



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Stagecoach East introduces new fares

Stagecoach East has issued a range of new prices for its services, with the aim of encouraging customers to get out and about to explore Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Peterborough.

In developing a range of new prices, the bus operator has increased eligibility for its Small Group, meaning that three adults can now travel around the region's Town zones all day for only £2.67 each. With the Large Group product, five adults can travel all day for just £2.20 each. The new eligibility rules are part of a schedule of new prices that will go live on Sunday 17 September.

For passengers who want to travel over a period of time, with greater flexibility, Flexi 5 and Flexi 10 are still available at the new prices of £4.00 and £3.50 a day. These are



bundles of 5 and 10 tickets that are valid to be used whenever wanted for up to 12 months. Meanwhile, under the new pricing structure, under-19's and students will still get a 30% discount with Youth Tickets.

Stagecoach East has frozen the price of its single tickets over £2.00 and the fare cap remains in place until 31 October 2023. Some prices across the range will rise, but roughly 81% of passengers currently buy single tickets so the majority will see no increase, but will be able to take advantage of the improved options available.

Fen Drayton 10k Race and Fun Run

Save the date: Sunday 05 May 2024

After a hugely successful event this year, we are really pleased to announce that we will be delivering our 10k race and family Fun Run again in 2024!

We are committed and very proud to once again be raising much needed funds for our local primary school, as well as local charities that support people in the local community and in the East Anglia area.

There is plenty of time for training, especially for those new or getting back into running, so be an early bird and enter now to get the saver discount: Visit our website at www.fendrayton10k.org

We are immensely grateful to everyone in the village for supporting our event over the years and welcome anyone who would like to join us in various roles. From sponsorship opportunities, or being a part of our lovely committee, to holding an event stall on the

day. Please do get in touch if you would like to support us more: info@fendrayton10k.org
And don't forget to follow us on Facebook @fendrayton10krun too!

The FD 10k Committee



Hilton Community Garden

AGM

Saturday 28 October 2023

11:00am. In the Community Garden

At the Annual General Meeting (AGM), a report is presented giving the highlights of the year, sharing financial information and approving the annual accounts. The committee will be elected and changes to the constitution can be made at this meeting.

Items for discussion and nominations for the committee should be submitted 7 days before the AGM to the chair: 23heatherc@gmail.com.

The Garden is for the benefit of everyone in the village, whether to actively participate in the work, to maintain the garden, or simply to enjoy and relax in the tranquility of the garden. We welcome you to our AGM and welcome your comments and ideas for next season.



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Cambridge Northwest Community Warden Scheme



Hello, my name is Rachael Mortimer and I'm the local Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (Age UK CAP) Community Warden for Fen Drayton, Fenstanton and Lolworth.

Age UK CAP has been delivering Warden schemes for nearly 30 years and currently runs 20 schemes across this county. The Northwest scheme has been in service for just over two years. Age UK CAP is an independent charity, meaning we are responsible for raising all our own funds to deliver these services. We are pleased to be working in partnership with all three Parish Councils.

I am keen to meet as many people as possible, so keep an eye out for me at the local coffee mornings and village events – do come and say hello!

One lady I support is Phyliss, who is a very independent lady. She wants to remain living at home with her beloved cat, but she needed a bit of help. I have supported Phyliss by organising a meal delivery

service, helping her make appointments and organising medical support. I also helped her find solutions to practical problems she was having around the house, such as making items easier for Phyliss to see, and keeping her well stocked up with her favourite cakes from the local shop!

Phyliss says, *"I'm very grateful for your support and all the things you've done for me and the cat. I can stay living in my own home for as long as I choose to!"*

The Community Warden scheme operates Monday to Friday. To find out more and sign up for a two week free trial, please call Rachael on 07971 951412 or visit Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough at www.ageukcap.org.uk



Big switch on

The Fenstanton Christmas tree lights will have their big switch on **01 December at 6.30pm.**

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Updates from your District Councillor - Fenstanton Ward, Clare Tevlin



Green Bins: In a bid to keep Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC)'s activity transparent, my focus on this month's update will be on the matter of green bins.

During Cabinet on the 24th August, following a call-in to Overview and Scrutiny, the decision on the green bin implementation was approved. Members have agreed to introduce a fortnightly garden waste subscription service that will come into effect in April 2024. The optional service will cost £57.50 for one garden waste bin to be collected for the whole year. You can find out the latest here: <https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins-waste/garden-waste-subscription-service/>

For context on the necessity of this, at the time of writing Birmingham City Council has just announced bankruptcy. The prevention of such a dire situation hitting in our district, forms part of the rationale as to why this decision on our financial strategy had to be made. Increasingly authorities (around 65% of councils, including neighbouring councils) have instated a green bin charge.



HDC's Cabinet has reassured that there will be a plan to engage with Towns and Parishes with regards to the implementation and this will be communicated in the coming months and timeframe on implementation.

Cllr Martin Hassall, Executive Councillor for Corporate and Shared Services, said:

"Not all properties in Huntingdonshire require a garden waste collection service as they do not have a garden. Introducing a subscription means that the service will only be paid for by those households that choose to use it. This is similar to bulky waste collections where only households requesting the service have to pay."

"The current garden waste collection costs us approximately £800,000 per year, and as the district expands, these costs will rise. Meeting the demand will require additional vehicles and staff. By introducing a chargeable garden waste service, we can ensure that the service remains sustainable."

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs weighs in: *"Whilst the government is pending release of further details on its Waste and Resources Strategy Act, DEFRA is proposing significant changes as to how food waste is collected by councils, set to be the biggest change to recycling in the last 20 years. There are many challenges ahead but it provides an opportunity to transform Huntingdonshire's services, residents will be updated on key decisions concerning this."*

DEFRA officials in Parliament in September, defended the policy of allowing green bin charging to take place on the grounds it does not impact recycling levels.

Emma Bourne OBE, the director of resources and waste at DEFRA, said: *"At the moment, the evidence suggests to us that allowing charging is not inhibiting the recycling levels."*

Cambridge Sustainable Travel Zone to be reconsidered following countywide debate cancellation on 7th September: A decision on what happens next is now due to be made by the Greater Cambridge partnership (GCP) board at a further meeting.

Do you have a query? Contact me by: clare.tevlin@huntingdonshire.gov.uk or 07565350014, or @CllrClareTevlin Facebook Page.

Trains, Boats and Planes

Two go mad in Dorset

by Jan and Paul Stone

Tired and deterred by airport chaos, crowded and delayed trains, the grind of motorways and extreme heat in Europe, we decided to stay closer to home. Paul had read Claire Tomalin's 'Thomas Hardy', whose famous works were inspired by the local landscape of Dorset and the people who lived and worked in it.

Heading West

Our five-day break in June took us cross country beyond Oxford to Wiltshire and our first stop was Marlborough High Street. The High Street is one of the broadest in England and full of intriguing artisan shops, good places to eat and the long-established White Horse Bookshop. Paul, then aged 10, won a goldfish at Marlborough Mop Annual Fair in 1953.

Onwards and upwards across Salisbury Plain, passing Stonehenge to Salisbury itself with its magnificent cathedral, which claims Britain's tallest spire, largest Cathedral Close and Cloisters, the world's oldest mechanical clock and the best-preserved original 1215 Magna Carta – all in one beautiful place, well

worth a visit. Our final stop was Shaftesbury and Gold Hill of Hovis fame.

Exploring Dorset

Our base in Dorset was Wolferton Manor Gatehouse run by the Landmark Trust. This Tudor Gatehouse, set in beautiful grounds, boasts a ghost and steep ancient stairs not suitable for anyone with mobility difficulties.

Having done our research it was clear that we would have to be selective in our visits during our brief stay. Our first full day began in Lyme Regis which nestles in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – right at the heart of the UNESCO World Heritage site known as the Jurassic Coast. Descending to the harbour was like stepping back in time to the 1950s. Despite our best efforts we saw no sign of Meryl Streep in her black cloak on The Cobb (a scene from *The French Lieutenant's Woman*) or Mary Anning, the famous paleontologist, chipping away in search of ammonites.

Day three saw us arriving early at a sun-drenched Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens,





which was magnificent. Fabulous tree ferns, flowers and shrubs which were growing so naturally it was hard to believe they had not always been in place. The land rises and falls in a series of natural valleys which are cool and dark and crossing the Burmese Rope Bridge was a wobbly experience not to be missed. The visit was made complete by a visit to the café with coffee and homemade cake. Jan had to be dragged through the plants for sale area as usual. This is reputed to be Alan Titchmarsh's favourite garden, and we could both see why.

Before supper we paid a visit to Chesil Beach. Particularly 'eerie' is the eight mile stretch between Portland and Abbotsbury, where a lagoon separates the beach from the mainland, so there is no way off but to walk on or walk back.

On day four we visited Durdle Door, a majestic limestone arch on the Jurassic coast. Get there early before the crowds! After lunch it was time for a visit to Thomas Hardy's picturesque and hidden cottage in the woods near Stinsford. The setting was beautiful and our very knowledgeable guide led us around the cottage and garden. It seemed right to call on St Michaels Church at Stinsford next, where the author's heart is buried next to his first wife Emma, his parents and grandparents. It is a green and peaceful place.

Dining out

May we recommend a few places to eat? The Acorn Inn at Evershott, which features in Hardy's 'The Mayor of Casterbridge' serves good quality pub food. We also had delicious meals in Brassica in Beaminster and Yarlbury Cottage in Lower Bockhampton.

We left Dorset knowing that there is much more to see, including Lulworth Cove, Eggerton Hill and Corfe Castle – scene of many of Enid Blyton's Famous Five adventures.

Travelling home, STEAM - The Museum of the Great Western Railway in Swindon is a fascinating place for all ages and the Stone Circle at Avebury is a mysterious and magical place.

Happy holidays!





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by
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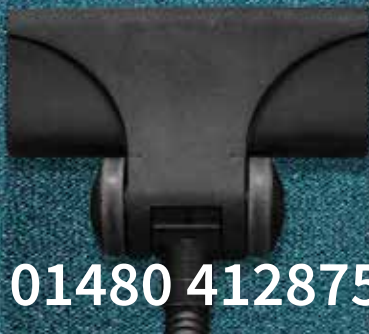


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News from the Pews



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



We look forward to welcoming you!

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

Both our churches look forward to welcoming you to any of our services.
Below is the schedule for October. We hope to see you soon!

October Services

	Service time and location	Services held in St Peter & St Paul's Church, Fenstanton are live streamed where possible, details via https://www.fenchurchbooking.org.uk
Thursdays, weekly	8.30am on Zoom	8.30am Morning Prayer For Morning Prayer Zoom details, please contact Rev Rosie
01 Sunday	10am Fenstanton	Parish Service, Holy Communion with Sunday Club for children
08 Sunday	9:15am Fen Drayton 10am Fenstanton	9.15am Holy Communion at St Mary's 10am Worship for all With pew activities for children
15 Sunday	10am Fenstanton 6pm	10am Parish Service, Holy Communion with Sunday Club, St Peter & St Paul 6pm Choral Evensong
22 Sunday	9.15am Fen Drayton 10am Fenstanton	Morning Praise Family Communion
28 Saturday	11am	Time to Remember Service to remember those we love but see no longer

Our benefice of Fen Drayton with Fenstanton was newly formed in June 2018, bringing together the parishes of St Mary's, Fen Drayton and St Peter & St Paul, Fenstanton. While the parish church of St Peter & St Paul remains a parish church, St Mary's became a chapel of ease, meaning it is no longer a parish church. St Mary's can still hold services, including baptisms, weddings and funerals but couples wishing to marry there must obtain a licence first rather than have banns published. The requirements will be discussed with couples at the time of a wedding enquiry.

Whilst on the subject of weddings, there are still many misunderstandings about wedding fees, particularly given by other licensed civil venues. Wedding fees this year, for example, to be married in church are £505, with additional costs for verges/organ/bells. The £505 fees are statutory fees and set before parliament, not by your local church.

Community Fund, or to make an application for financial help, please note we have a dedicated email address for the fund fdsccommunityfund@gmail.com. The Community Fund was set up to offer help to anyone with a strong association with Fenstanton or Fen Drayton, whether a church member or not. Especially in these difficult times we would like to reach out to you if you are in need of financial help and are seeking a modest one-off donation of money for a specific purpose. All enquiries are treated in the strictest confidence and a member of our small committee will be in touch with you with an application form and further information.



**FENSTANTON UNITED
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NOVEMBER FAYRE
SATURDAY 18TH
10.00am - 1.00pm
CRAFTS, BOOKS, JIGSAWS, GIFTS, AND LOTS
MORE



**You are invited to our annual “TIME TO REMEMBER” Service
Saturday 28 October 2023**

11am at St Peter & St Paul's Church, Fenstanton
An opportunity to remember those who have died

On Saturday 28 October, there will be a service to remember those who died either in this past year, or in previous years. You are very welcome to attend the service with your family and friends. If you would like a name (or names) read out during the service then please do let us know, even if you plan to attend. Rev Rosie Tallowin: 01480 467393

(please leave a message) email: rosie.tallowin@btinternet.com

Or a note with names on: The Vicarage, 16 Church Street, Fenstanton

Contact details for our parish are:

Rector: Rev Rosie Tallowin: 01480 467393 email: rosie.tallowin@btinternet.com

Churchwardens: Philip Blunt 01480 461751 and Ian Hucklesby 01480 465211

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

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



Hilton Parish Church

Are you an angel?

An angel is a messenger of God, and you probably don't think of yourself as one – a person who went about convinced they were an angel would either be deluded or just insufferably full of themselves. But you might well be an angel all the same.



Let me explain. In the Letter to the Hebrews, near the end of the Christian Bible, there are these lovely words: 'Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some people have entertained angels without knowing it.' Christians, and people of other faiths, believe that hospitality is central to who they are and what they believe. Sikhs are particularly well known for feeding generously those who come to their gurdwaras, or temples. I have enjoyed such generosity myself at a gurdwara in Birmingham – and it is really good, hearty food, not just a frugal meal. One gurdwara in Delhi is famous for feeding several thousand people every day, with no thought of accepting payment. All the food is donated and prepared by the members of the gurdwara.

I love the idea that we could entertain angels by welcoming strangers. The churches of Hilton try to do this in a small way by inviting anyone who would like to come to a simple meal, some shared games and crafts for those who want them, and a time to hear a Christian message, on the second Friday of each month. We call this Friday Feast. Children, older people, and everyone in between, are most welcome. The next occasion will be on Friday 13 October, 5.30 to 7.00 pm. Do come to the parish church in Hilton and be an angel to us.

You may not know it, but you will bring something of God to us just by being there and eating and socialising with us, and we will be very grateful.

With love
David Busk, Vicar of Hilton

Weekly Services

01 October	8:00am Holy Communion
08 October	11:15am United Communion Service at the Methodist Church
15 October	8:00am Holy Communion
22 October	11:15am Coffee, Cake and Church service in the Village Hall
29 October	8:00am Holy Communion

Second Friday 5.30pm Friday Feast (Messy Church)

Weekly Online Services (Via Zoom)
Holy Communion Wednesdays (2.30pm)
Bible study Fridays (10am)

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



The
United
Reformed
Church

www.urch.org.uk

**Fenstanton United
Reformed Church**
Chequer Street, Fenstanton

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

Forthcoming Services

October

01 October	Revd Christine Davies
01 October	3pm Harvest Praise
08 October	Holy Communion Revd Dr Catherine Ball
15 October	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
22 October	Led by Geraldine Swain
29 October	Led by Keith Cakebread

November

05 November	Revd Christine Davies
12 November	Remembrance Sunday – at the Parish Church led by Revd Dr Catherine Ball
19 November	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion
26 November	Led by Christine Macleod

Meditation – Led by the Free Church St. Ives

Tuesday 10 October - 2.30-4pm Tuesday 14 November - 2.30-4pm

Geoff Hawkins Fenstanton URC Secretary

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

St Ives

Church of the Sacred Heart,
19 Needingworth Rd.

Parish Priest: Rev Thomas J Walton

Tel 01480 462192,
www.sacredheart-stives.org

**Mass Times: Saturday 17.00,
Sunday 08.00 and 11.00**

Papworth Everard, at the Parish

The Particular Baptist Chapel

Church Lane, Fenstanton,
PE28 9JW

There has been a witness to the
worship of God here over the years
since 1643

**Services are on Sundays at 10.30am
and 2.30pm and on Thursday
evenings at 7.15pm**

We still use the Authorised, King
James Bible, believe in Particular
Redemption

JOIN US
FOR
**FRIDAY
FEAST**

- ✿ Free All Age event
- ✿ Get creative
- ✿ Food & Fun
- ✿ Informal gathering
- ✿ Churches of Hilton together
- ✿ For all faiths, and none
- ✿ 08 Sept, 13 Oct & 10 Nov
- ✿ To find out more, call Rachel on 830866

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



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Rosegate Farm Butchery



Rosegatefarmbutchery



Hilton Methodist Church



Many of you will have heard of the Camino de Santiago (the way of St James). It's a series of pilgrim routes starting in different places all over Europe, all leading to the Cathedral at Santiago de Compostela, where the body of Jesus's disciple, James, the bearer of the Gospel through Europe to Spain, was purportedly returned after his death.

People have been travelling these routes since at least the 9th century. Most well-known today, due to the film 'The Way' and recent TV coverage, is the French route across northern Spain, a journey of nearly 500 miles.

I've just returned from doing the Portuguese route via Finisterre – a trip of just 230 miles or so. Walking in all sorts of conditions, getting up before dawn on some days to avoid the blistering heat, tramping through UK-like rain on others; sleeping in hostels along the way.

So, what's different about walking a pilgrim route compared to a long hike?

Well, it's something to do with being on the road with others; all ages, nationalities and walks of life, all heading in the same direction. It's something to do with being outside your comfort zone and dealing with it; staying open to what this reveals to you, about you. But most of all it's something about going with intention, even if you are not quite sure exactly what your intention is. Putting yourself in the way of encounter and letting whatever happens, happen.



"Which is more important," asked Big Panda, "the journey or the destination?"

"The company," said Tiny Dragon.

We all have a calling of one sort or another.

You don't have to walk hundreds of miles to find your purpose, your core, your centre! But you do need to be intentional, to deliberately give yourself space to discover your own path. Most often this happens through journeying alongside others and creating space just to be, letting Camino do its magic of delivering just what's needed.

So, if anyone wants to 'talk Camino', do get in touch. It would be a privilege to share part of your journey.

Revd. Sue Baker-Maher
sue.bakermaher@methodist.org.uk

Services in October

1 October	10:00am	Mr. J. Bridge
8 October	11:15am	Rev. Sue Baker-Maher - United Service at the Methodist Church
15 October	10:00am	Dr. D. Ward
22 October	10:00am	Mr. C. Webber



update



Village trees

Although autumn is fast approaching with leaves changing colour and falling, we have enjoyed a wonderful Indian summer. However, with the dry weather over the past couple of years some trees planted by the parish council struggled to survive. On the football field almost all the new trees have suffered from a combination of vandalism and flooding as well as drought. We hope to replant next year.

Affordable housing development

The lease between the parish council and bhpa to enable the footpath between the new housing development and the village hall field has now been finalised.

Cambridge Road bridge

Cambridge Road is a well-used route between Fen Drayton and the A1307. The narrow bridge near the Swavesey Road junction has seen of a number of minor accidents and near misses. The existing signs advising vehicles to give way to traffic leaving the village need replacing and road markings added to slow down vehicles approaching the bridge. CCC Highways has estimated the cost to be between £14,000 and £19,000

depending on the scope of the improvements. Fortunately, Fen Drayton has been allocated £9,000 from the Northstowe S106 funds to be used towards traffic calming. The parish council plans to cover the remaining cost via a Local Highways Initiative whereby it and CCC share the cost. The parish council has submitted the LHI application and, if successful, work on the improvements will take place in 2024.

Community warden

During August, the Mobile (Community) Warden Scheme Grant Review 2024-28 was presented to South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC).

Owing to the predicted growth in people aged over 65 in the next 20 years, giving older and/or vulnerable people greater access to a local warden scheme is a key priority of SCDC's Business Plan 2019-2024.

Unfortunately, as people age they become susceptible to physical and mental deterioration and develop feelings of loneliness and isolation.

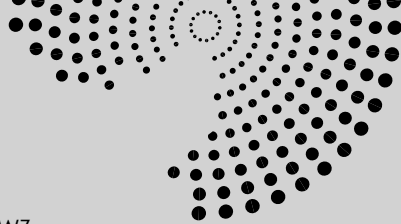


Contact:

email: fendrayton.clerk@gmail.com

website: www.fendrayton.org

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



The community warden schemes aim to extend the independence of older people and stave off the need for, or complement, care packages. The report recommended that £100,000 be provided to continue the scheme for 2024/25, with a review for funding extended from 2025 to 2028.

SCDC is working to increase the promotion of the schemes to organisations with links to the elderly residents of South Cambridgeshire. Currently there are 19 schemes covering 50 parishes, helping nearly 300 people. To find out more about the service covering Fen Drayton, Fenstanton and Lolworth, see the article by Age UK's Rachael Mortimer in this magazine.

Sue Ellington - South Cambs district councillor

As summer ends and we start the run up to Christmas, let's hope it is not so cold that we need to use excessive expensive energy to keep warm!

As I predicted, the bin collection service has gone onto a four-day week from mid September. This appears to go against the principle of getting staff to do the same amount of work in four days that they did in five, as two new crews have been employed to make the four-day week viable. I would be interested to hear about any issues the change causes, so that I can feed them back to the officers running the service. There have been further discussions with government ministers

about whether the trial should continue, but I believe this is a genie that will be very difficult to put back in its bottle!

I'm pleased to say the district council has found a small amount of additional money to help with the community warden scheme. It will not meet all the shortfall in all the community warden schemes, but we have raised awareness and hope that the county council will see it as a priority and recognise the contribution the service makes to keeping elderly people in their own homes.

If you need help with any council issues, contact me on 01954 202923, or email cllr.ellington@scambs.gov.uk.

Parish council meetings

The next meeting is Monday 16 October at 19.30 in the village hall committee room.

Community cafe

The Fen Drayton Community Cafe is open on the second Saturday of every month from 10.30 to 12.30 in the village hall. You can be sure of a warm welcome, plus tea and coffee and delicious cakes and bakes!

At October's cafe you can test your skill at identifying fascinating historical artefacts, courtesy of Richard Close.

Next cafe: Saturday 14 October

Please note: the cafe is cash only.

Hilton Town Trust

A charitable trust which exists to give support to the village and villagers of Hilton



Have you or has a family member recently started higher education or an apprenticeship?

The Hilton Town trust exists to help villagers who need support. If the cost of living crisis is making providing for further education difficult please contact us. We can provide assistance with equipment for college/university or tools for an apprenticeship.

Email: HiltonTownTrust@gmail.com Phone: 01480 830866
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Farm to fork

If the provenance of your food matters then you need to look no further than Rosegate Farm in Swavesey. Known locally for its strawberries and raspberries, Ben and Lydia Baker have farmed here for over 50 years and are passionate about sustainable production, low food miles and selling back into the local community.



However, it was when their youngest son joined the business back in 2010 that things started to get interesting. David, now 36, graduated in BioSci at Warwick University and missing his roots in agriculture started working on various farms throughout the UK. To gain further experience he travelled to New Zealand and whilst working on a dairy farm there he hatched his business plan.

"I wanted to farm my own animals and sell the produce directly from the farm. Nothing can be more sustainable than that."

So on his return from New Zealand he bought ten pigs fattened them and six months later bought 12 sheep. A year after that he took on his own field tenancy and bought four cows.

"In 2011," David explains, "I built with the help of Dad my first shop on the farm which opened one week in every three. Gradually we increased our customers through word of mouth and this in turn meant we could increase our livestock. Finally, in 2016 we reached my goal of having three different types of meats available over one weekend, all produced on our own farm. Prior to that it was pork one week, the next week lamb and beef the following."



Through the quality of David's product trade grew over the next two years until he opened his current shop in March 2019, three weeks before the first lockdown!

Since then the business has continued to grow and now they have additional tenancies around Boxworth, Swavesey and Childerley which allows him to maintain his current levels of supply. All the animals that David rears enjoy the most natural life he can give them. The pigs, for example, spend the summer rooting around the orchards, especially enjoying windfall plums and apples. They then move inside to spacious, straw-bedded pens for the winter providing protection from the coldest weather. All the animals are transported to a small local abattoir by David himself ensuring the minimum of stress.

You do not go from zero to hero overnight in farming. David, now father of two children, reflects on his journey. *"It has taken years to get to where we are now. It takes time to build up your own stock. However the passion we have for our livestock, their genetics and welfare, we believe should translate into something special on your plate. Whether it's a finest steak, home dry-cured bacon or our ever popular sausages, handmade fresh at the farm from a 100 year old recipe, the butchery is traditional and simple. So much of the meat you buy cut fresh in front of you is done by the people who raised it."*



The shop can be found on Rose and Crown Road, Swavesey and is now open weekly Thursday (13.30-17.30), Friday (08.30-17.30) and Saturday (08.30-13.00). Believe me it is worth a visit if only for the homemade sausage rolls.

Mama Jo's Mischief

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

Spooky Season is upon us, and if you're stuck on Halloween themed activities for the kids, I've got you covered.

Halloween Silhouette Painting

In all honesty, I was a little apprehensive about giving my 2 year old daughter paint, but by explaining the do's and don'ts and leading by example, I was able to create a fun and safe place for Sky to explore the wonderful world of colours, and she had so much fun mixing them together to see what colours she could make. Creating new Halloween decorations will be a yearly tradition in our household for sure.

What you will need

- Black card (or a canvas painted black)
- Acrylic or poster paints
- Card and scissors to cut out the silhouettes

How to in 4 easy steps

1. Cut out a bat shaped silhouette and put it on the card or canvas - Send us an email to get your FREE downloadable template
2. Whilst holding the silhouette in place, dip your fingertip into the paint and dab it repeatedly over the edges and around the silhouette. Repeat with other colours
3. When the paint is tacky but not yet dried, remove the silhouette from either the canvas or the card.
4. Wait for the paint to fully dry and voila! Your new Halloween decoration is ready to be showcased in your home.

Head on over to the new, not-for-profit Mama Jo's Mischief Etsy page to download our Halloween themed games and arts and craft templates.

Scan the QR Code
or search
Mama Jo's Mischief
on Etsy



Local Events

- Pumpkin Picking at Freshfields Farm - Warboys - from Saturday 7th October
- Halloween Arts & Crafts Session at Fenstanton Baby & Toddler Group - Tuesday 31st October 9.30-11.30am

Please send all enquires to mamajosmischief@gmail.com

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Name Age

Colour the picture however you like. Only one entry per person. Send your entry to either design@thejournal.life or drop it into The Journal office at The Hub, 6 High Street, Fenstanton by 22 October.

The winner will be announced in a future issue and feature in the magazine. Best of luck.

Latest news from Fenstanton Parish Council

The mystery of the village sign



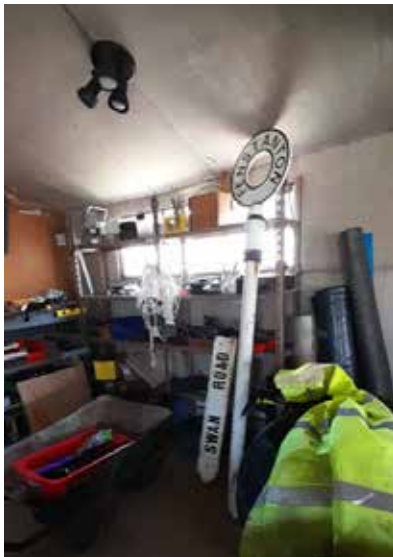
The village sign in the High Street as you drove from Cambridge to Huntingdon was signposted Cambridge, Huntingdon, Conington and Swan Road. Signs like these came into use in the 1930's and, as ours was on a major road, would have been taken down during the war and reinstalled after. Back then, of course, apart from Oaklands House and the Rookery Lodge, Swan Road pretty much marked the edge of the village.

We guess that the signs, apart from Swan Road, were removed when Fenstanton's bypass (now Cambridge Road) was upgraded and both Conington and Hilton Road were cut in half, hence no need for a sign to Conington.

Sometime after, we're not sure when, the sign for Swan Road also disappeared, leaving just the post with the Fenstanton roundel. Then, sometime between 2010 and 2014, following damage caused by a collision, the post was removed completely and a piece of Fenstanton's history was lost.

Fast forward to May 2023 and a lady called into the Parish Council office and asked if we would like a sign that her late husband had been storing in his shed.

The sign is now with Keith Collier, a resident of Swan Road and owner of Keith Collier Engineering, where it is being refurbished ready to take its place, once again, in our village.



To contact your Parish Council Clerk

Telephone: 01480 465300 Web: www.fenstantonpc.org

Email: clerk@fenstantonparishcouncil.org.uk

Councillor Surgeries - September to December

Councillor surgeries are held every other Saturday morning between 10am – 12pm at The Hub, 6 High Street, Fenstanton.

Surgeries are held in order to give parishioners the opportunity to pop in to discuss any issues they wish to bring to the attention of your Parish Council. Please take the opportunity to pop in.

23.09.2023	Matt Tandy	Peter Hayes
07.10.2023	Roy McGee	Geoff Pryke
21.10.2023	Tina Yates	Paul Kent
04.11.2023	Simon King	Nigel Ferrier
18.11.2023	Callum Pitt	Roy McGee
02.12.2023	Martin Hewitt	Matt Tandy

Next Parish Council meeting

Your Parish Council meets next on **Thursday 12 October at 7pm** in the Church Centre. Please do come along and listen to what your Parish Council is up to.

Fenstanton Village Clean-up Held 10 September 2023

Phew!! What a Scorcher!

Our valiant litter heroes braved temperatures above 30 degrees on Sunday 10 September to join the Fenstanton Village Clean-up. As usual, the bulk of our haul came from the entrances to the village, Huntingdon Road, Low Road, Cambridge Road and the A1307 slip road. Keep an eye on our Facebook page 'Fenstanton Litter Teams' for information on our next clean-up or join our litter teams mailing list.

Contact: Roy McGee heathroy52@gmail.com / Sue Martynski sue.martynski@gmail.com



Fenstanton Parish Council

Making Fenstanton an even better place to live

Play parks and CCTV

In recent months there have been a number of instances of vandalism and drug taking in our village and recently a report of a syringe being found at our Chequer Street play area. This is sad to see. Your Parish Council is doing what it can to stop this happening. Any reports made to your Clerk are reported to the Police. Hedges and trees are being cut back to give more visibility and your Parish Council is considering installing CCTV at the MUGA and Chequer Street.

If you see any unwanted behaviour please report this to your Clerk and also to the Police online at camb.s.police.uk or by telephoning 101.

Unfortunately, some Parish Council signs have been removed. Whilst new signage is sought, please be reminded that dogs are **NOT permitted** in the play areas.

On a more positive note, the slide at Pitfield Park has now been replaced.

The Annual Inspection of our play parks has recently been completed and your Parish Council will be discussing any issues raised in the report at our General Purposes meeting on 28 September.

AGAR - Annual Governance & Accountability Return

The audit of accounts for Fenstanton Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2023 has been completed and the accounts will be published by 30 September 2023.

The AGAR is available for inspection by any local government elector of the area of Fenstanton Parish Council on application to the Clerk. Copies will be provided to any person on payment of £2.00 for each copy of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return.



Watercourses and blocked drains

Your Parish Council is working with Cambridge County Council to establish riparian rights owners in order to ensure they see that their ditches/drains are kept clear. In July agricultural landowners and residents with riparian responsibilities were written to by CCC to request that they attend to their sections of watercourse. CCC intends to write again, as unfortunately they received little response to the original letter sent.

Your Parish Council is also in discussions and meetings with representatives from Cambridge County Council to discuss the blocked drain and failed culvert at Hall Green Lane/Manor Drive. It is hoped that with further investigation your Parish Council can understand why this area continually floods and that CCC can resolve the issue.

Hampton Playing Field - The proposal

Last chance to have your say! Deadline 31 October 2023

Your Parish Council have plans to create a multiuser park on the Hampton playing field and we are seeking parishioners' views on the proposed changes. The proposal includes: picnic areas, pump track, skate park, five-a-side football pitch, pétanque court and zip wire.

There is still time to have your say, the closing date to receive your comments and complete the survey is Tuesday 31 October.

To view the plans and complete the survey, please visit our web site at: Fenstantonpc.org or scan the QR code.



Parish Councillor – vacancy for co-option

Are you passionate about the village you live in? Do you want to help make long-lasting changes? Do you have concerns about a specific issue and want to do something about it? If this is you, then please consider becoming a Parish Councillor. We need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect our community.

To qualify to become a Councillor you must be a British subject, 18 years old or over and be on the electoral roll, or you must reside within Fenstanton or within 4.8km of Fenstanton, or occupy as owner or tenant any land or premises therein, or have their principal or only place of work there and

must not be disqualified from holding office as a Councillor.

If you would be interested in becoming a Parish Councillor or want to know more about the role of a Parish Councillor, please contact your Clerk for further information.

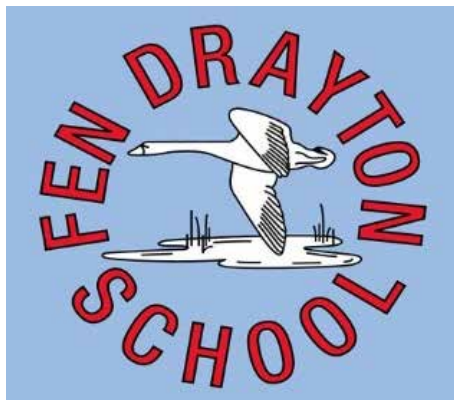
MAKE A CHANGE
BECOME A COUNCILLOR

Fen Drayton Primary School

After a busy summer, it's been lovely to welcome back all the children to Fen Drayton Primary School, especially those in Reception joining us for the first time. All our Ducklings have a Y6 buddy to help look after them at playtimes and lunchtimes and in the first few weeks, they go down and have a play in the Ducklings classroom too.

We have lots of exciting things planned this year; trips to the Norris Museum, to London to watch The Lion King and an exciting opportunity for Y4-6 to sing as part of the Young Voices choir at the O2 arena. Keep your eyes peeled for updates about what we've been up to.

If your child was born between 01 Sept 2019 and 31 August 2020, then they will be due to start in September 2024. Applications are open from 15 November 2023 to 15 January 2024. Please see the 'Admissions' page on our website for more information. If you would like to arrange a visit, please contact us on office@fendrayton.cambs.sch.uk or 01954273346.



We will be holding 'Stay and Play' sessions for the Reception 2024 intake on Tues 14 November and Wed 10 January - 3.30-4pm. If your child is due to start school next September, they are welcome to join us at one or both sessions. Please contact the office to book.

Nina McQueen, Headteacher



If your child was born between 1 Sept 19 and 31 Aug 20, then they will be due to start in Sept 2024. Applications are open from 15 Nov 23 to 15 Jan 24. Please see the 'admissions' page on our website for more information. If you would like to arrange a visit, please contact: office@fendrayton.cambs.sch.uk or 01954273346. We will be releasing dates for 'stay and play' sessions for the new intake in



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

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

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



What you're Missing

Hilton Art Club

There were two en plein air sketching visits. The first was St James' Church Hemingford Grey and with plenty of scope in the church area, surrounding houses and the beautiful riverbank. Despite the weather being forecast for rain, the very short showers didn't stop us!

The second outside visit, to Carriages of Cambridge in Fen Drayton, was a big success. We enjoyed beverages and cakes in one of the railway carriages, before a sketching / painting session in the gardens.

In the village hall in August, the subject of fabrics and textures led to some lovely works of art. Thanks to Jan and Kathy M for the cakes.

Sadly, after 12 years as the Club Chair, Joanne has stood down, but remains a member. However, Kathy B has kindly agreed to take over and we are sure she will be great in the role. In other news, we welcomed Rosemary as a new member.

20 October 9.30 am – 12.30 pm THE TOY BOX. Please bring your own pictures/props.



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Warm and welcoming group

Mondays Fen Drayton Village Hall, 10am - 12pm during term time

Find us on Facebook: Fen Drayton Tots

fendraytontots@gmail.com

Fenstanton Baby and Toddler Group

PRESENTS

Mama Jo's Mischief

HALLOWEEN ARTS & CRAFTS

DRESS UP AND ENJOY SOME HALLOWEEN CRAFT
ACTIVITIES WITH YOUR LITTLE ONE.

FENSTANTON CHURCH CENTRE

TUESDAY 31 OCT

9:30AM - 11:30AM

FREE ENTRY

CAKES & TEA/COFFEE PROVIDED

What you're Missing

Hilton Women's Institute

Not content with our continuing busy summer, Hilton WI ladies have kept up with a variety of activities.

We had no speaker for our August meeting, that event was our annual Summer Buffet. We had a colourful pink theme at the various tables at which was a quiz with the title 'How well do you know your Hilton?' with small groups gathering together, trying to solve the



20 mostly cryptic questions and therefore solvable; for example, 'cyclists dismount or a wet US President?' (answer next month!). The buffet was delicious of course, why do we all like desserts and cakes so much?

A large group of us visited Cambridge Mosque with a tour guide who gave us much fascinating information as all mosques have a pattern of four corners in the front garden and oh! those magnificent roof supports made from sustainable spruce wood! It's a truly superb building built from worldwide contributions and from the fully democratic opinions of every part of the congregation before a brick was laid.



We shortly have an important Dementia Workshop, open to all and led by Heather Hooper who is a Dementia Friends Ambassador and whose expertise will help people towards a better understanding of that situation that we know affects so many families.

The speaker's subject in September is Music Photography 1962-63 by Brian Bignall, a curious subject with two words that don't seem to mix. Then in October we will be learning about hedgehogs and other wildlife.

We can be proud of the varied meetings that we have to offer!

As ever, we welcome new members just contact: hiltonwisecretary@gmail.com



Let's Run Girls - Fen Drayton



Let's Run Girls is dedicated to empowering women to improve the health and wellbeing of their local communities in the UK. We currently have supportive running groups in twelve different locations in Cambridgeshire including Fen Drayton.

The Fen Drayton group meets every week at 6.45pm on Monday evenings outside the Fen Drayton Village Hall. Find out more or register by scanning the QR code (@letsrungirls.com), or contact info@letsrungirls.com for more information.

The free weekly run sessions are led by a dedicated team of volunteer Run Leaders who are passionate about supporting other women to get into running. If you're already running and would like some company and extra motivation, the weekly steady run group is a great option for you. All paces are welcomed, we just ask that you can continuously run for at least 20-25minutes. We also deliver a beginners course each year for those new to, or want to get back into running. The next beginners course is starting soon.



All initial enquiries about hiring Fen Drayton Village Hall should be made by emailing the bookings team on fendraytonvillagehallweb@gmail.com

Facilities:

- Main hall (16.0m x 8.0m)
- Committee room (9.6m x 4.0m)
- Kitchen with serving hatch into main hall
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What you're Missing

Fenstanton Bowls Club

We have had a busy few weeks with our end of season club competitions and a Cambridge & District League Mixed Pairs final.

Ray Worsley and Emma Morris, our youngest league player, played in the final of the C&D Mixed Pairs and had a convincing 22-11 win. We are so proud of them both and in particular Emma for this achievement in her first season.

Our Hetherton Trophy is for any member who has not previously won a club competition. An afternoon of well fought rounds resulted in Stuart Bloor and Linda Brodie competing in the final. Stuart took an early lead but Linda put up a good fight for a close match won by Stuart.

The Clive Barrow trophy is a drawn triples match played in one afternoon. Names are drawn randomly for a mixture of experienced and new players competing against each other. Players record their team score individually and the player with the highest score is the winner. This year the honour went to Alva Fisher.

Finally, the Bertha Pitfield Trophy. A triples game where teams are drawn randomly. Two teams made it through to finals day - Patrick Morris, Paolo Puddu, Maggie Wheeler and Rob Dulstone, Stuart North and Alva Fisher. Unfortunately, Maggie and Alva were unavailable on finals day so the winning teams played a pairs match. The lead changed many times but resulted in a close win by Rob and Stuart.



Calling all old Sailors!!

Or indeed anyone who has an interest in radio controlled sailing We are a local club based in St Ives, we race/sail on a Saturday morning & Wednesday afternoon, we are part of the MYA Eastern Region, and our recent move to St Ives has now doubled our membership.

We do have some space available for new members, Please come and have a chat with us on Saturday mornings at Hunts Sailing Club St Ives, or get in touch via the web site <https://HRYC.CO.UK>





Fenstanton Friendship Club

It is now 74 years since the club was founded and we are looking forward to many more years of meetings. We meet every other Wednesday at 2.00pm in the building of the United Reformed Church in Chequer Street. Although we hold our meetings in the church building we are not affiliated to the church. Our activities are varied and include speakers on various subjects, entertainers, trips out to lunch, cream teas and boat trips on The Ladybird. Previously we have had holidays in Eastbourne.

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



16 August We were entertained by Jennifer and Joan who are buskers in St Ives. An enjoyable afternoon of music and fun.

30 August We were pleased to see the sunshine as we set off on our trip to Cromer. We hired a 19 seater coach from Safford's and were very pleased with both the vehicle and the driver. It was a very pleasant outing and everybody enjoyed the day. To be repeated, I'm sure.



Upcoming Meetings

11 October Lunch out at the Hartford Mill where we will enjoy a delicious carvery.

25 October Adrian Fox will speak about his experiences in Antarctica.

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

Note from the publisher

For advertising opportunities please email info@thejournal.life. Space is booked on a yearly subscription basis and runs from September 23 until August 24. Priority will always be given to local businesses. The Journal takes no responsibility for the standard of goods or services provided and accepts no liability on any loss or damage from acceptance of any advertisers.

What you're Missing

Fenstanton Glebe Allotment Association

An Asset of Community Value

Despite the strange weather we have encountered this year, many plotholders are enjoying bountiful harvests of fruit, vegetables and flowers.

It is likely that plots may become available in the near future, and we invite interest from any readers who live in Fenstanton, Hilton and Fen Drayton.

If you think you might be interested in an allotment plot, please get in touch. You would be welcome to come down and have a look around the site to see what is possible and to understand the commitment that is required.

Jan Stone, Secretary - janstone4@btinternet.com



Fenstanton Football Club

September has brought on the start of another season for Fenstanton FC and we are pleased to say we are busier than ever!

Our small club caters for every age group from the under 7's right through to men's adult teams, including a newly formed Vets side. So pre-season has been all about registration of players, getting players match fit, tidying of club house and equipment, plus marking up new pitches. A huge thank you as always to all the coaches, parents, sponsors and various other volunteers who help make this happen. It's no mean feat.

If you fancy getting involved in any way, please do get in contact with us. We are actively wanting to gain an additional U7's manager as we have so many keen players we could start another team. We are always looking for more players across all our age groups, particularly U9's, U10's and U15's, to help bolster our teams further.

Finally, a plea to the community. We play on various pitches within the village, including the school, Hall Green Lane and the cricket field off Behagg Way.



Unfortunately, we have issues with dog fouling at the cricket pitch and intruders at Hall Green Lane pitch. If these areas can be respected, so that we can make the most of the great spaces, we can play football. It would be greatly appreciated.

Good luck Fenstanton FC and to all the players. Let's make this season one to remember.

If you would like to get in touch to discuss how to get involved please email Fenstantonfootball@outlook.com



Hilton Flower Club

Our September meeting was a great success. We had 40 ladies enjoying a wonderful display of Harvest arrangements by Ann Purt. It was lovely to see you all after the summer break

2 October:

Geoff Hodge is coming to give a talk and slide show on "Colour All Through The Year".

Geoff has been an editor of several garden magazines and also been on the BBC. It should be a very interesting afternoon.

6 November:

Elizabeth Robertson will be our flower demonstrator; we haven't seen her before, so we are looking forward to meeting her.

Hilton Village Hall: 2pm - 4pm

Entrance: £6.00 (includes tea/biscuits)

Look forward to seeing you all again. Beverley



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Captured Moments



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Parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme...

It is difficult to think of these herbs without hearing Simon and Garfunkel singing them on their way to 'Strawberry Fair'. As well as pleasing the ear, these herbs also please our palates, bringing extra flavour to many recipes.

Culinary herbs, as distinct from medicinal ones, have been cultivated in gardens throughout the centuries. When meat was salted to preserve it or old and tough, in lean times, herbs helped to revitalise it. Nowadays, with sophisticated food preservation, we have a good supply of food and can afford to experiment and discriminate.

Our range of herbs has expanded and we have the luxury of being able to add Mediterranean herbs such as basil or Asian ones such as coriander. Both herbs are available to buy potted up in supermarkets. The pots are small and grow well on a sunny window-sill for a few weeks if kept well-watered. If re-potted in larger pots with more soil, the herbs, rewardingly last longer, but they are annuals and need to be re-sown (or bought again) every year.



Parsley is another annual herb and notoriously hard to germinate. Advice on encouraging the seeds includes either pouring boiling water on them, or putting them in the fridge overnight....hmm worryingly contradictory! Another approach is to buy a supermarket pot or two and plant it, or them, outside where with more light and soil they will establish themselves and even colonise by spreading their own seed.



Sage, rosemary, thyme and are perennials. All of them have interesting foliage and look good in borders or containers. There are purple sages, tri-colour sages; thymes come in different sizes and colours and rosemary looks good in large clay pots as shown in the famous Sissinghurst Garden. They are all ornamental as well as tasty.

Growing herbs near the kitchen door is a huge help. A bay tree within reach, an old sink filled with herbs, a patio pot of mint (grown alone to stop its creeping roots interfering with every other plant) are all aids to the cook and spare him/her a dowsing in wet weather.

Another source of 'fines herbes' for that classic French omelette I've never made is to visit the Hilton Community Garden which has its own herb bed just in front of the fruit cage. The plants are labelled. Please help yourselves: pick with care and leave some for others.

This year the Community Garden has been more productive because of the better growing conditions. Beans, potatoes, leeks, carrots and tomatoes in particular have done well enough for us to be able to bag them up and offer them to Hiltonians on Saturdays mornings from 11.00am -12.00 noon.

Spiced Apple Tray Bake

Quite a few of you often pick up our windfall apples from the bucket outside Honey Hill House in Fen Drayton and we love that they're not all going to waste!

If you're stuck for ideas, this is my all-time-favourite Spiced Apple Tray bake recipe! A bit crumbly, but very yummy!

Ingredients

1½ lb (680g) cooking apples (peeled, cored and finely chopped). I've also used eating apples.
3 oz (85g) sultanas/raisins
1½ oz (40g) chopped mixed nuts
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon (add in 2 tsp mixed spice if you like)
3 oz (85g) demerara sugar
6 oz (170g) granulated sugar
7½ oz (210g) self-raising flour
6 oz (170g) butter (melted)
2 small eggs (beaten) - for double quantities
3 large eggs is fine

Preparation

Set the oven to Gas mark 4, 180° C (160-170° C if a fan oven) . Grease & line a roasting tin 12 x 8 inches (20 x 30 cm).

Mix the chopped apples, sultanas, nuts, spices and demerara sugar together. In a separate bowl beat the granulated sugar, flour, melted butter and beaten eggs together to make a thick batter. Spread half the batter on the base of the tin.

Mix the remaining batter in with the apple mixture and dollop this on top of the batter and lightly press down. Bake for about 50-60 mins. It should be springy to touch and well risen but a skewer test doesn't always work because it's a sticky cake!

Serve hot or cold, on its own or with custard, cream or ice-cream

Now come and get those apples!

Jo Hitchins



FENSTANTON
Christmas
LIGHTS

Friday 1st December
6.30pm - 8.00pm at The Clock Tower

Festive Stalls
Hog Roast
Music
Draught Beer
Mulled Wine
Soft Drinks

Santa switches the lights on at 7.00pm

Fenstanton Christmas Lights Committee

Step into the Past

History of Fen Drayton

by Richard Close

Firstly, many thanks to all involved in the new Journal Magazine, which is much appreciated.

I was going to offer a simple history of Fen Drayton and yes I was going to crib from the previous ones we did for the Fen Drayton News and the Millennium 2000 Book. But I've gone off piste!

Where to start. 100 Million years ago?

Ridiculous you might say, but no. The fossils we found in the gravel workings of the late 1950's/early60's that were coming up from 30 feet down were indeed from that deep time. Ammonites and sea-urchins etc. Of course, when they were alive the sea they were swimming in was warm and dinosaurs ruled the land. Perhaps a later piece could be done on the old fossils, the later fossils of mammoth and items connected to earlier humans who 'walked our way', a few thousands of years ago.

So, throwing one bit of paper in the bin, I had further thoughts. How about our oldest building and oldest photograph?

There are many interesting things to say about our oldest building; St Marys Church built c1300, particularly how a victorian cleric was able to rescue it from its very poor condition so that we have it today.

Also further down the village there was a very large Methodist Chapel that we do not have today. Whilst looking through pictures of these two buildings I noticed a very passable drawing of St Marys (opposite page) by our last Vicar John Yule. Then another drawing

by someone who offered some connections to both Fenstanton and Hilton. His name was Frank Stukins. His family lived at Three Ways Cottage opposite the Three Tuns. Born about 1920, life dealt him an early blow when he contracted polio and was disabled.

When he left school he became a delivery boy for a grocers shop (The International Stores I think) just over the bridge in St.Ives. With difficulty he rode a delivery bike around St.Ives. Later in his life he became a clerk in the office of The Land Settlement Association Fen Drayton.

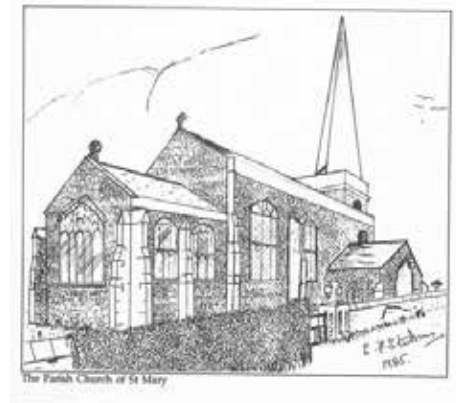
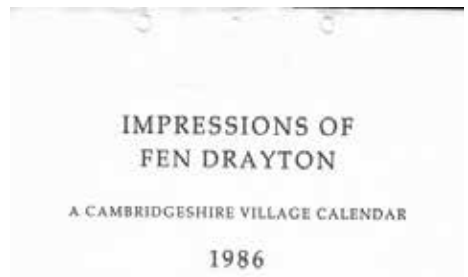
Then he got a job with International Combustion Derby putting together kitting lists for major boiler and power plants and





difficult beginnings Doris found her place in the large land settlement packing shed, organising the packing and marketing of the flowers and vegetables. She was known not to stand any nonsense and would ring around markets to get the best price for the growers. She retired to Fenstanton and took up lawn bowls and apparently became a very good bowler in Miss Pitfields time. Perhaps someone remembers her? (and has a photo)

Also shown is an 1866 photograph (left) of the newly built Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in what was then Green Lane, later named Cootes Lane after Mr Thomas Cootes of Fenstanton and St.Ives. The Chapel was built by Mr Cooper for £1,100 and was demolished in 1986. Much more can be said on both buildings in the future.



moved to Duffield. He rode a large three wheel bike and would take it back and forth on the train. He never asked for help or assistance with his disability and was highly thought of by employers. When computers came in he thought his job was finished. However the computer programming made mistakes and Frank famously did a test against a computer and put a big project together quicker and more accurately. So, his job lasted a few more years until retirement. Frank had many friends in Hilton and attended the Methodist Church whenever possible. Maybe someone remembers him? Frank had a sister Doris (Stukins). Again from

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Fen Drayton Primary School	2.30pm – 3.30pm
Fen Drayton War Memorial	3.40pm – 4.10pm

Route H11 – 2nd Tuesday In The Month

Hilton Village Hall	2.00pm – 2.40pm
Fenstanton Headlands	2.50pm – 3.40pm
Fenstanton Chapel Green	3.50pm – 4.20pm

Route H25 – 4th Thursday In The Month

Fenstanton Chapel Green	9.30am – 10.00am
Fenstanton Headlands	10.10am – 10.45am

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Hilton Parish Council

Report from meeting on Monday 04 September

County Broadband

Craig Larter of County Broadband attended the meeting to provide an update regarding their project to roll out ultrafast broadband. The delays have been caused by their contractor being unable to meet agreed timescales and so County Broadband has now appointed a new contractor.

The installation work in the village is due to commence on 02 October and will be expected to be completed in February. There will then be a period of 12 weeks for surveying the new network and connecting the preorder customers. New customers will then be connected once the preorder customers are complete.

Wilderness/Green Scrub

The Council has authorised the Maintenance Contractor to clear the scrub from the Wilderness and Green.

Royal British Legion

The Council has agreed to donate £60 to the Royal British Legion.

Maze Repairs

The Council noted receipt of the first quote for the maze repairs for £3,290 and requested two further quotes.

CAPALC Conference

The Clerk will attend the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils Conference on behalf of the Council.

Path Maintenance

The Council noted the comments made about the maintenance of the footpaths and agreed that, in the absence of a Maintenance Person, the volunteers' group would be asked to work on these paths.

Playground Inspection

The report for the inspection was received and whilst all matters were either low or very low risk, the Council has asked the Clerk to obtain quotes for a secondary safety device for the basket swing.

Highway Improvement Strategy

The LHI working group has been tasked with producing a long term strategy for highway improvements to present to a future council meeting.

School Bus Stops

Concerns have been raised about the location of the Swavesey School bus stop and the need for the students to cross Potton

Remembrance Day Lest we forget



Royal British Legion in Hilton

Poppy Appeal 2023

Margaret & Charles Andrew are hosting an

OPEN HOUSE

11am - 4pm

Saturday 28th October 2023

6 Mill Hill End, Hilton, PE28 9NX

Tea, coffee, cake & raffle

Donations for poppies by cash or QR reader



Road. The Clerk will write to the school, bus company and CCC school transport department to request that the Potton Road stop is reinstated in addition to the Scotts Crescent stop to prevent the students having to cross the Potton Road

Community Gritting Scheme

This scheme is open for volunteers again and any interested parishioners are requested to contact the Clerk.

HDC Climate Conversation

Cllr Rob Dulstone will attend this event on behalf of the Council.

Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund

The Clerk will submit an expression of interest to this fund for the Pavilion refurbishment.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 02 October 2023 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.

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.



7 October 10:00am to 12 noon

4 November 10:00am to 12 noon

Hope you will be able to join us!

Healthy Eating On a Budget

Educational Cooking Workshop

Saturday 21 October 2023

10:30am - 12:30pm

Hilton Village Hall

FREE

Take home ingredients

Take home recipes

Food Tasting

For more info and to book, contact:
clerk@hiltonparishcouncil.com



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HILTON Fireworks & Bonfire



Saturday 4th November
£3 per adult, £2 per child
Under school age free
Gate opens at 6pm
Fireworks start at 7pm

Food and drink available
courtesy of Hilton Feast Week



Please, no sparklers. Light up toys will be available to purchase.

Parking is restricted so please consider walking.

In the interests of safety please do not drive up Wraggs Row.

Combustible bonfire donations will be accepted from Hilton residents on Saturday 4th November from 9am to 1pm—no manufactured boards please (including chipboard, particle board, plywood, etc).

Afoot in the Garden



My third garden wish is for the clocks to change with the seasons, 30 minutes a season, 4 times a year!!!! From Sunday 29th gardening will be restricted by the dark evenings which makes October an important month for winter prep.

Preparing for the Winter ahead

Clean patios and paths, especially in shady areas, and repoint as necessary, they will be less slippery in winter's frost and snow? Hose pipes can be drained and packed away for the winter while taps should be isolated or wrapped to prevent them from freezing. Check the stability of fencing and timber structures, oil hinges, check latches locks and lighting.

Many modern garden plants were not deemed hardy 40 years ago. Last winter's plant losses reminded me to follow the old rules for winter protection. Delay pruning until spring can keep frost from the heart of less hardy plants. Mulching will add more protection especially if the mulch is distributed around the base. This spring I found a dead Star Jasmine (*Trachelospermum*) while 2m away mulched banana trees were merrily throwing out leaves. Phormiums and cordylines etc should be wrapped.

Mulching regularly helps improve water retention, soil structure and feeds the soil while worms love it and Blackbirds and Robins love worms. Plants in pots are 6 degrees more susceptible to frost, place them against a wall and wrap to the wall in cold spells is great protection.

October is not too late for bulb planting or sowing hardy annuals. Sweet peas can be sown and shrubs can be propagated from hardwood cuttings.

While the soil is still warm enough for root growth perennials can be divided and trees and shrubs planted. Lawns can be scarified and any bare patches re-sown with grass seed mixed with top soil/John Innes compost.

Box Tree Caterpillar

I have an info sheet on box tree caterpillar which I can send you via email.

raypuddefoot@gmail.com



OCTOBER *Top Tips*

- Clean patios and paths
- Mulch borders
- Plant spring bulbs, trees and shrubs
- Divide perennials
- Take cuttings

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An update from Fen Drayton Lakes

Whilst out working around the reserve, it's quite common for curious visitors to approach us with questions about how we manage this expansive site and how many staff members are responsible for its upkeep. Their reactions are typically a mix of surprise and appreciation when we say that only two of us are entrusted with the on-site care and maintenance of this sprawling, almost 400-hectare reserve, complete with an extensive network of around 16 kilometres of pathways. It's at this point that we can take the opportunity to extol our unsung heroes without whom we would not be able to cope – our extraordinary team of volunteers, upon whose dedication we heavily rely.

These outstanding individuals play a pivotal role in ensuring the smooth functioning of our reserve. Whether they're walking the trails to pick up litter, inspecting infrastructure for signs of wear and tear, running events to engage the community, extending warm welcomes to visitors in the car park, conducting breeding bird and biodiversity surveys, or undertaking crucial habitat and infrastructure management work, it's safe to say there is virtually no aspect of our operations in which volunteers aren't deeply embedded and we simply could not manage without them. To date this year, from January through to early September, we have logged almost 2000 volunteer hours across the various roles.

Our volunteer force is as diverse as the reserve habitats they help protect. Spanning a wide range of ages, from enthusiastic teenagers to experienced octogenarians, they represent an eclectic mix of backgrounds and interests. Some among them are keen

birders and nature enthusiasts, while others simply relish the opportunity to spend a few hours outdoors either alone or with other like-minded people. What unites them all is a passion for our reserve, a shared eagerness to be actively involved and an invaluable commitment to its sustained management and success.

If you would like more information about the volunteering opportunities here at Fen Drayton Lakes, please get in touch.



Wednesday Wander

Ever thought you'd like to know more about the reserve and its wildlife? Volunteer-led guided walks take place once a month, usually on the second Wednesday. To see further details and book, please visit: www.events.rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes.

Email: fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk

Phone: 01954 233260

Visit rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity: England and Wales no. 207076, Scotland no. SC037654

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
Huntingdon District Council	01480 388388
South Cambs District Council	0345 045 0500

Community Groups and Clubs

Books and Jigsaws at FURC	01480 498221
Fen Drayton Bowls Club	01480 385297
Fen Drayton Lions FC	07718 900880
Fen Drayton Parent and Toddlers	07549 630124
Fen Drayton Tennis Club	01954 231752
Fen Drayton Yoga	07864 510472
Fen Shanty Folk	07841 599492
Fenstanton Baby and Toddler Group	07742 259653
Fenstanton Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	07531 863368
Fenstanton Bowls Club	07541 968125
Fenstanton Community Hub	07949 453767
Fenstanton Football Club	07531 863368
Fenstanton Friendship Club	01480 350119
Fenstanton Glebe Allotments	07817 786298
Fenstanton Indoor Bowls	01480 497202
Fenstanton Knitter and Natters	01480 498221
Fenstanton Litter Picking	07949 453767
Fenstanton Rainbows, Brownies and Guides	07730 369565
Fenstanton Speed Watch	07949 453767
Hilton Aerobics	01480 832321
Hilton Art Club	01480 830696
Hilton Baby and Toddler Group	07527 394945
Hilton British Legion	01480 831186
Hilton Community Garden	01480 830707
Hilton Flower Club	01480 830571
Hilton HGV Watch	07768 294878

Community Groups and Clubs

Hilton Neighbourhood Watch	01480 831658
Hilton Pilates	07733 307475
Hilton Rainbows and Brownies	07970 404569
Hilton Speed Watch	07540 811115
Hilton Town Trust	01480 830866
Hilton WI	01480 831186
RSPB	01954 233260
Slimming World	07568 444140

Community events

Fen Drayton 10k run	07919 254467
Fenstanton Sports Day	01480 370973
Hilton Feast Week	01480 830605
Hilton Produce Show	01480 830412
Hilton Summer Ball	01480 831299

Education

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

Churches

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

Emergency numbers

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

Emergency numbers

Non emergency Police	101
Papworth pharmacy	01480 831415
Papworth surgery	01480 830888
Power cut	0800 678 3105
Samaritians	08457 909090
Swavesey surgery	01954 230202
Water leak	0800 316 7676

Buses

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

Pubs and eating places

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

Retail

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

Garden services

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

Decorators

D Moody	01480 465400
Jason Kirby	01954 211775

Design, printing and copying

St Ives Quickprint Ltd	01480 465215
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Household services

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

Electricians

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

Plumbing and Heating Engineers

J Halstead	01480 830329
MDS	01480 800810
RDS	01954 770309

Building services and supplies

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

Car servicing and repairs

Graveley Garage	01480 830462
Wilderspin Garage	01954 230273

The Journal

Advertising	07768 274456
Circulation	07876 446565
Editorial - Fen Drayton	07711 843617
Editorial - Fenstanton	07952 838121
Editorial - Hilton	07793 794431



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Or email: churchcentre@outlook.com
Or contact: Mrs P Hucklesby: 01954 230471

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PUDDING

WEEKEND

FRIDAY, 13 OCT

SATURDAY, 14 OCT



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