



Editorial

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2014. As the festive season becomes a distant memory, our thoughts turn to another year of events and activities to entertain, stimulate, educate and provide us all with opportunities to meet old friends and make new ones. As you'll see, there is so much happening over the coming months, it's difficult to know where to start.

The Village Hall's programme kicks off with an evening of antiques and anecdotes with Richard Barnwell. Our regular Thursday Keep Fit and Tuesday Line Dancing sessions are seeking new participants, so if you've thought about it, but not taken the plunge, now's the time. The monthly Coffee Mornings have moved to Thursdays and continue to be popular. Check the dates on the back page and come and join us. We have an evening of Songs from the Musicals with David Martin on 31st May and a Race Night on 1st November to look forward to. Before that, we'll be co-ordinating the canine chaos at the Village Fete, so start preparing your pampered pooches now.

Elsewhere, there's a Street Pride Litter Pick this Sunday morning, a Table Top Sale at the Church on Sunday 23rd February and the Fete Committee have an Open Meeting on Wednesday 26th February to present their plans for the 2014 Fete and to recruit helpers to make it all happen. The Parish Council Parish Assembly takes place on Monday 3rd March and training for members of the new Speedwatch group on Tuesday 4th March. There's an evening of Music and Comedy at Tydd St Giles Community Centre on Saturday 22nd March to raise funds for the Friends of the Church and the Village Fete. Finally, there is a chocolate-themed cookery demonstration on Friday 4th April, also in aid of the Fete.

A lot of work goes into organising each of these events and activities, so please come and lend your support and have a good time too.

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent meeting with Steve Barclay MP regarding speeding and other traffic issues in the village. Your thoughts and suggestions have been collated and will be used by the Parish Council and our other elected representatives to press for action. If you would like to participate in the Speedwatch training, please contact Sam Clark immediately on 07887 485795.

STOP PRESS - Public Consultation by Maxey Grounds & Co on two planning applications, each for 4 houses in Church Lane. Monday 24th February, 4.00 to 6.00pm, Village Hall. All welcome.

An Evening with Richard Barnwell

Friday 28th February
7.00 for 7.30

Join us for an evening of education and entertainment with local celebrity Richard Barnwell, former High Sheriff and Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, County, District and Town Councillor, Mayor of Wisbech, antiques aficionado, auctioneer, wit and raconteur.

Richard will talk about his collection of antiques and bygones, as well as his experiences in public life.

Tickets £5 including refreshments
From Dee Markham 871158
dee@newtonvillagehall.org.uk

KEEP FIT and CIRCUIT TRAINING FOR ALL AGES

Gentle warm-up followed by some easily managed exercises which can be adapted to your own individual fitness level. You will be able to do everything on the circuit to your own ability.

The classes can be enjoyed by men and women alike, so come along, have some fun and get fit

**Every Thursday Evening
in the Village Hall
6.30 - 7.30pm. Only £4!**

For more information please ring
Katie 07789 792089
or Dee 871158

Forthcoming Events at your Village Hall

Line Dancing - Tuesday evenings
Feb 11th 25th March 4th 11th 25th
April 1st 8th 22nd 29th
May 6th 13th 27th
Beginners 7.00 - 8.00
Improvers 8.00 - 9.00
£4

Keep Fit - Thursday evenings
6.30 - 7.30
£4

Coffee Mornings - Thursdays
27th Feb, 27th March, 24th April
10.30 - 12.30

Street Pride Litter Pick
Sunday 9th February
10.30

Fete Open Meeting
Wednesday 26th February
7.00

Evening with Richard Barnwell
Friday 28th February
7.00
£5

**Newton Parish Council
Parish Assembly**
Monday 3rd March
7.00

**Chocolate Heaven
Cookery Demonstration**
Friday 4th April
7.15
£5

**Songs from the Shows
with David Martin**
Saturday 31st May
7.00

The Ladies Club
Meetings on the 3rd Tuesday
each month at 7.00
Enquiries: Debra 870701

The Bowls Club
Regular Quiz and Bingo nights
Enquiries: Norris 870782

The Gardening Club
Meetings on the 4th Sunday
each month at 10am
Enquiries: Shirley 870060

SATURDAY 22ND MARCH

**FOR ONE
NIGHT ONLY**

**Music
&
Laughter**

STARRING

JIB PHILIPS A AND **IAN LARKIN**
SINGER SONGWRITER MUSICIAN MULTI-INSTRUMENTAL COMEDIAN

AT TYDD ST GILES COMMUNITY CENTRE

BROAD DROVE EAST, TYDD ST GILES, WISBECH, PE13 5LN

7.00 FOR 7.30PM

TWO-COURSE ROAST CHICKEN DINNER - WAITRESS SERVICE - LICENSED BAR
ROAST PORK OR VEGETARIAN ALTERNATIVE IF PRE-BOOKED WHEN BOOKING

TICKETS £20 AVAILABLE NOW FROM

DAVID SMITH
DAVIDSMITH@CROFTGRANGE.CO.UK
01945 870909

MARGARET HORSPOOL
MERVYN.HORSPOOL@BTINTERNET.COM
01945 871461

PRE-BOOKING ESSENTIAL - NO TICKETS ON THE DOOR

PROCEEDS TO THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES CHURCH AND THE NEWTON VILLAGE FETE COMMITTEE



Litter Pick

Help Tidy Up Your Village

Litter-pickers, gloves and hi-vis vests are provided, it's fun, healthy and all ages can take part (under 16's must have parental consent)

**Meet outside the Village Hall
on Sunday 9th February
at 10.30**

For more details contact Sam Clark 07887 485795

FRIENDS OF ST JAMES' CHURCH

TABLE TOP SALE

SUNDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

To be held in St James' Church, Newton

Doors open at 9.30am
10.30am start

£5 per table/space

Refreshments available

Please contact 870201 or 870775

ST JAMES' CHURCH

The church looked lovely for the Christmas services many thanks to the people who worked to clean and decorate it.

It was a pleasure to see the church so well attended for the Christmas Carol Service on 22nd December. There was an informal atmosphere after the service when the congregation enjoyed a festive sherry and mince pie.

A collection was made in aid of the Wisbech Food Bank and this raised £245. Thank you for your generosity.

St James' supports the Food Bank throughout the year and any non-perishable food donations are always welcome. Please bring to the church or contact Mrs D. Wright Tel. 870701



**Bishop Stephen will be attending
the Palm Sunday service at
St James' Newton on
13th April at 10.00am**

This will be a joint service for the three parishes of Leverington, Tydd St Giles and Newton and will be followed by the consecration of the graveyard extension at Newton.

**Good Friday service, 18th April,
Tydd St Giles church 2.00pm**

**The Easter Sunday service, 20th April,
Newton 9.00am**

Newton Village Fete Committee

**Chocolate
Heaven**

**Cookery Demo and Tastings
with Alison Sloan**

Friday April 4th

7.15 for 7.30

Newton Village Hall

Admission by ticket £5

from: Maxine 870524

or Pat 870271

Do you have a new neighbour
or know of someone moving to this area?
Contact Wendy on 738521 or wendy@talktalk.net
and they will receive one of our special Welcome Packs

Newton Parish Council

We welcome three new Councillors, Cllrs Jandy Kooreman, Alison Sloan and Dave Gibbs, who replace Councillors Richard Scott, Debra Wright and Neville Johnson, the latter having served on the Parish Council for 30 years. We would like to thank them all for their commitment. We would also like to congratulate our Parish Council Chairman Cllr John Hoyles on being awarded an MBE.

Speeding continues to be a serious concern and an encouraging meeting to discuss the matter was held recently, attended by a number of residents, Parish Councillors, Steve Barclay MP and Cambridgeshire County Cllr Alan Lay. A Speedwatch Team with the help of the police and residents is to be set up to monitor speeding within the village; we hope this will encourage drivers to take care. We would like to thank Mr Anthony Foster for providing a venue and refreshments for the event.

Cllr Sam Clark is circulating survey forms to residents to ascertain their views on the Old School site. It is hoped that the results will provide enough evidence to enable some progress to be made, to improve the site, however this is a long slow process. The forthcoming year will see a reduction in the grants received from Fenland District Council which makes keeping the village well maintained even more difficult.

Cllr Doug Fullbrook with the help of the Community Payback Team has been busy locating and clearing the drain in the playing field. The Team have carried out a number of projects within the village over the past year which has helped to maintain the appearance of the village.

The Parish Council continues to work to try and resolve issues relating to the village. The Parish notice board on the High Road is continually updated along with information and contacts for the Parish Council and other village organisations.

Our next Parish Council meeting is to be held on Monday 3rd March at 7pm in the Village Hall and will commence with the Annual Parish Assembly. This gives residents the opportunity to discuss any issues or concerns they may have, and also to meet the Councillors.

Finally, our thanks also to the editor of the Village Hall Newsletter for including our news items.

Newton Village Fete

Your Fete



Needs You

Plans are now well under way for the 2014 Village Fete, but it's time for you to have your say. We need your ideas and suggestions, but most importantly, we need you to be there on 28th June to lend a hand on the big day.

Come to the **Open Meeting on Wednesday 26th February** at 7.00pm in the Village Hall to find out how you can be part of the biggest and best event in the village calendar. Help is needed to set up before the Fete, act as stewards to welcome our guests and then clear away afterwards. No experience necessary and there really is something for everybody. It's great fun and you'll be making a huge contribution to village life.

For further details contact Geoff Wilkinson on 870271.

We're All In It Together!



This strange object appeared in the St James Church cemetery during the afternoon of Saturday 25th January 2014.

Walking away after construction I heard someone remark: "Looks like a funeral pyre, don't it?" - which got me thinking. Could this be the answer to the shortage of burial space in the cemetery? Well, maybe not. American Indians and ancient Vikings lit funeral pyres to honour their dead, and it is accepted practice among Buddhist and Hindu religions, but the practice is largely taboo.....and especially so in Newton.

So - what's it all about? Some nearby unsafe trees were in need of felling and 5 headstones directly in the line of fire needed protection. The solution - to temporarily move the 2 largest headstones to a safer place (visible in the picture background) and construct a cradle to protect the remaining 3 smaller headstones.

The cradle was a simple construction of railway sleepers on loan from Patrick Bros., Murrow, fence posts intended for my front garden later this year and straw bales purchased as 'props' for the Newton Village Gardening Club BBQ in July (note theme: Cowboys and Indians!!). Simple, that is, until the lorry delivering the sleepers broke down (honest!) with the consequence that the work programme might have slipped by at least a week.

Fortunately, someone was thinking outside the box; enter the ever resourceful Probation Service riding to the rescue and collecting the sleepers using their own transport. This enabled the deadline to be met (no pun intended) ahead of the severe thunderstorm which arrived later the same day.

By the time you read this the trees will have been cut down and made safe and the headstones restored to their rightful position - and all at no cost to the village (you) - thanks to the generosity of Patrick Bros. and the Gardening Club, the work of the Probation Service, the time and skill of Raymond Kublik and Jandy Kooreman plus a cherry picker loaned to the Parish free of charge by Jandy's 'contact'.

There must be a moral or 't(h)ree' here somewhere:

- "If you don't ask you don't get"; you'll be surprised at how helpful and generous people can be if the approach is right.
- "Many hands make light work"; it took 6 men (Payback Team) to lift and move each of the 2 large headstones.
- "Give credit where credit is due"; very many thanks to all of those concerned for a job well done.

Contributed by Doug Fullbrook

Newton Village Gardening Club

There was a lower turnout than there has been in previous years for the Annual Christmas Dinner at Newton Village Hall. The meal, cooked and served by Roffe's Catering, was accompanied by beer and wine made by the Treasurer, Doug Fullbrook.

After the meal the Chairman, John Hobart, gave out the awards to the winners of the 2013 Produce Competition. There was also a raffle organised by Morris Arnold and Ken & Marian Sherry brought along the trophies for their winning Wisbech in Bloom entries to show everyone.

Although not confirmed yet, the programme of events for 2014 is as follows:

23rd February: AGM & Club DVD Preview

23rd March: Talk on Bonsai for Beginners

27th April: Seedling & Plant Auction and Quiz

18th May: Outing to Sheringham Park

22nd June: Visit to Ken and Marian Sherry's garden

27th July: Club Barbeque

17th August: Visit to John Hoyles' garden

28th September: Our Annual Produce Competition

26th October: Talk TBA

23rd November: Talk, Orchid Growing for Beginners

14th December: Annual Christmas Dinner

Please contact Shirley de-Groome for more information.

Newton Ladies Club

The Ladies Club's Christmas Party was a splendid affair, with a lovely selection of festive food and top class entertainment from Rapport.

In February, members will have a chance to try their hand at Jewellery Making. It's thinking caps on in March for the annual Quiz and the year finishes in April with the AGM and 20th Anniversary celebration.

For further information, contact *Debra Wright* (Secretary) 870701 or *Steph Sands* (Chairman) 870096.

Fenland Bonsai Club

We are a small group of Bonsai enthusiasts from the Fenland, West Norfolk, North Cambridgeshire and South Lincolnshire areas who meet once a month to learn about and enjoy our hobby. Some of our members have many years' experience, and some are beginners - everyone is welcome.

We have a planned program of events including several social events and a regular series of club workshops with the Japanese tutor Nobuyuki Kajiwara.

Club nights are very informal and can cover any subject from basic help for novices to more advanced subjects. All our members are keen to pass on their skills to anyone who is interested in the hobby.

We meet at Newton Village Hall on the third Friday of every month from 7.30 to 9.30pm. For more information, visit our website www.fenland-bonsai.co.uk

Newton Bowls Club

The Bowls Club's AGM takes place on Thursday 27th February in the Clubhouse, so look out for details of our forthcoming fundraising events.

On Sunday 6th April we will be taking part in a Charity Bowls Challenge against Long Sutton Cricket Club at Long Sutton Indoor Bowls Club. Doors open 1.30 for a 2.00 start including a meal. For details of how you can come along and support us, ring Norrie on 870782.

Heating Oil

Are you paying too much?

Members of Cambridgeshire ACRE's Community Oil Buying Scheme save money on every order. For a membership fee of just £20 per year you can place as many orders as you wish. The minimum order size is 500 litres.

For further information, contact Cambridgeshire ACRE on 01353 860850 or visit their website www.cambsacre.org.uk

DROP-IN COFFEE MORNING

Last Thursday of Every Month

27th February

27th March

24th April

10.30 - 12.30

In the Village Hall

All Welcome ~ Just Turn Up

Transport available, please phone

For further information,

call Margaret on 870083

LEVERINGTON CHARITY FEOFFEES

(Charity No: 232526)

Help for Widows in the Parish of Newton who are in need, hardship or distress

Thomas Criplin Trust

Applications for Grants from the above Trust will be considered from

Widows of the Parish of Newton

For an application form please send a stamped addressed envelope to

The Clerk:
Mrs R J Gagen
78 High Road
Gorefield
Wisbech
PE13 4NB

for return by **28th February 2014**

NEWTON VILLAGE HALL

Registered Charity No 274101

A perfect venue at an affordable price.

Facilities include:

Fully equipped kitchen
Secure grassed garden area
Accommodation for 120 seated
or 100 for dancing
Easy access for disabled visitors

Hire charges:

Meetings from £20, all day rate £75
Private parties for children £30*
adults/evening £50*
Fundraising events £30*
(*Up to 4 hours duration, incl set-up)

To book the hall for *your* event call 871158
bookings@newtonvillagehall.org.uk
www.newtonvillagehall.org.uk

This newsletter is published by the Management Committee of Newton Village Hall

Registered Charity No 274101

on behalf of the many community groups in Newton.

For up-to-date details of events and activities in the Village
see the What's On page of the village website

www.newtonintheisle.org.uk