

Village Voices

November 2022

Covering the areas of Gorefield, Guyhirn, Murrow, Parson Drove, Rings End, Thorney Toll, & Wisbech St Mary



CHURCHES AT YOUR SERVICE EACH MONTH

Residents and visitors of all ages are very welcome at any of these services.

Emmanuel Church - Parson Drove and Murrow

Weekly Sunday service at 9.00am

1st Sunday - Morning Worship

2nd & 4th Sunday – Holy Communion

3rd Sunday – Breakfast Church

St. Paul's Church - Gorefield.

Weekly Sunday service at 10 am

1st & 3rd Sunday – Holy Communion

2nd & 4th Sunday – Morning Prayer

Wisbech St. Mary & Guyhirn Parish Church

Weekly Sunday service at 11.15am

1st & 3rd Sunday – Morning Prayer

2nd & 4th Sunday – Holy Communion



13th November Remembrance Sunday

9.00am **Remembrance Service** (Parson Drove)

Followed by an act of remembrance at Parson Drove war memorial and Murrow war memorial.

10.00am **Remembrance Service** (Gorefield)

11.00am **Remembrance Service** (Wisbech St Mary)

Followed by an act of remembrance at Guyhirn c1230

4.00pm Zoom Service Remembrance. If you would like to join this service, ask your Churchwardens and a link can be sent to you.

Parish Register



Baptisms

October Fenwick (Leverington)

Steele Dunmore-Kimber (Gorefield)

Weddings

Thomas Thornalley & Hannah

Harrell (Wisbech St Mary)

Sean Richardson & Victoria Marshall

(Wisbech St Mary)

James Cunningham & Chanel Woodward (Parson Drove)

Funerals



Jason Squire (Tydd St Giles)

Ernie Lewis (Parson Drove)

Dawn Mace (Gorefield)

Lonnie Fyson (Parson Drove)

Ken Ledger (Tydd St Giles)

Murrow Methodist Church

Every Sunday morning 10.30am

Everyone welcome.



Rambblings from Rev Sandra

As the summer draws to a close and we seem to crash headlong into autumn, we have marked the changing seasons with the harvest thanksgivings across the

area. Those celebrations gave us a chance to pause, however briefly, to acknowledge the many gifts that come to us in our lives.



November also gives us an opportunity to pause and remember; only this time, it is to remember those who have died in the service of our country. For some, this is a very personal remembrance, as they call to mind people they have known and loved. For the vast majority of us, we are remembering people we have never met.

There will be an act of remembrance in all of our parish churches and war memorials on 13th November, an act that will be replicated across the country in thousands of places. Thousands of names will be read out from war memorials up and down the country. Whilst we may not know those remembered, it is still important that history does not forget them or their actions.



It is only from learning the lessons of history that we can move forward, and with God's help, to create a better future within our own communities as well as across the world. Whilst we may believe that the prevention of wars is in the hands of politicians, it is in our hands too.

I believe that God's call is always to peace, but it is also to justice and mercy. This call of God to peace can only be found through love. To love with this kind of love is to put the needs of our neighbour ahead of or at least equal to our own, and by loving our neighbours in this way we can take our own steps to create the bonds that build up peace and not hatred.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. (John 15:13)

Sandra

All bookings for baptisms and wedding are now taken at the vestry mornings held at St Leonard's Leverington. They run between 10am and 12, and the next vestry morning is on: 5th November, and 10th December.



CONTACT DETAILS

Rev Sandra Gardner 01945 581486

sandra.gardner952@btinternet.com

Rev Janet Phillips 01945 589034

Kate Pateman 01945 870154

Margaret Tanner 07796 172025

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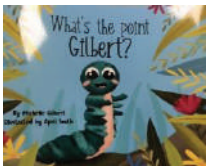


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In Kensington Class, many of us have just begun our educational journey! We have been learning our first sounds, comparing sizes, exploring the classroom and making new friends! We have also jumped straight into our new topic 'let's explore' and have been reading books such as 'Mr Gumpy's Outing' and 'We're going on a bear hunt.' – Miss Pick (Reception/ Year 1 teacher).

On the subject of stories, we are so proud that a member of our school is now a self-published children's author! Michelle Gilbert, who works in our year 5/6 classroom has recently released her first book, 'What's the point Gilbert?' Gilbert Grub takes children on a journey of self-discovery and shares an important message that we are all unique, and to discover, explore and embrace who YOU are! A book has been bought for each class at Alderman Payne and the children are enjoying this inspirational story. Well done Michelle, we wish you every success! If you would like to buy a copy the book is available on amazon or for bulk buy offers and book events email the author direct on gilbert_grub@icloud.com.



Monday to Friday 8-8:40am £2 per child

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or Barbara 07810 117972



Village Voices

is looking for a new team to take it forward. Ideally they would need some computer skills, a flare for organisation, and plenty of enthusiasm. Currently the team consists of two people, with many other volunteers in support to make it all happen. Like many community projects and organisations, Village Voices depends entirely on it's volunteers to land in 3000+ letter boxes every month.

Could you be part of that new team? If so- email the Village Voices address or call Richard on 07767 450255.

A Report on the CAR & BIKE SHOW



From
Roger
Reader

A Presentation Evening was held in Parson Drove Village Hall on Friday 23rd September when organisers of the Car Bike & Trike Show presented cheques totalling £14,100 to the following groups and organisations. Parson Drove Amenities 95 Committee, £7,000 for the upkeep of the village hall and playing field. £3,000 to East Anglian Air Ambulance and £3,000 to Magpas, £600 to Wisbech Lions and £500 to the local First Responders.

Sponsors and volunteers who helped in any way at the Car Show were invited to the Presentation Evening and thanks were conveyed to them all for their valued help and support.



St. Marks Methodist Church

with the RAOB
Charles Wymer Lodge

Financed by the John Bends Charity
Is trying to help the needy.

We are putting on a free hot dinner on the 16th November 2022 at 12.00 noon for the needy pensioners of Parson Drove.

If you would like to be considered for this dinner please telephone
Chris Coates on 07850 253860
or John Hunt on 01945 700070 or 07866108111
or email johnshunt@gmail.com



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THE HOBBY GARDENER

Pruning is not my favourite job in the garden, but November and December are good months to start. Roses and deciduous shrubs will have shed their leaves and you will be able to see the structure and any

thorns. Cut out any dead or diseased wood right back to healthy wood, and any stems that are crossing and rub together. Do not prune back too hard as you could get some die back if we have a harsh winter. Reduce the height of buddleias and lavateras by a third to reduce wind rock, then hard prune buddleias in the spring as they flower on new seasons growth.

Now all my tender plants are under cover for the winter I am going to plant some winter flowering pansies, violas and primulas in my tubs to brighten up the garden. I will underplant them with daffodils and tulips that will give plenty of colour until late spring. Variegated ivies and heathers are a nice blend with the flowers. Hellebores can be grown in tubs, but the oriental varieties will not flower until February, trim back the leaves so you can see the flowers better.

If you are lucky enough to have a garden pond clear any autumn debris out, service your pump and stop feeding the fish.



Keep an eye on the weather forecasts as you will need

to protect tender plants with garden fleece if sharp frosts are predicted. Do not forget to feed the birds, they are so good at keeping down insect pests, slugs and snails in the summer they deserve to be fed and I love to see them.



If the weather is mild you may need to give your lawn a final cut. Mine is now lovely and green following much needed rain but I think that is more to do with the clover in it. I will need to do something about it in the spring. Happy gardening!



Murrow Primary Academy

Zebra class

Zebra class have been looking in more detail about where we live. We've looked at different maps and discussed the school address. The children have had the opportunity to draw their own map, adding their houses and labelling key features from the local area. We have really enjoyed discovering that Murrow had a train track and making the link to our school logo, whilst talking about the past and looking at old photographs.

Italy class

Italy class have continued to explore fruit and vegetables and ended up making a fruit smoothie which they all enjoyed. We have also been looking at maps and how to use a compass to help us.

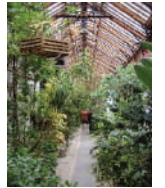
Canada class

In Canada class, we have continued to learn about the Stone age, finding out about Stonehenge. This has also linked to our class book 'Ug' which is based in the Stone age. Within Science we have been looking at the systems of the body, this has included the skeletal system, nervous system and digestive system.



Spain class

As part of our guided reading, we are studying the book 'The Wonder Garden' so we visited 'The Botanical Gardens' in Cambridge where we designed our own plants. A fun day was enjoyed by all.



EMMANUEL FLOWER FESTIVAL

We had a very successful Flower Festival with a good attendance on all three days. The displays were greatly admired, and we had some good comments and feedback. As this was our first festival since covid we were well pleased with the turnout and look forward to doing the same again next year. I would like to thank the Ladies and Gentlemen for the flower arrangements and the folk that helped with the making and serving of the refreshments. The amount raised has still to be finalised.

Our Macmillan coffee morning was equally well attended, with people still able to see the flowers that still looked quite fresh after a week. We raised £586-59 which we have handed over to our local Macmillan group in Wisbech. We would like to thank everyone who helped with cake making, manning the stalls, and helping with the refreshments.



PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Proposed Residential Development
At Land South of Ingham Hall Gardens,
Parson Drove

An opportunity to view and comment on the proposal
for a residential development
of up to 9no.

Dwellings and potential community benefit.

To be held at
Parson Drove Village Hall, Main Road,
Parson Drove

On
Saturday 19th November
from 9:00am—12:00noon

Members of the Development Team will be available
to answer your
questions in relation to the Proposals by:
Mrs G Bellamy

Contact and Enquiries: villagevoices@wisbechstmarychurch.org.uk

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MONTHLY MART

Saturday 12th November
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**Tea and Coffee with a biscuit, do
come and have a look, have a chat,**



**How many times have you lost
your balance, slipped or stumbled
in your life?**

Certainly, in childhood I remember falling off my bike, not watching where I was going, or finding myself distracted by too many exciting things happening at the same time.

But I wonder if, like me, you've noticed how this has changed with age.

Not only do we start to lose spatial awareness, but we sometimes feel our strength is no longer what it was and even co-ordinating movements becomes somewhat of a challenge.

It is so important as we age to maintain core strength, improve flexibility and motor skills, and generally keep our bodies and minds active. Come the colder weather other things conspire against us - Winter weather sees the return of slower, stiffer joints and muscles. Not to mention slipping in icy conditions and compacted snow.

Over the next few months in Village Voices and on social media I hope to be able to give you tips on how to improve your balance. Just five minutes of your time every day (or just most days, if you forget!) will help you gain confidence and build strength for more flowing movement and stability.

In the meantime, consider exercise classes that help your core strength and balance - Pilates, Yoga, Ballet for adults, Ballroom dancing, dance exercise and Tai chi. All these great exercise programmes are available locally for you to try.

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Wisbech St Mary C of E Academy

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Or by e-mail levfeoffees@aol.com

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16th November 2022

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

Wisbech St Mary & Guyhirn Church

Welcome you all for a Parish Tea
on the 30th November 2022

starting at 3.30pm

Entertainment, tea and chat and
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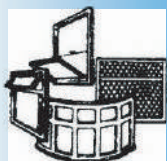
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Wisbech St Mary Church of England Academy



If you go down to the woods today... you're likely to find some of these wonderful clay creations made by our preschool children, during our Forest School session one

beautifully sunny autumnal morning. The children had the most amazing time making these clay faces and hedgehogs using different natural resources that they had found.



Our Reception class children have



been very active in October! We continued with our topic 'All About Me' and thought about our feelings and emotions. We also learnt about families

and how different they can be. We loved looking through all of the children's beautiful baby photos and talked about how we change as we get older. We have been developing our gross and fine motor skills, using different sized paintbrushes and water, to decorate and wash the outside area walls...and floor...and fence...and resources! We have also enjoyed mud painting, counting and sharing stories, stomping with dinosaurs, tasting cucamelons, our daily phonics, looking after our friends and taking selfies. As the weather has been so wonderful, we went on an autumn walk to the church, to search for conkers and other lovely treasures.

Mowbray class enjoyed a trip to the multi-skills festival in partnership with the Witchford school partnership.

We played cricket, stacking cup races and even had fun bouncing on the rebound trampolines. The children were amazing and



showed great sportsmanship throughout the event. Well done Mowbray class.



The Local Governing Body at Wisbech St Mary C of E Academy has a number of vacancies for the role of a school governor. Do you have some spare time? Would you like to be involved with the school? If you would like more information or to have an informal chat about the role, please contact Julie Coales at chair@wsmacademy.cambs.sch.uk

MARCH BEARS RUGBY CLUB CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 10th December 2022
10am-3pm



Over 20 stalls within the Clubhouse and on the field to include arts, scents, crochet & needlework and much more.

For more information, please contact Erica Kershaw: erica.kershaw@btinternet.com

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Friday 4th November 2022

Wisbech St Mary Community Centre

Doors open: 6:30pm

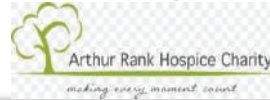
Eyes down: 7:30pm

All proceeds raised will be given to

The Cure CJD Campaign and

The Arthur Rank Hospice Charity.

Registered charity numbers: 1165398/1133354



JOHN BEND'S UNITED CHARITIES PARSON DROVE

(Charity nos: 201667 & 311353)

Applications are invited from those living in the Parish of Parson Drove who are in need, hardship or distress, according to the governing document of the above charity.

Applicants must be over 65 years of age and have lived in the village for more than five years.

All applicants will be treated sympathetically, confidentially and any special circumstances considered.

Anyone already in receipt of the grant will automatically receive an application form.

Please return the completed application form to the clerk by 31st December 2022. Late applications will not be accepted.

For new applicants please apply for application form to :Mrs D Newland (Clerk to the Trustees)

The Lodge, Mouth Lane, Guyhirn, Cambs PE13 4ES

e-mail: clerk.johnbendscharity@yahoo.com

Tel: 07870862649 / 01945 450225

LOVE TO SING CAROLS?

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Carol Service on Sunday 18 December at 6.30pm
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Interesting and Curious Facts of Yesteryear

Unusual, fascinating and sometimes amusing, by the author of "Wisbech's Secret Princess," and "Interesting and Curious facts of Yesteryear, 31 stories of Wisbech & the Fenlands," Chris Donald



Guy Fawkes started in Wisbech!

It might seem strange
but if it wasn't for

Wisbech we might never ever have had Guy Fawkes night.

Over four hundred years ago some people were going to blow the houses of parliament up with everyone in it including the King.

A recent experiment has shown that had they been successful, with 36 barrels of explosive they would have done it. The building would have been reduced to rubble.

We would nowadays describe this as terrorist activity. A recent example of this was the Brighton bombing in 1984. The provisional IRA which originated with Irish Catholics attempted to kill the Prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, and her cabinet. They did succeed in killing five people but not the Prime minister.

But four hundred years ago, it was the Catholic minority against the Protestant Church of England majority, instead of the IRA against the English government. So what was the problem?

It was Henry VIII, who took this country away from Rome and set up a religious body whose head was the King and not the Pope. The problem was that the Pope would not annul or invalidate his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. She couldn't give him children that he wanted so he had to get rid of her and marry Anne Boleyn. He passed the Act of Succession and the Act of Supremacy which basically meant that he decided that he would be the supreme head of the church and not the Pope.

But after Henry VIII, Queen Mary came to the throne, she was a Roman Catholic and so the country went back to Roman Catholicism.

But then, when Queen Elizabeth 1 succeeded her in 1558 the Church of England came back again and has been with us ever since.

During her reign, Wisbech Castle was made into an important prison for Roman Catholic priests. After some time, it was used for leading influential Roman Catholic political prisoners as well, and so with the approach of danger with the Armada invasion from Spain (1588), Robert Catesby and Francis Tresham, plotter and co-plotter of the Gunpowder Plot, were put in the Wisbech Castle so they would be out of the way and not cause a bother.

Unfortunately, this was not a wise move. Catesby and Tresham were resentful that they had been locked away and their only crime was that they were Roman

Catholics and not Church of England. The state and the government would pay for this. All the prisoners were Roman Catholics, so they would discuss how to get rid of the Protestants and return the country to Catholicism. So, whilst they were whiling away their time here in Wisbech with nothing to do there is every likelihood that they came up with the seeds of the idea of blowing up the Houses of Parliament. This would give them the power they wanted. They had plenty of time on their hands. A number of historians have suggested this.

When James I came to the throne in 1603 the persecution of Catholics became even worse. In the following year Catesby started recruiting fellow conspirators. And then, in 1605, they had a lease on an undercroft, or basement under the Houses of Parliament and filled it with gunpowder. On November 4 Guy Fawkes was waiting to light the fuses but the authorities had a tip off and the following day, arrested him before he could do anything and then cruelly tortured him.

The authorities found the rest of the gang at Holbeche house in Staffordshire. In the ensuing battle four were killed and seven were wounded and captured. Their fate was to be taken to the Tower of London and then to be hung, drawn and quartered.

A year later there was an Act of Parliament designating November 5 as a day of thanksgiving. Effigies of the Pope were burnt but over the 1800's they changed from the Pope to Guy Fawkes and then children, raising funds for bonfire night, would go round asking "Penny for the Guy, Mr."

It can't be proven that Gatsby and Tresham thought of the gun powder plot at Wisbech but it is very likely.

By the way, here is some useless trivia, Guy Fawkes is not the name for men's cutlery!



GOREFIELD LADIES GROUP

Chris Ashton welcomed everyone to the September meeting. Guest

speaker was Samantha from Emi-Lou's Beauty in Wisbech, who introduced herself by explaining to us how to look after our skin. She then demonstrated how to cleanse, tone, mask and moisturize on volunteer Hazel's face. After a question and answer session, thanks were given by Chris and refreshments were served by Brenda Pehl and Margaret Tuck.

The next meeting will be at Gorefield Village Hall, 7.30pm on Wednesday November 23rd and will be A Craft Evening. New members welcome Brenda Stamp.

Contact and Enquiries: villagevoices@wisbechstmarychurch.org.uk

Entries from John Peck's October 1832 Diary

This edition of John's diary now has him in his mid-forties. PCH

October 1. Harrowing the bean land across at Harrold; cross-ploughing the 5a. St. Edmund's, dry as dust. In the evening a meeting at the Swan Inn to pass the highway accounts; more than half the rate to be got in.

October 2. Started for Peterborough Fair. Bought 65 lb. cheese at 8d. There never was a duller concern; Dined with Mrs. Underwood; home at 8. A fine day.

October 3. Began to take up potatoes in Parson Drove Fen 9a. at 3/6 per last. Rode to Wisbech and stated to the Magistrates the amount of highway arrears; had more time granted. Forced to give over ploughing 12a.

October 5. A smart rain fell in the night, and showers continued to fall until evening, when the wind and rain increased unto the gales common at this season of the year. Carted some manure in the day to the Hill.

October 6. At Wisbech market a little stir in the wheat trade but prices still ruinously low. Sold Mr. Pate 50c. Tydd Fen wheat at 42/- per qr. Bought a two-shear ram of Mr. Cross for £7; many sheep in, prices generally low.

October 7. Heavy rain fell in the night; Went to church in the morning; tea with Mr. Ulyat. The rains that have fallen just suits the clay lands, which were so hard, ploughing at a stand. We ought to be more thankful to God: He knows our wants and thus relieves them.

October 8. More heavy rain and stormy. Sent wheat to Wisbech. Began to plough in Tydd Fen for wheat, and ploughing the Hill for tares. Went round the town in the evening to collect Highway Rate, and got - promises.* Cold and stormy. (* UNDERSCORED.)

October 9. (MARGIN NOTE; Sowed 3b. tares.) To Tydd Fen. Began to plough the clover ground there. At Wisbech attended a Committee Meeting of Captain Yorke's friends; afterwards dined and spent the day with Joseph Peck, viewing his new bull & ram.

October 10. In Tydd Fen carting manure on the Home ground before ploughing for wheat. Tilting the bean land P.D. Fen with higgling team at 5/- per acre. To the potato pickers. No swallows seen this day; many were about last evening. A mild and pleasant day.

October 11. 9 feeding beast to 12a. 3 there before. Finished carting 41 loads manure on part of Home ground Tydd Fen. A new Meeting House building at Parson Drove, directly against Mr. Ulyat's garden wall - a great insult, the sect delight in these things. Fine.

October 12. A blustery day. Round P.D. Fen, harrowing 12a. bean land & taking up potatoes. The last job goes on slow, the best hands being taken up with the drain, and the remainder care little for work, the harvest money not yet all spent.

October 13. A fine and drying day. Put 40 shearlings & 20 ewes to sheep bought of Mr. Cross.

October 15. Put 60 ewes to ram bought of Mr. Porter. 2 teams to harrow 15a. St. Edmund's before drilling. Combing stubble off 11a. Harrold; 2 teams ploughing in Tydd Fen & harrowing there. A bright and fine day. All very busy, not a hand unemployed.

October 16. Began to drill wheat on the 15a. St. Edmund's with my new drill, (from Mssrs. Smyth's, Peasenhall, Suffolk, £27), which seemed to act very well. In Tydd Fen finished ploughing 18a. clover land; rool & harrowing same before the drilling.

October 17. Finished drilling 8c. wheat on 15a. St.

Edmund's; being fallowed land this small quantity of seed is quite sufficient. (Note, the 25-cog wheel sowed this.) Attended a meeting of the North Level Commissioners at Thorney, when it was ordered to borrow another £20,000 (£1,977,000.00) for the works.

October 19. Waggoning potatoes; got up 10 last 6 sacks. Rode to Mr. Morton's to look at potato steamer on Improved Principle. Dined and started home; made a wrong turn on a strange road, and was some time before I came to the right road again. The night frosty.

October 20. A sharp rime frost. This morning at the potatoes and got up 10 last 6sacks, making 30 last 18 sack in the potato house. At Wisbech markets at a stand. Many buyers of seed wheat; as yet little has been sown, the potatoes &c. take up so much time.

October 21. A morning like June. Went to church; heard a good sermon preached by Mr. Blundell. Dined at home, tea with Mr. Ulyat. This week has been fine indeed. Getting up potatoes in high season, the roads dry and clean as midsummer, with every appearance of fine weather. A blue crow made its appearance this day, a token that winter will soon be here.

October 22. Began to drill white chaff red wheat on Home ground Tydd Fen; land very dry and dusty. Weighed up the wool sold to Mssrs. Ward's, 93 tod at 28/-, 1 & 3qr. ditto at 14/- and 2 & 3qr. tod of locks at 15/-. Mssrs G.&H. Ward, Ulyat & Jealous dined here.

October 23. 2 carts graving potatoes in Parson's 9a., 9½ last. Drilling the last of Home ground Tydd Fen, 10c. on 15a. The day very dry; clay roads hard and bright as marble, and but little water in the dikes.

October 25. In Tydd Fen drilling as yesterday. Machining stack of wheat (Weight's 12a., 31c.2b.) for seed at home, own hands and horses, 6d. per coomb.

October 27. Another fine day. Graving potatoes in Tydd Fen, and finished drilling 13c.2b.2p. of red wheat on 18½ a. Tydd Fen. At Wisbech the markets duller, and merchants slow in buying. Universal want of money brings more grain to market than the demands require. Something seems wrong, and how to make things go right again requires a wiser head than mine.

October 28. In the afternoon went to Jeremiah Ulyat's little daughter's christening, a fine babe I wish happy.

October 29. Teams began to plough the 11a. oat stubble Harrold, and carts to the potatoes in Tydd Fen; all put off by rain, which begun at 9 and continued all day. Very seasonable. The ram bought of Mr. Cross drowned, a serious loss past remedy.

October 30. A fine day after the rain. Ploughing up potatoes in Tydd Fen; injured by water just after setting makes the digging bad - plough, and women to pick, the cheapest. Dressing wheat at P.D.

October 31. Began to sow red wheat on 11a. Harrold. Rooling the drilled wheat in Tydd Fen. Ploughing potatoes and carting same. A fine and drying day. Saw by the papers in evening corn lower.

NB. The Wisbech & Fenland Museum own the Copyright to the Peck diaries. Permission must be obtained in writing before any material is reproduced.

Why not join the John Peck Society at their Members AGM Meeting Tuesday 18th October. The speaker will be Alan Wheeldon, subject, "The restoration of the Octagon Cemetery in 2021, with a History of the Chapel known as The Octagon.

The Parson Drove Street Pride

Christmas Sing-along is now on Sunday 11th December by The Cage.

The tidy up around the War Memorial in preparation for Remembrance Day will be on Saturday 5th November 10-12

Facebook - Parson Drove Street Pride

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Please contact Heather on 01945 701375 for more information



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For further information please contact Dianne Cutler on
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THE FENLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

We offer support and help to those interested in family history no matter where the family originated
INTERESTING FACTS.

I heard someone say 'she is a friend with benefits' thinking it was a new thing. But it has been going on generations. I have recently been researching for a family who told me their surname had been changed from WHITE to BLACK but not sure why or when.

I have called them BLACK & WHITE they are not their real names. As I worked back through the generations, I found a Mary BLACK who was housekeeper to a farmer named Robert WHITE. A closer look told me Robert WHITE was a married man and living apart from his wife, he had living with him an unmarried housekeeper named Mary BLACK. Also showing on the census were 6 children with the surname

BLACK. So, Mary was his 'friend with benefits'! And it explained why the family said their name had been changed from WHITE. We have another famous example of Mr Joseph MEDWORTH 1752 - 1827 of Wisbech Castle. Joseph Medworth was a married man, but his wife Sarah nee FISHER preferred to live in London. Joseph Medworth had housekeepers with benefits. When housekeeper Mary ROWELL became a mother he housed her and children in a house in The Crescent, and employed another housekeeper with benefits, Sarah GIBSON aka MILLER. there appears to be at least 7 children by this union with benefits. Joseph Medworth built the present villa known as The Castle in 1816 using material from the previous castle. He also redesigned much of Wisbech including The Crescent. I am sure it is a story you can follow up and learn the interesting story of the life of Mr Joseph Medworth.

OUR COMPUTER RESEARCH SESSIONS.

In Wisbech Library on the **FIRST TUESDAY** of each month from 10 - 12 noon and on the **SECOND MONDAY** of each month from 11am - 2.30pm in the restaurant at Baytree Garden Centre in Hilgay near Downham Market. We offer help with family research to any visitors at the garden centre. Our **MONTHLY MEETINGS** are held in Wisbech Library from 7pm - 9pm on the **FOURTH Thursday**. There is no meeting in December. Our November meeting on 24th November will be an open meeting with lots of members participation, with an exchange of stories about family history researched, including a very interesting tale by our new committee member about her great grandmother. Also, a quiz and buffet. display of family trees created by our members. Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings. Members Free, Visitors a £2 donation. OUR **SPEAKERS** are available to attend other groups and clubs to give talks in the local area.

'The Fun of Family History' about a long journey by land, air and sea to find her roots.

'My Naughty Great Aunt Eliza' unravelling a story of lies and deceit.

'The Ups & Downs of Being a Magistrate' a real life experience.

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For further information on any of the above please phone Bridget HUNTER 01945 587723.

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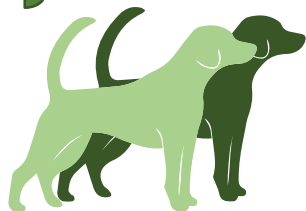
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PARSON DROVE VILLAGE WEBSITE WE NEED YOU!!

Parson Drove Parish Council is in the process of renewing and updating the village website, it is rather out of date and certainly due for an overhaul. To make a success of it we need your help! We want to hear from.....

Local Organizations, Community Groups and Clubs – if you run or are part of a local organization, group or club and would like your information and contact details to be included.

Local Businesses – if you are based in the village would you like to have your details included?

Do you have any photographs, Parson Drove in the past or the present, that could be added? Or any snippets or tales from village history?

We're planning to include all aspects of life in the village and make it as interactive as we can, so please put your thinking caps on and if there is anything you would like to see included in the new website just let us know.

Please contact Councillor Paul Unwin 01945 700096 / 07952 096423 / scatterbrook@btinternet.com

PARSON DROVE AMENITIES 95

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Macmillan Coffee morning – Morrow

We'd like to thank Judy, Maureen and all helpers for their time on Friday 16th Sept.

Thanks to everyone who attended and for their continued support. We raised a total of £300.

Wisbech St Mary W.I.

The September meeting took place back in the school again. Our demonstrator was Barbara Wraith, whose subject was Pilates and Silver Swans.

We did some of the movements ourselves – I don't see any of us on the London stage yet – but we enjoyed it.

In October, the meeting took place in the church, and we were entertained by David Stone, the church organist. We all selected tunes we would like to hear, to help him organise his programme.

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GUYHIRN CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE SCHOOL

Moreton Class have settled into school life really well. Children have been enjoying learning about themselves and their bodies in science. In RE they have been exploring ways that Christians show they love God. In English, Year 1 have been enjoying reading and re-telling the story of Hansel and Gretel. Reception children have enjoyed the shorter stories of Owl Babies, Eddie and his teddy, and Goldilocks and the three bears. They are all enjoying Forest School every Wednesday, please remember so send weather appropriate clothes as the weather starts to get cooler.

The children really enjoyed the visit from the Road Haulage Association where they learned about lorry and road safety.

Marriott class

We have been working hard so far and are now coming to the end of our first topics. We have been learning about the human body in Science, Ancient Greece in History and Managing change in PSHE. In English the Year 3 and 4 children are working their way through the text 'Stig of the Dump'. We will continue using this text to create narratives and write letters. The Year 2 children have started using the text Hansel and Gretel to develop their writing skills. Marriott class have their DT days to look forward to this month and will continue learning about textiles and learning new stitches. The children have been working hard during their maths lessons with a focus on Number and Place Value - don't forget to complete your homework task on Mathematics please.



Magdalene class have been getting stuck in with their class novel, Skellig, diving into the hidden themes within. They are also working incredibly hard on their number and place value in Maths, making super progress with their problem solving and reasoning activities. Forest school has been a brilliant release for the children, especially seeing the children playing in the mud kitchen and getting used to their new area to explore. The children are also very excited for their upcoming DT day with Mrs Milnthorpe

GUYHIRN CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS BINGO

Friday 9th December 2022
Starts at 4pm in the School Hall.
Christmas prizes available.
Everyone is welcome to join us

Parson Drove Horse Show Report 2022



This year saw another successful show with good weather that ensured all those who attended had a great day. There were around 100 entrants for the Horse Show for the 34 Trophies available.

The show is going from strength to strength each year and we received fantastic feedback from people competing in the show, who came from far and wide including Northamptonshire, Norfolk, and Lincolnshire, as well as plenty of local competitors.

The Supreme champion of the show was Sue Brownstone with Crensiog Gwyn Du.

The organisers would like to thank all our sponsors and the volunteers who helped run another successful show. We are always looking for new helpers and sponsors so if you are interested, please contact Gavin Booth 01945 701157.

Free places at Wisbech Grammar School starting September 2023

Wisbech Educational Foundation is a charity whose aim is to provide gifted and talented local children access to an independent education through the provision of free places.

Applications can be for any year in the Senior school.

The applicant must be from a state school, pass the usual entrance requirements of Wisbech Grammar School and the award is subject to the household meeting financial eligibility criteria.

If you are interested in applying, please ring the Admissions Office on 01945 583631 or contact admissions@wisbechgrammarschool.com to obtain more information

Coming Events at Saint Johns Church in Parson Drove

So here at St Johns in Parson Drove, what have we got in store for the rest of the year? Well.....its always best to keep an eye on our website www.churchendevents.org and our Facebook or Instagram pages [@saintjohnsparsondrove](https://www.instagram.com/saintjohnsparsondrove) or just drop us an email at ChurchEndEvents@btinternet.com But here's what we've got planned so far.....

Saturday 12th November – STARGAZING & ASTRONOMY EVENING

We welcome back our local expert in all things astronomical, John Craythorne. John will be taking us on a Journey Beyond our Solar System to the Edge of the Universe! Followed by some stargazing outdoors, weather permitting. Just £2.50 for adults and £1.50 for children, plus there'll be refreshments available..... To Infinity and Beyond!!!!

Saturday 3rd December – CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP

After the success of last year's workshop, we just had to do this again! Come along and design and make your very own Christmas Wreath under the guidance of our very own professional florist. We provide everything you need to go home with an amazing creation – last year's were just fabulous! Plus there'll be a glass of fizz or two, festive treats, prize draw, prize for the best wreath and a lovely festive atmosphere. At the same price as last year.....just £35.....limited places!

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GOREFIELD PRIMARY ACADEMY

Penguins Class

Penguins have been learning about where their homes are and where their school is. It has been fun and they will learn more about this topic over the next few weeks. As well as that they have been learning about the seasons and how they change the environment for better or worse. The most impressive by far is how quickly they have learnt to ride balance bikes! They have learnt a lot as you can see and their inquisitive minds will continue to grow over the coming years.

France Class

France class have been learning about compasses and maps! They have also wowed the crowd by rewriting the book The Enormous Turnip to The Large Turnip! In DT they have enjoyed making smoothies, top tip: if you want a liquid smoothie don't use carrots, apples and strawberries. France class are doing well in maths – partitioning numbers up to 20.

Zimbabwe Class

They have been busy learning about the digestive system, muscles, the skeleton and how they work. Maths has been full of addition and subtraction. In history they have been learning so much about the Stone Age, Iron age and Bronze age. Art lessons have been fun with making clay vases and drawing famous landmarks to work on their shading techniques.

Samoa Class

Samoa are the oldest pupils in school. Geography has been focussing on longitude, latitude, co-ordinates, continents and much more. Art has been enjoyable drawing and designing paisley and Samoan patterns. Science has been interesting looking at the animals and insect life cycles. In maths they have been investigating different methods of arithmetic as well as times table practice.

By the School Reporters - Hollie and Leylah.

THE PETERBOROUGH ROYALS



The Peterborough Royals are a women's American Football team based in Bretton in Peterborough. We are currently on a recruitment mission to boost our player numbers so we can move up to playing the 9v9 format instead of the 7v7 format we currently play. We recently celebrated becoming silver medallists in the division one championship which has been a great achievement for the club and we are looking forward to carrying that momentum into the upcoming season so we can bring home the gold! We have three upcoming rookie days where you can come along and give the sport a try and see if it's for you. The royals are a welcoming and accepting team and we pride ourselves on calling each other family. Don't worry about not knowing anything about American football as no experience is necessary to join the rookie days, and kit will be provided for you. Anyone over the age of 16 can join and we currently have a range of ages on the team from 17-40+, come and try something different and join the amazing women & coaches who make up our royal family! For more information, please check out our Instagram or Facebook pages, and feel free to contact us with any queries.



We have loved being back this term and the weather has been very kind to us.

We hosted our annual group camp (all sections from Beavers to Explorers). The young people and leaders enjoyed a fun and skills packed weekend of activities. Our theme this year was 'Pirates' with activities including building a bridge, a water fight, shooting and of course we had a campfire and songs!

Beaver Scouts (ages 6-8) enjoyed a district activity day. The activity day was attended by 80 Beavers and their leaders from all over the Fenland district. They took part in a wide range of activities including soft archery, first aid and crafts. We currently have spaces within our Beaver section, why not give it a go?

Scouting is a great way for young people (and adults as volunteers) to make new friends, develop new skills and most importantly to have fun. Owing to our increased numbers across the age groups we are seeking volunteers to help us as adult leaders within the Fenland area. Can you spare a couple of hours a week? No experience required, just enthusiasm. Full training will be given.

Visit www.15thwisbechscouts.org for information and contact details regarding Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers plus adult volunteering roles.

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Top Internet Tricks and Tips! By Philip Brooks from Diamond Byte

Following on from last month, here's some more top tips on surfing the Internet Superhighway!

http:// and www

When entering an internet address, you don't need to type http:// or even www in the URL bar.

Move between the fields of a web page

If you are filling out an online form or other text field, press the **Tab** key to move to the next field and **Shift + Tab** to move back a field. This also applies to buttons: Press the **Tab** key to highlight a button, then press the space bar or Enter to "push" the button.

Know your Internet browser shortcuts (Internet Edge & Firefox)

There are dozens of shortcut keys that can be used with Internet browsers, such as:

Alt + D or **Ctrl + L** will move the cursor into the address bar.

Hold down the **Ctrl** key and press the **+** or **-** to increase or decrease the size of text. **Ctrl + 0** will reset the text.

Press the **backspace** key or press **Alt + left arrow** to go back a page.

Press **F5** to refresh or reload a web page.

Press **Ctrl + F** to open the find box to search for text within the web page you are reading.

Use Internet search engines to their full potential

If you can't find what you want, try putting the text in quotes. For example, searching for 'computer help' without quotes returns results with "computer" and "help" anywhere on the page. However, if you search for "computer help" with the quotes, it will only return pages with "computer" and "help" next to each other.

Try alternative browsers

Most computer users use the default browser that comes included with the computer. However, there are other alternative browsers that are free to download and use and may have features your current browser does not include. Our favourites are Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox.

Make sure your browser is up-to-date

Keeping your Internet browser up-to-date is important for both security and ensuring that web pages load properly. Most providers should automatically download updates and prompt you when they are ready to install.

coffee, come along and see the facilities that are on offer.

FACT, 5 Martins Avenue, March, PE15 0AY

For more information, please contact Dave Everett on 07766 335236 or Ellie Buckton on 01354 707411.



Healthy Fenland, part of Care Network, has recently funded a new project, 'Make and Mend', March Men's Shed based at FACT in March.

The idea of the project is to have a safe space where men who may have mental health issues or experiencing loneliness and isolation can go. Recently more evidence has come to light that shows loneliness and isolation can be as hazardous to health as obesity and excessive smoking.

The Men's Shed is a place to pursue practical interests at leisure, to practice skills and enjoy making and mending. The shed is about social connections and friendship building, sharing skills and knowledge, a community space.

We would like to let as many people as possible know about the shed and to encourage men especially, to come and use it, even if it is just for a coffee and a chat. Ellie

REPORT FROM GUYHIRN PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION.

Guyhirn playing fields association are pleased to see so many young people enjoying the newly finished and totally revamped play park. Feedback so far has been very positive, and our youngsters are enjoying daily trips to the park with their friends. On behalf of the playing fields association, much appreciation and thanks to Sarah Bligh for getting this area overhauled. It was a long time coming, but due to her hard work and dedication to improving facilities within the village, it has finally come to fruition.

We are also now in a position and pleased to announce the return of our coffee mornings. The dates for your diary are:

Tuesday 15th November from 11am.

Tuesday 6th December from 11am.

Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy a cuppa with biscuits or a slice of cake.

Don't forget the community hall is available for hire for private events and meetings. There is a very small charge of just £10 per hour for hiring the facility. Any bookings and availability can be checked with Sharon Mason on 07901 506544.



MAKE AND MEND MARCH MEN'S SHED

Open Saturdays 10am until 12pm and Wednesdays 2pm until 4pm.

Do you have a project you would like to work on or would just like to meet up with others for a chat and a

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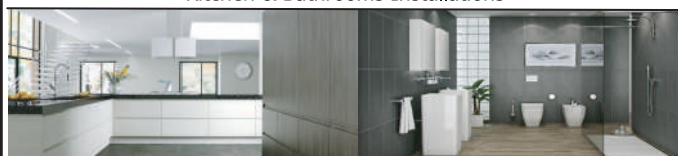
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What's on and When

Date	Times	Event	Location
3rd Nov	1200	Guyhirn Luncheon Club	Deweys Diner
4th Nov	6.30 for 7.30	Charity Bingo Night - see ad	WSM Community Centre
5th Nov	10am-12	Vestry morning for booking baptisms and weddings	Leverington Church
5th Nov	10am	PD War Memorial Tidying	The Cage, Parson Drove.
5th Nov	5.15pm	Wisbech St Mary School fireworks display	WSM School
8th Nov	7.30pm	Parson Drove WI AGM	Emmanuel Church, PD.
12th Nov	10am	Wisbech St Mary monthly mart	WSM Church
12th Nov		Stargazing and Astronomy Evening- see ad	St Johns Parson drove
13th Nov	all day	Remembrance Sunday	See front page for details
15th Nov	11am	Coffee morning	Guyhirn community hall
16th Nov	12noon	RAOB and St Marks - hosting a dinner - see ad	St Marks Methodist Chapel.
19th Nov	9am-12noon	Public Exhibition re planning at PD	Parson Drove Village Hall
23rd Nov	7.30pm	Gorefield Ladies Group meeting	Gorefield Village Hall
24th Nov	7pm	Fenland Family History Open meeting	Wisbech Library
26th Nov	10am	Murrow Street Pride Litter Pick	Murrow Village Hall
26th Nov	7 for 7.30	Cabaret Night (see ad)	PD Village Hall
30th Nov	3.30pm	Wisbech St Mary Parish Tea	WSM Church
1st dec	1200	Guyhirn Luncheon Club	Deweys Diner
3rd Dec		Christmas Wreath Workshop- see ad	St Johns Parson drove
4th Dec	tba	Craft Fair	PD Village Hall
6th Dec	11am	Coffee morning	Guyhirn community hall
9th Dec	4pm	Christmas Bingo- see ad	Guyhirn School
10th Dec	10am-12	Vestry morning for booking baptisms and weddings	Leverington Church
10th Dec	10am-3pm	Craft Fair at March Bears Rugby Club-see ad	Elm Rd, PE15 0BH
10th Dec	10am	PD Street Pride Christmas Tree decorating	The Cage, Parson Drove.
10th Dec	2pm	A Seasonal Afternoon Tea- see ad	Emmanuel Church, PD.
10th Dec	5.30pm	Murrow Street Pride-Carols, mulled wine & pies	Murrow Village Hall
11th Dec	tba	PD Street Pride Christmas sing-along	The Cage, Parson Drove.
17th Dec	tba	Carol evening	PD Village Hall
18th Dec	6.30pm	Gorefield Carol Service	St Paul's Church, Gorefield
		<i>All events subject to any restrictions at the time</i>	

Gorefield in the Past ~ GOREFIELD GYMKHANA COMMITTEE 1972



Every community has a band of dependable people who are only too willing to help with village projects. Gorefield has been no exception to this through the years. Here is a photo from 1972 of the committee that ran the Gorefield Gymkhana. Meetings would be held at various times of the year in the Parish rooms to discuss ideas and make preparations for the event, which at that time was held in Cattle Dyke on Mr Newling's grass field.

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