

## The Newsletter of Histon & Impington

Parish Council

Issue 22 - March 2018



# HISIMP NEWS

### Elections - Stand Up and Be Counted!

As with all Councils there's an election every four years for the Parish Council - and that's this year.

Parish Councillors are just ordinary residents who care about Histon and Impington and want to try to make a difference. There are 19 seats to fill - and, whilst some of the current Councillors are going to stand for re-election, there are some who are not.

Now more than ever it is important that good decisions are made at Parish Council level, as we face cuts from higher authorities that we may decide to try to fill at our level. We currently have a budget of some £400,000 pa to manage and this can be set only to grow in the coming years as more and more responsibility lies at local level. There is also a team of 6 employees for the Council as a body to manage.

This unpaid role is very rewarding and interesting for anyone interested in how our villages are evolving, residents' wellbeing, and what facilities we have on offer.

If you are interested in standing for the Parish Council, please feel free to contact the Parish Office to discuss the work and type of commitment required, or contact any current Councillor for a chat. Completed nomination forms need to be with South Cambridgeshire District Council by Friday 6 April 4 pm, with the period of nomination not opening until Monday 26 March.

Now is the time to:

- ◆ Get involved
- ◆ Have a say about local issues you care about
- ◆ Influence local services delivery
- ◆ Decide how local money is spent

If more than 19 people put themselves forward for election, we'll have a poll on 3 May, at the same time as the District Council elections.



Thank you to our sponsors Hollyoak Vets!

Each visit by Histon & Impington residents to the surgery raises £1 toward community projects.

Our Environment Committee is looking at how to spend the money on projects that will benefit the residents of our villages.



Well we did it! Semi-finalists on the Channel 4 programme which aired early in February. Histon & Impington were beaten by the eventual winners, a village in Northern Ireland.

We reached the final 19 from hundreds of entrants across the country and Reef TV had a huge job in cutting our coverage down to just a few minutes from the 3 full days filming during the summer. It was a little disappointing we were not able to get over the entire community aspect in the time we had, but rest assured the TV people were alerted to it all. They hope we are proud of the finished programme!

It was great to see local people featured; Dan Mace of the Community Orchard, Sue and Surinder Saini from Station Stores, Kilo and Moira Neal ("Graffiti Granny!"), Steve Carrington for Histon Hornets, and 2 of our Councillors, Tim Ewbank and Elaine Farrell, on efforts being made to retain the special feel of our High Street, working with local businesses. Part of that was aesthetic - to include tubs of flowers - **but it was more than that**, we want to find ways to encourage businesses to stay and thrive. See 'High Street and Beyond' feature on page 4.

If you are interested in our villages, keep up to date with our Parish Council website [www.hisimp.net](http://www.hisimp.net) and if you are on Facebook **join the HI People page**, administered by residents. It is a great resource.



### Parish Office Contacts

Open at the Recreation Ground Centre

Monday to Thursday 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Tuesday 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Other times by appointment

Parish Clerk: Angela Young

[clerk@hisimp.net](mailto:clerk@hisimp.net)

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### Parish Councillors

Chairman

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[andy.butcher@hisimp.net](mailto:andy.butcher@hisimp.net)

Vice Chairman

Denis Payne - Impington Lane 233577

[denis.payne@hisimp.net](mailto:denis.payne@hisimp.net)

Aga Cahn - Hereward Close 232186

Steve Carrington - Nuns Orchard 07802 443859

Marian Cleaver - High Street 232897

Neil Davies - Dwyer Joyce Close 232514

Tim Ewbank - Burgoynes Road 236627

Elaine Farrell - New School Road 572002

Cedric Foster - Clay Street 234156

David Jenkins - Pease Way 07739 758859

Ashley Gordon - Dwyer Joyce Close % 235906

Brian Ing - Woodcock Close 234291

Simon Jocelyn - Villa Place 232241

David Legge - Villa Road 233565

Pene Nudds - Clay Close Lane 237155

Helena Perry - Saffron Road % 235906

Edd Stonham - Normanton Way 564534

Josephine Teague - Milton Rd 235127

Nick Wood - Mill Road % 235906

County Councillors:

David Jenkins - Pease Way 236232

District Councillors:

Christopher Cross - Willingham 01954 260790

Edd Stonham - Normanton Way 564534

Neil Davies - Dwyer Joyce Close 232514

Parish Councillor mail addresses are  
name.surname@hisimp.net, or can be found at  
[www.hisimp.net](http://www.hisimp.net)

Published by

Histon & Impington Parish Council

The Parish Office,

New Road, Impington, Cambridge CB24 9LU

Edited by:

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Photo credits include Barry Starling

## Anglia Fireplaces & Design Ltd

From running Station Stores in 1978, Madeline and the late Graham Vialls (who sadly passed away suddenly in 2012) ventured into fires and fireplaces in 1980, forming the company Anglia Fireplaces & Design Ltd, which started on a small scale in retail premises in Newmarket High Street. At its conception, the company just sold decorative flame effect gas fires, but rapidly incorporated fireplaces to complement the gas fires.

Madeline & Graham decided to develop the site behind Station Stores, and erect a single storey building to form a showroom, thus bringing everything back to Impington, and closing the Newmarket shop. This grew from small beginnings, and the business expanded further across the site.

With access roads very close by, Impington offered an out-of-town showroom, easily accessible to clients, thus avoiding the Cambridge traffic.

With the popularity of real fires, Anglia offers all sorts of products, from inset and freestanding woodburning and multifuel stoves and pellet stoves, to fireplaces and accessories. Clients are able to get a fireplace installed, along with new chimneys, chimney relines and balanced flues, safe in the knowledge that it will be certified in line with all current regulations, ensuring a fully compliant installation.

The business regularly visits European exhibitions to see what else is available in the wider market, bringing new ideas and products back to the UK.

It is a family-run concern, with Madeline and Graham being joined by their daughter, Nicola, in 1986, and son Stuart in 1996, along with other long standing staff members. Further developments took place on the current site to build a prestigious showroom over two floors, offering a very warm friendly environment for clients to visit, view and operate the many fires and fireplaces on show. The family flair for design is much in evidence, beautiful and stylish. It is wonderful to think we have a family-run, independent business of such longstanding in our community.

Any resident in Histon and Impington can benefit from a free survey, so if you are thinking about having a new fire or fireplace fitted, just call up the road to Anglia Fireplaces and make an appointment, or if all you want is a bag of logs and kindling, they sell that as well.

Barbara Parr

[www.hisimp.net](http://www.hisimp.net)

## Recreation Ground News

With Summer just around the corner, what better way to get fit than exercising in the fresh air with others?

The motivational benefits of exercising with other people are well known.

Add to that the numerous benefits exercising outdoors gives us, then bootcamp has it "in the bag"!

Exercising outdoors helps you feel revitalised. It stimulates the production of Vitamin D which our bodies need to help combat bone diseases, auto-immune diseases and depression. According to research, you also get a greater release of feel-good hormones.

I run a bootcamp in Histon on Tuesdays (term time) at the Recreation Ground. We meet on the hard tennis courts behind the pavilion 9:15am to 10:15am. Every week is different, challenging and fun. I use a range of equipment which includes kettlebells, dumbbells, battleropes, slam ball and even bodyweight exercises, so there's no chance of boredom!

Why not give it a try and feel great? All abilities are welcome, as I adapt exercises to suit all levels. You can even bring little ones in buggies if you wish.

If you want to enjoy a good workout with a friendly group of people, then come and join us. You don't even have to pre-book!

For more information about classes and personal training contact Lisa Le Moal at: [lmbbootcamp@gmail.com](mailto:lmbbootcamp@gmail.com) or 07743896150.



## Welcome to The High Street!



# Cambridge 100/50/35 Bike Ride

Date: Sunday April 29 2018

Start/Finish Venue: Impington Village College, New Road, Cambridge, CB24 9LX

Start time: Anytime between 7:00 - 8:00am for 100 mile route/ 8:00 - 9:00am for 50 mile route and 9:00 - 9:30am for 35 mile route.

Distance:100 mile, 50 mile or 35 mile route

Official Charity: Prostate Cancer Research

Extra info: Enjoy the spring sunshine with this fantastic bike ride back for a sixth year! Starting and finishing on the outskirts of Cambridge, the ride takes you north through Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire towards the Norfolk coast with a choice of 100, 50 and 35 mile routes. There will be plenty of refreshment stops along the way, making this an enjoyable day's cycling to raise money for the Prostate Cancer Research Centre. The 100/50 mile routes feature chip-timing and web results so after the event you can see your overall time and average speed, along with the opportunity to compare your time with your friends.



Online booking: <http://www.bike-events.co.uk/cambridge100/>

Contact: John Lister [john@bike-events.co.uk](mailto:john@bike-events.co.uk)

## Village Society Programme March - June 2018

Tuesday 24 April - Museum of Technology: Past, Present and Future.

Tuesday 22 May - Anne Datson: The History of Gilbert and Sullivan. Their lives, music and poetry with excerpts of music.

Tuesday 26 June - Judy Wilson: Some notable Cambridge Shops. Matthew's, Heffers, Robert Sayles. Eaden Lilley's ... just some of the family firms supplying Cambridge residents and University in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Publications and notelets are available from the Publications Officer 01223 232744 and from Histon Library.

For more information, please contact the Village Society Secretary Wendy Doyle [village.society@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:village.society@hotmail.co.uk) or 01223 513016.

Histon & Impington Parish Council

# Mike Petty's Histon and Impington Newspaper Scrapbook 1880-1990

With thanks to Mike Petty MBE

Since his retirement from the Cambridge Collection and as the local historian for the Cambridge News, Mike has continued to scan the back copies of Cambridge newspapers for extracts of local interest. Below, an item that may be of interest to the new management of The Boot.



## 1902

The landlord of the Boot Inn had the very nasty experience of being tossed by an infuriated bullock at Cambridge Cattle Market. The animal, a Scottish beast with very long horns, was driven into a pen when it broke away, caught Mr Vialls with its horns and threw him over the rails into one of the pens. The horns penetrated his trousers and made a scratch about seven inches long. The wild beast was eventually safely secured and sold to a Mr Mills of Cambridge without being brought into the auction ring.

c. 1905 The unfortunate Mr Vialls, (wearing a waist coat on left) behind the Boot, with the Boot-based H&I Bicycle Club. Mr Vialls descendants are still about. They currently run Anglia Fireplaces.



Eleanor Whitehead

## Calling all Dog Walkers!

We have again had complaints about dog fouling on the footpaths around the village. This is a particular problem in areas near the Nursery and Infant schools. Unfortunately, if children come into school with dog mess on their shoes it is spread around and is not only unpleasant, but can be a real threat to their health.

We are lucky to have so many paths, free from the hazards of traffic, for adults children and dogs. If we all act responsibly, keep our eyes on our dogs and go armed with 'poo' bags and use the 'dog poo' bins available at various points around the villages, we can enjoy our walks without spoiling the paths for others.

Volunteers keep our village free from litter. Let us keep it free from dog mess!



[www.hisimp.net](http://www.hisimp.net)

## Police News

During 1 Jan - 5 March 2018, we have had 113 crimes reported to Cambridgeshire Constabulary from residents and businesses that reside within the villages.



Crimes listed below relate to burglaries, thefts, criminal damage, shoplifting, assaults, threats, harassment, racially aggravated, stalking, possession of controlled drug, fraud.

Incidents/Crimes	Histon, Impington & Orchard Park
Incidents	292
Non-crime investigation	1
Crimes	113

There has been an increase in crime relating to thefts from motor vehicles:

KEEP YOUR CAR VALUABLES AND POSSESSIONS SAFE, don't leave anything on display in your car. Even an old coat on the back seat is a temptation for someone to 'smash and grab' - they steal first and think about value later. Take all your belongings with you when you leave your car. If you can, lock them in the boot, preferably before you start your journey.

For more good work stories and crime prevention advice please check our blog <http://southcambscops.org/>.

If you have any concerns that you would like to bring to my attention, please email me: [bujar.mani@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:bujar.mani@cambs.pnn.police.uk) or call 101 and ask to be put through to my extension: 7113152

PCSO 7009 Bujar Mani  
Safer Neighbourhood Team, Histon Police Station

## Reporting non-emergencies online

Non-emergency situations can now be reported to the police online if people would rather do so than call 101. It is quick, easy and free of charge.

To view the online reporting section of the constabulary's website visit [www.cambs.police.uk/report/Report](http://www.cambs.police.uk/report/Report).

A live webchat option is also available by clicking on the green icon on the bottom right of the page.

Online forms are processed the same way as calls and the person reporting can expect a response within 24 hours.

 <b>Report a crime</b> Report a non-emergency crime online.	 <b>Report a concern</b> Tell us about criminal, anti-social or suspicious activity in your community.	 <b>Vehicle reporting</b> Report vehicle related activity online, such as a vehicle collision or dangerous driving.
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# The Big Tidy Up Events

For the first time we had to postpone the Big Tidy Up event on the first weekend in March because of the bad weather. This was rescheduled to Saturday 17 March.

We are pleased to welcome a third business on the Vision Park who want to join us. They are UL in Compass House who are to litter pick the neglected Mere Way Roman Path from Butt Lane to CRC at Kings Hedges. The Royal Bank of Scotland and Paysafe regularly join us in litter picking areas such as the Guided Bus Way paths and verges.

Students at Impington Village College also litter pick their immediate area during term times, and Histon Scouts and Brownies also include litter picking in their activities.

The long-established Impington Litter Pickers and WI groups have always litter-picked their defined areas once a month and join in The BTU events too.

The BTU events are quarterly, and are normally the first weekend of March, June, September and December.

If anyone would like to join in one of these events, please call the Parish Office.



## Want to know about allergies?

Are you or any members of your family allergic to anything? What does “having an allergy” mean? Are more people affected now than previously, or are we just more aware of it? Can anything be done about it?

If you are curious to know some of the answers, come and hear what **Dr. Pamela Ewan, Consultant Allergist**, Cambridge University Hospitals, has to say about allergies. This is a **FREE** event, and there is no need to book - just come along. Firs House and Telegraph Street Patient Participation Group and the Community Centre Trustees look forward to seeing you there.

**When: Wednesday 9 May 2018, 7:00pm**  
**Start.** (Doors open from 6:30pm)

**Where: Cottenham Community Centre, 250A High Street, CB24 8RZ.** Opposite the Cottenham Co-op Foodstore.



# Mobile Warden Scheme

Histon and Impington have a Mobile Warden Scheme which is

designed to help older people who may need some support, to live at home independently, for as long as possible. We are very fortunate in having Mrs Gillian Berry, a village resident, as



Warden. She keeps in contact with clients by regular visits and phone calls. She also helps in practical ways, such as shopping or collecting pensions, giving help with forms or putting her clients in touch with other agencies, as well as providing them with much needed personal and moral support. Our Warden has a good working relationship with Jean Newman, The Older Persons’ Co-Ordinator, the Firs House Surgery and those who run the mini-bus and the Day Centre. This means that she is often informed of people who might need her services and others learn of the scheme by word of mouth. Currently, she has 22 households under her care, which is very close to the maximum she can manage.

This scheme is working well in our villages. It is funded by contributions from the County Council, SCDC, the Parish Council and the contributions paid by the clients for the service. It is managed very efficiently for us, at the moment, by Age UK. If we have a mild winter, there should be fewer critical issues during the colder weather, but bed-blocking is still a problem at Addenbrooke’s. When the hospital is under pressure, there are likely to be incidents of patients sent home with insufficient warning and inadequate care in place. This is when the work of Gillian Berry, as well as concerned neighbours and other care organisations in the village is critical.

We are remarkably well served in our two villages by the many people who provide services for our older residents but our Mobile Warden Scheme is notable for the practical way it enables people to continue living safely in their own homes. We are indebted to Mrs Berry for her tireless work - I am sure all those she helps would agree.

If you would like further information or help, Gillian Berry can be contacted on her work mobile Mondays to Fridays between 9:15am and 1:30pm: 07957 608530.

*Marian Cleaver*



# The High Street and Beyond

Much has happened on the High Street recently; most notably, the renovation and re-opening of The Boot as part of The White Brasserie chain.

The Totally Locally concept of the benefits of shopping nearby is being actively promoted by shops in our villages.

You may have seen their posters in shop windows and there will be more to come over the next few months.

Our villages made it into the last 19 of the national Village of the Year competition, which included a plug promoting the High Street as a shopping destination.



In terms of upcoming events along the High Street, the library is organising an Egg Hunt with a difference over Easter: a quest to find books hidden in the windows of shops on the High Street and beyond. The books to be found will be on show in the library from Easter Saturday until the end of the school holidays. Families can pick up an entry form with map from Histon Library and return it to the library for an egg reward and entry into a great prize draw.

This is a good example of the kind of cross-business promotion that helps the village economy, by encouraging people to visit local shops they might not otherwise have considered. We are grateful to the many local traders who are participating and to those donating prizes.

Over the next few months, the number of planters along the High Street will increase from the one on the Green. In addition to their aesthetic impact, the planters are entirely locally sourced; an example of the Totally Locally principles in action.

*Tim Ewbank*

# From HI Village to the High Seas

There was a really good turnout for the talk on "Plastics: From HI Village to the High Seas. How they get there and what we can do about it", that was held in St Andrew's Centre on 7 February. Many thanks to Dan Steadman, the marine plastics expert and Girton neighbour, for a sobering but inspiring talk about the many different plastics and microplastics that end up in the sea, such as straws, bottles and even microfibres from washing our fleeces. The picture below is one of the slides that were shown. We also learned of inspiring community campaigns that are reducing plastic waste. This was followed by an hour of Q&A and brainstorming of ideas. We came up with some simple and practical ways for us to make a positive difference, both individually and collectively, as well as some more ambitious plans. Thanks to HI Sustainability Group and Pippa Heylings for organizing the event. If you're interested in being part of the HI Last Straw campaign, please contact Ruth Moulder [mould001@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mould001@hotmail.co.uk)

## How are your local shops reducing plastic?

- St Andrew's Café** - use paper straws, paper take-away cups with bio-degradable lids, they also sell reusable "keep" cups.
- The Boot** - only use biodegradable straws and they are given on request.
- The King Bill** - use cardboard straws and wooden stirrers.
- The Geographer** - use biodegradable straws and take-away cutlery. They sell bamboo keep cups and the first drink is free with each purchase. Customers can bring their own containers for take-out soup, salads and deli items. All the soaps and cleaning products sold are re-fillable and they stock eco ranges of toiletries and toilet roll.
- Les Ward** - if you order by phone from their Cottenham shop, it will be delivered free locally (orders over £10) with no plastic at all.

If you are interested in reducing plastic and other environmental ideas, come along to the next **Sustainability Group Social**. You don't need to sign up to anything, just come along for a chat and to share ideas. All welcome. Our next 2 meetings are: **Wednesday 18 April 8pm** 1 Merrington Place (byo nibble or drink) **Friday 18 May 8pm** location yet to be confirmed.

Helena Perry

# How Did Our Birds Fare in 2017

Bird ringing continued in the villages last year and the results showed that a further 192 individuals were processed of 19 different species. This involved a total of 15 sessions, most in the mornings. As usual the most commonly encountered species was the Blue Tit; the others included Collared Dove, Wren, Dunnock, Robin, Lesser Whitethroat, Whitethroat, Blackcap, Chiffchaff, Willow Warbler, House Sparrow, Chaffinch, Greenfinch, Goldfinch and Linnet.



When looking at the data collected, House Sparrow numbers have improved in recent years locally. This is great news as the Sparrow is a red listed bird of conservation concern. There is more information on this here, <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/uk-conservation-status-explained/> and it is basically a red/orange/green light status of the health of the population of that species.

Our sites have seen a reduction in Whitethroat numbers in the last couple of years due to the loss of the scrubby habitat they like. The total catch of Great Tits was down, although we did observe a good number of juveniles so they had a good breeding season. We failed to catch any birds previously ringed elsewhere last year but the re-catch of one of our Willow Warblers (the first for us) was a welcome record. This bird will have undertaken the 5000 mile migration across the Sahara into Africa.

During our sessions, we often observe other birds flying and almost every time we are treated to views of a buzzard, something that never happened here 20 years ago.

Nigel Butcher, Senior Technical Officer, RSPB

# GARDENER'S WORD

## The Garden in Spring

I admit I am occasionally a very lazy gardener - if I can leave something to nature, then I will. I really hit rock bottom last autumn though, with my wizard wheeze to let the hens dig over the borders for me. The idea was to let them eat the chickweed, eat the slugs and wireworms and leave me with fresh earth (and manure) ready for a mulch that the worms could draw down over winter months.



What I ended up with was stones all over the lawn, the more delicious flowering plants in shreds and some well-fertilised nettles ready to take over once things warm up. Although the hens' claws do a nice cultivating job, they also trample the soil down a surprising amount.

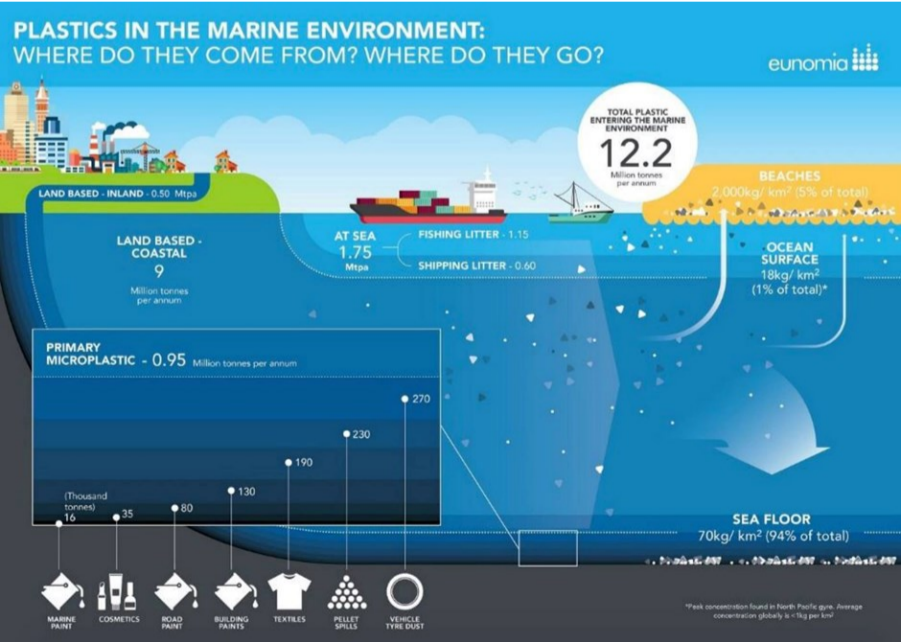
For those of you who don't have to contemplate your own stupidity by attempting to combine poultry rearing with keeping a decorative and productive garden, now is the time to make some choices. The labour intensive (but more rewarding) way - remove weeds now and aerate bare soil. Check over your seed stores and buy new ones. Order young plants. Plan the year ahead. I am particularly keen on late flowering plants such as dahlias, rudbeckias, penstemon and repeat-flowering roses to make the autumn months so much more enjoyable. Time to prune clematis, buddleia and roses.



The lazier way is - do nothing now. Wait until a warm day round about Easter. Suddenly spring into action and clear a space. Maybe start pruning bushes and then realise there are birds nesting. Injure your back or eyes. Retreat. A few weeks later buy ready-grown bedding plants, put them in the ground, water generously and retreat to a comfy chair.

There. It is amazing what you can get away with!

Alice Jackson Steggles



# Duck Signs on The Green

Following an approach from a couple of residents, the Environment Committee has designed and installed some signs on the Green to encourage people how best to feed the ducks.



# End of World War One Commemorations

The WI Poppy Work continues to meet twice a month in order to make enough plastic poppies from recycled bottles to represent all local personnel who served, in whatever capacity. During Feast Week, residents will be given the opportunity to sponsor a poppy in aid of the ‘Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund’ and the mental health charity ‘Combat Stress’. Thank you again to all those who donated plastic bottles.



Shaping poppies with hot water

**WW1 Veteran Voices Event** This compilation of letters, newspaper articles and the memories of local veteran recorded in 1979/80 will be illustrated with music and archive photographs. Performances are planned for the 9 and 10 November.

The Village Society has completed the updated Roll of Honour (names only) which, once framed, will hang in St Andrew’s Histon. A limited number of copies, including the service details of veterans, will be available during Feast Week.

The Village Society is still looking for photographs of all local veterans including Frank Wilderspin, Jack Chivers, Dibber Moore and Percy Doggett. Contact Eleanor Whitehead 234502.



Arthur Leete and family of Mill Lane

Eleanor Whitehead

# Annual Parish Meetings

The Annual Parish Meetings for each Parish of Histon and Impington are to be held on **Monday 14 May, from 7pm at St Andrew’s Centre, School Hill, Histon.** As well as items of interest to you in your parish, you can hear from the Parish Council Chairman about the previous year, and expect a short report on parish finances.

Hopefully there will be speakers on matters of interest to our villages and the chance to chat with others over some refreshments

What is it?

- ◆ Every English parish must have a parish meeting
- ◆ The meeting consists of local government electors registered for the area.
- ◆ The meeting must assemble between 1 March and 1 June and may be convened by the Parish Council Chairman or by 6 electors for the area for which it is held
- ◆ A minimum of 7 days notice of agenda must be given
- ◆ The quorum of a Parish meeting is 2
- ◆ Decisions are taken in the first instance by a majority of those present and voting. Voting does not need to be counted but can be based on overwhelming majority

In all but a very few cases, any decision reached as a resolution is “persuasive” only and may not subsequently be passed by the Council.

The right of the parish meeting to discuss parish affairs extends to any public matter of a parochial nature and is NOT confined to the exercise of the statutory functions of the Parish Council.

Look out for more details on our website!

# Exciting New Happenings in Homefield Park

Plans are well underway to replace the dilapidated old fence, on either side of the lovely main gates, with brand new traditional metal railings.

More improvements are planned - would you like to become involved in the planning or practically?

Contact the Parish Office if so!



# Histon & Impington Gardening Club

The Garden Club celebrated its 30th anniversary at its February meeting. A specially decorated cake was cut by Monica and Keith Smith, our longest attending members.



The programme for the Spring and Summer meetings are shown on the back page. If you are interested in joining the Club, please come along to the meetings or contact Anna Roberts on 01223 233469. If there is a particular topic that interests you, come along to a meeting as a visitor (visitor fee £2.50) and see what the Club is all about. You will probably meet several people you already know and have a chat over tea and coffee served at the end of the meeting.

You can also visit our web page, [histimpclub.wordpress.com](http://histimpclub.wordpress.com) where there is a wealth of information about the Club and our activities.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month between September and May at the Methodist Church on the High Street in Histon; meetings starting at 7:30pm. We also arrange visits in June and July.

Ian Copeland

# Notice Board News

The Environment Committee has been working on updating noticeboards in the villages.

The notice board at the Copse in Impington has been refurbished following some vandalism and is looking great.

Notice boards at the School Hill Gardens site have been removed (and we hope to re-use one at the recreation ground entrance) and new ones placed inside the bus shelter following the installation of a handy window at the side to see the buses approaching! One of the new boards is for community use and does not require a key. If using this noticeboard, please feel free to remove out-of-date or non-community items to make room for your own notice.

The Committee will now turn its attention to the remaining boards to bring them all up to a better standard at a minimum cost. A window in the remaining brick shelter in Cottenham Road is on order.

If you have any ideas for improvements to any street furniture belonging to the Council, do let us know.

# Community Transport

Can you benefit?

Can you help?

Many people reading this will be unaware of the excellent Community Transport initiatives in our villages. We are able to help reduce isolation and give people within our community, especially the elderly and less mobile, the opportunity to engage with others. This is very important for a person's independence and wellbeing.

We are able to offer transport with our own Community Minibus, the Community Car Scheme and Dial a Ride.

## Histon & Impington Community (HICOM) Minibus

HICOM is a village-based charity whose principal objective is the general community wellbeing of residents of all ages in the villages of Histon and Impington. Formed in 1998, HICOM

- Operates the village Minibus
- Employs the village Older Persons' Coordinator and assistant
- Employs the Mental Wellbeing Worker

In recent weeks, you might have thought that you were seeing double as there have been two minibuses parked at the Baptist Church or driving around the villages. That is because we have just picked our new bus (well, new to us anyway!). At the time of writing, we are busy training up our drivers to use the new bus.

The new bus will continue to provide a service to those in the villages who cannot easily get around. Trips include:

- Exercise activities
- Various clubs
- Shopping trips
- Attend doctors' appointments and social outings

Most of the above take place during the working week. At weekends and in the evenings, however, the minibus is available for general use by groups from Histon, Impington and surrounding villages. There is spare capacity here so if you have a group that could benefit from using the minibus, please contact Neil Davies.

There is also good news about the old bus as we will be passing it on to a Scout group who, we are sure, will make very good use of it.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have helped us to raise the funds to purchase the new minibus including: Histon Feast, Histon Beer Festival, Brackenbury Manor and St Andrew's Church, Impington.

None of this would have happened if it weren't for the initiative and continuous work of Neil Davies and Keith Palmer over the past 28 years and we are eternally grateful to them both.

We are always looking for volunteers to drive the bus and, if you can help, even on a very occasional basis, please contact Don Kelly.

If you don't want to drive, but would still like to help, please see Jean Newman's article opposite.

*Don Kelly, HICOM Chair*



HICOM Chair Don Kelly collecting the new minibus from Chris Jeakins of Pickrells in Billericay



**Histon & Impington Community**

Supporting mobility, older people and mental wellbeing in our community

Website: <http://hicom.org.uk/>

To volunteer to drive: Don Kelly, Email: [dhkelly55@gmail.com](mailto:dhkelly55@gmail.com) Tel: 07738 366387

To volunteer as a driver's buddy:

Jean Newman, Email: [jean.newman7@ntlworld.com](mailto:jean.newman7@ntlworld.com) Tel: 07772 437789

Paul Seekings, Email: [Paul@seekings07.plus.com](mailto:Paul@seekings07.plus.com) Tel: 07982 106805

To use the minibus for a group: Neil Davies, Email: [Neilsdavies12@gmail.com](mailto:Neilsdavies12@gmail.com)



**Histon, Impington & Girton Community Car Scheme (HIGS)**

Lesley Kelly, Tel: 07982 108927

**DIAL-A-RIDE** have spaces available on alternate Thursday with trips to the Grafton Centre 10 - 2 please contact them direct on 506335 and ask for Lynn.

**Want to volunteer for Community Transport but don't want to drive??**

To enable us to continue to offer our Minibus services, we are always looking for volunteers. We are currently looking for Buddies to help our drivers, on the minibus principally, but not exclusively, on Mondays assisting with trips to the classes we offer for older people at the recreation ground.

On other days, volunteers would also be welcome on the various shopping trips that we offer.

If you have time to spare and are fit and wanting to help, we would love to hear from you. For an informal chat and more information please contact Jean Newman or Paul Seekings (see above).

*Jean Newman, Older Persons Co-Ordinator*



## Histon, Impington and Girton Community Car Scheme

This is a much valued service for those residents in Histon, Impington and Girton who find it difficult to access conventional forms of public transport and might otherwise struggle to get out and about and thereby be isolated in their homes.

Community Car Schemes are supported and subsidised by Cambridgeshire County Council across our county. The Volunteer Drivers are offered training and mileage at 0.45 pence per mile and of this passengers contribute 0.30 pence per mile.

We are appealing to anyone with a bit of spare time to join our team of volunteer drivers. As little as two or three hours a week would be welcome.

This is a wonderful volunteering opportunity for anyone who would like to serve their community without having to commit to a specific amount of time or fit in with a rota.

The role would involve driving residents to medical appointments and social engagements. You would be given full support every step of the way and you would be contributing enormously to the welfare of residents in your villages without having to make a regular commitment.

To meet growing demands please consider joining our team of volunteers.



**Volunteer Drivers ..... we need YOU!**

If you can help us provide this valuable service to local people, or if you want to use the service, please call Lesley on 07982 108927

Friends of The Rec Events and New Activities

Impington May Day Running Festival Monday 7 May



This popular Friends of the Rec annual event returns with its range of runs for all the family ranging from 200m toddle, under 9s 1k, to all age 3k and 5k. The event takes place at Histon & Impington Recreation Ground with registration on the day from 9am and first event at 9:45am

New for 2018 is a Super Sensory 1k provided by the local inclusive sports charity Power 2 Inspire. The course will provide participants with a full experience of multi-sensory experiences from sound and smell to textures and colour.

New exercise bike for the HI Rec Monday Club

The Friends of the Rec raised over £4,000 including a grant of £1,000 from the SCDC Community Chest fund to purchase a new state-of-the-art exercise bike for use at the HI Rec Monday Club.

The club which is organised through the Friends provides a variety of fitness activity sessions for older people at Histon & Impington Recreation Ground and includes a specialist exercise class between 11:30am and 1:30pm for those recovering from strokes and other long-term conditions. This class has places available and local transport can be provided - please call Jean Newman 07772 437789 for info.



Histon & Impington Community Athletics

Two new weekly athletics activities start on Friday 20 April with a coach; a session for young people in years 7-11 will take place at IVC 4 - 4:55pm and a second for children in years 3-6 takes place at the Recreation Ground between 5:05 - 6pm. The activity has been made possible by a Living Sport grant to the Friends of the Rec. For info, contact Neil Davies 232514 or email [neilsdavies12@gmail.com](mailto:neilsdavies12@gmail.com)

Rec Ladies & Girls Sports Festival evening Tuesday 22 May

A brand new event organised by Friends of the Rec to encourage women and girls (over 14) to try a variety of sports and fitness activities with taster sessions. The sports will include hockey, football, croquet, cricket,

netball, running, tennis and a bootcamp. All will be free, and all activities will be suitable for beginners. For info call Jane Rush 232959.



Further information will be included in the annual Friends of the Rec newsletter which will be delivered to all village homes in the first half of April.

It is hoped to organise a new girls cricket activity for girls in Years 5-8, starting on the Rec at the end of April

Flaming June Half & Quarter Marathon Sunday 3 June



Online registration for this village event is available at [www.flamingjunehalf.co.uk](http://www.flamingjunehalf.co.uk) and the HI Wellbeing Mile will be held on the same morning raising funds for the work of Blue Smile at Histon Junior School.

Neil Davies, Friends of The Rec

War Memorial Rose Gardens

You may have noticed when out and about in the village over the last few months that changes were afoot at the War Memorial.

With the centenary of the end of the Great War being 2018 we wanted the memorial to be at its best by November in respect and memory of those who lost their lives.



Our first thought was to refurbish the rose bushes but unfortunately they were too far gone and the edges of the bed were quite distorted. Gardeners amongst you will be aware that it's not advised to plant roses where there were roses before so, to give the new ones the best chance, the existing soil was removed and replaced with fresh. The soil removed will be used elsewhere in the village.

We look forward to a magnificent display later in the year.

Elaine Farrell

Rose and Crown - 5000 meals later!

It's an underestimate and certainly only a fraction of chef Vic's lifetime output. After nearly four years in their first venture together, Amanda and Vic will be retiring and will finally leave the Rose and Crown on 24 April. Until then, it's business as usual, with Amanda welcoming guests and Vic working hard in the kitchen.



Amanda and Vic aim to provide a welcoming atmosphere, and a menu that Vic describes as "classical" using fresh ingredients, with adequate portions and straightforward descriptions! The kitchen is virtually a one-man operation; no sous-chefs, no shouts of "yes chef" or "service" here. At the end of the evening, Vic emerges looking a little tired but satisfied with his efforts.

Amanda comes from a varied background of customer service and business administration, including accounting at John Lewis, as a training assessor and, most recently, providing a welcome at the Rose and Crown.



Vic has been a chef throughout his working life, starting in 1965 at the Grand Hotel in Sheffield and moving on via the Isles of Scilly, London and Bournemouth. A memorable time was his appointment as Executive Chef at the Brighton Metropole in 1986. Locally, Vic has prepared food at the Ancient Shepherds in Fen Ditton, the Boot, and the Red Lion before coming to the Rose and Crown. A painting of Vic is a feature on the outside wall of the Red Lion.

Retirement plans are simple - a period to stand back and take stock before making any new decisions. Amanda says she has greatly enjoyed and will miss the experience of meeting so many new people but the time for change has come. I'm sure we all wish Amanda and Vic well for the future.

Phil Whitehead

## Senior Newsroom

For more information on the opportunities and activities below please contact: Jean Newman, Older Person's Co-ordinator: 07772 437789 email: [jean.newman7@ntlworld.com](mailto:jean.newman7@ntlworld.com) or Paul Seekings: 07982 106805 email: [paul@seekings07.plus.com](mailto:paul@seekings07.plus.com)

### Useful Numbers - cut out and keep

Camms Meals on Wheels : 01223 314288

Age UK Helpline: 03006 669 860

Older Persons Team Social Services: 0345 045 5202

Histon Community Village Warden Scheme: 07957 608 530

Histon & Impington Community Car Scheme: 07982 108 927

Histon & Impington Day Centre

Chris Swallow: 07484 134 923

Margaret Vale: 07919 861 378

Trading Standards Scam Team: 03454 040506

Police non-emergency number: 101

Bobby Scheme Home Security Check: 07866 602 100

Fire Safety: 0800 917 9994

### Volunteers needed for Histon and Impington Older People's Day Centre

Can you spare time Tuesdays or Fridays, once a month?

This is a vital service for our older people which may not be able to continue unless volunteers come forward!

Please contact Christine Swallow 07484 134923 if you can help.

### The HI Rec Monday Club

NEW

2pm - 3pm

Memory and co-ordination exercise classes with professional instructors plus a cup of tea finish!

Transport can be provided - contact Jean on 07772 437789 or email [jean.newman7@ntlworld.com](mailto:jean.newman7@ntlworld.com)



## MEN ONLY COFFEE AND CAKE

WHEN **First Friday each month**

WHERE **The Red Lion Pub, Histon, High Street**

WHAT TIME **10.30am - 11.30am**

Come and have a chat make new friends and enjoy some good company

More information contact Jean Newman, Histon and Impington Older Persons Co-Ordinator Email: [jean.newman7@ntlworld.com](mailto:jean.newman7@ntlworld.com)

Telephone: 07772 437789 or talk to Sheryl in the Red Lion [01223 564437](tel:01223564437)



## Young People's Noticeboard

Contact Andrea Cowley for further details on all youth projects detailed below

P.O. Box 344, Histon, Cambridge CB24 9WZ

Tel: 07899904959

Email: [andrea@connectionsbusproject.org.uk](mailto:andrea@connectionsbusproject.org.uk)



### The Generation Game

This is a 10-week course helping you gain the basic level of knowledge, understanding and learning to be a safe and caring visitor for older people. We are delighted to tell you that we will be running this project at Impington Village College from September. Look out for further details.

### Yoga & Mindfulness for teens and pre-teens - £5 per term

Yoga and mindfulness can help you relax, focus, keep calm and have fun. It's great for helping you feel energised, improving health



and balance, increasing strength and stamina. The classes include yoga postures, mindfulness and breathing exercises and relaxation. There will also be learning techniques offered to use at home and/or in the classroom to help you focus, stay calm and most importantly relax.

Sessions are held from 5.30pm to 6.30pm on Mondays at The Community Room, Histon & Impington Recreation Ground. Why not come along to a class and find out for yourself?

For further information or to book please contact: Pauline on 07985 947328 or

Email [paulineyoga@gmail.com](mailto:paulineyoga@gmail.com)

### Youth Zone

When: Mondays 3.45 – 5.15pm

Where: The Community Room  
Histon & Impington Recreation Ground.  
Who: young people in year groups 7-9  
What: a safe environment alongside Youth Workers, offering a wide variety of activities each week including sports; cooking; crafts; table tennis; pool; team challenges and the opportunity to meet with friends in a safe environment.

Admission is free!



### Watch this space for details of our forthcoming drama project!

After the success of our summer drama project, Rachel Denning will be returning to delve into 'the minds of a teenager'. Think of the film 'Inside Out' and imagine it featuring the emotions and feelings of a young person's head – it's gonna be awesome! As soon as funding is available details will be circulated!



### Basic Emergency First Aid Courses

An opportunity to complete a 2 hour Basic Emergency First Aid Course covering:

- Calling for Help
- Dealing with Emergency Blocked Airway
- Bleeding
- Basic CPR Procedures

When: Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April  
4 – 6pm or 6.30 - 8.30pm

Where: The Ideal Base, Impington Village College

Who: Young people in years 7 – 13

How: Download a booking form from The Connections Bus Website



### Connections Youth Bus

The bus goes to Oakington every Monday 7-9pm on Queens Way Recreation Ground, including summer holidays.

All year 7 upwards are welcome to join us for football, games consoles, quizzes, crafts, internet access and much more.



## Saving Hedgehogs

Histon Brownies challenge the village

Did you know that since the 1950s the UK hedgehog population has declined from 35 million to 1 million? A decline of natural habitat and increased use of pesticides in the countryside has taken its toll, but so has the way we manage our gardens. When Histon Brownies heard about this, they were scared that hedgehogs could become extinct and decided to do something about it. They designed a poster and delivered it around part of the village, and had a short article in the Village Network magazine; but they want the whole village to join in the challenge so, through HISIMP News, they will now tell you more about it.



*The Brownies showing one of the holes in Phoebe's garden fence. It's pretty small, but hedgehogs*

I talked to Histon Brownies, Isabelle, Esme, Jessie, Chloe and Phoebe.

"Hedgehogs need to travel about a mile every night to find food and they need to go through lots of gardens; our fences make a barrier and they can get stuck in one garden".

"You can make a CD-size hole in the bottom of your fence, its not very big" (that's 13cm square).

"If you can't cut a hole, you can use a spade to dig underneath".

"Its great that someone can come and help you make the hole in your fence" [Yes, the Hedgehog Gardens group have volunteers waiting to hear from anyone who needs help].

Esme thought that fence manufacturers should start to put holes in every fence they make automatically - any fence builders out there, can you help?.

Isabelle said she would be devastated if hedgehogs became extinct and urged everyone, "Please save the nation's favourite mammal!"

As well as making holes in fences, it is just as important to know which areas of the village are open for hedgehogs to roam and where more help is needed. Together with **Hedgehog Gardens Histon, Impington and Orchard Park Group**, the Brownies have created a survey to find out. Both groups will be at the Histon Feast with news about the

survey and more about saving Hedgehogs. We want to make our village into a Hedgehog Super Highway. Please take part in the survey.

### The Survey

Hedgehogs will have woken up from their winter hibernation by the end of April. Please pledge to help them, and **complete the survey by 15 April**.

Online Survey <http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/brownieshedgehogsurvey>

Paper copies from Sue Free on [histondc@gmail.com](mailto:histondc@gmail.com) or Tel. 01223 237072

The Hedgehog Gardens website

<https://hedgehoggardens.wordpress.com/home/the-project/how-it-works-2/>

Thanks to the dedication and support of 100,000 amazing volunteers, Girlguiding is active in every part of the UK, giving girls and young women a space where they can be themselves, have fun and build brilliant friendships, gain valuable life skills and really make a difference to their communities. There are more than 70 Brownies in our village (and Rainbows and Guides as well) To find out more, contact [histondc@gmail.com](mailto:histondc@gmail.com) or Tel. 01223 237072.

*Sue Free*

## The Road Adoption Scheme

The Road Adoption Scheme was established to give people the flexibility to litter pick their road or area at a time that suits them, rather than being tied to a particular date or time. We now have over 100 Adopters, covering 97% of the village, with just three roads still to be adopted. Adopters keep their litter picking equipment and they also look out for any concerns they might have regarding their road or area.

### Weeding Group

Following on from the above, several of us formed a weeding group that tackles hot spots around the village and since last summer, we have cleared part of The High Street, Junior School approach road, New School Road, Henry Morris Road and the main road near The Rose & Crown.

We meet once a month on a Friday afternoon from 2:00pm to approximately 3:00 pm.



If anyone would like to join in one of these groups, please call the Parish Office.

*Cedric Foster*

## Enviro.Vols

A great co-operation between the enviro.volunteers, the Parish Council, the Scouts and Tates Tree Work.

You may have noticed there has been a hive of activity at The Burial Ground on a few Saturday mornings in February. This was all down to the first enviro.volunteer



working party of the year. It started on a cold but sunny morning. Despite it being a big project we weren't daunted as we were joined by a group of scouts who were working towards their World Challenge Award. The Parish Council had needed to fell a number of old, diseased trees and as part of their commitment to maintain their tree stock had purchased six young trees.

To start, we needed to clear the site. This meant we needed to trim back the holly hedge, clear a lot of bramble, ash and sycamore saplings and ivy before we could even think about digging holes for the new trees!

We tackled the hardest section first, despite nature's best efforts to deter us with thorns of every description, and we managed to make a huge impact on the first day. We not only cleared the site but also used all the vegetation we had cut out to build a dead hedge along the B1049 boundary. This hedge serves several purposes. It not only uses up our waste material, it also provides a refuge for wildlife, creates a barrier/screen and helps to absorb the traffic noise. So a good all round winner.

The next Saturday's working party was much the same; finally, on the third Saturday the trees arrived, courtesy of the truck kindly provided by Tates Tree Work. After off-loading the trees, we measured out the site, worked out the spacing and finally got round to do the digging and planting. The trees were planted in a line; to add interest, we alternated the varieties which included 2 hornbeams, 2 purple plums and 2 chinese red birch trees, so lots of year-round interest!

We managed to get them in before the snow, but still have a little more clearance work and mulching to do, which no doubt will be completed by the time you read this.

If you would like to join the enviro.volunteers in their green gym please do get in touch via email to [enviro@hisimp.net](mailto:enviro@hisimp.net). All tools, refreshments and biscuits are provided. You just need to bring yourself and your enthusiasm. Sturdy shoes (are recommended) together with thick gardening gloves although we can provide those too.

*Pene Nudds, enviro.volunteers*

## Sports Hub

All activities take place on the Recreation Ground, telephone: 01223 232423

### Histon Tennis Club

We warmly welcome new members, offering organised club sessions, friendly tournaments and social functions, 13 league teams for competitive play, plus coaching from May to July. We have 4 traditional grass courts (April to September), one floodlit artificial grass, and one floodlit hard court with a club room and access to changing rooms.

The summer season starts **Wednesday 25 April 2018**.

We offer the following to all members:

- Friendly atmosphere
- Organised weekly club sessions: Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6pm - just turn up
- Organised monthly Club Saturday or Sunday: just turn up at 2pm
- Regular organised friendly tournaments with tea and cake: all senior members will be very welcome - come along and enjoy the tennis whatever your standard
- Social functions: including a Cheese and Wine evening following a club session, the Dilly Cup handicap tournament and 'bring and share' meal, and Pizza and Beer following the final tournament on the grass
- League matches for competitive players
- Reasonable fees including family membership: see website for details
- Junior Club session: supervised sessions with a girls only session followed by all Junior members
- Coaching sessions: our resident junior and senior tennis coach, David Nation has set up an excellent website to showcase all the services he provides. This website provides all the information you require:  
[www.TennisNation.co.uk](http://www.TennisNation.co.uk)

Full details can be found on the clubs website: [www.histontennisclub.co.uk](http://www.histontennisclub.co.uk)

For further information please email: [info@histontennisclub.co.uk](mailto:info@histontennisclub.co.uk)

### Croquet Club

Did you know we have a croquet club which has two courts of well cared-for lawn and all the necessary equipment at the Rec? If you would like to have an introductory session, come along on National Croquet Day, Sunday May 13th between 2 and 5pm, when you can have individual tuition. Please wear footwear which will not dig into the lawn.



### NETBALL FUN FITNESS FRIENDS

Every Tuesday 6:30 - 8pm @ Histon Rec. CB24 9EL

Played before? Play again. Try for free.  
Email: [Roisin.munnelly@gmail.com](mailto:Roisin.munnelly@gmail.com)

### Histon Cricket Club

**Seniors** - We run 3 senior teams on Saturdays. Senior practice is on Thursday evenings from 6pm, with the free use of a bowling machine at other times. There is a £25 subscription fee for senior player and a match fee of £10 (£5 for students and juniors).

Indoor adult nets for 2018 start at Hills Road Indoor Cricket School from January 24th 7-8pm, £3 per session and will run until the end of April 4th

Indoor Colts nets are currently running 1-2pm every Saturday at Hills Road Indoor Cricket School until March 24th

**Juniors** - We run teams at 11,13, 14 & U15 age groups.

We will also be running the ECB All Stars Programme again in 2018 Sessions begin Sunday 8th May 9.30-10.30am at Histon & Impington Recreation Ground. There is a subscription fee of £45 per season and NO match fees.

On top of this Histon CC run All Stars Cricket and a variety of cricket camps throughout the year.

### Interested in playing cricket with Histon Cricket Club?

Come along to our training sessions at The Recreation Ground:

- Under 9s** (Years 3 & 4) Wednesdays 4:45-6pm
- Under 11s** (Years 5 & 6) Mondays 6-7:30pm
- Under 13s** (Years 7 & 8) Wednesdays 6-7:30pm
- Under 14s** (Year 9) Wednesdays 6-7.30pm
- Under 15s** (Year 10) Tuesdays 6-7.30pm
- Adults** Thursdays 6-8pm

Training begins week commencing 16th April 2018

For more information email: [histoncc@gmail.com](mailto:histoncc@gmail.com)



### Histon Hornets

#### 5-a-Side Tournament - Sunday 8 July 2018

For more information on the Histon Hornets 5-a-side Tournament, please contact Sam Brook, mobile: 07811257523 or email:

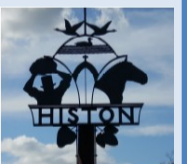
[Sambrook@hotmail.com](mailto:Sambrook@hotmail.com)

**Entry Fee:** £30 per team (no charge for disabilities teams)

**Maximum Squad sizes:** U7 and U8-10 players; all other ages-8 players ; Disabilities team: no limit

**Closing Date:** Sunday 3 June 2018

Under 7	Morning	★ U7 & U8 Non-Competitive
Under 8	Afternoon	★ All Participants receive a medal
Combined Under 9 & 10 girls	Morning	★ U9 and above competitive league and knock-out
Under 9 boys	Afternoon	★ Win a trophy to keep
Under 10 boys	Morning	
Under 11 boys	Afternoon	
Under 11 girls	Morning	
Under 12 boys	Morning	
Under 12 girls	Morning	
Under 13 boys	Afternoon	
Under 13 girls	Afternoon	
Under 14 girls	Afternoon	
Children with disabilities	Morning	



### Histon Bowls Club

New Members needed - All levels from beginners to more experienced!

If you have not played the game before, why not try this very pleasant outdoor activity?

Histon are in 4 evening leagues (mixed) and 1 afternoon league (mixed), plus cup competitions and internal games. Or you can just play friendlies amongst yourselves. This choice is yours!

We have some sets of bowls which you can use to start with.

If you are interested please contact the secretary Malcolm Green on 01223 232956 or email

[malcolmgreen1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:malcolmgreen1@hotmail.co.uk)



# Archaeology Group (HIAG)

The Archaeology Group held two well attended Open Evenings in February to showcase local archaeology, featuring finds, interpretation and practical activities. To coincide with the Open Evenings, we launched our first publication, a booklet describing the findings and interpretation of the results of the Histon & Impington "Big Dig" programme. Copies can be purchased from Histon Library or at HIAG events.



One positive outcome of the extensive large-scale development currently being carried out across South Cambridgeshire is that there has recently been a remarkable amount of archaeological investigation going on locally. The excavation of the substantial Romano-British settlement at the site of the new town of Northstowe, was the subject of a fascinating talk on 12 March by Alison Dickens of Cambridge Archaeological Unit. The [A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon](#) £1.5billion upgrade is currently the site of the largest archaeological investigation project in the UK, involving hundreds of archaeologists. We plan to host a talk on 10 September about the highlights of these investigations.

On 9-10 May we will once again be hosting an archaeology field school run by the Access Cambridge Archaeology outreach unit from the University of Cambridge. These field schools aim to raise the aspirations, enthusiasm and attainment of 14-17-year-olds in higher education, while at the same time making a valuable contribution to current academic research on medieval settlement. Participants spend two days under experienced supervision running their own small (1m<sup>2</sup>) archaeological test pit, and a third day is spent at the University. If at the end of the two days of excavation by the students any of the sites look promising for further excavation, then HIAG plan to carry on excavating over the following weekend with a team of volunteers. If you have a site for a test pit you could offer to support this project, particularly if it is within easy walking distance of the base at Histon Baptist Church, please do contact us. We are also



looking for volunteers to help with the follow up excavations - no previous experience necessary! If you are interested in supporting this event, or finding out more about our activities, then please do either use the contact form on our website at [hiarchaeology.wordpress.com](http://hiarchaeology.wordpress.com) or email us at [hisimp.archaeology.group@gmail.com](mailto:hisimp.archaeology.group@gmail.com)



## Neighbourhood Plan

You might think that development of the Neighbourhood Plan has been going on for years. Well you'd be right. It's a slow process. But version 1.0 has just been published, check it out on [www.hiplan.net](http://www.hiplan.net), and we're into a largely technical phase before we go to the final adoption referendum.

Even in its present form it is proving useful. Because it sets out the conditions to which the Community proposes that future developments should conform, it is a framework for the Parish Council to work with when it talks to developers. They can then be guided towards ideas which the Community might support. This happened recently when the new owners of the School Hill site came to talk about their development plans. It was a relaxed, very early stage meeting and we were pleased that they are broadly compliant with the Neighbourhood Plan which calls for new development of the site to preserve the existing retail offering but allows for the addition of flats above.

It has also proved useful in getting us to focus on current community assets which we do not want to lose. These include the obvious green spaces, like the playing field on New School Road, but also includes footpaths including informal ones in the Green Belt. We should have a network of such paths and our Neighbourhood Plan process is forcing us to identify and protect them.

Although we are in a 'technical phase' there's still time to input to the Plan either informally to me or formally when there will be a consultation before the summer.



David Jenkins

If you have any events you need to promote in our quarterly newsletter let the editors know full details at:

[hi-news.editor@hisimp.net](mailto:hi-news.editor@hisimp.net)



## Impington Music Society Concerts:

27 April - An evening of French music with Jan Payne, Frances Horgan and David Warham

18 May - Filipe Ribiero, classical guitar

## Annual Parish Meeting

14 May - at St Andrews Centre, School Hill

## District and Parish Elections:

3 May - all day

## Histon & Impington Gardening Club

10 April - Margaret Nimmo-Smith: 'Ferns and other Foliage Plants for the Garden'

8 May - Simon White: 'Highlights of Chelsea & Hampton' followed by Strawberries and Cakes

5 May - Plant Stall at The Boot

12 June - Evening visit, 6:30pm to The Manor, Hemingford Grey

8 July - Outing to Hampton Court Flower Show

## Council & Committee Meetings

See website for details: [www.hisimp.net](http://www.hisimp.net)

**Full Council** - Recreation Centre 7.30pm- AGM Monday 21 May, 18 June

**Planning** - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Tuesday 27 March, 17 April, 1 May, 22 May

**Highways** - Parish Office 7.30pm - Tuesday 5 June

**Finance, Legal & Administration** - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Monday 9 April, 4 June

**Environment** - Parish Office 7.30 p.m. - Tuesday 29 May

**Recreation** - Recreation Centre, 7.30 p.m. - Monday 26 March, 25 June

**Residents are welcome to attend all Council meetings**

At Full Council, there is a standing agenda item for Public Participation

**Meeting dates may be subject to change; please check our website calendar for any updates**