

WATERBEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Beach News

WATERBEACH - LANDBEACH - CHITTERING



Spring 2021
No.265

COMING VERY SOON



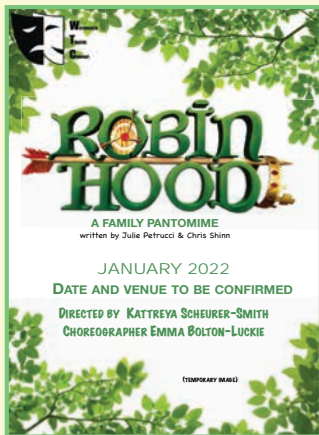
WATERBEACH THEATRE COMPANY present

A SMALL FAMILY MURDER
by Simon Brett

DRAMA FESTIVAL ENTRY
DATES & VENUES
TO BE CONFIRMED

WWW.WTCONLINE.ORG.UK

Love Theatre, Love Waterbeach Theatre Company



WATERBEACH THEATRE COMPANY

ROBIN HOOD

A FAMILY PANTOMIME
written by Julie Petrucci & Chris Shinn

JANUARY 2022
DATE AND VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED

DIRECTED BY KATTREYA SCHEUKER-SMITH
CHOREOGRAPHER EMMA BOLTON-LUCKIE

(TEMPORARY IMAGE)



RESCHEDULED

CHESHIRE CATS
BY GAIL YOUNG

Discribed by WINDY CROFT

MAY 2022
DATE & VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED

www.wtconline.org.uk

For further information on 'Cheshire Cats' is provided by online programme card. ©2022. All rights reserved. Waterbeach Theatre Company.



WATERBEACH THEATRE COMPANY

A BUNCH OF AMATEURS

IAN HISLOP & NICK NEWMAN

DATE & VENUE
TO BE CONFIRMED

SAM FROTH

BEACH NEWS

Journal of Waterbeach Community Association

www.waterbeach.org



'Beach News' is edited and distributed entirely by non-professional volunteers and is delivered free to residents of Waterbeach, Landbeach and Chittering four times a year.

The Association welcomes contributions on subjects of local interest but reserves the right to edit or omit articles without notice at their discretion.

Whilst every effort to ensure contents are correct on going to print the Association cannot accept responsibility for any omissions or errors. Views expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the Association and we have no control over the nature, content and availability of any website or link referred to.

Articles for inclusion in 'Beach News' should be emailed to
beachnews@waterbeach.org

Advertisements published in 'Beach News' are subject to individual agreements between advertisers and readers and the Association cannot be held responsible for the quality of goods or services supplied.

Please refer any problems with advertisers to
Adrian Wright 01223 861846.

The nature of production makes publication dates uncertain but editions should appear as follows:

No. 266 (Summer) 26th June – copy by 4th June 2021 *(Please note change of date)*
No. 267 (Autumn) 25th September – copy by 3rd September 2021

Whilst every effort will be made to adhere to this schedule unforeseen circumstances may delay or restrict publication or delivery and no responsibility can be accepted for late or non-appearance.

WHERE TO SEND YOUR ARTICLE

If you would like information on your group to be published in Beach News, or have some interesting news to share, write an article and send it along. Email it to **beachnews@waterbeach.org** or send it to 5 Spurgeons Ave, Waterbeach, Cambridge CB25 9NU.

If you have posters detailing one off local events that you would like put up in the Associations notice boards at Waterbeach Green and School entrances on High Street and Way Lane, please post three copies to 5 Spurgeons Avenue, Waterbeach, Cambridge CB25 9NU (Maximum size poster A4 in portrait format).

Contents

Community Association	1	Tithe Barn Trust	19
Tribute to Jacqui Rabbett	2	Community Playgroup	21
Heron's Preschool	4	Remembrance Poppy Project	22
Happy Folks Club	5	Waterbeach Theatre Company	23
Waterbeach Baptist Church	6	Landbeach Village Sign	24
Family Tree Research	7	Waterbeach Patient Participation Group	25
Waterbeach Youth Club (WAY)	8	Waterbeach School	26
Gardening Club	9	Lancaster's Estate	27
Jacqui Rabbett	10	St. John's Church	28
Girlguiding in Waterbeach	11	Military Heritage Museum	29
Waterbeach Village Society	12	Waterbeach Cycling Campaign	29
Waterbeach Colts FC	13	All change at King's Cross	31
Waterbeach WI	14	Help our hedgehogs	32
WASPS	15	Farmland Museum	33
Waterbeach Surgery	17	Waterbeach Football Club	34
What's in a name?	18	Cambridgeshire Constabulary	35

Community Association



Chairperson - This is the part of the Beach News when the Community Association Chairperson reports on the recent happenings and what is coming up. As you may be aware our Chairperson, Jacqui Rabbett, sadly passed away in December 2020. Tributes to Jacqui from the Community Association and also from her husband Clive Rabbett can be found on page 2 and page 10. Jacqui will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

As we all know Covid-19 has turned everything topsy-turvy and because we cannot freely socialise with other people, community activities cannot happen at present. In the absence of being able to hold a meeting to elect a Chairperson for Waterbeach Community Association, I have been asked to step in as Interim Chairperson, temporarily, until proper elections can be held by the committee. This is not the first time I have chaired the Association; I held the post many years ago. I do not intend to continue as chairperson after the election – it's time for a younger person to take over, but they will get my full support. So, Association members get your thinking caps on and discern someone to take us forward please when a meeting can be arranged. I want to thank Pam Clack, the Association Secretary for keeping things going and sorting out administrative matters, bank account and Beach News.

Christmas 2020 - Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 restrictions we were not able to hold our annual 'Carols on the Green' on Christmas Eve last year. This for many of us is the start of Christmas and always a highlight in the village calendar. Let us hope by Christmas 2021 things will have settled down and we can rejoice Christmas Eve together again.

Beach News - The spring edition of Beach News was postponed due to the restrictions put in place to combat the spread of the Coronavirus (Covid-19), but I'm pleased to say we are now back. The summer edition will also be a little later than normal to give a more even spread. The closing date for articles will now be 4th June and it is due for publication on 26th June 2021.

Feast 2021 - That brings me on to the Feast. There is still uncertainty with the government's roadmap out of lockdown and we therefore feel we could not safely hold Waterbeach Feast as usual in June this year. The government's easing of restrictions throws any possibility into July at the earliest, but that would clash with other events, the end of school term and (let's hope) people's holidays. Organising the Feast takes 12 months of planning and much hard work and time has to be put in by the organisers. Things have to be booked well in advance and by moving the date some of our regular bookings such as the fair, will have already been booked to attend their other annual events elsewhere. We feel that there is not enough time, too much uncertainty and with the possibility that things could change at any time we cannot go ahead with Waterbeach Feast this year. This is not an easy decision to make and we realise that this will be a huge disappointment to very many people, a feeling we share.

Sorry to finish on such a disappointing note but let us hope something better is round the corner and we can look forward to Feast 2022.

Adrian Wright- Interim Chairperson

Tribute to Jacqui Rabbett

None were more surprised than I to hear of the untimely death of the Waterbeach Community Association Chairperson, Jacqui Rabbett, who passed away on 8th December 2020. Having worked with Jacqui for many years on the Association committee, this came as a great shock.

Jacqui first joined Waterbeach Community Association in 2000 when she was the representative for the PTA. Later that year she took on the additional responsibilities of becoming Chairperson of the Community Association. In this role Jacqui was involved in organising many village events including the annual Waterbeach Feast, Carols on the Green each Christmas Eve, lunches and a



party for senior citizens, the charity Beach Ball in 2007 and not forgetting the Beach News.

Jacqui loved Feast Day and could always be found on the Green early in the morning organising the stall holders and getting everything set for the afternoon's entertainment. The highlight of the Feast for many is the parade of floats and Jacqui would be seen each year striding out leading the parade to ensure it progressed safely around the village.

Jacqui was also keen to continue providing our community with Beach News, our village magazine. In the days before the magazine was



Printing Beach News 2010



Leading Feast Parade 2015

professionally printed Jacqui would spend many hours in the evenings printing the copies ready to be collated and folded by

a team of volunteers on a Saturday morning in the School Hall. In more recent years Jacqui would assist in distributing the magazines to the volunteers who deliver to your door. She always enjoyed a chat and a catch up with the deliverers en route to make sure everyone was all right!

Jacqui had a number of other roles in the community too, she was a valued member of Waterbeach School's staff, a School Governor and was also a Parish Councillor for a while.

Jacqui gave her time generously and her selfless efforts for the good of the whole community will never be forgotten. She touched so many lives with her happy temperament and hard work and will be greatly missed by all.

On behalf of the Association, I offer our condolences to Jacqui's husband Clive and the family and hope they take comfort in knowing how much of a difference Jacqui made to the life of our community.

Adrian Wright - Interim Chairperson WCA

Heron's' Preschool



It's certainly been a busy start to 2021 for us, with all the restrictions of COVID-19 we never imagined that we would be opening a new setting while we are in the middle of a pandemic!

In the last week of the Autumn term, we received a call from Ofsted to say that our registration had gone through for Heron's' Preschool, something that we didn't expect to happen so quickly. This meant that it was full speed ahead for the staff team and committee to get the final bits ready for the new premises, ready for opening in the new year. Friday 18th December 2020 was an emotional day for everyone at Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup, as we welcomed the children into our much-loved portacabin on the grounds of Hatley Court for the final time. So many children have been through the doors of Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup, and while we were all excited for the move, it was also tinged with sadness as it was the end of an era.

After such a long wait, we were finally able to open the doors of Heron's' Preschool on Tuesday 5th January 2021. Many people have been involved in the process of finding us a new home over the years, far too many to name, but we would like to thank each and every one of them for helping us achieve our goal.

Since we've moved in, the children and staff team have settled in well to our new surroundings. It's been great to see the children exploring the larger indoor and outdoor space, creating some fantastic creations and art work to decorate the play space, and getting to grips with our new balance bikes in the garden. The children have also enjoyed finding out about Chinese New Year, as we created some paper lanterns, trying to use some chopsticks



Jack and the Beanstalk experiment



Cola experiment

with noodles and having a Chinese Dragon Dance in the garden. We recently carried out a variety of different experiments which the children loved, such as growing beans in a jar and watching the roots and shoots start to grow, will the beanstalk's reach their castles like Jack's magic beans in Jack and the Beanstalk? Finding out what would happen when we dropped some mints into a bottle of cola was such a highlight, that we did the experiment twice in the same week!

We're also in the process of starting our Eco-School journey, where we hope to achieve a Green Flag through the Eco-School programme. The children have created their own Eco-Committee, carried out an audit of our setting, and have drawn up an action plan of what we would like to achieve, with support from a couple of the staff team. We look forward to keeping you updated as we progress with this.

On the 4th May, Herons' Committee would like to hold an EGM (Extraordinary General Meeting) to discuss the transference of our Charitable status to an Incorporated Charitable Organisation. Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, this will be online through Microsoft Teams. Any member of the Community is welcome to attend and can contact info@heronspreschoolwaterbeach.org for more information about joining the meeting.

Everyone at Herons' was saddened and shocked to hear the news about Jacqui Rabbett in December. We've always enjoyed taking part in the Waterbeach Feast each year and walking in the parade, just one of the things she was instrumental in organising. She will be missed by us all, along with all the children that moved on to school after their time with us at Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup over the years.

We offer term time Early Years Education to children aged 2 - 4 years of age, 9.00am-3.00pm, Monday – Friday. We currently have some availability for the remainder of this academic year. If you would like to find out more about what spaces we have available, please contact Wayne Badcock (Preschool Manager) on 01223 863245 during one of the sessions or email info@heronspreschoolwaterbeach.org. More information can be found on our website too, www.heronspreschoolwaterbeach.org. We also keep our Facebook page regularly updated with details of upcoming events and what we've been up to.

Happy Folks Club

I am looking forward to summer this year. Hopefully we can resume our club meetings on a Friday afternoon at the Beach Club. With vaccinations being carried out at a great pace, I am hoping we can get back to having fun!

On a sad note, we have lost one more of our members, Mr Ron Jaffrey, he was a much liked member and served the club very well. On a brighter note, I would like to congratulate Gerry and Carole Holdsworth, on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in March. You couldn't find a lovelier couple.

The club has tickets for Thursford Christmas Show in December. We will hopefully fit in a few other trips, maybe on a smaller scale depending on social distancing. So, looking on the bright side we hope to be back sometime the in the summer. Fingers crossed!

Stuart Atkins

Waterbeach Baptist Church

Church is about being a family and worshipping together, and when the first lockdown struck in 2020 our immediate reaction was that somehow we must continue to meet because we didn't want to be without each another. So, like many others we turned to Zoom and now we wouldn't be without it. Of course, we are very much hoping that we will meeting together in person before too long; but until then here are our thoughts about being an online church.

As many people have discovered, moving your whole week onto screens with online meetings can be very tiring, so we were sceptical that people would even want to join yet another Zoom call. However, there was unbridled enthusiasm from our congregation who were happy to join, fellowship, learn and laugh from the comfort of their own home. In fact, we should let them tell you for themselves: *"As the song goes: 'Zoom just one look and then my heart went boom!' To meet on Zoom to worship, makes my heart feel good. To see everyone keeps me feeling positive, as we share, sing, pray and listen to God's Word"* (Dave Beasley). Following on from moving Sunday mornings online, we managed to do the same with our weekly Connect Groups. Lots of our members have really enjoyed the thought-provoking course on Discipleship that we ran recently (along with the occasional quiz night).

Of course, going online presented us with lots of brand new challenges. Having a live band over video chat is not exactly an easy task, so we decided to take matters into our own hands. It took us a while to work out the complicated logistics, but members of our worship team have been able to use their recording equipment to record covers of worship songs individually from home and then overlay them to make professional sounding videos. They've loved getting stuck into these videos and they've seen themselves grow whilst giving to the rest of the church: *"Getting to be a part of worship in this way has been so wonderful! I have really enjoyed the process and I love seeing the quality grow as time goes on"* (Terra Henggeler). The band has been instrumental (pun intended) in worship on a Sunday morning, as we share the videos and sing from our living rooms; the mute button has been our friend, as you can sing as loud as you like with no fear of anyone hearing you.

We'd love you to check out these songs, just head over to YouTube and search for Waterbeach Baptist Church – The Isolation Series.

Like everything else, sermons have moved onto Zoom on a Sunday. Our pastor shares his thoughts here: *"When it comes to preaching on Zoom it really is a challenge to communicate in a personal and meaningful way; 'imagine you're on TV' said one very helpful person. There is certainly a new*

skill set to be acquired as you attempt to punch through the technological barriers. Although it's not the same as being physically together, Zoom church has been a blessing as it allows us to remain connected and still gather together as a group of believers." (Pastor Martin Ensell)

We could not possibly leave out our wonderful children. They've been loving our kid's song at the beginning of our Sunday services with crazy actions thrown in. Although we are sad to miss them growing before our eyes, it's been an absolute joy to see their smiling faces on our screens. We started with the Easter story, followed by Jesus' miracles and parables. The children have enjoyed watching God's Word come to life in a fun way and then following it up with a craft/activity throughout the week. *"I love seeing the children all listening and engaging in the lesson I am teaching and just feel so blessed watching Jesus grow in their hearts and minds. We have now started a new series on the Ten Commandments"*. (Marianne Petrou)

For so long, it's been the introvert's dream to do church from the comfort of their own sofa, and now they can. Through this current situation we have been delighted to welcome new participants to our weekly meetings. We'd love to see you there; just head over to our website and click on the Zoom link. Or if you just fancy a chat about anything, send us a message on Facebook or on our website.

Our Bible verse for 2021 is *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go"* (Joshua 9:1); we are holding this verse in our hearts as we go forward together into the future with God.

www.waterbeachbaptist.org | 01223 862494 | Facebook: Waterbeach Baptist Chapel

Family Tree Research

Can you assist?

Following the death of our dear mother, Thora Saunders of Denson Close, Waterbeach, we are working on a family tree. Her father was William Tuck, landlord of The Wheatsheaf Pub, Way Lane, Waterbeach and his wife was Lily Tuck/nee Badcock. Our mother met and married our father, Frederick John Saunders there, as he was based at Waterbeach aerodrome during the second world war. We know her maiden name was Tuck and we are hoping to discover any living relatives who may be able to help us regarding her connection to the Badcock family. If you can assist or put me in touch with any relevant resources/documents I would be very grateful.

lindahague253@btinternet.com

Many thanks, *Linda Hague* (daughter)

Waterbeach Youth Club (WAY)

Since the Covid 19 pandemic began last March, staff and Trustees have worked hard to ensure that we could continue to provide a much needed youth provision for our members by whatever means they could.



Throughout the first lockdown, our Youth Workers provided an outreach service, engaging with vulnerable young people and providing them with help and guidance. Between July and December, when restrictions allowed, they



ran some very popular pre-booked socially distanced sessions for up to 15 members. The sessions included sports, arts and crafts, cooking, board games, playstation, boxing, gardening, water fights and spray painting. As well as providing a safe, social environment, the WAY staff team also played a vital role allowing young people to talk about their fears and concerns.

During the first week of the Christmas holidays they were able to provide free hot meals for members and food parcels for those families who needed a bit of extra support. Thanks to the Salvation Army volunteers, our members also received Christmas pressies which really raised morale!

When the third lockdown was announced, WAY once again had to stop all face to face provision but continued to work hard planning and delivering virtual sessions and preparing activities for when we can re-open with restrictions from May.

The staff team and Trustees of WAY have been incredibly impressed by how well the members adapted to the Covid pandemic in general and how they have abided by all the new protective procedures at youth club which have included regular hand sanitising, wearing face coverings where required and socially distancing throughout the sessions.

We gained local recognition when BBC Radio Cambridge saw what we were achieving on our Facebook posts and were so impressed they featured WAY in their programme about organisations continuing much needed services for young people.

As things start to return to normal, we will once again be opening our doors on Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6.30pm – 8.30pm for school year groups 7-11. We will confirm age groups welcomed at each session nearer the time, but we will certainly be running some extra sessions for the

Yr 6's before the summer holidays so keep an eye on our Facebook page: Waterbeach Youth Club -WAY

All this work would not be possible without the support of our local Parish Council who has recently approved funding of £5,000 per year for two years to allow us to employ a part time Community Youth Worker to develop our services to local young people. We are also grateful to a small group of personal donors from the village who generously donate anything from £10 per month to £1,000 a year. Their support and generosity is very much appreciated.

As Covid continues to have an impact on the global economy, the sources of funding we have been reliant upon will get harder to access so local support is even more essential. If you feel you could make a monthly donation, however small, please contact

caroline.waterbeachway@gmail .com for more details.

Gardening Club

Although we continue to be frustrated that many of our normal club activities have been put on hold, Spring is an exciting time for all gardeners. We have taken advantage of the club's discount seeds scheme and are busy planning what to do in our gardens and on our allotments. Today, there are so many ways to buy from a wide variety of sources online in addition to making use of local garden centres and nurseries. We found this advert from the Cambridge Chronicle and Journal from Saturday 10th December 1864 which shows how local residents could expand the variety of plants in their gardens and support a local trader:



**FREDERICK DENSON,
NURSEYMAN, SEEDSMAN, AND FLORIST,
WATERBEACH, Cambs.**

Begs to inform his Friends and the Public that he has just received, direct from the celebrated Gardens of Haarlem, an extensive and rare collection of Hyacinths, Tulips, Crocuses, Polyanthus, Narcissuses, Anemones, Irises, Gladioluses, and other Bulbous Flower Roots.

Prices very moderate, as per List, which may be had free on application.

A Descriptive and Priced Catalogue of Fruit Trees for 1864-5 now ready.

A list of Novelties in New Fruits raised in England, America, France, Germany, Russia, and Northern Italy, will be published on the 1st of November next.

**A STAND IN CAMBRIDGE MARKET ON SATURDAYS,
OPPOSITE GREAT ST. MARY'S CHURCH**

We hope that we will be back to normal by the Autumn and will keep you up-to-date with our plans.

Jacqui Rabbett 14/7/1956 – 8/12/2020

Jacqui was always a Cambridge girl at heart, born Jacqueline Charles and living in Campbell Street off Mill Road with family originating in the Coleridge area. She attended Coleridge School before leaving for a job as a book buyer with a Cambridge bookshop. This was not her thing so she left and went to work in Belinda's Restaurant on Trinity Street and this is where she met her future husband, Clive.

Jacqui loved working in the restaurant, meeting people and larking about with the staff! She continued working there after she married. She lived in Girton and this is where her first child James, was born. The family moved to Luton as a result of her husband's work. She was uncomfortable there and could not wait to return to the Cambridge area. Jacqui and Clive had two more sons whilst living in Luton, Neil and Ian and then in 1986 the family moved back and bought a house in Waterbeach, the village that was to become their home.

Jacqui had several jobs, a cashier in Sainsbury's, a technician on the industrial estate and she was also registered as a child minder. Jacqui also did some voluntary work at Waterbeach School and eventually was offered a position as a teaching assistant. She had found her vocation. She had a short break following the birth of her daughter Abigail, but soon returned to school with great enthusiasm for her role. She quickly gained a reputation for helping and caring for countless children. Over the many years Jacqui worked at Waterbeach School she assisted numerous children with additional needs and those with other issues too earning her enormous love and respect.

Jacqui was recognised when she was asked to attend The House of Commons to take part in a discussion about her work.

At the same time Jacqui immersed herself into village life, serving on the PTA, School Governors, Parish Council and Waterbeach Community Association. Serving on Waterbeach Community Association Jacqui started to take on a large number of responsibilities and was elected as Chairperson. In this role Jacqui organised many village events, including Waterbeach Feast, Carols on the Green, lunches and party for senior citizens and the Beach Ball in 2007. She was also a huge part of Beach News and enlisted an enthusiastic team of deliverers to bring it to your doors.

Jacqui loved Waterbeach, she loved organising events bringing the community together and making people happy and in doing so made a considerable contribution to the village.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who paid their respects to Jacqui on the day of her funeral. It was an amazing send off for a one-of-a-kind woman.



Clive Rabbett

Girlguiding in Waterbeach



Our leaders and young members are continuing to keep our Girlguiding light shining, albeit in its virtual form, with weekly meetings held over Zoom. The girls have been doing a range of Girlguiding programme activities, crafts, and games. "Baking online" has overwhelmingly been the most popular activity with the Guides – trays of butter cookies, microwave mug doughnuts and chocolate nests created – plus the bonus that the mess for the leaders to clean up is virtual too!

February 22nd is an important date in the Girlguiding calendar, as we celebrate World Thinking Day. We think about our guiding sisters across the world and embrace our membership of a larger movement - The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS).

Together with others from our Guiding county – Cambridgeshire East – we celebrated our World Thinking Day together virtually for the first time ever on our brand new Cambs East Guides YouTube channel. There



Guiding hands – 1st Waterbeach Guides learning about Guiding around the World

were Sing-along and Bake-alongs, Rebel girl stories and traditional crafts from all five WAGGGS regions – Polish paper cutting,



Brownie Ellie with her World Thinking Day poster

Ndebele African dolls, God's eye weaving, mosaic design and Penguin origami. It was

a special time for us all to renew our Promise – led by our young members, and shared a beautiful candle ceremony to remember our global movement.

2nd Waterbeach Brownies continue to recycle crisp packets via the Terracycle scheme, with 36kg of packets sent off last month. Not only does it stop packets going into landfill, but it also fundraises a small amount for the Brownie unit too, so please keep collecting and drop off with Lisa at 8 Pieces Court.

Waterbeach Rainbows are having fun crafting, cooking and playing games on their weekly Zoom meetings – they've even had special visitors from Ellie the Elf and a real-life goat!

Just over a year ago, Waterbeach Brownies and Guides took part in a community project organised by Adrian Wright, warden for Cow Hollow Wood, our local Woodland Trust woods located near our train station. Girlguiding members and their families, alongside other members of the local community, helped to plant drifts of snowdrops throughout the woods. Leader Louise commented, *"Seeing the small, but positive impacts we make in our community are what makes me proud to be a leader"*. Pictured here is Brownie Eve, making a return visit in early Spring to see the Snowdrops in bloom.



Brownie Eve with Snowdrops

We are now hopefully beginning our preparations to return to outdoor Guiding - in our Covid-safe "bubbles" after the Easter holidays. The change in Government guidance, return of warmer weather and lighter evenings means face-to-face adventures can take place safely once again – Hooray!

All these adventures are made possible by the amazing commitment of our volunteers. If you or your daughter would like to get involved in Guiding, please register online at <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/>

Waterbeach Village Society

Here's for better days and a fresh calendar of speakers for 2021 – 2022. The opportunity to meet together comes in after what would have been our last meeting of the season this May. However, a new programme of talks will be ready from September to May 2022. With luck the list will be printed in the next Beach News and we can settle down to some interesting talks during the Autumn and next Spring.

We meet in St John's Church Room on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm from September to May, to hear speakers talk on various subjects, mostly historical, largely around the Fens. These can be as diverse as Fen Customs and traditions, life of the local society in various eras or our local businesses or further afield such as India, not forgetting trains and boats and planes! Always interesting and sometimes even funny! There is a wealth of interesting people in the area worth listening to. The evening finishes with tea and coffee with biscuits and an opportunity to talk to the speaker on a one to one.

Waterbeach Colts FC



Like everyone else, we have had an unusual year. As I write, we are excitedly awaiting the return of grassroots football for both children and adults from the 29th March.

For those of you who are new to the club or to the area, the club was founded in 2002. We offer football for all abilities for girls and boys. We have teams for most age groups from Under 6s all the way up to Under 17s and a Men's team. We train and play at weekends and on week nights at Waterbeach Recreation Ground. During the winter we seek alternative training facilities. Our U7s through to U11s play in the Cambs Mini Soccer League. Our U12s through to U17s play in the Cambridge & District Colts League. Our Men's play in the Cambridge & District Sunday League.

Over this past year and three lockdowns, our fantastic Coaches have worked very hard to continue to bring football to children as soon as we have been permitted to. Coaches have worked even harder than ever to support the children with their football, whilst also implementing strict Covid-19 guidelines, and finding new ways of coaching whilst keeping children safe.

Child protection and safeguarding underpins everything we do, and all our Coaches are DBS-checked and complete safeguarding and first aid training, which they renew every three years.

We rely on many other volunteers in the club as well – parents and other family members help in a variety of ways, either setting up pitches and goals, dealing with admin, serving refreshments, running the line, finding kit sponsors, or offering a co-ordinating role as parent reps. We have a hard-working committee keeping everything running smoothly behind the scenes.

The players deserve significant recognition for continuing to conduct themselves so well – they always do – but extra congratulations to them for doing so in difficult conditions. They are now looking forward to an extended season until the end of June, to replace some of the time lost in the past three months. Good luck to all the players!

We usually hold an annual football tournament and beer festival – which we missed very much in 2020. We are looking at what we can do this year.... So please watch this space....

If you have a child who is interested in joining, we would love to hear from you! Contact details are at the end of this piece. We are particularly on the lookout for girls and boys to join our U12s team – children who are currently in year 7 at school and who have turned 12 or will turn 12 between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021.

We will be looking to get a new U6s team ready for the new season start in September, so please get in touch if you are interested and we will put you on the waiting list: this is for children who are currently in year Reception at school. We will need at least two adults to coach the team, so if you would like to do something rewarding, or are interested in learning new skills, please get in touch and we can tell you what is involved. We have coaches in the club who have been volunteering for ten years, they love it so much!! The club pays for all coaches' certifications and training.

We are always keen to welcome new volunteers and supporters – so if you would like to get involved as a coach or committee member, or are interested in partnering with us or sponsoring kits, please get in touch at the details below.

A huge thank you to all our players, managers, coaches, referees, parent reps, committee members and other volunteers, parents/carers/supporters, kit sponsors, Parish Council, the PC Clerk and Groundsmen – and of course the wider local communities.

For enquiries and more information, please contact Elly Ruston, 07986 340 869 / elly.ruston@gmail.com

Waterbeach WI



The WI have been meeting on Zoom since before Christmas and during the latest lockdown. We have had talks on Venice and Cambridge colleges where famous authors studied. Our meeting on 8th April will be a presentation from one of our members on Neals Yard products, where members can use samples to follow a happy hands massage.

Last summer small groups met on the Rec for picnics, for walks and some have kept in touch via the WhatsApp group. Members are sharing skills and making knitted and crocheted poppies for the display outside St. John's for Remembrance Day in November. The Book Group has continued via Zoom where restrictions have permitted.

The Cambridge Federation are also arranging talks via Zoom at the moment, covering a range of topics. The current one is an Astronomy talk by Paul Fellows 'Fire and Ice'.

We are planning further meetings on the second Thursday of each month and are hoping that during the Summer and Autumn we may be able to have face to face meetings back at St. John's Church Room.

Please contact Viv Cooper (01223 574 050) if you would like more details of how to join in.

WASPS

Providing home-from-home childcare in the Waterbeach community for 23 years!

We were delighted to re-open our doors once again to the children on 8th March, following the latest lockdown! The children have enjoyed exploring some new resources as well



as old favourites and catching up with their friends on their return. At WASPS we are firm believers in play, at breakfast club or after a busy school day the children decide how they would like to spend their time at the club and we as Playworkers and staff members facilitate child led play.

There are so many benefits of play, including building self-confidence, building social, language, communication and negotiation skills as well as improving physical development, to name just a few! The children mix between the year groups at WASPS and we often find firm friendships are formed between children in different year groups who maybe would not have crossed paths at school. We are lucky that we have a variety of spaces at WASPS both inside and outside, the children enjoy free flow play as much as possible in 'usual times' and are able to move around the building freely.

They may be happy in the main playroom joining in actively with role play games and den building or they might prefer finding a quiet corner to chat with a friend or share a book. Currently, due to government restrictions we are required to operate in two smaller groups, but we are doing our best to ensure the children are still able to access a variety of different play opportunities. We have many different kinds of resources at the club, from arts and crafts, role play items, construction, board games and outdoor resources. We offer snacks during sessions and the children enjoy taking part in food activities and baking when on offer too. The Playworkers set up stimulating activities to 'spark play' but the children will then use their own imagination and creativity to extend and change them to develop their own play, which is



great to see! Recently the children enjoyed creating their own obstacle course outside, complete with water station and various signs! The children are able to select items they wish to use from the walk-in cupboard too! We provide a safe and stimulating environment for the children to play under the supervision and guidance of a dedicated team of playworkers.

As well as the free play opportunities already mentioned, in the summer term we will be reintroducing STEM activities on Thursday afternoons between 4:30-5:00 p.m. These are run by an approved STEM Ambassador and are designed to promote science, engineering, and technology. The sessions involve hands on experiments that facilitate learning and relevance to our daily lives. We will also be launching our new Minecraft Club on Monday afternoons between 4:30-5:30 p.m. too! The children are excited about this, they will have the opportunity to play the game and learn about architecture and Minecraft building techniques – these sessions will be supervised.

Like the rest of Waterbeach, we were saddened to hear the news that Jacqui Rabbett passed away in December. Mrs Rabbett was always on hand at the end of the school day and regularly helped us to locate children who were running late to the WASPS meeting point or assisting our staff team with the collection of the children from various after school activities. We were always grateful for her help with this and also for her involvement in organising the village Feast Day each year, something that the WASPS children enjoy taking part in. Jacqui will be remembered fondly; our thoughts are with her family.

WASPS has a Facebook page, 'Waterbeach After School Play Scheme – WASPS' our WASPS Logo is the profile picture, please like our page to find out the latest news and updates.

Breakfast Club runs from 7:45 a.m. until the start of school and After School Club runs until 6 p.m. on all school days. Please enquire to find out availability and book a place. We currently have spaces available, and we will soon be taking bookings for September 2021.

Contact us: For more information, please visit our website: www.waterbeach-wasps.org.uk. For enquires please email us wasps.waterbeach@outlook.com or telephone us on 01223 861140 during opening hours. Outside of opening times, please leave a message and a member of the team will return your call when convenient.

Thank You

A very kind lady who was passing by my Mums property, at Waterbeach Court, I believe on Sunday 21 December, stopped and assisted my Mum to safety, as she was experiencing difficulty in walking. I would just like to say a MASSIVE thank you for the true kindness of this lady, and it shows there truly are still good citizens in this world.

Linda Leonard

Waterbeach Surgery

My name is Bruce Abel, the new Practice Manager, and I have been here since December helping the practice to make steady progress to ensure that it is organised for the benefit of patients and staff alike. There is also a Deputy Practice Manager, Catherine Trippier. We are aware of the issues patients have had in the past and that we will need to adapt to deal with growing numbers of patients in Waterbeach.

As part of this process our surgery building will be going through a modernisation programme over the coming months to enable us to provide an improved service. We will be having two new clinical rooms and a new reception and waiting area. These developments are expected to take up to three months. Inevitably, there will be some short-term disruption but please be assured that patient care will not be interrupted and remains our priority. We will keep patients up-to-date with the progress.

We are seeking to recruit a suitable new GP to join the practice in addition to Dr Anna Dominique, Dr Judith Holt, Dr Hussain and Dr Som. We have also employed more admin and reception team members and now have additional Health Care Assistant support on Monday and Friday mornings.

If you have any concerns in the future, please contact the practice management team. Catherine and I are always happy to listen to constructive feedback and will endeavour to resolve any concerns. Please be aware that we have a zero tolerance policy to abusive and aggressive behaviour towards staff. Although very rare, such behaviour is very upsetting and achieves nothing.

Once the surgery has gone through its refit we will be looking at introducing a new patient flow system in common with other practices in the area. This system is called Klinik and will enable patients to seek our support online. We will be giving more information about this to patients nearer the time.

Meanwhile, the Covid pandemic continues to have an impact on the way in which we are able to work. In the current climate we are conducting telephone appointments only and, if clinically needed, the GP or nurse will request that the patient has a face to face appointment and attend the surgery. The front door is currently locked and patients attending an appointment should go to the back door and ring the bell. We will attend them as soon as we can. As you can imagine, the number of phone calls has increased considerably during Covid and we have installed a new telephone system to help us to cope.

May I also remind patients that we are only able to process test samples that have been requested by one of our GPs or the hospital. Please don't post samples in the letter box. They should, instead, be handed in at the back door in time for collection at 11am and 3pm. Repeat prescription requests should be made in writing or by using the NHS app, not by using the phone.

We are looking forward to working with you to continue to improve the service we are able to offer.

What's in a name?

Waddelow Road

On Thursday 16th August 1962 a presentation was made at an event held at the Primary School for members of the village, and dignitaries from wider afield, to Mr H.G. Waddelow. He had recently retired as Chairman of Waterbeach Parish Council of which he had been a member for fifty years and Chairman for thirty-seven. He had also been a District Councillor on Chesterton Rural District Council for thirty one years and was Chairman twice. This must be something of a record of local service to the community.

Those fifty years saw enormous changes. Mr Waddelow would have seen the impact on the village of the Great War of 1914-18, when so many men of Waterbeach Parish were killed, and the devastating effects on farming during the economic difficulties of the 1920's and 30's. There was no mains drainage, and no mains water or electricity. Water had to be collected from pumps around the village, a few of which survive today though not in working order. I am not sure when mains electricity came to the village itself, there was none in the outlying parts of the parish until the 1960's. The village school was by the Green with the infants round the corner in Cambridge Road. The second world war meant the loss of farmland and homes to the Ministry of Defence in 1939 and the beginning of the change from a small, primarily agricultural village, to what it is today.

By the time Mr Waddelow retired he was being credited with having helped to achieve many things for the village which included becoming one of the first in the District to get mains water and to employ a 'night soil collector' to collect the waste from privies, pail closets or cesspits. The village did not get what must have seemed the ultimate luxury of mains drainage, until two years after he retired but plans were in progress by 1962. By 1964 drains had been connected to the sewage works built by the RAF in 1951 in Bannold Drove and it is still in use for the village today. His terms of office also saw the building of council housing which would have included Pieces Terrace, some of which is pre WW2, and Coronation Close.

With mains drainage installed the village began to grow quite fast. In 1965 planning permission was granted to Chesterton RDC for seventy two dwellings on land off the High Street. This land was a meadow with, I have been told, some lovely elm trees housing a colony of rooks (hence the name of the Rookery in the High Street). Older residents may remember playing there as children. This is what became Waddelow Road. Within a few years a number of other applications for housing developments (both private and council and including bungalows for old people) had been submitted to

Chesterton RDC. Since then, there has been a steady growth in the number of houses built in the village.

Whilst none of these big changes could have happened due the sole efforts



Waddelow Road, Waterbeach - 2021

of Mr Waddelow it is clear that he contributed much to the development of a village which was seen (according to the Clerk of the

time) to be 'one of the most progressive parishes within the District Council's jurisdiction'. It is hard to believe that if we had moved to Waterbeach in 1961 instead of 1971 things would have been dramatically different. In fact, there probably wouldn't have been a home for us. We moved into a newly built house in St John's Close. It had mains water at the turn of a tap, two toilets flushed with a push of a handle and light and power at the press of a switch. For some time, we were quite unaware of just how much had changed within the previous seven or so years as new houses sprang up on land which had been orchards, meadows, small holdings or fields, and a new wave of people arrived in Waterbeach.

Jane Williamson

Tithe Barn Trust

Treasurer-Trustee volunteer opportunity - Landbeach tithe barn needs you! More specifically, the barn needs your skills, enthusiasm and commitment to be the new Treasurer-Trustee and play a key role in ensuring its future as a valued community asset. Zoe Masey, Treasurer and Trustee for the Tithe Barn Trust for the last two years, is stepping down so we need someone to build on her good work. Ideally you will have experience of financial control and budgeting and, with an eye for detail and lots of enthusiasm, you'll be using your initiative whilst working as part of our team. For further details go to do-it.org via this link –

<https://do-it.org/opportunities/ae2a784d-186c-4859-bbcd-dfe04346ce3e> or give Trust Chair Gemma O'Shea a call on 07986 717958 for an informal chat.

Other opportunities to volunteer - Making new friends, working in an amazing place and knowing that you're helping a great cause – three fabulous reasons to get volunteering.

In addition to the Treasurer-Trustee role we are looking for an Event Volunteer and a Learning Volunteer to help ensure we can offer a wide range

of educational and other activities and visit opportunities for local communities.

If you'd like to get involved get in touch. Email tithebaritrust@gmail.com or see our [Do-it.org volunteering page](https://www.tithebaritrust.org.uk/learning/2021-events/) to find out more about our volunteering opportunities.

Major donation boosts Spend a Penny campaign - Our campaign to install eco-friendly loos has taken a great leap forward!

A local donor (who wishes to remain anonymous) has made a wonderful £10,000 donation, taking the total raised to over £11,600 from 50 donations – more than a third of the way to the £30,000 target. The goal of the campaign is to enhance the value of the barn as a valued community asset by installing eco-friendly loos for use by visitors. There is still a long way to go so all donations (of any size) are much appreciated.

Please encourage family, friends, local businesses & other organisations to support the campaign by donating via the barn's website <https://www.tithebaritrust.org.uk/> Every donation (large or small) brings us closer to our goal.

Events - Subject to Covid, there's a wide range of activities in the months ahead.

Those with an interest in the arts will enjoy two exhibitions coming up. In May, local painter and print maker Maureen Mace and other members of the Cambridge Drawing Society will be exhibiting their work. Then, in June, local artists Theo Gayer-Anderson and Gideon Pain will be staging another immersive art installation called Covid Dreams, reflecting on the impact of lockdown on local lives.

There also will be a pop-up market in May and events to support the national Heritage Open Day in October. Later in the year we also hope to continue our popular 'Outdoor Gym' where you can support the barn, get a little exercise, meet old and new friends all whilst helping to maintain the barn's environment. Finally, to round the year off we will be holding our ever-popular carol singing.

All events may be subject to Covid restrictions and will be updated as needed so see the trust website (<https://tithebaritrust.org.uk/learning/2021-events/>) for further details.



How to find the Tithe Barn - The gate entrance is opposite No 2 Waterbeach Road, Landbeach, Cambridge, CB25 9FA. It's a short (c.5 minute) walk along the uneven grass track.

Community Playgroup



We have all loved having been back at playgroup for the last

half term. Children at WCP have been busy with all sorts of projects looking at the natural world around them: thinking about the weather and the solar system; making bird feeders and plenty of spring art projects; and exploring everything from beautiful smelling herbs to ice and mud. And of course they all enjoyed watching our 10 eggs hatch and naming the chicks in the weeks before the Easter holiday. (Do take a look at some of what they have been getting up to on our website.)



We thought that Beach News readers might like to join in some of the spring-time fun at home with a Spring challenge! We are offering you a Bigger People's and a Littler People's level. (Answers to Bigger People's Quiz can be found overleaf) You could work together or challenge your family or a friend.

Bigger People's SPRING Quiz

The answer to each of these clues contains the word SPRING. How many do you know?

1. A breed of dog
2. The fictional hometown of the Simpsons
3. Composition by Aaron Copland based on a Shaker melody
4. South Africa's national rugby team
5. American singer-songwriter, leader of the E Street Band
6. Scottish distillery based in Campbeltown
7. Gymnastics move used on the vault, beam and floor
8. Fictional town in the Cars films
9. Another name for a scallion
10. Ballet by Igor Stravinsky

Littler People's Spring Challenge

Can you think of the following things you might see in Spring?

- 5 birds
- 4 baby animals
- 3 flowers
- 2 insects
- 1 type of weather

We are open from 9am to 3pm daily during term time. We take children from their 2nd birthday. 15 hours government funding is available to all 3 and 4 year olds and to qualifying 2 year olds, and 30 hours funding is available to qualifying 3 and 4 year olds. We are situated in the primary school grounds in the centre of Waterbeach. Supporting our play-based learning, we usually offer weekly Forest School sessions, visits to Waterbeach Library and the school gym, and French language sessions. Please look at our website to find out more and to see some photos of what we have been up to: www.waterbeachplaygroup.org.uk. We are also currently recruiting - more details on the website too!

We are now taking bookings for Autumn 2021. If you would like to find out more, please call 01223 440769 (term time) or email us at info@waterbeachplaygroup.org.uk for a prospectus and application form.

Answers to Bigger People's SPRING Quiz

1.Springer spaniel 2.Springfield 3.Appalachian Spring 4.Springboks 5.Bruce Springsteen 6.Springbank 7.Handspring 8.Radiator Springs 9.Spring onion 10.The Rite of Spring

Remembrance Poppy Project

Do you knit or crochet? Do you know anyone else who likes to?

Our village War Memorial has just passed its Centenary and we would like to recognise this, and honour what it represents. If you can help making 3"/7.5cm knitted or crocheted poppies in red and black that would be amazing! Use any pattern or contact us if you wish us to send one on to you.

The Remembrance Poppies we make will be attached to backdrops and mounted on our Parish Church of St John the Evangelist throughout most of November this year; next year, we hope that the installation will move to All Saints Landbeach.

If you are able to drop off your poppies inside the church porch at St John's; alternatively, contact us and we can arrange local collection. Please observe all Guidelines for Safety, as we will – and please include some contact details to help with Track & Trace.

If you can start now and let us have what you have done the end of April and then by the end of May, that would be helpful to start attaching to the netting. The final push is by July 31st.

If you don't knit or crochet but are able to donate red, black or green double-knitting yarns, that would be especially welcome – let us know if you wish us to collect or drop off in the porch as above.

angelastoryteller@gmail.com/07740282387

Angela Brown and Jane Oakes



Waterbeach Theatre Company

Whilst Waterbeach Theatre Company members still wait patiently in the wings, the opportunity to revisit the archives has been taking place and members have been sharing memories of their first production with the group.



One of our founder members, Jane Randall, shared with us her excitement to learn, in 1978, that a drama group was to be set up in the village.



"I can remember feeling very excited with the thought of a drama group in the village! I had always been interested in the stage and music. I recall attending the very first get together of people interested in forming a group, round the house of David Adamson, in Pieces Lane. Adrian Howe was also someone else I remember being there. The first play I took part in, was the group's second production - Pink String and Sealing Wax. I played one of the daughters' - Jessie. Michael Williamson played my Father, Rita Hunter played my Mother. Lorraine Gilzean and Liz Cross also took part, as did Aarvan Pritchard.

The group has gone from strength to strength since that first meeting in 1978 and I am pleased to continue to keep in touch with their work and productions. They have such a hard working committee and team of helpers who keep the group going."

Jane Randall

We hope to be back on stage late 2021 or early 2022 so keep up-to-date with WTC news by visiting the WTC website www.wtconline.org.uk and our Facebook page— search Facebook for waterbeachdrama

Thank you from the Abraham family

Pearl Ellen Abraham

Michael, James and their families would like take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who came out to pay their respects along the High Street in Landbeach during Pearl's funeral on Tuesday 2 March 2021. Your support meant a great deal to us all.

Landbeach Village Sign

To celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1976, the people of Landbeach decided to hold a fête on the Recreation Ground, with ring events, stalls, refreshments and other entertainments. A committee was formed (the Event Committee!) which started fund-raising to pay for the main event, by organising coffee mornings, sales and other activities. The Jubilee celebrations were a great success and enjoyed by everyone, to the extent that the Fête became an annual event. There was also a surplus of funds remaining and it was decided that we should have a village sign, like so many other villages in East Anglia.



A competition was held, inviting people to submit ideas for the design of the sign. From all the ideas presented a final version was drawn up to include as many of the key elements suggested as could be fitted in.

One side has the parish church and tithe barn, plus a bishop's mitre to represent Matthew Parker. He was our Rector, who became Archbishop of Canterbury appointed by Elizabeth the First. He was also Master of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, whose Arms appear below. Two other Arms are from windows in the church. One is the Chamberlayne family who built the present church in the 14th century. The other is Trinity Hall, the College of the Rector, Bryan Walker, who carried out the Victorian restoration. The sheep indicate the early farming industry of the village, when the flocks were driven up to the high ground of Landbeach when Waterbeach was flooded in the winter.

On the other side of the sign the mitre has become a tree, and there is a thatched cottage to represent the historic houses in the village.



Maurice Lynn & Ted Gazeley with village sign

The designs were drawn at a reduced size, to be scaled up by a well-know maker of village signs in Norfolk. When the sign was ready, Maurice Lynn and Ted Gazeley went to collect it by car with a trailer. Imagine their surprise and horror when they saw that the sign was minute, and not scaled up from the drawings.

However, our two villagers had seen the Norfolk sign-maker's workshop and decided that they could make the sign themselves. Did they have the skills and experience to do this? No, but they were willing to learn and set-to and produced the splendid sign we have today. The work involved not only woodworking, sawing and chiselling, but it was also decided to have a decorative metal frame. They had a problem with this, until they approached Mabel Pullen, the long-time owner of the village shop. It turned out that she had been a dress-maker for the royal fashion designer Norman Hartnell and had been called-up to weld tanks during the war!

The plinth was built by Edmund Curtis, and contains a history cache for a future generation to find.

It was a great occasion when the sign was formally unveiled on 10 April 1978 by the oldest and youngest villagers – Horace Bull (aged 101 years), Sarah Wilson (aged 91 years), John Abrahams (aged 3 months) and Gemma Horlock (aged 10 days).



Photographs from Landbeach Society

Waterbeach Patient Participation Group

The PPG has a Core Group of 10 patients, who meet monthly at the moment online, with the Practice and Deputy Managers at our surgery. This is where we can discuss any concerns patients have and be updated on Staffing, Building Plans, Vaccinations etc. The role of the PPG is to act as a critical friend and to communicate with as many patients as possible in order to appreciate any wider issues. To this end we have a Virtual PPG Group who are sent notes of the meetings and the Health Updates which are sent regularly from the CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group).

Our Chair, Viv Cooper, attends regular meetings with other leaders of PPGs in Cambridge and its surrounds. All surgeries are in groups called Primary Care Networks (PCN). Waterbeach is in the Northern Villages PCN along with Milton, Histon, Cottenham, Over, Swavesey, Willingham and Bar Hill. The surgeries are already sharing some input from a Clinical Pharmacist and of course have been working together during weekdays and weekends at the Milton and Over Hubs on Covid vaccinations. Milton PPG have set up an online volunteer register for booking shifts at the Vaccination Hub at Milton.

The link, if you wish to volunteer, is below.

<https://sites.google.com/margin.al/miltonvaccineinfo>

The PPG is feeling really positive about the progress at the surgery and would like to encourage patients to get involved by joining the Virtual PPG and attending our Open Meetings, which have been suspended during Covid. In the past we have had education evenings on Diabetes, COPD, First Aid, Mental Health, Dementia and AgeUK. We are thinking about setting up a talk on Prostate Cancer and if you have any other ideas, which you feel would be helpful let us know.

We have just set up a dedicated email, which is WaterbeachPPG@gmail.com Please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to join the Virtual PPG and have other suggestions.

Waterbeach School

It was a very quick turn around, at the start of the term, for us to set up working "pods" and get the off-site learning all ready to go for the children who would be at home. The "pods" consisted of small groups of children who were allowed to come into school as they had parents who were critical workers or children who were seen as vulnerable for many different reasons. The teaching team did a marvellous job and worked very quickly to sort out the provision and generally the whole system seemed to work well. The difficulty for us was that we still did not have our whole community here. We had about 135 children in school and almost 300 children were working at home, as were most of the staff. The building was very quiet, classrooms and hallways were deserted and the children who were in school were looking forward to the return of their friends.

So when 8th March eventually arrived, we were all delighted to welcome the children back and they came in with such gusto! Corridors and classrooms now ring with laughter and chatting. Teachers are all in their allocated classrooms and school is now operating as it was in the Autumn term. We long to bring back our regular routines such as performances and parents meetings in school but this does still seem to be quite a way off. But for now we should be pleased with where we are and grateful that we have returned to school. It is so true that you never fully appreciate something until you no longer have it.

I think the parents have had a very difficult time juggling their work and teaching their children. They did a great job. I also think the school team has been tremendous in making this work for the community. This includes teachers, teaching assistants, the site officer, office staff, inclusion team and governors. I am grateful to everyone and feel that if I have learnt anything during this crisis, it is the real value of good team work! Thank you everyone!

Jane Green – Head teacher

Lancaster's Estate

2020 was a tough year, there's no denying it. But it's in times of intense heat and pressure when diamonds are formed.

The Lancaster estate (off Bannold Road) is a mere 3-4 years old but already something beautiful has started to bud. Initiated by Sukhi Singh, the community is linked together by a WhatsApp group of 100+ residents. Instant connection, protection and affirmation are available to all, simply through the twitch of a thumb.

The lockdown, although painful, has nevertheless provided the surprising soil for the new roots and shoots of the Lancaster tree to grow. People shared grocery shop deliveries, went to the pharmacy for one another, exercised together and shared their excess supplies around. Acquaintances slowly became friends. Echos of applause could be heard, week after week, as the residents clapped the NHS whilst holding their rainbows up high. Many hands, one heart.



More recently, at Christmas, everyone big and small came together to put up decorations around the estate - their unified desire to bring light in the darkness. Then on Christmas Eve, thanks to the food van "Nanna Mexico", some heart warming food

was shared, along with some brewed hot mulled wine.* It was a special evening that was made even more memorable thanks to the Waterbeach Brass Band who joyously trumpeted songs of good cheer into the bright night.

So although we don't know what the future holds, we do know that our future lies together as a community - united and supporting one another through whatever happens next.

Charles Dickens once wrote, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times... it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us."

Here on the Lancaster's estate, we are choosing to focus on the best, believing for a season of Light and the spring of Hope. Could it be that we have everything we need with us, around us and before us as we continue to grow together as one. *(*all enjoyed in a socially-distanced way!)*



St John's Church

The response from our community to the Waterbeach FoodHub fundraising appeal has been phenomenal, and we are delighted to announce that the appeal target has been reached. Thank you so much to all those who contributed. The FoodHub at St John's will continue to operate until 30th June, although we shall



keep this under review. FoodHub operates every Thursday from 3-6pm, and we offer fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy, frozen meals and non-perishables. No proof of need and no voucher is required. From January we strengthened our Covid protocols, and only the volunteers are permitted inside the Church Room; please kindly continue to adhere to these regulations for your safety, and until otherwise advised. Donations of non-perishable canned, dried and packet foodstuffs and toiletries are always welcome, and can be received during the opening times on Thursday.

After 21st June, the restrictions will hopefully be lifted for weddings and christenings. We plan to be available for weddings and christenings from September, so please do feel free to contact the church office to arrange - we'd be delighted to welcome you! Please note, you don't have to be christened to marry at St John's - couples who reside in the parish have a legal right to be married in the parish church.

As I write, St John's is planning to open for Sunday services on 28th March (Palm Sunday) and on 19th May for daily private prayer.

Although some people have thrived over the last year and experienced a 'Good Pandemic', many of us have struggled with loneliness, mental health issues, poverty and unemployment. Even in our post-vaccine world, it's likely that we will be dealing with the fall out from Covid for many years to come. I want to take this opportunity to assure you of my prayers and to wish you and your families a peaceful and fear-free Easter. Easter Day is 4th April, and I pray that as Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we may all experience the hope that this event provides. If I can help to support you and provide a listening space, please do not hesitate to contact me; whether you identify as a Christian, or from another faith, or of no faith the St John's community is here for you as a place of encouragement and healing.

Paul Butler - Vicar

Email: revpbutler@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/stjohnschurchwaterbeach

Website: www.stjohns-waterbeach.org.uk Tel: 01223 860353

Military Heritage Museum



The museum tells the story of the former airfield from 1938 when the land was bought and the RAF arrived in 1941. The Royal Engineers took over in 1966 until they left Waterbeach in 2012. The site is now to be developed as Waterbeach New Town.

What every one wants to know is when will the museum WMHM be open to the public in 2021. Museums can open their buildings to the public from the 17th May 2021, but with social distancing, COVID-19 sanitising, masks and an appointments only system to control the flow. This worked well for us when we opened in October!

We envisage that the first dates the Museum can open, but with the restrictions, will be *Wednesday 2nd June and Sunday 6th June, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm*. Please ring 01223 861846 before the day for a visiting slot. On June 21st the restrictions are due to be lifted, we are told, as is the national plan at the moment for England. If so, no pre booking from mid June will be required but any other government restrictions will apply. Opening for July will be *Sunday 4th July and Wednesday 7th July, as usual opening from 10.00am to 4.00pm*.

The Museum can be found at the former Barracks and Airfield off Denny End Road, Waterbeach, CB25 9PA (see blue sign for the Control Tower) The Bewery Tap Pub is opposite the entrances.

Normal museum openings are the first Wednesday and Sunday of the months March to October. Visitors from away can book to visit on other days should they be in the area.

Email: waterbeachmilitarymuseum@waterbeach.org

Web site: waterbeachmilitarymuseum.org.uk Follow us on Facebook

We look forward to you visiting us.

Adrian Wright - Chairman of Trustees

Waterbeach Cycling Campaign

We are pleased to be able to announce that we now have cycle parking in the centre of the village. You can now safely park outside One Shop, the Village Stores and at the old bus stop outside JB's Hair Salon. Our thanks go to South Cambs Zero Carbon Communities fund and the Parish Council for their support for this project.

We understand that the Parish Council is interested in feedback about the Denny End Road, Bannold Road junction. This is a big and wide junction that has to cope with pedestrians, cyclists, cars, commercial and farm vehicles. Crossing is a real challenge and it shouldn't be necessary for pedestrians to walk a long way up Bannold Road just to find a safe place to cross. For cyclists using the junction it can seem like you just rode into the middle of a football pitch. The same comments apply to the St Andrews Hill junction with Chapel

Street. And a cyclist was recently injured at the junction of Greenside and Cambridge Road. We'd like to encourage those of you with ideas for safer, better junctions to approach the Parish Council or let us know and we'll be pleased to pull the ideas together.

When you plan to go to Cambridge by bike you must decide between going along the river or down the A10. The towpath can be muddy and you may even meet an angry swan. The A10 can be an endurance test. We'd like to see other options. The Greenway is a proposed route that will run parallel to the railway line as far as Cambridge North where it will join the Chisholm Trail, a new pedestrian-cycle route that will connect north and south Cambridge. For the Chisholm Trail, a new bridge over the Cam was lifted into position in November 2020. Work on the Newmarket Road underpass will take place in the next few weeks.

Please check the web site:

<https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/chisholm-trail> for more information about the project. *But* the Greenway will take longer and may not open until 2024. We'd like the opening to be sooner and we have asked our District and County Councillors to investigate whether there are ways of speeding up the project.

Outline planning permission for the eastern half of the new town development was granted in February. The Waterbeach Cycling Campaign had made input to the plans during the consultation phase. Please check out the "People First" vision on our web site (<http://www.waterbeachcc.com/p/resources.html>). This vision provides our basis for reviewing detailed planning proposals as they emerge, and also as Section 106 proposals (the so called *planning obligations*) are formulated. Section 106 funds are allocated by South Cambs and can provide significant benefits to the village. The traffic lights at the junction of Denny End Road and Ely Road were the result of previous Section 106 investments.

We've been aware that pot holes are a major inconvenience for all road users and can be dangerous. A deep pothole can buckle a wheel and throw a cyclist to the road; a pedestrian can catch their foot resulting in a sprain or fracture. Waterbeach residents are active in reporting such issues and you can see what's awaiting repair on the website. Please check out:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults> This web page includes useful instructions on how to make reports yourself on any highway issue that you spot.

Now we're emerging from the winter and lock-down. The roads will get busier and we'll all be keen to get out more. Let us know if you think we can make cycling in the village safer and better. Alternatively you can alert Parish and District councillors, but please do make your voice heard. You can email us at waterbeachcc@gmail.com.

Paul Bearpark & Richard Stobart

All change at King's Cross

We now have a half-hourly train service to Ely, Cambridge, and London (King's Cross). Most of the trains are eight coaches, but there are still a few that are only four; passengers need to be aware that those now stop at the far end of the platform.

Meanwhile there is much work going on at King's Cross to completely remodel the tracks leading into the station, including bringing the third tunnel back into use. Over Christmas a large sewer which runs under the tracks, and which was in a fragile state requiring trains to proceed slowly over it, was rebuilt. Currently platforms 0 to 6 are being worked on, so all services have to be fitted into 7 to 11, which has been made easier by them being reduced during the lockdown. At the end of this month (April) the new tracks into platforms 0 to 6 will open and work will move to the other side of the station, with the whole scheme being completed in early June, after which trains entering the station should no longer have to queue and those leaving will be able to get up to speed more quickly.

Another part of the scheme is replacing the signalling on the East Coast Main Line (which our trains run on between Hitchin and London) with a digital system which communicates with the trains by radio instead of using trackside signals. As well as being more reliable than the current, ageing, system, it will make more efficient use of the capacity of the line, resulting in fewer delays.

A project to install digital signalling on our line, from Ely to the north to Meldreth and Newport to the south as well as eastwards to beyond Bury St Edmunds, is under way; by the time you read this it will probably be too late to respond to the public consultation, but there will be a further consultation when the Transport Works Act Order is applied for. As part of that programme it is proposed to convert three level crossings in our area -- on the A1123 at Stretham, on the road to Baits Bite at Milton, and at our station -- to full barriers. Full barrier crossings are closed for much longer for each train than the current half barrier crossings, and Fen Line Users Association is pressing for assurances that passengers will still be able to cross the line to catch their trains and traffic will not be backed up through the village at peak times. For the latest news see <https://www.flua.org.uk/>



Photo courtesy of Network Rail

Help our hedgehogs

Hedgehogs are unmistakable mammals but sadly, due to the decline in numbers, in 2020 hedgehogs were classed as vulnerable to extinction.



Hedgehogs can travel an average of 2 km per night, visiting numerous gardens to feed. Gardens provide a perfect habitat to feed, nest, hibernate and have their babies. They love pile of leaves, compost heaps, under hedges and sheds. You can help and encourage hedgehogs in your garden by creating a hedgehog highway in your fence and keeping a wild corner.



Other things you can do:

- don't use slug pellets (they are deadly to hogs) - let hedgehogs eat the slugs for you
- leave out a shallow dish of water for hedgehogs, especially in dry spells
- check thoroughly before strimming, mowing or digging. Injuries from gardening are far too common and can be horrific
- before lighting bonfires, check for hedgehogs. Maybe make a bonfire on the day or move the pile before lighting
- keep netting off the ground to prevent hedgehogs getting tangled
- watch for wildlife when driving - hedgehogs are nocturnal and their natural defence mechanism to roll into a ball is no match for a car!
- check areas where hedgehogs could become trapped, e.g. cattle grids, manholes, ponds - consider a cover, or a ramp for hedgehogs to use to get out

Visit www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk for information on making a hedgehog highway, how you can help hedgehogs, or if you find an injured hedgehog and much more.

Become a hedgehog champion at www.hedgehogstreet.org

If you find a hedgehog injured, out in the day or you're concerned about a hedgehog's welfare, please contact the Hedgehog Hospital at Shepreth any day of the year – 07505651968

Alternatively, for advice in the village please message me on Facebook or email milliemarsh11@gmail.com

Millie Sprague

Farmland Museum



Now that spring is here, we are once again getting ready to open The Farmland Museum and Denny Abbey. We hope to open the outdoor spaces and attractions at our museum on 15th April, with a view to opening the entire museum on 20th May, in line with the government's roadmap for opening businesses.



This season we will be open every Thursday to Sunday from the earlier time of 10am until 4pm. Our cafe will be open every day that the museum is open.

To open safely, we may have to keep some spaces

closed and limit visitor numbers. Visitors will be required to book timed tickets in advance and you can find more information and updates on opening days, times and prices at www.dennyfarmlandmuseum.org.uk or our Facebook @denny.farmland and Twitter @FarmlandMuseum feeds.

Although we might be closed for now, we are still sharing our collection online. With over 10,000 Fenland objects, our collection is vast and varied and in our blog you can read about all sorts of things from doing the laundry or caring for tractors, to catching eels! The blog can be found at: <https://www.dennyfarmlandmuseum.org.uk/content/category/museum-blog>

We have a number of volunteer vacancies on the visitor welcome team at the museum. Visitor Welcome volunteers may sell tickets, work in our gift shop or provide information to our visitors as they look around the site. If you have some time to spare and you like meeting people and delivering excellent customer service, get in touch with Sarah, our Museum Manager, for a chat about what you could bring to our team. Email info@farmlandmuseum.org.uk or call 01223 860 988 or ask to speak to her when you pay us a visit.

Waterbeach Football Club

One of our Beach News readers has sent us this photograph of the Waterbeach Football Club from years ago. Do you recognise anyone in the photograph? Do you know when it was taken? If you can assist with the names or date, or indeed if you or someone you know are in the photograph, we would like to hear your stories about the Waterbeach Football Club from years gone by. Please contact us at Beach News, details inside front cover.



Cambridgeshire Constabulary

While most of us have stayed at home a lot more over the past year, some have done the opposite, and all in the name of keeping us safe.

The voluntary police officers of the county's Special Constabulary, or Specials as they are known, put in shifts totalling more than 45,000 hours in 2020 - 4000 more than in 2019. They attended more than 2600 incidents and made or assisted 686 arrests.

Some Specials, such as 32-year-old hairdresser and mum-of-two Heather Anderson, have been able to dedicate extra hours to policing because their regular work has been put on hold by the pandemic. In January, she completed more than 80 hours of shifts (more than five times the expected hours for a Special). She said: "I have a busy life with my career and two children but becoming a Special was something I really wanted to do. The training was more intense than I expected and you have to put in the hours but you just make it work."

Zoe Wickison, 22, a legal secretary, was furloughed in March last year and ended up volunteering full time for six months. It meant that instead of the 200 hours of shifts she would expect to do in a year under normal circumstances, she did more than 1400 hours. Zoe said: "I love knowing I'm doing my bit for the local community and that I am able to make a difference to people's lives and help those in need."

Mother-of-two Jacqueline Kelly, 55, has been a Special for 18 months. She manages an emergency control room for US Air Force fire and medic teams but works shifts so she can fit policing in. Jacqueline, whose daughter Charlie-Ann Brett started as a Special but is now a police officer in Cambridgeshire, said lockdown was an ideal time to get out there and do something good. She said: "I was happy to support the constabulary and not just be stuck indoors. I completed 800 hours last year, four times more than required. "The skills and knowledge I picked up have been amazing and applied in my own life and career and I hope to continue to learn, grow and support the constabulary in an ever-changing world for as long I am able."

Electrician and father-of-two Richard Johnson, 38, was furloughed during the first lockdown and took the opportunity to start his Specials training. Now he's back at work but doing policing shifts at weekends. He said: "I enjoy how the role is so varied and that everyday and every shift is always different and never the same. I really enjoy interacting and engaging with different people and members of the public and being the first person that someone will talk to in a time of need and help sometimes good and sometimes bad."

Heather, Jacqueline, Zoe and Richard are part of a campaign the force is launching to promote the work of Specials and encourage more people to join.

Specials have full police powers and agree to dedicate a minimum of 16 hours a month to training or operational duties. They operate in a whole range of policing roles, including specialist areas. They receive professional training, skills and experience that can be used in everyday life and career progression. And while many are happy to volunteer alongside their regular careers and remain Specials, some see it as a stepping stone into a career as a regular officer.

Chief Constable Nick Dean said: "The Covid pandemic have taken its toll on everyone, through restrictions in private lives and the work environment, and the pressure on all emergency services personnel has been immense. That's why it is all the more remarkable that some have willingly put themselves forward to volunteer on the front line throughout this period. More than 45,000 hours supporting policing in the county is a fantastic and vital contribution and I would like to thank all our Specials for what they do. They have supported our efforts to fight crime and keep people safe in Cambridgeshire at a time when it really was needed and I hope they act as inspiration to others who may want to get involved in policing."

In 2020, Specials contributed to policing the county through:

- Working 45,317 hours
- Completing 6573 shifts
- Launching 729 investigations
- Stopping 1737 vehicles
- Attending 2655 incidents
- Making or assisting 686 arrests

The force is looking for more people to become Specials and also employers to sign up to a scheme which sees them support their staff to volunteer.

Employer Supported Policing (ESP) asks employers to promote the role of the Special constable in their organisation, while granting those who do sign up additional leave days to help them meet duty commitments. In return, the organisation will benefit from staff who have received a unique training package, worth several thousand pounds and covering a wide range of skills, many of which are transferable to the workplace.

For more information on becoming a Special or signing up to ESP, visit our website here <https://www.cambs.police.uk/apply/Jobs/Specials>

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

1 ST WATERBEACH BROWNIES	Tiffany Langton - 07846 961255
2 ND WATERBEACH BROWNIES	Penny Clay - 07915 046483
1 ST WATERBEACH GUIDES	Holli Bielby - 07779 408588
1 ST WATERBEACH RAINBOWS	June Stephen - 07956 949964
32 ND CAMBRIDGE (WATERBEACH) SCOUT GROUP	William Moon - 07879 626682
BEACH BALLS (WATERBEACH JUGGLING CLUB)	Liam Guyton - 07767 898881
BEACH BOWLS CLUB	Bill Clough - 01223 861386
BEACH SOCIAL CLUB	Geoff Donovan - 01223 571329
CAM SAILING CLUB	Catherine Lindon - 07950 709921
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INTERIM CHAIRPERSON	Adrian Wright - 01223 861846
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SECRETARY	Pam Clack - 07367 123110
FRIENDS OF WORTS MEADOW LANDBEACH	Robert Humphrey - 01223 863454
HAPPY FOLKS CLUB	Stuart Atkins - 01223 862674
HERONS' PRESCHOOL	Wayne Badcock - 01223 863245
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - WATERBEACH & LANDBEACH	Norman Foster - 01223 864400
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH	Rev. Paul Butler - 07903 904599
ST. JOHN'S WATERBEACH WIVES	Sheila Gill - 01223 475302
WASPS (WATERBEACH AFTER SCHOOL PLAY SCHEME)	Sarah Heil - 01223 861140
WATERBEACH & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB	Jerry Cooper - 01223 574050
WATERBEACH ANGLING CLUB	Colin Brett - 07759 977513
WATERBEACH BADMINTON CLUB	Norman Setchell - 01223 862404
WATERBEACH BAPTIST CHAPEL	Angela Ensell - 01223 862494
WATERBEACH BRASS	David Pell - 01223 860396
WATERBEACH COLTS F.C.	Elly Ruston - 07986 340869
WATERBEACH COMMUNITY LAND TRUST	Ian Bracey - info@waterbeachclt.co.uk
WATERBEACH COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP	Jacqui Woods - 01223 440769
WATERBEACH CRICKET CLUB	Alasdair Pentland - 07751 786040
WATERBEACH DAY CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY	Mary Longstaff - 01223 564666
WATERBEACH INDEPENDENT LENDING LIBRARY (WILL)	Maggie Crane - 01223 440560
WATERBEACH MILITARY HERITAGE MUSEUM	Mike Barry - 01223 861015
WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL	Parish Clerk - 01223 441338
WATERBEACH SALVATION ARMY	Captain Carol Baker - 01223 440190
WATERBEACH SCHOOL P.T.A	Clare McDonald - 01223 718988
WATERBEACH THEATRE COMPANY	Julie Petrucci - 01223 880023
WATERBEACH VILLAGE SOCIETY	Adrian Wright - 01223 861846
WATERBEACH WI	Viv Cooper - 01223 574050
WAY (WATERBEACH & LANDBEACH ACTION FOR YOUTH)	Caroline Ward - 07749 738870
WOODLAND TRUST - COW HOLLOW WOOD	Adrian Wright - 01223 861846

Other useful numbers:

BEACHES COMMUNITY CAR SERVICE	07807 875878
COMMUNITY WARDEN	07977 219403
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR	Judith Rippeth - 07956 528223
DOCTORS SURGERY – WATERBEACH	01223 860387
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE - Non Emergency Calls	0800 9179994
LANDBEACH VILLAGE HALL	Anne Bullman - 01223 860692
PARISH PATHS GROUP	D. Armstrong - 01223 861586
POLICE - Non Emergency Calls	101
VILLAGE CORRESPONDENT	Maggie Crane - 01223 440560
WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL	Parish Clerk - 01223 441338
WATERBEACH SCHOOL	01223 718988
WATERBEACH CHARITIES	Pam Gooding - 01223 861003

Waterbeach Barracks and Airfield

52.2656° N, 0.12910° E

The former barracks and airfield at Waterbeach offer a range of community facilities for local groups including:

- Sports Hall
- Studio area
- Tennis Courts
- Squash courts
- Community rooms

Military Heritage Museum

Open from 11am to 4pm on the first Wednesday and Sunday of each month, March to October, and by appointment with Adrian Wright (01223 861846).

Find out more

Urban&Civic hold regular events to keep you informed and give you the opportunity to shape the future development of this special place. If you or your local group would like to find out more, meet us for a coffee and have a tour of the site, contact Rebecca Britton on 07739 339 889 or email us: rbritton@urbanandcivic.com



Urban&Civic



GIFT VOUCHERS

A PERFECT GIFT FOR FAMILY OR FRIENDS



TRAVEL BACK TO THE GOLDEN AGE
OF LUXURY RAIL TRAVEL AND
INDULGE IN AN AFTERNOON TEA

01954 233279 www.carriagesofcambridge.co.uk

Carriages of Cambridge, Capability Barns, Huntingdon Road, Fen Drayton, CB24 4SD [f](#) [i](#) [t](#)