

November 2025

The Journal

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November in the garden

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Make sure you're protected this winter

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Time to remember

This is the month that we take a pause to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice during the last world wars and subsequent conflicts. The second world war was meant to be the war to end all wars which has proven not to be the case. The fighting in Europe continues as we approach the fourth year of the Ukraine conflict with no end in sight. So, as we stop to remember those killed in the past let's not forget these who are dying in the present.

On a lighter note in this month's Journal we have a fascinating article about the history of Hilton Hall and its connection with the Bloomsbury Group. Our travel section takes us to Japan whilst back at home we have an interesting study of birds spotted at Monach Farm.



From all at The Journal we hope you enjoy this edition

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Please submit any copy by 10 November latest for the December/January edition.
Cover photograph by Gill Parrish

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Events at a Glance

Fen Drayton Fenstanton Hilton

November 2025

- 08 Craft Fair, Community Café, Village Hall
- 08 Hilton Fireworks
- 15 November Fayre, URC
- 15 Quiz Night, Village Hall
- 22 Non-psychoic séance, Village Hall
- 29 Mulled Wine Evening
- 29 Christmas Market, Clock Tower
- 29 Christmas Fayre, Parish Church

December 2025

- 01 Football Club Quiz Night, Church Centre
- 03 Christmas Wreath Workshop, Primary School
- 06 A Christmas Carol, Pantaloon Company, Village Hall
- 12 Carol Service, St Mary's Church
- 13 Swavesey Community Choir, Village Hall
- 14 Children's Party, Village Hall
- 14 Christmas lunch in aid of Arthur Rank Hospice, Church Centre
- 16 Carols around Hilton
- 26 Fenstanton Morris, Clock Tower

February 2026

- 07 Parish Church Fundraising Supper

July 2026

- 04 BIG Village Fun Day, School Field

If you have an event coming up that you would like to have listed on this page please send the details to Anne at fenstanton@thejournal.life

Village News

Royal British Legion



The 2024-5 Poppy Appeal ended on the final day of September and the coming year's Appeal began on October 1st.

Nationally and locally these Appeals involve a great deal of hard work because so much is needed to maintain the Legion's support of past and present service men and women.

As yet unconfirmed, totals are as awe inspiring as ever - here are a few:-

Cambridgeshire branches raised £762,257 and amongst other commitments 733 beneficiaries were supported in a variety of ways.

St Ives branch collected £23,155.

Separately from any NHS contributions the Legion fully finances five Care Homes at a cost of some £35.3 million, the nearest of to us is in Cromer.

As usual St Ives this year donated a large sum to their social fund and the St Ives Women's section contributed a similar amount to the Children's Fund whilst the branch has three fully trained Welfare Officers. We have a fluctuating membership of around 120 who sadly do pass away but we are also delighted to have an enthusiastic new youth member who is undergoing training as Standard Bearer. (Bizarrely, we sometimes need to check the addresses of new applicants from St Ives in Cornwall!)

They are all very big sums but with a national need for something like £45m you can see how vital the Poppy Appeal is. So when you have seen those handsome young service men and women 'manning' the tins in Waitrose and elsewhere together with our wonderful civilian volunteers, be assured that every amount, however small, is carefully used and very gratefully appreciated.

The St Ives branch has a comprehensive website, do have a look!



Buckden Repair Café

Buckden Village Hall, PE19 5UY from 13.30-16.30
Saturday 8th November 2025

Bring along your stuff that's too good to throw away but needs fixing for a free repair (donations very welcome). Bookings open 01 October at <https://forms.gle/3NjoicPWCLyMcVQ7> or more details from buckdenrepaircafe@gmail.com.

Refreshments, including homemade cakes and scones, available. Nothing to be mended but fancy seeing what is going on, then please join us for a cuppa.



Marine Marvels and Ocean Wanderings

The Huntingdonshire Local Group of the Wildlife Trust is pleased to welcome back Frances Dipper on Wednesday 12 November at 7.30pm at Brampton Memorial Hall.

Frances is an internationally acclaimed marine biologist and author. She will share her amazing knowledge of her favourite marine habits and species that she gained whilst working, living and visiting the shores and shallow seas around Great Britain and abroad.

Everyone is most welcome to attend. Booking is not necessary. The charge is £5.00 (£4.00 for Wildlife Trust members; under 18s free). Payment is by cash or card.

We meet at Brampton Memorial Hall, Thrapston Road, Brampton, PE28 4TB. For more information please contact Tim – 07941 261346 or timpfryer@googlemail.com).

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



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Fen Drayton Poppy Appeal

It's coming up to the Poppy Appeal again and we always do amazingly in Fen Drayton!

If anyone is interested in being involved in the door-to-door collection I'd be really grateful as a couple of our team aren't able to continue this year. It can take as little as 30-60 mins. If your child/young person is involved in Scouting or Guiding, this should also contribute towards badge-work (they must be accompanied by someone over 18 years, though).



You may have noticed some villages have poppies on their lamp-posts and I'd love to have that in Fen Drayton. If any local businesses would be interested in sponsoring a poppy for this, please drop me a message

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

We start door-to-door collections on 25 October and, as usual, hope to have boxes in our local businesses as well. For more information, my email is gonecompletelybonkers@gmail.com

Thank you, all – and let's see if we can celebrate another record!
Jo Hitchins (Poppy Appeal Organiser, Fen Drayton & Swavesey)

Some places of interest... part 2

This month, we are heading a little further northwards and we are featuring the three zoos licenced by Huntingdonshire District Council as well as some places of historic interest. If you intend to visit a Historic House or anywhere managed by volunteers, it will be worth checking the opening times as they are not open all year round.

Johnsons, Old Hurst PE28 3AF

This zoo is probably best-known for its crocodiles but there are many other animals there. The Farm Shop was recently named as the best in Cambridgeshire 2025 by Muddy Stilettos.



Hamerton Zoo Park, Steeple Gidding, nr Sawtry. PE28 5RE

Probably the most environmentally responsible zoo in Europe, it is a sanctuary for rare and unusual animals, including camels, bears and tigers. And, visitors can also ride a road train past 14 animatronic life-sized dinosaurs.



The Raptor Centre, Woodhurst PE28 3BT

Home to around 170 birds of prey. The foundation also offers half-day experiences for children (over 13) and adults to have an opportunity to fly some of their majestic birds.



Abbots Ripton Hall, Abbots Ripton PE28 2PQ

An 18th -19th century country house set in 8.5 acres of gardens. Visit by private tours only. See Historic Houses website for details.



Museum of Rural Life, Ramsey PE26 2XD

Independent museum. Free admission except on event days. Open Saturday, Sunday and Monday afternoons, April to October. See Ramsey Rural Museum website for details of events.



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Hilton Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings in aid of EACH
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are held in
the Hilton
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on the first Saturday of each month.



1 November 10:00am to 12:00 noon
6 December 10:00am to 12:00 noon

Hope you will be able to join us!

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Rothschild Bungalow, Ramsey Heights PE26 2RS

An isolated bungalow on stilts in the middle of Woodwalton Fen. The bungalow is open on Heritage Open Days. Managed by the Wildlife Trust BCN.



Abbey Gatehouse, Ramsey PE26 1DH

Remains of a former Benedictine Abbey. Open on selected dates. See the National Trust website for details.



Hilton Churches' Advent Lunches

In Aid of Diamond Hampers in Huntingdon



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Wednesday, 26 November 7, Chequers Croft
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Wednesday, 3 December Abbotsmede, Chapel Close
by kind invitation of Linda and Ian Stott

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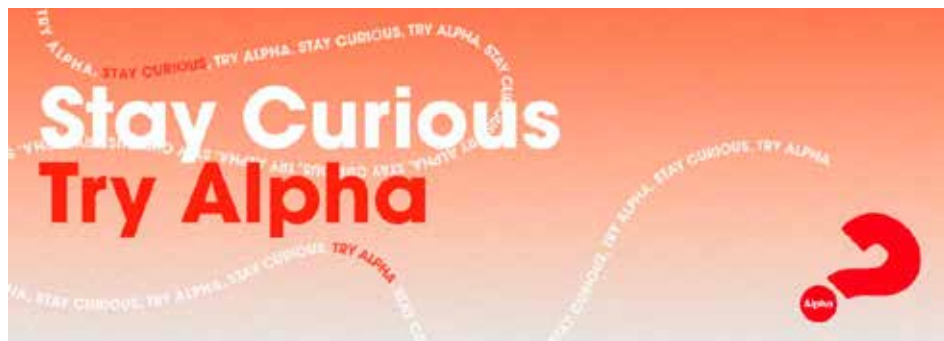
Saturday 4 July 2026 Fenstanton Big Village Fun Day returns

Plans are already in place to hold another family fun day for the summer of 2026. This year's event was highly successful and enjoyed by over 600 village residents, both young and the young at heart.

Big Village Fun Day 2026 will build on previously successful and enjoyable events, with Bands, Races, Dog Show, BBQ, Beer Tent, Music, Stalls, Tug of War, Archery, Inflatable Fun, Scarecrow Competition and much, much more. We are also planning fabulous weather, laughter and a great community event. Please add Saturday 4 July 2026 to your personal and extended family diary and be sure not to miss out on the fun!

Further details of the event and how you can get involved in this fun event will be posted in subsequent editions of The Journal.





Curious about faith?

Then Alpha may be for you and it's coming to Swavesey this autumn!

Join a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. At each Alpha session, after a meal together you'll watch a video which unpacks the basics of the Christian faith in an engaging way, each one looking at a different question of faith. Then in a small group, you'll have a chance to share your thoughts and hear what others think. You can say anything you like, or nothing at all.

Everyone's welcome; you're invited, no matter your background or beliefs. There's no charge and no pressure to come back. Our team can't wait to welcome you. Whatever age or stage of life you are, we would love you to join us.

Alpha will be hosted at Bethel Baptist Church, 111 Middlewatch, Swavesey CB24 4RP, on Tuesday evenings at 7pm starting on October 7th.

Book your place now by

- scanning the QR code
- calling **07863 299545**
- emailing **karen.smith@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk**



Village News



A Christmas Carol comes to Hilton Village Hall!

Hilton Village Hall is thrilled to announce that the critically acclaimed Pantaloons Theatre Company will be bringing their much-loved production of A Christmas Carol to their stage on Saturday 6th December. This special event will help raise vital funds for the upkeep of the hall, while treating audiences to an unforgettable evening of festive theatre.

The Pantaloons are known nationwide for their vibrant, playful and imaginative takes on classic stories, blending live music, audience interaction and a good dose of anarchic humour. Their unique adaptation of Dickens' timeless tale promises laughter, thrills and just a touch of humbug, as Ebenezer Scrooge is whisked on a magical journey through Christmases Past, Present and Future.

With a talented cast, clever storytelling and bags of energy, this show will capture hearts both young and old. It's the perfect festive outing (recommended age 8+) and a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit.

Tickets are available now at thepantaloons.co.uk (or use the QR code here). Be sure to book early to avoid missing out on this festive treat!



Make sure you're protected this winter



NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough is urging anyone eligible for their COVID-19, flu, RSV or pneumococcal vaccines to make sure they've had them this winter. Each vaccine has a slightly different eligibility criteria:

- **RSV vaccine** – for anyone who is pregnant, aged 75-79, or anyone who turned 80 years old from 1 September 2024.
- **Pneumococcal vaccine** – for anyone 65 or over (only one dose is needed).
- **Flu vaccine** – for anyone aged 65 or over (including those who will be 65 by 31 March 2025); have certain long-term health conditions; are pregnant; live in a care home; are the main carer for an older or disabled person, or receive a carer's allowance; or live with someone who has a weakened immune system.
- **COVID-19 vaccine** – for anyone aged 75+; those aged between six months and 74 years and have a weakened immune system because of a health condition or treatment; and people who live in a care home for older adults.

For some people who have got used to having their COVID-19 and flu vaccine together in winter, this might mean a change for them as the COVID-19 vaccine age criteria has changed from people over 65 to people over 75.

To find out more about these vaccines, and how to book them, or find a walk-in clinic, please visit The Vaccinators website <https://www.cpics.org.uk/the-vaccinators>



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Village News

Fen Drayton Village Hall news

Fen Drayton Village Hall would like to acknowledge the financial assistance provided by Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority through the Net Zero Villages grant, which was administered by South Cambridgeshire District Council. The grant enabled us to install solar panels and a suspended ceiling to enable savings in carbon emissions and energy costs.



Christmas Fayre

Hilton Parish Church

Saturday 29th November

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Trains, Boats and Planes

Reflections on Japan

By Nigel Ferrier

Having first visited Japan on business, I was sheltered from anything traditionally Japanese. British airline, taxis everywhere, international hotels and western restaurants. In fact, I could have been anywhere in the world.

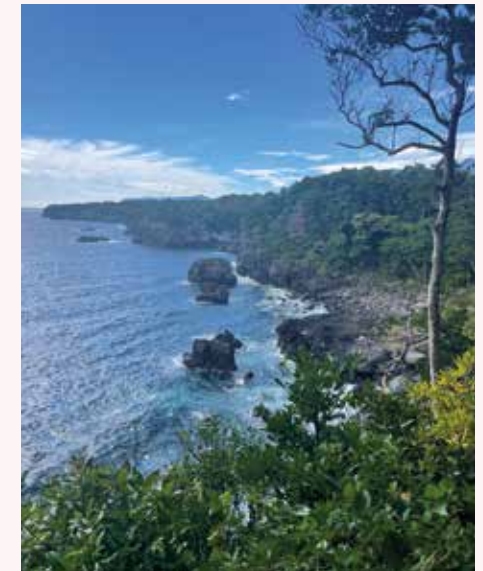
My recent trip was the complete opposite. To start with we flew with a Japanese airline so the culture transformation started on boarding the plane. On arrival at Tokyo Haneda we quickly learnt our first lesson. We should have used the Visit Japan website which provides a very useful QR code and pre-registered our arrival. This alleviates the need for endless form filling in the arrivals hall. Next lesson, the money exchange counters close at 18.00, so if your flight arrives after that time there is nowhere to source your yen, unless you brought it with you. And finally, renting a car has its own challenges.

First you need to find the car hire counters at the airport, which in Terminal 2 are not evidently sign posted and are unmanned. Using the phone you announce your arrival, which isn't easy if you don't speak Japanese. You are then instructed to you go back up a floor and wait outside the terminal for a courtesy coach to ferry you to the car hire pound. That is as far as we got, as after an hour and return visits to the counter, our coach never arrived!

Nothing else for it, we grabbed an Uber to our hotel in Yokohama, about 30 minutes away and started again in the morning. One

of things that we did get right was buying an e-sim online for Japan. This allows you access to your phone without paying expensive rates with your home network supplier. Very simple to use and amazingly effective.

Car hire is really easy online, as most Japanese sites offer an English translation, and we found an office about 10 minutes' walk away . . . except we went to Nissan rental not Nippon rental! This is where your best friend in Japan comes into force - Google Translate. This is a must when travelling here as good English speakers are few and far between. Going to the wrong office was not a problem as the manager escorted us to the correct one, a competitor, two blocks away. I have never experienced that type of courtesy anywhere else on the globe. However, as you travel around you realise that this is the norm in Japan. As a nation they are extremely polite and helpful, with real sincerity in their bowing.



Coastal view above Kawazu

Continued overleaf

Trains, Boats and Planes



Typical formal garden

The next tip we learnt, is ensure the sat nav in your car can work in English. Check this before you set off as the first one we were given didn't have this facility!

Then to change some money. With this we found exactly the same courtesy when trying to find somewhere to do this. Banks don't offer this service, however, one of the bank's staff gave us a guided tour to the nearest money exchange office.

Money secured, we set off to our first stop in Kawazu on the coast about two hours south of Yokohama. Driving is easy in Japan, as they drive on the same side of the road as home. There are a lot of toll booths on the road network. Most use an ETC card, supplied with your rental car, but some use cash, hence one of the reasons why you still need cash in this technically-advanced country.

We were booked into a ryokan, which is a typical Japanese guest house. Shoes off on arrival and into slippers. During registration we were given pyjamas and kimonos as

western clothes are not allowed once you have checked in. Great idea that saves on the washing. Japan is principally a volcanic island and hot springs are everywhere so hot baths, known as onsens, are extremely popular. Our guest house had both outside hot tubs to each room and a traditional onsen on the ground floor. Onsens are not for faint-hearted prudish Brits as no swimwear is allowed. Bathing times are split between male and female, or private bookings are available for couples. We opted for couples. The bathing is very hot and best described as a liquid sauna. The experience was actually really invigorating.

Being by the coast the food in our guest house, which was really a restaurant with rooms, was very seafood focussed. This is not a country for vegetarians. Course after course came with fish in more varieties than I thought the ocean could provide. Most of it raw. All beautifully presented as you would expect. Some courses were representative of a "bush tucker challenge". Japanese food is definitely texturally challenging.



Seafood starter



Our hosts at the Record cafe



French Bulldog speaker



View over Atami from the Museum of Art



The Church Centre
School Lane

Trains, Boats and Planes



Toilet controls

Although Japan retains its traditions, it is also technically advanced and no more so than in the bathroom. How sensible to have a mirror that steams up when you have a shower but still leaves a clear section. This makes smudged wiping with your towel unnecessary. I don't how they do this! And, as for the toilet itself, this is work of wizardry. The lid lifts automatically as you enter the room. There are controls for all kinds of bottom cleansing as you enjoy your heated seat. We are certainly missing a trick in the UK when it comes to going to the loo.

After leaving our ryokan we toured around the Central Honshu region taking in the coast, Mount Fuji and various fabulous art galleries and gardens. Outside of the cities cash is king

with many places not taking credit cards. So if you want to stop for a coffee, lunch or in our case a kakigori, you will need some yen. Kakigori is a Japanese dessert made of shaved ice over which is poured your chosen syrup and topped with your cream taste selection. Absolutely delicious. We had this in a record cafe which has a library of 10,000 records. So while you enjoy your iced dessert, you can also enjoy the tracks for your choice.

Clearly the Japanese love their small dogs. So don't be surprised to see dog cafes, dogs in buggies, dog exercise pens at tourist attractions, puppies in nappies and dog photo opportunities. The French bulldog is very popular there and we even found a Bluetooth speaker on sale, bulldog style!

Space saving is critical in Japan. Flat land is at premium both in the cities and in the countryside which can be very mountainous. Japan has population of 124 million with just under a third living in the greater Tokyo area. As a result the Japanese have become masters of space saving efficiently in their homes and within their environment. If you have no space you need a small car to park. Some vehicles look as if "honey I shrunk the car". Tiny five-seater vehicles designed for

the perfect Japanese lifestyle. Even some petrol stations are so small that there is no room for traditional pumps. The solution? Simple, pull the filling nozzles down from the roof!

Will we be back to Japan? There is something very magical about this place, a country of contrasts. One that has held onto its traditions whilst pursuing technology. We will definitely be back wanting to explore the more rural and traditional side of this fascinating country.



"Honey I shrunk the car"

If you have a car and are happy to help for an hour or so 10 times a year The Journal would love your help.



We need someone to join the team distributing packs of magazines to the amazing people who tramp the streets putting them through our letterboxes.

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Nisa
Making a Difference Locally

District News

For Fenstanton and Hilton

Updates from Clare Tevlin, your District Councillor



A call to action for residents

Please support the campaign to restore crucial funding for Arthur Rank Hospice.

MPs and leaders across Cambridgeshire are calling on residents to support the campaign to bridge the funding gap.

It has been announced that the annual funding of £829,000 from Cambridge University Hospitals, which has supplied crucial beds for hospice care, is now being cut. This essential funding enables people who are at the end of life to move from a busy acute ward in the hospital to be cared for in a bespoke palliative care environment.

Sharon Allen, CEO of Arthur Rank Hospice Charity, said: "The removal of this funding has truly devastated us all. Although we sympathise with the financial pressures that CUH and indeed the whole NHS are under, the ending of this service will, without doubt, have huge implications for our local community. This now means that over 200 people a year will no longer have the option of being cared for in the comfort of our Hospice". Sharon Allen

I urge you to write to your local MP (Ian Sollom MP) and sign the petition calling on the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to immediately step in to save precious palliative care beds at our local Arthur Rank Hospice. Our MPs are calling to:

1. Restore the funding deficit to keep all 23 beds open.
2. Provide long-term, sustainable funding for the hospice's vital services.
3. Properly roll out the move from hospital to community care with hospices and GPs at its heart

For more information go to: www.arhc.org.uk/protectourcare

Supporting our blue light services and future plans for Hinchingsbrooke:

As your District Councillor, I recently visited the East of England Ambulance Service (EEAST) in Hinchingsbrooke, to see first-hand the pressures facing our frontline services. It was eye-opening to witness the challenges — from rising 999 calls and long hospital handover delays to overstretched crews.



These pressures are especially acute in rural areas like ours, where long distances and limited resources make response times even harder. Despite this, our local teams continue to show remarkable dedication — and I was proud to see Huntingdonshire's ambulance team recognised as 'Team of the Year' at the recent EEAST awards. You can find out more about EEAST here: www.eeastamb.nhs.uk

I have also met with leaders from North West Anglia NHS Trust to discuss the current proposals for redeveloping Hinchingsbrooke Hospital. The proposed new development aims to tackle structural issues, improve facilities, and for a new main theatre block and hospital site by 2030. Huntingdonshire District Council is working with the Trust on strategic planning of the redevelopment proposals and will support the Trust through the various stages of planning approval. You can see more on the plans here: www.nwangliaft.nhs.uk/hinchingsbrooke-redevelopment-building-our-future-hospital

Do you have any queries or questions?

You can contact me by: clare.tevlin@huntingdonshire.gov.uk or 07565 350 014.

Hilton Hall, The High Street, Hilton - A Bloomsbury Outpost

by Claire Sarkies

"Such excitements, my dear, have been happening to me. It's not a person, but a - no, not an animal - but a house that I have fallen love with this time"

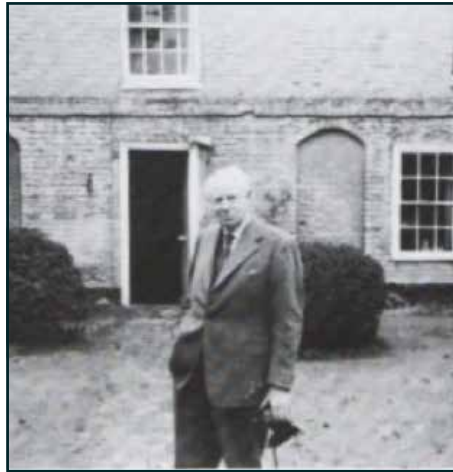
Letter to Sylvia Townsend Warner

David Gamett was a successful writer and close friend of many members of the literary and artistic circle which has come to be known as The Bloomsbury Group due to their residences in or near the London district of Bloomsbury. In 1922, he had a best-seller with the story *'Lady into Fox'*. On the proceeds, he and his first wife, Ray, decided to look for a house in the country and saw a photograph of Hilton Hall in *Country Life*. David was smitten with the photograph and was, as he confided to his friend Sylvia, "sick with apprehension" at the thought that he might not be able to buy it. Luckily his offer of £1600 against an asking price of £2000 was accepted.



Hilton Hall

The house has had some changes since the 1920s. The lean-to addition on the left of the picture used to house the kitchen. This has been sympathetically re-built by the present owners to meet modern standards. However, the body of the house and surroundings correspond to David's description:



David Garnett at Hilton Hall

It is an early Jacobean farmhouse or small manor house - not too large. It is very much in the original state. There is a staircase of oak, carved beams, a wide hall, splendid dining-room and drawing-room, six bedrooms, a bath, hot and cold water, two w.c.s and a convenient kitchen with a good range.

There is a pigeon house in the garden, a tennis-court and two acres of orchard. The kitchen has been added recently and the windows in front are sash and were altered some time in the eighteenth century.

Apparently, his many literary friends (amongst them D.H. Lawrence) teased him for living in a "Hall", but he protested:- "it's not at all grand, except in a way that a grandmother is grand"

Now Grade II* listed, it is thought that the original house on this site in the early 17th C was a thatched property with a steeply pitched roof. It was built as a gentleman's residence and Robert

Walpole (1598-1699) whose memorial is in the church, is the first owner to be recorded. He married into the Sparrow family who lived at Park Farm on The Green. This was also a beautiful house until it fell into disrepair. Interestingly, David tried hard to engage people in conserving Park Farm, but in 1948 there was little enthusiasm and no cash available for such projects.



The dovecote at Hilton Hall

David and his sons explored the house before it was demolished and found the following treasures:- some early paintings of the senses now in the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Royal Arms, subsequently mounted in the church and enough eighteenth century oak panelling to line a study in an extension to the rear of Hilton Hall.

Many houses in the eighteenth century were altered by the owners to boast a symmetrical flat front to their properties with sash windows. Often the whole front of the house was rebuilt and a parapet added to join new roof to old, as you can see to be the case here.

David, known as Bunny to friends and family, lived at Hilton Hall until 1970 when

he moved to France for the last years of his life, surviving until 17 February 1981. The house was let in the nineteen seventies, but subsequently returned to the family when David's eldest son, Richard and his wife Jane, became its custodians in 1977, living there until the house was put up for sale in 2009.

The house is full of associations with literary Londoners and H.G. Wells was a frequent visitor. Richard Gamett used to enjoy telling us that Virginia Woolf helped dig out the swimming pool. The pool is still there behind the picturesque Dovehouse which is topped with a golden weathervane. Villagers apparently used to spy on the bathers through the fence, especially when the beautiful Garnett sisters (daughters of Bunny's second marriage) were resident.

David's Life

Sadly, Ray Gamett, David's first wife died of cancer in 1940. David began work for the Air Ministry in the early stages of the war and lived with Vanessa Bell, Virginia Woolf's sister and Duncan Grant, the painter, at their Sussex home called Charleston. The messy, complicated relationships of the Bloomsbury circle are well documented. Both David and Duncan were bi-sexual and lovers. Vanessa had a daughter who was known as Angelica Bell, but her father was not Clive Bell, Vanessa's husband, but Duncan Grant.

David had seen Angelica as a new born baby in 1918 and had famously, or infamously written to Lytton Strachey about his first impressions:

"Its beauty is the remarkable thing. I think of marrying it. When she is 20 I shall be 46. Will it be a scandalous thing?"

Remarkably that is exactly what happened. David and Angelica married and came to live in Hilton where they brought up 4 daughters.

During the post war years David continued to write and edit. He published amongst many works: *The Sailor's Return*, *Go She Must*, *Pocahontas* and *Aspects of Love*. Nothing else in his life-time achieved the runaway success of *Lady into Fox*, but he was described by a Times reviewer as "a writer of delicately individual talent". He ascribed his strong visual style to learning to write "among painters". However, after his death,

Continued overleaf

Hilton Town Trust

Hilton Town Trust is a small charitable trust which exists to provide support to the village and villagers of Hilton. Grants are available to village organisations or to individuals.

If you would like to know more or think we can help please contact us on

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by phone on **01480 830866**



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Route H9 – 2nd Tuesday In The Month

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

Route H11 – 2nd Thursday In The Month

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

Route H25 – 4th Thursday In The Month

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Fenstanton Headlands	10.10am – 10.45am

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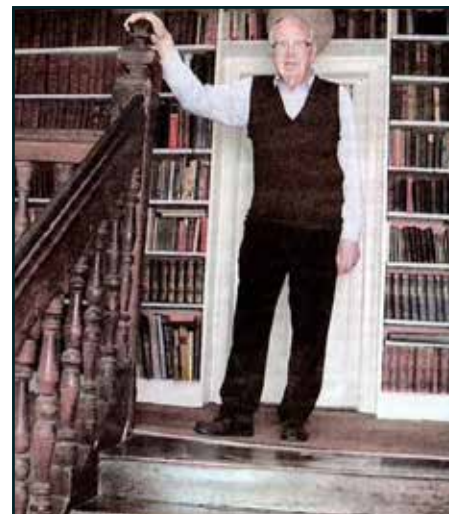
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Step into the Past



Richard Garnett on the top floor of Hilton Hall

his novel *Aspects of Love* written in 1955, was turned into a commercially successful musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber in 1989. The royalties for this work were a delightful

windfall for Richard and Jane who were facing a huge bill for repairs to the roof of the Hall. Richard was asked by the press what his father would have done with this addition to his funds: "He would have thrown an enormous party", Richard replied without hesitation. As this indicates, David lived for social contacts enjoying many deep and long-lasting friendships and always enjoying the company of his six children: Richard and William from his first marriage; Amaryllys, Henrietta, Nerissa and Fanny from his second. He died, according to Richard, with only £11,000 in the bank, having bequeathed the Hall, land and cottages in Hilton to his family well before his death.

(William was an oboist and instrument maker; Richard was publisher and writer. In retirement he travelled to Russia to write a biography of his grandmother, Constance Garnett who translated the Russian classics. He also wrote a book for children called *The White Dragon* about skating on the Fens.)

Acknowledgements: The Townsend/Garnett letters; Hilton, Huntingdonshire by Jack Dady and the Hilton Village Photograph archives.



Richard Garnett in 2009 and inset, Virginia Woolf

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Afoot in the Garden

A gardening free month

No gardening is necessary in November as nothing happens in the garden at this time of year? But it is a great time to sit out, or by a window, on a sunny day with a cup hot choc or coffee (ideally with a dash of rum or brandy) and contemplate any changes or additional plantings. If you can find a few clement hours, any work carried out now will reward you for months to come. Lawn edging, tidying and trimming perennials and pruning trees, shrubs and roses are all tasks well worth doing now.

Those few flowers that grace our gardens in November are true treasures and live long in our memories (list below). As do the evergreens, especially those with variegated and coloured foliage, and let us not forget the coloured stems and barks of trees and shrubs. In warm spells, snowdrops sometimes pop up in November and the autumn cherry (*Prunus autumnalis*) regularly flowers, I especially like the pink form (Rosea).

Regular November flowers include – shrubs *Viburnum tinus*, *Eleagnus*, *Lonicera fragrantissima* (Shrubby Honeysuckle) *Mahonia*, *Hamamelis* (witch hazel), *Daphne* and *Skimmia*. Perennials - *alstroemeria*, *Cyclamen hederifolium*, *Hellebores*, *Liriope* and *Nerine*. If we have a mild October many a perennial and rose will still bare flowers now. I have a remembered image of a beautiful frost covered red rose in my mind achieved by pruning in early September.

While there is still some warmth in the soil it is a good time to plant trees and shrubs. A duvet of mulch after planting will help keep the roots warm, active and aid establishment. Rake up the last of the autumn leaves and put them on your compost bins (or in black sacks) they make the best compost

Don't forget to drain your hose pipes, isolate outside taps and service your lawnmower. If you have a petrol mower drain the tank as



petrol now has a small percentage of ethanol which after a few months thickens and can clog up the engine. You can buy petrol additives to stop this.



November Top Tips

- Enjoy autumns flowers
- Plant trees, shrubs and roses
- Tidy borders
- Clear autumn leaves
- Lawnmower maintenance

raypuddefoot@gmail.com



Your Parish Needs You!

Become a Parish Councillor and help shape the future of our community

We are currently facing a critical shortage of parish councillors. With several recent departures and upcoming absences, the Parish Council is at serious risk of becoming non-functional.

If the number of councillors continues to fall below the legal minimum required to hold meetings, we will no longer be able to carry out council business on behalf of the community. This could result in all remaining council funds being returned to the local authority — meaning money intended for our parish will be lost.

This is **your** opportunity to make a difference. As a parish councillor, you can:

- Represent your local community
- Help make decisions on local services and priorities
- Protect and improve your area
- Ensure local money stays within the parish

No previous experience is necessary — just a commitment to your community and a few hours a month.

If you're passionate about where you live and want to ensure your parish remains represented and funded, please get in touch today.

To find out more or express your interest, contact Sarah Barber at 01480 465300 or clerk@fenstantonparishcouncil.org.uk

Fenstanton flag flying schedule remainder of 2025

Official flying days for the Union Flag will always take precedence over the St George's Flag.

This schedule is not intended to be prescriptive but outlines the likely dates when flags may be flown. Unless otherwise stated below, the Union Flag may be flown in accordance with Government guidance.

Union Flag – Official flying days (remainder of 2025)

- 9 November – Remembrance Day (2nd Sunday in November)
- 14 November – Birthday of His Majesty The King
- 30 November – St Andrew's Day (Scotland)
- Opening and Prorogation of Parliament – Dates vary

St George's Flag

- Rugby – England National Teams
- Men's Autumn Nations Series: throughout November (St George's Flag flown)

The 2026 flag flying schedule will be published in January.

Caring for our village trees

Over the next few weeks, you may notice some of the village's trees getting a little extra attention. This work is part of ongoing care to keep them healthy and to prevent any possible safety risks.

Much of this maintenance was planned earlier in the year but had to be delayed until the end of the bird-nesting season. Every tree has been carefully assessed by qualified tree surgeons and arborists, and only essential work will be carried out — with all the necessary permissions in place.

The Parish Council is also planning a village-wide tree survey to help ensure that all our trees stay in good condition and continue to thrive for years to come.



Next Parish Council meetings

Parish Council meetings are usually held on the second Thursday of each month (except in August and December). Please note that dates may occasionally change due to unforeseen circumstances, and extraordinary meetings may also be called if urgent business needs to be discussed.

In addition to our regular meetings, we also hold:

- Planning Committee meetings (when applications are submitted)
- General Purposes Committee meetings
- Finance & Constitution Committee meetings
- Burial Board meetings

Details of all upcoming meetings, along with agendas and minutes from previous meetings, can be found on the Parish Council website - www.fenstantonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Date	Meeting	Time and Location
Thursday 20 November	PC Ordinary	7pm Church centre
Thursday 27 November	General purposes committee	7pm Church centre
Thursday 8 January	PC Ordinary	7pm Church Centre

Parish Councillor Saturday Surgeries continue!

Saturday surgeries will continue to take place at The Hub, 6 High Street, Fenstanton, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. These sessions offer an excellent opportunity for parishioners to meet with their councillors in person, raise concerns, ask questions, or discuss any local matters. We warmly encourage all residents to attend and engage with your Parish Council.

25.10.2025	TBC	Simon King
29.11.2025	Tina Yates	Martin Hewitt

The Councillors attending is subject to change and we will inform you of any changes on Social media.

To contact your Parish Council Clerk Telephone: 01480 465300

Email: clerk@fenstantonparishcouncil.org.uk Website: www.fenstantonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Who's lived here?

This is the final essay in a short series of famous Fenstanton residents. With all the new housing erected in the village over the past few years it is more than likely that many of the people new to the village will not have heard of these people.

Hereward the Wake

By John Deeks

There is much uncertainty as to when Hereward was born. Various old documents and later researchers give dates such as 1035/1036 to 1044/1045. He was believed to have been born in Bourne in Lincolnshire.

Hereward the Wake was well known to the people of Fenstanton. Many of the residence would have known him as a boy when he spent time visiting his godfather Ulf Fenman, the Saxon lord of the manor of Fenstanton.

Hereward was an Anglo-Saxon nobleman and a leader of local residents to the Norman Conquest of England. His base when he led the rebellion against the Norman rulers was the Isle of Ely. According to legend, he roamed the Fens, which covers parts of the modern counties of Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire and Norfolk, and led popular opposition to William the Conqueror.

Hereward was exiled at the age of eighteen for disobedience to his father and disruptive behaviour, which caused problems among the local community. He was declared an outlaw by Edward the Confessor. At the time of the Norman conquest of England, he was still in exile in Europe, working as a successful mercenary.

Hereward returned to England in September 1067 a year after the battle of Hastings. He then discovered that his family's lands had been taken over by the Normans and his brother killed. He then gathered followers and went to Peterborough Abbey to be knighted by his uncle Abbot Brand. He returned briefly to Flanders to allow the situation to cool down before returning to England. In 1070 Hereward participated in the anti-Norman insurrection centred on the



Isle of Ely. It was just five years after the battle of Hastings and William (The Conqueror) was still struggling to subdue the Anglo Saxon population of England.

From a base in the Fens, Hereward led a war of resistance against the Normans until he was finally defeated in 1071. As a result of his long guerrilla campaign and by avoiding the attentions of William's soldiers he earned the popular title "the Wake", meaning "the watchful".

King William planned an invasion of Ely in 1071 to kill or capture Hereward the Wake. The plan was thrown into disarray at Fenstanton. A strong force of Norman soldiers under the generalship of Ivo de Taillebois, the High Sheriff of Lincolnshire, was to march from Huntingdon to join other forces at Cambridge.

The men of the Fenstanton assembled and sent out their scouts to find out de Taillebois movements and then laid in wait on the old Roman road (now the Huntingdon Road). Gathering together at the cross roads of the Hilton Road and Huntingdon Road (now Galley Hill), the village men waited for the Norman forces to arrive and in a sharp engagement they overthrew them between the Woolpack Inn (Galley Hill) and the bottom of Fenstanton Hill (by the old King William IV inn).

A few Norman soldiers tried to escape down the lower road to St Ives, but at the White Bridge, (probably then a ford), they found the lower road held by more of the men of Fenstanton and so were forced to escape up the lode road or tow-path, to the Stanton Wharf on the river Great Ouse. Possibly a boatload managed to escape up river to St Ives, but most were slain or driven into the river to drown and to this day this spot is called 'Normans' or No-man's Friend'.

At that time the Lord of the manor of Fenstanton was Gilbert de Ghent or Gilbert de Gand, who had fought for King William at Hastings. He was one of two Norman commanders who assisted Duke William in reducing Yorkshire, where he held the garrison at York. Gilbert was not based in Fenstanton and it is unlikely that he spent much time here. It was probably just the occasional visit when passing from manor to manor.

There are conflicting accounts about Hereward's life after the fall of Ely. Some say Hereward attempted to negotiate with William but was provoked into a fight with a man named Ogger. The fight led to his capture and imprisonment. His followers, however, liberated him when he was being transferred from one castle to another. Hereward's former gaoler persuaded the king to negotiate once more, and he was eventually pardoned by William and lived the rest of his life in relative peace.

Other sources say instead that Hereward lived for some time as an outlaw in the Fens, but that as he was on the verge of making peace with William, he was set upon and killed by a group of Norman knights. It is also possible that Hereward received no pardon and went into exile, never to be heard from again; this was in fact the fate of many prominent Anglo Saxon lords after the Conquest.

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Fen Drayton

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Saturday November 8th

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**Fenstanton Christmas Market
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Saturday 29 November

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

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Please note – services in St. Peter & St. Paul's Church, Fenstanton are live streamed where possible, details via <https://www.fenchurchbooking.org.uk>

Do contact us if you would like the Zoom links for Morning Prayer.

NOVEMBER 2025 – SERVICES AND EVENTS

Saturday 01	11am Fenstanton	Time to Remember Service – all welcome
Sunday 02	10.30am Fenstanton	All Saints Day Holy Communion
Thursday 06	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Sunday 09	9.15am Fen Drayton	Holy Communion
Remembrance Sunday	10.50am Fen Drayton War Memorial	10.45 gather for a 10.50 start for the Act of Remembrance
Sunday 09	10.15am Fenstanton	Remembrance Service in church
Remembrance Sunday		10.45am move to the War Memorial for the Act of Remembrance
Thursday 13	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Sunday 16	10.30am Fenstanton	Holy Communion <i>with Sunday Club</i>
	6pm Fenstanton	Choral Evensong
Thursday 20	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Sunday 23	9.15am Fen Drayton	Morning Praise, St. Mary's
	10.30am Fenstanton	Family Communion
Thursday 27	8.30am on Zoom	Morning Prayer
Saturday 29	7.30pm	Mulled wine evening– please contact Ian Hucklesby for tickets
Sunday 30	10.30am Fenstanton	Advent Sunday Holy Communion <i>with Sunday Club</i>

Accessibility in our churches: The Parish Church (Fenstanton) has a ramp which can be deployed upon request. There is a toilet, with wheelchair access. St Mary's (Fen Drayton) has a small threshold that may be possible to navigate with a wheelchair. There are no toilet facilities. Although we have fixed pews in both churches there are plenty of spaces available for wheelchairs, prams and buggies.

All are invited to our annual Time to Remember Service on Saturday 01 November, 11am at St Peter & St Paul's Church, Fenstanton.

This is a time when we can remember our loved ones who have died, whether recently or a time ago. For some people remembering anniversaries or significant events is an important thing to do. Please do put the date in your diary. If you would like the name(s) of your loved one(s) read out during the service, then please do let us know:

Rev Rosie – email vicar@fenchurches.org.uk or leave a message on 01480 467393 or post a note through The Vicarage letterbox, 16 Church Street, Fenstanton.

Rev Claire – email curate@fenchurches.org.uk

There is a list at the back of the parish church, Fenstanton, and in the porch at Fen Drayton, for names to be noted.



Remembrance Sunday services, Sunday 9 November:

The Remembrance Sunday 'Act of Remembrance', at Fen Drayton War Memorial, will remain as last year, gathering from 10.45am for a 10.50am service (junction of Horse and Gate Street and Church Street).

This year, however, for Fenstanton, there will be a short service in St Peter & St Paul's Church Fenstanton, beginning at 10.15am. Then around 10.45am we will go to the Fenstanton War Memorial, for the 'Act of Remembrance'. The War Memorial is in the Fenstanton Parish Cemetery, which is adjacent to the churchyard and primary school. All are welcome to join us for either or both services. Afterwards in Fenstanton, refreshments will be served in the Church Centre and all are invited to join us.



Choral Evensong

All are welcome to join us for Choral Evensong at St. Peter and St. Paul's, Fenstanton, on Sunday 16 November at 6pm. Please note the new regular time of 6pm for all our monthly Evensong and quarterly Choral Evensong services.



Christmas Market with Christmas Lights switch on

Saturday 29 November from 3pm
at Fenstanton Clock Tower

We hope you'll come and find our stall at the Christmas market selling tasty hot BBQ food and roasted chestnuts (we expect it will be chillier at the end of November). Wrap up warm and come and support this community event open to everyone.



And finally.....a big **THANK YOU** to everyone for their attendance at the Open Sunday event at St Mary's, all the questionnaire responses received as well as the financial donations given. The questionnaire responses are being collated and donations are still coming in (thank you) so watch this space for an update.

Rector: Rev Rosie Tallowin: 01480 467393 email: vicar@fenchurches.org.uk
Assistant Curate: Rev Claire Brockelsby: 07769 106562 email: curate@fenchurches.org.uk
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News from the Pews

Hilton Methodist Church



Dear Friends,

The poet W. H. Auden wrote, 'We must love one another or die.' In this month when remembrances of varying kinds are uppermost in our minds I, in common with others, am left thinking that we still have not learned to love, not in the way love Jesus puts it in John 15:13, 'Greater love has no one than this, that they lay down their life for their friends.'

Loving like this is unlikely to be manifest in grand gestures but in the small seemingly insignificant aspects of everyday living. We are told that the seemingly inconsequential flapping of a butterfly's wings in one place can set off a tremendously significant event in another place. I wonder how families, communities, our world might look differently if we took seriously Jesus' commandment to love one another and not only in talk but in action.

Talk can come cheap but loving acts of kindness always come with a cost to the giver.

I was interested to read of one war poet's experience. Sassoon became more and more critical of those who pushed religion onto the service personnel leading him to 'love religion less and less.' You and I are not called to spread religion but the message of a God who loves to the uttermost, who is present amongst the devastation of conflict and suffering and revealed in genuine acts of love which supersede all human boundaries.

In all our remembering may we resolve to learn how to love that others may live. It seems to be that part of our recollecting



involves the awareness that in our own strength alone none of us can be peace-makers or peace-keepers.

To live with a love that is sacrificial we need to be connected to God, moment-by-moment. In this month of proper remembrances why not set aside some time this month to ponder what a relationship with God means to you remembering that it involves more than ritual and routines but a way of living. John records the following words of Jesus: 'If you stay joined to me, and I stay joined to you, then you will produce lots of fruit.' John 15: 5.

Who can imagine how such a connection could transform lives, homes, communities, the world.

Best blessings, James
Revd. James Bamber
jjamesbamber@gmail.com
Phone: 01480 453857

Services in November

2 November	10:00am	Mr. C. Webber
9 November	10:45am	Gather at the Lychgate for the United Remembrance Day Service at the Parish Church
16 November	10:00am	Mr. J. Green
23 November	10:00am	Dr. B. Spencer
30 November	10:00am	Rev. J. Bamber

Hilton Parish Church

Services in November

- 2 November 8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9 November 10:45am Remembrance Sunday Service
starts at the Lychgate, followed by a United Service in the Parish Church
- 16 November 8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 23 November 11:15am Coffee, Cake and Church in the Village Hall
- 30 November 8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
- Friday 14 November 5:30pm Friday Feast (Messy Church)

Weekly Online Services (Via Zoom)

Holy Communion Wednesdays (2:00pm) Bible Study Fridays (10:00am)

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



Fenstanton United Reformed Church

Chequer Street, Fenstanton

Sunday morning services are at 09.30. All are welcome.

2025 Services

November

- 02 Led by Church Elders
- 09 Revd Christine Davies - **Holy Communion**
- 16 Led by Pauline Zahner
- 23 Revd Christine Davies
- 30 Revd Christine Davies

December

- 07 Led by Faith Paulding
- 14 Revd Christine Davies - **Holy Communion**
- 21 Revd Christine Davies
- 25 TBA
- 28 Led by Church Elders

Meditation – Led by the Free Church St. Ives

- Tuesday 11 November 2.30 - 4pm – Led by John Williams
- Tuesday 09 December 2.30 - 4pm – Led by John Williams

Geoff Hawkins Fenstanton URC Secretary
fenstantonurc@stivesfreechurch.org

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19 Needingworth Rd.
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- Second Friday of month
- 5.30pm – 7pm
- Parish Church
- Hilton





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News from the Pews

From Fenstanton United Reformed Church

Jesus said: "As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13: 34 GNB. Love! Watching the television news or reading our newspapers, hate springs to mind rather than love, as a depressing world, full of gloom and doom, is portrayed. Is it getting worse? Well, the twentieth century saw two world wars, in which sadly, millions of people were killed and injured. Good news is only given a minute or two at the end of a news bulletin and newspaper publishers tell us good news does not sell newspapers. But that does not mean good things are not happening in our community, country, and world.

On 9 November we will mark Remembrance Sunday, when people will gather at the war memorials to remember the sacrifice of all those killed in the First and Second World Wars, and the countless wars since the Second World War ended eighty years ago. And good things do come out of wars:

the sense of comradeship, within the Armed Forces – the feeling of being in this together. Courage and kindness come to light in the most ordinary human beings

People become good neighbours to one another, helping each other. Together the people make a concentrated effort to fight the enemy – all doing their part, however small that part may be. If only we could have these by-products of war – the self-sacrifice, courage, comradeship, enthusiasm, and determination – the willingness to share – without the war to breed them. This is the great dilemma which exists and has always existed, which needs to be solved if there is ever going to be world peace. There must be something which evokes all the good by-products of war but is not geared to the destruction of others. Yes, there is, 'Love!' For there to be world peace, all must choose to love rather than hate. But each of us can only change our-self. So, every day, we all need to double, treble, our love for all whom we meet in our daily lives; our love for our enemies; above all our love for God and for Jesus.

Christine Davies – Member of Fenstanton URC

update



Contact:

email: fendrayton.clerk@gmail.com

website: www.fendrayton.org

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

Fen Drayton Greenway

The Fen Drayton spur of the St Ives Greenway is intended to improve access for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders to the St Ives Greenway, along the guided busway.

Initial ideas were circulated in 2016 and a public consultation relating to the proposal was carried out in early 2023. This consultation highlighted issues such as lighting, flooding and vehicle speeds, should the road be improved. Fen Drayton PC has been involved in conversations with the Greenway team since then and we hope to be able to put a formal proposal to the village soon.

The final version, however, is likely to be significantly modified from the 2023 proposal. It currently consists of improving the rutting along the east/west section of Holywell Ferry Road and limiting traffic to farm, RSPB and emergency vehicles only, beyond the corner where the road turns left.

The goal is to reduce the number of vehicles using this route and provide



a better one for other users, without harming the environment. We will be in touch once we have a concrete proposal to put to the village.

Community Cafe

The September cafe hosted its annual Macmillan coffee morning, which resulted in the fantastic donation of £300 being made to the charity. Our heartfelt thanks go to all our generous customers! Little Fabric Townhouse also set up in the meeting room to coincide with the cafe. They, too, had a productive morning and will be returning sometime next year – so look out for notices.

The cafe now accept card payments, so don't let lack of cash prevent you from coming along and enjoying some freshly made cakes and hot drinks!

Village news

One of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee cherry trees in the village hall field was broken off near the base. The PC will replace the tree in the coming months.

The PC and handyman carry out regular checks of the village to review issues such as hedges/plants overhanging public footpaths. If you notice anything that needs attention please contact the parish clerk via the parish council website.

Our village Speedwatch volunteers are out again this winter, helping to keep our roads safe. If you'd like to join our team, please get in touch with the parish clerk. We operate a rota system and volunteers receive training.

Cllr Sue Ellington, Swavesey ward

Postal election votes are now limited to three years. At the start of the summer there were more than 15,000 people who needed to make a new application. That number is now down to just over 7,200. If SCDC holds your elector's email address, you will have received a reminder. If not, SCDC will send you a letter with a new application form. Anyone who has not made a new application by the end of January will have their postal vote cancelled.

The easiest way to re-apply for a postal vote is online at www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote,

or email elections@scambs.gov.uk if you have any questions.

New unitary authorities. The countdown to a decision about the make up of the new unitary authorities continues. SCDC and Cambridge City have decided to back a unitary that only includes them, leaving Fenland, Peterborough Huntingdonshire and East Cambridgeshire district councils to form the other unitary. The business case will be presented to the government by the end of November. I feel we should include Huntingdonshire as we have so many links through the river and rural interests. But we have to wait and see what the government decides.

If I can help in any way, call 07774146331 or email cllr.ellington@scambs.gov.uk

Community cafe

The cafe's annual winter/Christmas fair will take place on 8 November. If you would like a stall please email fendraytoncommunitycafe@gmail.com to book. Stalls cost £5.00 each.

Swavesey Community Choir will be at our cafe on 13 December to entertain us with festive songs and music. All are welcome to join in the singing (word sheets will be provided).

The cafe now accepts card payments as well as cash!

The next cafe is on 8 November





Coffee, Cake & Church

It's church, but not as you know it....

Sunday 23 Nov

Sunday 25 Jan

Sunday 22 Feb

and every 4th Sunday, (excluding Dec)

11.15am HILTON VILLAGE HALL

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The Birds of Monach Farm – spring and summer 2025

by Roland Randall

Following the report in the April edition of The Journal, I have continued my daily walks around Monach Farm with my Merlin Bird ID App, and have recorded the many changes that have taken place as the days lengthened, and the temperatures increased.

All the Winter migrants had left by the end of March to return to their more northerly breeding grounds and some of the Spring and early-Summer migrants had arrived from further south. These included Blackcap, Willow Warbler and Siskin, but as we moved into April many other species began to return.

In the last days of March, we began to hear Chiffchaff, and then in April and May Garden Warbler, Common and Lesser Whitethroat, Swallow, House Martin and pleasingly Swift giving aerial displays catching insects on the wing. A surprise on 30 April was Green Sandpiper, obviously on passage, but spending a few hours on the farm! Similarly in mid-June a Lapwing spent a day around our muck-heap but then moved on.



Spotted Flycatcher

It was also a delight to hear Skylark and Meadow Pipit singing over the fields where they nest among the tussocky grasses, and Nuthatch calling in the hedgerows.

A pleasing addition in mid-June was Spotted Flycatcher, back from Africa and in early August Yellow-Legged Gulls along with a flock of Lesser Black-Backed Gulls that arrived from the coast on a strong wind.

The very dry Spring and Summer have been significant for our resident bird species this year. We don't often see Coot on the farm, but they have been present with Moorhen on the pond on occasions as other locations became dry. Also having had a dearth of House Sparrows over the Winter and Spring, we have had several small flocks bathing in puddles after the occasional downpour. Similarly, during the heatwaves, we have seen quite large flocks of Starlings picking over the cowpats for insects and grubs. Towards the end of August, we have also heard Reed Bunting and the distinctive call of Marsh Tit around the pond: a first time for these species on the farm. Both Green Woodpecker and Great Spotted Woodpecker have noisily given away their presence.

Both Magpie and Jackdaw have come into the farmyard in large numbers during the heatwaves in search of food and water and, sadly, have predated some of the House Martin nests. Interestingly, the Martins have laid a second batch of eggs in the same nests and brought them off successfully.

In early August, we have seen Pied Flycatcher and Spotted Flycatcher in the hedges and heard the distinctive call of Cetti's Warbler from deep within a bramble patch! Also, we have heard what sounded like a Rock Dove, but it turned out, when seen, to be a feral bird, complete with leg bands!

In the latter part of the summer, we have often heard the honking of Greylag Geese flying over the farm in the early morning as they move from their roosts to feeding sites. A great surprise to me in early September was hearing the croak of a Raven on several mornings. I had heard that they have been spreading eastwards and had been seen in Cambridgeshire, but this was our first!

Meanwhile our resident flocks of Woodpigeon and Carrion Crow are regularly to be seen



Greylag Geese in Flight

in the fields, Stock Dove have nested in our Barn Owl box, a Pheasant has brought off a clutch of chicks and, in the hedgerows we have seen good numbers of Great Tit, Blue Tit, Long-tailed Tit, Robin, Blackbird, Song Thrush, Goldfinch, Chaffinch, Dunnock, Wren and Collared Dove. We have continued to have regular sightings overhead of Buzzard, Kestrel and Red Kite and also the occasional Sparrowhawk.

By mid-September we stopped seeing or hearing Swallows or House Martins and we didn't have any Swifts after mid-August. So, many of our migrant birds have decided that summer is over, but I'm delighted that, most mornings, I have seen or heard around 15 species in my 20-30-minute walk. Our total bird-list now stands at 60 species.



Greylag Geese on grass



The Duchess Freehouse

UPCOMING EVENTS

November

SATURDAY 8TH 6PM, KNOCKOUT DARTS COMPETITION

THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 8PM, DUCHESS QUIZ NIGHT



December

 FRIDAY 5TH AT 7PM, BARNEY & BENS BINGO AND KAREOKE

FANCY DRESS TO IMPRESS, ALL THINGS CHRISTMAS

WINE RAFFLE WINNER DRAWN AT 8PM

 THURSDAY 18TH AT 8PM, BIG CHRISTMAS QUIZ!!

 TUESDAY 23RD AT 7.30PM LIVE MUSIC FROM 'THE EMERGENCY ROOM'

Pop in and check our new pool table! !

Wine raffle tickets available at the bar.

Please check our Facebook page for Christmas opening hours

Is it too early to start thinking about Christmas . . . ??

Nativity, Crib and Carol Service

in Fen Drayton Church

Sunday 21 December, 6.00pm (til c. 6.45)

Join us for traditional Christmas carols and Christmastide readings, led by Revd. Claire Brockelsby.

All most welcome!



WINTER FAIR

Friday 5th December

5.30pm-7.30pm

Tombola, Games, Santa's grotto,

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Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School

UPCOMING IN NOVEMBER



Scan here to see our opening times or join our mailing list to be kept up to date with our latest news.

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- Sundae Service
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- Natures Posy Flower Field
- Ant's P.Y.O polytunnel and field

UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 15th - BUTCHERY DEMONSTRATION

Butchery and carvery demonstration at 10 am and 2 pm. Come along and see how Remi prepares your meat. No booking needed.

Orders are now open for Christmas Turkeys, Pigs in Blankets, Stuffing Balls, Gammon Joints, etc. Pop in and visit Remi for more information.

Don't forget we offer vouchers for Butchery and sausage-making courses, the perfect local Christmas gift.

November 15th - PIE NIGHT AT THE OLD WORKSHOP

See our website for the menu and more information!

November 19th - NEW FARM SHOP OPENING

Our Farm Shop is moving! Come and see us next to The Old Workshop Bistro for the same yummy treats and produce in a new location.

Food tastings every Saturday in November. Come and try different products throughout the month, including local cheese, biscuits, and more!

Christmas Cheese orders are now open.

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Hilton Parish Council

Report from the Meeting of the Council dated Monday 6 October



A Civilty & Respect
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Reserves Reallocation

The Council agreed to the reallocation of reserves to establish two new earmarked funds: one for Deputy Clerk training and development, and another for future Local Highway Improvement (LHI) projects.

Deputy Clerk Development

The Council approved SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) membership for the Deputy Clerk and authorised his enrolment on the Introduction to Local Council Administration (ILCA) course.

Ditch Issues

Concerns were raised regarding ongoing ditch clearance and drainage issues in various locations around the parish. The Deputy Clerk will liaise with the relevant external agencies, including the Environment Agency and Cambridgeshire Council County Highways, to ensure these matters are addressed appropriately and reported back to the next meeting.

Feast Week 2026

The Council granted authority for Feast Week to be held from Sunday 19th to Saturday 25th July 2026, subject to the usual safety and insurance requirements.

Budget and Precept

The Finance Committee presented its budget recommendations for the forthcoming financial year. After discussion, the Council agreed to recommend a modest increase in the precept to £41,569.80 which is an increase of £1,743.80 or

4.4%. The final precept decision will be made at the November meeting.

Draft Budget 26/27

Receipts	
Precept	£41,569.80
Fireworks	£2,000.00
Interest	£2,200.00
Total	£45,769.80
Payments	
Payroll	£14,968.80
Green Open Spaces	£3,500.00
Maintenance Contract	£11,800.00
Maintenance Person	£5,500.00
Maintenance Materials	£1,000.00
Insurance	£930.00
Subscriptions	£650.00
Stationery & Office	£250.00
Utilities	£3,250.00
Training	£75.00
Audit	£420.00
Venue Costs	£450.00
Fireworks	£1,900.00
Lighting & Maintenance	£586.00
Donations	£60.00
Playground	£140.00
Electoral	£40.00
Website	£250.00
Total	£45,769.80

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 3rd November 2025 in Hilton Village Hall. Agendas will be issued in advance on the village notice boards and the Council's website www.hiltonparishcouncil.com. Parishioners are welcome to speak at council meetings on agenda items.

Note from the publisher

For advertising opportunities please email info@thejournal.life. Space is booked on a yearly subscription basis and runs from September 24 until August 25. Priority will always be given to local businesses. The Journal takes no responsibility for the standard of goods or services provided and accepts no liability on any loss or damage from acceptance of any advertisers.

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Life on a Plate

Date and Walnut Cake

Ingredients:

- 8oz./225g. Dates
- 2oz./55g. Margarine
- ½ teaspoon bicarb soda
- 7 fluidoz./250ml. Hot water
- 9oz./250g. Self Raising Flour
- ½ teaspoon Baking powder
- 6oz./175g. Caster sugar
- 1 tablespoon Golden syrup
- 1 large egg
- 2oz./55g. Walnuts



Method:

1. Chop the dates.
2. Put the dates into a basin, add the bicarb soda, cover with the hot water and leave to go cold (preferably overnight).
3. Cream the margarine and sugar.
4. Add syrup and egg.
5. Add dates with all the water.
6. Add flour, baking powder.
7. Stir in the walnuts.
8. Line a loaf tin with baking parchment.
9. Bake at 140°C fan oven for approximately 45/60 minutes.

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Navigating child arrangements at Christmas

When to seek advice from a family solicitor

The festive season is often a time of joy, celebration, and family togetherness. For separated or divorced parents, Christmas can also bring emotional and logistical challenges, especially when it comes to agreeing on child arrangements. Disputes over where children will spend the holidays can quickly escalate, making it essential to approach the situation with sensitivity, clarity, and if necessary, professional support.

Understanding the importance of planning ahead

Christmas is a special time for children, and both parents naturally want to share in the magic. However, without a clear plan, misunderstandings and last-minute disagreements can arise. It is crucial to start discussions early, ideally several months in advance. Consider alternating Christmas Day each year, splitting the holiday period, or arranging celebrations on different days to ensure both parents have meaningful time with the children.

Flexibility and compromise are key. While it may be difficult to relinquish certain traditions, prioritising your child's happiness and stability should be the guiding principle. Children benefit most when they see their parents cooperating and putting their needs first.

What happens when you can't agree?

Despite best efforts, some parents find themselves at an impasse. If communication breaks down or one party refuses to be reasonable, it may be time to seek legal advice. A family solicitor can help you understand your rights, explore options, and work toward a resolution that protects your child's welfare.

Mediation is often recommended as a first step. This involves both parents meeting with a neutral third party to discuss arrangements and try to reach a mutually acceptable agreement. Mediation is less adversarial than court proceedings and can be quicker and more cost-effective.

If mediation fails or is considered inappropriate, a solicitor can assist you in applying to the court for a Child Arrangements Order. This legally binding Order sets out where the child will live, when they will spend time with each parent including at Christmas, and any other relevant details. Courts will always prioritise the child's best interests, considering factors such as emotional wellbeing, continuity, and the importance of maintaining relationships with both parents.

Why legal advice matters

Family law can be complex, and every situation is unique. A solicitor can provide tailored guidance based on your circumstances, helping you avoid common pitfalls and ensuring your child's needs are front and centre. They can also help enforce existing agreements if one parent is not complying or assist in modifying arrangements if circumstances have changed.

Importantly, seeking legal advice does not mean you are gearing up for a fight. It is about protecting your child's right to enjoy the holidays in a safe, loving environment and giving yourself peace of mind.

Final thoughts

Christmas should be a time of warmth and joy, not conflict and stress. By planning ahead, communicating openly, and seeking professional support when needed, separated parents can create a festive season that their children will cherish. If you are struggling to reach an agreement, do not wait until tensions boil over, consult a family solicitor and take proactive steps toward a happier holiday for everyone.

How we can help

If you need assistance navigating the child arrangements at Christmas or any other family law issues contact Leeds Day Solicitors on 0333 577 2250 or send an email to family@leedsday.co.uk or visit our website at www.leedsday.co.uk/family.

News from Fenstanton and Hilton Primary and Preschool



Alongside our core curriculum offer, we have been focusing heavily on enrichment opportunities for our pupils here at FHPS. With the support of our PTA, we have been able to offer our Key Stage 1 children a day of scooter workshops; and our Key Stage 2 children have taken part in two days of skateboard workshops. These were great days for the children, with lots of happy memories created.

In addition to these workshops, but still on the subject of enrichment, our Year 5 and Year 6 children spent a day in Cambridge exploring the city; we have visited the Parish Church for harvest services with Reverend Rosie; after-school clubs for tag rugby and running have started; in November, children will take part in a cross-country running event at Wimpole Hall and we will be hosting musical theatre workshops; and we are preparing for a trip to the theatre in Cambridge in December. All part of life in a busy primary school!!

In school, our children have been working hard to improve their handwriting in our daily sessions, along with a focus on spelling to support the presentation and accuracy of written work. Our new Year 6 Prefects are now in place and they are currently working on their first 'job rota', completing jobs around the school in support of our community.

At the end of November, we will host our parents' evenings, providing a chance to maintain the positive relationships we hold with our community, and we will be hosting a couple of stalls at the Christmas lights switch on in Fenstanton on the afternoon of Saturday 29 November. And then we'll be all ready for our nativity plays and another busy festive season!! The year rolls on!!

With very best wishes, from all of us at Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School and Preschool.



HILTON Fireworks & Bonfire



Saturday 8th November

£3 per adult, £2 per child

Under school age free

Gate opens at 6pm

Fireworks start at 7pm

**Bonfire will be lit as part
of the Firework display**

**Food and drink available
courtesy of Hilton Feast Week**



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

Parking is restricted so please consider walking.

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

Combustible bonfire donations will be accepted from Hilton residents on Saturday 8th November from 9am to 1pm—no manufactured boards please (including chipboard, particle board, plywood, etc).

Fen Drayton Primary School

We are all settled in and returning to normal after the upheaval of last year.

Sensory room

We were delighted to open our new sensory room this term. The room sits in the heart of the school and is a calm space for children who need some time to regulate or just some quiet time. We have always dreamt of having a quiet and relaxing space for the children and it was part of our future plans that the PTA were fundraising for before the fire. The refurbishment gave us the opportunity to gain this valuable space and thanks to the generosity of CPS Building Services, we were able to kit the room out. It is a much-loved space already and contains giant beanbags,



weighted blankets, a sensory bubble tube, sensory touch lights, sensory tiles (in the shape of minibeasts), a Tonie box with lots of characters, fidget/sensory toys and a sensory spinning chair.

Friends of Fen Drayton Primary School

Interested in supporting our school? Our PTA has rebranded to become Friends of Fen Drayton Primary School, meaning you don't have to be a parent or member of staff to get involved in fundraising for our school. Grandparents, neighbours and anyone in the local community is welcome to come on board. If you are interested in finding out more, then please email the office and we'll put you in touch.

They will be hosting their popular wreath making evening on Friday 28 November 7-9pm. To book, go to <https://fen-drayton-pta.sumupstore.com/product/christmas-wreath-workshop-friday-28th-november-2025-fen-drayton-school>



Starting school in 2026?

If your child was born between **September 2021 and August 2022**, they'll be due to start school in **September 2026**. Applications must be submitted by **15th January 2026** via Cambridgeshire County Council.

Apply for a school place | Cambridgeshire County Council

To help families get to know us, we're hosting two **Stay and Play** sessions in our Dormice classroom and outdoor area:

- **Wednesday 12th November – 3:30 to 4:00pm**

To book a spot at one or both sessions, please contact the school office by phone or email.

Join our school family

We currently have places available across all year groups. If you're looking for a warm and welcoming school community, we'd love to hear from you. Come and see what makes Fen Drayton Primary such a special place to learn and grow.

Nina McQueen Headteacher



School contact details

Email: office@fendrayton.cambs.sch.uk

Website: Fen Drayton Primary School

Phone: 01954 273346



Fen Drayton Primary School - Reception 2026



Was your child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022? If so, they are due to start school in September 2026.
Applications are now open and close on 15 January 2026.

Interested in finding out more about us? Then why not bring your child to our Stay and Play session on:



***Wednesday 12 November, 3.30-4pm**



Your child will have the opportunity to come and join in with some of the activities set up in the Dormice classroom and outdoor area, and meet our Reception teachers.

If you would like your child to attend, please email us at office@fendrayton.cambs.sch.uk or call the office on 01954 273346. Please also get in touch if you would like a tour of our school.



What you're Missing

Fenstanton Friendship Club

Happy Autumn everyone! Looking forward to crisp but bright days.

We were founded in 1949 by a dedicated group of villagers and the Club has gone on in different forms, evolving into our present group. We would love to welcome new members or visitors to enjoy the things that we do. Please come along, meet new friends and bring your ideas for meetings to the table. We meet every other Wednesday at 2.00pm, in the building of the United Reformed Church in Chequer Street. Although we hold our meetings in the church building, we are not affiliated to the church. Our activities are varied and as well as the yearly trips out to lunch, cream teas, boat trips on The Ladybird, strawberry tea and Christmas celebration, we will have various speakers and entertainers.

We look forward to seeing you.

10 September "The Merry-makers" entertained us with their singing, poetry and humour. It was a very enjoyable afternoon.



24 September Professor David Hatch, who for over thirty years was a consultant anaesthetist at Great Ormond Street children's hospital and became the first Professor of Children's Anaesthesia, was our speaker. We learned of his connection to Mercy Ships and the work that is done around the world. The ships stay in port for around ten months, at the invitation of the country where they are docked, and do as many surgeries as possible. We are fortunate that we do not have to wait for a ship to turn up to get treatment. A great charity.



Upcoming meetings

5 November A trip to Scottsdale Garden Centre at Shelford.

19 November "Wild in the Pantry", a demonstration of Christmas canapes, which we will all be sampling.

Any questions or problems please contact me. Marie Newns bubblenewns@gmail.com 01480 350119

What you're Missing

Hilton Community Hub

We now welcome around 25 friends, or sometimes more, who enjoy our Wednesday get-togethers!

In recent weeks we have had a talk by Peter about his career in the Royal Air Force flying with those magnificent men and their flying machines, ending with Vulcans. Suffice to say the nation is well protected by our inspired and brilliant Royal Air Force.

Sarah came to tell us about her work with the Peterborough Cats Rescue with plenty of "oohs" and "aahs" cooing over the tiny kittens who came with her!



Dave and Joe were a couple of pinball wizards

Dave brought a selection of his vintage pinball and fruit machines so in no time a large group of mainly our 'boys' was like moths round a honey pot!

A theme shortly is Fish, honouring National Octopus Day - fish finger butties will be on the menu of course and the theme of another recent lunch honoured National Vegetable Week with one of our favourite vegetable soups at lunchtime.

The quizzes that accompany these themes challenge us every week so thank you to our anonymous Quizzer whoever he or she may be!

One day Jeff told us a story with a true and surprising ending. Someone he knew had an enquiry for a vintage Harley Davidson that he had for sale. Fine details were exchanged, the final, finest - it had belonged to Elvis Presley. Some vintage, some value!

One of our Hub friends was recently heard to remark how important the Wednesday Hub is to her weekly life and this would be said by any one of our special friends.

Don't be lonely in Hilton!

A lady called Mary Oliver once wrote - 'Instructions for living a life - Pay Attention, Be Astonished, Tell About It'.

That's Hilton Hub, every Wednesday morning, 10.30-12.30, Hilton Village Hall.

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(We are located opposite the Clock Tower)

Hilton Flower Club

6 October was our **WORKSHOP**, all our ladies created these wonderful floral arrangements to take home, which are in the photo. Great fun was had by everyone.

Well done to you all.

3 November Our demonstrator will be Elizabeth Robertson, we are looking forward to seeing her again and enjoying her wonderful arrangements.

1 December is our end of year Christmas Party; Beverley and June will be doing two Christmas Arrangements for you to take home: hope all our ladies can come and join in the party.

Hilton Village Hall 2pm - 4pm

Entrance £6.00 (includes tea/biscuits)

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU.
Beverley



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WITH US

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Hilton
Baby & Toddler
Play Group



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BABY AREA

CRRAFTS

TEA & BISCUITS!



Tuesdays (term time only)
10 - 11.30 am
£2.50/family
Hilton Village Hall
Find us on Facebook:
Hilton Baby and Toddler Play Group

What you're Missing

Girlguiding Hilton Rainbows and Brownies

Some of the Brownies spent a few days at the 'Brownie Spectacular' residential in Norfolk in the summer with many other brownie units and earlier this term did a presentation to the others about the wonderful time they had climbing, abseiling, grass sledging, learning circus skills and doing lots of craft activities to name but a few.

We invited mums and grandmas to a session to help the girls earn their craft badge with various origami, cake creations and sewing crafts. We also explained about all the new badges that have just been released by girlguiding, we hope to do the Mechanics badges with a visit to a garage at the end of October and also have a planned visit to a

supermarket. Once again we plan to visit The Chase care home in Huntingdon just before Christmas and do some activities and sing some carols with them.

Rainbows have been learning to recognise coins and will be giving the money they collected last term in smartie tubes to Wood Green Animal Shelter. They have a planned visit from a vet when they will also be making enrichment toys for some of the animals there. They are also working on the Present Maker badge in time for Christmas.

We currently have spaces for Rainbows if you have a daughter aged 4 - 7 who would be interested in joining us. please make contact or sign up on the girlguiding website.

Karen Baker, Brownie and Rainbow Leader
07970 404569
email:
hiltonrainbowsandbrownies@gmail.com



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for children's parties



www.fendraytonvillagehall.org.uk

Hilton Women's Institute

Do we hear words like C*****S and T****Y already? Please, no! It's bad enough to see mince pies on supermarket shelves close to pumpkins way back in September!

We in Hilton WI are still enjoying this colourful autumn and several events before all that activity.

Our cinema group have been for lunch at Bella Italia and to see Downton Abbey, and another smaller group took the chance to see The Salt Path at the Corn Exchange in St Ives. The Book Club is thriving, at Craft Club we are making pretty felt robins (sorry, it's that C*****S word again!) and Canasta has extra play times in some of our houses.

In September three teams represented Hilton at the quiz in Hemingford Grey. Suffice to say we did not disgrace ourselves but oh, it was as challenging as usual.

Which of us answered the question 'what is the only mammal that can fly' with DUMBO!



theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

Still to come in November, Trevor Chapman is coming to advise on Better Health through Hearing and we will definitely be enjoying that which absorbs December

Way back at the end of June we had planned our annual summer outing, this year to London but you may remember how very hot those days were - so it was postponed to early October.

This meant that some people could join us this time and some could not, so we wish a big thank you to Ann for adjusting ticket prices correctly and thank you to Pam who had arranged an interesting, unusual visit to the capital. It had meant an early start for the 43 travellers which included a Blue Badge guide to steer the group through Hidden London. He showed us the Crypt of St Paul's, Temple Bar Gate close to the start of the Great Fire, Smithfield and the only Norman buildings in London.

Then, with the end of our short boat ride on the Regent's Canal from Little Venice to Camden, Donna and Colin were amazed and delighted to see their daughter waiting with a surprise greeting for them. Everyone enjoyed that too!

Our monthly meetings are on the second Monday of each month in Hilton Village Hall from 7pm. If you haven't been before we give a warm welcome.

Or contact Debbie at :-
hiltonwisecretary@gmail.com

What you're Missing

Hilton Art Club

At our usual meeting at the village hall, the subject was 'A Season of Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness, in other words all things Autumnal, which encompassed trees, studies of leaves and fruit and vegetables (which looked good enough to eat!). Thanks to Lynn and Rosemary for the scrumptious cakes.

21 November 10.00 – 12.30 pm

'Showtime' Inspired by Theatre/Pantomime, etc.

Please bring your own reference photos.



Fen Drayton Bowls Club News

As autumn turns to winter the short mat bowls season is getting under way.

Short mat bowls is similar to lawn bowls but played on a 22-yard-long carpet in Fen Drayton Village Hall. You don't need to have played before to join in as there are always members willing to provide help and assistance.


We have two groups, both of which are looking for new members. As well as the main club night on Friday evenings from 7pm throughout the winter months, we also

have a Monday afternoon group that meets at 2pm throughout the year. Come along to any session in the village hall, which is located on Cootes Lane, CB24 4SL. For more information contact Stephen George, Club Secretary, on 07876 407 219 or via email at stephengeorge79@gmail.com

The indoor season for the Cambridgeshire Short Mat Bowls League is getting underway with our first fixtures not played at the time of writing.

Results to follow next month!

Find a defibrillator near you

We hope you never need a defibrillator, but if you did they are located in various places throughout our villages. The locations are below with the  what3words location references.

Fen Drayton Village Hall on Cootes Lane
Fenstanton Ash's Store (NISA) on the High Street
Fenstanton Church Centre on School Lane
Fenstanton Zaza barbers on Headlands
Hilton Prince of Wales Pub on Potton Road
Hilton Cricket Pavilion

moons.grumbles.admires
pouting.cabinet.washroom
reclusive.creeps.deleting
thing.pylon.relatives
mindset.skip.pulps
clerk.farmland.unroll

Fenstanton Pet Service

A little drizzle didn't stop the lovely service.

Chickens, a beautiful ex racehorse, lots of dogs - tiny and large, a crab, a mole and a bucket full of Jean's worms were all there! Some people brought photos of loved pets past and present. Three children recited an old English traditional poem called "The Clucking Hen" by A Hawkshaw. Gill read an Irish contemporary poem called "To Learn from Animal Being" by John O'Donohue. Then, Brian read from Gerald Durrell's reminiscences of his childhood in Corfu. Pauline and Jennie shared the prayers. Three well known hymns were accompanied by Brian on a borrowed piano.

When it started to rain we all enjoyed Pimm's and Congress Tarts inside the pretty church provided by Char's sister Lillon. A big thank you to all the helpers for arranging this rather different and much appreciated service.





Venues for hire

Fen Drayton Village Hall	07596 576515
Fenstanton Church Centre	01954 230471
Hilton Village Hall	07752 678415

Councils

Cambridgeshire County Council	0345 045 5200
Fen Drayton Parish Council	07704 023534
Fenstanton Parish Council	01480 465300
Hilton Parish Council	01480 830605
Huntingdonshire District Council	01480 388388
South Cambs District Council	0345 045 0500

Community Groups and Clubs

Books and Jigsaws at FURC	01480 498221
Fen Drayton Bowls Club	07876 407219
Fen Drayton Lions FC	07718 900880
Fen Drayton Parent and Toddlers	07549 630124
Fen Drayton Tai Chi	07799 444993
Fen Drayton Tennis Club	01954 231752
Fen Shanty Folk	07841 599492
Fenstanton Baby and Toddler Group	07742 259653
Fenstanton Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	07531 863368
Fenstanton Bowls Club	07876 343900
Fenstanton Community Hub	07949 453767
Fenstanton Football Club	07968 081874
Fenstanton Friendship Club	01480 350119
Fenstanton Glebe Allotments	07817 786298
Fenstanton Town Trust	01480 464753
Fenstanton Indoor Bowls	01480 497202
Fenstanton Knitter and Natters	01480 498221
Fenstanton Litter Picking	07949 453767
Fenstanton Speed Watch	07949 453767
Hilton Art Club	01480 830696
Hilton Baby and Toddler Group	07527 394945
Hilton British Legion	01480 831186
Hilton Community Garden	07488 351128
Hilton Flower Club	01480 830571
Hilton HGV Watch	07768 294878

Community Groups and Clubs

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

Community events

Fen Drayton 10k run	07919 254467
Hilton Feast Week	01480 830605
Hilton Produce Show	01480 830412
Hilton Summer Ball	01480 831299
The BIG Village Fun Day	01480 370973

Education

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

Churches

St Mary's Church, Fen Drayton	01480 465211
Fenstanton Parish Church	01480 465211
Fenstanton URC	07710 240363
Hilton Methodist Church	01480 830686
Hilton Parish Church	01480 830866
St Ives Roman Catholic Church	01480 462192
The Particular Baptist Church	01480 830142

Emergency numbers

A&E Addenbrooks Hospital	01233 217118
A&E Hinchinbrooke Hospital	01480 416416
Environment Agency (Flood Line)	0845 9881188
Fenstanton pharmacy	01480 495159
Fenstanton surgery	01480 461873
Fly Tipping	0345 0450500

Emergency numbers

Gas leak	0800 111 999
Non emergency medical	111
Non emergency Police	101
Papworth pharmacy	01480 831415
Papworth surgery	01480 830888
Peterborough City Hospital	01733 678000
Power cut	0800 678 3105
Samaritans	116 123 Free
Swavesey surgery	01954 230202
Water leak	0800 316 7676

Buses

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

Pubs and eating places

Barry's Plaice	01480 462382
Little Piggy Cafe	07764 336911
The Duchess, Fenstanton	01480 350859
The White Swan, Conington	01954 267251

Retail

Alan's Carpets	07790 681317
Ash's Store	01480 466225
Denise Jackson Interiors	07910 507541
Eye Specs	01480 499606
Ron's Farm Shop	01480 495127

Garden services

Hamptons Groundcare	01480 274848
Hemingford Arboriculture	01480 463674

Decorators

Jason Kirby	01954 211775
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Design, printing and copying

St Ives Quickprint Ltd	01480 465215
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Household services

Cambridge Light Removals	01480 352220
Christopher the Locksmith	07772 111222
Easton & Cook Funerals	01480 310400
Fairy Dog Mother	01480 461959
Fenstanton Dental	01480 381129
Hamptons Pest Control	01480 274848
Hilton Private Hire	07521 293434
J L Wight Chimney Sweep	01954 253315
More Space Storage	01480 830130
Sureclean	07870 338074
Television Mobile Repair Service	07887 887319
W&H Peacock Auctioneers	01480 474550
Z Cars Taxis	01480 462046

Electricians

Bowling Electrical Services	07903 756915
TW Electrical	07810 710826
Twin Electrical Services	07796 492953

Plumbing and Heating Engineers

J Halstead	01480 830329
MDS P&H Ltd	07860 829591
RDS	01954 770309
T. N Walsh	07887 561525

Building services and supplies

GCE Groundworks	07737 884643
Graham Malkan	07799 850237
R D B Flooring	07970 256237
Stormguard Building Services	01480 270744

Car servicing and repairs

Wilderspin Garage	01954 230273
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The Journal

Advertising	07768 274456
Circulation	07876 446565
Editorial - Fen Drayton	07711 442473
Editorial - Fenstanton	07952 838121
Editorial - Hilton	07793 794431



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