



**Issue No. 33**  
**December 2007**

How **YOUR** Council is  
spending **YOUR** money.  
News of Council Meetings  
and events to come in  
**YOUR** village in a  
Quarterly Newsletter

## **The POST**

# *Litlington Pre-School's Christmas Fayre: Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December*

## **CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

**Saturday 1st December**

**12noon onwards**

LITLINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Tickets 50p (kids free) price includes  
hamper raffle ticket



*Come and visit Santa in his grotto and  
have your photo taken with him*  
STALLS INCLUDE:- cards, home-  
made preserves, pocket money stall,  
children's & adults jewellery, cakes,  
raffle, tombola, hair braiding,  
decorate-a-fairy cake, childrens shoes,  
handmade gifts and many games &  
Competitions.

**DESIGN A CHRISTMAS CARD  
COMPETITION**

Refreshments available



## **Dogs and Horses**

Most dog owners in Litlington are very responsible in controlling their dogs and clearing up after them. Unfortunately however there are always exceptions. You must clear up after your dog in and around the village — it's the law and if you don't you could be liable for prosecution. There are seven dog waste bins around the village. Out of consideration for others, please also ensure your dog doesn't foul footpaths or private paths surrounding the village. Similarly, most horse riders are very responsible; however, again, there are always exceptions. Please only ride horses on designated bridle-paths, not on footpaths. Thank you.

## **Speeding**

Speeding vehicles in Litlington continue to be a major concern for villagers and the issue is regularly raised at Parish Council meetings. Unsurprisingly it is not just Litlington that suffers from this problem; most villages in the area have similar concerns. The obvious deterrents to speeding are Police speed checks and traffic calming. The Parish Council has requested Police speed checks in the village.

It is worth noting that in our area the Police see anti-social behaviour as their main priority ahead of speeding, mainly after consultation with the community during neighbourhood panel meetings. Funding for further traffic calming in the village will be very hard, if not impossible, to come by. A Community Speed Watch program may be launched in the future and we have asked to be involved if and when it goes ahead. Of course the first thing we can all do is to make sure we drive responsibly in our village and all neighbouring villages, and stick to speed limits at all times.

## **Overhanging hedges and trees**

If you have hedges or trees in your garden that overhang the road, footpaths or other people's property, please take a few minutes to check whether they might need cutting back. Growth has been more vigorous than usual after our rather wet summer and autumn.

**Dear Parishioners** — Somehow December has crept up on us again, and on behalf of the Parish Council I would like to wish you all a **Merry Christmas** and best wishes for 2008. The Parish Council has recently had to say goodbye to Phil Godfrey, who has resigned from the Council as he and his family have moved away from the village. I'd like to thank Phil for all his hard work for both the Council and the Village Hall Committee.

As a result we now have three **vacancies** on the council. Becoming a Parish Councillor is an easy way to get involved with local issues and influence what happens in your village. If you are interested please contact any of the councillors or the clerk, or come along to a **Parish Council meeting** — the next is on Tuesday 18th December, 7:30 pm in the Village Hall. At this meeting the Council will discuss the precept for 2008–2009: this is the amount of money the Parish Council needs to raise through Council Tax in order to balance its books and pay for all its activities and expenses. All villagers are welcome to come along to the meeting and we look forward to seeing you.

**Anti-social behaviour**, and in particular recently graffiti, continues to be an issue for the village. Please report anything you see or know to the Non-emergency Police number 0845-456 4564. Of course in the event of an emergency you should always call 999. **Speeding** also continues to be a big issue for the village and is discussed in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter. We can all do our bit by driving responsibly and within the speed limit at all times. This is especially important now that winter weather is well and truly with us, and it is getting dark earlier. Did you know that in wet weather the Highway Code tells us to leave at least a 4 second gap between your car and the vehicle in front?

**Stefan Dixon — Chairman, Litlington Parish Council**

### **Parking in Bassingbourn Road**

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Residents of Bassingbourn Road were invited to the November Parish Council meeting to comment on a suggestion to increase parking on Bassingbourn Road. The residents present were not in favour of the suggestion, and as Parish Councillors also had concerns about the proposal it will not be pursued. The Parish Council will continue to look for possibilities to increase parking in the area.

## **Litlington Village Fayre 2007**

**Lynda & Ken Murphy**

Litlington village Fayre has been running for the last 9 years. Over this time it has been able to provide money for several village projects and purchases, for example: floodlights for St. Catherine's and a seat in the churchyard, the village sign, outside water and electric supply on the Recreation ground and the proposed Multisport Arena. The money raised has also been available to support the various groups in the village. Those groups who have benefited include: Playgroup, Toy Library, SNIB, Mobile Warden scheme, Evergreens, Cubs/Beavers/Brownies and the Jubilee Celebrations.

This year was another very successful Fayre; not only was the weather good, the event was well supported and we think enjoyed by all. The total profit for the day was almost £1180. The Fayre committee would like to say a sincere thankyou to all those who helped and contributed to such a successful event. Funds are available to distribute to any needy cause in the village and the Committee would welcome any applications for some of the money by the end of December 2007.

The Committee has been entirely grateful for all the effort everyone in the village has contributed over the years. It has always been a day when the whole community pulls together and everyone enjoys their day, so it is with sadness that we need to say for various reasons the whole committee will not be able to continue next year. This event has always been popular and it would be really nice to hand on the job to another team of willing volunteers. If there is anyone who would be willing to take on the job please read on, or phone 01763-852033 for further information.

## **Litlington Village Fayre 2008**

**David Sharp**

I understand that the Village Fayre will not take place in 2008 in the form that we have known for the last few years unless new people volunteer to run it. I am willing to act as coordinator so that we can continue this village day as a social as well as a fund raising day for village groups. It has been the only event which is open to participation by all the village. My suggestion would be that each organisation wishing to take part would send a representative to the meetings and would be prepared to offer manpower on the day. I envisage that the organisations taking part would retain a larger percentage of their profits than hitherto. Whilst I understand that the small committee which has run it wish to step down, I invite anyone interested in carrying on to a SHORT meeting on Thursday 13th December 2007 in the Village Hall at 8 o'clock. If there is sufficient interest, we can start planning for 2008. Otherwise the day will not take place.

**David Sharp (01763-852425)**

## **Events**

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**Sat 1 Dec: Christmas Fayre** 12:00 Litlington Village Hall  
Organised by Litlington Pre-School: see front page for details

**Sat 22 Dec: Christmas Celebration Concert** 7:30pm Royston Parish Church  
Royston Choral Society ([www.roystonchoralsoc.org.uk](http://www.roystonchoralsoc.org.uk)) and Royston Youth Choir perform carols and other arrangements for choirs and audience. Tickets from Royston Library and at the door, including a glass of mulled wine (or other refreshment) and a mince pie, are priced £10, £8 concessions, £1 'still at school'.

## **Bassingbourn Village College Sports Hall**

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Any of you driving through Bassingbourn since April will have seen first the new College car park and then the sports hall rise from the ground. What you can't see from the road is the 3/4-size all-weather pitch behind the sports hall. The all-weather pitch and car park were ready for the new term. The latter has dramatically improved parents' drop off and pick up for both the College and the Primary School. Local clubs are already using the all-weather pitch on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

The sports hall will be available in the new year. A dedicated manager has been appointed and will be in post from December. The building will have space for four badminton courts in the main hall and a separate gym (ideal for aerobics, judo or pilates classes). The main hall will also be marked for basketball, netball, volleyball and hockey and can be hired as 1/4, 1/2 and the full hall. Enquiries are now being registered from local clubs.

Please contact the College reception on 01763-242344 for further details about using the all weather pitch and sports hall.

**Tim Longworth — Chair of Governors, BVC**

## **Townlands Charity**

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**David Sharp**

The trustees will once again be distributing a small sum of money to each household with a resident of 65 years old and over. If you know of anyone who is eligible and who has not received the money in the past, please let our clerk, Sally Walmesley know (01763-852137).

The charity has land available for allotments. If you require one, please contact Sally or me. The balance of the 7 acres of land is to rent for a three year period by tender. It is currently grass but could be used for grazing or arable. See the advertisement below for further details. Sealed bids should be with the clerk before 14<sup>th</sup> December 2007.

**7 ACRES OF ARABLE LAND  
CURRENTLY LAID TO GRASS**

**OFFERS ARE INVITED FOR A THREE YEAR PERIOD  
FROM 1 JANUARY 2008 -31 DECEMBER 2010**

**ENQUIRIES TO :01763 852137**

**SEALED OFFERS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE  
FOLLOWING ADDRESS BY THE  
14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2007**

**REDWOOD LODGE, SOUTH STREET  
LITLINGTON, NR. ROYSTON  
HERTS. SG8 0QR**

**Do you know about YOUR Village Hall?**

Litlington Village Hall is available for hire  
at very competitive rates

Ideal for children's or adult parties,  
functions & meetings

Prices available on request:  
contact Booking Clerk Linda on 01763-8522809  
or

visit one of our regular users:

**Litlington Pre-School:** Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu 9.15-12.00, Fri 11.45-2.45

**Toy Library:** Fri 9.00-11.30 all pre-school children welcome

**Bowls, Evergreens, L.A.D.S.**

May 21 <sup>st</sup>	60th birthday of Lister Wilson
May 30 <sup>th</sup>	Anniversary of 52 years of marriage of William John Lawrence RIP and Shirley Lawrence
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Anniversary of the death of Geoff Bright and the 18th birthday of his grandson, Jay
July 31 <sup>st</sup>	Birthday of William John Lawrence RIP
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	For Jim Carter RIP
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	75 <sup>th</sup> birthday of Bob Thompson RIP
October 21 <sup>st</sup>	In memory of Dorothy Tillett RIP and William Tillett RIP, the parents of Patricia Shore
November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Anonymously and to celebrate Lou Barnes' birthday.

To have the church illuminated costs only £5. Brenda Bailey (01763-853401) or Pam Sharp (01763-852425) can arrange it for you.

## **Climate Change**

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It's difficult to avoid the words "Climate Change" these days and the government department DEFRA is encouraging Parish Councils to get involved. Villagers may find this advice from the Energy Saving Trust website helpful:

"Here are some simple measures you can put into action today.

1. Turning your thermostat down by 1°C could cut your heating bills by up to 10% and save you around £30 per year.
2. Is your water too hot? Your cylinder thermostat shouldn't need to be set higher than 60°C/140°F.
3. Close your curtains at dusk to stop heat escaping through the windows.
4. Always turn off the lights when you leave a room.
5. Don't leave appliances on standby and remember not to leave appliances on charge unnecessarily.
6. If you're not filling up the washing machine, tumble dryer or dishwasher, use the half-load or economy programme.
7. Only boil as much water as you need (but remember to cover the element if you're using an electric kettle).
8. In just one day, a dripping hot water tap wastes enough water to fill a bath. Make sure they're turned off.
9. Replace your light bulbs with energy saving recommended ones: just one can reduce your lighting costs by up to £78 over the lifetime of the bulb — and they last up to 12 times longer than ordinary light bulbs.
10. Do a home energy check. Just answer some simple questions about your home and receive a free, impartial report telling you how you can cut up to £250 a year on your household energy bills. See [www.saveyour20percent.co.uk](http://www.saveyour20percent.co.uk) or call 0800-512 012."

## Your Parish Councillors

Alan Biles	01763-852533	David Sharp	01763-852425
Lynda Murphy	01763-852033	Linda Williams	01763-852809
Marjorie Baker	01763-852491	Stefan Dixon	01763-853571

Linda Oliver — County Councillor Bassingbourn Division — 01767-650430  
email: [linda.oliver@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:linda.oliver@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

## Other Useful Numbers (all 01763- numbers unless otherwise stated)

Sally Walmesley	Clerk to the Council	852137
Sue Jenkins	Church Warden	852974
Gordon Head	Neighbourhood Watch	852934
Linda Williams	Village Hall Booking Clerk	852809
June Chaffey	Recreation Centre Booking Clerk	852151
Gwen Biles	The Chapel (Secretary)	852533
Hilary Sharp	Evergreens	852272
Rosy Taylor	Playschool	852762
Lorraine Baker	Toy Library (Secretary)	852414
Jo Covington	Litlington Amateur Dramatics Society	852079
Vera Webster	Badminton Club (Treasurer)	241022
Sue Chaffey	Football Club (Secretary)	853119
Cathy Smith	L.J.'s (7 to 10yrs. Youth Club)	853997
Jane List	L.J.'s Plus (10 to 13yrs. Youth Club)	852127
Tina Austen	Basketball Club	852838
Sylvia Harris	Gardening Club	852107
Kumar Balani	Post Office / Shop	852221
Angie and Steve Watts	The Crown Public House	853859
	Bassingbourn Village College	242344
	Bassingbourn Primary School	242460
	Steeple Morden School	852474
	Royston Library	243292
	Bassingbourn Surgery	241424
	Ashwell Surgery	01462-742891
	Police, Cambridge H.Q.	01223-358966

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