

# Milton Village View

Issue No. 121 – January 2016

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- ➤ Easter Events
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- ➤ Colts Pavilion Reopens

And much more!

Photo: Sally Milligan

# **Contact Us**

# Send us your news and photos: vv@miltonvillage.org.uk

1 Knights Way, Milton, CB24 6DE

#### Deadlines for articles are:

# 12th January 12th March 12th May 1st September 1st November

Issues will be published approx. 2 weeks after the dates above.

# **Online Archive**

Find back copies of Village View (back to April 2011) on our website:

# www.mvv.org.uk

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# Cygnets Milton Pre-School Easter Fayre

SATURDAY 19th March 2016

2 - 4pm

MILTON PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL

50p Adult / Children Free

We have lots of Prizes to be won, a Prestige Raffle, Outside Stalls & all the Family Favourites including Tombola, Face Painting, Glitter Tattoos, Easter Egg Wall and lots more. We also have a yummy Cake Stall and Refreshments.





n pre-sch

# **Diary Dates**

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# **February**

Sat 6thFarmer Tom's Open Morning (then fortnightly), CWA, 11am-1pmSun 7thMessy Church 'Welcome Home', All Saints', 3.30pm (p.2)Weds 10thAsh Wednesday Holy Communion, All Saints', 8pm17th Feb - 23rd MarchLent Compline, All Saints', Weds at 8pmSat 13thVillage Litter Pick, meet at the Parish Office on Coles Road, 2pmTues 16thFirst 'Lent Matters' lunch, All Saints' church hall, 12 noon (See below)Fri 26thMSA Quiz Night, School Hall, 7 for 7.30pm (p.4)

# March

Sat 5th	MOBC <b>Quiz Night</b> , Community Centre, 6.30 for 7pm ( <i>p</i> .5)
Sun 6th	Mothering Sunday Service, All Saints', 10.30am
Weds 16th	MSA Race Night, Lion & Lamb, 7.30 for 8pm (p.4)
Sat 19th	Cygnets Easter Fayre, School Hall, 2-4pm (p.2)
Thurs 24th	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion, All Saints', 8pm
Fri 25th	Messy Easter, All Saints', 10am-12
	Hour at the Cross, All Saints', 2pm
Sat 26th	Easter Special Farmer Tom's, CWA, 10am-1pm (p.5)
Sun 27th	Easter Celebration with Holy Communion & Baptism, All Saints', 10.30am

See pp.18-19 for more events at the pubs. See <u>www.milton.org.uk/diary.html</u> for more event details. See <u>www.miltoncountrypark.org</u> for more park event details.

*Lent Matters 3:* At the foot of the Cross



16 February: Mary the Mother of Jesus:
23 February: Peter:
1 March: Mary Magdalene:
8 March: The Crowd:
15 March: John:
22 March: Ourselves:

Revd Valerie Kilner

Gareth Howles

Kathy English

Alan Skull

Bishop David (Bishop of Huntingdon)

Revd David Chamberlin

Please join us each Tuesday at 12.00 pm in the Church Hall for prayer and a Lenten talk followed by a tasty lunch. Donations towards the work of the MU would be appreciated.

# **Events**

# **MSA Quiz Night**

• Will the Women's Institute beat the Photography Club?

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• Are the Toddler parents wittier than the Baby Group parents?

There is only one way to find out: come to the annual MSA Quiz Night on Friday, 26th February, in the Big Hall at Milton Primary School. Doors open from 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Why not get a team together with your friends, or mates from your village group? Please register your teams by emailing Birgit Meldal on <u>msaquiz2013@gmail.com</u> (yes, 2013) and then pay on the night (£3.50 pp, max. 6 people/team).

All funds raised will go towards the school to buy much-needed resources and they would like to invite you to join them.

There will be a few fun games in the breaks and a raffle (donations of prizes welcome!). Bring your own drinks and snacks. Please be advised that this is an adult-only event and that the school premises are strictly non-smoking.

MSA Committee



Come along and join in all the fun of the races. Make a bet, watch the race – you could be a winner – as well as helping the Milton School Association raise funds.

£2 Admission (tickets online at jumblebee.co.uk/miltonracenight) this includes two games of 'Heads and Tails'.

Wednesday 16 March 2015, 7.30pm for an 8pm start. Everyone welcome.

We are looking for local businesses to sponsor the races.

For more information please contact the MSA on <u>miltonprimarymsa@gmail.com</u>





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# **Events**

# **MOBC** Ouiz Night

6.30pm for a 7pm start on Sat 5th March 2016 in Milton Community Centre

You are invited to enter a team of no more than 8 and no less than 6 persons.

The cost is £5 per person, which includes:

- Eight rounds of quiz
- Prizes for the winning team

Each team please provide one raffle prize and bring your own drinks/nibbles for the interval.

If you wish to enter a team, please contact Bob Waters by no later than Monday 25th February 2016 at:

3 Lyndhurst Close Milton Cambridge CB24 6DH

Tel: 860620

Email: robert.waters1@ntlworld.com

**Bob Waters** 



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You don't have to be a student to experience life on the farm at the College of West Anglia Cambridge Campus, Based in Milton, Woodside Farm is not just a centre for study, but a place for the family to enjoy too...

Youngsters can meet and feed the farm animals, have a ride on the pedal tractors and enjoy colouring activities at one of the upcoming Farmer Tom's open many mornings, taking place throughout 2016.

### **Upcoming Farmer Tom's Days**

6th Feb. 20th Feb. 5th Mar. 19th Mar (Sat 11am-1pm, last entry 12.30)

> Advance bookings: £1 On the gate: £1.50 (ages 2 and under free)

#### Easter Special: 26<sup>th</sup> Mar, 10am-1pm

Advance bookings: £2 On the gate: £2.50 (ages 2 and under free)

For more information, visit onlinestore.cwa.ac.uk





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# Milton CE Primary School Lunchtime Supervisor

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- be able to make good relationships with children and adults alike
- · have high expectations for pupils' behaviour
- · be well organised and able to work well as part of a team
- · respond positively and cheerfully to the variety of tasks
- · be in sympathy with our school's Christian ethos

We can offer:

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- friendly children
- a welcoming supportive team
- training for the task

We have an excellent staff team and are a very popular and successful Church of England village primary school.

Hours of work will be Monday to Friday 12.15 - 1.15 pm term time only. Salary Scale 1C Point 8 -  $\pm$ 7.19 Please contact the school office to request an application pack or visit our website. Visits welcome.

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate will undertake an enhanced DBS check.

Milton CE Primary School Humphries Way, Milton Cambs CB24 6DL

Tel: 508783 Email: office@milton.cambs.sch.uk



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#### Pilates Classes Milton, Landbeach & Cottenham

Mon 9.30am - Mixed Ability Mat Class (MCC) Mon 10.30am - Mixed Ability Mat Class (MCC) Tues 6.20pm - Intermediate Mat Class (Sch) Tues 8.15pm - Mixed Ability Mat Class (Sch) Fri 9.15am - Mixed Ability Mat Class (CBC) Fri 10.30am - Mixed Ability Mat Class (LVH)

> Contact Liz on 07768 155278 or liz.dolman@lovepilates.co.uk NVQ level 3 Pilates & PureStretch Instructor

Visit www.lovepilates.co.uk for further information on classes and class venues

# Could You Help Our School?

Dear Milton Community

Can you help? As a school, we are always looking for ways to broaden the children's knowledge and experiences, to positively impact their learning. One of our greatest resources is people and this is where you may be able to help.

Maybe you have a hidden **talent** or **passion** that you would love to share, maybe you are feeling **creative**, or maybe you have some **spare time** and haven't yet found how you want to spend it. Whatever you have to offer, we would like to hear from you.

There are also so many things around school that benefit from an extra pair of hands: listening to children **read**; putting up/taking down **displays**; helping out with particular **activities**; helping in the **library**. The list goes on. You do not have to have any particular



connection with the school, just a willingness to help.

We are not asking for any long term or even regular commitment - it could be a **one off** visit, a **half termly** visit or maybe **one hour a week**! At this stage we would just like to see if there are any volunteers out there and what you have to offer. If you think you can help, or know someone who might, please could you contact me via the school office email at <u>office@milton.cambs.sch.uk</u> with the subject FAO Lynn Keller.

Allotment poster designed by a member of the School Council





# Pat Froment RIP & Thank You

My mother, Pat Froment, passed away last October, having been a resident of Benet Close for over 60 years. I would like to thank everyone who attended the services at All Saints' Church in her memory, and contributed to £1123 raised for the British Lung Foundation (IPF fund).

John Froment, London

# Milton Good Companions — Helpers Needed

Milton Good Companions (MGC) is a Community voluntary organisation that supports the elderly in Milton Village by providing every Friday a social environment in Barnabas Court with a hot lunch and entertainment in the afternoon. There are 20 members who benefit from the hard work of our volunteers.

The picture above shows our 3 leaders: Pauline, Sheila and Margaret; in the kitchen are volunteers Denise and Jackie, with professional cook Jenny who serves delicious meals for the members.



# MGC will be in danger of closing if we do not have more volunteers, especially to become leader and run the event on a Friday.

For more information on how you can help, please contact the Chairman Margaret Nunn on 860829 OR the Secretary Barbara Brown on 860044.



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# EACH: Santas, Carols & New Year Resolutions

The 9th annual EACH Santa Run saw more than 300 enthusiastic Santas running through Cambridge city centre. This year's event was officially started by Mayor ClIr Robert Dryden, and didn't disappoint in shocking shoppers as participants ran, skipped and jogged their way round the course

The annual Milton Carol Service also saw a packed church sing along to popular carols, some heartfelt readings and festive performances by Milton Road Primary and Adult



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Choir 'SOS'. The Carol Service raised an terrific  $\pounds$ 700, an increase on last year's event. We would like to thank all our volunteers who helped to make these events possible, and everyone who came along to support EACH.

#### Fancy a Change for the New Year?

Looking to make a New Year's resolution that you can actually stick to for 2016? Why not pledge your support for EACH – there are so many ways you can get involved with this worthy local cause helping children and young people with life-threatening conditions. You

could pledge your time and volunteer at an EACH event, host an cake sale at home, school or work, hold a quiz night or event for your colleagues, friends and family, take a collection box to fill up at work or school or simply promote EACH events at meetings and groups you may attend.

To find out more about all our events and how you can get involved, visit <u>www.each.org.uk</u> or contact the EACH Cambridgeshire Fundraising Team on 01223 205180, <u>cambs@each.org.uk</u>.



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# Milton Community Care Warden & Community Navigator

Tracey Ebbon has been our Community Care Warden for 11 years, visiting older people in their homes regularly and helping them maintain their independence. She has now taken on the role of Community Navigator - a friendly and approachable first point of contact for



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the community of Milton.

She can provide advice and introduce people to other services to help any older or disabled people live independent active lives.

She knows what is available in the community - e.g.:

- Lunch and companionship clubs
- Financial health check to maximise income
- Modification to home or mobility aids
- Community car scheme for lifts to appointments or activities
- Help with organising care
- Any other help to enable vulnerable people to live as independently as possible.

Contact Tracey Ebbon between 9am & 1pm Monday to Friday 07518026870 or Milton Parish Council Office on 861447.

# **Bus Service Changes**

As of the start of 2016, the bus timetables for Milton have changed. Until the end of last year, Milton was served mostly by the no. 9 bus service which ran until 19.15, with a single late night bus (Citi 2) arriving in Milton at 23:27. From now, the 9 service will be replaced by the Citi at peak hours, with some extra late-night Citi 2 buses back to Milton.

#### New Timetable: Cambridge-Milton

All service 9 journeys (including morning peak) from Drummer Street serve Milton, up to and including the 1645 departure. Then it's Citi 2 from the St. Andrew's St S2 stop at 1733, 1753, 1813, 1833, 1853, 1913, 2203, 2233 and 2303.

#### New Timetable: Milton-Cambridge

In the other direction (times given from the Waggon and Horses), it's Citi 2 at 0616, 0636, 0656, 0712, 0732, 0752, 0812, then service 9 after that for the rest of the day at 0856, 0906, 0933, 1003, and then 33 and 03 past each hour until and including 1703, 1748, 1818, and the last bus to Cambridge at 1848.

You can download the full timetable from the Stagecoach website — here's a short version of the link: <u>bit.ly/stagecoach9</u>. Thanks to David Chamberlin for the analysis!

# From the Ar<u>chives</u>

#### **Country Park Meeting**

Over 100 people attended a meeting in the Visitors Centre to air their views on the future of the park.

South Cambridgeshire District Council at present manage Milton Country Park but budget cuts are causing them to look for possible savings and ideas for increasing income from the park.

At the meeting held on January 22nd, after listening to a short presentation, members of the public suggested a range of income generating ideas for the park including educational use, caravanning and better use of the visitors centre.

Concerns were also raised about charging for parking as visitors may then be tempted to park in local roads and car parks.

Another concern was that the District Council had discussed the possibility of selling off land at the park for housing but the meeting was assured there were no plans to do any building in the way of housing.

The Cambridge branch of the charity Mencap expressed an interest at the end of the meeting in possibly taking over the running of the park.



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Meeting in the park



# 25 Years Ago: Dec1990

Milton Outdoor Bowls Club was formally launched as the result of decisions taken at a public meeting held on 18 September 1990.

The bowling green is currently under construction and on completion will be handed over to Milton OBC who will maintain it on behalf of the Recreation Ground Committee.



ages to do, and even a few parents have been spotted trying out some of the equipment! (*Who needs a gym anyway*?-ed)

Mary-Ann Johnson

# North Lodge Playground

The new playground at North Lodge Park finally opened at the start of December. There is plenty for all



# Photos



Daffodils in December, and a heavy morning frost in January.



# Your Photos Could Be Here!

Photos taken in and around Milton always welcome — of places, people, events or just something that strikes you as beautiful. No lower or upper age limit! Send them to <u>vv@miltonvillage.org.uk</u>, and we'll include as many as we can.

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# South Cambs District Councillors' Report

#### **Chesterton Sidings**

Having originally proposed four options for the development of the site around the new railway station, the planning group has now focussed on option 2, which has a medium level of development, focussing on the areas of more easily available land and allowing existing businesses and the sewage works to stay, and option 4 – where the sewage works moves elsewhere and there is a high level of industrial development.

#### City Deal Consultation on Histon Road and Milton Road

The City Deal Assembly is consulting on how to tackle congestion in Cambridge. At present they are consulting on proposals to ease congestion into and out of Cambridge by prioritising bus travel on Histon Road and Milton Road. Two options ('Do something' and 'Do maximum') are being considered. You can have your say here (<u>www.gccitydeal.co.uk</u>  $\rightarrow$  Transport  $\rightarrow$  Milton Road) by 5pm on February 15<sup>th</sup> 2016.

#### North Lodge Park Residents Committee

Anna, Jane and Hazel attended a meeting of the North Lodge Park residents, who have now set up a residents committee to represent their interests in dealing with Bellway and the maintenance issues and hand-over of the open spaces.

#### **Street Lights Update**

Street lights away from the main through routes are still to be turned off in Milton but from 2am (rather than midnight as originally proposed) until 6am.

Cllr Hazel Smith and Cllr Anna Bradnam

# View from the Community Café



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# Organisations

# **Milton WI**

2016 follows Milton WI's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations at which members enjoyed seeing memorabilia and a quiz that included social and other news over the last nine decades and, together with a splendid dinner, a cake, depicting many WI activities and interests, was almost too good to eat!

In February we will be welcoming Andrew Sankey who will be talking on the "History of the Cottage Garden". March is the month of our Annual Meeting but we will also be having a glass blowing demonstration from Bob Scott. Sally Nott will be joining us in April and we'll be learning about the work of local



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charity Camsight. In May, Sian Fox will be sharing her career as a home economist with us. If you are interested in joining Milton WI, you are welcome to come along for a "taster"; please contact our President Gill Offley (01223 293231) or Secretary Bridget Crow (01223 441755), or just come along. Meetings are on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in the Church Hall.

om Loovor

Anne Newman

# Parish Councillors

Below is an updated list of your councillor contact details (for email addresses, please visit the website at <u>miltonvillage.org.uk</u> and click on 'Meet Your Parish Councillors'):

Parish	Counci	illors

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	441123			
David Owen	861447*			
David Stirrups	470355			
Richard Summerfield	860715			
* - c/o Parish Office				
Parish & District Councillors				
Anna Bradnam	862364			
Hazel Smith	860752			
County Councillor				
Maurice Leeke	441562			

Parish Clerk: <u>clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk</u>

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# **Organisations**

### Parish Chairman's Update

Armistice Day: It was good to see so many people attend the ceremony at the war memorial and especially nice to see young people from the school who laid handmade poppies.

Christmas Lights: At the 11th hour our tree surgeon contractors kindly agreed to put up our lights. Thank you to Town and Country Tree Surgery Company, our clerk Susan Wilkin and Cllr Rob Farrington for all their efforts to make sure we had Christmas lights.

Play Areas in Milton: A lot of work is going on with a group of volunteers to improve the play equipment within the village. Additionally the parish council has been repairing equipment.

Parish Council village tour: Parish a Saturdav Councillors recently spent afternoon touring the village (right) to look at particular at areas of concern, which included looking at our allotments and cemetery.

Allotments Available: We have been clearing unused allotments and now have 2 available for rent. If you would like to rent one, please contact the clerk for details.

have had an approach about developing (Tree Warden), David Stirrups (Vice Chair), Hazel Smith land off Fen Road for affordable housing.



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Jane Coston (Chairman), Gary Heaney, Susan Wilkin Possible development off Fen Road: We (Acting Clerk), David Owen, Tom Leavens, Bob Waters

School Crossing Patrol: In December we were made aware of a threat to the school crossing patrol. We wrote to the County strongly objecting to the possible cut. We understand that this threat has now been removed.

Assistant Clerk: This month we welcomed Sarah Corder as our new Assistant Clerk who will be working 5 hours a week to support the Clerk.

Parish Councillors needed: Would you like to help support the work of the Parish Council. We are still looking for people to join us. If you would like more information please contact the Clerk



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Jane Coston, Chairman of Milton Parish Council



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# Local Interest

# Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service: January Bulletin

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HAPPY New Year! And why not make a New Year's resolution to help keep you and your family fire safe this year.

Firefighters at Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service are encouraging people to make three New Year's Resolutions in 2016 – and stick to them!

- Make sure you have a correctly fitted working smoke alarm on every floor of your house and test it weekly.
- Check older relatives and friends have a working smoke alarm and test theirs regularly.
- Make a fire plan so you and your family know what to do in case a fire breaks out in the home.

Like our fan page on Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/cambsfrs</u> or follow us on Twitter: @cambsfrs.

To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check, call 0800 917 99 94.





A new guide to All Saints' Church. Milton. an illustrated guide by Dr Derek Booth our Parish Archaeological Warden has just been published. priced £4.00. This guide substantially updates all earlier small textonly guides to the church. with the inclusion of 40 colour illustrations. these

include the building, fittings and stained glass windows, memorial plaques and grave monuments, some relating to old Milton families. With reference to past Rectors, Vicars and Curates, many of these were notable for their connection with King's College, Cambridge the patron of our church. A useful short further reading list is given.

To obtain a copy of the booklet, contact the Church office at 01223 441007, or e-mail: <u>office@allsaintsmilton.org.uk</u>

Derek Booth



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## Local Interest

# Pilates: Mummy & Me



A new Pilates class for mother and child begins in February in Milton Community Centre. A 10-week block of classes costs  $\pm 40$ .

The first class is Friday 5th February 2016 2pm. To book please contact Kirsty on 07801 974702

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2014 awards: Queen's Award for Enterprise

# **Milton MU**

Our December meeting was a meditative Advent service that reminded us of the hope that the season of Advent and the birth of Jesus bring to the world. Members, as in previous years brought along gifts of toiletries and chocolates to be distributed to young women living in supported accommodation at Whitworth House in Chesterton.

We met together at the beginning of January for our AGM. This was a well attended event. In her report the branch leader thanked committee members for all their hard work and enthusiasm over the past year. The treasurer was pleased to report that over £1,000 had been raised to support the work of the Mothers' Union both at home and abroad. After business matters were completed members were able to relax over a cup of tea and nibbles, chat and catch up with each other.

Lent Matters 3: Once more there will be a series of talks followed by a tasty lunch each Tuesday during Lent at noon in the church hall. There is no charge for the lunch but there will be a collection for the work of the Mothers' Union at each meeting. [For more details, see the *Diary Dates* on page 3]





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# Around the Pubs

# White Horse

#### Tel: 01223 860327

Due to popular demand, on Sundays the kitchen will be serving Sunday Roasts plus our full menu and the specials all day from midday until 8:30pm. Please book for Mothering Sunday and Easter Sunday.

Do come along to Chinese Year of the Monkey night on February 8<sup>th</sup>. We will be having many Chinese specials made by our four chefs Adam, Shaun, Jono and Daro.

To begin our celebrations of Tenth year as landlords we would like to welcome you all to come along to our Winter/Spring Beer festival in March: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>.

We continue to hold Karaoke first Friday of each month with occasional live Bands.

Bar billiards (new players for our team still welcome), pool and darts continue to be popular in the public bar. The ladies darts team (WI) continue to play here Tuesdays and if anyone else would like to start up a darts team on a different night please speak to Alan or Ava.

Hope to see you all in 2016.

Ava Alan Adam and all the team.

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(18)

# Around the Pubs

# Lion & Lamb



Everything's cosy here at the Lion & Lamb... we're open all day serving hot drinks: try our Salted Caramel Hot Chocolate with Marshmallows... yummy! Look for our New Year voucher which can save you up to £10 when dining. Our weekday meal offers, Steak Night, Pie Night and Fish Night are also available 6-9pm! Don't leave it too late to book for Valentine's Day, Mothers Day – 6<sup>th</sup> March and Easter Sunday – 27<sup>th</sup> March.

We like to help where we can with local charitable causes and fundraising. We are

fundraising for 1DRUM's London Marathon 2016 (proceeds all going to Alzheimer's Research UK) with a Race Night on 5<sup>th</sup> February and a Quiz Night on 19<sup>th</sup> March. On 16<sup>th</sup> March we host a Race Night for the Milton School Association to raise funds for Milton Primary School. Full details on events along with our menus can be found at our website. Our very popular Psychic Suppers return on 24<sup>th</sup> February. 23<sup>rd</sup> March and 20<sup>th</sup> April – just

give us a call to buy your ticket.

Save the date: Lion & Lamb 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Beer & Cider Festival - Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May to Bank Holiday Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May.

We look forward to welcoming you....

Lawrence & Sally www.lion-lamb.co.uk

# **Jolly Brewers**

#### Tel: 01223 863895

A Very Happy New Year from the Jolly Brewers! Thanks very much to DJ Steve who played some great tunes to help us see in the New Year – it was fantastic to see so many of you there!

Come and Celebrate these 'Special Occasions' in February and March

- Valentine's Day celebrate with the one you love! Sunday 14th February, or book for Friday or Saturday Evening – usual dinner menu plus some great specials from the board!
- Mothering Sunday your opportunity to spoil Mum! Sunday 6th March. Sunday Food Service from 12noon through to 8pm – Our Popular Sunday Roast Available all Day!!!

**Accommodation:** Do you have friends and family coming to stay but not enough room? Talk to us for a great deal: discounts are available for groups booking all 4 rooms.

**Sporting Events:** We have Sky and BT Sports showing all the major sporting events in the Public Bar. Alternatively escape the sport - retreat to the cosy Restaurant/Bar for a drink and snack!

**Monday Club:** Popular Event running from 4pm-7pm every Monday – ask the Staff for details, and be a winner!

Call us for all Restaurant and Accommodation Bookings and to view food service times and menus check out the website or ask at the Bar for details!

Tel: 01223 860202

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Louise qualified as a dog groomer at the College of West Anglia and has been grooming at a local parlour for the last 4 years.

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### Landbeach and Milton Baptist Church

All are welcome to our small but friendly fellowship. Further details from Maureen Clark, tel 01954 250118

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#### **Sunday Services**

10.30am 6pm Family Service Evening Worship (4th Sunday @ Girton)

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8am Holy Communion A quiet, reflective way to start the day.

Sunday

services

10.30am Morning Worship with Children's Groups Designed to cater for the whole church, from ages 0-100+. Refreshments served.

> Evening Services See website.

#### Midweek groups & events

Little Rainbows Toddler Group, Parents & Under 1s, Lunch Club, Mothers' Union, Stitchers' Club, Reading Group ...

For full details of all these and more please visit:

allsaintsmilton.org.uk

# Local Interest

# Wildlife Notes

As I write this, a few days after packing the Christmas decorations away, I wonder what weather it will be as you read it? Perhaps it might feel like Winter at last, rather than a rather mild, blustery and very wet Autumn? I can't help feeling that both birds and plants may have become rather confused. I'm hearing quite a dawn chorus in early January, including a song thrush; and snowdrops and grape hyacinths are already flowering. When I went for a walk in the Country Park the day after New Year's Day, the blackthorn was in flower! My father has this old saying about a "blackthorn winter" meaning a cold snap in late February and early March when the blackthorn should be in flower. I can't help feeling that, if the definition of a blackthorn winter is cold weather after the blackthorn flowers, it might be a bit of a surprise if we don't have one.

The mild weather has also made the lakes in the Country Park very quiet indeed. There is a large and noisy gang of greylag geese using them as a base, but the migrants from colder climes either in this country or from further afield have to a large extent not turned up. Today's walk resulted in a sighting of two wigeon on the island on Dickerson's. There aren't even as many tufted ducks or gadwall as I've spotted in previous years. I think I saw a kingfisher at dusk on Boxing Day, after a good clear viewing in November, and various walkers I've chatted to are getting regular reliable sightings, so there's definitely at least one around in the Park.

The barn owl is still around down the Fen Road — I saw it on an early morning in late November. That morning was a bit of a bumper one, as later on, in Water Street in Chesterton, I saw an odd bird; stopped to look, and a male sparrowhawk was just sitting on a wall! I watched it for what felt like several minutes before it was startled off by a walker, giving me an excellent view of it flying off. Chris Packham would have been very jealous.

Heather Coleman



## STRIKE FIT

Fridays 1pm-2pm Milton Community Centre

also available 1 to 1 personal training

Contact : Alex Campbell Tel. 01223 862184 or 07746 122749 Email alex@alexercise.co.uk www.alexercise.co.uk 21

# Sport

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# The Sycamores Pavilion Refurbished

On January 8<sup>th</sup> 2016 The Sycamores Pavilion was officially re-opened following major refurbishment. Over the past two years Milton FC led a project in conjunction with Milton Parish Council and Milton Community Centre, which has seen the changing rooms reconfigured, new showers/toilets installed, an additional officials room/ladies toilet, new flooring and a complete redecoration of the building.

Football in Milton has developed tremendously in recent years through the direction and leadership provided by Senior and Colt club officers, all of whom are volunteers. The Pavilion has been heavily used for 25 years and was no longer fit for purpose. We wish to ensure the sustainability of all that has been achieved in football development in Milton and believe that these improved facilities will offer users a better experience, so attracting and retaining players of all ages.



Pictured cutting the ribbon is Cambs. FA CEO Chris Pringle (left) with Milton FC Club Chairman Ray Daniels (right)

Fraser Confrey, Milton FC Club Secretary



# Sport



Here is a photo of the Milton Football team who won the Junior Cup in 1962 and I would like to have the correct names for these people. Interestingly, it is of when the football club used to meet on the field behind Milton Hall before it became a training ground for Eastern Electricity. It was a field for cows and the players had to clear cowpats before matches  $\bigcirc$  What many residents will view as new pitches and recreation ground was actually used in this way over 50 years ago! The pavilion was situated at the back corner of the field near the lake.

Jane Coston

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# Sport



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# **Running Rhino**

Regular visitors to Milton Country Park will have seen all manner of wildlife there but in December a rhinoceros ran the 5K parkrun to raise funds for the charity Save The Rhino.

Jim Mowatt from The Rowans has borrowed a rhino costume from the charity and has been running Parkruns all over the country. He is fundraising and in training for the London Marathon. He's never run a marathon before and so reckons 26 miles may be too far in full rhino regalia.

Jim's fundraising page is at <u>uk.virginmoneygiving.com/</u> jimmowatt

Paul Oldham

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