



## Items of Interest during the Year 1950-51

(taken from Barber's Almanack 1952).

Gathered from the Local Newspapers, etc. during the past year.  
Every care is taken to make the following list correct  
but no item or date is guaranteed by the publisher.

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### December, 1950.

1--Outbreak of fire on the premises of Mr. William Brown, of Dairy Houses. A piano and an easy chair were destroyed and other furniture was badly damaged.

6--Annual dinner of British Legion Band. Tribute was paid to the former Bandmaster, Mr. Rayner Dent.

9--Successful Christmas Fair held in Parish Hall. The proceeds amounted to over £76. A much-appreciated Punch and Judy show was arranged and presented by Robin Bamber and Edward Stanley.

Sale of Work held at the Salvation Army Hall. Business was brisk and everything was sold in 1 1/2 hours.

12--Mr. J. C. Armiger, of Knight House Littleport, appointed a governor of the new Secondary Modern School, at Witchford.

Annual meeting of the Women's Institute. Mrs. W. J. Gill was re-elected president.

13--Clever performance of the play, "Little Women," by scholars of the Littleport Girls' School. The excellent acting reflected much credit on the teachers. The play was adapted by Miss E. R. Gill.

14--Death, in Addenbrooke's Hospital of Mrs. Eliza Pope, of Millfield, following a fall from her bedroom window. She was 82. At the inquest a verdict of "accidental death" was returned.

As a finale to a very successful year the Women's Fellowship celebrated with a dinner and entertainments. The guest of honour was Mrs. B. Peckett, who, at 81, was the Fellowship's oldest member.

Two motorists, Mr. Kennedy, of the Grange, and Mr. E. Taylor, of Station Road, came into collision on the Ely Road. No serious injuries were sustained.

16--Death, within a month of her 101st birthday, of Mrs. Elizabeth Sparrow, of Wisbech Road.

16--Marriage, at Chatteris, of Miss Lilian Patricia Lee, only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. W. Lee, of Little Ouse, and Mr, A, L. Heading, of Chatteris.

Ely and District Fur and Feather Club's Open Pen Show. The President's Cup was won by Master J. E. Middleton, of Littleport.

22--Death, at " Eldernell," Littleport, of Mrs. Liza Louisa Fendick, at the age of 82. She was the widow of the late Mr. J. S. Fendick, who farmed for many year's at Cross Drain Farm, Black Horse Drove.

25--Good attendances at the Parish Church. There were over 120 communicants.

30--Music successes. At examinations held at Cambridge in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, the following candidates were successful: Pianoforte, Grade I. (Primary), Gloria Missen, Pamela Harrison, Netta Watson and Dorothy Wilson. Grade II. (Elementary), Retty Pettitt (passed with distinction), Thelma Pettitt (passed with merit), Hazel Scott and Christine Young. All were pupils of Miss W. B. Russell, of Victoria Street.

31--Ninety toys were taken to Church by children of the Sunday School for the Church of England Children's Society.

Salvation Army. A welcome visitor to the Corps was Michael Booth, the son of a former Commanding Officer.

## January, 1952.

3--At a meeting of the Ely Rural District Council, tribute was paid to Ald. Horace J. Martin, of Upton House, for his fifty years' of service to that Council. Ald. Martin had also been a member of the Littleport Parish Council since its formation.

Impressive mime, depicting the infancy of Christ, given by Sunday School Scholars at the Parish Church.

!!! 5--A mangold wurtzel (Orange Globe variety) weighing over 3 stones and grown by Messrs. Horace Crouch & Sons, of Littleport, was exhibited at the Club Hotel, Ely.

9--Monthly meeting of Women's Institute. An interesting demonstration was given by Mrs. Walter Sparrow on the care of the skin and the art of making up.

10--Major E. A. H. Legge-Bourke, M.P., was guest of honour at a dinner organised by the Women's Conservative Association.

12--Engagement announced between Mr. Geoffrey Bernard William Allen second son of Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Allen, of Black Horse Drove and Miss Agnes Penman, of Scotland.

Death, at Southgate, London, of the Rev. C. W. Stainsby, a former curate of Littleport. He was 63 years of age. Mr. Stainsby was curate at Littleport from 1918 to 1920, during the incumbency of the late Rev. N. W. Shelton.

15--Funeral of Mrs. Mary Ann Watson, who died at Coupalo Farm Undley, Lakenheath, aged 94. She was the widow of Mr. Arthur Watson, formerly of Westfield Farm, Ely, who was very well known in the district.

18--Death, at Romford, Essex, of Mr. Francis William Boutle, a former resident, aged 81. For many years Mr. Boutle worked at Littleport Brewery and was landlord of "The Anchor" Inn, Victoria Street.

21--Death of Miss Clarice Emily Garner, daughter of Mr. H. Garner and the late Mrs. Garner, of 23, Main Street. She was 51.

Members of the Boys' Brigade Company paraded for their enrolment services.

26--Forty-five children and members of the Red Cross Cadets attended a New Year's party, held at the Red Cross Centre. Special prizes were presented to Cadets Jean Atkinson and Mary Raynor.

27--Mr. James Raby, second son of Mr. & Mrs. J. Raby, of Covenham Farm, Black Horse Drove, celebrated his 21st birthday.

!!! A cat, belonging to Mrs. R. Fletcher, of Parsons Lane, was stranded on a roof for two days. It was eventually rescued by the Fire Brigade.

31--Women's Institute New Year's party. 122 were present.

## February, 1952.

2--Tragic death of Mrs. Ruth Rayner, of 16, Silt Road. She was burned to death after dropping an oil lamp, which set light to her clothes. She was 82.

Engagement announced between Mr. Peter Smith, of Ely, and Pamela Joy Youngs, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. C. Youngs, of Brandon Creek, Southery.

9--Death of Mrs. Grace Thurston, of Kempston, Bedfordshire, wife of Mr. Stanley Thurston, the well-known Amusement and Fun Fair proprietor.

11--Special services held at the Salvation Army Hall, celebrating the 63rd anniversary of the Corps. Capt. & Mrs. A. Booth and their son were present.

13--Visitors at the monthly meeting of the Women's Institute were members of the Burnt Fen W.I. who provided the social programme. The monthly competition (bowl of bulbs) was won by Mrs. Kerridge.

!!! 21--Littleport Parish Council asked their architects to prepare a more modest scheme than the one which they had estimated to cost £12,000 for the provision of a swimming pool for the town.

Members of the Youth Club were entertained by the Black Horse Drove Y.C. The darts competition was won by Black Horse Drove and the table-tennis by Littleport.

23--Funeral service at the Pentecostal Mission Hall, of Mrs. A. Bean aged 74, wife of Mr. Geo. Bean, of 22, Silt Road. A native of Prickwillow, Mrs. Bean had resided in Littleport for the past 27 years.

£14/17/2 was collected in the Regal Cinema, in aid of the National Playing Fields' Association.

Engagement announced between Hubert William Turner, son of Mr. & Mrs. Percy Turner, of Anchor Drove, Southery, and Betty Irene Nunn, third daughter of Mr. William Nunn, of Lynn Road, Littleport.

Mrs. Doreen Gerfen, youngest daughter of Mrs. Watkins and the late Mr. A. V. Watkins, of Parsons Lane, sailed to America to join her husband.

Engagement announced between Peter Legg, youngest son of Mr. & Mrs. R. Legg, of Brandon Creek. and Ruby Gipp, youngest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. R. Gipp, of Littleport.

24--Death, at March, of Mr. George Theobald, at the age of 88 years. A native of Welney, his working life was spent in the employ of the Littleport and Downham District Commissioners. He resided at Littleport for 25 years.

27--Death, at her home, Engine House, Little Ouse, of Mrs. Louisa Hills aged 79, wife of Mr. Walter Hills. A native of Yorkshire Mrs Hills had resided at Little Ouse for some 40 years.

Mrs. A. Kent, of 16, The Crescent, celebrated her 90th birthday. Of a family of thirteen, ten daughters are living.

## March, 1952.

1--" Melrose," a semi-detached villa in Cambridge Road, Ely, was sold with vacant possession for £2,700, to Mrs. R. Lester, of Littleport.

4--The Rev. Chas. Linnell, of the Theological College, Ely, preached to a good

congregation at a special service held in the Parish Church celebrating Mothering Sunday.

8--Members of the Women's Institute were the guests at a meeting of the Black Horse Drove W.I. Mrs. Gilbert (Littleport) gave a colourful demonstration on the making of crepe paper nightdress cases and handkerchief satchels.

12--Death, at Sheffield, of Mrs. Hardy, formerly of Littleport. Before her marriage she was Miss Ruth Sallis. She was 75.

14--Sixty-four members attended the second post-war dinner of the Town Football Club.

16--Death of Mr. Arthur Purdy, the well-known Littleport builder. He was 70.

Mr. John W. R. Taylor son of Inspector & Mrs. V. C. Taylor of March, and formerly of Ely and Littleport, published an interesting book on flying boats entitled " Wings for Tomorrow."

17--Marriage, at St. Mary's Church, Ely, of Miss Sylvia Joan Langford, of Ely, and Mr. Stanley James Newton, second son of Mr. D. Newton and the late Mrs, Newton, of 10, The Crescent, Littleport.

A highly successful spring fair, organised by members of the Methodist Church, yielded £130 for Sunday School Funds. A bouquet was presented to the opener, Mrs. E. A. H, Legge-Bourke, by Yvonne Beveridge.

18--British Legion Band Concert held in the Constitutional Hall. The new navy and scarlet uniforms were worn for the first time.

20--Sudden death of Mr. George Abraham Porter, of Ten Mile Bank Road. He collapsed and died in Main Street.

24--Marriage, at Larkhall, Lanarkshire, Scotland, of Miss Agnes Penman, of Larkhall, and Cpl. Geoffrey Bernard William Allen, second son of Mr. & Mrs. J. Allen, of Black Horse Drove, Littleport.

26--Easter Monday. Littleport British Legion Band were the winners of the Lord Fermoy Challenge Cup at the East Anglian Brass Band Association's Festival, held at Norwich.

Impressive tableaux, depicting scenes from the birth, life and resurrection of Christ, were presented by members of the Salvation Army at the S.A. Hall.

27--Mr. J. H. Hawkes, the musical director of the British Legion Band, left Littleport to spend three days as the guest of the Luton Band at a festival held in connection with the Festival of Britain.

28--Annual meeting of the Littleport Workers' Educational Association. Mr. Pattison, the Fenland Tutor Organiser, stressed the need for more recruits in the classes of the W.E.A.

30--It was revealed that Miss Margaret Howard, elder daughter of Mr. & Mrs. C. Howard, of Plains Lane, Littleport, had passed Parts I. & II. of the Central Midwives' Board examination. She is now a State Registered Nurse and State Registered Midwife.

31--Marriage, at Haddenham Parish Church, of Miss Sybil Kathleen Jakes, of Haddenham, and Mr. Geoffrey Hawkes, only son of the late Mr. S. Hawkes, and Mrs. Hawkes, of The Hythe, Littleport.

Billiards- Rothschild Junior Cup, final. Littleport British Legion defeated Chatteris W.M.C.

## April, 1952.

7--First show of the year of the Littleport Fur and Fancy Club. The best fur award was won by Mr. J. Middleton, of Littleport. Master R. Tingay carried off the prize for the best juvenile exhibit.

8--Salvation Army.--Visit of Senior Major and Mrs. Bram Mason, who were in command of the local corps in the years 1929--30.

10--Interesting demonstration on sea grass stool seats, given by Miss Cross, of Ely, at the monthly meeting of the Littleport Women's Institute.

Death, at Cambridge, of Mrs. Eliza Thompson, aged 79, widow of the late Mr. George Thompson, formerly of Hempfield Rd., Littleport.

Gas Service Exhibition opened by Mrs. W. J. Gill, president of the Littleport Women's Institute.

12--Monthly meeting of Black Horse Drove W.T. A demonstration was given by Mrs. Frank Allen, of Witchford, on the making of crinoline lamp-shades.

13--National Savings.- It was announced that for the half-year ending March 31st, the children of the Coronation School, Black Horse Drove, had saved £139.

14--Marriage, at Prickwillow, of Miss Emma Butcher and Mr. Len Murfitt, both of Burnt Fen.

18--Monthly meeting of Burnt Fen W.I. An interesting talk on nursing and the care that should be given to young girls in their early teens, was given by Miss. Frank Starling.

20--Annual meeting of Black Horse Drove Community Centre. Mr. Lewis Brooks, although expressing a wish to resign his position as chairman, was again unanimously elected.

Annual meeting of the Littleport & Prickwillow Nursing Association Mr. W. Goy was elected as chairman for the coming year in place of Ald. H. J. Martin, who resigned the previous November after 36 years in that capacity.

21--Music Festival.--Visit of Clacton-on-Sea Salvation Army Band. They were the guests of the local corps.

23--Death, at Lowestoft, of Mr. Christopher Gillett Taylor, aged 86, formerly of Pont's Hill, Littleport.

26--Display and inspection of the 1st Littleport Coy. of the Boys' Brigade. Awards, which were presented by Mrs. J. H. Martin, were; First year service badges T. Stevens, A. Baker, C. Harwood, D. Norman and D. Newton, who also received Bibles. Semaphore signalling--A. Baker, J. Baker, D. Betts and D. Drake. B. Nicholas also received a Bible for four months' service. N.C.O. efficiency certificates were received by C. Harwood, B. Nicholas

## May, 1952.

1-- Presentation of a bouquet of flowers and a cheque to the value of £50 to Miss Ethel Butcher, of Wisbech Road, to mark the occasion of her 50 years' service in the employ of Messrs. Hope Brothers Ltd. The presentation was made by Mr. H. F. Haslett, general manager of the company.

1-2--Junior girls of the Coronation School, Black Horse Drove, toured the village, reviving the ancient custom of May singing. £4/6/0 was collected for school funds.

4--Mr. & Mrs. G. Wilding, of Black Horse Drove announced the engagement of their daughter Iris (then residing in Cape Town, South Africa), to Mr. Charles Thomet, of Solothurn, Switzerland.

6--Salvation Army- Special Mothers' Day services conducted by Major E. Crarside, of London. A special feature was the presentation of bunches of flowers by the children to the mothers.

19th anniversary of the Camel Road Pentecostal Mission. The services were conducted by Mr. C. Fletcher, of Girton.

7--Miss Brenda Turner. daughter of Mr. & Mrs. C. Turner, of 29, Hempfield Place, celebrated her 21st birthday.

Meeting of Mothers' Union. Miss E. Lamb, the Sunday School visitor, was the special speaker.

8--Monthly meeting of Women's Institute. An interesting talk was given by Mrs. Davy on "The Life of a School Teacher."

10--Football--See Cup, final. Littleport Youths comfortably defeated Soham United by 4 goals to 1.

Monthly meeting of Black Horse Drove Women's Institute. The joint winners of the monthly competition, "flowers in a sandplate," were Mrs. T. B. James and Mrs. J. Clarke.

14--Whit Monday.--Band contest and festival held in the Constitutional Hall. In Class A Littleport British Legion Band were the winners, beating March Railway by one point.

Football.-- Chatteris Engineers' Youth Cup, semi-final, second replay. Littleport Town Youths defeated Chatteris Youths by 4 goals to 2.

16--Candidates numbering 46 from Littleport and the neighbouring Parishes were confirmed at St. George's Church by the assistant Bishop of Ely. the Rt. Rev. Gordon Walsh.

19--Hunts. Agricultural Show. Local prizewinners were G. C. Bedford, F. C. Starling (Horses) : H. G. H, Taylor. R, Tingay (Rabbits).

21--Presentation of the Queen's Guide Badge to Margaret Atkinson, a member of the Girl Guides (1st Littleport Company). In presenting the award the district Commissioner (Miss S. M. Martin) said it was the very first time it had been won in all the Ely district.

!!! 23--Meeting of the Parish Council. It was reported that the car park which the Council hoped to make at Gas House Green would cost about £580

26--Red Cross Flag Day at Littleport, The sum of £59/15/3 was collected.

27--Blood Transfusion Team visited Littleport. More than 40 donors attended.

29--Annual meeting of the Isle of Ely County Nursing Association. The President (Mrs. E. A. H. Legge-Bourke), spoke of the resignation of the secretary, Miss S. M. Martin, a founder member and secretary since its inauguration. " She has been the guiding light of this association and is really its fairy godmother" said Mrs. Legge-Bourke.

31--Meeting of the Y.M.C.A. Management Committee. It was announced that Mr. D. Quigley as Captain and Mr. Drake and Mr O. Fendick as assistant officers were to take over the command of the Boys' Brigade Company in succession to Mr. A. C. Deadman, the Littleport Youth Leader, who was leaving the district to take up an appointment in Wiltshire.



## June, 1952.

23--Salvation Army Cadets were responsible for week-end services.

3--Miss B. Addison, of Feltwell, conducted the anniversary services of the Black Horse Drove Methodist Sunday School.

6--Members of the Women's Institute spent a happy day at Yarmouth. A variety show at the Windmill Theatre was particularly appreciated as the members were given a special welcome from behind the footlights.

12--Monthly meeting of Women's Institute, It was revealed that Mrs, Lister had obtained second prize in a recent open cake competition organised by the Eastern Gas Board.

14--Third birthday party of the Black Horse Drove Women's Institute. The guest of honour was Mrs. E. H. James, of Little Ouse.

16--Annual Flag Day for the blind, organised by the Women's Fellowship. The sum of £57/16/11 was collected.

Marriage, at Coveney, of Mrs. Agnes Mary Hayden and Mr. Frederick Hodson, eldest son of Mr. & Mrs. T. Hodson, of Friars Place, Littleport.

17--Christian Mission Sunday School anniversary services conducted by Mr. A. F. Audus, of Cambridge.

20--Annual "Open Day" of the Junior Mixed and Infants' School, Littleport.

21--Major E. A. H. Legge-Bourke, M.P. for the Isle of Ely, was ordered by the Speaker to leave the House of Commons for throwing a penny at the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Herbert Morrison and suggesting that he put on a new record. Mr. Morrison was speaking during a debate on the Persian oil question.

22--It was announced that a new Army Cadet Unit was to be formed at Littleport.

The engagement was announced between Mr. Jerry Martin, of Ireland, and Joy, only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. W. Brown, of Dairy Houses.

23--Annual Church fete opened by Mrs. C. Mott. The total receipts amounted to £131/6/4.

24--Special services held to celebrate the anniversary of the Victoria Street Methodist Church.

28--Meeting held to form a committee in connection with the Littleport Playing Field Scheme. Mr. J. H. Crane was appointed chairman of the Committee.

30--Garden fete, organised by the ladies committee of the British Legion Band, opened by Mrs. F. G. Starling. The total receipts amounted to £92/13/4.

30--July Salvation Army Young Peoples anniversary celebrations. A feature was the dedication and presentation of a new "Army" flag to Colour Sergeant J. Flack.

## July, 1952.

1--The following pupils of the Town Schools were successful in passing the Entrance Examination to Ely High School for Girls and Soham Grammar School :-- Girls, Jennifer Bishop, Maureen Bell, Patricia Fisher, Brenda Moulding, Linda Nunn, Freda Turner, Celia Pettitt, Edith Smith Marlene Handley, Rosemary Harris. Boys, Eric Simper, Melvyn Chapman, Geoffrey Constable, Geoffrey Eastwood, Brian Bell.

2--Mr. F. G. Starling's shire gelding " Huntsman " obtained first place in the class for single heavy-horse-in-harness at the Royal Norfolk Show.

6--It was announced that Mr. Norman Sparrow, youngest son of Mrs. L. Sparrow, of Hempfield Place had passed the examination for the certificate in Social Structure and Social Conditions in England.

First recruiting meeting of the new Army Cadet Platoon.

8--Anniversary of the St. John's Methodist Church Sunday School, Services were conducted by the Rev. J. Puntis.

10--Monthly meeting of Women's Institute. The members decided to organise a Festival of Britain Week in Littleport.

11--Junior Mixed and Infants' School annual sports. The main awards were:- The Willett House Trophy, winning house, Saxon: Boy Champion Trophy, Eric Simper; Girl Champion Trophy, Edith Smith; Prizes for the "under 9's," John Thorpe and Angela Pettit ; high jump, boys versus girls. Peter Willett, 4ft; 6ins.

12--Meeting of Black Horse Drove Women's Institute. A presentation was made to Mrs. T. B. James in the name of all the mother as a token of their appreciation for arranging a happy day for the schoolchildren at Sandringham and Castle Rising.

15--Sunday School festival held at St. George's Church. Derek Rudderham read the lesson and Audrey Fuller was at the organ.

Angling--Wood Barrett Cup match. Winners were 1, J. Chapman (Littleport) ; 2, G. Washington (Littleport) ; 3, L. Saby (Ely); 4, W. Scarfe (Littleport) ; 5, C. Davies (Littleport).

18--Prize-giving.--At Soham Grammar School Kenneth Hubbard, only son of Mr. & Mrs. T. Hubbard, of Black Horse Drove, was awarded a prize for being the most

improved boy in the school.

20--A collection made by Mrs. E. Renstead, of Marina Bungalow, Wisbech Road. yielded over £5 for St. Dunstan's.

Engagement announced between Mr. Keith Turner. of Sutton, and Miss Phyllis Baker, daughter of the late Mr. Baker and Mrs. J. L. Baker of Flanders Farm. Mildenhall Road, Littleport.

22--Annual Church Parade. The Challenge Cup for the best decorated wagon was won by the Rabbit Club. Over £60 was raised for local and other charities.

24--A Romany party held in Mr. J. H. Adams' garden was the setting for a presentation by the Littleport Methodist Young Wives' Fellowship, of a parting gift to their leader, Mrs. J. Puntis. The presentation was made by Mrs. Harold Gotobed.

!!! 26--Mrs. J. H. Martin launched two canoes made by boys of the Littleport School. The canoes were built under the supervision of the headmaster, Mr. C. R. Browning.

Athletics.--Arthur Smode, a Littleport schoolboy, won the 100 yards Cambridge championship in a triangular contest between Cambridge City, Cambs. County and the Isle of Ely, at Cambridge.

27--Music Successes. At examinations held at Cambridge in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, the following candidates were successful : Theory of Music, Grade 1(primary), Richard Tassell and Pamela Harrison; Grade 2, Betty Pettitt. They were pupils of Miss W. R. Russell.

28--Littleport Horticultural and Foal Show Society's annual show. Over 4,000 people attended. Receipts were approximately £600.

Wedding, at St. Leonard's Church. Little Downham. of Cyril John E. S. Fendick, son of the late Mr. & Mrs. J. S. Fendick, " Eldernell," Littleport, and Gwendoline Edith Cooke, daughter of the late Mr. & Mrs. A. M. Cooke, The Lawns, Little Downham.

!!! 31--Fire at the home of Mr. Wilding, of Wood Fen. Mr. Wilding cycled barefoot for over a quarter of a mile to call the fire brigade.

## August, 1952.

3--A swimming gala, the first for many years, yielded over £13 for the funds of the Littleport Swimming Club.

4--Mr. G. C. Bedford won the Gerald Howard Cup, awarded to the owner of the champion foal, at Soham Foal Show.

5--Marriage, at the Catholic Church, Ely, of Derek Tucker, of Littleport, to Rose Mulrine, of Londonderry.

11--Littleport Company Girl Guides returned from an enjoyable " Camp" spent at Trimmingham, Norfolk.

17--Engagement announced between Louis Lawrence Cohen, of London, and Joan, only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. T. South, of Littleport.

24--Colin Tabcart aged 11, a former pupil of the Littleport Primary School, was successful in passing the selection examination for admission to Hymer's College. Hull. He is the eldest son of Major & Mrs. C. F. Tabcart, formerly of Littleport.

31--It was revealed that Captain & Mrs. Captain Saltwell, of the Salvation Army, were shortly to leave Littleport. They had been resident officers for the past fifteen months.

The Rev. Gordon Poole appointed to succeed Rev. Jack Puntis as the new Littleport Methodist minister.

Engagement announced between Mr. F. A. Neave, of Terrington St. Clement, King's Lynn, and Peggy, eldest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. W Rrown. of Burnt Chimney Drove.

## September, 1952.

1--Successful Women's Fellowship sale of work held in the Odd Fellows' Hall. The proceeds amounted to £25.

Death, at Little Downham, of Mr. Edward Closs, aged 71. He was a former resident of Littleport and was employed by the Gas Company for many years.

5--Gift day at the Parish Church. Total donations towards the Diocesan Quota amounted to £31/15/0.

The Rev. & Mrs. Gordon Poole welcomed by Methodists and representatives of other denominations in a special service held in St. John's Methodist Church.

8--Marriage, at St. Mary's Church, Welney, of Frank Metcalfe, of Littleport, to Dorothy Scott, of Welney.

The Forces Day collection organised by Mrs. Burnet on behalf of the Women's Institute realised £29/6/0.

9--Christian Mission harvest thanksgiving services. The special preacher was Mr. Audus, of Cambridge.

11--Monthly meeting of Women's Institute. A special feature was a harvest festival

service conducted by Rev. J. K. Cecil Payne.

16--Harvest thanksgiving services held in the Methodist Church, Black Horse Drove.

Senior Captain Hewlett and Senior Captain Childs were afforded a warm welcome to the local corps of the Salvation Army.

!!! 18--The "Grimsby Lumper," a lifeboat, arrived at the Convalescent Home. It was a gift from the Fish Lumpers' Branch of the T. and G.W. Union, to be converted into a pleasure launch for use of the patients and staff of the Home.

22--Marriage, at Ely, of Miss Sonia Keeble, daughter of Mrs. C. Hibbit, of Pontois Hill, and Mr. James Self, only son of Mr. & Mrs. W. Self, of The Crescent.

Marriage, at St. Peter's Church, Prickwillow, of Mr. Keith Turner, of Sutton, and Miss Phyllis Baker, daughter of the late Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Baker, of Flanders Farm, Littleport.

26--Harvest festival services held at the Parish Church. The special preacher was the Rev. Canon Avery, of Lutterworth.

28--At a meeting held in connection with the Boys' Brigade Company arrangements were completed for the company to be under the religious leadership of the Methodist Church and not the Y.M.C.A. as previously.

## October, 1952.

2--Workers' Educational Association. First of a series of lectures entitled "Great Britain and the Modern World" given at the girls' school. The lecturer was Mr. Jim Mitchell, M.A., of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

3--Successful Autumn fair held in the Community Centre, Black Horse Drove. It was arranged by members of the Methodist Church. £100 was raised for the Church repair fund.

4--Death of Mrs. Sarah Wright, of 3. Main Street, after 24 years of ill health. She was the widow of the late Mr. Albert Wright, the well-known saddler and harness maker, who died four years ago.

Death, at his home at Cambridge, of Mr. Frederick William Fitch, formerly of Littleport. He was for many years the successor to his father, carrying on the well-known chemist's business in Main Street.

5--Engagement announced between Albert Edward, only son of Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Wilding, of Burnt Fen, and Margaret Dawn, eldest daughter of Mr. & Mrs J. W. Rutterford, of Friars Way, Littleport.

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Grindling, of 22, Parsons Lane, celebrated their golden wedding.

6--Mr. H Leonard Harlock, a member of an old and well-known Littleport family, returned to the United States after a visit to his native home. He is the eldest son of the late Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Harlock, of Wellington Street, and has been 31 years abroad.

10--A special visitor to the Women's Fellowship was Miss D. Marshall, Secretary of the Isle of Ely Society for the Blind, who gave a talk on the care of the blind in the Isle.

11--20th annual meeting of the British Legion Band. It was revealed that the total expenditure for the year had been £688, which included the purchase of new uniforms. There was a balance in hand of £99.

Black Horse Drove W.I. monthly meeting. Mr. John Martin gave a talk on his recent visit to France.

12--Engagement announced between Gerald Maurice Yardy, of Little Downham and Margaret Emily, only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. W. Parker McGee, of Black Horse Drove.

Examination success. It was revealed that Miss Thelma Youngs, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. M. Youngs, of Friars Place, had succeeded in obtaining the certificate of the National Nursery Examination Board. She is now a fully qualified nursery nurse.

Annual meeting of the Fur and Fancy Society. A presentation of a barometer to the secretary. Mrs. P. North, a mark of appreciation of her services and those of her husband in carrying out so efficiently the duties of secretary and treasurer, was made by the president, Mr. J. Hawkes.

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Brown, of 26, Ten Mile Bank. Littleport, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

13--Marriage, at St. Leonard's Church, Little Downham, between Miss Monica Parson, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. R. W. Parson, of Little Downham, and Mr. John Walter Frost, son of Mr. & Mrs. A. Frost, of Friars Way, Littleport.

17--Marriage, at Sr. Mary's Church, Ely of Mr. Geoffrey Brown, only son of the late Mr. & Mrs. E. R. Brown, of Cambridge Road, Ely, and Miss Joan Mary Milson, only child of Mr. & Mrs. H. J. Milson, of "Victoria House," Littleport.

24-- Presentation of awards in connection with the 1950 National Safe Driving Competition to drivers and conductors of the Ely depot of the Eastern Counties' Omnibus Company. Local recipients were: Diploma, G. H. Washington; Oak leaf bar to 10 years medal, L. W. Fox and P. Starling; Conductors' awards, F. V. Borley and D. W. Murfitt.

Mr. A. Youngs and Mr. H. Bye, both in the employ of Mr. James E. Kerridge, of Mare Fen, Littleport, gained second prizes in a Stacking and thatching competition organised by the Ely branch of the National Farmers' Union.

25--General Election. Major E. A. H. Legge-Bourke returned for the third time in succession as M.P. for the Isle of Ely. His majority over his Labour opponent, Mr. A. F. Gray, was 6,404. There was no Liberal candidate.

26--Engagement announced between Allan, only son of Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Lofts, of Hereward House, High Street, and Doreen, only child of Mr. & Mrs. J. Willett, of Parsons Lane.

29--First meeting of the newly-formed Littleport Wheelers' Cycling Club.

30--Service stripes presented to Mrs. Creak, of Littleport, at the anniversary celebrations of the Home Helps service at Ely. A bouquet was presented to Mrs. W. J. Gill, an appreciation of the voluntary work she had done for the service.

31--Meeting of Parish Council. Mr W. Clifford Jones, Engineer and Surveyor to the Ely R.D.C., stated that it was proposed to site 140 houses on the new housing estate at Parsons Lane.

Mr. & Mrs. R. Peckett, of the Plough Inn, Lynn Road, celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary. They are believed to be the oldest licensees in the country.

## November, 1952.

1--Annual rally of the Wesley Guild held in St. John's Methodist Church. About 450 people were present.

5--Official opening at the Victoria Street Methodist Schoolroom of the newly-formed Over Sixties' Club by Mr. M. G. Martindale, M.A., of Cambridge.

!!! Guy Fawkes' night.-Children and residents of Upton Place enjoyed a gigantic bonfire and firework display. 400 fireworks were purchased with the balance of funds provided by residents of the district in connection with the Festival of Britain celebrations.

9--Engagement announced between Mr. Keith Cridford, of Plymouth Devon, and Miss Irene Hines, daughter of Mr. A. W. Hines and the late Mrs. Hines, of Mildenhall Road, Littleport.

10--Ely & District Fur & Feather Club's adult stock show. Best-in-show, award was given to an Ermine Rex entered by J. E. Middleton, of Littleport, who made a field-day of it by also taking the Fur Cup. Queen of Jugoslavia's Cup and Juvenile Cup. Other local winners were J. Coleby, R. Tingay, H. G. H. Taylor, W. Sexton.

11--Armistice Sunday.--Annual Parade and Service of Remembrance at the Parish Church. There was a record attendance. Poppy Day collections for Earl Haig's Fund amounted to £135/6/4.

12--Annual meeting of the local branch of the Labour Party. A number of new members were enrolled.

13--Monthly meeting of Women's Institute. The competition for the most articles purchased for a shilling was won by Mrs. H. Howe (first) and Mrs. Clack (second).

14--Special meeting of the Mothers Union held in the Parish Hall with the object of forming a "Young Mothers" group.

17--An autumn bazaar, organised by members of the Methodist Church in aid of Manse funds, realised nearly £80.

24--A sale, organised by the ladies' committee of the British Legion Band, yielded £57 for band funds.

27--Death of Mrs. Agnes Ellen Spencely, of 24, Main Street. She was the widow of the late Mr. David R. Spencely, who for many years carried on the old established newsagent's business in Main Street. Mrs. Spencely was 82.

28--Meeting of the Isle of Ely County Council. Mr. J. C. Armiger, of Knight House, was elected an Alderman.

29--Mrs. Susan Hatch, of The Holmes, celebrated her 93rd birthday.

30--At recent examinations held at Cambridge in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, the following candidates were successful : Theory of Music, Grade 1 (primary), Dawn Murfitt; Grade 2 (elementary), Richard Tassell; Grade 3 (transitional), Betty Pettitt and Thelma Pettitt, They were pupils of Miss W. B. Russell.

31--News received of the wedding at Toronto, Canada, of Miss Heather Cross, second daughter of MR & Mrs. A. R. Cross, formerly of Littleport, to Lt.-Cdr. D. Kealy, R.N., of Lewes, Sussex.

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