



Items of Interest from the Years 1982-84

(taken from The Official Guide of 1985/86).

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.

Compiled by the Misses E R Gill and M Davy

September 2nd, 1982

1--On Saturday, August 28th members of the Mothers' Union welcomed a party of children from Bermondsey and entertained them for the day.

2--Mr. Walter Metson, a well known solicitor, died at his home, 6 Granby St., on Thursday, August 27th. He had practised in Littleport and Cambridge since 1937,

September 9th, 1982

1--Mr. & Mrs. Copsey and their family and friends have collected £1,127 over the year for the Ida Darwin Hospital. Their final effort was a sale held on Saturday, September 4th when they made over £300.

2--A very successful Flower Festival was held at the Methodist Church during the weekend. The theme 'Flowers in Praise' was depicted in many colourful and beautiful flower arrangements.

3--A course on 'Self Defence for Women' is being organised at the Village College as part of their Community Education Programme for the winter.

September 20th, 1982

1--Classes are to be arranged at the Village College so that the Police Motor Cycle Unit can instruct the pupils in basic riding skills and so help to prevent teenage motorcycle accidents.

2--On Friday, September 17th, seventy pupils from the Village College made a day trip to Calais.

3--Candidates for the coming General Election will be Ron Harris, Labour; Nick Duval, Conservative; Clement Freud, Liberal.

4--Littleport Band, headed by Drum Major, Roy Neal, were at Swaffham on Sunday,

September 19th.

September 23rd, 1982

1--Littleport's Policemen and Parish Councillors are to resume patrols of various 'black spots' in the village. Although there is no vandalism problem at present the idea is 'prevention is better than cure'.

2--On Tuesday, September 21st the WI celebrated its Diamond Jubilee with a Harvest Supper. Mrs. Ambrose, Mrs. Crabb, the oldest members present, cut the celebration cake, which had been made by Mrs. Reed and iced in WI colours by Mrs. Coussel.

3--A plaque commemorating the meeting place of the Littleport Rioters is to be unveiled at the site of the Old Globe Inn (now the Co-op) 167 years to the day after the rioters first met.

4--Corn and sugar beet have yielded a record harvest this year although potatoes have suffered from blight.

5--A service of Harvest Thanksgiving was held at the Over Sixties Club on Friday, September 17th. On Saturday, September 25th a party of members leave for a week's holiday in Scotland.

6--On Saturday, September 18th a sponsored walk and a sponsored clean-up of the churchyard were well supported.

September 30th, 1982

1--Littleport cubs won the Annual Competition held at the City of Ely College. One of their members, Jeremy Dix, was named Victor Ludorum.

2--Littleport may not have a Magistrate but it does have a J.P. Mr. Frederick Carnell, at 10, Alexandra Road.

3--The Church was decorated with an abundance of fruit, flowers, vegetables for the Harvest Festival Service on Sunday, September 26th.

4--The recent Sponsored Walk raised £386 for St. George's Church and £70 for St. Matthews. The Sponsored 'Clean Up' raised approximately £80.

October 9th, 1982

1--Vandals, described as 'mindless idiots' have again vandalised and destroyed the seat on the Church Green. This is the fifth seat destroyed, the first three were placed on the green by Mrs. Gladys Clark, in memory of her father, Thomas Peacock, founder of Hope Bros Factory.

October 16th, 1982

1--Mr. George Pettitt, for fifty years a member of the British Legion was buried with full Legion Honours on Tuesday, October 14th.

2--Plans to build public toilets in the village are to be brought forward.

3--Littleport Scout Leader, Michael Angel, is busy preparing for a trip to Australia's National Jamboree at the end of the year.

4--The Methodist Church was beautifully decorated for the Harvest Festival Services which were held last Sunday.

5--A very successful 'Happy Family' show based on the popular TV show Mr. & Mrs. was held in the Village Hall on Friday, October 10th, £95 was raised for the Village Hall Fund.

October 21st 1982

1--Mrs. Carol Swain has joined an O Level Course at the Village College; She hopes to be able to improve her Sunday School Teaching.

2--The Methodist jumble sale, held on Saturday, October 18th, raised £101.64.

3--The Day Centre's Coffee Evening raised £39.

October 28th, 1982

1--A lorry with £27,000 worth of goods inside, stolen from Murfitt's Transport Depot, was recovered in North London with its load fully intact.

2--Littleport Band, under its conductor Brian Halls, gave a concert in St. Nicholas Church, Manea, on Thursday, October 21st. The proceeds were for Church funds.

3--On Sunday, October 21st, a United Songs of Praise Service was held in the Salvation Army Citadel.

4--Mr. Jack Kerridge bought a plough fifty years ago, which has spent recent years in stinging nettles. Now Mr. Kerridge has taken delivery of a new plough from Standen's, who sold him the first one, and the old plough was dragged out of the nettles to greet the new one.

November 4th, 1982

1--On Sunday night, October 31st, thieves broke into the Village College and stole a colour television set, two tape recorders, some cassettes and about £4 or £5 in cash.

2--Several pupils from the Village College have been presented with the Duke of Edinburgh-Awards.

3--Thirty new jobs should be created now the Pneu-Hydraulics specialists in Under Water Engineering are able to expand their Padnal factory.

November 11th, 1982

1--The Pony Club Fair raised £120 for Club Funds,

2--Littleport Band provided music for the Concert and Act of Remembrance on Sunday, November 7th.

3--The Fishermen's Mission house to house collection raised a total of £70.59.

4--Littleport Vicar, the Rev. John Martin, has hit out at the BBC programme 'That's Life' which he described as one sided and sensational. The programme dealt with the selling of land, belonging to the Church, and used by handicapped children.

5--In a recent competition run by Mace Groceries, Mr. Murfitt's shop, 'Nigel's Store', in Wisbech Road, came second. Mr. Murfitt was highly commended for the way he set out and ran his shop. He received an award of £50.

6--The 'Spade of Beckett' landlord, Mr. Papworth broke open a bottle which contained £173.73. The money was made up to £175 and will go to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

November 18th 1982

1--Cash raised from Littleport's Annual Show has been distributed to five local organisations: the Village College, Cubs Scouts, the Football Club, the Royal British Legion and the Church.

2--The Parish Council paid tribute to the late Mrs. Rosamond Gill who was deeply involved in many aspects of Parish life.

3--The Methodist Autumn Fayre in the Village Hall raised £221.

4--The Parish are pleased to welcome the Rev. and Mrs. P.K. Peirson who have retired to Littleport from the diocese of Peterborough.

5--A United Service for Armistice Sunday, held in the Parish Church was very well attended. Brownies, Girl Guides, Cubs and Scouts joined with the Royal British Legion Branch from Font's Hill to the Church headed by the Littleport Band with mace bearer Roy Neal. After the service wreaths were laid on the War Memorial at the Town Hall.

November 25th, 1982

1--It was with deep regret that the village heard of the sudden death of Mr. Thomas James, for many years Headmaster of Black Horse Drove School.

2--Vandalism is becoming a problem in the village and local police and councillors are now carrying out night time patrols to prevent some of the trouble.

3--Nine old people's bungalows are to be built at Anchor Court's sheltered housing scheme.

4--Last Saturday Sir Peter and Lady Scott visited the Village College for the third time, when they were guests of honour at the College's Prize Giving Ceremony.

December 2nd, 1982

1--Residents of the village listened to 50 minutes from Radio Cambridgeshire today (December 2nd). Local residents gave details of local activities both past and present.

2--A sponsored hymn singing at the Parish Church raised £110.54 for Dr. Barnardo's Homes.

3--The Village College celebrated the first anniversary of their fight to stay open this week.

4--It was learned with sorrow that Mrs. Wylie, wife of Dr. Wylie, for years a resident of the village, died on November 24th.

5--A sale held at the Salvation Hall on Saturday, November 27th, raised £155.

6--The local Poppy Appeal showed an increase over last year. The total was £900.

7--The pupils of the Village College challenged the Rotary Club to a games evening and beat the Club members.

8--The frosty weather this week has caused several accidents on the village roads.

9--The Christmas lights have been switched on this week by Clement Freud.

10--The T.G.W.U. Convalescent Home is likely to be turned into an hotel if planning permission can be procured.

11--Mr. Greif won an Opel car in a draw at the Motor Show.

December 9th, 1982

1--On Saturday, December 4th a Christmas Fair raised £327 for St. George's Church Funds.

2--At the Family Communion Service in the Church on Sunday, December 5th, the pupils of Little Ouse School presented a drama of 'Mary Jones and Her Bible'.

3--A Nativity mime and carol service by scholars was held on Sunday morning at the Methodist Church.

4--Littleport District Plan which plots the town's development for the next ten years, is expected to be put on show in February 1983.

December 16th, 1982

1--A special motorcycle training scheme has been started at the Village College, following the death of one of the pupils.

2--The fight to save the Grange Convalescent Home is over. Subject to planning permission the building will now be turned into a hotel.

3--Miss Beverley Lee has passed her Law Examinations and has been accepted by a group of Northampton solicitors.

4--A large congregation attended the United Carol Service on Sunday evening at the Methodist Church.

5--On Friday, December 10th the Over 60's Club had a party night in the Village Hall. The Hall had been decorated by Mrs. Bowers, Mrs. Stubbings and Miss Bishop.

6--On Monday the Over 60's Club was entertained at the T.G.W.U. Convalescent Home. The Club also went to the Primary School Concert at the invitation of Mr. Hurlin.

December 30th, 1982

1--The Rotary Club of Littleport have distributed 40 Christmas food parcels to local handicapped senior citizens, as a result of successful fund raising ventures held in the autumn.

January 6th, 1983

1--The Founder Chairman of the Littleport Day Centre Committee, Mr. John Crane, retired from the position after nine years' service. His successor is Mrs. May Gillett.

2--Littleport Day Centre's Christmas Party was attended by 75 senior citizens and residents of Hampden House. Special guests were Mr. and Mrs. Devlin, Mrs. Peggy Lamb and Mrs. Gladys Washington.

3--The Friends of Ely Tower Hospital collected £237.20 in the village on their Christmas Carol Tour around the village. Total funds have already reached £3,600.

January 13th, 1983

1--A new slipway is to be built at the Boat Haven to cater for the expanding Willow Way cruiser hire fleet.

2--Pony Club member Darren Francis won the 12.2 hh class at the Fenland Riding

Club's indoor jumping show held at Outwell on Sunday, January 9th. Team mate Karen Barwell came 3rd in the 12.2 hh class and the whole team were placed 4th in the Parker Pony Trophy. The event raised £200 for the Riding for the Disabled Association.

3--The Littleport Brownies paraded at St. George's Church on Sunday morning when their new flags were dedicated by the Vicar, the Rev. John Martin.

4--In the Cambridgeshire AAA Cross Country Championship, held at Hitchinbrooke Park on Saturday, January 8th, Chris Easy took 1st position and Paul Murfitt 4th. They will now run in the inter-county championships at Birkenhead on January 22nd.

January 20th, 1983

1--The WI held their annual party on Friday, January 14th.

2--The 50th Annual Meeting of the Littleport Band was held in the Band Room last week.

January 27th, 1983

1--Isle of Ely MP Clement Freud met pupils from the Village Collage on Tuesday, January 25th, when they visited the House of Commons.

2--Two drivers and their passengers skidded into the deep water filled dyke at Gil-Gal last week. All managed to escape safely, although the inmates of the second car had to be helped out by the fire brigade.

3--Littleport Scouts and Guides are launching a campaign to raise £3,500 for new premises in the town. They have been given permission to site their 'hut' on Parish Council land adjacent to the Wisbech Road Chapel, this land is earmarked for an extension to the Town Cemetery, eventually, so the arrangement will only be temporary.

4--Eleven fifth formers from the Village College are hoping to become the first members to pass their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

5--Lucy Turner has been named Littleport Pony Club Member of the Year.

February 4th, 1983

1--Mr. Christopher Peacock, recently won the New York Film Festival's bronze award for a TV film he made on the departure of the British Task Force for the Falkland Islands.

2--Clement Freud, MP for the Isle of Ely, was guest of honour at the Littleport Village hall when the Ely District Amateur Boxing Association bouts were held

there.

3--A large congregation attended the special service for the Blessing of the Plough on Sunday evening, January 30th.

4--200 pupils of the Village College spent the Christmas holidays inventing elastic band powered contraptions like those used in the Great Egg Race on TV. Andrew Yardy was the winner with a 'machine' which travelled 14 metres.

February 10th, 1983

1--At an Education meeting on Monday, February 7th, it was decided to amalgamate the City of Ely College and Littleport Village College into one mixed community college at Ely and to re-model the Littleport Village College premises for Primary School use. All this to come into effect in 1987.

2--Members of the Village College raised £80 from a disco to pay for 15 children from the Palace School to travel to White Hart Lane to watch 'Spurs play Swansea on Saturday.

3--Mr. Tom Atkin of 54, Camel Road, has been appointed PBS marketing manager with Philips Business Systems.

4--On Saturday, February 5th, a mains water pipe burst in High Street causing loss of water in 3,000 homes. Owing to the Water Workers' strike this burst was not repaired until evening.

5--The T.G.W.U. Convalescent Home is to be converted into an hotel by Crosby Hotels (East Anglia) Ltd. The three Littleport men concerned in the venture are Mr. R. Creak, Mr. Buckingham and Mr. Brown.

February 17th, 1983

1--Michael Angel, Littleport Scout Leader, led the five strong United Kingdom Contingent at the Australian National Scout Jamboree. Scouts from all over the world took part.

2--It has been decided to erect a 'bottle bank' on Pontois Hill.

3--After police tuition, twelve fifth formers from the Village College have passed the motorcycle test enabling them to ride to school on a moped if they wish.

February 24th, 1983

1--Littleport Village College staged a very successful performance based on '1066 and All That' this week. Over 90 pupils took part.

2--Paul Murfitt and Chris Easy were again successful in the County Schools Cross

Country Championships held at Chatteris on Saturday, February 19th. Paul won the Under 20 event and Chris the Under 17 race. In the Under 13 event Maria Newman was fifth.

March 3rd, 1983

1--'Help the Aged' have donated a deep-freeze to the Day Centre, so that senior citizens can enjoy a hot meal on one day each week.

2--Scout Leader, Michael Angel, lately returned from Australia, has been concerned about friends he made there who have been affected by the terrible bush fires.

March 10th, 1983

1--Mrs. Betty Tyson of Hale Fen lost contact with her mother 30 years ago when her parents split up. The mother contacted the Salvation Army and through their efforts the two are now united.

2--About 150 members and guests of the Bowls Club enjoyed a dinner and dance at the Village College on Friday, March 4th. The Club's trophies were presented during the evening.

March 17th, 1983

1--Mothering Sunday was celebrated in all the chapels and the church in the village. Children gave posies of flowers to their parents.

2--Much concern is felt in the village over the proposed movement of pupils from the Village College to Ely. Many meetings are being held around the district.

3--In the Anglian Counties Cross Country Championships held at Amphill on Sunday, March 13th, Chris Easy came second in the Intermediate Section, Paul Murfitt 25th in the Senior Boys' Race and Maria Newman 20th in the Junior Girls' Race.

4--Littleport Band came 4th in the Fourth Section of the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain area qualifying contest on Sunday.

March 24th, 1983

1--A fire, caused by a faulty electric blanket, totally destroyed a bedroom at 26, Millfield on Tuesday, March 22nd.

2--Plans to convert The Grange into an hotel have fallen through as the T.G.W.U, are asking more than the promoters are prepared to offer.

3--Trees, provided by the County Council, were planted on Sunday, March 20th, at the site of the new Littleport Scout and Guide Association's headquarters on the one

acre field south of Wisbech Road.

4--Ian Johnson, son of Keith and Yvonne Johnson of Littleport, is director of music for the Roneo (Harnwell) Band, which has qualified for the Brass Band Finals in October.

5--£2,500 has been collected in the area for the National Children's Homes. The donations were presented at the annual Festival of Queens in the Cathedral. After the ceremony the congregation was entertained by children from the Littleport Primary School.

March 30th, 1983

1--On Wednesday, March 23rd, sixteen lunches were served at the Day Centre by Ann Rose, Margaret Harwood and Joyce Crane. This first venture was so successful it is hoped more senior citizens will take advantage of the scheme.

2--Mr. David Baumber, formerly of Littleport, has been awarded the British Academy Film and Television Award for his work on the soundtrack of the BBC drama 'Boys from the Black Stuff'.

3--Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Constable celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with their eleven sons and their families.

April 14th, 1983

1--Isle of Ely MP, Clement Freud, has written to the Chairman of the C.C.'s Education Committee demanding a fair deal for Littleport and Ely over the reorganisation of education in the area. Local meetings have also been held.

2--The WI Concert Party presented to a capacity audience, in the Village College, their Summer Holiday Revue last week.

3--About 60 people attended an evening of family fun on Easter Saturday. The evening was based on the TV series, 'Play Your Cards Right', and was arranged by Mr. Broughton.

4--Only 18 people attended a meeting arranged to discuss Littleport District's Plan with its compilers. The Plan maps out the town's development over the next ten years.

April 21st, 1983

1--Four burglaries have taken place in the village during the last fortnight. A frightening thought!

2--Eleven people from the Littleport and Witchford Village Colleges spent a busy Easter in the Lake District.

3--At the Over 60's Club, Miss Bishop congratulated Mrs. Bowers and Mr. S, Fincham on winning first prizes in dominoes at the Ely Games Tournament.

4--Lunches continue to be a popular feature of the Day Centre.

5--Local farmers are becoming anxious as the continuing wet weather prevents them from sowing the beet, which should be in the ground by now.

April 28th, 1983

1--The Help the Aged local fund raising group have provided funds for a freezer, china and cutlery for the Day Centre to facilitate the provision of meals which continue to be a popular feature.

2--St. George's Church was filled on Sunday, April 24th, for the Patronal Festival. The service was attended by 400 Scouts and Cubs from the surrounding district.

May 5th, 1983

1--A Spring Sale arranged by the Over 60's Club, and held on Saturday, April 30th raised £382.

2--Chris Easy achieved a personal best time for an 800 metres run when he represented Cambridge and Coleridge AC at Easling on Saturday. Paul Murfitt was fourth in the 800 metres 'A' in a time of 2.02 seconds.

3--Littleport Ladies Bowls team took the title in the Ladies District League.

4--Today, May 5th, is Polling Day to elect Littleport's District Councillors,

May 12th, 1983

1--The four successful candidates for the District Council Elections were Mr, Peter Harley 1165 votes, Mr. John Crane 806, Mr. Andrew Wright 803, Mr. Bertram Wright 766.

2--Littleport finds itself in a new Constituency for the General Election on June 9th. The Isle of Ely has finally been done away with and the new constituency is North East Cambridgeshire. Ely does not belong to this but is in South East Cambridgeshire!!

May 19th, 1983

1--Construction work on the Ely-Littleport by-pass will start in the autumn. It is expected to relieve Ely and Littleport of between 40 and 70 per cent of through traffic.

2--Mr, Bernard Carter of 2, Camel Road became the Domino Champion of the Day

Centre when he beat Mrs. Watson in the final on Tuesday, May 17th. This is the second time Mr. Carter has won the Championship.

May 26th, 1983

1--Campaigning for the election goes on and on Monday, May 23rd Mr. James Prior visited the village to speak in support of the Conservative candidate.

2--A plaque, given the Co-operative Society, has been placed on the wall of the Co-op shop, to mark the place where the Littleport Rioters met in 1816. The Globe Inn stood on that site at that time.

3--In spite of the inclement weather the Brownies from Littleport and Welney spent a happy weekend at Haddenham Holt, the Pack Holiday Centre.

June 9th, 1983

1--St. George's Garden Fete, held on Saturday, June 5th, realised £310. A draw held at the same time resulted in £293.25.

2--The Royal British Legion Women's Section held their Garden Fete in the Primary School on May 21st, £125 was realised.

3--Littleport Village Hall Management Committee have received a fourth grant from the District Council for improvements to the Hall. This brings the total that East Cambs District Council have donated to £8,187.

4--Polling for the General Election took place in the Village Hall on Thursday, June 9th. The results were: Clement Freud (SDP/Lib) 26,936, Nick Duval (Con) 21,741, Ron Harris (Lab) 4,625. There was a poll of 76.3%.

June 16th, 1983

1--Mrs. Foulds retired this week from her position as Dental Surgeon at Littleport Health Centre. As a token of appreciation she was presented with a crystal rose bowl.

2--Littleport's middle distance runners, Paul Murfitt, [Chris Easy](#) and Maria Newman won their individual events at the County Schools' Athletic Championships held at St. Ives last Saturday (June 12th).

June 23rd, 1983

1--The Bishop of Ely, the Rt. Rev. Peter Walker confirmed candidates from St. George's and from visiting parishes in the Church on Sunday morning.

2--Littleport Band headed the Arbury Estate Carnival at Cambridge on Saturday afternoon and later gave a marching display before a large crowd. On Sunday they presented a concert in the Village Hall.

3--The WI entertained eighty senior citizens to a party on Thursday, June 16th. An entertainment and games followed a delicious tea.

4--Members of the Isle of Ely Society for the Blind were guests of the Ely Lions Club on Saturday when they toured Norfolk, visiting Thursford, Hunstanton and Sandringham en route.

5--Ely supermarket firm Tesco are flying home one of their employees, Peter Flude, from France where he has been recovering from an eight-hour brain operation. He was on holiday with his family when he was taken seriously ill.

June 30th, 1983

1--Fourth formers at the Village College have been experiencing their first taste of full time employment this week with firms and businesses in the area.

2--Ten year old Collette Macgannon, has earned her family a free week's holiday at Ladbroke's, because of her skilful guitar playing.

July 7th, 1983

1--The Methodist Chapel held their Anniversary Services on Sunday, July 3rd.

2--Littleport Christian Aid appeal realised the total of £500. This is the highest total to date.

3--Teachers and governors at local schools have pledged to fight for the best possible education for local children in the forthcoming changes,

July 14th, 1983

1--There has been another call for the police and public to crack down on litterlouts in the village, especially outside the fish shops and the Chinese take away.

2--Pupils from the Village College are keenly following the archaeological dig on the County Council's Shire Hall site as part of their educational programme.

3--The Treasures of the Parish Church were depicted in spectacular floral displays at the weekend in a most successful Flower Festival which attracted visitors from a wide area. It was organised by Mrs. Joyce Belham and Mrs. Mary Bowers, The sum of £466.73 was collected for the Parish Room Building Fund.

4--The cost of dying is rising by 10% in the village, the Parish Church have agreed that fees for interment in the village cemetery should rise from August 1st.

5--On Sunday Littleport Band entertained a large crowd in Wisbech Park.

6--Helen Chapman, a former pupil of Littleport Village College and Wisbech

Technical College gained a degree in English at Hull University.

July 21st, 1983

1--An electricity transformer in the grounds of the T.G.W.U. Convalescent Home overheated on Friday, July 15th, when the temperature rose to 90°F.

2--On Sunday, July 17th, the village was hit by a tremendous thunderstorm. Lightning cut the electricity supply from 700 households and several were still without electricity on Monday.

3--The temperatures during the past fortnight have been the highest since the summer of 1976.

4--The Annual Parade of bands and floats took place on Sunday, July 17th. Nearly £600 was collected. Meadow Court Float was the winner.

5--Littleport goats came out best in the show on Sunday. The first time in the competition's history.

6--The current week has been 'Littleport Week' when shop windows have been dressed and various competitions held.

7--The Day Centre Strawberry Tea on Tuesday was enjoyed by about 65 guests.

8--A house-to-house collection for Cancer Research realised £339.81.

9--The Primary School Choir, conducted by Mrs. Gail Newton, gave a concert in the Main Hall of the Village Hall on Wednesday, July 13th, in aid of the Scout and Guide Hall Funds. £70 was raised.

10--Paul Murfitt won the 800 m B race for his club, Cambridge and Coleridge AC when they won their first Southern Men's League Match of the season at the weekend. He also won the men's 1500 metres at Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday.

July 28th, 1983

1--Residents of Anchor Court enjoyed a mystery tour on Wednesday, July 27th, this was organised by the Salvation Army.

2--On Friday, July 22nd, members and friends of the Over 60's Club travelled to Clacton and explored the Constable country in Suffolk.

3--Two Littleport ladies, Mrs. Flack-Crane and Mrs. P. Chapman retired from the staff of the R.A.F. Hospital last week. Mrs. Flack-Crane was presented with a piece of Wedgwood and a box of chocolates while Mrs. Chapman received a travelling clock.

4--The guests of honour at the Littleport Show, on Saturday, July 23rd, were Mr, Alan Minter and Mr. Kenny Lynch. The Show, under its hardworking chairman, Mr. Andrew Wright, was a great success, in spite of showers. About 9,000 passed through the gates,

August 4th, 1983

1--Littleport student Andrew Rains was the winner of the FBC Betanal E spraying game at the Spring British Sugar Demonstrations.

2--Littleport Play and Toddler Group raised £550 from fund raising events over the past year.

August 11th 1983

1--Vandals in the village are making people afraid to come out at night. The seat on the Church Green has been destroyed for the sixth time. There is only one policeman in the village and he simply cannot be everywhere at once. The general feeling is that something should be done before matters become more serious.

August 18th, 1983

1--The Salvation Army Summer Sale realised £137.57.

2--Mr. Roger Peacock of High Street, Littleport won the Hillcrest Rider of the Year, 1983, Trophy.

3--Miss Helen Chapman and her helpers have arranged many successful events for the Littleport Town's Play Scheme.

4--On Thursday, August 10th, the Over 60's Club visited Southwold and Aldeburgh.

5--Five young girls decided to follow the Brownie Motto to help other people, and brought the plan for a Scout and Guide Headquarters in the village one step closer. They raised £7.40 in various small ways.

6--The new President of Littleport Rotary Club is Mr. Robert Dannatt. He succeeds the Founder President, Mr. Richard Ambrose.

September 8th, 1983

1--A sale, organised by Mr. and Mrs. Copsey on Saturday, September 2nd, raised £350 for the mentally handicapped.

2--The last outdoor engagement of the Littleport Band, for the summer season, had to be held in Witcham Village Hall because of the inclement weather.

3--During last weekend the district was lashed with furious gales. Much fruit was

blown from the trees and damage done to houses, fields and gardens.

4--Mrs. Parsons of 3, New Road, received a visit from Mr. Harry Rancoff, who had been billeted at her home after his evacuation from London in September 1939. Mr. Rancoff was then five years of age.

September 22nd, 1983

1--Residents at Hampden House can now make use of their new sports room, thanks to the darts players at the Spade and Beckett Public House. Recently they held a 10 hour long marathon match which raised £418.

2--Members of the Over 60's Club held a Harvest Festival at last Friday's meeting. On Wednesday, September 21st a group of members spent the day in Skegness.

3--The sponsored walk and clean-up of the Churchyard, on Saturday, raised approximately £300 for Church Funds.

September 29th, 1983

1--The Harvest Festival Service was held in St. George's Church on Sunday, September 25th. The Church was beautifully decorated for the occasion.

2--A Gift Day was held at the Parish Church on Saturday, the total realised was over £400 for Church funds.

3--A Quiz of the Year Show was held in the Village Hall on Friday, September 23rd. The show was organised by Mr. Broughton and the winner of the quiz was Councillor Wright.

4--The Art Teacher of the Village College, Mr. Steve Bramble, painted a special picture, which was presented to Mrs. Connie Collin, to celebrate her twenty-five years as a Home Economics Teacher at the college.

5--Mr. Thomas Sallis, a pensioner of 86, had his first holiday abroad when he returned to Ypres, in Belgium, where he served during the First World War.

6--The Parish Council have decided to look into the economics of employing a part time street cleaner. This would solve the litter problem which has caused distress to so many people in the past,

7--The village is not to get another policeman on the beat, although many people continue to complain about troublesome youths.

October 6th, 1983

1--Music students from the Village College became the first school party to visit the famous E.M.I. Record Studios and factory last week.

2--Police and public relations in the village should improve when P.C. Drew begins a dog training class at the Village College on Sunday.

October 19th, 1983

1--Littleport Play and Toddler Group boosted their funds on Saturday when they raised £40 at a jumble sale.

2--Mr. Clive Harris, the local printer, had a fire on his premises on Wednesday, October 12th. This severely damaged a printing machine.

3--This year the Littleport Band celebrates its 50th birthday with a special exhibition and concert. The band was started in 1931 and Mr. Cecil Germaney a founder member is still playing in the band today. Performances were given in 1933 making this the 50th year of actual performing.

4--A very successful Coffee Evening was held at the home of Mrs. Ambrose Smith. £74 was realised for the Scout and Guide Hut Fund.

October 27th, 1983

1--The Work Experience Scheme organised by the Village College has been so successful that it is to be extended from one week to two next year.

2--£26.37 has been collected for the National Children's Home.

3--The Flower Arrangement Club celebrated its 21st birthday on Friday, October 21st, when 120 members and guests enjoyed a gala dinner. Mrs. J. Gilbert, the Club's first President was guest of honour and a demonstration of flower arranging entitled, Anniversaries, was given by Mrs. Margaret Newman, a national demonstrator.

4--Mr. and Mrs. Pettitt have presented two trophies to the Primary School in order to commemorate their thanks for the education their children have received there over the years. The trophies are for swimming and the first winners were Jeremy Dix 10, and Jackie Purcell 11, The trophies were presented by Mrs. Pettitt.

5--Littleport newsagent, Mr. Geoff Spinks, has won £50 as joint first prize, in a window dressing display, organised by Sharman's Newspapers Ltd.

6--Mr. Wiseman, of Anchor Court, is to attend the March Past at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday. His grand-daughter, Shayne Larwood, wrote to the Queen asking for her help. The request was passed to the British Legion who have sent tickets for Shayne and her grandfather to attend the ceremony.

November 3rd, 1983

1--To mark the 21st Anniversary of the founding of the Littleport Flower Arrangement Club, Mrs, J, Gilbert planted a blue cedar tree in the Village College

grounds. The Littleport Band played background music during the ceremony, during the weekend the club held a Flower Show entitled, '21 Floral Years'.

2--The Busy Bees, a local playgroup, held a sponsored walk around the Playing Field to raise money in order to keep their Group going.

3--A group of local youths have built an unusual memorial to their friend Paul Rayner, who died of cancer this year. The money had been raised to send Paul and his mother on holiday, but when this was proved impossible, they used the funds to build a fishpond, complete with fountain and wishing well in his garden.

November 10th, 1983

1--Rats are causing anger, fear and misery among the residents of Meadow Court. The council have called in Rentokil with some degree of success.

2--Mr. William Pratt has retired from Burberrys (Hope Bros) Factory after over 40 years of service. The new manager is Mr. Gerald Keilthy.

3--Littleport Primary School won the Shield for the best school entry in a recent Fire Protection Competition organised by the Cambridge and District Fire Protection Association.

4--Littleport Band, conducted by Brian Halls, presented a programme of music in the Royal British Legion Hall, Sutton on Sunday evening in aid of Earl Haig's Poppy Fund.

November 17th, 1983

1--The warden of the Village College, Mr. Bob Bryden, announced that he is leaving the college at Christmas. He is returning to Yorkshire as Head of Barlby High School.

2--The longest serving dinner lady of the Primary School, Mrs. Doris Fendick, retired last week. She received gifts from her colleagues and from the teaching staff.

3--Jumble sales held last Saturday realised £393 for the Over 60's Club and £92.25 for the Women's Fellowship.

4--The Littleport Band gave a concert on Sunday, November 13th, in aid of Earl Haig's Poppy Appeal Fund.

5--A large congregation attended the United Remembrance Service in St. George's Church last Sunday. The Parade from Pont's Hill included British Legion members, Guides, Brownies, Scouts and Cubs. The Band led the Parade and accompanied some of the hymns in church. Wreaths were laid at the Memorial in Church and at the Plaque on the Town Hall.

6--The Littleport Show Committee has helped boost the funds of various organisations yet again. At the latest presentation ceremony £825 was handed out.

7--The rat infestation behind Meadow Court Housing Estate now appears to be under control.

November 25th, 1983

1--A village collection for the Fishermen's Mission raised a total of £77,61.

2--The landlord of the Spade and Becket Public House has received a reward of £25 for good catering from the Norwich Brewery Company.

December 1st, 1983

1--Police are appealing for witnesses of a £4,000 raid at the premises of Agricultural Engineers, Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd. The raid took place on Saturday, November 27th.

2--An off duty fireman rescued a Littleport motorist, Mrs. Carol Mack, when her car left the road and ended up in the dyke near Chettisham. The fireman was Assistant Divisional Officer, Bob Dix.

3--It is hoped, this year, that Littleport Poppy Appeal will reach £1,000.

4--A Whist Drive held in the Day Centre on Friday, November 26th, raised £60 towards the Centre's Christmas Party.

5--A Christmas Bazaar held on Saturday, November 27th, by the Salvation Army raised £210.

December 8th, 1983

1--St. George's Christmas Fair, held on Saturday, December 3rd, realised £290.

2--Members of the Littleport Salvation Army Corps conducted a Carol Service at Bell Holt, Ely, on Sunday evening.

3--On December 10th the Day Centre will celebrate its tenth birthday.

4--Many pupils at the Village College can boast of having gained the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award. Two, Sarah Jalland and Catriolana Muskett have gained their Silver Awards.

5--Mr. Brian Benton and Mr. Howard Thorp have given their fiftieth donation of blood and are now wearing the coveted lapel badges.

December 15th, 1983

1--Five girls have joined the growing list of pupils from the Village College who

have proved that they are proficient at riding a moped.

2--On Thursday, December 8th, one hundred and fifty members of the Over 60's Club sat down to a salad tea prepared by Mrs. Rose Levett and her helpers. Later Mrs. W. Law and some of the WI Concert Party provided entertainment,

December 22nd, 1983

1--It was like old times in the Village on Friday evening, December 16th, when a Victorian Evening was held. Shops stayed open and people flocked to buy. Many people entered into the Victorian spirit and dressed in period costume. Hot chestnuts, roast potatoes and hot dogs were sold and Father Christmas arrived in a horse drawn carriage.

2--The Day Centre Christmas Party was held in the Village Hall last Tuesday and 105 senior citizens were present.

3--Mr. Philip Carter was the soloist on Wednesday, December 14th, when Mr. and Mrs. H. Gotobed held a successful coffee evening which realised £50 for the Methodist Homes for the Aged.

4--On Friday evening, December 16th, it was Party night at the Village College for Flower Arrangement Club.

5--To celebrate Christmas at Littleport Primary School the senior citizens were invited to watch the Children's Christmas Plays. The infants presented the traditional version of the Nativity for Parents and Friends. The Village College gave a Carol Concert.

January 12th, 1984

1--There is a rumour going around that the T.G.W.U, are to sell the Grange to buyers who would convert it into an Old Folks' Home.

2--[Chris Easy](#) won his third consecutive cross-country championship at Hitchinbrooke Park, Huntingdon on Saturday.

January 19th, 1984

1--Gale force winds and severe frosts have wrought havoc in many parts of the village.

2--People in Sandhill are up in arms over the huge potholes and widespread flooding along Sandhill Road.

January 26th, 1984

1--Group Scout Master Bernie Cook from Clacton took the services and presented

the prizes at the Young People's Prize giving at the Salvation Army on Sunday, January 22nd.

2--The Day Centre celebrated its 10th birthday this week. An iced cake made and given by Mrs. Margaret Harwood was a special feature at the anniversary party.

3--Great joy is felt in the district at the news that the Palace School at Ely is to be purchased by the Sue Ryder Foundation and will still be used for the care of the disabled.

4--The Great Freeze still has the area in its grip. Snowstorms, frost and wind have disrupted traffic and caused accidents.

February 2nd, 1984

1--The Annual Dinner Dance of the Burberry Raincoat Factory (Hope Bros) was held at the Garden House Hotel, Cambridge on Friday, January 27th. It was a special occasion for Mrs. R.Johnson who retired after 21 years of service.

2--Toni de Bromhead has been commissioned by Eastern Arts to make a film on Fenland landworkers for their archives. She has made her base in Littleport.

3--Littleport has become the first town or village in East Anglia to have a statutory town plan, which outlines the town and designates certain areas for various activities.

February 9th, 1984

1--The Hills family, some members of which live in Littleport, are celebrating a windfall, the legacy from a long, lost brother they last saw seventy years ago.

2--J.H. Adams & Sons have decided to relaunch the fascinating trade of blacksmithing in the village. Mr. Patterson of Haddenham and Mr. Porter have opened up the old forge, behind the shop, which was last used thirty years ago.

February 16th, 1984

1--Several of the Over 60's Club were invited to Southery to a Pantomime performed by Southery All Stars, on Friday, February 10th.

2--Littleport's Cross Country runner, Chris Easy, finished second in the Eastern Counties Championships at Cambridge on Sunday.

3--The Blue Peter Weather Beater Sale, organised by Mrs. Wendy Thompson on Saturday realised a total of £107.

February 23rd, 1984

1--Girl Guides from Littleport, Welney and Little Downham joined in a Thinking

Day Service in the Methodist Church on Sunday, February 19th. The Littleport Guides and Brownies held ceremonies at their own meetings.

2--Andrew Raines, a student farmer, was killed when his car plunged into an 18 foot deep drain near Shippea Hill on Tuesday 22nd.

March 1st, 1984

1--Mr. Lou Covill has retired after 25 years service as organist at St. George's Church. At Sunday's Evensong, Mr. J. Warren, Churchwarden, presented Mr. Covill with a cheque of appreciation on behalf of the parishioners.

March 8th, 1984

1--The Brewery House, 6 Granby Street, was sold by auction on Wednesday, February 29th and is to be converted into flats. It was a Brewery, run by the Cutlack family for many years.

2--The Guides and Scouts are still in desperate need of funds to complete their new hut.

3--Former Littleport Bandsman, Mr. Stephen Missin, has left the Royal Marines after serving for 24 years. During that time he played in the Royal Marines Band. Whilst in the service he played at many important functions.

4--At the Over 60's Club on Friday a collection was made in aid of the blind. The total sum raised was £53.07. On Saturday, March 3rd, several of the members spent an enjoyable afternoon at the Village College, Witchford, where 'Music Hall' was presented by Students from Cambridge.

5--All denominations were represented in the Salvation Army Hall on Friday afternoon; the occasion was the Women's World Day of Prayer.

March 15th, 1984

1--Jeremy Dix, Littleport runner, won the Under 11 Section of the Norfolk and Suffolk Cross Country League at Bury St. Edmunds on Saturday. Chris Easy finished 6th in the senior race.

2--Mrs. Maureen Fuller has started a Beaver Colony in the Village. The Beavers are a junior section of the Cubs.

March 22nd, 1984

1--The long awaited by-pass for Ely and Littleport was started on Monday, March 19th.

March 29th, 1984

1--The new bungalow estate in Wellington Street is to be called Atkin's Close in memory of Joe Atkins, a very popular village 'character', who died a few years ago.

2--Allan Welland became the first snooker player to win the Paul Rayner Cup, donated to the Ex-Servicemen's Club in memory of Paul, who died last year of cancer. A cheque for £302 was donated to the Cancer Research Fund during the presentation ceremony.

3--The Village Hall is to be further enlarged; the extensions will cost from £16,000 to £20,000.

April 5th, 1984

1--Mothering Sunday Services were well attended in all the local churches.

2--The Old Vicarage, built in 1892, has now been converted into a 'cosy refuge for the elderly'.

3--On Saturday, March 31st, Littleport Football Club beat Sawston Rovers 4-2 to qualify for the final of the Cambs Challenge Cup.

4--A large audience at the Village College last week, saw 'Meet the Gang', the tenth performance of varied programmes given by the local WI. Mrs. W. Law was the producer.

5--The local members of the Ancient Order of Foresters joined other lodges in the district to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Order at a service in Ely Cathedral.

April 12th, 1984

1--Members of the local Day Centre enjoyed a mystery tour on Sunday, April 8th.

2--The International Committee of Littleport Rotary Club have donated over £300 to various projects aimed at giving aid to the third world.

3--There was an enthusiastic reception for the performance of 'Oliver' at the Primary School last week.

4--The Pony Club has planned a busy year for 1984. The programme includes entering for the Prince Philip Challenge Cup.

5--The WI have given the village a permanent reminder of their Diamond Jubilee. This is a specially commissioned Village Sign designed by Mr. Hillard of King's Lynn.

April 18th, 1984

1--On two evenings last week the Village College gave two 'Last Night of the Proms'

concerts.

April 27th, 1984

1--An auction sale at the Village Hall on Easter Monday made more than £500 towards the Hall extension funds.

May 3rd, 1984

1--A group of pupils from the Village College visited the Houses of Parliament last week.

2--Mr. Andrew Wright has become Chairman of the Housing Committee for the East Cambridgeshire Division of the county.

3--On Saturday, April 28th Main Street was closed to traffic whilst the local Brownies made and served tea for the shoppers. The tea was free but £40 was raised by contributions for Magpas. The Littleport Band was in attendance.

4--Mr. Arthur Broughton organised an evening's entertainment at the Village Hall in aid of the Scout and Guide Hut Fund. A total of £117 was raised.

5--A sale at the Village Hall on Saturday realised £300 for the Over 60's Club in the Village.

May 18th, 1984

1--The Women's Fellowship held a successful jumble sale in the Anvil Room on Saturday, May 12th. It realised £126.

2--The Royal British Legion held their Garden Fete in the Primary School grounds on May 12th, £90 was raised for funds.

3--Littleport Pony Club held an Open Treasure Hunt on Saturday. 25 riders took part.

4--Littleport WI's Concert Party, 'Meet the Gang' have raised £225 for Addenbrooke's Hospital Cancer Research Appeal. The Concert Party was sponsored by the local Rotary Club.

May 24th, 1984

1--Rotarians from Germany were among the guests who joined Littleport Rotary Club to help celebrate the anniversary of their Charter. Guests from other clubs in the district joined the celebrations.

2--Members of the 2nd Littleport Brownie Pack, together with Brownies from Welney, enjoyed a happy week-end at Haddenham Holt, the Pack Holiday Centre.

3--When the firm Ab-ag Ltd opens on the Henry Crabb Industrial Estate ten new jobs

will be created.

May 31st, 1984

1. The Grange or the T.G.W.U. Convalescent Home is to be turned into a private Convalescent Home but T.G.W.U. staff will still have the option of staying there while they convalesce. The new owners are Mr. and Mrs. Robinson.

June 7th, 1984

1--The £450 raised from a sponsored walk and the £500 recently raised at an auction will be used to help complete the final phase of improvements in the Village Hall.

2--The Deanery Mission Service was held on Ascension Day, Proceeds from St. George's Summer Fair raised £245 to be divided between St. George's General Fund and Christian Aid.

3--The John Crane Shield for the Domino Tournament held at the Day Centre was won by Mr. Jack Cousins.

June 21st 1984

1--On Sunday, June 10th, the area suffered violent thunderstorms. Electricity cuts and flooding occurred in many places.

2--At their anniversary the pupils of the Methodist Sunday School presented a modern day version of the story of Ruth.

3--The Tory candidate was returned to the EEC elections with an enormous majority.

June 28th, 1984

1--Littleport digger-driver, Garry Gotobed, unearthed an Iron Age torque whilst making a trench in a Norfolk quarry last week,

2--The total sum collected for the Christian Aid Appeal was £737.20.

3--The Littleport Band played at The Mailings, Ely and at the Black Horse, Littleport on Sunday. June 24th.

4--Littleport building firm, Buckingham & Sparrow Ltd have paid £45,000 for 0.56 acres of building land at Mill Pit Furlong.

July 13th, 1984

1--Mr. Bob Dannatt has retired as president of Littleport Rotary Club. Mr. J. Crane has taken over the position.

2--The fine weather helped to make Littleport Village Hall fete a £360 success.

3--Littleport is amongst those towns and villages named as rural development areas by the Cambs Community Council.

4--A very successful strawberry tea was arranged by members of St. Matthew's Church on Saturday last and realised £212.

5--An interesting afternoon was spent at Norfolk Lavender, Heacham last week by members of the Day Centre.

July 19th, 1984

1--Intruders again broke in to Sparrow's Chemist Shop on Tuesday, July 17th. Drugs and cameras were stolen.

2--Fourth year pupils of the Village College took part in the annual Work Experience Challenge during the last fortnight.

3--The Brownies of the area celebrated their 70th anniversary by attending a service at St. George's Church and then proceeding to Sandringham where they enjoyed a picnic and took part in various competitions and games.

4--The old Bandstand site on the Playing Field has now been made into a BMX cycling track.

5--The Annual Play Leadership Scheme will run again this year.

6--On Wednesday of last week Littleport and Ely Guides said goodbye to Mrs. Revett, Divisional Commissioner, who is moving to Lincoln. Her place is being taken by Mrs. Jane Harris.

7--A large congregation filled the Evangelical Church on Thursday evening, July 12th, for a concert by a choir from Cologne in Germany.

8--The recent collection by the WI for the Cancer Campaign realised a total of £321.40.

July 26th, 1984

1--On Sunday, July 22nd, thousands of people watched the parade of floats, bands and majorettes wending its way around the town. It was considered to be the best parade to date and £650 was raised for charity.

2--A strawberry tea was held at the Village Hall for about ninety senior citizens.

3--A jumble sale held by the Women's Fellowship raised £60 for charity.

4--Littleport Village College held their annual prize giving on Thursday, July 19th.

5--Three farm workers, Mr. B. Barber, Mr. J. Hills and Mr. J. Elsegood, who have

served Littleport farmers J.H. Martin & Sons for a total of 140 years amongst them received long service medals from Princess Alice at the East of England Show last Tuesday.

6--On Sunday, July 22nd, the Methodist Circuit said farewell to its Minister, Rev. G. Revett. He was presented with a cheque for £210 guineas. He is taking up the ministry at Branston, near Lincoln.

August 2nd, 1984

1--Littleport Show was considered the biggest and best ever. Many people enjoyed a great variety of spectacles, fun and games. Willie Carson was welcomed to the Show. Various events took place during the preceding week to augment the funds.

August 10th, 1984

1--The produce and handicraft shield at this year's Littleport Show was won by Mrs. C. Hodges of Hundred Foot Bank, Pymoor.

2--Littleport Play scheme 1984 is proving to be a great success and the youngsters are thoroughly enjoying themselves. All in all the scheme, which is in its 14th year, is once again proving to be extremely worthwhile.

3--A Littleport man returned home last week after living in Australia for sixty years. He is Mr. Alfred Cheeseright now aged 84. He has returned from Brisbane to see his two sisters.

August 19th, 1984

1--The Week of Fun in the Salvation Army Hall was enjoyed by a large number of children, and to end the week a most successful Road Show was held on the Church Green on Saturday morning,

2--Littleport and District Pony Club's annual camp, held at Brampton steeplechase course last week was a huge success.

3--Julie Howe was awarded an honours degree in English by St. John's College at the end of a three year course.

August 23rd, 1984

1--The Over 60's Club had an enjoyable outing to Hunstanton and Holkham Hall last Wednesday.

2--Mr. and Mrs. G. King escaped unhurt after the tube train crash this week.

August 30th, 1984

1--A Littleport widower, Mr. H. Hedgecock of 65 Wisbech Road, returned home from holiday in Belgium to find his home swimming in water. A fire crew turned out to pump the water away.

2--Mrs. Edna James, formerly of Black Horse Drove School, now living in Ely won an all-expenses paid trip for two to the Olympics in a competition organised by leading biscuit manufacturers McVities.
