



The Swaffham Crier

Volume 22 Number 6

June 1998



Editorial

June is a lovely month - those long light evenings, dewy mornings, strawberries, roses and hopefully sunny weather - bliss! However it is also exam time, so good luck to all our residents having to cope with this important time in their lives.

As I write this, the weather is beautiful and it is in the middle of our Festival Week so I am afraid we will have to wait until the July issue to gauge its success and to receive your comments. Hopefully you have all taken part and enjoyed the experience and stood in awe of our beautifully renovated Village Hall. On your behalf, may I say a very sincere thank you to the Village Hall committee for all their work, particularly to my fellow editor Pat Cunningham and also to Trevor Jones and Alistair Everitt who have put in hours of hard work. The result is beyond our wildest dreams and has provided a superb venue for all the village. For our part we will endeavour to look after and treasure it.

When I was last editor of the month, I highlighted the Neighbourhood Watch scheme and I make no apologies for drawing your attention to it again. Response to the meetings has been mixed and petty crime is still a problem in our village. I do urge you to attend the Open Meeting this month so that we can develop a viable scheme and learn some self-help advice regarding the safety of our property.

Lots to look forward to this month. For some of you it will be the highlight of the year with the start of the Football World Cup and also Wimbledon. Before that, and some would say very well planned, there will be two excellent productions to go to - Bottisham Players' 'Out of Order' at Bottisham Village College and the annual Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre with their production of 'The Yeoman of the Guard'.

Don't forget the annual Church Gift Day, this time on a Friday, culminating in the Wine and Cheese Evening at The Hall, and the Village Lunch later in the month at Goodwin Manor.

Happy viewing or, like me, enjoy those long light evenings in the garden!

Hilary Mengham

Cover Picture: by Peter Balmforth



Neighbourhood Watch Update

Since we featured Neighbourhood Watch in the February issue of the *Crier* to try to rejuvenate the scheme in the village, we have had three meetings. The first was reasonably well attended with 15 people showing considerable interest in the subject and signing up to be co-ordinators. The March meeting drew 8 people, which dwindled to 4 at the April meeting. Also despite requests for co-ordinators for some parts of the village, there has been no response.

Does this mean you are not interested in the subject, not keen to protect your property or too busy to think about it? In February, I highlighted the crime figures for our area and in particular for our village. Since then we have had 1 burglary, a number of reports of break-ins to sheds and stealing petrol from cars. There have been 2 instances of the latter over the past month. As well as this there has been damage to cars parked in the road or in drive-ways.

You may consider these are just petty crimes, but when it happens to you, it is disturbing, inconvenient and costly. So what can you do? For a start how about coming to the **Open Meeting on June 1st in the Village Hall at 7.30p.m.** to hear a member of the Crime Reduction Unit tell you how you can secure your property (houses, garages, sheds) and how to item-mark your valuables. You could consider becoming a co-ordinator yourself, we still require cover for Fairview Grove, Mill Hill, Heath Road and the western end of the High Street. You could find out who your local co-ordinator is for more details or to report anything unusual in the area.

Over the next few months we hope to make you all aware of what you can do to help protect yourself, your property and your neighbourhood. That is if you are interested.

Bottisham Players

The Bottisham Player's next production will be '**Out of Order**', a sparkling comedy by Ray Cooney and winner of 'Comedy of the Year' at the Olivier Awards in 1991. The large cast is directed by Grahame Radford and the play will be performed in the drama studio at Bottisham Village College on 4, 5 and 6 June at 8.00pm. Tickets are £5; £4 for Senior Citizens and children on Thursday and Friday only. They are available from Lusher's Newsagents, Bottisham or you can make telephone bookings through our secretary, tel: 01223 812911.

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

How smart the Parish Council looked in the new Village Hall meeting room, with the Chairman and the Clerk silhouetted against a backdrop of gay Festival posters. And how they enjoyed the new adult size padded seats. Henry's main ambition had probably always been to see the PC committee seated in a style in keeping with its stature. Having achieved this he promptly resigned as chairman. No-one knew quite how long he had held the position, Henry expressed surprise the Clerk had not checked the minute books, and some wag said they don't go back to 1853.



Andrew Badcock was unanimously elected chairman and Eric, in his absence, was elected vice-chairman. Andrew slipped into the chairmanship with a grace and ease which suggested he had been groomed for the job. He was gentle, caring, firm and a real leader. Is this the person he sees in the mirror each morning?

Peter Mengham gave a very positive report on the transport survey. Discussion of the Sports and Recreation Club took very little time. The PC has heard from the District Attorney and will now be approaching Inland Revenue about no tax liability. I didn't understand, but the PC appears to have matters well in hand.

James Fitch expressed great joy over the new seats which meant, he said, that no longer did he sit with his knees in his mouth. However he did admit this still left him the opportunity to put his foot in it. He went on to say that Swaffham Prior had been extremely lucky in having its surface road dressing brought forward to within a few days of the Festival.

Charlotte Cane was the flavour of the evening after she reported that ECDC had rejected the Greenhead Road development. She thought the site meeting was a perfect example of how ECDC Councillors, ECDC officials, Parish Councillors and villagers can work together. And to her credit it was mainly Charlotte's co-ordination which led to this. The developers have six months to appeal and it was thought a probable outcome would be a proposal for two bungalows to which little objection was foreseen. But Charlotte warned that within planning rules common-sense cannot always win the day and ECDC David Archer will be addressing the Village General Assembly about this on 28th May. He will also give the facts about the Dencora field and whether it is likely to be developed. With this item on the agenda there should for once be a decent turnout for what is probably **the most important village meeting**. This is when you can really sock it to the Parish Council if you are so inclined.

The PC has been receiving quite a lot of flack about Dencora and Andrew

was concerned some people appeared to think the PC was in cahoots with Dencora. He said nothing could be further from the truth and in view of David Archer's visit on 28th May he proposed the June address by Dencora should be cancelled. All agreed.

Reach PC is all in a tizz and has written to our PC about what it sees as the "vexed question" of who represents the two PCs on the Board of School Governors. Reach was indignant that a Prior PC representative on the Board should be appointed without consulting it. Some time was spent on going through the past history of why the representative came from Prior. Then the penny dropped! Reach thought there had been a *new* appointment whereas it was still the old one. It was agreed to review the "poor communications", to consider re-introducing "smoke signals", and to write to Reach saying that a "heated Swaffham Prior Council rejects the 'vexed question' entirely."

Joan Rest had written a long letter to the PC about the closure of the Post Office, the demise of the letter box in Cage Hill ("This morning I stood in disbelief..."), listing out the number of letters and parcels she receives and sends daily, her monthly expenditure on stamps, the deterioration of the delivery service since moving to Burwell, the need for a postbox in the geographical centre of the village, the inconvenience to villagers - and **WHAT IS THE PARISH COUNCIL GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?** The Clerk explained that the post box had been removed because the owner of the land had told the PO to "get it off my property now". Someone remembered the old dispute about encroachment and boundary lines which John Norris had pursued without success some years back. A new post box may be put near the village hall, and the PC will suggest to Joan that in the interim she contacts the PO about a business collection service. Pat will be looking into grants for funding a new shop.

The proposal that the PC "Rejects any proposed lighting at the cemetery gate on the basis of cost" was passed unanimously. The view of the Chairman was that it ought to be "put to bed once and for all", that "it was totally out of the question". As for Churchyard Lighting, the PC will write to the Church Council to say that this has nothing to do with the PC, and I suppose the PC's objection to the planning application for the churchyard lighting should have made its position clear.

In question time Charlotte was challenged to ensure ECDC cut the very untidy churchyard grass on the next day in time for the Festival. She had but twenty four hours to retrieve the honour of ECDC, and she just made it, with the final strimming ending at 9.15pm on Friday evening. Another triumph for co-operation between our ECDC councillor, the PC and villagers.

Alastair Everitt



St. James' Church & Community Fête **Saturday 4th July from 2.00pm** **Broughton Hall, Lode Road, Lode**

- ♦ **Stalls : Cakes - Plants - Books**
- ♦ **Stalls by local organisations**
- ♦ **Fire Engine and vintage vehicles**
- ♦ **Decorated Bike competition**
- ♦ **Line Dancing**
- ♦ **Bouncy Castle**
- ♦ **Face Painting**
- ♦ **Beat the Goalie**
- ♦ **Tombola**
- ♦ **Raffle**
- ♦ **Races**
- ♦ **Barbecue from 1.00pm**
- ♦ **WI Afternoon Teas**



The Friends of Bottisham Village College
are pleased to announce their

3rd Annual Summer Ball

The Main Hall
SATURDAY 27th June 1998
7.30 - Midnight

Live Music - Buffet Licensed Bar
Disco - Raffle

For Tickets (£12.50) Please contact: 01223 812699 or 01223 811351

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Io Ltd. is a growing company based in Swaffham Prior, specialising in Industrial Control systems, computer hardware and software.

We are now seeking help with various manual duties on a part or full-time basis. Tasks would involve: keeping control of and maintaining a large array of tools and equipment; stock control - checking deliveries and putting them into the stock; packaging of goods outwards; ensuring that the working environment is kept tidy and clear of dust; and occasional filing. This position would suit school-leaver or perhaps a retired person. Salary negotiable.

Please apply in the first instance to Fiona Sampson 01638 742390 between 9.15am and 2.30pm.





Village Feast

Saturday 16 May

What a grand day. The traditional Annual Feast this year heralded the start of 10 days of a host of exciting events in the Festival programme. To those “old-timers” who gloomily predicted “it’s sure to rain ‘cos it always does if the traditional Saturday is not chosen” - eat your hearts out! The sun shone bright and hot all day and to be sited in welcome shade was the order of the day. This day also saw the re-opening of our “new” Village Hall after 9 long months of building and renovation works and we hope you like all the improvements and extra space.

We hope you enjoyed all the fun - the famous egg-throwing contest “umpired” by Martin, the gents ~”ice the cake” (getting to be a firm favourite), Ruth’s teas, the maypole dancing and many more attractions too numerous to mention. We are very grateful for all the hard work of so many people, stall holders and helpers including some newcomers to the village, which made the day such a great success.

You came, you saw the refurbished hall, and you very generously spent your money. The magnificent sum of just over £1,000 was raised on the day .

Thank you all so much.

Pat Cunningham



Dog Fouling

Enclosed with this issue of the *Crier*, you will find a leaflet issued by the ECDC Environmental Services Department on Dog Fouling and the Law.

If you are a dog owner, please read this leaflet carefully - failure to comply with the requirements described therein could result in a penalty of up to £1,000. If you witness what you suspect is an offence, please report it to the Dog Warden at ECDC.

To keep our footpaths, open spaces, playing fields etc. clean and safe for us all to enjoy, please “scoop the poop” and dispose of it in a litter bin- **remember you could be fined if you do not.** Supplies of dog bags are available at the shop (Village Hall) or from me at Carters Cottage.

Peter Cunningham
Clerk of the Parish Council

Welcome

to Joanne and Frank Keaney who moved into The Barn, 1A Mill Hill in April. We hope they will be very happy living in Swaffham Prior.

Swaffham Prior School Newsletter

May began with the traditional Maypole dancing at Reach fair on the Bank Holiday Monday - well done to all those that took part. This year the PTA organised a "Barrow of Booze" raffle for the fair with the wheel barrow included in the prize. It was filled with lots of bottles which had been kindly donated by local businesses and parents. It raised the magnificent sum of £550 which exceeded everyone's expectations. The money will be put to good use at school and a donation of £50 was handed over to Reach Village Centre.

The re-building of the car park wall on Station Rd has now been completed and work on the corner with the High Street will soon be finished. There was concern for the safety of pupils and villagers alike with the walls in the condition that they were and we are pleased that the work has now taken place.

It is with great excitement that we look forward to building work of a different kind in the Autumn, with the commencement of the fifth and permanent classroom. The mobile unit will be moved, but retained, to make way for its construction.

The new library has been well used in recent weeks with Year 6 pupils taking their SATs examinations. Year 2 pupils have continued to do their SATS papers in the familiar environment of their own classrooms. We wish them all well with their results.

The second half of the summer term is now upon us with lots to look forward to; visits to Kentwell Hall, Upware Educational Centre, a visit from Wes Magee, swimming and the swimming gala, the junior play, and School Reports!!

Finally, a note for your diaries. **SUNDAY 19th JULY**, School Sports Day and Summer Fair. Following the success of last year, it will take the form of a traditional country fair with lots to see and do. Look forward to



Congratulations to Nadine and Kevin Bailey on the birth of their son Cameron Grant on 15th April - a brother for Zara.

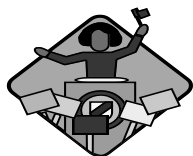


The Prospects Trust at Snakehall Farm



The organic farm shop has a seasonal supply of fresh produce, as well as seasonal herbs, bedding plants and herbaceous perennials.

The supply is limited, so rather than be disappointed, if you wish to find out availability or place an order *for collection only*, please phone the farm 9am - 5pm, Wed/Thurs/Friday or leave a message on answer phone 01638 741551.



Margaret Whiteway says goodbye as Health Visitor...

I am writing to say a big thank you for all the kind messages and good wishes that I have received over the past weeks and months as my time at Burwell has come to a close. I would like to write to everyone individually, but writers cramp would prevent me! I leave with many happy memories and will specially treasure the beautiful cards and photographs of some of nearly 2000 new babies that I have visited during my 18 years working as your Health Visitor at Burwell Surgery.

I have shared far reaching changes in the village with many of you. In 1979, I first worked in Burwell as a Health Visitor from Fulbourn Health Centre when the doctor's surgery was at Harlech House. In 1980, The Red House, formerly a lovely private residence, was converted into the village surgery. As the surgery team expanded, we recently moved in 1996 into the new purpose built Burwell Surgery in Newmarket Road. Each move has brought new challenges and opportunities, with special memories of the people I have worked with. Sadly for me, the current financial climate no longer allows individual surgeries to have their own Health Visitors; however I wish Carrie Abbs and Anna Edge every success in their new positions within the Child and Family Nursing Service and Burwell Surgery as it continues to care for the community.

Although this is a goodbye from me as your Health Visitor, I look forward to keeping in touch with many good friends and to hearing the village news. More immediately I am looking forward to a holiday in Scotland and then to exploring whatever the future holds for me. If it's anything like the past 18 years, then the next chapter of my life will be full of surprises, fun and special people like those I have known among you.

COUNSELLING CAN HELP

It provides a quiet, safe environment where problems can be explored as deeply as you wish

For enquiries please phone

Sarah Wilcock (RGN, HV, Adv Dip Couns) **01638 743788**

As a member of BAC, I work within its Code of Ethics and Practice

National Carers Week 8 - 15th June 1998

Are you looking after someone at home?

Various events are being planned locally for carers:

Trinity College visit planned for Monday 8th June.

Carers Consortium A.G.M. 'Voice of Carers',
Thursday 11th June at Meadows Community Centre,
St. Catherine Road, Cambridge 10.30a.m. - 3.00p.m.

'Take care of yourself day' - Saturday 13th June.

We also have information regarding support. To receive The Carers Newsletter and obtain more information, or if you need help to attend, please ring the Carers' Centre (01223 712072).

Carers National Association contacts:

Sue Austen - 01353 663928
Ely and Cambs.

Liz Earl - 01638 742739
Burwell



A Cleaner Witch!

A cleaner at a village hall in Romania faces charges of witchcraft after being caught burning a candle on a stone and cursing council leaders. The mayor sacked her and confiscated her broom.

Reuters

Ed.Note: At least this doesn't happen in Swaffham Prior Village Hall - or does it?!!

Pat



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

It is the time of year for salads and this one, supplied by Betty Prime, will provide a touch of the orient to go with the barbecue, a glass of wine and those long balmy evenings!

Hilary

Mengham

Crispy Oriental Green Salad

Ingredients

100g butter
2 tabsp. sugar
60g sesame seeds
2 × 75g packets of Doll noodles, uncooked
and broken up (do not use seasoning)
75g flaked almonds
1 large or 2 small heads pak choy or chinese leaf
4 spring onions with tops, sliced
This quantity serves 12

Dressing

120ml vegetable oil
50mls red wine vinegar
90g sugar
2 tabsp soy sauce

Method

1. Melt butter in a large skillet over a medium heat.
 2. Add sugar, sesame seeds, broken noodles and almonds. Cook and stir until lightly browned - about 5 minutes.
 3. Cool to room temperature. Coarsely chop pak choy or chinese leaves using both the stalks and leaves. Combine with salad onions and chill.
 4. Place all the dressing ingredients into a screw-top jar, secure the lid and shake vigorously.
 5. To serve, toss greens with noodle mixture and dressing.
- Ingredients can all be prepared up to 3 days in advance and kept in separate containers in fridge. Toss just before serving.

*** A Village Lunch ***

will be held on

Thursday June 25th

from 12:00 to 2 pm at

Goodwin Manor, Station Road, Swaffham Prior

by courtesy of **Mr & Mrs J Harrison**

In aid of **"The Technicolour Umbrella Project"**

Suggested donation £3.00



Children's Corner



Class 1

The Botanic Gardens

In March, class one went to the Botanic Gardens in Cambridge. My first memory was of the ducks on the pond all swimming around together, our next stop was at the hot houses, which were very hot. We saw lots of plants in there my favourite was a large plant with really big leaves. We had to be careful because there was a whole section of cactuses with really big spikes, and a Venus Fly Trap with a fly in it.

We also saw a big water fountain and a maze which we ran around. Other things we saw included a dry garden made up of plants which don't grow in soil, and the winter garden and the oldest tree. I really enjoyed the day and want to go again soon.

Wayne Reader and Ryan Noyes

Class 3

On Monday 11th May Class three went to a beautiful big house called Goodwin Manor in Swaffham Prior. They were invited by Mrs Harrison to see some of her quilts and some patchwork she had made. Mrs Harrison showed us some special clothes with beautiful stitching on. She had got one from China and one from Saudi Arabia. The next day, Mrs Ridsell-Smith came in for the afternoon to show us some amazing patchwork designs. She talked to us about the different ways of doing patchwork. We saw lots of different shapes and materials in her quilts. Both visits have helped us with our art and design topic on Patterns and textiles.

Class 4

MEPAL Outdoor Centre

Residential Trip, 5th-7th May 1978

Wake up	8.00 am
Breakfast	8.30 am
Free time	9.00 am
First Session	9.30 am
Break	10.40 am
Second Session	11.15 am
Lunch	12.30 pm
Third Session	1.30 pm

Break	2.45 pm
Fourth Session	3.15 pm
Free time	4.30 pm
Tea	5.00 pm
Diary	6.00 pm
Evening Activities	6.30 pm
Supper	10.30 pm
BED!	

Divided into groups - Jelly Babies, Chocolate Buttons etc.

Day 1

When we arrived, we got introduced to the place. It was nothing like what I expected. The first session the Jelly Babies did was sailing. I was roaring to go! Me and Lisa nearly capsized the boat, then we had a break. I just had to check out the entertainment rides. After break, we did archery and problem solving. That was cool. In the evening, we went for a walk. We saw a kite. Mr Hunns said it was a bird. I thought it was a kite and I was right. All these activities were new to me.

Rosie Almond

Day 2

Today's activities were archery and sailing. I enjoyed archery more than sailing because I'm not too keen on being on small boats. I was in a boat with Katie. I didn't enjoy it. Katie and I almost fell out about ten times. I did archery first session, which was brill. After a match, I got the highest girl's points of 190 something. We also did problem solving. We did one of the problems which was to put letters on something without touching (next alphabet).

Claire Hall

Day 3

Today, I did orienteering and trampolining. I worked with Claire in both. We went around looking for numbers and pictures, we both won a Kit Kat. I learnt how to trampoline properly. I did 360 degree turns and half turns. It was really cool. I enjoyed MEPAL and would like to come again. I liked everything!

Katie Groombridge

Other activities included raft building, kayaking and rock climbing. I thoroughly enjoyed reading the diaries, and am only sorry I couldn't include more - references to Hunk Dunky! (Duncan, an instructor), falling in the lake, and Mrs Wilson in the Ball Pond will all remain a mystery!!

Janet Willmott



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors

Jean, Sheila, David, Anne and families of the late Geof Lewis would like to convey their sincere thanks for all the kind messages, cards and beautiful flowers received after our sad loss.

Thank you also for the donations received in his memory. These will be shared between Burwell Surgery and the P.S.P. Association (Progressive Supranuclear Palsy).

Jean Lewis.
69 High Street

Dear Editors

Millions of thanks to one and all who kindly donated the goodies for the Cake Stall at the Feast. £75.90 including £15 in donations was the final total. I do hope you all enjoyed your refurbished Hall - I heard lots of praise. I think it is super. Thanks once again

Yours sincerely

Jean Moore
39 Cage Hill

Dear Editors

The village magazine is a source of information and a medium for the exchange of news. But we are a small community and it would be helpful to us all, if those views could be expressed with reason. Apropos of which, viz., Page 5 of the May *Crier*, I have concern with the negative and destructive reporting of Parish Council Matters. Yes, I go to church and am proud to be a member of the P.C.C. There is no secret agenda. Any queries about policies, lighting, whatever can always be made directly to the people concerned.

The P.C.C. Secretary, Jenny Moseley of 26 Great Lane Reach (741425) would be very happy to deal with initial enquiries and then put people in touch with others, as necessary.

Rather than inflict responses to this, if any, on a captive audience, could you contact me at home?

Thank you

Tricia Harrison



Blackbird



Have you got a blackbird nesting in your garden? They often seem quite to disregard safety in locating their nests, sometimes surprisingly low down (great for cats or even visible from above - magpies and jackdaws are quite partial to an egg or two). We are blessed this year once again by our friendly blackbird of four years' standing called by us, rather unimaginatively, the Lady. She it is who gets under our feet during our weeding activities and whom I told you last month liked sultanas. She is rather a sandy colour with a white feather or two. Her nest last year was in a creeper outside the back door; this year she built in the same creeper about six inches away from last year's effort which is still there. Her building operation this year was at its height about 14 days ago and the nest included a large piece of plastic. This was clearly intended as a reinforced steel joist such as we often use in our houses to take a great weight. Her RSJ, though, being somewhat larger than herself, needed knocking into position using the most powerful tool at her disposal - her wings. We watched below, open-mouthed, as she fluttered and pushed the recalcitrant piece of plastic into position. Stripes, our cat, looks up at her balefully but resignedly. They are old sparring partners. They circle each other on the lawn about five yards apart, pretending not to see the other, intent apparently only on their own affairs but in reality very aware one of the other.

We have wondered whether our blackbird was a lone parent - certainly no cock bird helped her build her nest. A cock bird or two compete for territory round the house but do not it seems compete for her. We shall know more when the feeding starts. Usually a normal 'nuclear' family has both cock and hen feeding the young. We will keep you posted in the next *Crier*.

Postscript - She duly laid four eggs in her new nest - then deserted them a week or so ago probably because I foolishly opened a window above her. Now she has built yet another nest in an impenetrable part of the same creeper. Her new position is invisible from all sides and from above. We hope for a happy event - as the saying goes.

Twiglets

Have you heard the cuckoo? He keeps mostly down the fen so his cries are faint to us in the village. His dastardly trick about dumping his egg in the smallest birds' nests are well known - the birds must forage back and forth to feed this oversize brute in their midst. The baby cuckoo elbows the rightful brood out of the nest so that he gets all the food and attention.



Village Hall Report

The Committee was pleased to re-open the completed Village Hall to the Village in time for the Annual Feast on 16th May which also co-incided with the start of the 10-day Festival. We are delighted that we were able to host some of the wonderful events on offer in the “new” Hall, a larger and better equipped venue in which to enjoy them.

The Steering Committee are now finalising the last financial applications and official certifications and then hope to take a breather, for a while!

New bookings are very encouraging and we now look forward to welcoming the return of our “regulars” after the 9 month closure. Details of bookings, hire rates and conditions are posted on the Notice Board in the reception hall but if you require any further information, please call me any time on 741183. If you are planning a special event, don’t wait too long to book the hall - we are getting very busy, especially at weekends.

Alastair, Trevor and I would like to record our thanks for all the encouragement and help offered to us throughout the Project by so many of you, too numerous to mention individually, but very much appreciated. Special thanks too to those who so generously gave individual donations to the Building Fund - it enabled us to include some of the extra refinements you can all see.

Pat Cunningham

Bottisham, Burwell, Linton Village Colleges Day and Weekend Courses

13th June - Arabic Dance, French Polishing Stage 3, Life Drawing

13th/14th June - Excel for All

20th June - Rock Climbing

27th June - Painting and Sketching Workshop

27th/28th June - Word for Windows - Intermediate/Advanced

2nd, 5th and 9th July - Nature Photography - Workshop and Field Event.

13th to 17th July - Intensive Computer Course

Further information from: The Community Offices at the
Village Colleges: Bottisham: 01223 811372 Burwell: 01638
741901 Linton: 01223 892400





W.I. Notes

At the W.I. meeting on 18th May, the two Resolutions which will be put forward at the National Assembly were discussed. These were as follows:

Housing - 'The N.F.W.I. urges all levels of Government, national, regional and local, to make the regeneration of brownfield sites in urban areas a priority in the planning of housing development'.

Child Carers - 'This meeting urges H.M. Government to ensure that full support is available to assist school-aged children who are carers, in order that their welfare and education are protected'. All the members present were in favour of these Resolutions.

Then, on a lighter note, Jenny Freebairn from Teversham showed us many different ways of tying scarves. You will now be able to recognise the W.I. members by the swish way they wear their scarves!

Our speaker on 15th June will be Chris Clark from Bottisham talking on Make-up for Television.

Betty Prime

Very many thanks to all those who contributed so generously to the Bottle Stall at the Feast. Our table was loaded down with bottles and cans and there were many satisfied customers. Thank you also to the gallant people who collected bottles for us. We are very grateful to you all.



Village Gardeners

Now that the Village Hall is so attractive inside, we felt that some effort should be made to tidy up the ground outside. Andrew Badcock cut back some of the trees and sprayed the weeds and on Saturday morning 9th May, you may have seen a group of us hacking away at the tall grass round the trees and pulling up the ivy.

In the autumn, when all the holidays are over, we plan to have another go and perhaps plant some bulbs e.g. bluebells under the trees. We would be very glad of some help - you don't have to be a member of the Village Gardeners - so please watch this space for dates and come along to lend a hand. All will be very welcome.

There are still some seats available on the coach for the visit to Beth Chatto's garden on Saturday 13th June. Ring 741221 for details.

Betty Prime



Staine Hundred

It was a perfect evening on Wednesday May 13th for a walkabout around Chesterton led by Derek Stubbings, so it was a pity that only 10 Bottisham and 3 Quy members turned out. However, those who did, enjoyed the 2 hour walk and were amazed at the places of interest so close to home yet unknown to them. The group met at the Pike and Eel where there were numerous rowing eights practising on the river.

Mr Stubbings talked briefly about Stourbridge Fair, held on the Common on the opposite side of the river, which was the biggest Fair in Europe for many centuries, and though it ceased to function in the early 1930's was not officially closed by Parliament until 1946. This Fair had attracted large cosmopolitan crowds and this had influenced the layout of the roads which are unusually wide in parts. There had originally been two ferries, one for horses and one for people, in the days before Victoria Bridge was built and the one ferry ran until the footbridge was built in the late 1930's.

The walk continued to Chesterton High Street, with frequent stops to be told about buildings past and present - manor houses, public houses, the village hall which became part of Hallens, churches and chapels. The brightly coloured Roman Catholic church in Ditton Lane had been the Catholic church in Chesterton until St Lawrence Church was built in Milton Road when it was 'recycled'. After pausing outside Chesterton Hall to hear its history and the extent of the lands it once held, the way back passed through the Recreation Ground which had been sand pits until the end of the last century when unemployed people worked for a nominal sum to fill in the pits and create a grassed area. In the churchyard stand the base of an old cross once used as a doorstep of a cottage now demolished, and on the outer wall of the church is a 1797 memorial to the daughter of an African prince who was taken as a slave, then later brought to England where he gained his freedom, went to the University and married a woman from Ely. Through Mr Stubbing's eyes it was possible to visualise the original village, so different from the built up area which has become a suburb of Cambridge.

Peggy Day

**GRASS PADDOCK for two horses
available now until October 1998.**

Please contact:

Mrs Wood. Tel No: 01638 742020



Ladies Circle

The Ladies Circle met once again at Zion Baptist Chapel on Monday 27th April at 7.30p.m. Hilda from Bottisham surgery was due to talk to us about First Aid but unfortunately was unable to join us. Luckily Mike Pike from Burwell agreed to help us out at short notice and gave us a very light-hearted talk with slides on his 'Coast to Coast' Walk. This was one of his life long ambitions and now that he is retired he decided to carry this out. His walk started off at St. Bees, Cumbria, across the Pennine Way and ended at Robins Hoods Bay (Yorkshire) taking 16 days to complete. Throughout his walk Mike stayed at Youth Hostels and Bed and Breakfasts on his way he made lots of friends and still keeps in touch with many of them. The evening was most enjoyable.

Future meetings are:

29th June - Ros Wright from Waterbeach. Find out on the night what she will be talking about - a very amusing subject!

27th July - A trip to Landbeach for a Musical Memorabilia evening.

Sandra Butcher



Cambridgeshire
County Council

Queens Court Day Centre

Hello! The month seems to have passed us by so quickly. The Tea Dance and Coffee

Morning went very well. We are very lucky that we have so much support from the community. Our friends come and help us with most of our functions. All the Day Centre Staff appreciate their help, to be honest our work would be more difficult without their help.

Hilary arranged for the benefit agency to come. Our friends found this very helpful, we are going to arrange another visit. If anyone would like to come, see our news letter next month. Our quiz Home v Day Centre went very well, the Home won by one point (they were helped by some staff of course!). Cambridge Folk Museum came and gave a talk and slides about shopping and the fairs of long ago.

Dairy dates for June -

3 June - Memorabilia talk by Mr and Mrs Jacobs - Burwell

11 June - Tea Dance - theme St Trinians

16 June - Pub Lunch

Pop in and see us anytime!

Derick, Brian, Sheila, Lynda and Hilary



News from Bottisham Village College

Recently we were lucky enough to host a visit from 17 Swedish Headteachers who were on a fact-finding tour to England. Sweden introduced a National Curriculum like ours about four years ago, and is about to introduce an inspection system, so they wanted to hear all about OFSTED. They had mixed feelings about my views of OFSTED: very stressful but very effective.

Their perceptions of Bottisham Village College were very interesting: they found the pupils to be extraordinarily quiet and polite, and they were amazed by the lack of graffiti. The other feature of life at Bottisham which the Swedes found quite remarkable was the willingness of staff to run lunch-time and after-school clubs - sports, music, drama and others - for no extra payment. The visit left me reflecting that we have a great deal to be thankful for. As the Swedes were leaving, I received a request for a visit from 19 Chinese teachers - it should be another interesting visit.

As usual, the arrival of summer means the exam season. Year 11 (who we used to call the Fifth Form) have been preparing carefully and will soon begin their study leave. We wish them every success at this important time of their lives. Later we can look forward to the Leavers' Ball when the pupils arrive in evening dress and enjoy a glittering occasion - many of them have been learning the waltz at school in preparation.

The other highlight of the summer term is when we welcome Year 6 pupils from local primary schools who are to join us in September. They are the new life blood of our College and it is always an exciting time for them and for us when they arrive. I believe they have a lot to look forward to because, as OFSTED said in March, 'Bottisham Village College is a very good school'.

Peter Hains, Warden



Secure your shed

Item mark property



Look after your house while you are away



Come to the Neighbourhood Watch Open



Meeting



at 7.30p.m.



in the Village Hall





CPRE East Cambridgeshire District Group

The East Cambridgeshire Group of the Council for the Protection of Rural England met on Tuesday 28th April at Swaffham Bulbeck. Discussion focussed first on the issue of Fordham by-pass which, it was reported, has been moth-balled for financial reasons, rather than excluded from further consideration. Ivan Ivanovich, the County CPRE Group's transport spokesperson, was present to hear the concerns of local members. Ivan noted that the CPRE's usual policy was to favour rail schemes over road improvements and pointed out the likely benefits of re-opening Soham Station and reinstating the old Soham to Cambridge curve into Newmarket. However, he also agreed that all options needed to be fully explored and welcomed discussion of interim measures such as low-noise tarmac and traffic calming.

There was also further discussion of the Glebe Meadow in Swaffham Bulbeck. It was agreed that this was a unique habitat in a district of only very limited amounts of unspoiled meadowland. A possible compromise offer was noted, by which part but not all of the site would be used by the school, but it was felt that this would still pose an undue threat to wildlife and that the Group should therefore maintain its opposition to any change of use.

The next meeting was fixed for Tuesday 16 June at 7.30 at 68 Commercial End, Swaffham Bulbeck. New members welcome.

Notes from the Parish Council

The Annual General Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 14th May in the Meeting Room of the Village Hall. Apologies had been received from Mr E. Day and Mr P Whitfield. There were 5 members of the public present.

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman: Mr Hardiment advised that he wished to resign. Mr Andrew Badcock was duly elected unanimously as Chairman and took the chair. Mr Eric Day, in his absence, was re-elected Vice Chairman. The Council expressed their sincere thanks to the retiring Chairman for his loyal service over the years.

Accounts 1997/98: The year-end Accounts were approved unanimously by Council, subject to the audit in July which will be attended by the Clerk.

Matters Arising Speeding: Mr P Mengham reported that the sub-committee would be able to report on results of the traffic monitoring survey within a few weeks. He wished to record appreciation of the Highways Department for their support. **Sports & Recreational Committee:** The

Clerk was tasked to write to Inland Revenue on the matter following legal advice from ECDC solicitor. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Andrew Badcock advised there would be a static display at the Feast and an open Village Meeting on 1st June which he hoped would be well supported.

CCC and ECDC reports: Both Councillors wished to record their congratulations to the Village Hall Committee for their management of the Refurbishment Project. Their reports appear elsewhere in the *Crier*.

Dencora Homes: The Council considered a further letter from the developers. Due to the fact that the Lower End field is outside the development envelope for the village and because of the strong feelings within the village, it was agreed unanimously that no meeting would be held with Dencora. The Clerk was actioned to advise them accordingly.

Village Hall Update: Mrs Cunningham advised that the Project had been completed successfully and within budget. Mr Hardiment asked that the Council's appreciation of the hard work of the three members of the Steering Committee be minuted. A set of Hire Rates/Conditions would be passed to Council.

Any other business: The Council agreed unanimously that because of the high cost, they would be unable to proceed with provision of a **Cemetery light**. The Clerk was actioned to advise the Parochial Church Council accordingly and also that they could not take any further part in discussions on churchyard lighting. **Dog Fouling:** Leaflets received from ECDC were to be distributed with the next *Crier*. **Village Shop/PO:** In the event of no suitable applicant/premises being found, the Council would support any moves to provide a facility for the village. Cllr Cane advised ECDC would support any initiative. Mrs Cunningham was asked to examine all possibilities and report back to Council as soon as possible. **Planning Matters:** The Planning Application for 2 houses on Greenhead Road site had been rejected. The Council wished to record their appreciation for Cllr. Cane's support on this matter. There had been no other Planning Applications received since the last meeting.

The Chairman reminded the meeting of the **Annual Parish Meeting** to be held in the Village Hall on 28th May. Agenda for this meeting will be posted on village Notice Boards. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 11th June in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Peter Cunningham
Clerk of the Parish Council

Cambridge Village Shops Initiative - Some of you who read the local papers may have noticed a report some weeks ago that I persuaded the ruling party to change its mind over halving the grant to the scheme. It came about in a debate at the Policy Committee where the Conservatives were desperately trying to save money to meet the very tight financial limits imposed on Cambridgeshire this year. One of their intended victims was the Village Shops Development Scheme which aims to offer support to hard pressed shop owners in villages with less than 3000 residents. Had they pursued their original aim the grant from C.C.C. would have been cut in half. By pointing out that in my area East Cambs. fully supported their share of the scheme and that the County Council would lose credibility if it did not hold its grant to the £5,000 given last year. I was, with the help of opposition colleagues, able to persuade them to change back to the original sum and find the saving out of the contingency allocation. It also means that single shops in smaller villages such as the Swaffhams and Lode may continue to benefit to a slightly greater extent than they might have done otherwise.

Another subject taking a lot of my time recently has been the changes made at **Quy roundabout**. Those of you who use it will have experienced teething troubles made worse by delays in completing the changes because of weather and contract problems. Several people have telephoned me and officers at Shire Hall to protest at the delays caused by the changes and the long drawn-out carrying out of the work. I have been to Shire Hall today (11th May) and had a long morning's meeting with three of the officers most concerned. First of all they apologised for the delays to commuters. They also wished me to point out that it is impossible to widen the roundabout to, for instance, insert another lane as they are right up to the physical limit of the site.

The continual severe shortage of cash is another major factor limiting remedial action. They concede it will never be possible to please everyone partly because the standards of individual drivers vary widely. Nevertheless, they claim with some justice that as the work is now finished, the scheme appears to be working as far as the flow of traffic is concerned.

It is too early to say that shunt accidents on the slip road from the A14 (east) have been removed, but the early signs are encouraging. It is worth repeating that the prime reason for the changes was to make the roundabout safer; improving the flow of traffic was secondary. Certainly, cyclists who do not use the Quy Mill tunnel are finding the refuge on the roundabout to be useful and reassuring.

James Fitch



EASTON & DISTRICT COUNCIL

From your District Councillor

The District Council has held its AGM and elected a new Chairman. Councillor James Fitch had served his two years, so he stood down and Councillor Philip Warren was elected as Chairman for the current year. Councillor John Smith was elected as the Vice Chairman. The membership of committees has also changed. I am still on Planning and Licensing and have joined the Environment Committee.

I have talked to the Post Office about the temporary closure of the Swaffham Prior Post Office. They are actively looking for someone to take it over. I explained that the Council could offer financial support to village shops, in the form of rate relief and capital grants, in the hope that this information would assist them in finding a new Agent. I hope that there will be some positive news to report in next month's edition of the *Crier*.

Planning has proved to be a very interesting committee. We have a difficult tight rope to walk between the needs of the District as a whole, the Developer's aims and the concerns of local residents. On most applications these three interests can be successfully brought together, but in some cases there is no room for compromise. In such cases we are strictly controlled by central government legislation. We must always act within the law otherwise the Council could be fined (which would cost the Council Tax payers money) or in extreme cases individual Councillors could be fined. This can mean that we cannot always meet all the concerns of local residents but it does not mean that it is not worth you commenting. These comments can often provide the evidence which is needed to identify which 'material planning issues' apply in the case. If you ever feel strongly about a planning application (whether in favour or against) please write in to the relevant Planning Officer. If you live near to a place for which a planning application is made you will receive notification from the District Council, otherwise applicants must display a sign at the site and the Parish Clerk is also informed of all applications. As reported in May's edition of the *Crier*, the Parish Council have arranged for a report at the Annual Village Meeting about your rights in raising objections to Planning Applications. I hope you will find the presentation useful. And if you are ever unsure about how to make your views known, please contact me and I'll be happy to explain the procedures to you. Indeed, I am always pleased to hear your views on Planning or any other District Council issues.

Charlotte Cane



Church Services in June

Sunday 7th

Trinity

11.00am Deanery Family Service
in St. Cyriac's with Bishop John

Sunday 14th

Trinity 1

11.00am Family Service

Sunday 21st

Trinity 2

6.00pm Evensong and Sermon

11.00am Parish Communion

6.00pm Evening Prayer and sermon
in St. Cyriac's with Cambridge Voices

Sunday 28th

Trinity 3

8.00am Holy Communion

11.00am Matins and Sermon

+ **Holy Communion** is celebrated every Wednesday in Burwell Church and every Thursday in Swaffham Bulbeck Church at 10am; also at Reach Church at 8a.m. on June 14th and 21st.

+**Evening Prayer** is said on Wednesdays at 5pm at Reach Church

+**Bellringing** - Tuesday practice nights in St Cyriac's every fortnight at 8pm, Sundays from 10.30am and before 6pm Evensong.

Contact Dr. Margaret Stainer on 741328

The Vicar would be pleased to know of anyone needing a home or hospital visit or would like to receive Holy Communion at home.

Important diary dates in June

1st at 2.15p.m. Mothers Union at Free Church, Commercial End

5th at 5.00p.m. Confirmation rehearsal at Isleham

7.30p.m. Wine and Cheese evening at The Hall, High Street

Church Gift (Thanksgiving) Day

9th at 7.30p.m. 'Post Lent' Group - Swaffham Bulbeck Village Hall

13th at 2.00p.m. Ely Diocesan Children's Festival at the Cathedral

18th at 11.45a.m. Holy communion, 15 Tothill Road - friends welcome

20th at 9.00a.m. Car-boot sale on the Green, Reach

23rd at 7.30p.m. Midsummer Mass and party at Ely Cathedral

25th at 12.30p.m. Village lunch at Goodwin Manor

26th at 8.00p.m. 'Ely Essential' Youth event at the Cathedral

Parish Register - April 1998

Holy Baptism : Ayshea Victoria Tian Blanks

In Memoriam: Richard Gordon Bigland Wood (Interment of ashes)

Dear Friends



The wooden chairs could be hung by hooks on the wall when not in use; the furniture was well made and without any decoration; the rush brooms were symbols of the extreme cleanliness of living; there was the first washing-machine; out of old sepia photographs gazed gentle but firm gazes of men in frock coats and wide-brimmed hats and women wearing bonnets and aprons. This was all part of an exhibition of 'Shaker' life, on display at the Barbican Centre.

The Shakers, or 'The Millennial Church', began in England in 1747 but moved to America in 1774. They believed in celibacy and that Christ's second Coming had begun in Mother Ann, the female principle in Christ. Men and women had equal status, but lived separate lives; though they sang together and danced together in worship (the memory of which we keep unknowingly alive every time we sing the old Shaker tune, the Lord of the Dance). The children of the converted were taught within the commune. They continued until the 1950's. Now they are a footnote in history. They were just one of many examples of Christian Millenarian movements down the centuries; usually associated with revolutionary ideals.

The Millennium has never been in christian usage a term for the measuring of a thousand years since the birth of Jesus. It has been either a loose term for the period of time between Christ's resurrection and his coming again (which has no necessarily defined number of years) or the thousand years of Christ's reign on earth before the Last Judgement (Revelation 20). The espousal by many committed christians of the year 2000 as being specifically a christian event leaves me a little bemused, unless we are suggesting that Christ will come again in the year 2000, in which case they know something I don't! The idea of a 'Spirit zone' in the Greenwich Dome is frankly ludicrous in comparison with the lofty vision of traditional millennial ideas. Nearer the revolutionary spirit of previous millennial movements is the so-called Jubilee 2000, which aims to cancel Third World debt. That would indeed be a significant sign of the coming closer of Christ's Kingdom; one which the Shakers would have understood. But to bring it about we shall need much more fundamental changes than a resolution at the G8 Summit, changes which I suspect many are not prepared to make. Turning future hope into moral and spiritual truths, believing that a better world has already been realised as a result of Christ's resurrection, these are 'millennial' christian principles. The Shakers show us both the nobility of taking christian principles seriously, and the futility of taking them literally.

With love, *Mark*



Zion Baptist Chapel

Services for June 1998:

Sunday 7th	10.30 am	Family Service - Paul Tim Heffer
	6.30 pm	John Sargent
Sunday 14th	6.30pm	Polly Wilderspin
Sunday 21st	6.30pm	Steve Ayres
Sunday 28th	6.30pm	Steve Ayres

Love is the Greatest.

Last month we had the privilege of attending the re-opening of the village hall, and how beautiful it is. I never saw the hall before the refurbishment, but by all accounts the transformation is remarkable and obviously the result of much effort and attention to detail. As usual I found myself thinking along 'sermon' lines, wondering which part of the work had been the most important. The Bible has a lot to say about us being changed within in such a way that we bring beauty into the lives of those around us. One way of doing this is loving others with that same quality of love with which God loves us. The following story (taken from a book by Patience Purchas) illustrates what I mean:

'She had seemed such a quiet, gentle person all her life. Her name was never in the newspapers: her neighbours knew her, and the people she worked with, but outside her small community she was unknown. But those who did know her - her family, her friends, her colleagues, members of her church, neighbours, the newspaper boy, the people who served her in the shops, the young unmarried mother, the crusty old widower, the lonely little girl - they knew she was like gold. Not perfect, for only Jesus was ever that, but kind and generous, thoughtful and sensitive and sometimes very funny. Above all, she had a way of making you feel better. Someone said of her, 'It was as if the sun came out when she came into the room'. When she died, the church was crowded for her funeral. Her family wondered why so many had come. The congregation recognised each other with surprise. Then they understood. They had all - young and old, family and stranger - been drawn within the circle of her love.'

How do we measure God's love for us? - He gave up His Son to die on the cross to deal with our sin. When we have experienced this love for ourselves, we can pass it on to others. A modern translation of the Bible describes it this way: *Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, doesn't have a swelled head, doesn't force itself on others, isn't always 'me first', doesn't fly off the handle, doesn't keep score of the sins of others, doesn't gloat over others' misfortunes never looks back, but keeps going to the end* (From 1 Corinthians

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

Masses: Newmarket: Sat 1830; Sun 0900,1030,1700;
Kirtling: Sun 0945; Soham 1700
In Bottisham Parish Church, Sun 0900 (Served from Cambridge).

From John Morrill, Deacon to the Roman Catholic Community

When I was a lad in Lancashire, Whit week was wakes week. All the factories stopped work and it was the great holiday period of the year, when many of the towns had their annual fairs, and all those who could afford it headed for the Fylde coast (Blackpool, or for those who were a bit posh Lytham-St-Annes) or the North Wales Coast. My family, which had no car, always hired an undertaker's Austin Princess and headed for Llandudno. Whit week was almost as important as Christmas and Easter.

It is ages since I heard of Whit Sunday, let alone Whit Week; nowadays committed Christians call it Pentecost, and everyone else calls it Bank Holiday weekend. And while churches still see a surge at Christmas and Easter, attendance at Whit/Pentecost is pretty much the average of the year. Which is a pity; because it is a major festival, the Festival of the Holy Spirit.

It was called Whit Sunday as a form of 'White Sunday', the day on which people wore white, the commemoration of the time 50 days after the Resurrection when the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles and empowered them. And for centuries that did make it the third great Festival. It had its own great rituals associated with the symbols of the Holy Spirit. Even in a small, rural parish like Swaffham Prior in the later Middle Ages, trumpeters would have been hired to fill the church with sound as the priest and perhaps the people sang the *Veni Creator Spiritus*, best known to us as the hymn

Come Holy Ghost, Creator, Come
from thy bright Heavenly Throne
come, take possession of our souls
and make them all thine own.

Meanwhile, tongues of fire would be sent forth from the Church roof, and doves released to flutter around. How tame worship seems these days!

If God the Father is beyond our comprehension and imagination, too glorious and unlimited, and God the Son is the manifestation of God made flesh, God made man-sized, then God the Holy Spirit is that aspect of God that is available to us if we only open our hearts and minds. He is the spiritual air we breathe and are barely conscious of, the endlessly renewable resource always at our beck and call. God the Holy Spirit deserves his own

Dates for Your Diary - June 1998

Mon	1	Playgroup Open Morning, Village Hall, 9am - 12noon Mothers Union, Free Church, Commercial End, 2.15 pm Neighbourhood Watch Open Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
Tue	2	School Govenors, 7.30pm
Thu	4	'Out of Order' Bottisham Players, BVC, 7.30pm Deanery Choir Practice at Isleham, 7.30p.m.
Fri	5	'Out of Order' Bottisham Players, BVC, 7.30pm St Mary's Church Gift Day Cheese and Wine Evening, The Hall, High Street, 7.30pm
Sat	6	'Out of Order', Bottisham Players, BVC, 7.30pm
Tue	9	'Post Lent' Group Swaffham Bulbeck Village Hall, 7.30p.m.
Thu	11	PC Meeting, Village Hall 7.30pm Yeomen of the Guard', Mitchell Hall Barn, S. Bulbeck, 8pm
Fri	12	Yeomen of the Guard', 8pm
Sat	13	Yeoman of the Guard, 2.30pm and 8pm Village Gardeners - Visit to Beth Chatto's garden
Sun	14	Crier Copy deadline
Mon	15	W.I., Village Hall, 7.30pm
Tue	16	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:30-4:10, Chapel 4:15-4:30pm Parish Pilgrimage, from The Round Church, Cambridge 7pm
Sat	20	Car Boot Sale, The Green, Reach 9am - 12 noon
Thu	25	Village Lunch, Goodwin Manor, Station Road, Noon - 2pm Crier Collating, Village Hall School Trustees - Goodwin Manor, 7.30pm
Sat	27	Third Annual Ball, BVC, 7.30pm - Midnight
Mon	29	Ladies Circle, Zion Chapel, 7.30pm
Tue	30	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:30-4:10, Chapel 4:15-4:30pm



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