



The Swaffham Crier

Volume 23 Number 7

July 1999



Editorial

One of the main things preoccupying those of us with children at the Village School over the last few weeks has been the unsatisfactory OFSTED report which the School received. Brenda Wilson, the Headmistress, comments on this (page 6) and we, as parents, also feel that the report is unduly harsh and unhelpful in its tone. Each positive point is followed by a “however” whilst the negative opinions of the inspectors are given great prominence. In several places, large school criteria appear to have been applied to our small school. Much is made of the statistical unreliability of small numbers when the data favours the school (for example the very good SATs results) but the averaged scores for the teaching come out as unsatisfactory solely because of problems in two classes - one which had a temporary teacher who has now left! On a much happier note, this month sees the annual School Sports Day and Summer Fair on the 11th (ad on page 18).

We are very delighted to report that two villagers were honoured in the Queen’s Birthday Honours. Jean Moore received an MBE for her services to the community and Michael Marshall a CBE for services to the engineering industry and to the community. Both richly deserved!

There is still no secure future for the village shop and post office (page 13) and it is now becoming urgent that someone is found to take it on or we are likely to lose it altogether. If anyone knows of someone who might be interested, please contact one of the Committee.

Opponents of Dencora’s plans to build on the Lower End field will be pleased to read in Charlotte Cane’s report (page 21) that their appeal has been rejected. It would be nice to think that this will be last that we will hear of these plans but

The vicar (page 25) explains the new church service times and the new minister at the Baptist Chapel, David Bousfield, introduces himself (page 26). Also new to the village, are Ade and Paula Lawes at the pub (page 11), and their children Glen, 6 (who’ll be attending the village school) and Tara, 3. Ade and Paula would especially like to thank the many villagers who have already made them feel so very welcome in the short time they have been here.

James Matheson

Cover Picture: The Windmill



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors

Mary Prince

Last month, I wrote to thank all those who made donations at the funeral service for my wife Mary. I just wanted to let readers know that these donations totalled just over £400 which will be going to the British Heart Foundation.

Many many thanks.

Sid Prince

12 Green Head Road

Dear Editors,

Mary Ray

On behalf of Marion, Nigel and myself, I would like to thank all the kind people who gave us such support and comfort during Mary's illness. Also for the many cards and messages we recieved following our recent sad loss.

Our special thanks go to Mark Haworth for a lovely service and the many friends who came to the funeral.

We would also like to thank all those who visited her in the hospital, namely Pauline King, Mary Day, Doreen Ling, Sandra Butcher, Jane Prentice and many other friends.

Your kindness has been of great comfort to us all. Thank you.

Graham Ray

25 Rogers Road

Dear Editors,

Thanks

Many thanks to all kind relatives, neighbours and friends for much appreciated good wishes cards and presents. Also, much needed help.

I greatly enjoyed a weekend at home, and am thankfully feeling better.

Jean Lewis

69 High Street



The Miller's Music

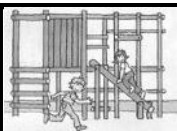


**Saturday 31st July 1999 at 7.30pm.
The Church of St Cyriac & St Julietta,
Swaffham Prior**

**Performed by the Gough Duo
Rachel Gough (Violin), Rupert Gough (Organ)**

As part of our fund raising efforts to restore the windmill sails, we are delighted to present a concert of music for Violin and Organ by the Gough Duo. They were formed in 1997 to explore the repertoire of music for violin and organ, and since then have given many concerts across the UK in cathedrals and major parish churches. Their broad repertoire of music written specifically for the violin and organ ranges from the Baroque, through German, French and English Romantic to contemporary. The duo are based in Wells, Somerset, where Rupert is Assistant Organist of Wells Cathedral.

They will be performing a range of works from Bach, Vivaldi, Langelais and Rheinberger. Ticket is by programme, and these are available from the Mill in advance or on the door, price £5.00. All proceeds of the concert go towards the Mill Restoration. Further information from Jonathan Cook on 01638 741 009.



SWAFFHAM PRIOR SUMMER PLAYScheme



**Monday 2nd August - Friday 6th August
(9.30am - 12.00am, £2.00 per morning)**

The playscheme is open to all primary school age children in the village. There will be a huge range of activities (ice-skating, sports, pottery, drama and many more) and also at least two outings every morning. For more details and a registration form please contact:

Dee Noyes (01638 743864)

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

"Hasn't anyone asked them?", wondered one of the Red Lion backroom lawyers. Alas, I did not know. So, at the General Assembly on 27 May, I did ask "Why doesn't the PC publish the results of the speeding survey?". Many have speculated on the reason, but I bet no-one guessed correctly. Peter Mengham provided the answer.



It seems that we ordinary villagers cannot be trusted with the information. The police chose 41 mph (High Street) and 51 mph (Mill Hill) as its guideline for assessing the problem. Peter Mengham thought that if people were aware of this they would all begin driving at 40 and 50mph in those locations. So, for the sake of the village as a whole, this sensitive information is being restricted to only those who have the moral fibre to handle it. Even if the Freedom of Information Act was already on the statute books I do not think this would help to get the facts out of Peter.

Fortunately the Chairman of the PC and of the General Assembly, Andrew Badcock, did not share this need for secrecy and was not totally averse to publishing the results. He asked if anyone wanted to propose a motion supporting the release of the figures. The motion was duly proposed, seconded and voted on. There was a grand total of fourteen (14) people at the General Assembly - a few PC members, a few officers of organisations who had to make a report, and a number of the faithful who turn up at such events. About 4 or 5 voted for the motion, about 6 or 7 against, and there were one or two abstentions.

So there you have it. The majority view is that the information should remain secret - all for our own good. But certain things have become common knowledge and therefore I am not breaching the decision taken at the meeting. One of these is that 1% exceeded 41 mph in the High Street. And, what the Chairman revealed, with a twinkle in his eye, is that most of the High Street excesses occurred by chance at the very time when mothers deliver and collect their little ones from school.

This interesting revelation instantly led to 4 people vociferously agreeing and elaborating on what they considered to be the irresponsible driving of mothers. Whether the anecdotes are true or untrue, isn't the circumstantial evidence something which ought to have been made available? After all, if the safety of the children is one of the many concerns, and *if* the driving of mothers may be part of the problem, why not say so? It would certainly be cheaper than traffic calming devices. How much more of equal significance has been withheld? Instead all the village got was that crummy report in the December 1998 *Crier*. But I seem to be almost in a minority of one in doubting the effectiveness of that speeding sub-committee.

I turn now to the events at the June PC meeting. The meeting was a bit light on the ground without Andrew Badcock, Peter Whitfield, Henry Hardiment and Charlotte Cane. Eric took the chair, and unusually for him, there were times when he appeared to be stretching it out. Even so it moved along and finished at 8.40.

But not before James Fitch had given the good news that in Cambridgeshire the

growth rate of over 85 year old people is twice that of the national average. That's something for all of us to look forward to! And excellent advertising copy for estate agents. James also produced the new bus timetable and some made a rush for the spare copies and began to study it. This sorted out the public service users from the single minded car drivers who appeared to wonder what all the excitement was about. It was very interesting to observe.

'Correspondence received' flashed by in seconds. Three quarters of the business had been completed and it was barely 8.00pm. Eric was a desperate man and searched for other items on the agenda. "What's this 'General'?", he asked Karen. "That's general correspondence - and there isn't any". All Eric's hopes were dashed.

Things improved with 'Accounts for Payment' which took up twenty minutes and then there was a five minute silence while the plans of two planning applications were studied. Even so, it could well have ended at 8.30 if Andrew Camps had not said he had been asked to raise the state of the hedge in Coopers Lane which had encroached over the path. Initially there was some uncertainty about the location of the hedge and Eric thought it was near Kate Child. Eventually it was agreed that it was behind Bramble Tye, and that it was in Coopers Lane bordering one side of the field containing the horse. Eric still thought it was near Kate Child. Who owns the field? The last firm news is that Bidwells lets it out on behalf of a Day Trust. Who should cut the hedge? It seems it hasn't been cut for at least thirteen years, has encroached 4 or 5 feet, and the owner of the field used to cut it. The PC will write to Bidwells accordingly.

Alastair Everitt

What does your little bright spark do
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610135 for more information.

**Bright
Sparks
Playgroup**



School Report - June 1999

Many of you will know that the school had its second OFSTED inspection a few weeks ago. Although the report commended many aspects of the school, the difficulties which the school was experiencing at the time, meant that the team made what seems to us a harsh judgement. The Inspectors highlighted problems with the quality of teaching in two classes, and required the school to develop an action plan to address these and associated issues. The Governors and staff have already begun this process and are confident that we will soon re-establish our school's good name.

"The school is at the heart of its local community (which) continues to have a positive impact on the life of the school and its pupils". Reception pupils receive a good start to their education. Teaching in Reception and Year 6 was praised. The standards achieved by our 11 year olds in national tests (SATs) are well above average in English and Maths compared with all other schools, and are still above average when compared with similar schools. We were praised for our wide range of extra-curricular activities: *"the range would do credit to a large school with many staff, and is especially commendable in such a small school."*

It is a difficult time for us but as OFSTED said *"Parents are very supportive of the school"* and with a little help from our friends we will overcome our problems.

Brenda Wilson
Headteacher



Recipe of the Month

The bar-b-que and salad season is upon us. Here are a selection of salads with a difference. Thanks to Kate Child for these.

Carrot Salad

Ingredients

1.2Kg (2½lbs) carrots	70mls (2½fl.oz) cider vinegar
1 spanish onion	150mls(6 fl.oz) vegetable oil (preferably olive oil)
1 green pepper	1 teasp. made mustard
1(295g) can condensed tomato soup	1 teasp. worcester sauce
Salt and pepper	

Method

- 1 Peel and slice carrots and cook until barely tender.

- 2 Finely slice the onion and de-seed and slice the pepper. Par boil the pepper for 2-3 minutes.
- 3 Combine remaining ingredients in a bowl, add prepared vegetables.
- 4 Stir well, season, cover and refrigerate.
- 5 This will keep in a fridge for up to a week. Left-overs can be added to casseroles or put into containers and frozen.

Marinated Mushroom Salad

Ingredients

200g (8oz) button mushrooms	100g(4oz) celery
100g (4oz) onion	2 tablesp. Chopped parsley
75ml (3fl.oz) olive oil	2½ teasp. brown sugar
2 teasp. tomato puree	Salt and pepper

Method

- 1 Slice mushrooms and celery and mix with the parsley.
- 2 Mix the remaining ingredients and pour over the vegetables, stirring well and season to taste.
- 3 Cover and leave to marinate for 2 days in refrigerator.

Carrot and Pineapple Salad

Ingredients

1 small tin crushed pineapple	200g (8oz) carrots – peel and grate
25g (1oz) sultanas	15g(½oz) desiccated coconut

Method

- 1 Mix all the ingredients together in a bowl..
- 2 Chill in the fridge and serve

Three Bean Salad

Ingredients

1 can of red kidney beans	3 spring onions – chopped
1 can of chick peas	1 teasp. made mustard
150g (6oz) frozen cut green beans	1 tablesp wine vinegar
Salt and peper	3 tablesp. olive oil

Method

- 1 Cook the green beans, drain and allow to cool. Drain the tins beans and rinse under a cold tap.
- 2 Add all the beans and the onion to a bowl, mixing well.
- 3 In a screw top jar place the oil, vinegar, mustard, pinch of salt and pepper. Replace the screw top and vigorously shake the mixture to combine well.
- 4 Pour the contents over the beans, mixing well. Cover and leave in the fridge overnight – will keep for up to a 5 days in the fridge.

Hilary Mengham

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Quote!

You cannot hope to bribe or twist, thank God the British journalist. But seeing what the man will do, unbribed, there's no occasion to.

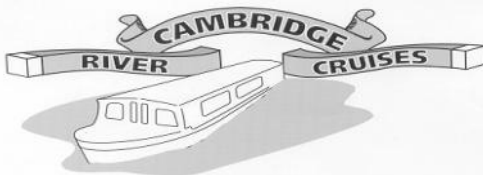
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Mellisa Goss . IHBC . IIHHT . BABTAC



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Red Lion News

Welcome to Ade and Paula Lawes, who took over at the Red Lion a couple of weeks ago. They have a long and successful track-record in Pub management and have previously been in Louth and Northampton amongst others. They want to the Red Lion to be at the centre of the village community.

Ade is the chef, and is particularly keen on the use of fresh, local produce - any fans of mushy, over-cooked vegetables should dine elsewhere! Booking is recommended as things have been very busy on Wednesday,



July and August Wildlife - Bat Chat

At this time of year many of us go for gentle walks in the late summer evenings often accompanied by a cloud of midges and, if we're lucky, the swooping and circling of bats. These much maligned creatures get a very bad press, conjuring up images of blood sucking, lip smacking vampire bats causing many to run screaming in terror. However, the only bats even vaguely fitting this description live in South and Central America and even then they prefer to feed from cattle or birds than nasty tasting humans. In fact, in their swooping flight, our bats are eating the midges and biting flies that do actually suck our blood!



Another widespread belief surrounding bats is that they are blind. People often accuse others of being 'blind as a bat', when in fact bats can see quite well. They need their eyesight to make sure it is dark enough for them to leave their roost and also to see round inside the roost. Their eyesight is thus suited to low levels of light and they cannot distinguish colour, so how about 'as colour blind as a bat'?

Bats find their way around in the dark and locate flying insects by echolocation, by giving a loud short shout, listening to all the echoes bouncing back and noting how quickly they return. The echo from a tasty moth fluttering a few feet away will return faster and louder than that from a far building. If after the next 'shout' the moth echo has changed, the bat will know this is a flying insect and therefore, dinner.

The Wildlife Trust is organising several 'bat events' throughout July and August, so if you would like to learn more about bats and other wildlife or would like to know how to join, please phone 01223 712400.

Gardens Open
Lode with Longmeadow
July 10 & 11 2-5 pm

theme gardens

competitions

games

prizes

surprises

face painting

plant stall

teas

bric-a-brac

children's tattoos

garden design advice

exhibits

games

produce stall

tombola

bar

shuttle bus Lode/Longmeadow/Fen

Entrance & programme £1.50
children free / parking free

wheelchairs available courtesy of British Red Cross

Start: Lode Social Club, Lode Rd



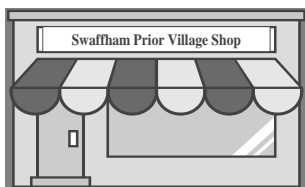
STAINE HUNDRED

A coachload of members and friends went to Kent on June 3rd to visit Penshurst Place. After coffee and biscuits on arrival, three parties were escorted round the House and told its history.

The Baron's Hall date backs to 1341, designed to be a residence which was a day's hard ride by horseback from London! It contains a later Tudor screen, complete with minstrel gallery, a hearth in the centre of the room and tables from the 15th century. Above this is the Solar, originally the withdrawing room for the ladies with a Squint so that they could keep an eye on the men below! The enormous table was set out with an elegant dessert service of Rockingham china. It is still used by the family for special occasions. The present owner, Viscount de L'Isle, is one of the Sidney family who have lived in the house for about 450 years. The state-rooms are filled with a remarkable collection of tapestries, paintings, furniture, porcelain and armour. There was time to visit the Toy Museum and the rain held off so that the formal gardens and park could be explored.

On the way home, a visit was paid to All Saints Church, Tudeley near Tonbridge. A church has stood on this site since Domesday but it owes its fame to the colourful windows designed by the famous French artist Marc Chagall. The east window was a memorial to a young girl who died in a sailing accident off Rye in 1963 but since then more windows have been commissioned so that it is an unparalleled collection of the works of Chagall in England. The impact of these modern colourful windows is breath-taking.

Peggy Day



Village Shop and Post Office

Some of you may be wondering what is the present position with regard to the village post office and shop.

As a result of the vacancy advertisements in April, two applicants were interviewed by Post Office Counters and found to be acceptable, but subsequent to that both applicants withdrew. Since then we have been trying

to identify and interest other possible people to apply formally, but without success.

Val Clarke has performed an excellent job ever since May of last year even though she only expected to be committed for up to 6 months, and Post Office Counters only normally allow a satellite office such as ours to operate for about 3 months. We were therefore expecting that as no one had come forward to take over the post office on a permanent basis that the village would lose the facility at the end of July. However, Val Clarke has offered, and Post Office Counters have agreed, to continue but on a slightly reduced scale. As from the beginning of August it will only be open on Thursday afternoon from 1.30 to 4.30pm offering the full Post Office services thus enabling benefits still to be paid out from within the village. The general shop facility will not be available, but Graham Fuller will continue to be in the car park during the same hours so that you will still be able to buy all your fresh fruit and vegetables.

It is known as a fact that the Post Office cannot continue indefinitely on this temporary arrangement, **so if you know anyone who may be interested in being the Village Postmaster or Postmistress please persuade them to come forward.** Premises can be made available in the Village Hall.

Pat Cunningham & Trevor Jones



LADIES CIRCLE

On Monday 24th May 1999 The Ladies Circle met at the Baptist Chapel for their monthly meeting. This month we were entertained by Jaggar Laycock who told us the history of the Negro's and their spiritual and soul music which helped them through their slave years. Jaggar sang a selection of Negro songs and members joined in. The evening was very light hearted and most entertaining.

Forthcoming meetings are:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 26.7.99 | Outing to Ely Museum |
| 23.8.99 | Miriam Day will talk on work of the Salvation Army |
| 27.9.99 | Jeff Evans from Newmarket will tell us about life on a stud. |

We would welcome any new members - just pop along and see what a friendly group of ladies we are - all ages welcome.



VILLAGE GARDENERS

The walk along Devil's Dyke on 15th June was poorly attended, but those who were able to go had a very pleasant evening.

There was a profusion of wild flowers to be enjoyed and Sharon Hearly of The Wildlife Trust, who led the walk, was able to name the less well-known varieties including pyramidal and scented orchids.

There will be two meetings in July. The first in on Tuesday 6th when we shall be visiting Dr. Ruth Chippindale's garden in Harlton, leaving Swaffham Prior Village Hall at 6.30pm. The second visit on 20th July is to Linda Draper's cottage garden at Bradford St.Clair, leaving Swaffham Prior Village Hall at 6.45pm.

Betty Prime



Village Hall Report

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee was held on Monday 24th May. After approval of the Minutes of the last AGM in 1998, the Chairman Alastair Everitt read his prepared report for the Annual Assembly to the meeting which covered the period up to 31 March 1999. The Treasurer, Trevor Jones, distributed copies of the audited Accounts up to the same period. He explained that income from hirings totalled £5,270, a considerable increase over any other period of time. However, general running costs (heating, lighting, insurance, cleaning, telephone etc) had also increased following extension of the hall, for example, the cleaning costs are over £1,500 per annum for a once a week clean. It is hoped that we shall be able to build up a reserve to cover future maintenance (painting, equipment replacement and others). The Officers then offered their resignations and called for nominations for the vacancies. Alastair Everitt was re-elected as Chairman, Trevor Jones as Treasurer and Pat Cunningham as Secretary. The AGM was then declared closed.

The next Committee meeting will be on Monday 2nd August commencing at 7.30pm.

Pat Cunningham

Cleaning Lady Required

Swaffham Prior/Burwell

£4.50 per hour

References essential.

Please call: 01440-785192

Notes from the Parish Council June Meeting

E. Day chaired the meeting with 5 members, and 3 members of the Public.

Matters Arising

Lay-By Water Tower: Meeting with CCC to be held on 25th June. Report next PC meeting.

Village Shop: No change since May meeting.

Playground Equipment: Further discussions about play equipment. The possibility of stepping stones and balancing bar to be further investigated. One price had been received but this seemed very expensive. Further prices are to be sought from alternative suppliers. Report next month.

The Millennium: A suitable design for a millennium cup/mug for the school children is being looked into. With reference to the village map, a firm quote was still being sought. A firm price had been received for the sun-dial.

General Maintenance Programme: Only one estimate had been received for the maintenance work needed to village seats, noticeboards, village hall fencing, etc. This will be further discussed at the next meeting when hopefully further estimates will be available.

Village Hall Driveway: The resurfacing of the driveway will start in the very near future.

Reports

Councillor Fitch reported to the meeting.

Accounts for Payment

Payments were agreed.

Planning Applications

The following **applications** had been received:

- a) 1.8m frontage wall & gates - Rose Crescent Cottage, 66 High Street.
- b) Two storey extension - Lords Ground Ltd., Lords Ground Farm.

There were no objections to the above applications.

Planning approvals:

- a) Conversion of redundant farm buildings to three units of working & living accommodation Sterling Farm, Heath Road.
- b) One house & garage, land adjacent to 34 Lower End.
- c) Erection of new disabled toilet extension at St Mary's Church.

Any other Business

Neighbourhood Watch: A meeting will be held on 23rd June 1999.

Open question time

The ownership of hedgerows along School House Lane/Coopers Lane was discussed as these need cutting - the Clerk to investigate further. The Clerk is to ask Dencora to tidy up the ditch & hedgerow that runs on the Lower End boundary of their land.

The **next meeting** will be held on 8th July 1999.

Karen King

Clerk of the Parish Council

Bottisham, Burwell, Linton Village Colleges *Lifelong Learning* for The Twenty First Century

Computer Summer Schools

Monday 12th - Friday 16th July & Monday 26th - Friday 30th July

Autumn Term programme starts Monday 20th September

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



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SPORTS DAY &
SUMMER FAIR ON
SUNDAY 11TH
JULY AT 12PM**



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CASTLE!**

**GRAND RAFFLE
PRIZE**

**BBQ
LUCKY
LOLLIES**

LUCKY DIP

**SALAD
BAR**

**1ST.FLIGHT IN A
DEHAVILLAND 87B
HORNET MOTH**

**FACE
PAINTING**

**SPLAT
THE RAT**

2ND HAMPER

**WINE OR
WATER**

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GO-KARTS!!!**

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POP A BALLOON**

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BRICABRAC**

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CIRCUS**

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PLANT STALL**

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MACHINE!!!!**

**BAR
(PIMMS GALORE!)**

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Now and again I have mentioned the rapid **growth of population** in our county. Some figures are now available to prove this. It seems that from 1996 to 2006 we can expect Cambridgeshire's population to grow relatively faster than any other county in England and Wales. The estimates vary but only between 8 and 12 percent. This compares with the rest of the country growing at 2½ percent! So it is not surprising that the question of where are all these people are going to live keeps coming up in the press, TV and radio.

The **Cambridgeshire Futures group**, on which I represent East Cambs., has been exhibiting potential solutions at the Grafton Centre and Guildhall. Well worth a visit. A summing up of the consultations and opinions from elsewhere will be discussed at Churchill College on 18th June and I'll report back to you thereafter. Perhaps appropriately, the Inspector's view of the East Cambs Local Plan is due very shortly. In the long run, any plans for the Cambridge area must fit in with the Local Plan.

The brisk negotiations with Philip Eden, Director of **Stagecoach**, carried out by Councillor Valerie Leake and me last month seem to have been reasonably successful. By any other Cambs. village standards we have a good service on offer from June 1st but it certainly could be improved - particularly for those wanting to get to and from Newmarket. We are still recording problems you raise with us, such as the unbalanced timing of the Sunday buses. As problems arise, let Stagecoach know, and also me if you feel you need extra help. The County does subsidise part of the service (late night and Sundays) and here we have more pull compared with the wholly commercial and more popular weekday times.

We are entering the season of visiting **conmen**. This year a lot of this type of fraud relates to cold callers armed with expensive vacuum cleaners. They have often preceded their calls by telephone pretending to be researching asthma or dust allergies. Before you know where you are, you are subjected to up to 3 hours hard sell and many people sign on for a machine, usually selling for up to £1,300. Anyone wishing to cancel or return a machine experiences difficulty over refunds. Trading Standards department advise great care in dealing with any firm giving an address: 8, The Green, Willingham. In general, they repeat advice to check your cancellation rights, sleep on the deal, don't let anyone into your home unless you want them to enter and, if in doubt, 'phone Trading standards at 0645 - 376060.

James Fitch



The Inspector has reported on the Local Plan Inquiry. He has rejected Dencora's appeal and the appeals to build houses to the North of Mill Hill. The Inspector has accepted many of Dencora's points about housing need and the ability to landscape the site so that the buildings would not be too intrusive. However, he states that: *'a common feature of this part of East Cambridgeshire is the presence of "ends", hamlets separated from the parent village by open land'. Lower End has had a physically separate existence from Swaffham Prior for a long time, as the presence of listed buildings in Lower End dating back to the seventeenth and eighteenth century testifies I remain convinced the proposed development would bring about the coalescence of Lower End with Swaffham Prior [the previous] Inspector found such a merging of the settlements to be highly damaging and I agree with my colleague on this point.'*

He also rejected the appeals for increased development in Reach and Swaffham Bulbeck and accepted the reduction of the development envelope in Swaffham Bulbeck.

If you want to see a copy of the report, I have one. A copy will be sent to the Parish Council, local libraries will have copies and it can be read at the Council Offices in Ely.

The East Cambridgeshire Carnival will be held in Ely on Saturday 10th July. This carnival is to launch our Local Agenda 21 initiative. This initiative covers all aspects of our life from recycling, through local shops, pubs and services, to better public transport and clean air. There will be a procession, with bands including children playing drums which they made earlier in the drum making workshop, a green fair, a community circus and stalls selling local and organic produce – our local Prospects Trust will be there. The Carnival starts at 9.30am, with the Procession between 12.00 and 1.00pm and continues through to a fashion show between 4.30 and 5.30pm. It's going to be a very exciting day, with lots to do for young and old alike, so please come, have a great day out and find out how you can help East Cambridgeshire move into the new millennium as a thriving sustainable community.

Charlotte Cane

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES FROM THE MEETING HELD AT SWAFFHAM PRIOR VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 17th MAY 1999

1. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- a **Historic Churches sign:** the Vicar reported that it would not be prudent to pursue the installation of such a sign, as the costs, which would have to be borne by the church, were prohibitive.
- b **Millennium arrangements:** The Vicar asked for PCC approval for a Millennium bookmark with the Lord's Prayer printed on it, to be distributed to all households in Swaffham Prior and Reach, instead of a candle. They would cost 28p each, and both the Chapel and the Roman Catholics would be willing to share in the expense of this. The Vicar said that he would order 1000 copies as the PCC gave their approval.
- c **Churchyard:** the Vicar said a contractor from ECDC would be coming to draw up a plan for the management of the churchyard in Swaffham Prior, including tree cutting. In Reach churchyard, work was being done by John Reed on landscaping. The creation of a paved area behind the church, with a seat, had been approved.

2. PCC Constitution

Now that Swaffham Prior and Reach had amalgamated, it was proposed that the two churches should share the Churchwardens and Secretariat, but that, for the time being, Reach would keep separate accounts, and retain independent Social and Fabric Working Groups. Frank Riggs, seconded by Alasdair Coles, proposed that Swaffham Prior could not veto matters which pertain particularly to Reach, and vice versa. A Standing Committee, comprising the Vicar, the two Churchwardens, the two Deputy Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary, would decide what matters needed discussion at PCC meetings. This was approved nem con.

3. Service Times

The Vicar drew attention to the proposed new Service Times, commencing in July 1999. This was approved by the PCC.

4. Social Working Group Reports

Reach: Jan Robinson reported that the Moveable Feast had raised £311, and that Reach Church teas and stall had raised £180 at Reach Fair. Attention was drawn to the Family Barbecue at Spring Hall Farm on July 12th, and to the Harvest Supper on Friday September 24th at the Village Centre; also St Etheldreda's Fair on October 16th (to include Gift Day).

Swaffham Prior: Attention was drawn to forthcoming social events: Cambridge Voices on 6th June; Church Fete on 26th June; Gift Day and Coffee Morning on 17th July; Harvest Supper on 9th October; and Salvation Army Concert on 10th October.

5. Fabric Working Group Reports

Swaffham Prior: At its meeting on 17th May, the Fabric Group discussed the woodworm problem. The Appeal would be launched on Gift Day for the major projects of vestry re-ordering, dewatering toilet and kitchen. The handrails and steps had now been done.

Reach: A Fabric Group must now be organised at Reach to launch the projects which are proposed (moving the font, re-ordering the vestry, etc.)

6. Vicar's Items

- a More chalice assistants were needed, as well as Jen Holmwood, Frank Riggs and Hilary Sage. Alasdair Coles also volunteered.
- b Ros Wood had talked to Ann Brent, who was in charge of recording for NADFAS. It would cost £400 to do the whole of church recording in Swaffham Prior, and a contribution towards this was needed. An evening talk about church recording would be organised, and a speaker found.

7. Dates and Venues of PCC Meetings

The Vicar thought it would now be fairer to share meetings between the two villages. Consequently, the next meeting would be on Wednesday 14th July in Reach Village Centre (not Monday 12th July in Swaffham Prior Village Hall as previously agreed).

Jenny Moseley
PCC Secretary

From the Parish Registers for May 1999

Holy Matrimony:

Graham Thomas Nicholson and Theresa Ann Lynn

Edward Benjamin Thompson and Ariane Suzanne Joan Van De Vyver

Blessing of Marriage:

Paul and Ellie Catling

In Memoriam:

Mary Jane Ray (52)

Edward (Ted) Crick (86)



Church Services

June 1999

	ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior	ST ETHELREDA AND THE HOLY TRINITY,
TRINITY 5	9:30am Family Service	11:00am Parish Communion	8:00am Holy Communion [†]
Sun 4	6:30pm Choral Evensong [†]		
TRINITY 6 SEA SUNDAY	9:30am Parish Communion	11:00am Family Service	8:00am Holy Communion [†]
Sun	6:30pm	Deanery Songs of Praise at Kennett Church	
TRINITY 7	9:30am Village Communion	8:00am Holy Communion [†]	11:00am Family Service
Sun 18		6:00pm Choral Evensong [†] and Sermon (in St Cyriac's)	
TRINITY 8 ST JAMES THE APOSTLE	9:30am Parish Communion	11:00am Mattins [†] and Sermon	8:00am Holy Communion [†]
Sun		6:00pm Evensong [†] and Sermon	

^A - Rite A, ^B - Rite B, [†] - (BCP)

Holy Communion
Evening Prayer
Sunday School

Thursdays 10am, Swaffham Bulbeck Church
Wednesdays, 5pm. Reach Church
Sundays 9.30am. Bulbeck Village Hall/Church.
Contact Angela Roebuck on C. 811722

Bellringing

Tuedays, fortnightly 8pm. St. Cyriacs.
Contact. Dr Margaret Stanier on 741328.

Housegroup

Tuesdays, 8pm, fortnightly in Reach
Contact Olivia Cole 743434 or Juliet Vickery 742676

Mothers Union

Mondays 2:15pm, 1st Mondays c/o Free Church,
Commercial End. Contact W Norton 01223 811509



Dear Friends,

WHEN TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED.....

This month I want to take the opportunity of making clear the pattern of services at St Mary's, which changes ever so slightly within the benefice, as we reduce from 18 Sunday services per month to 16 (i.e. 4 per Sunday in a straightforward month) in the 3 churches. The standard pattern at Swaffham Prior from this month looks like this but do always check the Crier or the church noticeboard:

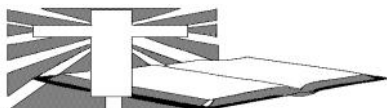
- 1st Sundays 11.00am Parish Communion
- 2nd Sundays 11.00am Family Service
6.00pm Evensong & Sermon
- 3rd Sundays 8.00am Holy Communion
6.00pm Evensong & Sermon
- 4th Sundays 11.00am Mattins & Sermon
6.00pm Evensong & Sermon

The thing to watch out for is that there is no 11.00am service here on 3rd Sundays (but there is both an 8.00am and a 6.00pm service); that day the 11.00am Morning Service is at Reach, where services dovetail in much better now with here than was the case before. If you can't find a service here to suit, then please make the short journey to Reach or Swaffham Bulbeck; you are always assured of a warm welcome, and I will be there! That said, we are trying to ensure that anyone who needs a lift by car to any church, including St Mary's, can ask and be picked up and returned later.

I put Evensong back into the pattern of worship here when I came 5+ years ago, and whether 'parish' in St Mary's or occasionally 'choral', often in St Cyriac's, it has continued to draw a steady congregation, attracted by the richness of Cramner's Book of Common Prayer liturgy (as also at Mattins and 8.00am Holy Communion), sung to Anglican Chant, and the chance to hear a decent length (10-15 minute) sermon. For those who find the classical picture of God unbelievable or alien, this patterned liturgical beauty may provide a window on seriousness. Less strident, and less excluding than the invitation to approach the communion table, Evensong's 55 minute understated presentation of the sacred may yet be the solace of those who find other, more demonstrative expressions of christianity beyond their powers of assent. So, why not come along one Sunday evening ?

Saints Days, when the flag is always flown as well as on civic occasions, are marked by a short 6.00pm celebration of Holy Communion. This, in addition to Evening Prayer, said in Reach Church on Wednesdays at 5.00pm, means that the worship of the Church is sustained mid-week.

Mark



Zion Baptist Chapel

Services for June:

Sunday	4 th	10.30am 6.30pm	Paul Jellyman Gordon Dann	Family Service Communion
Sunday	11 th	6.30pm	Sankey Songs of Praise	
Sunday	18 th	6.30pm	David Bousfield	
Sunday	25 th	6.30pm	David Bousfield	

Rumours...

You may have heard the rumours... Some may even have said it has happened... Surely not... It has... It hasn't... Has it? The official verdict is that now it has!

The Baptist Chapel has invited me to join them as their minister from July. We first talked about the possibility sometime before last Christmas. Since then we have taken the opportunity to get to know each other. Then about three months ago they formally invited me to minister at the Chapel. I was delighted to accept and I am full of anticipation for what God has in store for us at Swaffham Prior.

As some of you may know I am already the pastor at Lode Chapel and people there are equally enthusiastic about the two Chapels working more closely together. We hope that this will be the start of a lasting friendship between the two churches.

I live in Cherry Hinton with my wife Janet and three children, Rachel, Kathryn and Alice. Rachel is studying at Hills Road Sixth Form College, and Kathryn attends Netherhall School. Alice goes to Teversham school, where my wife Janet is a part-time teacher. We have lived in Cherry Hinton for 10 years since moving from our native Norfolk. We originally moved to Cambridge when I was working with Anglian Water as a laboratory scientist. However four years ago I left the water industry in order to spend my time serving God in the church and last month I finished three years of part time study in London.

As a family we are very involved at Lode Chapel and looking forward to becoming equally involved at Zion Baptist Chapel. We have started getting to know people in the area but there are lots of new faces to remember and names to learn. So if you see us wandering around the village looking a little lost, do come and introduce yourselves to us.

Rumours always bring with them an air of uncertainty. But for Christians the antidote to uncertainty and rumour lies in Jesus. He is the one who gives a sure and certain hope for life both now and in the future. If you would like to know more about the certain hope you can find in Jesus, or about myself and my family, or about how I'm settling in at Zion Baptist Chapel, then don't hesitate to get in touch, or visit us at the Baptist Chapel and say "Hello!" . We very much look forward to getting to know you better.

David Bousfield

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

I recently heard what seemed to me to be a very good story which has a lot to teach us about ourselves. It is the sad story of a Spanish Major General who came to have the very odd name for a Spanish Major General of Red-spot O'Donnell. In 1689 King James II was effectively deposed as King of Britain and Ireland by William of Orange, the Dutchman who was both his nephew *and* son-in-law. James tried to regain his thrones by appealing to the Catholics in Ireland and then using Ireland as the base for an assault on Britain; but his Catholic army was defeated at the Battle of Boyne and he fled again, leaving the Irish to appalling persecutions at the hands of English and Scottish Protestant settlers. Thereafter the Irish name for James II was "James the Shite". Amongst the many Catholics who then fled to Spain was a bardic poet who by chance fell into the company of Major General Hugh O'Donnell whose family had been ethnically cleansed from Ulster earlier in the century. The bard could not help noticing that this Spanish General had a birthmark in his armpit, and it reminded him of an Irish prophetic poem that predicted that Ireland would be liberated from the foreigner by a man with just such a great birthmark and at a battle on a particular hillside outside Limerick. Redspot O'Donnell was hugely taken with his tale and crossed to Ireland and made for the very hillside, where many thousands flocked to him. Redspot then challenged William of Orange (now William III) to a battle. William's general Ginkel, aware that the Irish were highly motivated by this ancient prophecy decided to go anywhere but that hillside. After a while, as they heard of Ginkel's slaughter of their families elsewhere, disillusionment set in; and after disillusion, dysentery, and thus further disillusionment. The Irish romantic in O'Donnell told him that Ginkel would come eventually and victory would be secured; the Spanish major general in him told him he was onto a loser. More dysentery, more disillusion. Red-spot O'Donnell wrote to Ginkel, took his cash and went away, and left his men to be butchered by Ginkel.

A historical myth had seemed to liberate many people. But it came to entrap them in the end. I was going to spell this out in some modern parallels. But I have been reading too many historical myths written by my students in their examinations [have you ever heard of *Magna Carter*? One Cambridge history graduate wrote a great deal about it, or should it be a great deal about him! And another wrote of the *psychophantic Scots* - now they did have problem with their past!]. In the circumstances, I will leave readers to draw their own conclusions - are you liberated by your past or entrapped by it? Now there is a heavy thought for a sunny month!

Dates for Your Diary - July 1999

Thu	1	
Fri	2	
Sat	3	
Sun	4	
Mon	5	
Tue	6	Village Gardeners, Dr Chippindale's Garden, leave @ 6:30pm
Wed	7	
Thu	8	PC Meeting, Village Hall
Fri	9	
Sat	10	East Cambridgeshire Carnival, Ely, 9:30am-5:30pm Gardens Open, Lode with Longmeadow, 2:00-5:00 pm
Sun	11	School Sports Day & Summer Fair, 12 Noon Gardens Open, Lode with Longmeadow, 2:00-5:00 pm
Mon	12	
Tue	13	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:05, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm
Wed	14	Crier Copy Deadline PCC Meeting, Reach Village Centre
Thu	15	
Fri	16	
Sat	17	
Sun	18	
Mon	19	WI, Historic Ely - Walk and Talk
Tue	20	Village Gardeners, Linda Draper's Garden, leave @ 6:45pm
Wed	21	Bikeshed Theatre Co., BVC Drama Studio, 7:30pm
Thu	22	Bikeshed Theatre Co., BVC Drama Studio, 7:30pm
Fri	23	Bikeshed Theatre Co., BVC Drama Studio, 7:30pm
Sat	24	
Sun	25	
Mon	26	Ladies Circle, Outing to Ely Museum
Tue	27	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:05, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm
Thu	29	Crier Collating, Village Hall, 2:30pm
Fri	30	
Sat	31	"The Miller's Music", St Cyriac's, 7:30pm

Please remember that all copy for the **Crier** should now be sent to Kent House (by the 14th of the month as ever). We will try to return disks etc promptly but please nag us if we don't and you need them back!