



The Swaffham Crier

Volume 23 Number 11

November 1999



Editorial

Last week's literary puzzle was won by **Dee Noyes, Shirley Wilkins** (within seconds of the *Crier* hitting the doormat) and **Karole Webster** (four beans between them - oh alright, *each*) and if you want to know what the answer was, you must turn to Karole's beautiful and revelatory article on this and on a related topic not a millennium miles away from *Our Millennium Man* who is meanwhile comfortably settling in for a long and amicable debate on the *Letters* pages. I'm phrasing this very carefully!

Francis Riggs' final instalment in his series of Domesday essays, *That Other Millennium*, will be published in full in December, the *Crier's* final issue of this millennium. Meanwhile, the ***Crier*** team, ever alert, have noticed that the old Domesday Book is a 1000 years out of date: a new, revised edition is clearly overdue. But preliminary enquiries have revealed that without the persuasive powers of several large William C. heavies, *nobody*, but *nobody*, is going to reveal anything. So, instead, the ***Crier*** would like to make its own version of a Domesday book: a **photographic Domesday Book** consisting of snap-shots of the people living in this village in the years leading up to and including the year 2000, doing what people do now. Depending on the response, we will either publish this informal record of the village in the ***Crier*** or as a supplement to it sometime in the coming year. We would very much appreciate your views on this idea. Would you like to contribute and if so when during the year?

If any organisations or individuals already have snaps (*black-and-white* if possible - they reproduce better), please send them, with a short resumé of content, to us. If you would like to contribute but want some help with the photography, please talk to Ron Prime who has very kindly volunteered to help with this.

Elsewhere in the *Crier* this month, turn to the centre pages for a complete, unabridged list of Harvest Show Winners. And we hope you like the children's *Harvest* poems (many thanks to Brenda Wilson for these) which appear in various places throughout the ***Crier***. They did all the clever computer stuff with fonts and drawings *themselves*. Sniff.

Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: Claire Warren



Letters to the Editors



Man of the Millennium

Dear Editors,

Mark Lewinski asks me to be “*fair*”, and then says that Shakspeare’s gift of £25 and 8d each to three actors is proof that Shakspeare wrote the plays. It is not.

I am being fair when I say that Shakspeare gave 25 **shillings** (not pounds) and 3d for the rings, that this gift to the actors was a last minute afterthought, and that the same amount for the same purpose had already been given to four local residents. The gift was not exceptional.

Perhaps Mr Lewinski will show his own fairness by telling *Crier* readers the exact dates, between 1600 and 1642, when theatres were closed because of the plague. Is plague really one of the reasons why nothing is known about Shakespeare the playwright? Or is it because “Shake-speare” was a pseudonym? I say more about Shakspeare’s will elsewhere in this issue.

Alastair Everitt
Anglesey House

Dear Editors

It was not my intention to join a fray, pick up a gauntlet or join/set up an opposing camp to that of Alastair Everitt: on the contrary, I asked for there to be balance in putting forward the question of authorship of Shakespeare’s plays, and I am a little puzzled by the antagonistic language which this issue seems to generate. Is it not possible to raise an alternative point of view without the assumption of a feud brewing? That seems to me like life imitating soap opera.

It is hardly reasonable to say there is ‘not a shred of evidence’ that W. Shakespeare of Stratford wrote those plays. In addition to the associations with other actors to which I made reference last month, there exists The Stationer’s Register, in which by law all plays had to be entered when published, with the author’s name. This records all the plays of Shakespeare, under his name. The notion that such a fraud could be perpetrated as to falsely enter well-known plays (they were often not published until they had been extensively performed) over a period of thirty years or more, across the reign of two monarchs, is to say the least, unlikely. People lost their heads for a lot less! Shakespeare’s England was not a very liberal place - repression was such that the common people could be, and were, beaten for so much as leaving the bounds of their parish without permission. Plays were considered highly political, which is why registration was enforced, and imprisonment

could be a punishment for a play the monarch *thought* unfavourable to the smallest degree - no proof required. So you can be sure they kept tabs on who the writers were, and where they could be found. In order to be free of that possible knock on the door in the early hours, you would have expected the Stratford Shakespeare to have left indelible records wherever he went, if he were not a playwright, saying exactly so.

Mark Lewinski
32 Fairview Grove

*But it was only a metaphorical gauntlet! We **welcome** this interesting debate and we are glad you are continuing to participate. Eds.*

SWAFFHAM PRIOR PAROCHIAL CHARITIES

63, High St, Swaffham Prior, Cambridge. CB5 0LD
Tel. 01638 741 337

Once more, the shops are filling with all the trimmings of Christmas, and our thoughts turn again to those in need. As usual, the Trustees invite applications for our Christmas grant from those who consider that they qualify.

The majority of those eligible will be our pensioners, but, as always, the Trustees will consider applications from anybody in genuine want.

Requests should be addressed to me, or to any of the Trustees, and I make my usual plea for early responses. It makes a lot of extra work if applications arrive only two days before Christmas. Many thanks to those who have heeded my requests in the past.

S.G. Hewitt.
Clerk to the Trustees



Quiz Night

Make up a team of 4 to 6 players, choose a team-name, and enter 'The Quiz Night' on Saturday 20th November @ 7.30pm in Swaffham Prior Village Hall



*Please book with Jenny Brand (742161)
or Lynne Rand (742161)*



*Potato Supper - bring your own drinks
Tickets £2.50 per person*



School Report - October 1999

This month saw our annual Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church in the village. Each class was asked to prepare something for the service. I thought you might like to share some of the original work which the children have produced (below and elsewhere in the *Crier*). The produce the children brought to the service will go with the rest of the contributions from the parish to Kosovo.

Harvest Festival

On Monday we went to church for our harvest festival. Class 3 brought tins and rice to church and I went to church. Class I did a poem about a tractor. It was very funny. Class 3 learnt a poem called Harvest Festival. Class 2 did a poem about The Little Red Hen.

Claire Butterfield

On Monday we had our Harvest Festival. We went to church and took some gifts. I brought some sweet-corn. There were lots of tins of food. Class 3 said a poem called Harvest Festival. We sang lots of songs. My favourite was the last one.

Luke Judge

Harvest Time

Thank you god for all you give,
Thank-you god for things that live,
At harvest time we think of you,
Food in fields and sky of blue.

In the market food is sold.
In the fields the wheat is gold.
The fruit is soft and very ripe.
The trees are full of apple types.

The sun is shining on the lands,
We grow the vegetables with our
hands

In the world you made for us,
We thank-you for our harvest.

Sophie Bateman
Aged 9



We are getting desperate for someone to replace Jean Day as our school caretaker. Is there anyone who can help, please? We can be very flexible about the hours and when the work is done. At the moment Jean does a regular contract of 30 hours over a fortnight, with some overtime. The rate of pay is £4.69 per hour. If you think you could help, please get in touch with me at school.

Brenda Wilson, Headmistress

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT
4.00pm - Sunday November 28th -
Swaffham Prior

For several years now, the village of Swaffham Prior has put on a unique event in our diocese, for theirs is the only parish with two churches in the same churchyard. With readings, both sacred and secular, serious and light-hearted, presented by residents of the parish, interwoven with music sung by the choir *Cambridge Voices*, the village celebrates both the season of Winter and the coming of Christ, and at the same time raises money for the work of *The Salvation Army*. The event begins in the Parish Church, St. Mary's, where the traditional church interior, ample heating and clear acoustic all lend an atmosphere of immediacy, directness and energy to the Advent story. Here, lit by candlelight as ever, the music this year will include vivacious arrangements of American Spirituals as well as traditional Winter folksongs. Then, to the music of Bach's *Sleepers, wake*, all move over to the neighbouring church of St. Cyriac's, where at once the atmosphere changes to one of mystery, darkness and infinity, and occasionally a touch of frost! Here, the divine mystery is expounded, with music by such great religious writers as John Tavener and Arvo Part. This year, as we approach the new millennium, the music, the readings, poems and prayers will give us a chance to look

back at ourselves over the past millennium - where have we come from and where does the new century take us? As always the event is rounded off with mulled wine and mince pies back in the warmth of the Parish Church. To cover expenses there will be a charge of £2 for the programme at the door, or £5 for the whole family, and a retiring collection taken for the charity. And don't forget to wrap up warm for the second church: the noise of the jet-burners prohibits the heating to be on during that part of the service!

Ian deMassini



HARVEST

Harvest

When farmers get their crops in,
A busy time of year,
For everyone.

Dusty,
A hot sun in a blue sky,
Tractors,
Trailers full of corn.

Summer picnics full of fun,
Harvest festival,
Home grown produce,
Warm baked bread.



By William Aves

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting



Let me explain at once that though the Editor headed my page-and-a-half of discursive frivol in the October Crier as 'From Our Reporter at the Parish Council', you do not get a *REPORT* from Our Reporter. The *REPORT* - brief, business-like and complete - comes from Karen King the Clerk; it was on pp23-24 of the last Crier. 'Our Reporter' - this one anyway - produces what might be called 'A Sideways Look at the Parish Council'. If I could emulate Wordsworth and do it in blank verse, I would call it 'Lines suggested by a Distant View of (not Tintern Abbey but) Nine Worthies of Swaffham Prior'

The Worthies who met in the Village Hall on 14th October were clearly following the lead given by the recent Conservative Party Conference which had loudly proclaimed that its policies were based on 'Common Sense'. Translated to our village level, this slogan became 'Economic Sense'. The first sign of a firm hold on the money-bags came when (according to the Chairman) the grass-cutting contractor who mows the Town Close had politely asked for payment, and was firmly told 'NOT the Parish Council: go to the Charities'. Then came a lengthy discussion about how to get hold of the £11,000 which the Fenland Fair (or was it two named individuals?) donated to the nebulous Sports and Social Club, with the Parish Council as Residuary Legatees. The P.C., we heard, had a good legal case for getting its hands on the money, but we gathered that if we have to pay a lawyer to claim it for us, the money might vanish in legal bills.

The Land Girls Memorial Question came up again, and everyone thought, What a good idea! Why didn't we think of it 10 years ago? How many ex-Land Girls are there? (About 6; some have died already). A plaque in the cemetery? A seat in the churchyard? No conclusion was reached. This one will run and run.

The Parish Notice Board, (the site of which was considered ideal for the proposed Millennium Village Map) was condemned as 'ropey'. (What does 'ropey' mean? Like rope, said someone). I inspected the notice board on the way home: it looks all right: needs a lick of paint or varnish, perhaps. But would people be able to lean across the fence to read the place-names on a map at this point?

The ECDC is urging all villages to plant a Millennium Tree, and sent a list of tree species on offer. A Holly, somewhere in the churchyard, was seriously considered, but what if it had no berries? Disappointing. A yew found favour: appropriately long-lived for a Millennium Memorial. The Parish will undertake to look after it for the next 300 years or so.

There were many comments of approval about the Village Bier: how splendid it looks, now beautifully restored and done-up by Graham Jackson. It is on the 'Assets List' of village property. It is thought to be under-insured: money matters again.

The final item of business was the arrangement of a special Finances Meeting, in advance of the November P.C. Meeting, to review the budget for next year—or something of that nature. Nobody could accuse our P.C. of reckless extravagance or unthrifty carelessness. 'Take care of the pence...'

Margaret Stanier

PRIME WHITE

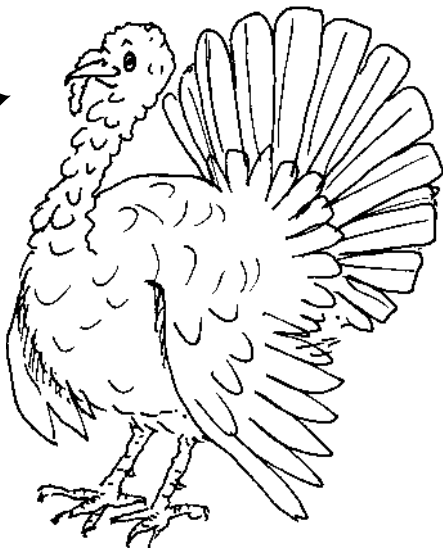
TURKEYS

NORFOLK

'My birds are hand reared to ensure succulence. They will be available **fresh** and oven-ready in perfect time for Christmas'

(weight range: about 8lbs - 20lbs+)

Contact Marcia Miller on



Harvest Time

Cabbages, Cauliflower crisp crunchy Swedes,
Peppers and parsnips, melons with seeds.

Onions and mushrooms, potatoes or chips,
Tomatoes are juicy and apples are crisp.

Blackberries are ripe and juice runs down my chin,
Cornflakes for breakfast and mangos for tea.

When the farmers are harvesting the sky must be blue,
I love the harvest time and so should you!

Rachel Mead (aged 9)

THE PAST IS A FOREIGN COUNTRY

October's 'Swaffham Crier' dropped through my letter-box one Friday afternoon. I picked it up and flicked quickly through - just to make sure my neighbours, the Bowers family, had a big mention for their Biggest Sunflower - then put it aside until I had more time.

Surprisingly, this was the following day.

I read the Editorial and noted the 'literary puzzle'. Interesting - but I did not intend to plough through laboriously looking for L.P.Hartley's lines. However, if I happened to spot them in passing, I might just try to win 4 beans! Off the top of my head the opening lines of 'The Go-Between' eluded me but I knew I would recognise them if I saw them.

Having reached the back page I decided I must have missed them. Here endeth my trivial pursuit for the day. But something in the tone of the letter there, from the Roman Catholic Church, persuaded me to read on. And there was the reference '.....the past is a foreign country in which they did things differently.....'

Well perhaps I would send it in later.

Looking up I saw the sun was shining. Suffering from Seasonal Affective Disorder (S.A.D.) and needing all the sunlight I can get (particularly at this time of year) I decided to go for a walk.

One of my favourite local walks is 'up Cadenham' - as the locals told me it was called when I first moved here. It surprises me that so few people go there - away from everything, quiet and peaceful. And *uphill* - rare for these parts! So the return journey affords a lovely view of the Swaffham Prior churches, windmills and water tower. And when the sun is shining, glorious sunsets.

As I walked I found myself reflecting on those lines and remembering the original. 'The past is a foreign country: they did things differently there.' I mused on the times I must have heard the words; and read them long before the film. Yet for some reason they now struck a deeper resonance.

'The past is a foreign country'. Suddenly I found myself pondering this in relation to the articles on Shakespeare, which I had also just read. Shakespeare belongs to that past - that foreign country where things were done differently. So how can we find the answers or hope to fathom the truth of the man? And does it matter? I thought of T.S.Eliot's lines:

..... *to what purpose*

Disturbing the dust on a bowl of rose-leaves.....

And carried on walking, trying now to reconcile my whirring thoughts.

There seems a need to pursue Shakespeare, reams have been written. But it seems fair to allow other, perhaps less well known, voices to be heard. It might also be helpful to widen the frame of reference and place him in a broader context. The Sufi tradition for instance, has some interesting things to say about Shakespeare.

According to Idries Shah, the chief Sufi Exponent in the West until his death three years ago, Shakespeare's name is sometimes rendered in perfectly correct and acceptable Persian as SHEIKH-PEER, 'the ancient sage'. And in his book 'The Way of the Sufi' he comments that "Shakespeare's plays contain not only many stories of Persian, Arabian and other Eastern origins, but also what might seem to be almost literal quotations from Sufi literature." And the distinguished orientalist, Professor R.A.Nicholson, has also pointed out that 'certain portions of the Shakespearean corpus have an uncanny resemblance to passages in earlier Sufi material.'

Further reading in that tradition tells us: "Persuasive arguments have been advanced for the idea that 'Shakespeare' was the pen-name of a group devoted to injecting certain ideas in the cultural stream of Elizabethan England. The head of this group was responsible for various passages that stand out as the insights of an altogether exceptional intellect."

It is important not to underestimate the influence of esoteric thought at this time — as Dame Frances Yates has made abundantly clear in her many books. For it was part of the culture's inheritance.

Teaching stories and the idea of storytelling belong to an old and well established tradition in the East. And we must keep in mind that the Renaissance, the flowering of Europe, blossomed from much ancient knowledge. 'New' ideas were re-born from old learning, including many Arab treatises translated at the famous schools of Cordoba and Toledo during the Middle Ages. The works of Shakespeare may well perform the function of teaching stories. For who can deny the learning in them?

But what of the man? Perhaps the answer lies in 'Labyrinths'. In his book the great Argentinian writer, Jorge Luis Borges, ends a short story about Shakespeare with the following:

History adds that before or after dying he found himself in the presence of God and told Him: 'I who have been so many men in vain want to be one and myself.' The voice of the Lord answered from a whirlwind; 'Neither am I anyone; I have dreamt the world as you dreamt your work, my Shakespeare, and among the forms in my dream are you, who like myself are many and no one.'

Karole Webster



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 14th

On this day at 6.00pm in Swaffham Prior there will be a chance to celebrate Communion surrounded by the music of one the greatest modern classics; **Maurice DURUFLÉ's Requiem**. In the spirit of Fauré's celebrated setting of the same text, this ravishing work focuses on the peace and shared spirituality of life beyond death. Written by one of the most revered composers this century, this work weaves a magical spell of beautiful French harmonies supporting the Gregorian Chant of the voices. This is a special opportunity to remember those who have died, surrounded by nature glimpsed through the church's clear glass windows and supported by such spiritual music.

Ian de Massini, director of Cambridge Voices
and former organist of St. Mary's, Swaffham Prior



Your *Crier* needs you!

We need more collators, particularly ones with strong-arms who can wield a hefty stapler! Collating happens on the last Thursday of the

month at 2.15pm in the Village Hall and takes about an hour and a quarter. Volunteers need only expect to be called on once every 3 months or so, depending on availability.

Please contact **Ruth Stinton** on 742641.

Harvest Time

It's harvest time and the crops are growing,
The land is green and the fruit is showing.
The plants need water and the field needs ploughing,
Give thanks for water that's always flowing

We're giving food, because we've got too many,
To the people who haven't got any,
They haven't even got a single penny
But now because of god all has lots and many

Everyone's got their food at last,
And all are healthy and can run quite fast.
Everyone's happy but the end is near,
But, oh well, there is always next year.

John Hollingsworth

2000

"Bring & Share" Village Lunch

**Wine &
Soft drinks
available**

**Village Hall
Saturday 1st January
12.30pm - 2.30pm**



**Bumper
Raffle**

**Booking Form and more details in the next *Crier* -
reserve your place early!**

**Please call Shirley Wilkins 741638 or
Margaret Phillips 741495
(especially if you are willing to help!)**

South East Cambridgeshire Conservative Association Swaffham Prior Branch

invites you and your friends to a

PRE-CHRISTMAS DRINKS PARTY

at

Baldwin Manor • Swaffham Prior
by kind permission of Dr & Mrs John Miller

Sunday, 28th November 1999 • 12.00 noon

£8.00 per person (to include wine and lunch)

Tickets from: Michael Phillips ☎ (01 638) 741495



Our Man of the Millennium - III

Shakspeare's Will was first drawn up by a Warwick attorney and dated 25th January 1616. It is the will of a businessman intent on passing most of his wealth and property down one line. There are no frills, no terms of endearment, he does not mention his wife, he gives his clothes to his sister. There are no books or papers and no mention of his plays or his shares in two London theatres.

Later a number of erasures and interlineations were made, possibly in a scrivener's hand, and the date was changed from January to March (Shakspeare died 23rd April 1616). One of the interlineations gave 25 shillings and 8d to Burbage, Heminges and Condell to buy memorial rings. These three were actors and the last two were also very successful in theatre administration.

Why didn't Shakspeare select writers for some rings? He was supposed to have been close friends with many, especially with Ben Jonson and Michael Drayton - it says so in many literary histories and text books. There is also the *story* that Shakspeare died after a heavy drinking session with Ben Jonson and Drayton. Michael Drayton especially deserved a ring because he came from Warwickshire and was a patient of Dr John Hall. Hall had married Shakspeare's daughter Susanna in 1607 and with her was an executor of Shakspeare's will.

Dr John Hall (died 1635) ought to be a key witness. He was an exceptionally good physician, enjoyed a high reputation and amongst his patients were the Bishop of Worcester, the Earl of Northampton and his Countess, etc. He kept records of the interesting cases and often wrote comments about his patients. Of Michael Drayton he writes "Mr Drayton is an excellent poet. I cured him of a certain fever with syrup of violets". And Drayton was a good poet and a fairish playwright, publishing consistently from 1591 to 1630. The formidable Mrs Stopes, a Stratfordian critic at the end of 19th century, wrote that Drayton "had many friends and patrons, he showered dedications among these." But Drayton *never* once spoke of Shakespeare. And all John Hall ever wrote about him was "my father-in-law died on Thursday". Here you have the highly intelligent Hall, and Drayton his patient, who knew everyone who was anyone in the literary world, and yet neither mentioned Shakspeare as a poet/playwright.

Apart from the last minute minor gift to the three actors, it is worth looking more closely at the will as this has always been an embarrassment to Stratfordians. In Shakespeare's time a will was not the "legal document" it is today, and it did not need to be signed by the testator. Yet Shakspeare's was signed, even though his signature never appears on any of his numerous local

business agreements. The lawyer only expected Shakspere to make his mark in the will. Yet in the March alterations "my seale" was changed to "my hand". But did he really sign it? "By me William" is written in a strong bold hand whereas "Shakspeare" is written as if a child was trying to copy a signature. These appear to be two entirely different hands. The Stratfordian Schoenbaum explained this:- *"In March a feeble hand held the pen. The invalid mustered all his strength for the firm strokes 'By me William' in the third signature, then collapsed into the wavering scrawl of the surname"* (my italics). There is absolutely no evidence for this; Schoenbaum has become another myth maker. However, if Schoenbaum is to be believed, Shakspere then gathered up a little more strength to sign the first two pages, one of which looks as if the child was now trying to copy left-handed.

Unless one accepts Schoenbaum's speculation the signature appears to be deliberate tampering. Together with the two extraordinary last minute interlineations (the actors' rings and the second best bed for his wife) it makes one wonder what happened to the will between Shakspere's death and the discovery of a transcript in 1747 - from whence no-one knows. This was first published in 1763 and a little later the original was tracked down in Doctors' Commons. What should have been a straightforward document has resulted in continuing debate, argument and speculation amongst Shakespearian scholars.

Further questions are raised by the 1623 First Folio in which Shakespeare's "fellowes", Heminges and Condell, had a hand. John Hall and Susanna were the executors of Shakspere's will and Heminges and Condell would have heard this if they received the money for their rings. The First Folio was a major publishing event. Yet neither Heminges nor Condell appears to have told John Hall. Neither did Jonson or Drayton tell John Hall, nor did the doctor hear about it from any of his well educated patients. The Second Folio was published in 1632 and the Third in 1664. John Hall died in 1635, Susanna his wife in 1649, Judith, Shakspere's other daughter in 1662; Elizabeth, Susanna's daughter and Shakspere's granddaughter who was eight when he died, was living as Lady Barnard in a hamlet four miles from Stratford and did not die until 1670. Apart from these close relatives there were cousins and family friends - yet none appeared to know that Shakspere was a poet and playwright. Many imaginative explanations have been and will continue to be put forward, but what has never appeared is any documentary evidence. Instead myths, traditions and make-believe are presented as facts, or probable facts, to the unsuspecting world.

Part of this make-believe is to see Shakespeare in one's own image and experience because there is nothing else. Some people liken Shakespeare to

Coleridge's 1828 essay which showed that Shakespeare was a gentleman, and a kindly, sincere, and decisive Tory. Heigh-ho!

Alastair Everitt

Next month the Rogue, the Scholar and the Forger - deferred from this month.



Mobile Library

Thank you to all those villagers who support the Mobile Library. The Librarian is a lovely girl, who does her utmost to help with school projects, elderly needs, disability problems and hobbies. Apart from a vast range of books, you can have children's videos, buy reasonably priced greetings cards and gain information on events in the region. Do try it! For times, see the *Crier* Diary.

Any queries, please contact Tricia Harrison on 742850 or 01354 660940.



Recipe of the Month

Here are two sure favourites - Fruit Crumble and Rice Pudding - but with a difference to add just a bit of texture and spice...

Low Fat Fruit Crumble

(thanks to Tricia Harrison for this one)

Ingredients – serves 4-6

1kg (2lb) Fruit (of your choice)

50g (2 oz) Brown or white sugar

Topping

75g (3 oz) Wholewheat breadcrumbs 75g (3 oz) Porridge oats

60g (2½ oz) Poly-unsaturated margarine 50g (2 oz) Brown sugar

Oven – 180°C, 350°F, Gas 4

Method

1. Prepare fruit and place in oven-proof dish, adding sugar to taste.
 2. In a bowl, add all the topping ingredients.
 3. Rub in the fat until you have a crumbly texture.
 4. Spoon over the fruit and cook in the centre of the oven for 20-30 minutes.
- This topping freezes well.

Eastern Rice Pudding

Ingredients

¾ litre (1½ pts) Fresh milk

35g (1½ oz) Creamed coconut

½ teasp. Ground cinnamon

75g (3 oz) Pudding rice

Pinch of cloves

25g (1oz) Brown sugar

Method

1. Put milk, coconut and spices in a pan and heat until coconut has dissolved.
2. Add rice and sugar, bring to the boil and simmer for about 30 minutes until rice is tender, stirring occasionally. Alternatively place in a greased oven-proof dish and cook in a moderate oven for 40-45 minutes or until rice is tender.
3. Serve with chopped fresh fruit if liked.

Hilary Mengham



Village Christmas Fair

S.O.S

Kate Child (743983) would be pleased to have any boxes with lids - any size (but not too huge) to cover and sell as present boxes at the fayre.

HARVEST PRODUCE SHOW

As promised in last month's *Crier*, we are delighted to list below names of the winners at the Show in September. Congratulations to all prize winners and commiserations to those who failed to win a prize this year. Please try again in 2000!

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
<u>SECTION A</u>	<u>VEGETABLES</u>		
Class 1.Vegetables mixed	No entries		
Class 2.Potatoes	R.Sheldrick	R.Dalton	J.Moore
Class 3.Beetroots		R.Dalton	
Class 4.Carrots		R.Dalton	
Class 5.Vegetable marrow	T.Jones	R.Dalton	P.Cunningham
Class 6.Courgettes	J.Lewis		The Sampsons
Class 7.A Cabbage	No entries		
Class 8.French Beans	No entries		
Class 9.Runner Beans	P.Cunningham	T.Jones	P.Latchford
Class 10.Tomatoes indoors	R.Sheldrick	J.Lewis	J.Knightley
Class 11.Tomatoes outdoors	U.Reeks	T.Jones	P.Cunningham
Class 12.A Cucumber	K.Bowers	R.Dalton	
Class 13.Longest Runner Bean	P.Cunningham	R.Sheldrick	J.Lewis
Class 14.Biggest oven buster	J.Bourne		
Class 15.Onions from seed	M.Limb		
Class 16.Onions from sets	T.Jones	T.Jones	R.Smith
Class 17. Shallots	M.Limb	T.Jones	
Class 18.Parsnips	No entries		
Class 19.Uncommon fruit or vegetables	The Sampsons	J.Lewis	H.Bowers
<u>SECTION B</u>	<u>FRUIT</u>		
Class 20.Pears	M.Limb	D.Jackson	J.Lewis
Class 21.Dessert apples	J.Lewis	M.Limb	A.Everitt
Class 22.Cooking apples	T.Jones	K.Webster	A.Everitt
Class 23.Plums	A.Everitt	J.Lewis	
Class 24.Other stone fruit	No entries		
<u>SECTION C</u>	<u>FLOWERS</u>		
Class 25.Dahlias (3 varieties)	J. Lewis		
Class 26.Dahlias pom-pom	R.Dalton		
Class 27.Spray Chrysanthemums	R Smith		
Class 28.Chrysanthemums	No entries		
Class 29.Michaelmas daisies	A.Everitt	E. Everitt	B. Prime
Class 30.3 blooms Roses	J.Moore	B.Jones	P.Cunningham
Class 31.Floribunda Roses	P.Cunningham	M.Stanier	
Class 32.Vase of perennials	A.Everitt	B.Jones	
Class 33.Vase of Annuals	No entries		

SECTION D**POT PLANTS**

Class 34. Flowering pot plant	B. Jones	J. Knightley	
Class 35. Foliage pot plant	P. Cunningham	P. Cunningham	E. Everitt

SECTION E**FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS**

Class 36. Bowl/vase of flowers	B. Prime	B. Jones	P. Cunningham
Class 37. Basket of flowers	B. Jones	S. Wilson	
Class 38. Miniature arrangement	The Sampsons	P. Whiteley	C. Whiteley

SECTION F**PRESERVES**

Class 39. Soft fruit jam	S. Wilkins	U Reeks	R. Scovil
Class 40. Stone fruit jam	K. Child	S. Wilkins	P. Cunningham
Class 41. Jar of jelly	S. Wilkins	T. Jones	K. Child
Class 42. Orange marmalade	E. Everitt	R. Scovil	T. Jones
Class 43. Lemon curd	J. Temple	S. Wilkins	B. Prime
Class 44. Piccalilli or Chutney	U. Reeks	V. Clarke	T. Jones
Class 45. Jar of honey	R. Bourne		

SECTION G**CAKE AND BREAD**

Class 46. Victoria Sandwich	S. Wilkins	P. Cunningham	R. Dalton
Class 47. Flap Jacks	J. Temple	B. Prime	S. Wilkins
Class 48. Scones	J. Temple	The Sampsons	S. Wilkins
Class 49. Wholemeal Loaf	T. Jones		
Class 50. White Loaf	T. Jones		
Class 51. Bread Rolls	No entries		
Class 52. Shortbread	S. Wilkins	J. Temple	D. Noyes
Class 53. Small Cakes	S. Wilkins	S. Wilson	D. Noyes

SECTION H**CHILDRENS CLASSES**

Class 54. Tallest Sunflower	H. Bowers	The Sampsons	
Class 55. Largest Sunflower head	M. Preston	T. Latchford	
Class 56. Chocolate Crispies	J. Bowers		
Class 57. "Happy Faces" biscuits	T. Pumfrey	M. Preston	R. Noyes/ J. Preston/ E. Preston
Class 58. Garden on a plate	T. Pumfrey	R. Noyes	F. Tickner/ C. Sampson
Class 59. Veg/Fruit Animal	R. Noyes	H. Bowers	
Class 60. A Model	D. Towriss	C. Wilson	T. Pumfrey/ J. Wilson

SECTION I**WINE AND BEER**

Class 61. Bottle Red Wine	S. Everitt	T. Jones	
Class 62. Bottle White Wine	P. Latchford	T. Jones	J. Lewis
Class 63. Bottle Wine (any other)	T. Jones		
Class 64. Bottle Cider		No entries	
Class 65. Bottle Lager or beer		No entries	



VILLAGE GARDENERS

At the Village Gardeners' October meeting Mr. Harbutt of Rougham Hall Nurseries brought several examples of flowers for autumn colour. He also told us how to prevent mildew on Michaelmas Daisies, Phlox etc. and how to take root cuttings in sharp sand. At his nurseries Mr. Harbutt grows 1500 different varieties of hardy perennials, many of which he illustrated with slides.

As the talk went on rather longer than expected our Chairman, Michael Limb whizzed through the A.G.M. with great speed and efficiency. The officers for the coming year are:

Chairman: Michael Limb

Vice Chairman: Kate Child

Treasurer: Peter Hale

Secretary: Dorothy Hones

Asst. Secretary: Marylin Butler

The programme for the following year is all arranged with many interesting speakers, all experts in their field. The annual membership fee stays the same at £10 per garden (due in November) but the charge for visitors is raised to £2. This is to help meet the cost of speakers which is getting rather high and to encourage people to become members. With such an interesting programme it might work out cheaper!

At the next meeting on 16th November Mr. Collen from Ansell's Garden Centre will be talking on 'Static and Growing Features in the Garden'.

Betty Prime



LADIES CIRCLE

On Monday 27th September The Ladies Circle met once again at Zion Baptist Chapel for their monthly meeting. Geoff Evans from Newmarket came to tell us about Life on a Stud the first few years in the life of the horses. Slides were shown detailing the in-depth reproduction system of the horses to the actual birth of the foals. This was very interesting and certainly showed the dedication given by all the members of the Stud.

Speaker for the November meeting has yet to be arranged.

New members always welcome.

Sandra Butcher



WI Notes

What a fascinating evening we had at W.I. on 18th October when Mrs.Hopwood brought some of her vast collection of Victorian costumes. They ranged from children's clothes, underwear, dresses and cloaks to hats, collars, bags and parasols. Most of the items were hand made and the workmanship was exquisite.

Mrs.Hopwood began collecting at the age of 14 with small items such as linen and lace, moving into clothes 15 years ago, so she has a very large collection. She is now diverting into lawn mowers and sewing machines!

I would like to mention here that Mrs.Hopwood told us that she has given talks all over the country but she has never been in a hall as nice as ours with such excellent facilities.

Next month, on 15th November, Lady Riley will be showing us some Christmas Crafts.

Betty Prime

NEWS FROM BOTTISHAM SURGERY

Some of you may already be aware that for the last three years we have been seeking to build a new surgery at Bottisham. Many more of you will, I am afraid, be aware of the shortcomings of the existing surgery. This is now thirty years old and general practice has changed hugely during that time. Our facilities are no longer sufficient for the 1990s yet alone the new Millennium! The search for a suitable site has been a long and frustrating one but we are happy to be able to announce that we have applied for planning permission for the building of a new surgery on the land owned by Mr John Green, opposite Thomas Christian Way on Tunbridge Lane, only about 100 yards from the present surgery.

We feel very excited by the project and by the prospect of providing first class facilities for both our patients and staff, if not by the dawn of the new Millennium least by autumn 2000. Very shortly we will arrange for the plans to be on display at the surgery and also in the public library at the village college. We would welcome your comments and suggestions and a suitable book will be available at both venues to put these on records.

We will try to keep you up to date with developments as they arise so watch this space!



STAINED HUNDRED

It was unfortunate that Christopher Pickford's talk clashed with a number of other local events as attendance barely reached 20 at what was well-presented and interesting talk on "*The Noble Art of Bell-Ringing*". Mr Pickford is clearly an enthusiastic bell-ringer himself as well as being an archivist and had made the journey from Sevenoaks in Kent to give the talk. Still no doubt his journey was easier than that of the London bell-ringers who in 1735 walked all the way to Oxford in order to ring a peal of bells! Bell-ringing has been popular since the Middle Ages and though mainly rung before religious services, they might also be rung on such days as Bonfire Night, Oak Apple Day, Coronations and other secular occasions. The ringers would be paid for the latter events, when sketches of the day show that beer flowed and drunkenness was not unknown. A jug in which the beer was carried into the tower had a verse which began: "When I'm filled with Liquor strong, Each man drink once then ding dong.."

We heard of famous bellringers who went long distances to ring a peal of bells (5040 changes or more). Sam Lawrence of the Birmingham Ringers (1763-1825) rang 72 such peals; he weighed 32 stone and once got stuck coming down from the tower and it took three men to get him down. Bell-ringing was practised by all classes of society and 19th century squires would often persuade their estate workers to take it up. The first book written on bell-ringing was printed in 1668. The College Youth Ringers were established in 1637 and are still active. Although most bells are in C of E churches, the bells in the Roman Catholic church in Cambridge are second only to Buckfast Abbey among bells in Catholic churches. Others are in secular buildings such as Manchester Town Hall. The largest bell which is rung on a full wheel is in Liverpool Cathedral which weighs 4 tons, and is one of 12 bells. Bell ringing is almost unique to Great Britain and its former colonies. When Swaffham Bulbeck's bells were installed in 1820, teams of ringers came from Swaffham Prior and Brinkley and had dinner at the Horse and Groom.

Mr Pickford's talk was well documented with two sets of slides shown simultaneously of newspaper accounts, account books, photographs of ringers, and pictures of churches.

The next meeting will be on November 10th at 7.30pm at BVC when J.Whitehead will be speaking about *Freemasonry in Cambridge*. Visitors are welcome (£1.50).

Peggy Day



November Wildlife The Big Sleep



The last few months would have seen constant activity as animals and insects prepared for the winter ahead. In a race against time and temperature, particularly for those that have been born this year, they were and still are eating as much as possible in order to store up valuable fat supplies for the hungry months to come.

For a few animals, the winter is just too cold to continue life as - normal. Their body temperature drops, their heart rate slows drastically and they go into hibernation. This is not technically sleep hut a state of torpor.

Hedgehogs hibernate in nests made of leaves and grass. They usually have more than one nest as they will usually move at least once during the winter. Hedgehogs normally start hibernation in October but younger hedgehogs can still be active as late as December in the hunt for food.

Dormice also usually hibernate from October to April, but if the weather during summer is bad, they may also go into hibernation then too! Their name comes from this remarkable ability to 'sleep', as seen at the Mad Hatters Tea Party.

Badgers however do not truly hibernate. They are still awake but less active. In fact they can go without food for several days and will remain underground in their setts for great lengths of time, particularly during severe frosts.

If you want to know more about your local wildlife or wish to join the Wildlife Trust, please phone 01223 712400 for more information



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VERY COMPACT WITH BATTERY CHARGER/MAINS ADAPTER
NO CD-ROM OR MODEM.
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Masquerade

CHARACTER, CARNIVAL
and
PERIOD COSTUME
HIRE



HARVEST TIME

Harvest is important
it helps us all to eat,
God sends us the sunshine
that ripens all the wheat.



Harvest is important
the tractor driver's say,
we see them riding in the fields
gathering the hay.



Harvest is important
the farmer blows his horn,
Hurry up, get out the way
I need to cut the corn.



Friends of Bottisham Village College

CHRISTMAS FAIR
at
BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE
SUNDAY 28th NOVEMBER
12 - 4pm

Something for all the family, featuring a variety of stalls of crafts, gifts and games and SANTA'S GROTTO

Bottisham Village College Music Society

Exciting Piano Recital

By

Peter Britton and Margaret Copestake

FOUR HANDS AT ONE PIANO

Programme includes their own arrangement of **Stravinski's Rite of Spring**

FRIDAY 12th November at 8pm

Main Hall, Bottisham Village College

TICKETS: at the door: £5, CONCESSIONS £2.50

(Accompanied children under 16 and Season Ticket Holders: FREE)

From the Church Registers for September

Holy Matrimony

Steven Brian Rawlings and Rebecca Elizabeth Blake [SB]

Mark Kenton James Swann and Janine Lesley Hall

Jason Alexander Ryan and Kelly Anne Ward [SB]

Blessing of Marriage

Billy and Nicola Siebert

In Memoriam

Beatrice Alice Ashby (79) [SB]

Alvah Aves (80) [R]

BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE SWIMMING POOL

YOUR COMMUNITY POOL

UPDATE- NOVEMBER 99

After many hours of discussion and numerous meetings the contract for re-building our pool was awarded to Farrons (Construction) Ltd. of Waterbeach. They moved on site on 23rd August and after the demolition of the fire damaged structure, have started the re-build. Presently the block work and some new foundations are being built. By the time that you read this I hope the main roofing structure will be in place. The project is due for completion in February - twelve months after the fire.

As I mentioned in June, this is the right opportunity to carry out improvements for which finding is required. The Pool Council have agreed to go ahead with improvements which include a glazed spectator viewing area (no more poolside splashing !), a new reception area and entrance way, a new lifeguard office and store, a pool hoist for disabled persons to enter the water safely, closed circuit television cameras for security and a new doorway into the lecture room to enable its use when the pool may be closed. This work is expected to cost some £45,000.

We have been fortunate in receiving grants from East Cambs DC, three Parish Councils, two Charitable Trusts and our sponsored walk which took place in May. A charitable appeal letter was sent to 250 trusts/companies in August and so far we have received positive responses from six companies with a further ten asking for more details. Together with one or two more grant applications we are hopeful of attaining the target.

Meanwhile, the Pool Council are continuing to meet and prepare for the re-opening in the new year. There is additional need for new poolside equipment which will require a budget of between £2,500 and £3,000 which we have yet to fund. Any help in this direction would be greatly appreciated.

As part of the preparation for re-opening of the pool, Jill Pellegrini, the Sports Centre Manager, will be reviewing the programme. If you have any ideas or suggestions for improving the programme, please let her know at the Sports Centre by 10th November. There will be a brain-storming meeting the next day!

David A. G. Frost, Chairman, BVC Swimming Pool Association.

Thank you *everybody* who contributed so generously to Macmillan Cancer Relief at our Coffee Morning. Donations were also made before and after the event which brought the grand total to £334 – our best so far. Each year we have approximately the same number of people but each year you give just a little more – thank you.

Ruth Scovil



Notes from the Parish Council October Meeting

Matters Arising: Town Close-Play Equipment: Quotes to be obtained for the repair to the base of the swings. No new equipment to be purchased at the present time. Repairs needed to the fence surrounding the play equipment.

Town Close Grass cutting: This will be referred to the next Charities meeting on 18th November

Public Footpaths: Cambridgeshire County Council has said that they intend to “....try to improve the path at least to the recreation ground. The path beyond the recreation ground is beyond repair. If funds become available it may be possible to construct a new path.”

Sports and Recreation Committee: A letter had been received from the Inland Revenue to clarify any tax implications of the donation. It was decided to investigate the outcome of the last meeting of the Sports and Recreation Committee.

Land Army Girls’ Memorial: Several ideas were discussed and it was felt that more discussion was needed to discern an appropriate form. A list of names had been supplied to the Chairman.

Millennium: A letter was read from Dr. Stanier. Plans for the Sundial are now well in hand. Parish Council agreed that Sunday 26th March would be an appropriate date for the unveiling as this is close to the Spring Equinox (Tuesday 21st March 2000).

Correspondence Received: ECDC had written to remind organisers of the need to obtain the necessary public entertainment licence for Millennium celebrations. Letter from *Andrew and Dee Noyes* regarding traffic and road safety along Mill Hill. Mr Noyes had written to East Cambs to air his concerns with regard to the increased traffic with the proposed developments both at the top of Mill Hill and the conversion of Liberty Barns. Letter of resignation from *Mrs Erika Condie*. The Chairman expressed his thanks for Erika’s contribution to the Council and all her work. Vacancy to be advertised, Council willing to co-opt should any willing party come forward.

Planning Applications: There were no planning matters.

Accounts for Payment: Payments were agreed

Neighbourhood Watch: A M Badcock gave a report of a meeting of the Parish forum, which was attended by the Chief Constable Mr Ben Gunn.

Village Shop: Mr Trevor Jones gave a report outlining progress to date.

Andrew M Badcock

Chairman Swaffham Prior Parish Council

Please note that if any person is interested in the vacancy for Parish Councillor that has arisen, they should contact either the Chairman or the Clerk in writing and be prepared to attend the next meeting on 11 November.



I have received mixed news from Stagecoach/Cambus on our local bus services. They are unable to extend the 8.59 which starts at the Black Horse, Swaffham Bulbeck, into a full service starting in Newmarket or Burwell. They would only be able to do this by using an additional vehicle and they will not do this unless we can show that usage would increase significantly. Please write to me if you would use a service from Reach or Swaffham Prior which arrived in Cambridge at about 9.30 am.

Stagecoach/Cambus did confirm that buses in rural areas should stop on request, even where there was no bus stop, as long as it was not a dangerous place to stop. This is particularly important for people who live at The Beeches, as several buses had not stopped there when requested. Mr Eden, the Managing Director of Stagecoach/Cambus has assured me that a general notice has gone out to his drivers reminding them that they should stop at The Beeches if requested. I hope this will resolve the situation. If not, please let me know.

We have started the Best Value reviews that the government requires us to do. This requires us to look at each of the services that we provide and test whether we are providing them as efficiently as possible. This will be a good opportunity to make sure that our services are of a high standard and provided at a reasonable cost. And it's not just an internal review, we will be consulting with local residents to see what you think of the service provided.

We want to consult with local residents on a variety of subjects. Unfortunately, we cannot ask everyone for their views on all of these subjects because it would be very costly and many of you may not have the time to give views on a wide number of subjects, so we are setting up a Citizens' Panel. This will be made up of about 1,000 people aged 16 and upwards, selected to be representative of the residents of the whole District. These people will be asked to give their views on selected topics roughly every 3 months. We will be looking for volunteers over the next few weeks, so you may be telephoned to be invited to join this Panel. If you are, please do agree if you can spare the time, as it's very important that we get a selection of people from this part of the District onto the Panel, to make sure that your views are heard.

Charlotte Cane



Cambridgeshire Health Authority was formed in April this year. We live within its boundaries. It is divided into seven **Primary Health Care Groups**, **East Cambridge-shire** being one.

The East Cambs. Group is responsible for **our health**. A detailed and sobering report just issued by the Director of Public Health tells us what our health is and how to do something about improving it. The report is called *Everybody's Business* and I recommend it to you as interesting and thought—provoking reading. Copies from Fulbourn Hospital (01223 47500). A few random facts derived from the report:

	Life expectancy at birth for males	1994/6	Death from cancers per 100,000 aged 0-64 in 1995/7
East Cambs.		77.1 years	80.9 (a quarter of all deaths in '97)
England		74.5 years	79.1

"Smoking tobacco is the single most important cause of preventable illness and early death".

In Cambs. about one in seven deaths are accounted for by smoking related diseases. In a 1998 Cambs. school survey 9.5% of girls and 7.0% boys aged 12/13, and 28.5% girls and 22.0% boys aged 14/15 smoked at least one cigarette a week. Two out of three pupils said they would like to give up.

You can now understand why our local councils are so keen to stop the purchase of tobacco by under-age people. The County drug team in 1998 found that three out of ten 14-16 year old pupils had used an **illegal drug**. Note, it will be a criminal offence to sell cigarette lighter refill canisters containing butane to anyone under 18 from 1st October.

I was glad to see that premature death from **coronary heart disease** in Cambridgeshire has dropped over the last ten years. East Cambs. is well below the rate for England and Wales and better than any of the other Districts of the county.

I end this part of the article by noting that **obesity** has more than doubled in U.K. over the past ten years. Over half the population is overweight and nearly one person in five is now classed as obese. "Obesity is clearly not a safe condition" (Dr. Jebb of Medical Research Council). Children are not taking sufficient exercise. An inactive lifestyle and poor diet are risk factors for ill health.

James Fitch

Ulp! Ed.



Church Services November 1999

ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck

ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior

ST ETHELREDA & THE HOLY TRINITY

8:00am
Sun Holy Communion[†]
7 **9:30pm** Family Service

11:00am
Parish Communion^B

6:00pm
Annual Group
Bereavement Service

REMEMB
RANCE
SUNDAY

10:50am
Sun Remembrance Sunday
14 Service

10:50am
Remembrance Service
6:00pm
Requiem Mass
(*Cambridge Voices, StCyriac*)

8:00am
Holy Communion[†]
10:50am
Remembrance
Sunday Service

CHRIST
THE
KNING

9:30am
Sun Village Communion^A
21

8:00am
Holy Communion[†]
6:00pm
Evensong[†] and Sermon

11:00am
Family Service

ADVENT
SUNDAY

9:30am
Sun Parish Communion^A
28

11:00am
Mattins[†] and Sermon
4:00pm
Advent by Candlelight
(with the two churches)

8:00am
Holy Communion[†]

Holy Communion **Evening Prayer**

1st Thursdays 10am, Swaffham Bulbeck Church
Tuesdays, 5:30pm, Swaffham Bulbeck
Wednesdays, 5:30pm, Reach
Thursdays, 5:30pm, Swaffham Prior

Sunday School **Bellringing** **Housegroup**

Not meeting this term. Creche facilities available as required.
Tuesdays, fortnightly 8pm. St. Cyriacs. Contact: Dr Margaret Stanier on 741328.
Tuesdays, 8pm, fortnightly in Reach.
Contact Olivia Cole 743434, Juliet Vickery 742676

Mothers Union

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

Toddlers Service

3rd Thursdays @ 11:30am for 15 minutes in Reach Church or Centre

The vicar is never too busy to visit anyone on urgent pastoral or spiritual matters.

Dear Friends,

What's On

I thought, this month, I would use my pastoral letter to bring the village up-to-date about a number of things, not least arrangements for celebrating the Millennium. The churches and chapels of my benefice (Swaffham Prior with Reach, and Swaffham Bulbeck), including our Roman Catholic friends, have clubbed together to fund the issue to every household of both a *millennium gospel* (according to St Mark, being the appointed gospel from Advent 1999, but with the Birth of Christ narratives from St Luke as a preface), and a *millennium bookmark*. The bookmark carries a local greeting and includes the traditional form of The Lord's Prayer. Someone should be calling to deliver these during early December, please use them and treasure them, as we commemorate a special moment in our history.

On New Year's Eve, the church will be open, and some lights left on, so that people can find some quiet and a place to pray. There will also be an opportunity to light votive candles in a sand-tray, in addition to the normal provision. The *bells* will be rung as usual from 11.45 pm to ring out the old year/millennium, and chime in the new. Then, on Saturday 1st January the tower will join with others across the nation in ringing at 12 noon. (There will be a short act of worship at 12.15pm in Swaffham Bulbeck Church). Around 12.30pm there are plans for a *village lunch* at the village hall, to which everyone will be welcome; more details next month. The tower of St Mary's will be *floodlit* for the 12 days of Christmas, as has been the custom in previous years.

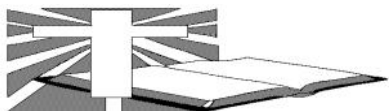
Sunday 2nd January is intended to be a day when the whole village can worship together; the 11.00am service at St Mary's will, in common with all parish churches, be a '*civic*' occasion, and we shall be inviting the various groups in the village to take part. Ahead of all that, it is intended that, again, we have a *village choir* for the Christmas Carol Service on Tuesday 21st December @ 7.00pm; details of all the worship from Advent Sunday will be in the *service card* delivered to every home in Swaffham Prior and Reach as usual.

Might I suggest the *guide-book* 'Swaffham Two Churches' and the set of 8 *postcards* as excellent Christmas presents or stocking fillers? They are both £2, and available from Ruth Scovil, Elisabeth Everitt, The Red Lion or The Vicarage.

With young people particularly in mind, could I put out a plea for 7+ aged children to offer to help at the 11.00 am *communion service* on 1st Sundays, plus special occasions such as Midnight Mass. We offer a small financial inducement, believing that 'every labourer is worthy of their hire'! The Bishop will be conferring the sacrament of *Confirmation* on Saturday 13th May @ 5.30pm in Soham St Andrew's, with candidates making their First Communion back here in their own church the next day. Names please to me as soon as possible, so that I can plan some short instruction sessions. We are also engaged in a process of seeking to *admit children aged 7+ to Holy Communion, before Confirmation*; I would be glad to hear from any family interested in pursuing this also.

May God bless us all as we seek to make his name known to a needy world,

Mark



Zion Baptist Chapel

Services for November:

Sunday	7th	10.30am	No Service
		6.30pm	David Bousfield
Sunday	14 th	6.30pm	Remembrance Sunday - David Bousfield
Sunday	21 th	6.30pm	Colin Dailly
Sunday	28 th	6.30pm	Sheila Bull
Tuesdays		8.00pm	Home Group venues as announced

Remembrance

I've been going through some old family photo's recently and came across one of my grandfather in his military uniform. With this particular photo was an extract from a letter he had written during the First World War when he was wounded in no-mans land. It describes in great detail his perilous journey to return to his own trenches. Crawling and being stretchered; machine gunned and sniped at, shelled and gassed. It took him two days to reach the Casualty Clearing Station. He was fortunate. He survived. So many didn't.

While we were on holiday in Normandy last summer we visited the British War Cemetery outside Bayeaux. There were row upon row of white headstones. Each one standing in remembrance of a soldier who lost his life in action. Each one had paid the ultimate sacrifice. Every so often there was a faded photograph. Every so often there was an inscription to an unknown soldier 'Known only to God'. It is a sobering reminder that sometimes the ultimate sacrifice is required.

Two thousand years ago there was a war to end all wars. It was fought on a hillside outside a city in the backwater of the Roman Empire. At first the war appeared to be going badly for the captain of the army was killed in front of his troops. But three days later the tables were turned. Defeat turned to triumph. God had sent his much loved Son Jesus to earth, to fight against sin and death. Jesus had to pay the ultimate sacrifice and was killed. However in doing so he won the war and defeated sin and death by being raised to life again three days later.

Those who paid the ultimate sacrifice should be honoured and remembered by those who now live in freedom because of them. And Jesus should be honoured and remembered by those for whom he died to free them from sin and death. We will remember those who have given their lives this Remembrance Sunday. We will also remember the One who promises everlasting life because he gave us freedom from death.

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

It is no secret that last autumn, a majority of the 700 of so Catholic parishioners of Newmarket voted (by a majority of close to 60:40%) to ask the Catholic diocese of East Anglia to enter into negotiations with a supermarket chain for them to take full possession of our church site with its paddock behind and land around. We would then move to the site on Fordham Road immediately adjacent to our parish school and currently occupied by the convent that for many years ran our school. On that site we would have developed a new church and mission complex integrated with the school. It is also no secret that the Diocesan Trustees, who had the right to make the decision, declined to follow parish advice. Their reasons were principally the beauty and dignity of the existing church and its prominent situation, so clearly visible at the heart of the town (for historical reasons, neither of the Anglican churches nor the Methodist/URC church makes their architectural presence felt). And the Trustees were mindful of the small majority in favour of the radical move. However, that was not the end of the matter. The developers came back with an alternative plan that involved an exchange of land which would give them an extensive site along the Fordham Road, including our paddock, the land currently occupied by our parish hall and part of our car-park, in exchange for other land that would connect us more securely into the residential area of Exeter Road. Once more the parish had a serious debate and prayerful time of discernment, and expressed a clear preference for the sale and exchange. The hope was the outcome would be enhanced facilities on a smaller site, and a preference for a fully worked-out development rather than a pattern of more gradual and piecemeal commercial development all around us. In the last few weeks the diocesan Trustees have approved this revised scheme in outline, and so now serious discussions are in hand for a major redevelopment of our buildings. The church will remain (perhaps with some internal reordering), but - if the plan goes ahead - the parish plans an architectural competition for an exciting new group of buildings. We are aware that we are the largest ecclesiastical space for miles around, and take the ecumenical responsibility that that carries very seriously. But in thinking about the possible development of a hall, meeting rooms, drop-in centre, Christian shop etc, we will be mindful that we will occupy the space between the new retail area and existing ones in the Rookery and the High Street. This provides us with opportunities and obligations and we hope to seize the former and honour the latter.

Earlier this year, the parish spent much time working communally on a new Mission Statement that is to be the basis of all our worship and witness: the short form of that Mission statement is *Partners in Jesus Christ for others*. It seems that that is going to be the perfect inspiration for us if (and it remains if) and when negotiations with the developers are successfully completed.

Dates for Your Diary - November 1999

- Tue 2 Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm
 Wed 3 Cubs, Village School, 6:30-8:00pm.
 Bikeshed Theatre, *Dancing By Numbers*, BVC 8:00pm
 Thu 4 Bikeshed Theatre, *Dancing By Numbers*, BVC 8:00pm
 Fri 5 Bonfire Night
 Sat 6 Bikeshed Theatre, *Dancing By Numbers*, BVC 8:00pm
 Wed 10 Cubs, Village School, 6:30-8:00pm.
 Staine Hundred, BVC 7:30pm
 Thu 11 Parish Council, Village Hall
 Fri 12 Piano Recital, BVC, 8:00pm
 Sun 14 Remembrance Day

Crier Copy Deadline

- Durufles's *Requiem*, Cambridge Voices, St Cyriac's, 6:00pm
 Mon 15 WI, Village Hall, 7:30pm
 Tue 16 Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm
 Village Gardener's, Village Hall, 8:00pm
 Wed 17 PC, Village Hall, 7:30pm.
 Cubs, Village School, 6:30-8:00pm.
 Sat 20 Quiz Night at the Village Hall, 7:30pm
 Wed 24 Cubs, Village School, 6:30-8:00pm.
 Thu 25 ***Crier*** Collating, Village Hall, 2:30pm
 Sat 27 Handel's *Messiah* at Fordham Church 7.30pm
 Sun 28 Advent by Candlelight, Two Churches, 4:00pm
 Pre-Christmas Drinks, Baldwin Manor, 12 noon
 Christams Fair, BVC, 12:00-4:00pm
 Tues 30 Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm

December

- Sat 4 Christmas Fayre, Village Hall, 2:00-4:00pm



Advertising in the ***Crier***
 is **very** cost effective

Ring John Fidoe for details

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