



The Swaffham Crier

Volume 25 Number 10

October 2001



Editorial

The *Crier* is back after its Summer Vacation just in time to lend support to Charlotte Cane and James Fitch in their battle to stave off a take-over bid by the Fenland Health Care Trust on our East Cambs Health Authority. This seems a very sneaky move, instigated as it was in August when everyone is on holiday, and doesn't seem to bode much good for us. Please read Charlotte's and James' articles on this subject. Postcards will be distributed with this month's *Crier* so that you can object to the plan if you wish.

Meanwhile, the first of Mavis Nickson's articles on her reminiscences as the daughter of the Village School-mistress appears this month. Mavis describes the new Primary School which was the pride of the County when it was built, with its French windows, elegant moveable screens and, most impressive of all, a *flushing loo*. There will be four articles in all, and we hope you will enjoy them.

Our Reporter is in trouble this month (see letters)! We'd like to re-iterate Trevor Jones remark that the *Crier* reporter is indeed just that and nothing to do with the Parish Council, so all complaints to us, please! In defence, we'd like to say that his/her article is always amusing and frequently hilarious and because of it, we think we are all more aware of what goes on at the Parish Council and certainly more inclined to study the official report which we also carry. The bone of contention this month is *hedge-cutting*, and without the article in question, certain guilty parties (i.e. *us*) would not have immediately realised it was *their* hedge that needed the cutting. However, it seems that an innocent hedge was also cited, and we'd like to apologise for this — read all about it on the *Letter's* page.

And after hedges, there's *grass*, which also isn't getting cut enough, and so if we can pass on a plea from the young Town Close foot-balling fraternity, how will they ever get good enough to play for United if their practice pitch is unplayable?

Now a plea from the Editors: we don't know when the *Mobile Library Van* comes any more so we can't publish the dates and some subscribers are now owing massive fines (see *Letters* — sorry Joan!). Could the kind person who used to send us these dates please get in touch? Similarly we've had some problems recently with our regular monthly groups when they don't tell us the date/time/location of their next meeting for a spell. *They* may know its always the third Monday after a full moon, but *we* forget.

Many thanks to the tireless organisers of the Harvest Fair (results published in this issue) for another excellent do, and also for a most enjoyable and convivial Harvest Supper master-minded by Kate Childs.

Caroline Matheson



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors

***Crier* Reporter at the Parish Council**

Following the article “From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting” in the last issue of the *Crier*, various members of the Parish Council have received complaints concerning the accuracy, or more correctly, inaccuracies in that report.

I would like to take this opportunity to re-iterate for the benefit of all residents that the Parish Council is not responsible for that report. Consequently, the Council cannot be held responsible for its accuracy, for any quotations taken out of context, or innuendoes that from time to time appear.

A particular bone of contention was the naming of certain addresses where hedges needed to be cut back, especially as it was not accurate with regard to 22 Fairview Grove. During the discussion within the Council the point was made that no individual would be named and with that in mind letters were delivered to all residents in Lower End and the High Street and it was, hopefully, worded so that it did not “make them smart”. A few examples were given during the discussion so that all the councillors could get a clear overall picture, but not exactly as quoted in the report.

Perhaps it should be borne in mind that it can be unwise to accept these reports as wholly factual.

All Parish Councils are governed by Act of Parliament and members of the public and the press have a right to attend all meetings — it would indeed be a sorry state of affairs if that were not so.

Trevor Jones

Chairman of the Parish Council

“Our Reporter” replies:

The *Crier* Report is generally a balanced, informative, truthful and at times humorous report. I regret that the Chairman and several members of the Parish Council have been plagued with complaints about my report of the last PC meeting. But that Report was **not** full of inaccuracies.

I apologise for incorrectly naming XX Fairview Grove (I won’t matters worse by repeating the number). I heard XX, I wrote down XX, and reported XX, when all the time it seems it was YY. Maybe someone coughed at the vital moment. I can’t even claim a typing error. My mistake and I am very sorry if I caused XX any distress.

The second and only **other** inaccuracy cited is a puzzle. If the PC letter was so gently worded, why should anyone complain that it made them “smart” Did anyone so complain? My comment echoed a jovial remark by one member during the debate and was also a light literary reference of sorts which was meant for the over-fifties. Any remark I put into quotation marks was actually said and accurately reported.

As for anonymity, over the years *Crier* reporters have generally respected the wishes of the PC regarding sensitive issues such as potential juvenile miscreants and similar, but inadequate hedge-cutters are not in the same category.

Alastair Everitt
Anglesey House

Dear Editors,

Nappies

I saw the article from East Cambridgeshire DC in the August/September *Crier* encouraging parents to use ‘real’ nappies. We have a nine week old son in real nappies and recommend them. There have been far fewer leaks compared to his first two weeks in disposables and the washing is not a problem. The nappies are shaped like disposables and fasten with Velcro so are easy to use.

If anyone is thinking about using real nappies there are lots of sources of information, particularly on the Internet. I recommend ‘The Nappy Lady’ (Morag Gaherty) who has a very helpful website (www.thenappylady.co.uk) and whose telephone number is 01622 739034. She has practical tips about using real nappies and offers a free advice service.

Catherine Atherstone
33 Mattock Way

NATURE NOTES:

The Hurda buffalo is found, among the Klumpah trees
Accompanied by the Flocka birds and the Swarma bees:
Whilst overhead the Bancha clouds, threaten Dropza rain
And the bearded naturalist sings this wild refrain:---

The Hurda buffalo is found among - - - etc., etc.,

Ophir Catling

Dear Editors

Birthday Party

Thank you belatedly, but none the less sincerely, for the excellent 25th Birthday party for our excellent *Crier*. The turnout, vivacity of the company and the weather all complemented your hospitality, excellent food and wine. The weather smiled, wine flowed and conversation rippled.

One recurrent topic of conversation was what could we write about in future to ensure everyone grabbed their *Crier* when it hit the mat, steaming with hot issues, relevant to all? We have done lighting, planning, dogs, hedges and village growth.

Into my mailbox last week dropped the next topic which should fire the village for at least 100 years; the National Trust's plan to turn us into a wetland tourist village. Will there be a return of the malarial mosquito? Are all of those 7000 species at Wicken friendly? Will it solve the problem of those lorries collecting seed potatoes and sticking in Reach? Should prime farmland be sacrificed? What about marginal land instead? Should we all invest in boats? Could it give us rapid transit to the Cam and a good method of getting to work? There is endless spin and no doubt entrenched opinions, particularly as Cambridgeshire County Council's recent planning consultation indicated that 63% of people were in favour of small-scale wildlife habitats and only 29% thought we should be promoting a few large-scale habitats. Should someone from the Village be on the Citizens' Panel to represent our views?

If this doesn't appeal, how about a reprint of everyone's favourite article? One of mine appeared in about 1986 during Cliff and Betty Curtis's stint as Editors and went something like this:

"We all know about chain letters asking us to send six postcards to friends and then getting 240 back. This variant asks you to contribute your man. Ask six friends to do the same and a few weeks later, you should have the choice of about 240 men - one of whom had to be better than the original!"

In those days the offer was for women only but would now no doubt including other partnerships. The other modern equivalent of the simple chain letter in our materialistic society is the pyramid money scheme, illegal in the USA but totally legally in UK. Anyone who has tried the postcard scheme knows the pyramid doesn't work - you have been warned!

Finally, can we please have the times and dates of Mobile Library visits published? I have some books which I have tried to return several times - but never found the library van. At this rate, I could end up with a monster fine!

Thank you once more for one of the parties of the year - so far.

Joan Rest

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting 'Of Lights and Paths'

Your hard-working Parish Council takes forward the business of the village at each meeting in a careful and thorough manner. In consequence, about half the business of each meeting is on the agenda as 'Business arising from the Minutes'. Continuity is all-important. The affair of hedge-cutting to prevent obstruction of pavements, for instance, had another airing on Thursday night. A resident of Lower End, (Professor Goehr) wrote that he would be very happy to pay the bill if the P.C. arranged for a contractor to cut his hedges. (As Eric pointed out, you can't expect these academics to wield a pair of shears.) The rose bush in front of the Village Hall is hanging out and scratching passers-by; and the path alongside the school grounds is overgrown. There is some way to go before our footpaths are 100% clear. Our grass verges are also a matter of concern, as the current grasscutting contractor is not doing a satisfactory job. Pathway and roadway surfaces however are to be made safer by the purchase of 3 more appropriately sited round yellow grit-and-salt bins.



The P.C. is concerned with places for the Young, the Middle-Aged, and the Old. The children's playground is to have a very high-class climbing-frame, and the safe ground-surface below it will cost nearly 3 times as much as the frame itself. The allotment-holder's properties have been made safe from intrusion by the nearby horses because an electric fence has been installed, (by the horses' owner). In the cemetery, ivy is covering some of the gravestones; and the suggestion was made that its removal may be a suitable job for people serving community-service sentences, working under supervision.

A new item for the P.C.'s agenda was introduced by a letter from the vicar telling us that the PCC is planning to put a lamp-post beside the gravel path through the churchyard on the south side of St. Cyriac's Church. Any light there must be on a lamp-post because (as pointed out in the discussion) the Churches Conservation Trust has forbidden any lamp-fitting to the walls of St. Cyriac's; and the proposed new lamp over the churchyard steps will not shed light as far as the gravel path. This path, the vicar wrote, is a much-used and recognised path between the High Street and Greenhead/Tothill Roads, and is an amenity for the village. So he was asking the P.C. for a contribution to the considerable cost of installation of the lamp-post. What's wrong with the existing lamp on the north side of St. Mary's Church? Most people walking between the High Street and Greenhead Road go that way.

But that lamp is to be removed: the whole idea, it seems, is to encourage people to use the south side of St. Cyriac's as the main route to and from Greenhead Road. (This route, your reporter notes, is now mainly used by mothers with push-chairs. With a lamp-post, it *may* become used on winter nights, but the present normal route will doubtless continue in use in day-times throughout the year and light summer evenings). It was clear that the P.C. was very uneasy about the whole thing. Finally the Chairman suggested that we needed more time to consider it, and that at the next P.C. meeting those members absent from this meeting might be available. It is clear that this item will run and run

Margaret Stanier

News from Snakehall Farm

An extremely wet winter and spring led to water-logged fields and together with the cold inevitably caused delays in the growing season. However, the recent warm dry spell helped to bring things back to normal.

Herbs: This year we have an excellent contract to supply herbs to the London organic market. We are also supplying Audley End House and the organic gardens at Ryton near Coventry and Yalding in Kent.

Farm Shop: We produced a good range of produce over the winter including potatoes, salads, greens etc. Current produce includes Onions, Spinach, Salad Mix, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Courgettes, Marrows, Garlic and Squashes.

Reach Fair: Despite a chilly wind, we never had time to get cold on the stall as we dealt with a constant stream of customers. Herbs were particularly popular and contributed greatly to record takings.

The Garden Team: All the rain has meant a lot of grass-cutting for the team this year, and we have only now started to fit in one-off clearance jobs. More and more people have heard about our services and we have many new enquiries for Autumn

Volunteers: A big thank-you to all our wonderful volunteers! New volunteers are always welcome.

People: Best wishes to Helen and Annie who have left the co-management team and welcome to Will Hubbard and Emma Martin who have just joined, and to Ann de Bock who was with us last year as a student. Sincere thanks to Anne Gilbert for bridging the gap between Annie leaving and Emma joining.

“The atmosphere on the farm is amazing. I fell in love with the place and

the people as soon as I arrived.” says Emma.

School Visits and Work Experience: We have had some excellent work experience sessions with both Highfield and Windmill Schools.

Training: Congratulations to the eight co-workers who have recently gained their Vocational Access Certificate.

Inspections from Environmental health and the Soil Association are always a little traumatic, but no major problems.

One Day in May: Congratulations to Hannah Webb whose painting of the farm were exhibited at Wicken Fen - cards still available at the farm.

Phoenix Employ is a new local supported employment service for people with learning disabilities who want a next step into work. Their co-ordinator, Melanie Mason, has arranged for Kevin Talbot to start work at King’s School, Ely, and we’d like to wish him every success in his new position.

Media: The *National Council for Voluntary Organisations* has produced a ‘Rural Briefing’ about our work and organisation, the *Cambridge Evening News* ran an article on our ‘time limited’ placements (with a nice photograph of us!) and *BBC Cambridgeshire On-line* have visited the farm with a view to broadcasting information about us when they launch.

Stop Press: Congratulations to Christoph and Hannah on the safe arrival of Noah...9lb 11oz!

The Prospects Trust

Clock Chiming

The re-instatement of the clock chiming for the clock on St, Cyriac’s tower is a step closer. The hammer will be fitted to strike on one of the ‘ringing’ bells, and there will be automatic night-silencing. I understand that the Churches Conservation Trust has been asked to invite the clock expert Mr. Colin Walton to go ahead with this arrangement.

Margaret Stanier

But elsewhere ...

Villagers prefer bells all night

One hundred villagers have signed a petition asking for the church clock to chime all night because they cannot sleep without its tones.

The residents are protesting against the church’s experimental move to silence the clock’s quarter and half-hour chimes between midnight and 7am after complaints from the landlord of a hotel in Giggleswick, North Yorks, who said they were upsetting guests. But one campaigner, Josephine Robinson, said the clock’s chimes represented “the heartbeat of our village”.

Swaffham Prior Village

CHRISTMAS

MARKET

Saturday, 24th November

11.00 am – 3.00 pm

in The Village Hall



Gifts 🍁 Produce 🍁 Lucky Dip
Cumbola 🍁 Raffle 🍁 Refreshments

Admission: 50p 🍁 Children under 12: free

*Proceeds to The Village Hall
and St Mary's Church
Centenary Restoration Appeal*

VILLAGE CHRISTMAS MARKET

24TH NOVEMBER IN THE VILLAGE HALL

11am - 3pm

We thought you ought to know what delights are being planned for you! Specifically to help you with your Christmas Shopping and to avoid the last minute panic buying. This time you will notice it is called a 'MARKET'; a selected number of crafts people have been invited to bring along their wares to sell (and give up a percentage of their takings).

Among the items for sale will be - wooden toys, garden ornaments, poker work, wood turning, china painting, handbags, quilting and patchwork, nearly new children's clothes and toys, produce, decorations and stationery and small gifts for children to spend their pocket money on.

There will also be a tombola, raffle and bran tub for the youngsters. Refreshments will be available throughout - coffee, tea and light lunches.

Please make a note of the date in your diary and bring all your friends and family. Primary school children will be admitted free but must be accompanied by an adult.

The proceeds from the MARKET will be divided equally between the Village Hall and the Church Centenary restoration fund.

If anyone feels they can help in any way please contact - Betty Prime, Shirley Wilkins, June Wolfenden or Kate Child.

Wedding Anniversaries!

Many congratulations to the following residents who have recently celebrated a 40th, 50th or 60th Wedding Anniversary:

40 th	Shirley and John Wilkins Valerie and Michael Limb Gloria and John Fidoe
50 th	Marion and John Norris
60 th	Alice and Fred Day

We hope they all had a wonderful day for their celebrations, and roll on the next!

Village School 1928 to about 1967

Swaffham Prior School as my mother and I eventually knew it was a brand new building which had been opened in 1928. When my mother took up her appointment in 1934 the school was the envy of all and the show piece for the county. The entire building had a parquet floor, electricity throughout and central heating. The three classrooms were divided by screens with built-in blackboards. These screens were regularly moved backwards and forwards when required. French doors opened onto the front playground. Internal doors led to the corridor and thus came to two cloakrooms for the children separated by a staff room with flush toilet, washbasin etc. The flush toilet proved to be a magnet for any Shire Hall staff visiting the area. A quick smile to mother, a visit to the 'little room' and then with a look of relief and a friendly wave they were off on their travels.

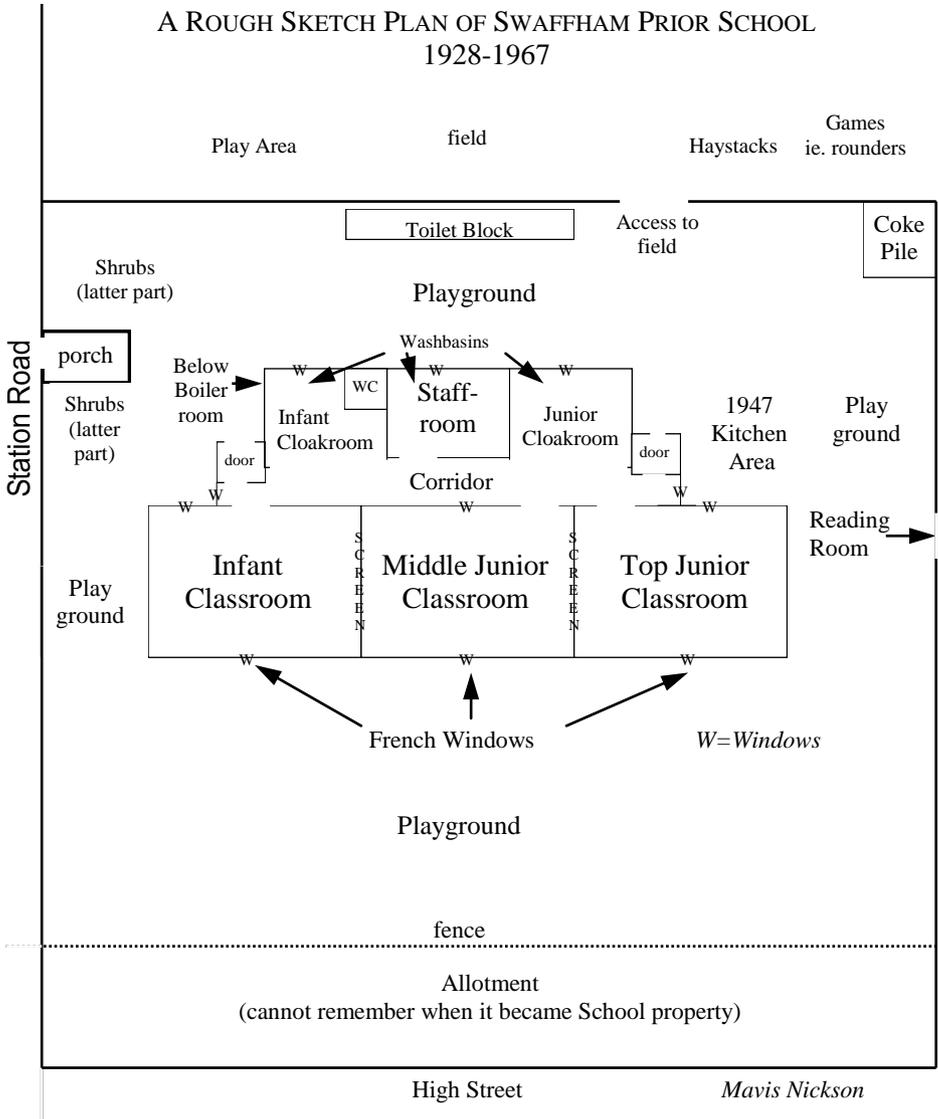
The main school building was actually surrounded by a very large playground which far exceeded the requirements needed per child. Physical activities for each class could take place simultaneously using the front and rear playground. Children had to cross the back playground to use the outside toilets. They were very much the old bucket type (not exactly the idea of fun nowadays but at that time most of the village people had outside toilets). In the recesses of my memory in the female block was one flush toilet. It was a privilege for the eleven year olds to use that facility. Am I right?

Entry to the grounds was provided by a large covered porch. This was indeed welcomed by parents during inclement weather. At that time throughout the county it was frowned upon for parents, unless there was an emergency, to set foot across the playground. This rule was gradually relaxed in the early 70s. At the rear of the school was a very large field; the generosity of the farmer allowed for the top area to be used by the school. The Station Road side was used for playing and relaxing during the summer months (the sun always shone!!) and beyond the haystacks, behind the Reading Room (Village Hall), the flatter ground was used for games of rounders, stoolball and various sports.

In 1947 a kitchen was built on to the existing main building. Burwell Village College supplied the meals. The Reading Room was used as a dining room but all the plates etc. had to be taken to the school kitchen to be washed up. There was a constant toing and froing with trolleys transferring things from one building to another - not an ideal situation. A dinner lady or two dished up the actual meals and did the washing up but there were no dinner lady supervisors to assist the teachers during the meal or playtime. I myself had been teaching for many years before these were appointed. Apart from

the planting of a few shrubs the school building remained in this form until at least 1967. My family and I were living in Singapore at the time of my mother's retirement. Newspaper cuttings of the farewell ceremony reported that Mrs Dowdeswell was delighted that permission had been granted to build a much needed extension to the school.

Mavis Nickson
Née Scott Dowdeswell



Bottisham, Burwell, Linton Village Colleges

Lifelong Learning

Saturday 6th October

*Basic Food Hygiene; Clay Workshop; Essential Spanish
Introduction to Computing; Life Drawing
Neurolinguistic Programming — an introduction
RYA Yachtmaster Ocean Day I*

Saturday/Sunday 6th/7th October

*Computers for Beginners
Promoting Adult Learning Through Group Work*

Wednesday 10th October

Appointed Persons First Aid Course

Saturday 13th October

*Chair Caning & Upholstery; Chinese Brush Painting
Family Learning Day; Health Through Nutrition
Portrait Painting; Photoshop Workshop
Sign Language - an introduction*

Sunday 14th October

Advanced Art Therapy; Life Drawing; Orchestral Play-In

Saturday/Sunday 13th/14th October

First Aid for Childcarers

Wednesday 17th October (19.00-21.30)

Reiki — an introduction

Further information from the Community
Offices

at the Village Colleges: Bottisham: 01223 811372
Burwell: 01638 741901, Linton: 01223 892400



PETS CORNERED. No 3.

I have found a little sloth, I treat it as a pet.
I leave it food and water, but it hasn't moved, as yet.
I don't know where it came from, or if it's young or old;
But when I brush and comb it, it feels to be quite cold.

Ophir Catling

THE BURWELL SURGERY NEWSLETTER

Many of you will have heard or read in the local newspapers something of the proposed changes due to take place next April when our Primary Care Group moves to “Trust” status. Burwell surgery, along with six other local practices are part of the East Cambs Primary Care Group (ECPCG) which is a sub committee of the Health Authority. Its role is to improve the health of the local population, develop primary care and community services and commission hospital services.

The Cambridge and Huntingdon Health Authority is in the process of looking at the various options available for the PCG to progress to trust status. The majority of local GP’s would prefer ECPCG to convert to trust status as it is, however the Health.Autbonty’s opinion is that the organisation is not large enough (approx. 70,000 patients) to be viable. Its preferred option is for ECPCG to merge with a neighbouring organisation, Fenland Primary Care Trust, which covers the area including Wisbech, March and Chatteris. Although there has been a lengthy consultation period and the views of all concerned sought, it is very likely that the Health.Authority will recommend this option to the NHS Executive in October.

Although the doctors and staff are concerned by this decision and the inevitable changes it will bring, we would like to assure all our patients that we will continue to provide the best possible care within the available resources.

Flu Vaccinations

Yes it is that time of year again! If you are aged 65 or over or suffer from a heart or chest complaint, asthma or diabetes or live in a residential home it is recommended that you have a flu vaccination. We will be holding flu vaccination clinics at the surgery, the Day Centre and Ness Court, during October, November and December.

For more information and to book an appointment, please ask at surgery reception. There will be plenty of vaccine available for all those in the risk groups.

Smoking Cessation Clinics

If you wish to give up smoking or have tried with no success then Practice Nurse Fay is here to help you. She will be holding smoking cessation clinics on Tuesday evenings, starting on October 9th. If you would like to join this group session please leave your name at reception and Fay will send you the details. These clinics have proved very successful in the past., so do come along.

Aileen Allen
Practice Manager

Bottisham Music Society

SEASON 2001-2002

“KAI”

A SMALL TROUP OF “FOLK” MUSICIANS
WILL PERFORM
SONGS
AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
WITH NORTHERN EUROPEAN TRADITIONAL INFLUENCE

FRIDAY 12TH OCTOBER, 8PM
DRAMA CENTRE, BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE

TICKETS AT THE DOOR- £5 (ACCOMPANIED CHILDREN UNDER 16 FREE)

BRING YOUR OWN INTERVAL RERESHMENT

TRAINING IN **DANCE, MUSIC, ACTING**

For ages 11-17
at Bottisham Village College

BIKESHED

performing arts

Are you interested in performing arts? Do you want some help developing your skills? Yes? - Then this is your perfect opportunity! If you've never been in the same room as a stage before, OR, if you can't stay away from that room we want to hear from you. Highlights include:

- Working on a 10 minute musical to be performed at the Arts Theatre.
- LAMDA exams
- Singing exams
- Workshops on all aspects of theatre
- End of term shows

If any or all of these things seem like your cup of tea then please contact **Charis Newman** via any of the following mediums:

brilliant@hide-and-see.co.uk
01223 529686
21a Hope Street, Cambridge, CB1 3NA

LATECOMERS

in association with *Bikeshed Youth Theatre*

presents

For one
night only

The Triple Whammy

a compilation of three one act plays
on Monday 1st November 2001
8.00 p.m.
at the Robinson Theatre
Hills Road Sixth Form College

Tickets: £5.00 adults, £4.00 Concessions and £2.00 Youth (Under 17)
available from Lushers Newsagents, Bottisham
or Telephone 01223 812176 for reservations

Bob Newman, 29 Spring Lane, Bottisham, Cambridge, CB5 9BL, (01223 812383)
bobnewman@bikeshed.org.uk www.bikeshed.org.uk



A Visit to Santa Maria Novella in Florence Art History Talk

Santa Maria Novella is one of the 'must-see' churches of Florence. Enjoy a virtual tour of the building whilst hearing about its history, art and architecture.

Speaker: Ann Hollingsworth

Swaffham Prior Village Hall, Monday 1st October, 7.30 p.m.
Entrance £2. Information from 01638 741613

The Art History class meets at Burwell Village College on Thursday evenings at 7.30 p.m. This term the course is 'Looking at Paintings'. Please join us.

Information from the college: 01638 741901

The Harvest Show

A wide variety of fruit, flowers and vegetables was entered in the annual Harvest Show held on 15th September in the Village Hall, including unusual fruit and vegetables and some delightful entries from children. Cream teas were available and a competition was held to complete WW2 titles and slogans, which was won by Mr. Pumfrey Snr. At the end of the afternoon the produce was auctioned off, and in all a total of £200 was raised for Village Hall funds. The Committee's thanks go to all those helpers who donated their time to make this a pleasant and successful event. We give below a list of the winners:

SECTION A: VEGETABLES

	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>
Class 1 Mixed vegetables	<i>no entries</i>		
Class 2 6 Potatoes	D. Bowers	E. Day	-
Class 3 3 Beetroot	R. Dalton	R Dalton	E. Day
Class 4 4 Carrots	T. Pumfrey	H. Pumfrey	E. Day
Class 5 A Vegetable marrow	S. Napier	R. Dalton	J. Norris
Class 6 4 Courgettes	<i>no entries</i>		
Class 7 A Cabbage	<i>no entries</i>		
Class 8 6 French beans	K. Bowers	E. Day	Pumfrey family
Class 9 6 Runner beans	T. Jones	J. Lewis	R Dalton
Class 10 6 Tomatoes -indoors	A Caston	-	-
Class 11 6 Tomatoes -outdoors	Pumfrey family	R. Scovil	S. Napier
Class 12 A Cucumber	K. Bowers	-	-
Class 13 The longest runner bean	R Dalton	M. Gilmore	E. Day
Class 14 The biggest oven buster	E. Day	E. Day	-
Class 15 6 Onions -from seed	E. Day	E. Day	-
Class 16 6 Onions -from sets	R. Dalton	E. Day	J. Knightly
Class 17 Shallots	-	T. Jones	-
Class 18 3 Parsnips	<i>no entries</i>		
Class 19 Uncommon fruit or vegetables	T. Jones	S. Napier	A Caston

SECTION B: FRUIT

Class 20 3 Pears	J. Lewis	-	-
Class 21 3 Dessert apples	J. Lewis	J. Cooper	R. Scovil
Class 22 3 Cooking apples	R. Scovil	Pumfrey family	J. Cooper
Class 23 6 Plums	-	A. Everitt	-
Class 24 Other stone fruit	<i>no entries</i>		

SECTION C: FLOWERS

Class 25 Dahlias (3 varieties)	J. Lewis	E. Day	E. Day
Class 26 6 Dahlias -pom-pom	E. Day	R. Dalton	-
Class 27 3 spray Chrysanthemums	<i>no entries</i>		
Class 28 3 Chrysanthemum blooms	<i>no entries</i>		
Class 29 3 spray Michaelmas daisies	E. Everitt	A. Everitt	-
Class 30 3 blooms Roses	M. Stanier	J. Lewis	-
Class 31 3 stems Floribunda Roses	A. Everitt	R. Scovil	-
Class 32 Vase of perennials	R. Scovil	A. Everitt	E. Everitt
Class 33 Vase of annuals	<i>no entries</i>		

SECTION D: POT PLANTS

no entries

SECTION E: FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

Class 36	Bowl or vase of flowers with foliage/berries/cones	R. Whitely	B. Jones	A. Everitt
Class 37	Basket as above	B. Jones	S. Wilson	-
Class 38	A miniature arrangement	E. Whitely	C. Whitely	R. Scovil

SECTION F: PRESERVES

Class 39	Jar of soft fruit jam	E. Everitt	P. Latchford	D. Bowers
Class 40	Jar of stone fruit jam	Pam Latchford	B. Tingey	M. Norris
Class 41	Jar of jelly	S. Napier	Pam Latchford	Pam Latchford
Class 42	Jar of orange marmalade	E. Everitt	D. Latchford	R. Scovil
Class 43	Jar of lemon curd	Pam Latchford	M. Joyce	-
Class 44	Jar of piccalilli or duttony	T. Jones	F. Day	D. Latchford
Class 45	Jar of honey	<i>no entries</i>		

SECTION G: CAKE AND BREAD

Class 46	Victoria sandwich	A. Day	R. Scovil	A. Everitt
Class 47	Flap Jacks	<i>no entries</i>		
Class 48	6 Scones	<i>no entries</i>		
Class 49	1 Wholemeal loaf	T. Jones	R. Hughes	-
Class 50	1 White loaf	T. Jones	R. Scovil	-
Class 51	6 bread rolls	R. Hughes	R. Scovil	-
Class 52	Shortbread	S. Wilson	D. Noyes	-
Class 53	Special award for novelty cake	J. Nichols		

SECTION H: CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Class 54	Tallest sunflower	T. Latchford	H. Kingsmill	-
Class 55	Largest sunflower head	<i>no entries</i>		
Class 56	Chocolate crispies	H. Pumphrey	E. Noyes	K. Raja
Class 57	"Happy Faces" biscuits	R. Noyes	K. Raja	E. Noyes
Class 58	Garden on a plate	Hannah Bowers	J. Kingsmill	Hester Bowers
Class 59	A vegetable or fruit "animal"	T. Latchford	W. Kingsmill	-
Class 60	A model (original)	T. Pumphrey	W. Kingsmill	H. Kingsmill

SECTION I: WINE AND BEER

Class 61	1 bottle red wine (home-made)	T. Jones	S. Everitt	-
Class 62	1 bottle white wine (home-made)	T. Jones	S. Everitt	-
Class 63	1 bottle wine (any other)	S. Everitt	-	-

The Friends of Bottisham Village College

CAR BOOT SALE

AT

BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE

ON

SUNDAY 7th OCTOBER 2001

9.00 a.m.—12 noon.

£6 booked in advance

£7 on the day

Refreshments



**To Book Tel:
01223 882556**

SWAFFHAM BULBECK SUMMER THEATRE

The Mikado

A word of thanks to all who helped with this year's production of 'The Mikado' - especially the noble band of workers led by Diana Ridsdill Smith who painted all the fans made by another team of local enthusiasts. Well, it got the village working together as well as benefiting the production which everyone seemed to enjoy. Congratulations to those who attended and survived the very cold weather with which we often seem to be blessed - no cases of frostbite were reported but it must have been a close run thing!

The Audience Survey

Thanks also to those who took the trouble to complete the questionnaire. Just over half the forms came back, and if one assumes that only one form was completed per party in many cases, it was a pretty good response. We now know that 43% of responders came from Swaffham Bulbeck and neighbouring villages, 32% from Cambridge and elsewhere within a 6-10 mile radius, 20% travelled over 10 but under 50 miles and 5% came more than 50 miles to see us - including a group from Japan who were able to read the writing on the fans and stage decorations. Fortunately it was all polite!

The bulk of the audience, not unexpectedly, fell within the 30-60 age range (perhaps too broad a band) with a substantial 36% coming from the over 60s.

Significantly 85% said they would attend a show other than Gilbert & Sullivan, so perhaps the Society may move in that direction in the future.

There were lots of suggestions, some useful and some hopefully with tongue in cheek (e.g., please provide central heating and carpets!). We will certainly look at the possibility of providing coffee in future and will advise patrons on the tickets to bring blankets and cushions. We will also try to improve the auditorium lighting before the show so that you can actually read the programmes provided!

A Plea

But all ideas cost money or require more hands to implement. So **please** consider whether you would be able to help in some way - technical, non-technical or musical - all would be welcome. Unless some new enthusiastic younger members come forward to take over the burden undertaken - very willingly - by those who have given their time and energy to the Society for up to 20 years in some cases, it is difficult to see how the Summer Theatre can survive in the longer term. Offers to Geoff Reed (01223 811777) Philip Upton (01638 612173) or Anne Datson (01223 812395) — please!

Patience 2002

Next year's production will be 'Patience', not seen in the village since

1989, produced by Anne Datson. Please book the dates now - **13th, 14th and 15th June 2002** - a week later than usual owing to the revised school half term arrangements following HM The Queen's Golden Jubilee - the venue will again be Mitchell Lodge Farm Barn, courtesy of Kate & Frank Turner and Joan & Tom Banks.

Auditions for principal roles will be held in the Village Hall on **Saturday 10th November**. For details please contact Anne on 01223 812395.

New chorus members are also welcome - rehearsals will start in February with a Sing Through on **February 14th**. If you are interested, please contact Anne or Geoff Reed (as above).

Geoffrey Datson
Business Manager

Apple Festival

A Celebration of Apples and Apple Orchards - October 2001

East Cambridgeshire District Council as part of a Local Agenda 21 is holding an Apple Festival in October. An annual National Apple Day is celebrated on 21st October, with associated events and festivals held up and down the country during the month and we thought it would be nice if East Cambs joined in the celebrations. We have organised a variety of ways in which to promote local apples and apple orchards and their associated benefits to the environment and people's health throughout the week, starting with a cookery demonstration and information stall with musical entertainment on Ely's Market Square on Thursday 25th October.

On Saturday 27th October the day kicks off with the first of three cookery demonstrations by Monica Askey at 8.30 am in the Market Square. Again, we have an information stand along with an opportunity to have your apples identified by an expert. We have some folk music and Morris dancing and for the children the 'Wild Man of the Woods' will be present all day telling stories and singing songs. We are also asking people to participate in the longest apple peeling competition to see if we can set an East Cambs record!

We have already advertised for people to send us their favourite apple recipes and will be compiling these into a book which will be available on Saturday. We are also inviting people to bring along their home made apple pies to the market square on Saturday to be entered into a competition due to be judged at the end of the day.

For further information please contact Tracey Harding, Project Officer, East Cambridgeshire District Council on Tel: 01353 616377 or e-mail: tracey.harding@eastcambs.gov.uk.

HOLIDAY PLAYScheme

or Another Day in Paradise

Monday the 30th of July - an ordinary day during the holidays! An ordinary day during holidays? But why in all the world is this big crowd of children moving itself towards school? Towards school during holidays! It can't be an ordinary day! They all look quite happy as if they are on the way to paradise and not to school, where they obviously arrived. And indeed: It is the first day of the paradise.

A big crowd of roughly 80 children shuffling around in the school hall. Happy and in a high spirit they wait full of hope to get instructions for the day. After they got the instructions and everybody was told what was going on for him a lot of different activities opened their gates and the happiness began. A countless number of activities were offered.



Some examples: assault course, reptile show, horse riding, walking on stilts, brass-rubbing in the church, fishing, hair braiding, swimming, puppet making, music with percussion instruments, roller skating, face painting, rocket making and with increased interest the perfect leaded craft room was one of the favourites. One result, which is still to enjoy is the garden in the back of the school. A dry land in the paradise was created into a beautiful landscape. I am sure, Adam and Eve can't have enjoyed the paradise more than all the children did the holiday playscheme. And I would say, the children were cleverer than Adam and Eve. Instead of eating the fruits from the forbidden tree, they were busy creating their own special food: there was cake modelling, baking of biscuits and Indian cooking. And all of it tasted marvellous. On the last day, before the paradise closed its gate 'til next year, there was a big happening at the end: the barbeque and the fire engine. All the little angels were dancing filled up with sausages under the big jet of

water.

During the whole time there was a splendid atmosphere in the area of the p a r a d i s e . Through all generations (!) a large group of the village worked together for this special event. It



was a lot of work to do before, during and after the Holiday Playscheme. About 30 helpers have worked to create this paradise on earth. Particularly to the group of 10-12 people who had planned the week and to Dee Noyes and her family is to say thanks for all the time and energy they spent for the Holiday Playscheme. It was brilliantly organized. Whether the transport to the trips, like the horseriding, or the dealing with the daily choice of the activity from each child or anything else. It was very well managed.

Like the paradise, in which God was walking through the garden I am sure, he did it during the Holiday playscheme as well and he enjoyed it as we did - therefore let us wait for another day in paradise next year.

Jan Petersen

...and from the organisers:

PLAYSCHEME 2001

It all seems such a long time ago now! It was a great week - exhausting, challenging, but satisfying for the organisers, and based on the feedback from participants (both children and parents) it seems a good time was had by all.

There are too many people to thank individually, but we would like to record our thanks to people from the village without children of Playscheme age who came in to help in different ways during the week, notably Ann Finch, Shirley Wilkinson and Brenda Doe. We are very grateful for your help.

Various pieces of cooking equipment were kindly lent but not reclaimed. Please get in touch if you are missing chopping boards etc.

And finally, an appeal, once again, for storage space for Playscheme equipment. We have c6 sealed plastic boxes containing craft materials and 3

or 4 crazy golf obstacles. Can anyone help with barn/shed space? We would be very grateful.

Watch this space from February onwards for details of planning meetings for Playscheme 2002!

Dee Noyes 743864

(on behalf of the Playscheme 2001 planning group)



VILLAGE GARDENERS

We started off our Autumn Programme in Reach Village Hall, with a well-attended meeting, including several visitors to hear Oviatt Hamm talk about Clematis. It was indeed a privilege to have first hand tips on the cultivation from such a knowledgeable experienced expert. One tip worth recording is, if you want to show off your skills to have good full blooms perhaps for an open-garden or just to impress the neighbours is that some clematis will benefit from pruning 6-8 weeks before the event. They also appreciate weekly doses of liquid fertilizer.

Our next meeting will be in Swaffham Prior Village Hall on 16th October at 8pm for the A.G.M (which I assure you will be brief) followed by a Quiz - we have a store of super prizes. The new programme will be available. New members and visitors will receive a warm welcome.

Kate Child
Chairperson

Autumn Production 2001

Come and be "bowled" Over either on the 18th, 19th or 20th October 2001 in the Bottisham Village College Drama Studio from 8.00 p.m.



This production is a comedy "Outside Edge" by Richard Harris directed by Graham Waterhouse.

The odds are finely balanced for Roger. His team is playing another team that they "thrashed all over the field this time last year" and he is desperate to win. Some of the chaps are unable to play and he has a crisis on his hands with his wife Miriam, who serves tea at half time. There are other marital problems that affect the teams prospects

To find out if they win and what the problems are you will need to buy your tickets from Lushers, price £5.00 for adults and £3.50 concessionaires (not Saturday). Telephone bookings 01223 812779.



LADIES CIRCLE

July:

On Monday 23rd July members met once again for their monthly meeting. Our speaker this week was Mrs Cockerill who told us about the work of the Churches Conservation Trust. The Churches Conservation Trust cares for over 300 churches of outstanding historic, architectural or archaeological importance which are no longer needed for regular worship.

Mrs Cockerill showed us slides of many old churches, which have been preserved by the Conservation Trust and are now open to the public. One example is our own church St Cyriac's which has been wonderfully renovated and is open on various occasions for musical recitals etc.

Members found these slides and talk very interesting specially as one of our own churches has been involved in this Trust. We ended the evening with coffee and biscuits.

August:

On Monday evening 20th August members of the Ladies Circle visited the Fire Station at Cambridge. We were shown around the station visiting the room where calls are received and also the poles the fireman use to get to their fire engines quickly when they receive a 'shout' (999 call). Two of the fireman Paul Clarke and Keith Dolan showed us the equipment used in the fire appliances and how certain items were used at road traffic accidents and fires themselves. We were also given a demonstration of the turn-table ladder and a group of fireman also showed us how foam is used to put out fires, mainly in basements. One of our members also had a go at using the fire hose (with the help of one of the fireman, as these tend to be very heavy!!)

Everyone enjoyed the evening and it made us realise just what is involved with the fire service and what a dedicated service they give to the public.

Sandra Butcher



WI Notes

Our Garden Party, on 10th August, was held in Betty Fox's garden on a beautiful summer evening. Neraly 50 members and friends enjoyed a lovely social event culminating in a flutter on some strange looking horses.

On 15th October we shall be visiting the Body Shop in Cambridge.

Margaret Phillips

Zoar Chapel, Rogers Road, Swaffham Prior

You are now at what was formerly called Swaffham Town End. You are standing on a piece of land formerly part of the Common Fields of Swaffham Prior enclosed by Act of Parliament. The chapel site was allotted to Thomas Blinks (or Blincho) “in lieu of sackage or common right”. In 1820 he gave the land, and the following year this chapel was built on it, being licensed for worship in June of that year. One of the wall tablets commemorates Mary Waters, who had passed through deep spiritual trial before feeling the comfort of the gospel of Christ. She evidently had a great deal to do with the beginning of this, the first non-conformist chapel in the village: she was “the first means of the gospel being brought to this parish”.

The first minister was Thomas Webb, from 1821 until his death in 1869. The chapel, now a listed building, is for Baptists: that is, following the New Testament pattern, believers in Jesus Christ are momentarily immersed in water to show their one-ness with Jesus Christ in His burial and resurrection, to live a new life, as described in Romans 6. The baptisms of Swaffham Prior members were carried out in the river at Reach, such services continuing into the 1930s. It is a Particular Baptist chapel, which means that its teaching is Calvinistic, believing that Christ died for His people in particular (God’s elect, or every true believer) as opposed to General Baptists, who teach that Christ died for everyone in general, and therefore no-one in particular.

The pews and the singing desk in front of the pulpit date from the 1820s. In 1851, Thomas Webb the minister filled in the Ecclesiastical Census Return for Sunday 30th March, when he records that there were 16 benches and 5 pews providing a total of 120 seats, and that the congregation that day numbered 76 in the morning, 160 in the afternoon and 40 in the evening.

The chapel was conveyed to a body of trustees in 1857, ordinary people including labourers, a gardener, farmer, grocer, shoemaker, earthenware dealer and the minister. Probably at this juncture the lean-to annexe was made to extend the seating, its sliding panels opening into the chapel. In 1869 we read of a Sunday School with at least four teachers. This was the year Thomas Webb the minister died, as recorded on the wall tablet.

In 1874 a minister from Chatteris began taking the services on the first Lord’s Day of each month. This he did for twenty years, and it is probable that during his time the present pulpit was erected, and alterations made to the windows to allow a little more light. The tablet to his memory records that it was while actually taking the service on 2nd December 1894 that he was taken ill and died. Charles Wilderspin thus died “in harness”.

The organ, to help the singing, was installed in 1959.

Services are held fortnightly on Friday evenings at 7.15pm during the summer months, and monthly November to March. New Bibles and hymnbooks show the intent to continue, God willing, in the years to come. Anniversary services are held each year at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm on the fourth Sunday in June. Everyone is very welcome to any of these services. Repairs to the building are planned so that with County Council help proper renewal will be made of the structure as you see it, a memorial to the goodness of the Lord past and present. We worship “Jesus Christ, the same yesterday and today and forever”.

David Oldham,
minister

Notes from the Parish Council August/September Meetings

A meeting was called in **August** due to the number of Planning Applications received. The meeting was chaired by Mr Trevor Jones with 4 members and 1 member of the Public attending. The **September** meeting was chaired by T Jones with 4 members and 2 members of the Public.

Matters Arising.

Allotments: (August). Following concerns from nearby residents, the allotment holders concerned were asked to tidy their allotments and confirm if they still wished to use them.

Manhole Cover – Coopers Green: (August). This cover was reported as broken. The ownership of this manhole was not clear but due to the danger posed to nearby children, the work was put in hand. During periods of heavy rainfall, this manhole still overflowed. The manhole has now been inspected by Anglian Water and cleared of silt, etc. Anglian Water will keep a check on this manhole.

Maintenance: *The Keep* – Following advice from John Selby, Conservation Officer-ECDC, two prices were obtained for the making good of brickwork on the building itself and the boundary wall. These were considered at the September meeting and it was agreed that further clarification is needed. Deferred until the October meeting.

Play Area fencing – Two prices were obtained for the repair & retaining of this fencing. It was agreed to ask Andy Martin to carry out this work.

Church Clock: A letter was received from The Churches Conservation Trust asking for confirmation that the P.C. would guarantee funding for the proposed reinstatement of the clock chiming mechanism including a night silencing mechanism. Following discussions with the village group responsible for raising funds for this project and confirmation that the funds are available, it was agreed that the P.C. would continue to stand as guarantor for the funds.

The same letter from T.C.C.T. also noted that, due to the wishes of nearby residents, the striking mechanism would be disengaged after 6pm and reconnected for 8am. Another possible time period being discussed is after 8pm – 8am. This was discussed at length and it was agreed that in order to move the project forward, the 12hour silencing of the clock would be accepted subject to review at a later date.

The Clerk will confirm the above points with The Churches Conservation Trust.

Footpaths/Pavements: A letter was sent to households on Lower End and the High Street asking that hedgerows, shrubs, etc., on their boundaries be cut back from pavements & footpaths. **The P.C. would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone for helping with this annual problem.**

Play Equipment – update: A price for a new “play frame” and the associated safety surfacing had been obtained. This was agreed as an example. Applications to various bodies for grants towards the cost of this equipment will now be put together and submitted. If anyone would like to see the suggested piece of new equipment, please contact the Clerk.

Neighbourhood Watch – update: This was deferred to the next meeting.

Cemetery Planning: The cutting back of some trees/shrubs had been carried out in readiness for the marking of new plots.

Grasscutting: Considerable problems have been experienced with this service. Living Landscapes are no longer subcontracting for Mr Shreeve and this has caused a backlog of cutting. Although cuts were still in hand for many areas, Mr Shreeve was asked to carry out two further cuts to the verges. The schedule for grasscutting next season is to be reviewed and amended. It was generally felt that certain areas now need more cuts through the season.

Karen King



Cambridgeshire
County Council

From our Local County Councillor

August is normally a quiet holiday month from the Council view point, I hope everyone who could get away had just such a rewarding holiday.

However, back here the last few weeks have been dominated by a bad outbreak of the modern disease of “**CONSULTATION**”!

Backed by the Government, Cambridgeshire Health Authority is hurrying through consultations on the future organisation of **health services** within the County. The main purpose of this round of discussions (120 meetings are planned in Cambs.) is to get support for the Health Authority’s (HA) plans for the abolition of the three Primary Care Groups (PCG) and their replacement by Primary Care Trusts (PCT).

The Trusts will be free-standing and retain all the responsibilities of the Groups but in addition have greater freedom through being able to

- * directly employ staff for community health services;
- * Lifespan is to be closed down;

- * streamline primary and community services
- * own premises (and land);
- * combine budgets

At a typical meeting in Burwell (23 August) the proposals were outlined by various members and officials of the HA and PCGs. They came with a recommendation as follows

1. Create Cambridge City PC Trust
2. Create South Cambridgeshire PC Trust
3. Create combined East Cambridgeshire and Fenland Trust

The other options were for 3 individual PCTs for Cambridge, S. Cambs. and East Cambs., or for 2 Cambridge City PCT and a combined South and East Cambs. Trust.

The Burwell meeting was universally hostile to the recommendation that East Cambs. and Fenland should be joined in a single trust. I sensed a considerable indignation that the proposal should be discussed in a holiday month at an awkward time, and there was mounting hostility to the idea of merging with Fenland, mainly because an East Cambs. trust on its own would be too small. The general view in which I concur is that this should be a case of “small is beautiful”.

The united view of the people present was:

- 1) Allow the change of the East. Cambs. PGC to a Trust
- 2) Preferably no merger with Fenland on grounds of incompatibility, access, existing links elsewhere and many others.

If forced, reluctantly agree to a merger with South Cambs PCG to form a united East & South Cambs. Trust.

Express your own views or enquire for more details from

Alan Burns, Chief Executive
 Cambridgeshire H.A.
 FREEPOST ANG 9329
 HUNTINGDON
 PE29 6BR
 Tel. 01480 — 398508

by 10th October.

The CHA will consider responses and agree recommendations to the NHS Executive on 17th October in Huntingdon HQ at 1pm (open to public).

The Trusts are expected to become operational 1st April 2002 - an appropriate day perhaps (!?).

James Fitch



August

The East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership has published its Annual Report and would like people's views. This is a partnership between several organisations, including the Police, County Council, District Council, East Cambridgeshire Primary Care Group and the Probation Service. It aims to work with people within East Cambridgeshire to reduce crime. If you would like to see the report, I have a copy, there is a copy on the Council's web site www.eastcambs.gov.uk or you can get a copy from Martin Blake, Corporate Strategy Manager, East Cambridgeshire District Council, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, CB7 4PL.

The report shows that burglary and vehicle crime rose between 1999/2000 and 2000/2001. In 1999/2000 there were 192 burglaries, which rose to 202 in 2000/2001 (5.2%). Vehicle crime rose from 602 in 1999/2000 to 691 in 2000/2001 (14.8%). This was a very significant increase especially when set against falls in crime nation-wide. Across the UK burglary fell by 8% and vehicle crime by 7%. The Partnership was active in getting a grant from the government of £634,000 towards installing CCTV cameras in Soham, Ely and Littleport. As well as covering the three town centres, these cameras will cover the public car parks. The cameras will be monitored 24 hours a day, so they should lead to a fall in vehicle crime once they are up and working.

The Partnership has been going for two years during which it has worked with many people. For example, the Drug Action Team has tackled problems arising from the illegal use of drugs. The Domestic Violence Forum has sought to identify the extent of this crime, to support victims and to train people in how to work with victims of domestic violence. The Community Safety Partnership also have a fund that gives grants to help start community safety projects. This has helped fund several things including a Community Warden Service run by Age Concern, setting up a child contact centre and an initiative to re-build and expand Neighbourhood Watch.

Fortunately crime rates in East Cambridgeshire are very low, so people do not need to fear crime. But for those few who are victims of crime it is very upsetting so it is important that we all work together to reduce the opportunities for criminals to act. There are several ways in which you can help the Community Safety Partnership to reduce crime in our area. Please complete the survey in the Annual Report, come to our Community Safety day on 20th October (details from Martin Blake) and support your

Neighbourhood Watch. If you are part of a Group with an idea for reducing crime that needs some funding to get going, contact Martin Blake for details of applying for a Community Safety Partnership grant.

September

Cambridgeshire Health Authority wants to merge the East Cambridgeshire Primary Care Group with the Fenland Primary Care Trust. This will mean that decisions about local health services, such as GPs and dentists would no longer be taken locally. I have not found anyone in the district who supports the Health Authority's plans. And 97% of the GPs in the district have rejected a merger with Fenland.

The Health Authority's proposal were rejected at packed public meetings in Ely and Burwell in August. Local GPs and other health workers joined members of the public and East Cambridgeshire District Councillors in calling for local services to be run locally for local people. The majority of speakers wanted East Cambridgeshire to have its own Primary Care Trust, but failing that said it should merge with one of the Southern Trusts. East Cambs Councillors at the meetings said that some excellent work had been done by the East Cambs Primary Care Group, like the 'Walk Tall, Don't Fall' campaign, to prevent falls by the elderly. And that it would be easier to build on the success of this work with a continuing East Cambs Primary Care Trust than with a merged organisation.

Most people in East Cambridgeshire use Addenbrookes, Hinchingsbrooke, Ely, Newmarket and the West Suffolk hospitals. Most people in Fenland use Peterborough, Kings Lynn, Doddington and Wisbech hospitals. It would be hard for a merged Fenland/East Cambridgeshire Trust to successfully work with so many organisations.

The deadline for commenting to the Health Authority on this proposal is Wednesday 10th October. There is a postcard enclosed with *The Swaffham Crier*, which you can sign and post to the Health Authority to let them know your views. Or you can sign a petition by calling me on 742509 and I'll bring it round. Or you can write direct to Alan Burns, Chief Executive, Cambridgeshire Health Authority, Kingfisher House, Kingfisher Way, Hinchingsbrooke Business Park, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 6FH.

The decision will be made at the Health Authority's board meeting on 17 October at 1.00pm held in their headquarters in Huntingdon. This meeting is open to the public, if you would like an agenda please contact the Health Authority at the above address.

My next Councillor's Surgery will be at Swaffham Prior Village Hall on Thursday October 18th from 7.30-9.00pm. These Surgeries are an opportunity for you to come and discuss any District Council matters with me and I also have a selection of leaflets giving information about Council services and Planning matters as well as a copy of the Local Plan.

Charlotte Cane

**SWAFFHAM PRIOR WITH REACH: EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
MONDAY 23RD JULY 2001, THE VICARAGE**

1 Treasurers' Reports

Reach

The new Treasurer, Laura Luckyn Malone. would undertake the accounting, drawing a line under the accounts at the half-year in June. Norah Smith would continue to deal with regular collections and take the money to the bank.

Swaffham Prior.

Michael Cazenove presented the Receipts and Payments account Jan 1st - July 17th. He pointed out the large deficit of £7036, due mainly to the major repairs costing £4623 undertaken this year.

The arrangements for Gift Aid needed tidying up. People who had chosen to continue with covenants needed to be reminded to join the Gift Aid scheme once the covenants expired.

2. Fabric Working Groups' Reports

Reach

Doreen Robinson reported that some of the legacy money was to be used to prioritise some of the Category A repairs suggested by the Quinquennial Report. As regards the re-ordering project, Ronald Scott had been asked for a price for the screens in the lobby area. New drawings had been produced by the architect who must now be pressed to draw up specifications and put the work out to tender, as there is some urgency to get this work completed by Christmas. The PCC approved this motion nem. con., and inspected the new drawings with approval. The Vicar said that a proper Reach Fabric Committee needs to be convened before the next PCC meeting.

Swaffham Prior

John Norris reported on the plans for the new cupboards in the vestry. Tenders for this work were going out from the architects. It was decided that a butler's sink was appropriate for the vestry because it was mostly used by flower-arrangers.

The lamp-post for the corner of St Cviriac's was awaited from "Urbis Lighting". The lighting "throw" for the main gate and steps was coming in due course.

Pigeons were nesting in the tower and making a lot of mess.

3. Social Working Groups' Reports

Reach

£185 had been raised at the Summer Barbecue at Spring Hall Farm.

Swaffham Prior

The Social Working Group would meet next on September 5th and would report to the next PCC meeting.

4. Vicar's Items

- (a) The Vicar reported that Andrew Camps was now the official Swaffham Prior Verger and Sacristan.
- (b) The altar linen is currently not being managed by anyone, and someone needs to be approved to oversee it.
- (c) Jan Petersen has agreed to give some Family Services at 11.00 a.m. at Swaffham Prior on the 2nd Sundays in the month.

Jenny Moseley
PCC Secretary

Family Services - but for whom?

Oh sure - you know for whom family service are: for families! That tells the name. This is not really wrong and also not really right. A Family Service is a service in a special style particular for families. But it is in cause of this special style also for a lot of other people.

In my understanding Family Services are also an offer for all people who struggle with the ordinary service. The usual sunday service might be too stiff or too high or whatever. So the Family Service may be the right offer. Sure it is a proper service and it has all elements and signs of a service of the word. Without, we wouldn't call it service. But the setting and the style of such a service is really different.

The Family Service is therefore not only for families with children. It is a service for all generations: teenager and twens, the middle generation, grandmas and grandpas and elderly people whithout the -ma and -pa. So it is a service particular for people who struggle with the usual style of a service as well as for families.

Family Services in St. Mary Swaffham Prior are every 2nd Sunday of the month (except the 11th Nov, remembrance day). The next Family Service is on the 14th of October.

Jan Petersen

From the Parish Registers for August

Holy Baptism: Archie Spencer Herrod [SP]
Jake Edward Withall [R]

Holy Matrimony: Christopher Paul Main & Rosalind Clare Holton [SB]



Church Services October 2001

	ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior	ST ETHELREDA & THE HOLY TRINITY Reach
TRINITY 17 Sun 7	8:00am Holy Communion [†] 9:30am Family Service 6:00pm Harvest Evensong	11:00am Parish Communion ^{CW}	3:00pm Upware Chapel Harvest Music on the Move
TRINITY 18 Sun 14	9:30am Parish Communion ^{CW}	11:00am Family Service & Holy Baptism 6:00pm Ecumenical Salvation Army Service @ Zion Baptist Chapel	8:00am Holy Communion [†] <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: small;"> <i>cw = Common Worship</i> [†] = Book of Common Prayer </div>
TRINITY 19 Sun 21	9:30am Village Communion ^{CW}	11:00am Parish Communion ^{CW} 6:00pm Evensong [†] and Sermon	8:00am Holy Communion [†]
LAST AFTER TRINITY Sun 28	9:30am Parish Communion ^{CW}	8:00am Holy Communion [†] 11:00am Mattins [†] and Sermon	6:00pm Annual All Soulside Service

- Holy Communion** 1st Thursdays 10am, Swaffham Bulbeck Church (followed by Home Communion)
- Evening Prayer** Tuesdays, 5:30pm, Swaffham Bulbeck
Wednesdays, 5:30pm, Reach
Thursdays, 5:30pm, Swaffham Prior
- Bellringing** Tuesdays, 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** 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,

BITTER HARVEST

Whether or not your village church has celebrated its **Harvest Festival** (only Swaffham Bulbeck of our 3 is still to come, plus The Little-Chapel-in-the-Fen), I find myself writing this pastoral letter at the end of the week in which evil stalked the face of the western world, and in particular North America.

The poignant loss, to date, of nearly 6,000 lives in the 4 aeroplane incidents, puts our cosy, English, rural custom in priority context. Of course we need to thank God for his bounty in creation, and to count our blessings that in temperate latitudes it is rare not to be able to celebrate the harvest being safely gathered-in. But, the intrusion into our sense of safety and well-being is surely more than “mind-blowing”; it is a moment in the history of the world that demarcates the civilised from the barbarian. No cause, however worthy, could surely ever justify such pre-meditated crime?

The half-muffled bells at Swaffham Bulbeck on 16th September, in honour of those who lost their lives on Tuesday 11th, reminded us of **Remembrance Sunday**, and this year we shall honour the war-dead with perhaps renewed tribute, for as we read in Holy Scripture, our warfare is against principalities and powers; the battle is for hearts and minds and ideologies across the globe, and not just the territories of old.

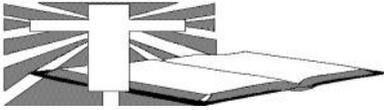
All Souls Day, November 2nd, falls on a Friday this year, and with a 6.00pm ‘Music on the Move’ Cambridge Voices concert on Sunday 4th November in Reach Church (to include Faure’s Requiem), the Annual All Souls-tide Service, for those who have laid loved-ones to rest, will be held this year on Sunday 28th October @ 6.00pm, as usual, in Reach Church. Only those to whom I have ministered in the last year will be directly contacted by letter, owing to the administrative burden of contacting 8 year’s-worth of names; hopefully families from previous years will read this or be asking me directly.

Family Services are back on the agenda at Swaffham Prior on most 2nd Sundays @ 11.00am, and the 1st Sunday 9.30am @ Swaffham Bulbeck is always a guaranteed time and place for such an all-age service. Indeed, the village school are with us, corporately, on November 4th, and we look forward very much to that occasion, welcoming families from across our group of parishes.

We remember those whose families have been devastated by terrorism, and we pray for wisdom and justice; the mined cities will be re-built, and shattered lives will be restored. But christianity has no monopoly on humanitarian concern for fellow human-beings; the world-faiths unite in prayer at least, that our/their God will hear our cries of anguish, and that our belief in his power to transform will turn our bitterness into joy.

Yours sincerely,

Mark



Zion Baptist Chapel

Thank God...



Here in Cambridgeshire we have a strong agricultural community despite the current crisis in farming. Today in many city churches there are no farmers in the congregation and few if any who are involved with gathering in the harvest. Even in outlying villages there's a shrinking number of people who work on the land for their living.

Yet Harvest Festival, the annual act of thanksgiving for the successful gathering in of the crops, remains one of the most popular celebrations of the Christian Year.



It is easy to understand the popularity of Harvest Festival when most of the community worked on the land. The people knew how dependant they were on the weather. A drought can mean a poor yield. A freak hailstorm here, a flood there, can devastate a crop. The outbreak of disease in animals, such as foot and mouth, can likewise devastate a herd.

People who follow certain occupations in life know there are forces at work that human ingenuity and skill alone cannot conquer. Farming experts, even using the latest scientific methods, know that bad weather, disease and pests, can still devastate their harvest. It is in these times of apparent helplessness that we become aware of our dependence on God. It is only God who can give us what is needed for a good harvest. It is because we recognise our complete dependence on God that Christian people say 'Thank-You' to him.



So this autumn why don't you say a special 'Thank-You' to God at a Harvest Thanksgiving in a church near you?



You can always get in touch with me on the phone number below or by sending me a note via the Chapel post-box.

David Bousfield

Sunday 7 th	6:30pm	Harvest Festival
Sunday 14 th	6:30pm	Music On The Move (Salvation Army)
Sunday 21 st	No Service	(Songs of Praise at S.Bulbeck Free Church)
Sunday 28 th	6:30pm	Evening Worship
For further information, transport, or a home visit please call David & Janet Bousfield on 01223-563307.		

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

Masses: Newmarket: Sat 1830; Sun 0900, 1030;

Kirtling: Sun 1700; (*Please note these are changed times*)

In Bottisham Parish Church, Sun 0900 (Served from Cambridge).

From John Morrill, Deacon to the Roman Catholic Community

The arrest of Fr John Ashman on 15 August in connection with the possible possession of indecent pictures of children has created very deep bruising in our community. Many are sad, bewildered, angry, confused – all the things that on a vaster scale those caught up in the terrorist suicide raids in New York (and Washington and Philadelphia) are caught up in. And just as in that great tragedy, there has been a remarkable coming-together in love. Bruised people have reached out to one another. I can say no more about Fr John at the moment, because the police have yet to complete their investigations and decide whether offences have been committed and whether charges are to be brought. I just want to say two things. The first is to thank all our friends in other churches for their support and prayers, which I can assure you have been and are very deeply appreciated. The second is that there is no early prospect that Fr John will return or be replaced. So for the foreseeable future, the 500 or so Catholic households in Newmarket, Burwell and the 28 villages of the parish will be faced by a reduction in the number of Masses and by a bit more difficulty of ensuring that someone is there exactly when they need them. Suzanne Jennings, our pastoral assistant, is learning to drive in an intensive course -- what Fr Paul insists on calling ‘a crash course’! (which reminds me of a wonderful saying of a droll Anglican Bishop about King Charles II, that he told a very good tale, but he told it too often) – and so we might see her buzzing around the villages in due course. I have taken on primary pastoral and ecumenical responsibility for a much wider area on this side of Newmarket (the Swaffhams, Reach, Burwell, Exning and Studlands Park. Anyone who would like to see me can contact me via the church house in Newmarket (01638 662492) or at home (01223 811822).

In the grim days following Fr John’s arrest and then the atrocities in the USA, one small thing had a great effect on my morale. It is a story that is not uniquely Christian, but I hope characteristically Christian. It cheered me up because it demonstrates that loving and life-affirming values have been around for longer than I sometimes recognize. I presided at the funeral of a lady who died at the end of August, aged 92. She had had two children, one of whom - Pat - suffered from severe mental handicap. At the age of 6 in 1943, Pat had been enrolled into the local Catholic school but then in 1944 the Education Act had banished all ‘educationally sub-normal’ (as the language ran) children to special centers run by largely unqualified staff. Pat’s Mum had gone to see the Parish Priest who said: ‘it is my school not the Secretary of State’s: so long as the teachers agree, Pat can stay. And I want her to stay not because of what the school can do for Pat but because of what Pat can do for the school.’ His words changed her life in all kinds of good and positive ways. In a world in which responsible people advise pregnant mothers to ‘terminate’ the lives of babies in their womb if there is a serious risk of mental handicap (such as Downs Syndrome) I repeat: affirming the value of every human life is not a uniquely Christian virtue. But I hope it is a characteristic one.

Dates for Your Diary - October 2001

Mon	1	Art History Talk, Ann Hollingsworth, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Tue	2	
Wed	3	
Thu	4	
Fri	5	
Sat	6	
Sun	7	Car Boot Sale, BVC, 9:00am
Mon	8	
Tue	9	
Wed	10	Deadline for commenting on Health Authority's plan to merge East Cambs Primary Care Group with Fenland.
Thu	11	PC Meeting, Village Hall, 7:30pm, School Governors, 7.30pm
Fri	12	"Kai", Folk Music, BVC Drama Centre, 8:00pm
Sat	13	
Sun	14	<i>Crier Copy Deadline</i>
Mon	15	WI visit to Body Shop in Cambridge
Tue	16	Village Gardeners, Village Hall. 8:00pm
Wed	17	Health Authority meet re Merger Proposal, Huntingdon, 1:00pm Bottisham Players "A Class Act to Follow", BVC Drama, 8pm
Thu	18	Charlotte Cane's Surgery, Village Hall, 7:30pm Bottisham Players, BVC Drama Studio, 8:00pm
Fri	19	Bottisham Players, BVC Drama Studio, 8:00pm
Sat	20	
Sun	21	
Mon	22	Ladies Circle, Village Hall
Tue	23	
Wed	24	
Thu	25	<i>Crier</i> Collating, Village Hall, 2:30pm Apple Festival, Ely Market Square
Fri	26	
Sat	27	
Sun	28	Apple Festival, Ely Market Square, 8:30am onwards
Mon	29	
Tues	30	
Wed	31	