

The Swaffham Crier

Volume 26 Number 5 May 2002



Editorial

WATCH OUT, THIEVES ABOUT! The snatch and grab brigade are back again, and another car parked in the High Street mid-afternoon has been raided right under the very nose of its owner. There are a lot of events (ie. thieving opportunities!) this month so please warn guests: **don't leave anything in your car**, no matter for how short a time.

More interesting memories in this month's *Crier*, thanks to Geoffrey Woollard. And some of Swaffham Prior's recent discussions on local history have reached the ears, courtesy of Meryl Moore, of no less than the **Oxford English Dictionary** (no, it's not our rotten spelling, though be warned: our normal proof-reader is off-duty this month so expect even more '*Creir*' isms than usual). They say:

(cock-horse) is defined as "an additional horse for helping a coach uphill" and have examples of its usage from 1891 to 1963 (what happened to the coach before that, we wonder?). Then:

The similar application in cock-engine is not one which we have documented, although it seems a very understandable extension of the idea to a new context.....If you were able to provide any written evidence of the term, we would be interested in considering it for future editions of the Oxford English Dictionary. So there's a challenge!

But MOST of this month's Crier is dedicated to What's On in the next couple of months, because there's rather a lot of it. See our centre spread for Village Festival details, and elsewhere for the Village Feast, Annual Village Assembly, S. Prior House Musical Evening, Goodwin Manor Marquee Event, Golden Jubilee Picnic, not to mention Reach Fair. But most importantly, **Jan Peterson's Farewell Do** (see his farewell on p. 31). Goodbye, Jan, you've done such a lot for this village and you're going to be really missed.

LASTLY, welcome to Mr Huber, who has very kindly volunteered to be our official *flag-flyer* — but watch out for the Stars and Stripes putting in an appearance over St Cyriac's, because we hear he's from the US!

Caroline Matheson

PS. We hope you read Ophir's poem (p. 21) — it's brilliant.

Cover Picture: The Maypole, by Colin Hadley



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

More Memories

The marvellous memories of Mrs Doris Qsborn prompt me to join in the history discussion on Swaffham Prior (or 'Great Swaffham' which is the village's more correct title).

Until recently, I believed that my great uncle, Charles Yorke Woollard (1877 - 1932), was my family's first link with the village. He lived at Anglesey House and had the tenancies of Cadenham and Adventurers' Farms, as well as Upper and Lower Heath Farms at Great Wilbraham. He purchased the Manor House (so-called, but again incorrectly) and Farm and was succeeded there by his son, my late cousin, Charles Westgarth Lorraine Woollard (1914 - 1983), who continued to farm Cadenham and Adventurers' Farm, but not, so far as I am aware, the farms at Great Wilbraham. The reduced acreage occupied and the general farming depression of the 1930s may have been another reason for Tom Nash's regretted redundancy.

But I have lately had a lot of fun from family history research, which shows that a much earlier occupier of the Manor House and Farm, when it was called Shadwortb Farm and belonged to Queens' College, Cambridge, was Matthew Witt (1765 - 1824), who married (in 1795 at Fen Ditton) my great, great, great great aunt, Sarah Woollard (1767 - 1851). Matthew Witt's earliest traced lease of Shadwortb Farm dates from Michaelmas 1809, but he was appointed 'game keeper' to the Manor of Shadwortb by Queens' College in 1805 and was then 'of Swaffham Prior in the County of Cambridge, Yeoman'.

I liked the 'Yeoman' description for I come from very long lines of such people, with the occasional 'Peasant' thrown in, but Matthew and Sarah Witt seemed to have had a few intellectual genes to pass on, too, in that some of their children and grandchildren forswore farming and entered the professions. Their eldest surviving son, Charles Witt, M.R.C.P, M.R.C.S. (1797 - 1883), became a distinguished physician and surgeon, first in Northampton and later in London, and had a son, Tansley Witt, M.V.O, J.P. (1839 - 1915), who founded the accountancy firm of that name and was Auditor of the Privy Purse; the next son, James Maling Witt (1799 - 1870), was a farmer (at Denny Abbey, Waterbeach, as well as at Shadworth Farm, Swaffham Prior) and a barrister with a London home in Eccleston Square, and two of his sons, John George Witt, *Q.C.* (1836 - 1906) and Ernest Edwin Witt (1844 - 19 16) attended Eton College and became barristers (the latter later lived at The Hall, Swaffham Prior), while another son, the Revd.

Samuel Turner Witt, M.A., was 'Coadjutor of London'; a fifth son of Matthew and Sarah Witt, George Witt, M.D. (1804 - 1869), elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1834, was also a distinguished physician and surgeon, first at Bedford (where he was made Mayor, again in 1834), and later in Sydney, New South Wales, where he was also involved in banking before returning to London a wealthy man; the three youngest sons, Matthew Witt (1806 - 1892), Edward Witt (1808 - 1869), and Samuel Witt (1810 - 1886), stayed with agriculture and were substantial farmers - in Suffolk and Cambridgeshire.

No less than eleven of these Witts and spouses are commemorated in Swaffham Prior churchyard by a single large table-top tomb. If anyone else knows anything more about them I should be very happy to hear of it.

If your readers are surprised by the information above, it is as nothing compared with my surprise at finding it!

Geoffrey Woollard
Chapel Farm, River Bank, Nr. Upware
GW5438@aol.com

Dear Editors,

Song of the Nightingale

The 'Song of Trico' printed in the April issue of the Crier describes the nightingale's song: 'jug, jug, tereu'; and this caused me to wonder yet again why people are so enthusiastic about the nightingale's song. Other poets, including T.S.Eliot who wrote in the 'Waste Land' that the nightingale sings 'jug, jug, to dirty ears', are more realistic than Keats. My bird book, a thorough and scientific one, tells me that the nightingale's call is 'a soft chook, chook'. I have heard the nightingale (to my certain knowledge) only twice, and on both occasions I considered that its song was much more like that of a chirping chaffinch than the lovely liquid notes of a blackbird or thrush.

In classical legend the nightingale was once a girl called Philomela, who was cruelly abused by the wicked King Tereus who cut out her tongue. In recompense the gods turned her into a bird with a beautiful voice, who calls out in mockery the name of her abuser. In much early poetry the bird is called 'Philomela' and 'tereu' is part of her song. The song is heard in early summer: May and early June. When the migrating birds return to Britain, the males always come earlier than the females, and they sing to attract the females as they arrive.

W.S. (good countryman as he was) noticed this point about the time when the nightingale is heard: in Sonnet 102 he wrote:

'...As Philomel in summer's front doth sing, But stops her pipe with growth of longer days. Not that the summer is less pleasant now Than when her mournful hymns did hush the night, But that wild music burdens every bough And sweets grown common lose their dear delight. Yes indeed, how true.

Margaret Stanier

Dear Editors,

It's all very well Trico telling us in last month's Crier that cuckoos sing "Cuckoo, to welcome in the spring", but where have all the cuckoos gone? And as for nightingales, do they really sing "jug, jug, jug, jug"? Does Trico know what he's talking about?

Alastair Everitt
Anglesey House

Swaffham Prior Young Complete the London Marathon

Emma and James Whitely of Cage Hill, and Philippa Harrison of Station Road, all ran, with good times and completed the 26.2 mile course. Collectively, they raised $\pounds 4,500$. Congratulations for a superb achievement!

CHERNOBYL CHLDREN'S HOLIDAY 2002

A very big thank-you to all who have so generously made donations towards the 2002 Appeal for children from Belarus who will be staying in the area between 16th June and 7th July.

Through the kindness of villagers and especially the Ladies Circle we have been able to sponsor one child. The Ladies Circle has also provided all the toiletries needed for four children and two adults for which we are very grateful.

Thank you so much.

Ruth StintonZion Baptist Chapel Secretary

The Village Feast 2002 Saturday 11 May

2.00 pm

You are cordially invited to join us for an afternoon of fun and games including

Maypole Dancing *Bouncy Castle* *Can Shy*

Bowls *Children's Play Area* *Lucky Dip*

Egg Throwing *Raffle*

Teas & Home-made Cakes *Ice Creams* *Beer Tent*

Stalls Galore
Bottle Stall, Cakes and Preserves, Books, Plants

Your help is needed....

As usual we are appealing for donations to the **Cake Stall.** Anything in the food line will be most gratefully received - cakes, flapjacks, scones, jams and preserves, etc. All offers to Janet Cooper (741326) or to the stall on the day.

Books, **Books**, **Books** - if you want to make space by clearing out some of your books, just give Ron Prime (741221) a ring, and they will be happy to receive or collect. But, if you have **Collectibles** or **Bric a Brac** please phone Elisabeth Everitt (742974).

We shall also be collecting for the **Bottle Stall**, and will be calling during the early part of May for anything you can offer.

Thanking you for your usual generous support

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

Perfectly honest impressions of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11 April 2002.

On the radio recently I heard: 'At the end of the day, to be perfectly honest, the full English breakfast is good for you'. Funny, I'd never thought of breakfast as an evening meal, nor fry-ups as healthy, and people who feel the need to proclaim their honesty really do worry me. Fortunately, PC members don't, and that's very reassuring.



On my way from Lower End (or Underland) to the meeting, sometimes walking in the road to avoid overgrown hedges, I thought 'It's still light, much too nice to be indoors'. However, there were treats in store, and the members were in good humour, even without the joker on this occasion. Maybe, that's why the new Code of Conduct was accepted without comment. Anyway, a grant application for some new playground equipment is now possible.

Cllr. Fitch gave us lots of news — the BT Vision 100 Index mention for good work by local government, BVC's balanced budget and the need for local parents to register new pupils while there are still places. The need for volunteers to help monitor the state of our rural footpaths — contact Alison Hodges at ECDC. A new B1102 footpath next year between S. Bulbeck and S. Prior. CCC cannot reduce the speed limit to 30 mph here like in S. Bulbeck and Burwell. Why not? (Should men with red flags precede all passing motor vehicles?) However, there will be interactive signs, a sort of outdoor computer game, I imagine. Reach Fair on 6th May will mean you have to walk there again, or drive via Peterborough. We could have an ECDC on-line access point here if a manned location could be found. Jubilee events can be viewed at ECDC on-line by those with internet access. (No BT Broadband access here though — much better than their Vision 100 Index commendation any day, if there were a choice, I say).

There are problems along Whiteway Drove. Remember 'See Venice before it's too late'? Well, go to Upware now, because the road is threatened in several places. It starts in Station Road by the school where the ditch promises to engulf wayward vehicles. Further along, agricultural equipment hides under vegetation, lying in wait for unwary motorists leaving the tarmac. Later still, heaps of old metal equipment and rubbish herald much more behind, decorating a highway verge that's becoming an unsavoury dumping ground, with old grass cuttings, etc. elsewhere, and rugger ball has been done about it!

'Good morning campers!' does not yet echo around the playing field, but it might as well. Uninvited guests in plain white caravans (pastel shades are not required down on the fen) arrived here last week when the new barrier was forcibly removed. The appropriate alarm buttons have been pressed, but shouldn't the cricket season now be started immediately?

Entry to 'Village of the Year' needs about six weeks full time effort by someone over the next five weeks, so a decision to give it a miss this year was easy. 24/7 (24 hours service in 7 months) propose another, separate, over-ground High Voltage power line from Burwell to Fulbourn alongside the existing pylons across the fen that enhance westerly vistas. That wouldn't help chances for Village of the Year either, and we still get unseasonable power failures too.

Book 23rd May in your diaries for the Annual Assembly, 7.30 pm in old money or 19.30 in euros, at the Village Hall (double Council Tax for those who miss it is my idea — shame on you).

The folks who live on the hill may look down on us at only 15 metres above sea level (before global warming) but we're happy here. There's no Malice in Underland - at least, not yet but, at the end of the day, to be perfectly honest, if the real owners of the 'Beeches Wall' won't shoulder their responsibilities, that could all change.

Frank Readhead.

THE ANNUAL VILLAGE ASSEMBLY WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 23rd MAY 2002 AT 7.30pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL

This meeting is open to everyone.

If there is an item you would like included
on the Agenda, please contact the Clerk on 01638 742358.

Paddock for two horses available Mrs Wood 742020



The AGM of the VHMC

The Village Hall Management Committee is holding its AGM on Wednesday 1st May at 8pm in the Village Hall. All are welcome.

Janet Cooper

Secretary of the Village Hall Management Committee

BEAUTIFUL SOUTH WEST FRANCE

We have a beautiful holiday home available for rent, in a hamlet just north of Riberac, on the Dordogne/Charente border. One of only six properties in a development of converted farm buildings, it has a large swimming pool and full size tennis court, all within extensive landscaped grounds. It's fully equipped, very comfortable, and sleeps seven. If you'd like to know more, phone 01638 742345 or 742559.



Reach Fair 2001 May 6th at 12 noon

Rides-stalls-games-country crafts
Morris men-juggling-assault course
Cub courts-raptor foundation-knights-Refreshments & beer tent
Cream teas-salads-roast and BBQ

free admission, £2 programme

Friday May 10th

Swaffham Prior House, SWAFFHAM PRIOR

by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Marshall

MUSICAL EVENING

in aid of St. Mary's Church Restoration Centennial Appeal

music from Cambridge Voices to include Folksongs, Close Harmony, Spirituals and diverse light entertainment!

Dress: Jacket & tie; women similar!
Singing with canapes & champagne from 7.30pm
Buffet dinner
Carriages from 10.30pm

All tickets: £25

<u>Tickets, which must be pre-booked</u>, are available after April 1st from Kate Child, Priory Close, 73 High Street, Swaffham Prior (Tel: 01638 743983)

Cheques should be made payable to St Mary's Church, Swaffham Prior

www.cambridge-voices.org.uk



at

Goodwin Manor

Station Road * Swaffham Prior
by kind permission of Mr & Mrs John Harrison

2nd June 2002 * 2.30 — 4.30 pm

Table-top Sale

Home-made cakes & tea * Raffle
Admission: 50p * Children: free
All proceeds to St Mary's Church Centenary Restoration Fund

TO RESERVE & SALE TABLE RING (01638) 743693

Recycling Unwanted Art & Craft Material Marquee Event

I am taking a table at the Goodwin Manor Table Top Sale on June 2nd with the intention of selling art and craft materials. (I turned out my Studio for a start!).

If you have any items, e.g. wool, needlework materials, art materials, craft books or kits, please let me know.

Reimbursement for special or expensive items can be arranged otherwise all proceeds will go to the Restoration Fund.

Tel. 741197 Barbara Jones

SWAFFHAM BULBECK SUMMER THEATRE 2002 PATIENCE

(AS YOU HAVE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE)

First produced at the Opera Comique on April 2nd 1881, one hundred and twenty one years ago, this GILBERT & SULLIVAN masterpiece was intended to be a jibe at the Aesthetic Movements of the day inspired by Oscar Wilde, William Morris and the Pre-Raphaelite brigade.

Come and see this performance transformed into the modem day era of the ROYAL MARINES and the FLOWER POWER PEOPLE.

Musical Director Angela Roebuck Director Anne Datson

Performances:

Thursday 13 June	8pm	£5.00
Friday 14 June	8pm	£6.50
Saturday 15 June	2.30pm	£3.00
Saturday 15 June	8pm	£6.50

At Mitchell Hall Barn, Quarry Lane, Swaffham Bulbeck.

Tickets available from: Rosemary Upton 01638 612173 & Swaffham Bulbeck Village Stores

QUEEN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE VILLAGE PICNIC - COOPERS GREEN

On Monday 3rd June 2002 at 2pm Everyone welcome!

All you need is a blanket & some 'goodies' for the table (sandwiches, cakes, sausage rolls, snacks, jellies, etc)

There will be games and fun for all!

To be followed by entertainment in the Red Lion Garden







All suggestions for added fun welcome! (contact Karen King 742358)

Childcare in Swaffham Prior

- Are you looking for local childcare for your children aged between 0 and 14?
- Would you like information about childminders in Swaffham Prior, about a local pre-school, day nursery, out-of-school club or holiday scheme?
- Do you need advice about choosing childcare, information about free early education for 3 & 4 year olds or help with calculating Working Families Tax Credit?
- Are you interested in a career in childcare?

The Care & Education Partnership can help! The Partnership aims to support and develop high quality services across Cambridgeshire for children, young people & their families. It supports the childminders, preschools, day nurseries & out-of-school clubs in Swaffham Prior with development Worker visits; access to specialist support; help with expansion, quality assurance and much more. To find out more about the work of the Partnership, you can ring the Partnership Childcare Advisers on 01954 273372, e-mail info@cambs-ce-partnership.org.uk or log onto www.cambscepartnership.org.uk.

Opportunity Links is the Children's Information Service for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough and can provide information on local childcare & how to choose it. It also has details of jobs and training opportunities for people interested in working in childcare. You can contact Opportunity Links by telephoning Cambridgeshire Care & Education Partnership





S & J GROUNDWORKS SWAFFHAM BULBECK TEL/FAX 01223 811090 MOBILE 07789 513359



DRIVEWAYS PATIOS DRAINAGE FOUNDATIONS **DEMOLITION FENCING**



FREE ESTIMATES GIVEN

May 23rd, 24th and 25th



Spring Production 2002

"Devil may care" by Alan Melville

"When right meets wrong the result can never be a draw" who would say such a thing and why. To find out come along to the drama studio on the above dates.

This comedy play by Alan Melville is set in the late 1950's in Monte Carlo and is a must. You would not believe how difficult it is for an apprentice Angel (Lesley Pilgrim) and an apprentice Devil (John Hartley) to "rub" along. Their plight is hampered by the fact that the Principal Devil will keep turning up in all sorts of disguises — you never know where he will be or who he is.

Start times on the above dates are 7.30.p.m. in the drama studio. The tickets are £5.00 for adults and £3.50 for concessionaires (OAF's and minors and students). No concessionaires on Saturday. Tickets will be on sale at Lushers Newsagent Bottisham at the beginning of May. If you would prefer telephone box office is $01223\ 812779$

Welcome to.....

Andy and Judy Tozer, and their children **Anna, Joe and Martha**, who have moved into one of the barns in Manor Farm Court, Lower End. We hope that they will be very happy in Swaffham Prior!

SWAFFHAM BULBECK COUNTRY STORE & POST OFFICE

Kamal & Bal- a friendly service with a smile!

OPEN EVERY DAY - 7 DAYS A WEEK CASHPOINT MACHINE, accepts all cards

Monday to Friday 7:00am to 8:00pm Saturday 7:30am to 8:00pm: Sunday 8:00am to 2:00pm

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THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

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BEERS, Cigarettes & tobacco
PHOTOCOPYING & FAX SERVICE

NEED PAPER BOY AND GIRLS FOR MORNING DELIVERY
GOOD WAGES

NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES including Sunday papers!

SPECIAL ORDERS Phone or fax 01223 811354



Fridays 21st June

8.00 pm in the Village Hall: **HOME SWEET HOME.** An enchanting, amusing and informal Victorian Evening of music, prose, poetry and songs. Tickets (including wine): £5. Contact Hilary Sage: (01638) 742978.

Saturday. 22nd June and Sunday. 23rd June

10.00 am - 5.00 pm in St Cyriac's Church: Exhibition of **PATCHWORK AND QUILTING** by *Nine in the Frame*.

10.00 am - 5.00 pm in the Village Hall:

PERSONALISED SCROLLS.

Full print of birthday, anniversary or other special occasion date. 10.00 am - 5.00 pm in St Mary's Church: **FLOWER FESTIVAL** on the theme of *The Queen's Golden Jubilee*.

10.00 am - 5.00 pm in St Mary's Church: Exhibition of **ARCHIVE PHOTOGRAPHS**.

10.00 am - 5.00 pm outside the Village Hall: Display of **CLASSIC CARS.**

10.00 am - 5.00 pm in the Village Hall: **COFFEE, TEA AND HOMEMADE CAKES.**

2.00 - 5.00 pm outside Shadworth House (next door Red Lion): Display of working **MODEL STEAM ENGINES.**

Sundays 23rd June

11.00 am in St Mary's Church: **FESTIVAL MORNING SERVICE** taken by Bishop John.

2.00 - 4.00 pm in St Cyriac's Church: **BELL TOWER** open for viewing

Thursday. 27th June

8.00 pm in the Village Hall: A celebration of the life and works of **EDWIN MUIR.** Tickets: £5. Contact Nicole Buijsse 01223 812363.

Friday. 28th June

7.00 - 10.00 pm at The Red Lion: **JAZZ ON A SUMMER'S EVENING** with the Kemp Brothers featuring Ruth Applin. No admission charge; Barbecue; Drinks; Families welcome.

Saturday, 29th June

2.00 pm (meet outside the Village Hall): **GUIDED TOUR OF THE VILLAGE.** £2.50 per person.

7.00 pm: **MOVEABLE** FEAST. Tickets (including wine) £15. Contact Betty Prime (01638) 741221 or Shirley Wilkins (01638) 741638.

Sunday, 30th June

10.00 am in St Mary's Church: **UNITED PARISH COMMUNION SERVICE.**

2.00 - 5.00 pm (tickets from the Village Hall from 2.00 pm): **OPEN GARDENS.** £2.50 per person.

- 2.00 5.00 pm outside the Village Hall: **PLANT STALL.**
- 2.00 5.00 pm: Guided visit to WORKING **WINDMILL** on Mill Hill.
- 2.30 5.00 pm in the Village Hall: **TEAS AND HOME-MADE CAKES.**

All proceeds in aid of St Mary's Church Centenary Restoration Fund

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE EXCITING VILLAGE EVENTS



21st - 30th June, 2002

Including:

Songs for a Summer Evening (a Victorian Evening)
Flower Festival
Patchwork and Quilting Exhibition
Classic Cars
Karaoke
Moveable Feast
Jazz in the Red Lion
Open Gardens
Guided Tours of the Village

All proceeds will go towards the Centenary Church Restoration Fund

And much more.....

HELP PLEASE!

As you will see from this issue of the 'Crier' there are great things going on in the Village this summer, including several 'Teas'.



If anyone feels she (or he) could spare an hour or two on Saturday and Sunday 22nd and 23rd and Sunday 29th June between 2 and 5.30pm to lend a hand I'd be very grateful. Also we shall need lots of scones and cakes. Any offers gratefully accepted! Please ring me on 741221.

Betty Prime.



Thursday, 27th June

8.00 pm Swaffham Prior Village Hall

A Celebration of the Life and Works of

EDWIN MUIR

Readings from Muir's poetry and letters and a lecture on his work by Charles Moseley and Clive Wilmer

TICKETS: £5 (to include a glass of wine) available from Nicole Buijsse: 01223 812363

Bottisham Burwell Linton Village Colleges

Adult Education

Weekend Courses

11th May

Basic Food Hygiene – Egyptian Dance Essential Italian – Essential Spanish Intro to Computing – Location Photography Patchwork & Quilting – Home Video

11th/12th May
First Aid for Childcarers – Powerpoint
Reiki

18th May
Chair Caning – Chinese Brush Painting
Life Drawing & Painting

25th May
Basic Food Hygiene – Chair Caning
Italian Workshop – Photoshop
Setting up your own Website



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

After William Blake:

Little Teddy Bear, who made thee?

Dost thou know who made thee?

Little arms and little feet, Little rounded ears, so neat: Gave thee such a plaintive noise, Distinct from all the other toys; And, to make you feel just right, Softest clothing, woolly, bright.

Little Bear, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?

Little Bear, I'll tell thee. Little Bear, I'll tell thee.

He is long ways off from here,
O'er the stream and o'er the mere:
He is slighted and reviled —
Makes our soft toy makers wild.
I will tell you all I can —
He's on an island called Taiwan.

Little Bear, God Bless thee. Little Bear, God Bless thee. *Ophir Catling*



PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE

On the 11th April 2002, The Parish Councils Code of Conduct was agreed and adopted. The Code can be viewed by the Public before or after Parish Council meetings or, in an emergency, by prior arrangement with the Clerk.

FOUND IN PARK: ROLLER SKATES WITH BLUE LACES. OWNER, PLEASE CONTACT BOBBY MATHESON, TEL: 744008

WI Notes



What a great time we had at our April meeting when Susan Taylor and her husband came from Newmarket Hat Hire with a selection from her wonderful collection.

Several visitors joined us to hear how Susan started the business eight years ago with 100 hats in one room of their

farmhouse. As the business increased she used three rooms for 300 hats, and they have now converted some old stables, room enough to house her stock of 650 hats!

After the talk we had a wonderful time trying them on, and are now hoping that we shall be invited to weddings or to Ascot to have an excuse for hiring one. The difficulty will be — which one?

At our next meeting on 20th May we shall be discussing and voting on the Resolutions to be put forward at the National Meeting at Brighton in June. Then we'll have fun with a Beetle Drive.

Betty Prime



LADIES CIRCLE

On Monday 25th March the Ladies Circle met once again for their monthly meeting. Our speaker for the evening was Mrs Bennett from The National Trust who spoke about 'Putting Houses to Bed'. This was a most interesting topic. Mrs

Bennett showed us slides about the work involved in cleaning all Stately Homes once they have closed for the season. It's really amazing what happens regarding the cleaning of carpets, furniture, paintings, pottery, china etc. and how much time is actually spent doing this kind of work — some times it takes months and months. It is a very precise and painstaking procedure which most of us are unaware of.

Members also brought along their gifts of toiletries to help the children of Chemobyl — and donations were also given to help fund a child when they visit later on in the year.

The evening ended with a bring and buy stall and coffee and biscuits.

In May we are visiting J Sainsburys in Cambridge — any new members are welcome.

Sandra Rutcher

VILLAGE GARDENERS

On April 16, we welcomed Sylvia Norton, a keen sweet pea gardener, but a recent holiday in South America prompted this lecture on "Plant Hunting in Chile".

If you look at a map of South America, you will immediately perceive the transport problems. There is one main road running North to South, and then the coaches have to downgrade to mini-coaches, four wheel drives, then feet. Darwin charted the coastal West side, fronting the Pacific ocean, so many plants bear his name.

I will not bore you with an endless list of plants. The growing conditions vary enormously with the attitude. Imagine seeing a plant in bud, or flowering at one level, and the same bloom fruiting at a different height!

International conservation is working well: the leader of this trip was Martin Gardener, from the Edinburgh Botanic gardens. The scientific team there are helping to both identify a mystery fungus attacking trees and growing replacement specimens.

My favourite plant was the Porcelain Orchid, glimmering gently on a stony, scrubby hillside.

These trips are clearly a paradise for keen gardeners, and plantsmen,

Tricia Harrison

I ne British Ked Cross Cambridgeshire Branch

MARCIA MILLER Invites you and your friends to a

JUBILEE COFFEE MORNING

BALDWIN MANOR, SWAFFHAM PRIOR
Tuesday 28th May 2002

Bring and buy home produce stall. Plant stalls.

Accessories/clothes stall. Raffle

ENTRY: by donation, to include coffee and biscuits



From our District Councillor

Unfortunately on Tuesday 2nd April, when many people got their Council Tax bills, Capita's switchboard was broken and callers couldn't get through. The problem was fixed by Wednesday, so I hope that none of you were severely inconvenienced. We have asked Capita to ensure that they have back-up plans if similar circumstances occur. On the subject of Council Tax, although East Cambs collects the Council Tax we only keep about 11 pence for every 1 pound that you pay. Most of your Council Tax – 76 pence in every 1 pound – goes to the County Council, 10 pence in every pound to the Police and 3 pence in every pound to the Parish Council.

The pressures of homelessness in East Cambs are steadily increasing. So moving people out of temporary accommodation into a permanent home has slowed down dramatically from an average stay in the hostel of 11 weeks up to 14 weeks. This has led to an increased use of bed and breakfast accommodation. It also highlights the pressure to build more new social housing. This year our housing association partners, with funding from East Cambs, have already completed 50 new homes and have more in the pipeline.

East Cambridgeshire kerbside recycling collection has broken the 2,000 tonne barrier of materials collected, this is an increase of 300 tonnes (16.5%) on last year. The biggest increase was in the last quarter up 101 tonnes (21%) on the previous quarter. The large increase was due to the amount of glass and cardboard collected after the Christmas and New Year holiday period. Just a reminder of the materials that are collected: Newspapers, Magazines, Junk Mail, Telephone Directories, Yellow Pages and Cardboard. Also collected are Cans and Glass, which need to be put into separate bags.

You will all have noticed that fly tipping is getting worse. Please can I remind you that Cleanaway will collect any bulky household items. Just 'phone 01353 863864, and you will be given a day for collection. Or you can take items direct to a household recycling centre at Grunty Fen, Pools Road, Witchford, Ely; Milton, Butt Lane, Milton, Cambridge; or Newmarket, Depot Road, Newmarket. If you see anyone fly tipping you should never approach the person, but if possible take the registration number and report it to the Council on 01353 616335. An officer will always investigate and look for evidence and take photographs before removing any evidence found. If there is enough evidence, we report it directly to the Environmental Agency who have the powers to prosecute. If you want to report an abandoned car, please ring 01353 616283. *Charlotte Cane*



From our Local County Councillor

County Council Notes, Mid-April 2002

The other day I attended the launch of the **OLDER PEOPLE'S ADVISORY GROUP** at the Maltings in Ely.

The movement aims at better government for older people. Those present, representing many groups of Cambridgeshire's over 55 year olds were briefed on what is already available to help people towards older age and what we might hope for in the future, if all the lobbying groups are in any way successful on behalf of their causes.

The County Council has already supported this month's launch of the Cambridgeshire Older People's Advisory Group (COPAG) which is making its views known far and wide.

It is the hope of COPAG members that people who are coming to retirement and beyond will contribute their experiences and needs to the Group so that we achieve a better life for older folk as well as, for instance, children before and at school, ethnic minorities, those on low incomes, and women seeking better jobs which feature among our present priorities.

In the group at my table we discussed such problems as more older—friendly bus services, possible age discrimination in A & E departments at hospitals, forced retirements at relatively early age, difficulty in obtaining foreign travel insurance for the over 70's. The discussion ranged widely and it was a very interesting morning. The Chairman of COPAG said that a **Guide for Older People** is in preparation. In addition there are many separate leaflets on particular subjects, like tax advice, making wills, reduced cost bus travel (including half-fare bus prices from Park & Ride), help for carers and many others. Should you wish to enquire further, contact **Jane Mansfield**, on 01223 717644, or <u>Jane.Mansfield</u> @ Cambridgeshire.gov.uk

HOUSE PRICES IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE are still rising. The average price for a house in Cambridge is now £180,000. Outside Cambridge house prices in the county rose by about 10% in 2001. The Land Registry figures seem to point to an *average* price round here at the end of last year of £120,000.

In previous years there have been some opportunities for people on lower incomes to buy houses in East Cambs. but these are reducing rapidly. In 2001 just 7% of sales in East Cambs were for homes costing £60,000 or less. We need more affordable homes for part purchase as well as rent. The two Hastoe projects at **Barkways**, **Burwell** and now **Bell Road**, **Bottisham** are

very welcome. Let's hope we can extend such opportunities to other villages in our area.

A new BRIDLEWAY is on the horizon between **Swaffham Bulbeck** behind Rayner's farm and the A1303 at Drage's farm, **Bottisham**. This will make good new links to the path network in **Bottisham** and **Burwell** and should be in place by the autumn.

Notes from the Parish Council April Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Mr Trevor Jones with 8 members + 3 members of the Public attending.

Reports:

Councillor Fitch reported for CCC.

There was no ECDC report.

Matters Arising.

Standing Orders: The P.C. Standing Orders were agreed.

Code of Conduct: Following further consultation with Eleanor Hoggart of ECDC Legal & Democratic Services for ECDC, the Code of Conduct was adopted by the P.C. Public Notice in Crier.

Correspondence Received:

CCC: Letter re "Scrapyard" on Whitway Drove. This continues to be monitored.

ECDC: Letter/leaflet re "Abandoned Vehicles".

General:

Letter received from Hereward Housing with reference to the damaged wall at The Beeches noting that they are not responsible for the maintenance of this wall. *The question of ownership continues to be a problem. The Clerk will again contact ECDC & CCC to try and resolve.*

Letter received from Lode P.C. about the proposed installation of an additional overhead electricity transmission line from the Burwell Distribution Station to the Fulbourn area.

Accounts for Payment: These were agreed.

Planning Applications:

3 Heath Road: *Ground floor extension to provide family room & first floor bedroom* + *en-suite.*

There were no objections to the above.

Planning Approval:

Sunnywood Farm, S.P. Fen: Construction of all weather horse ménage for

private use.

Any Other Business:

The problem of travellers on the Recreation Ground was discussed. The appropriate authorities have been informed.

The Clerk is to contact CCC to request that the footpath on Station Road be sprayed to keep it clear of weeds.

The footpaths on Lower End (through the Beeches) and from the top of Rogers Road to the speed limit were reported as in poor condition and in need of repair. CCC will be contacted.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday, 9th May 2002 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

....and, with apologies for last month's omission:

Notes from the Parish Council March Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Mr Trevor Jones with 8 members + 3 members of the Public attending.

Reports:

There were no reports this month from CCC/ECDC.

Queen's Golden Jubilee – Coopers Green: It was agreed that a "Village Picnic" could be held on Coopers Green on the 3rd June 2002.

Meeting Schedule 2002-2003: This was agreed. The date for the Annual Assembly will be the 23rd May 2002.

CALC Subscription: This was agreed.

Public Works Loan Board – repayment of loan: Following further confirmation, it was agreed to pay the remainder of this loan in full.

Code of Conduct: This was discussed at considerable length and it was decided to ask Eleanor Hoggart of the Legal Department at ECDC to come along to a separate meeting to answer members' questions and concerns.

Standing Orders: Revisions now complete. Will be agreed at the next P.C. meeting.

Correspondence Received:

CCC:

Jointly Funded Minor Highway Scheme – report. Swaffham Prior has been successful in its bid through this scheme. The report notes approval for "soft speed reduction measures and interactive speed limit signs on the B1102 Mill Hill". Further clarification to follow.

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Joint Structure Plan Review – *document held by Clerk*.

Changes to bus services 111, 112, X12 (Sundays & Evening Services Only). *Exact changes not decided. Further information to follow.*

General:

Letter received expressing concern over reservoir at Deal Hole. *To be referred to Swaffham Prior Estates*.

Copy of letter sent to Hereward Housing with reference to the damaged wall at The Beeches. *Clerk to write to Hereward Housing with P.C.'s concerns.*

Accounts for Payment: These were agreed.

Planning Applications:

Sunnywood Farm, Swaffham Prior Fen – Construction of all weather horse ménage for private use.

62 High Street – *entrance porch to front of house*.

There were no objections to the above applications.

Planning Approval:

34 High Street.Lay-bys are being installed at Fairview Grove by Hereward Housing. Resurfacing of footpaths by CCC will follow.

CCC Highways have again been contacted about the ditch on Station Road opposite the School. They are reluctant to fill in and pipe but will be placing yellow zig zag lines outside School gates.

Damaged sign at top of Rogers Road has been removed for repair and reinstatement.

Open Question Time: Further discussion and clarification about The Code of Conduct.

Karen King Clerk of the Parish Council

Bell-Ringing at St Cyriac's Church

A Visiting Band from the Nottinghamshire area will be ringing at Swaffham Prior on **Friday**, 3rd **May**, from 11.15 to 11.45 a.m.

Bands from Ely District will be ringing on **Saturday**, **1**st **June**, from 4 until 6 pm.

M. W. Stanier

From the Parish Registers for March 2002

Holy Baptism: Lucy Ryan [SB]

Emily Ruth White [SP]

In Memoriam: Sandra Jane May (McCarthy) [SB]



Church Services May 2002

	ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior	ST ETHELREDA Reach
EASTER 6 Sun 5	8:00am Holy Communion [†] 9:30am	11:00am Parish Communion	6:00pm Songs of Praise on Fair Green
ASCENSI ON DAY Thu 9		7.30 Sung Eucharist with Cambridge Voices in St Cyriac's	†: Book of Common Prayer CW: Common Worship
SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSI ON Sun 12	9:30am Parish Communion	11:00am Family Service 6:00pm Holy Communion (Lutheran Rite)	8:00am Holy Communion [†]
PENTE- COST Sun 19	9:30am Village Communion	11:00am Parish Communion 6:00pm Evensong [†] and Sermon	8:00am Holy Communion [†]
TRINITY SUNDAY Sun 26	9:30am Parish Communion 12.45 Holy Baptism	8:00am Holy Communion [†] 6:00pm Mattins [†] and Sermon	6:00pm Evensong [†] and Sermon

Holy Communion 1st Thursdays 10am, Swaffham Bulbeck Church

Evening Prayer Tuesdays, 5:30pm, Swaffham Bulbeck, Wednesdays, 5:30pm, Reach

Thursdays, 5:30pm, Swaffham Prior

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

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

 $2^{nd} \, Thursdays \ @ \ 10:00 am$ for 15 minutes in Swaffham Bulbeck School Hall.

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



Friends again?

Think of your closest friends. What do you value most about them? How do they influence you? How different would your life be if they weren't there?



It's hard to escape the fact that most of us would be lost without our friends. They enjoy life with us. They cry with us. We learn to heed their advice.

However, the closeness and freedom of such friendships cause uneasiness to many when they hear references to Jesus as a 'friend'. Somehow such a description seems to do away with the 'holy distance' that they believe should exist between themselves and God. It's hard to believe that God wants us to be his friends.

Ever since Adam and Eve spoilt their friendship with God in the Garden of Eden, God has focused all his energies on restoring that friendship. God knew that friendship isn't best described in words but in real life. So God became human in Jesus and lived among us making friends.

Zion Baptist Chapel

It is an incredible fact that the worst kind of human betrayal is betrayal by a close friend - the type you regularly spend your lunch hour with. Friendships are usually established over time. We expect our friends to be loving and supportive, enough to die for us rather than betray us. At Easter 2000 years ago Jesus experienced betrayal by a close friend over supper, and that led to his death by crucifixion.

But Jesus death and then his subsequent resurrection were part of God's mysterious plan to allow us to become his close friends again, just like Adam and Eve were

to start with in the Garden of Eden.



If you have been hurt or let down by friends then why not find out about a true friend who promises never to let you down? And what's more he offers the promise of

friendship for ever if you are simply willing to reach out and ask him for it. If you do I promise you an eternity full of friendship and happiness!

David Bousfield

PS. We are continuing to pray about the future of the Chapel. We are currently investigating the use of the building as a pastoral centre but it is too early to say whether this possibility can become a reality. We will continue to keep you in touch.

In the meantime if you have any questions, thoughts or simply memories that you would like to share, please do get in touch with me via the Chapel post box or on the number below.

David Bousfield on 01223-563307.

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

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

FAREWELL

And suddenly - a year has gone by! My work as a curate in this benefice and the time we lived in Swaffham Prior has come to an end. It was a great time.

All of us, my wife Gabi, my son Malte and myself enjoyed this year. For me as a Lutheran Minister it was interesting to get to know the Anglican Church in a lot of different ways. But what I also enjoyed was my work as a Curate, Minister or Pastor - what so ever you want to call it - in Swaffham Prior. Whether it were the Family Services, ordinary Sunday Services, the School Assemblies or pastoral visits I liked my work and the people in Swaffham Prior. But after a year we now have to go back to Germany to the Lutheran Church.

As we go, we have a laughing and a weeping eye. Tears about all the good friends we leave behind. As a curate, if you leave a parish you have special feelings. I very much enjoyed my service here and there is certainly the concern, how one or the other thing will go on. Our laughing eye is looking to the place where we will hopefully go. I will probably get a small parish in the very north of Germany. This is the place where we want to go and we are looking very much forward to it. For us as a family it is time to get settled. At the beginning of July we are expecting our second child and we are looking forward to a bigger house.

We want to celebrate this nice year in two parts on the 12th of May at 6.00pm, where we also want to say good-bye to all our friends. First part of the celebration is going to be a Lutheran Service in St. Mary. It is a little bit like this: as Lutherans we were guests at your services in Anglican tradition, and now we would like to invite you to a service in Lutheran tradition. Second part of the celebration are going to be extended afters. It is as important as the service, because the church-life was not the only place where we enjoyed our time in England. Toddlers groups or the pub certainly belonged to our kind of lifestyle as well and therefore we are going to have extended afters. It is going to take place in the church or the churchyard with real German sausages and hopefully German beer. If a service is not part of your lifestyle, just come afterwards to the churchyard at about 7.00pm even if we prefer that you come to the service at 6.00pm.

Thank you for welcoming us so warmly in this village. We really enjoyed our time in this benefice and if we had to choose we would come again. We hope, to see you on the 12th of May at church to say a personal good-bye.

Gabi & Jan Peterson with Malte

Dates for Your Diary - May 2002

Wed	1	8pm, VH Management Committee AGM, VH
Thu	2	2.30-4.30pm VH Teas
Mon	6	12noon, Reach Fair, Fair Green, Reach
Tue	7	2.30-3.30, Baby & Toddler Group Zion Baptist Ch (743992
Wed Thu	8 9	Cubs, Village School, 6.30-8:00pm. 2.30-4.30pm VH Teas
Fri	10	7.30pm Musical Evening, Swaffham Prior House
Sat Sun	11 12	2pm, Village Feast, VH 7pm , St Mary's, Jan Peterson's Farewell Do (Service 6pm)
Tue	14	2.30-3.30, Baby & Toddler Group Zion Baptist Ch <i>Crier</i> Copy Deadline! Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm (01223 712000 (Renewals) 742850 (Village)
Thu	16	7.30 PC Meeting, VH. 2.30-4.30pm VH Teas
Mon	20	7.30, WI, VH
Tue	21	Village Gardeners, VH 8pm, (578428
Wed	22	7.30 School Governors
Thu	23	7.30pm, Annual Village Assembly, VH 2.30-4.30pm VH Teas 7.30 'Devil May Care', Drama Studio, Bottisham
Fri	24	7.30 'Devil May Care'
Sat Tues	25 28	7.30 'Devil May Care' 2.30-3.30, Baby & Toddler Group, Zion Baptist Ch
		Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm
Wed Thu	29 30	Cubs, Village School, 6.30-8:00pm. Crier Collating, Village Hall, 2:30pm 2.30-4.30pm VH Teas
June	2	2.30-4.30pm, Marquee Event, Goodwin Manor
June	3	2pm, Jubilee Picnic, Coopers Green