



The Swaffham Crier

Volume 25 Number 1

January 2001



Editorial

The *Crier* returns after its Summer break to say belated good-byes to Mark Haworth, nine years Vicar of this Parish, who left at the beginning of September. Always a high-profile presence in each of his three parishes, Mark could sometimes raise controversy, but we think the views expressed in Geoffrey Woollard's eloquent tribute (see *Letters*) will find resonance with all. It will be hard to imagine the village without Mark, whose easy-going approachability, cheerful enthusiasm and never-failing sense of humour have become such an integral part of community life here. He will be much missed and we wish him and his family all the very best for the future. Meanwhile, the PCC have their work cut out keeping things together during this vicar-free patch (it's called an *interregnum*). Jenny Moseley and the Church Wardens explain all (see 27-29) and will keep you up-to-date with the latest.

Welcome to Joanna Lakey, our new acting headmistress, who is doing a brilliant job, we hear, and good-bye and many thanks to Ian Ackroyd, many years *Crier* deliverer to Fairview Grove, who has now handed over to Fleur Routley (welcome Fleur!). If Ian's at a loose end, how about Fairview Grove Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator (they need one — see report, p. 10).



Now for some interesting snippets from this month's edition: the new night-silenced Church Clock lost no time in loosing its moorings (see PCC report) and has been cheerfully chiming the night away. Did anyone notice? Or were we all *asleep*?! Then there's the Adventurer's Fen PC minutes courtesy of Prof. Noodle, and of course, the Harvest Show Report (a great affair with an amazing array of kiddie exhibits and a hilarious 'joke' quiz) which unfortunately seems to be *snipping* at last month's carefully considered editorial re lorries. See page 94 for this!

Lastly, a cat's tale with a happy ending: Phoebe the cat, a frequent face-at-the-window in Forge Cottage, went missing for several nights. Disaster! Her owners, fearing Phoebe had become trapped in some neighbouring outhouse—which was indeed the case—distributed mog-shots round the village and went out on one last search with a torch. Fortunately, Phoebe's features were as ever at the window, and two plaintive cat's-eyes were easily picked out by the distant torch-beam. Phoebe's back on the Forge-watch duty now, as you will see, if you pass by.



Oh, and *Happy Birthday Bob Smith*, 92 on October 6, and who is missing his garden and his lady-friends very much, and not necessarily in that order! See centre page...

Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: *Did you hear?* Honoré Daumier



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Mark Haworth

As one who is religiously well-nigh 'incurable', but also as one who has had a long involvement with all three of the Parishes in which Mark Haworth has had the 'cure of souls', I would like to give praise and to be thankful for much of Mark's performance since he came to us nearly nine years ago.

Our now former Vicar recently told me that he was 'preached out': I can sympathise with this, for I certainly felt 'preached out' by too many Council Committee meetings, and too many tedious types at Cambridge and Ely, as well as some closer to home. Fortunately, I was enabled completely to retire, both from public life and from active business: Mark is much too young to retire, and I am pleased that teaching, another most honourable profession, beckons him forward to the future.

I know not how well or otherwise Mark is perceived to have performed or to have preached on 'regular' occasions, for my Church attendance is now insignificant, but what I do know from personal experience is this: Mark Haworth has always had the great gift of finding the right words for baptisms, for marriage ceremonies, and for funeral services, either in the Parishes or at the Crematorium. I remember many such, and others may recall that I have often remarked thus.

Members of my own family have experienced his eloquence, his kindness, his tact, and his wisdom. He dealt with my mother's funeral with dignified expertise, and for this and for many other acts of personal assistance and friendship, I join with all of his other well-wishers in Swaffham Bulbeck, Swaffham Prior and Reach in the hope and expectation that his new career will be both successful and rewarding.

Geoffrey Woollard

Dear Editors,

Brenda Wilson

I'm sure I speak for staff past as well as present at Swaffham Prior School in thanking Brenda for her eleven hardworking years as Head. She has always had the needs of the children foremost in her mind. All of us will remember her sense of fun with adults and children, her hands-on approach, her warmth, her professionalism and her total commitment to enriching children's lives. We'll miss her and we wish her many happy times in her retirement.

Sue Jackson.

Dear Editors,

Christmas Grants

Once more we have reached the time when I have to remind everybody that the year is nearing its end, and to ask those who are eligible to apply for their Christmas grants. As usual, the majority of those eligible will be our pensioners, but the Trustees will be happy to consider requests from anyone in genuine need.

All applications should be sent to me, or to any Trustee, and I will be grateful for early replies to this letter.

S.G. Hewitt

Clerk to the Trustees
63, High St, ☎741337


Dear Editors,

Thank You

Max and Sue would like to thank all those who so kindly enquired about him during his last session in hospital and a particular thank-you to those who so very kindly helped with transport to and from Addenbrookes during this difficult time.

Max and Sue

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turn up!!



Found in our Garden:
One Cat's Red Collar with Green
Bell.

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

Traffic, playing field and youth club

I have long suspected that our Parish Council followed the illogical logic of the works of Lewis Carroll, and the September meeting confirmed this view. One of Carroll's snark-hunters remarks: 'What I tell you three times must be true', and this is our the Council members' policy; implying, of course that if said *less* than three times it is untrue.



It all started quite logically with non-snark-hunter Councillor Fitch telling us about the County Council's plans for traffic-calming around the cross-roads at the top of Cage Hill: not quite what we asked, but better than nothing: the number '40' will be painted on the road, the '40' sign-boards will be made larger and given a yellow backing, and there will be electrical 'Slow-Down' signs, as on the 'Dullingham Road'. It emerged during discussion that the 'Dullingham Road' automatic signs work by (a) wind, (b) solar panels, or (c) battery. We don't know how *ours* will work: Councillor Fitch had left the meeting before this question was asked, and Trevor the Chairman said, Did anybody really want to know? Should he (Trevor) write to find out? A breath of commonsense was drawn as people realised that it *didn't matter*, so long as the signs were reliable, and placed so that drivers would have time to slow down before reaching the crossroads. Before leaving the meeting, Councillor Fitch invited questions about the County Council's work. Oddly enough, nobody asked the burning question which came up later in the meeting: why the CC's promise last June to serve notice in connection with rubbish removal had (apparently) not been carried out.

Thereafter we had some excellent ding-dong battles at which people made each point three times. First came the playing field in Station Road, now (or shortly to be) cleared of the rubbish left by the Travellers. Do we really want a playing field? The nebulous Sports and Social Club, which appears to consist of one member, wrote to say that it (he) has no plans to develop any field-or-team sport. Football Clubs, if belonging to a League, are required to have Facilities (changing-rooms with showers and toilets), which our field could never have. On the other hand, if we were to put up goal-posts there, the local youth would be very likely to come and kick a ball about: better there than on Cooper's Green. No, nowadays parents would not let them go down Station Road on their own. The field costs us £400 p.a. for maintenance; plus the £2000 it cost us this year for rubbish-clearing. (But Trevor has thought up a way of avoiding such charges in future, which he will put to the annual 'Parish Councils Forum' next month). If we lose the

playing-field now, we will never have a chance to regain it. We have taken advice about how to make the access more Traveller-proof. And so on. In the end it was agreed *not* to get rid of the responsibility of the playing field, at present.

Next came a minor digression about gravestones. Burwell PC had discovered that it was liable for repair or flattening of fallen gravestones, and to its consternation some of those in Burwell churchyard were so ill-set that they could be pushed over at a touch. Should we try all those in our cemetery, giving each one a good shove? . This gave Eric the cue for some graveyard humour, and he told a funny story about the occupant of a grave who had a hot line to heaven.

Then came a discussion about a request from the Youth Club, for a grant towards the cost of floor repair/replacement. Henry told us at least three times what a worthy enterprise the Youth Club is, and how we should give it our full support. Trevor said at least three times that he knew it was worthy; but that the letter asking for money, which all those present had seen, contained no information about what was wrong with the floor and how much it would cost to put right. He could not recommend spending parish money on something vague; the Youth Club appeared to have done nothing about getting 3 estimates for the work. The Youth Club is to be asked for more particulars.

So some very clear and positive benefit has emerged from this meeting. The Youth Club (and perhaps other people in the village) now know that whenever you ask for money you must tell possible donors (a) exactly why you need it (b) how much you need, and (c) how you will spend it if you get it. 'How to make a grant-application' should be taught in every primary school. Another positive finding to emerge is that for the foreseeable future the first couple of hours of every PC meeting will be enlivened by the sound of thumps, bumps, yells and shouts from the Karate class next door.

Margaret Stanier

Do you want to brighten up your kitchen? We have a number of cupboard doors and draw fronts for sale finished in high class laminated yellow melamine. Please ring 01638741221.

Minutes of Adventurer's Fen Parish Council

Professor Noodle April 1 2002

With the amalgamations of both East and South Fenland Councils, and of the Local Area Health Authorities, and the revision of the electoral boundaries, Adventurer's Fen Parish had been given the status of a new District Ward.

In the case of Eastern MegaPorts vs. Adventurer's Fen Parish Council, the Court of Appeal ruled that the wholesale resignation of the parish council was deemed reckless behaviour. Councillors have been given the choice of either reconvening and continuing their council responsibilities under a community service order or paying costs of approximately £1.2 million.

Councillor Lampost complained that the draft planning application quite clearly stated a car park at Upware. There was no way that this was a spelling mistake. Its alteration to "a deep sea car port" was an outrageous manipulation of the planning system and natural justice. The drawing clearly showed a row of seats, not a deep-sea port.

Councillor Robocop thought that it was OK to place seats around the port but that trees would detract from the open fen skyline.

The Secretary read out a letter from Wicken Fen. 2000 heavy lorry movements a day would disrupt breeding and the plan for flooding the Adventurers Fen area would be thrown into jeopardy. Anglia Water denied that discharges from deep sea tankers would degrade river water quality. There was no evidence that Atrazine and steroid-analogues could damage commercial tomato production in greenhouses as far away as the Lea Valley. All discharges would be strictly regulated and monitored.

The Secretary reported that the cost of cutting the grass around the port would be born by the new port authority. Spoils from dredging the Cam to facilitate access by deep sea ships would be used to provide land for 10,000 new houses.

Councillor Lump said the heavy lorries would get stuck going through Swaffham Prior and Reach. A new bypass to the A14 at Fordham was essential. The Reach railway bridge would need reinforcing and the matter was referred to Reach Parish Council.

Councillors were asked to comment on the revised planning application for the Port. There being 10,000 homes in the new plan was a problem. Soft red bricks were to be used throughout, whereas Cambridge yellows would be more in keeping. The provision for cycle paths and low-cost starter homes for local families should be given higher priority.


Councillor Smart said that once the dredging was complete the sea would

extend all the way to Upware. 80% of Adventurer's Fen Parish would technically become foreshore, being below the high tide level. It was essential to keep gypsies from parking at the port. Tractors left below the high water mark should be tied up with a rope overnight, or else they could be claimed as salvage under international maritime law.

A planning application to open a windsurfing centre was supported providing it did not become a deep-sea oil-terminal.

Environmental Health reported there was no evidence for an increase in mosquito-borne dengue virus amongst the feral horses in the new wetlands. The provision of council grants for mosquito netting for bedrooms was simply a precautionary measure.

Professor Noodle is Nick Debb. Eds.



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BOTTISHAM ORCHESTRAL WORKSHOP

13 October 2002

On Sunday 13th October 9.15 - 5.15pm we will host another bi-annual Bottisham Orchestral Workshop. This is an informal, one day workshop open to all players of any age, including those who do not necessarily play regularly in an orchestra, or those who may not have had previous orchestral experience. A minimum grade 5 (ABRSM) is required, but interest and enthusiasm are equally as important. Sectional rehearsals are tutored by local teachers (eg. Julian Jarvis, Jenny Sewell, Roger Bond and Roz Chalmers), and the full orchestral session is directed by Alan Rochford. An excellent lunch is available on site to allow time for socialising, and refreshments are available throughout the day.

The prepared programme is presented at the end of the day to an audience of family and friends. The aim for this workshop is to concentrate on two works and get them well honed. Music will be available in advance and for this day will be:

Verdi - Nabucco Overture

Dvorak - New World (Symphony No. 9)

Cost for the workshop is £18/ £9 concessions, and lunch booked in advance is £3.50. For an application form, please contact Kathie Neal on 01638 741475 or email: kathie.neal@virgin.net

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Neighbourhood Watch Meeting

At a meeting held in the Village Hall on the 11 September our Community Beat Manager P.C. Hurry outlined the aims of Neighbourhood Watch and how minor observations, perhaps insignificant to us, can sometimes be a help in preventing a crime being committed.

Julie Gilbert the Community contact Officer emphasised the neighbourly aspect, looking out for each other, keeping an eye on a neighbours house whilst they are on holiday for example. She is also the contact should we need to get in touch with P.C. Hurry for any reason. Her telephone no. at Histon Police Station is 01223 823730.

Mr.David Broughton from the Trading Standards Office gave an interesting talk ranging from the so called 'Nottingham Knockers' to pensioners being duped into paying for work on property that was not needed. His advice was to say no, and if in any doubt contact Trading Standards for help. Their telephone no. is 0845 30 30 666.

At the end of the meeting five people volunteered to be Co-ordinators and they are: Andrew Camps, Rogers Road; Eric Day, High Street; Karen King , Mill Hill; Meryl Moore, Cage Hill; and Ruth Scovill, Lower End.

If there is anyone else who would like to volunteer from Fairview Grove, Greenhead Road /Adams Rd / Tothill Rd then please get in touch.

Andrew Camps.



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Harvest Bring & Share Lunch

8th September

On a lovely sunny morning, in the region of 60 adults and children came along to the Village Hall and shared their lunch. The well-behaved children enjoyed having a picnic lunch sitting at their special small tables and chairs, and then playing outside. It was indeed a very happy occasion and made one realise how fortunate we are to have such a super Village Hall with all its amenities.

We took the opportunity to remember those less fortunate than ourselves by sending the proceeds of the raffle (£155.50) to “Farm Africa”. This established organisation spends donated money to train and educate people to help make them self-sufficient.

May I take this opportunity to thank all those who came and supported this event as well as those who helped in many ways — putting up tables, helping in the kitchen and even sweeping the floor so that the Village Hall was left as we found it — immaculate.

Kate Childs

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THE MILESTONE SOCIETY

The Milestone society was formed in May 2001. It is concerned to raise awareness both among the public and official bodies. Milestones are threatened not just by neglect but by actual damage and even, unfortunately, by theft. Wherever a road is widened, or a new supermarket or housing estate arrives, milestones that are in the way disappear.

These old pieces of travelling history still tell the story of an age when time moved more slowly. Often they survive only because their road was lost in favour of new routes. Walkers and cyclists often come across them on green roads and other trackways.

English Heritage has listed many milestones and is open to further suggestions for listing. A number of county councils have also produced lists of their own stones. To date, English Heritage has 104 listed milestones in Cambridgeshire and you may know of more. However, the number is never static as new ones appear and sadly some disappear.

Wherever milestones are found we would welcome information and, if you think they need attention, tell us.

For more information and help, or to join the society, please contact Cambridgeshire Co-ordinator Mrs G Farrington on tel: 01480 475626

For the first time in Burwell Church, a joint concert by
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Players**

directed by Daniel Spreadbury, Martin Gent & Jenny Sewell

on Saturday 12 October 2002 at 7.30 pm

choral and orchestral music including

Charpentier's Te Deum

admission free

collection in aid of Burwell Church and a local charity



THE HARVEST SHOW

About 4 years ago, at a Parish Council Meeting, the then chairman Andrew Badcock said “We are part of an agricultural community and therefore must accept heavy farm machinery and lorries passing our doors.” (*as long as it’s in the other half of the village?! — Eds*) For this most people are probably truly thankful, at least for the agricultural connection. But it is only on the morning of the second Saturday in September that the Village Hall Management Committee are really at one with the farmers. Will there be enough crops? Will sufficient people want them? Will they be willing to pay a reasonable price?

As with farming, nothing is predictable with the Harvest Show. Every year the unexpected happens. This year there were *over thirty* brilliant ‘Gardens on a Plate’ from children at the school. And also a number of quite remarkable ‘Vegetable or Fruit Animals’. From the adults some stunning entries were made by the new Alex Kirby/Mike Malster horticultural partnership. When they have their second allotment in full production next year they could well become kings of the show.

The crops, flowers, cakes, jam etc did turn up, as did the people who enjoyed the now justly famous Village Hall Cream Teas. The auction was generously supported and at the end of the day, taking everything into account, £176 was made. Following the example of the village Harvest Lunch held on the previous week-end, the money will be donated to FARM-Africa. This last minute decision has to be ratified at the next VHMC meeting. That’s democracy at work.

Alastair Everitt

Expand Your Horizons this Autumn

Summer holidays will soon be a distant memory; the evenings are drawing in. But don’t be disheartened, your local branch of the WEA (Workers’ Educational Association) has arranged another interesting and stimulating lecture course for the Autumn.

We are delighted to welcome back popular tutor Peter Hewitt who will be showing us how the Map of Europe has changed over the centuries. During the 10 week course he will use maps from strategic dates since 1500 to illustrate why the complex boundary changes have a bearing on our lives today.

The Bottisham branch is a friendly group, with members from several

surrounding villages, which meets at the Youth Centre next to the Church. The lectures start at 10:00am and finish at 11:45am including a break for coffee and a chat.

This term's course begins on Thursday **10 October** and costs £26 (£17.50 for concessions). You can enrol at the first session or come and hear the first lecture before you commit yourself. If you would like more details contact the secretary, Shirley Ellis (01223 811891).

For details of courses elsewhere in Cambridgeshire contact Sue Young, WEA County Organiser (01480 455080). Charity Registration Number: 314001

NEWS FROM BOTTISHAM SURGERY

We can hardly believe that it is nine months since the new surgery opened. We seem to have overcome most of the early teething problems and are delighted to be here. We trust that it is as pleasant a place to visit as it is work in. Two issues have however arisen although neither relates specifically to the new building.

Emergency Saturday Morning Surgery

On Saturday mornings the emergency surgery is run by just one doctor and one receptionist to cover the whole practice. It can be extremely busy. We would emphasise that this is an emergency service and would ask that anybody making an appointment really only does so if they consider that the matter is an urgent one. We do have emergency appointments set aside every weekday. Saturday morning is *not* the best time for telephoning to make routine appointments, enquiries or normally for collecting repeat prescriptions. In some parts of the country GPs are no longer offering a Saturday morning service and calls are handled by the local emergency service. Our views have been canvassed about this and we have chosen to continue to offer a Saturday morning service which we think is important to our patients. However we will only be able to continue to do so if people continue to support us by respecting the emergency nature of the service that we provide.

Dispensary

The dispensary seems to get ever busier! The number and range of medications that we stock becomes bigger and the process of safe dispensing necessarily takes time. We would like to remind our patients that we normally ask that you allow **2 working days** between submitting your repeat prescription request and calling to collect. If, for instance, you drop in your request on Saturday morning the process of preparing your prescription

cannot begin until Monday morning and you should not normally expect to be able to collect your prescription before Tuesday afternoon at the earliest. This allows us time to order any item which may be necessary. We understand the frustration of calling and finding that your medicines are not ready and would therefore urge you not to try to collect before the 48 hours had elapsed.

With many thanks for your help.



**Autumn
Production
2002**

This year our autumn production is a thriller “Haunting of Hill House” by F. Andrew Leslie adapted from the Novel by Shirley Jackson. Our amateur production is presented by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd.

This play has a range of emotion from laughter to spine-chilling tension. Hill House remains empty and silent except for the daily visits of its grumbling caretaker. The isolation is broken by the arrival of an investigator of supernatural phenomena who has been granted a short lease by its present owner. His mission is to delve into the morbid history of the house and to come to grips with the occult forces, which have made it uninhabitable for years. Three others, who have their own reasons for accepting the invitation to observe the strange and eerie happenings in the house join him. As they struggle to disguise their mounting fears they are joined by the investigator’s wife and a friend, who have a different psychic approach to departed spirits. The evil forces of the house are goaded to a new and dangerous fury.

Come and be thrilled and chilled. The director of the play is Brian Watson a new member to the group who has a long history of teaching, writing and performing Drama.

Dates for your diary are Thursday 10th, Friday 11th and Saturday 12th October 2002 at 7.30 p.m. in the Drama Studio at Bottisham Village College.

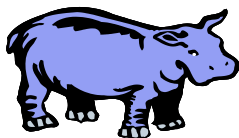
Buy your tickets from mid September either direct from Lushers Newsagents in Bottisham or through our telephone booking line (not Lushers) on 01223 812779 - price £5.00 for adults and £3.50 concessionaires (not Saturday night). Any reserved tickets must be paid for before the date of the performance.

Tickets will be available on the door at each performance subject to availability.

Happy 92nd Birthday on October 6th!



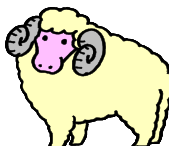
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Birdie



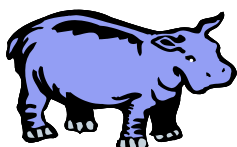
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Ewes



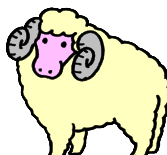
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Birdie



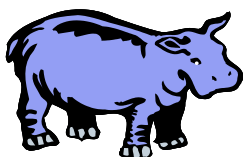
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Ewes



Hippo



Birdie



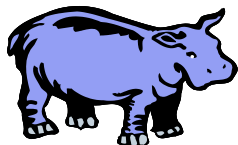
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Bob Smith



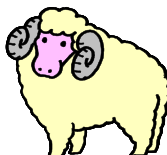
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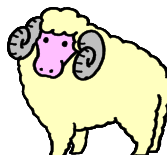
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2



Ewes



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Artist Bob Matheson

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LADIES CIRCLE

On Monday evening 29th July the Ladies Circle met once again for their monthly meeting. Mrs Cockerill from Weston Colville came along and spoke on the topic 'So do you believe in unicorns?'. She showed us slides depicting unicorns throughout the ages — many are shown on the coat of arms on the gates of the University Colleges around Cambridge. It was a very interesting subject. As always Mrs Cockerill is a very entertaining person to listen to as she has spoken at the Ladies Circle on various occasions, talking about various topics.

In September we are having a Quiz night hosted by Mary Cook and Christine Plume — why not come along and join in the fun.

Sandra Butcher



VILLAGE GARDENERS

For the final Autumn gathering after our Summer visits, we had a really excellent meeting when Yvonne and David Leonnard from Mildenhall gave an illustrated talk on "Cacti in the native Arizona Surroundings". This evolved to be much more than the amazing cacti, and included superb photos of native birds and wild flowers.

See opposite for our next programme for 2002/3 meetings being held at 8.00pm in Swaffham Prior Village Hall. Anyone is very welcome to join — annual subscription is only £12, however, if you would like to come to any meetings as a visitor, the fee is £3.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 15th October when the AGM (very short) and a Quiz will take place.

Kate Childs

Programme 2002/3

- Nov 19th 2002** 'Growing bulbs in the garden'. J Walker of J Walker Bulbs
There will be bulbs for sale.
- Jan 21st 2003** 'A Tour of My Greenhouse' W Morris.
Mr Morris has a greenhouse packed with interesting and exotic plants.
- Feb 18th 2003** 'The Restoration of Audley End Organic Kitchen Garden'
M Thurlow. Many of you will be familiar with the garden and will enjoy finding out more about the project.
- Mar 18th 2003** 'British Orchids' D Elcombe. An evening discovering

more about these fascinating natives.

- Apr 15th 2003** 'History and Flora of Wicken Fen' A. Colston
An introduction to the Fen prior to our visit in June.
- May 20th 2003** Visit to Cambridge University Botanic Garden.
The follow-up to Prof Parker's excellent talk last year.
- Jun 17th 2003** Visit to Wicken Fen. A guided tour to complement the April talk.
- Jul 15th 2003** A tour of Mr & Mrs Potter's garden at Manor House, Balsham including the Music Maze.
- Sep 16th 2003** 'Seasonal Colour in the Garden' R Youngs
Ideas for increasing year-round interest in our gardens.
- Oct 21st 2003** AGM and entertainment.

Indoor meetings 8.00pm at Swaffham Prior Village Hall. Details of summer visits will be given later.

Contact us: Glenna Turner 01638 578428 Mike Phillips 01638 741495



WI Notes

Two meetings to report on this month. In August Fran Saltmarsh brought a Tudor style dress she had made. This could be adapted to suit any of Henry VIII's wives.

To begin with, Fran put the dress on a dressmaker's dummy, then proceeded to add underskirts, sleeves and collars to change the style for each of the wives. There were also different head-dresses for each outfit, all beautifully made. It proved to be quite a little history lesson and was truly fascinating.

A totally different subject for our September meeting when two ladies from the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity came to tell us about the Hospice. This is an adult centre providing care for people with cancer and other life threatening illnesses. It is partly funded by the NHS but the Charity provides grants for additional nursing, free transport for patients and their relatives, running the tea bar and maintaining the visitor's kitchen among other things. It is also responsible for funding the Day Care Centre. There are nearly 200 volunteers who help with all the jobs necessary to ensure that the patients are well cared for in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Again a complete change of programme next month when we shall be visiting Marks & Spencer's in Cambridge.

Betty Prime



STAINED HUNDRED

The September Meeting began with a brief AGM at which the chairman, Robert Hill, gave an account of the past year's activities and the treasurer, Peter Arnold, presented the accounts. It was agreed to raise the Annual Subscription to £8 with visitors' fees remaining at £2.

Lorna and Michael Delanoy gave a fascinating talk entitled "From Shoebox to County Collection: The Fenland Museum". It all started in 1969 when one of their three young sons picked up pieces of crockery in the garden and started a collection in a shoebox in his bedroom. The interest did not wane at the end of the school holidays and people started to give him more and more bits and pieces for his collection. His idea was to raise money for "children who couldn't see and couldn't walk" and in the first year they raised £2. Soon the collection had to be moved into a garden shed and then after they were given horse-drawn agricultural implements a large brick building had to be made to house it. A local blacksmith offered to give demonstrations if they could provide a blacksmith's shop and with the help of volunteers and gifts of materials, this was built. Each year about 2,000 children came to work on school projects which were tailor-made for them. The well-known local historian Jack Ravensdale of Homerton College became involved in the educational side. In 1971 the first Blossom and Bygones" weekend was held to raise money for the village hall and this still continues. With all the entrance money going to charities connected with disabled children, and no grants being available as the museum was on private land, it became difficult to keep the buildings in good repair and finally in 1992, the Delanoys decided that for financial and physical reasons, they could no longer carry on. The blacksmith's shop was moved to Burwell and the Saddler's shop to Ironbridge Museum. The County Council thought it was too important a collection to be dumped and housed it for 18 months until Denny Abbey Farm Museum was opened. The Delanoys are now volunteer workers at Denny.

Lorna ended her talk by showing some of her exhibits and telling us the story behind them, including a revolving toasting fork, farmers' scales which would fit into the pocket but could weigh anything from a fat pig to a stone of potatoes, pillowcase hand embroidery of the 1920s, a bone apple-scoop, and a ration book which, though a novelty to children, most of the audience remembered quite well!. The next meeting will be on October 9th when Mike Petty will be talking about "Pickwick's Cambridge Scrapbook 1838"

Notes from the Parish Council September Meeting

Mr Trevor Jones chaired the meeting with 4 members and 2 members of the Public.

Reports:

Councillor Fitch reported to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Councillor Cane.

Matters Arising.

Parish Council Vacancies: The Parish Council still has two vacancies. *Anyone interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk.*

Accounts for External Auditor: These were agreed and will be submitted.

Confirmation of Internal Auditor: As required by new audit regulations, Mr Peter Cunningham was confirmed as the Internal Auditor for the Parish Council.

Whitway Drove- dumping of materials: This problem continues and the meeting agreed that the Clerk would write to the Chief Executive of CCC to record their concerns over the time it is taking to deal with this dumping.

Recreation Ground: A meeting was held with CCC Highways at the Recreation Ground to discuss the installing of earth ‘mounds’ each side of the entrance on the highway verge to further limit access to the field. CCC agreed that this could be done. The work is to be put in hand at the same time as the remainder of the clearing up needed on the field following the travellers’ visit. The Clerk will contact Brian Hicks to arrange for the removal of the two cars on the field.

Following “backing up” problems from the Treatment Works next to the Recreation Ground, Anglian Water is to carry out clearing works, etc. Once this work is complete, the above will be put in hand. As to the future of the Recreation Ground, following a great deal of discussion, it was agreed that once the field is cleared and secured, it should be cut and got to a standard where it can be used again for recreation and leisure. The aim is to have the field brought up to a reasonable standard by next Spring.

CCC Minor Highway Improvement Scheme – Mill Hill. Following a meeting with CCC Traffic Management, a plan was received marking the proposed measures to slow down motorists. These are to shorten the length of 40mph on the approach from Swaffham Bulbeck, to incorporate the village name with the new terminal signs, to have buff bar markings and a 40mph roundel at the commencement of the limit, upgrade the 40mph repeaters from 300mm dia to 450mm and arrange for 2 interactive signs with

associated buff bars and “SLOW” marking with an additional set of buff bars laid at the water tower. These measures were agreed and the Clerk will confirm with CCC.

Additional Electricity Line across the Fens: The Clerk had written to the Heads of Planning for both ECDC & CCC asking that any application for this extra line be made available to the P.C. as soon as received for their consideration. Although not a formal application as yet, it is believed that 24 Seven would like to erect additional power lines alongside those already standing from Burwell to Horningsea.

A separate group has also been set up consisting of the P.C.’s of Swaffham Prior, Swaffham Bulbeck, Quy, Lode, Fulbourn, Horningsea, Burwell and Reach.

Cemetery – safety of headstones: In light of current Health & Safety regulations, it was agreed that headstones in the cemetery should be checked to make sure they are unlikely to fall. A sign will also be put on the Cemetery noticeboard to make people aware.

Youth Club – request for funds to repair/replace floor. Following this request, the meeting agreed that they would be very willing to consider this once more detailed pricing and specifications were received.

Correspondence Received:

CCC: Letter informing the P.C. of changes in East Highways Divisional boundaries and the introduction of a Traffic Engineering team as part of the reorganization of the Highways & Engineering Division.

ECDC: Copy of proposed Environmental Impact Assessment as issued by SCDC with reference to the proposed passenger terminal building and associated car park by Cambridge Airport.

Planning Applications/Approvals:

7 Tothill Road – *proposed single storey rear extension.* Due to there being no meeting in August, this application was circulated and there were no objections. Approval has now been received.

The Bungalow, Prior Fen – *Replacement dwelling.* As above. Approval has now been received.

Any Other Business:

It was reported that the boundary hedge alongside the path down Station Road needed cutting back, the Clerk will contact the owner/tenant of the field to get this done.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday, 10th October 2002 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Karen King, Clerk of the Parish Council



It's the time of year again for East Cambs to put together the new Electoral Register. You should have received your form in September. Please fill in the names of all the people normally resident in your house who are over 18 or who will become 18 by February 2004. Students who live away from home during term time should register at their home address and their college address. They can vote at both addresses in local elections but must only vote at one address for Westminster and European elections. If you and others in your house are not on the register, you will all lose your vote. Next year there will be District and Parish Council elections in May and possibly a referendum in the autumn on whether or not Britain should join the European Single Currency. So please fill out the form to ensure that you keep your right to vote.

The Electoral Commission has completed its review of the electoral arrangements in East Cambridgeshire. Despite concerns expressed by East Cambs District Council and some Parish Councils, they have accepted the Boundary Committee's recommendations in full. From May 2003 the number of District Councillors will increase from the current 37 to 39 so that Ely can have 2 extra Councillors to reflect the recent and expected future growth in population. Many of the wards have changed significantly, not least our neighbouring ward of Bottisham, which expands, from covering the villages of Bottisham and Lode to also include Brinkley, Borrough Green and Westley Waterless. But the Swaffhams ward remains the same – Swaffham Prior, Reach and Swaffham Bulbeck – with a single District Councillor. The Boundary Committee now moves on to reviewing the boundaries of the County Council Divisions.

The computers in Downing Court Swaffham Bulbeck and Dykes End Reach have proved popular, with 37 people regularly using them so far. These computers are available for anyone to use to update their skills with computers and through computer based learning. There is an Access Point Organiser for each computer who can help learners to get started and help if they have any problems. If you would like to use one of these computers, please contact Geoff Durrant, Project Manager, on 01353 865448.

On the 2nd August I gave birth to a daughter, who we have called Kathryn. She was born by caesarean section and weighed 9lbs 8ozs. She is keeping me busy, so you won't see me around much for a few more weeks and may have trouble getting me on the 'phone. But if you leave a message on 742509 or e-mail me on ccane@cix.co.uk or write to me at 34 Swaffham Road, Reach, CB5 0HZ I will follow up your query and get back to you.

Charlotte Cane



County Council Notes August/September 2002

Cambridge Airport

As local Council Member I took part in two important meetings concerning the future of Marshalls Airport. The first was about the future prospects for the relocation of the Airport and the subsequent use of the airfield for housing development (up to 6,500 dwellings). There seems to be a rough time scale of 8-10 years.

One has to acknowledge at once that Marshalls wish to work closely with the other organisations involved and that they would only be prepared to move if there was a suitable alternative site within reach of its workforce and customers. This is an important consideration to me as we have villagers who work at Marshalls and I have their interests very much in mind.

Possible alternative sites were discussed and I suspect nobody would be unduly surprised to find other ex-airfields from the last war in the picture. None would seem to be on our doorstep judging from a report prepared by ARUP as consultants. This subject will run and run and I'll keep people informed of any news that comes to me via County or District

The second meeting was about the proposed new air terminal for Marshalls opposite the vehicle showrooms on Newmarket Road. This time officers and councillors from East Cambs were present and put forward our views. I had a lot to say about potential **noise, working hours and extra traffic** on the airport approach roads. As we are on the flight path we need to be reassured that if the terminal gets planning permission from South Cambs District Council that proper consideration of the above three anxieties is taken into account.

Given proper controls and limits on size and numbers of movements there is a good case for replacing the present outdated building. South Cambs have deferred the current application pending the presenting of an environmental statement and public consultation.

The purpose of the meeting was to ensure that all the major issues will be covered. I'll report again in the autumn.

Can I take this opportunity to remind people that there will be a Public Inquiry into the Draft Structure Plan starting in October. Further details later. The main matter of interest will be where homes and businesses will be located over the next 15 years.

SOHAM TRAGEDY

After the ghastly events in Soham last month I join with everyone else round here in sending our sympathies to the bereaved families and friends . Pray God it never happens again.

With that in mind you may like to know how Shire Hall has reacted to the situation so far.

The County Council's involvement has been extensive including support for the police, the schools and the people of Soham itself. At the last count the web site for Holly and Jessica had received well over 45,000 messages. Each message is read and adults and children in need of support are helped as best we can.

Professional counselling and support services are giving the children, teachers and other staff advice and guidance as appropriate.

Clearly, all appointment procedures throughout Cambridgeshire are being reviewed and tightened up where necessary. Nevertheless, we are satisfied that our existing system is good, in line with best practice.

There have been delays in securing clearance of new appointees since the formation of the country-wide Criminal Records Bureau. This body has been unable to respond adequately to requests for vetting and clearance but the delays are now believed to be down to six weeks and the Government Minister responsible is pushing for improvement.

Cambridgeshire County Council has tried to overcome these problems by use of risk assessment and ensuring that no new appointees work unsupervised with children before receipt of a clear criminal record check.

It is important to remember there is more to child protection than just vetting of staff. Once staff are appointed the managers are responsible for induction, training, monitoring their performance and the dealing swiftly and decisively with any complaints that should arise.

James Fitch



Coleopterous Concern

Ladybird, ladybird, *please* don't fly away home

Your presence here is upsetting the gnome.

And in a few moments he'll get to see

That you're more use in the garden than he'll ever be

Ophir Catting

SWAFFHAM PRIOR WITH REACH - EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PCC MEETING HELD ON 22nd JULY 2002 AT GOODWIN MANOR, SWAFFHAM PRIOR AT 7.30 P.M.

1. Treasurers' Reports: Reach

The Vicar presented the report in the absence of Laura Nottingham.

Half Year Receipts £983. 70 Expenses £3772.18

BPA Balance £1203.06 CBF Balance £48308.81

The Social Working Group had raised £384

S. Prior

Michael Cazenove presented the Receipts and Payments account 1st January to 20th July. £2236 had been raised at the Festival for the Centenary Restoration.

£855 was earmarked for the new pulpit, and £200 had been collected at Jan Peterson's farewell. The Treasurer was optimistic for once as we are not running at a deficit, and all bills had been paid for the vestry.

2. Social Working Groups' Reports: Reach

The Summer Barbecue had raised £157. A cake stall at Newmarket market was to be arranged later in the year. Harvest Supper would be Friday 4th October and the Harvest Service 6 October; Thanksgiving Day 16th November (and St Etheldreda's Fair); Cambridge Voices Concert 17th November 4.00 p.m.

S.Prior: The following dates were to be noted:

Cambridge Voices Concert: 6th November (not confirmed); Village Variety Show: 23rd November; Advent By Candlelight 8th December , 4.00 p.m.

3. Fabric and Finance Reports: S. Prior

John Norris reported that the vestry was not quite finished. The lead wiring had been replaced by a local electrician. A fence was to be put up against the new wall behind 47 High Street for safety's sake. John Norris had written to John Selby to ask why the "throw" over the gate had not yet been lit, and the lighting standard removed. The clock bell was now chiming every hour during the night. The drawing for the new pulpit had had to be slightly amended. The leak in the roof had to be mended — Russell Sheen would be approached.

Reach

The Vicar, John Norris, Laura Nottingham, Doreen Robinson and Norah Smith had met the architect, Ian Frearson to discuss how to reduce the bills for the screen and vestry re-ordering to a maximum of £20,000. John Norris suggested that the wooden inside panel of the entrance should be kept, and

that a central glass door should be inserted into this. The outside doors should be hinged to open outwards. He proposed that there should be no sink and no new lobby, to save money, and that the panelling in the vestry should be pulled forward. This was seconded by Doreen Robinson and carried nem.con. The architect was to be asked to produce more drawings to incorporate this new plan, and ask for more tenders.

Jenny Moseley
(PCC Secretary)

REVEREND MARK HAWORTH

On September 1st we said a regretful goodbye to Mark Haworth, who has been Vicar of Swaffham Bulbeck, Swaffham Prior and Reach for nine years, and Rural Dean for five years. He has now withdrawn from ordained ministry for the immediate future to take up teacher training. We shall miss his dynamic services and his gifted contributions to the musical life of the church. We are now in an interregnum and involved in the business of making arrangements for coverage of services and duties and looking forward to the future of the parishes.

A meeting was held at Swaffham Prior Hall on Monday 9th September at 7.30 p.m., which was attended by Churchwardens, Treasurers and PCC Secretaries of Swaffham Bulbeck, Swaffham Prior and Reach. The Revd Stephen Earl, the Vicar of Burwell, who is acting as Rural Dean, explained the arrangements to made for this benefice during the interregnum, as follows:

1. Sunday and other Services

The benefice would share the ministrations of several clergy, ie: Revd Roger Bowen from Cambridge, Revd Stephen Earl, Revd David Bush and John Hooper (a Lay Reader) from Burwell, Sheila Cameron, a Lay Reader from Great St Mary's, and occasionally Chris Barber and Revd Laurie Marsh would officiate. John Roebuck, from Swaffham Bulbeck would be drawing up a list of services in each Church, and these should be published in the 'Bulbeck Beacon', The 'Swaffham Crier', and 'Out of Reach'. Notices of Services would also be posted on Church Notice Boards.

2. Funerals, weddings, baptisms

Application for these would have to made initially to the Churchwardens of the parish, John Norris (Tel 01638 741465) and Carolyn Cazenove (01638 742277) who would refer the applicants to an appropriate clergyman. Revd Stephen Earl would help with preparing wedding couples for marriage, and with pastoral care.

3. Family Services, School Assemblies, Toddlers Services

These did not need to be conducted by a clergyman, so they could be taken by laity. Volunteers would be needed.

4. Confirmation Preparation

Revd Stephen Earl would be running confirmation preparation classes from mid-October. The Churchwardens were to be informed of candidates in each parish, who would refer them to Revd Earl.

5. Expenses and Fees

Sequestration forms were distributed for churchwardens to use for paying the expenses and fees of clergy visiting the parishes. Regular clergy within the Deanery would not ask for fees, but only travelling expenses. All others, including Revd David Bush would have to be paid fees and travelling expenses. Some of these expenses could be fairly shared between the three churches.

6. Communion by Extension

Revd Earl explained that Lay Readers would administer Communion by Extension, when the elements would be blessed at a Holy Communion Service, by an ordained minister, and taken to another church, where they would be kept in an appropriate place, and administered by a Lay Reader at a service which excluded the Prayers of Consecration.

THE FUTURE

The Archdeacon, Revd Geoffrey Watson, later joined the meeting, together with all the members of Swaffham Prior and Reach PCC and Revd Stephen Earl. The Archdeacon told the PCC the possible plans for this benefice in the future.

As there has been a fall in the number of clergy in the Diocese, clergy had to be deployed in the most economical way in the Deanery. It was proposed, therefore, that an incumbent should be sought as soon as possible for the vacant position at Bottisham, who would also have the care of Lode, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior. Reach would then be looked after (informally) by the incumbent of Burwell.

It was planned to advertise for an incumbent for Bottisham by mid-October. He/she would be interviewed by a panel, including representatives from each parish, and perhaps an appointment could be made in the New Year. Each parish was asked to prepare a Parish Profile as soon as possible, to help in the selection of a suitable candidate.

Jenny Moseley
(PCC Secretary)

....and from the Churchwardens:

Dear Parishioner,

As most of you will now know, from 1st September our vicar has moved to pastures new and we, as your Churchwardens, now have the responsibility of carrying on the pastoral work of the Parish.

The pattern of services will continue in the present form during September and onwards provided we can get assistance from visiting clergy and lay readers.

Information on services will be given in the Crier and on the noticeboard outside the Church. The new Rural Dean, the Rev. Stephen Earl, Vicar of Burwell, will supervise Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

Swaffham Prior has always had the benefit of a resident vicar but, with the ever-reducing number of clergy, this may not be possible in the future. We will do our very best to persuade the powers that be to give us a replacement for Mark, but with a small Parish such as ours there is always the chance that we will become a satellite of Burwell. Having said that it is still vitally important that we all work hard to preserve our Church for future generations and your help in achieving this will be very welcome and much needed.

Indeed, in this period of change, we would very much welcome any help and advice. There is a very considerable Christian following in this village (over 160 village people attended the Christmas services) and our responsibilities over the coming weeks and months will be helped by the regular attendees and readers along with the flower ladies and cleaners.

Our Thanksgiving Day, a very important day in our financial affairs, will be on Saturday, 5th October, and we trust you will use the envelope to be found in this edition of the *Crier*, to help us meet the day to day running costs (last year in excess of £20,000). We shall be in the Church on that day between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. to receive your gift and offer you a cup of coffee. Alternatively you may place your envelope in the collection in Church or post it through the letter box of Shadworth House, High Street.

We both thank you for your past interest and trust you will continue to be part of Christian life in Swaffham Prior.

John Norris and Carolyn Cazenove



Church Services

September 2002 Continued

	ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior	ST ETHELREDA & THE HOLY TRINITY Reach
TRINITY 19			
Sun	8:00am Holy Communion [†]	11:00am Parish Communion ^{CW}	
6	9:30am Family Service		
TRINITY 20			
Sun	9:30am Parish Communion ^{CW}	11:00am Family Service	8:00am Holy Communion [†]
13			
TRINITY 21			
Sun	9:30am Parish Communion ^{CW}	11:00am Parish Communion ^{CW}	8:00am Holy Communion [†]
20		6:00pm Evensong [†]	
TRINITY 22			
Sun	9:30am Parish Communion ^{CW}	8:00am Holy Communion [†]	
27		11:00am Mattins	

†: BCP

CW: Common Worship

Holy Communion

1st Thursdays 10am, Swaffham Bulbeck Church
(followed by Home Communion)

Evening Prayer

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

Bellringing

Thursdays, 5:30pm, Swaffham Prior
Tuesdays, fortnightly 8pm. St. Cyriacs. Contact: Dr
Margaret Stanier on 741328.

Housegroup

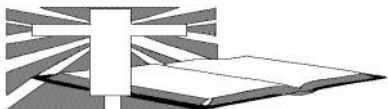
Tuesdays, 8pm, fortnightly in Reach.
Contact Olivia Cole 743434 or Juliet Vickery 742676

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



Zion Baptist Chapel

Forgiveness

"Things can only get better!" How many times have you said that or heard it from someone else? Optimism is a wonderful thing, but it can easily blind politicians, business and community leaders to the realities of 21st century living. Rising street crime, more City fraud, increased racial tension, drugs, and child abuse are sad indicators that all is not well.

We live in a compensation culture and as a result, people are quick to point the finger, slow to accept responsibility and almost incapable of giving and receiving forgiveness.

Devising plans to treat an ailing NHS or get the railways back on track is one thing... addressing the destructive effects of people's behaviour is another challenge altogether.

The way people act is inextricably linked - whether they realise it or not - to the values and beliefs they hold. If people in any society value things more highly than relationships then expect problems. If people lose all sense of belonging to a community then it quickly degenerates into "everyone for themselves". When that happens the old, the children, and the vulnerable are the first to suffer.

Forgiveness is at the heart of Christianity. When God's Son, Jesus, was being executed on the cross he said "Father forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34).

The Christian faith holds that individuals, communities and societies can change. As they acknowledge that things are not as they should be, and ask God for his forgiveness, they can accept the fresh start Jesus came to offer. As Jesus said "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10 NIV).

reproduced from facevalues church pack.

PS. We will continue to keep you in touch with developments at the Chapel, but there is nothing new to report at present. 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.

Rev. David Bousfield on 01223-563307.

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

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

Dates for Your Diary - October 2002

Tue	1	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm
Wed	9	7.30, Staine Hundred, BVC
Thu	10	7.30, Haunting of Hill House, BVC 7.30 PC Meeting VH.
Fri	11	7.30, Haunting of Hill House, BVC
Sat	12	7.30 Charpentier's Te Deum, Burwell Church 7.30, Haunting of Hill House, BVC
Sun	13	9.15-5.15 Bottisham Orchestral Workshop
Mon	14	Crier Copy Deadline 7.30 WI, VH
Tue	15	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm Village Gardeners AGM, VH
Wed	16	
Thu	17	
Fri	18	
Sat	19	
Sun	20	
Mon	21	
Tues	29	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm
Wed	30	
Thu	31	Crier Collating, Village Hall, 2:30pm
Weekly Events		
Tue		2.30-3.30, Baby & Toddler Group, Zion Baptist Ch Jamsing, 10-10.45 (0-18mnths), 11-11.45 (18-38mnths), VH Water Colour For Beginners, 1- 4pm VH 6.30-8.30pm, Youth Club, Scouts Hut
Wed		Cubs, Village School, 6.30-8:00pm.
Thu		2.30-4.30pm VH Teas. 7-8.30pm Karate, VH. 7-10pm, Youth Club, Scouts Hut
Sun		11am, Boules, VH Car park.