



The Swaffham Crier

Volume 27 Number 3

March 2003



Editorial

Much ado in Prior this month as a pair of stone-throwing youths attacked the night-bus (*twice*) causing the bus-company to consider withdrawing the service and landing Swaffham Prior in the *Cambridge Evening News*. Meanwhile, a resident of Fairview Grove has had their car-windows broken (*twice*) by stones this month, the last incident occurring this weekend (beginning of March), when windows on both sides were smashed. This situation is rapidly becoming nasty, and anyone with information should contact the Police and/or Neighbourhood Watch. The attacks on the bus apparently took place by Town Close at about 9.30pm and *not* on a Youth Club night: on such a night and at such a time, *we* were disturbed by some mischievous hammering on our front door (opposite the bus-stop) and opened it to find a mid teens youth rolling off the lawn. Was he a stone-thrower? Or if not, does he know who was?

Apologies for late **Crier** this month. The new improved computer equipment just turned up its toes and *died*. Good old *World of Computers* at Milton came to our rescue, which means we *won't* be going into the record books for the only edition omission but we should get an entry for the only edition ever edited *single-handedly*. Left-handedly, actually—all done by computers, you see. Hmmm. Unfortunately, we *still* haven't put in the **Crossword**: we are currently in the process of *hiring new staff*: *then* we shall have a crossword.

Goodbye and best wishes to Zion Chapel's David Bousfield, who's bound for Kent, and read all about our new Vicar to be on page 27. Meanwhile, our correspondents are back in force in this month's *Letters* with more *Names*, yes even the S__ name (shhhh! you know who!) has put in a re-appearance! The **Crier** crew managed to sneak their way onto a Quality Team on Quiz Night—*second place*! This was a very good night out and the only problem being that we didn't win. There were *three* Marathons (2 too many!) which is where the dratted Densa struck again...

Thanks to James Hill and SP School for the cover (see School News for background). See you Jumbling!

Caroline Matheson

CONTENTS

<i>Letters</i>	2
Reach Fair	4
Quiz Night	5
Art that Shook the World	5
Bulb Walk	5
<i>Our Reporter</i>	6
Bottisham Bowls	8
Playscheme	8
<i>School News</i>	9
<i>Police News</i>	10
Broadband is Coming!	11
Cambridge Archaeology	13
Healthy Living	15
<i>WI Notes</i>	15
<i>Village Gardeners</i>	16
<i>Staine Hundred</i>	17
<i>Cllr Cane</i>	18
<i>Cllr Fitch</i>	19
<i>Parish Council Notes</i>	20
<i>PCC Notes</i>	22
<i>David Bousfield</i>	24
<i>John Morrill</i>	25
<i>Church Services</i>	26
<i>Pastoral Letter</i>	27
<i>Diary</i>	28
<i>White Page Ads</i>	7,12,14

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Grand Jumble Sale 11

Cover Picture: Community Logo by James Hill



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Pub Names

John Morrill may well be right about the distinction since medieval times between alehouses, taverns and inns, but I'd always thought it was fairly well-known that naming them after things - nice simple memorable and visualisable ones, which could be painted on a sign hanging outside - was the means by which a largely non-literate population could identify them, in an urban area or one with a lot of strangers passing through. They were good route markers also.

If taverns and inns could do it, alehouses would hardly want business to pass by because their bottom-of-the range clientele - trendy maybe, but not well lettered, and with the medieval equivalent of furry dice hanging from the carriage possibly - could not spot them or be directed to them: not much point writing 'Alehouse' outside for those who are more schooled in drinking than in learning to read.

Not only taverns and inns - in Shakespeare's Comedy of Errors characters make regular reference to the Centaur (an inn) the Phoenix (a merchant's shop) and the Porpentine: ostensibly another inn, but also the name of a house of ill repute in London at the time, so it probably got a dodgy laugh each time it was mentioned, and another dodgier one for the knowledge that the porpentine - or porcupine - was covered in long sharp things that would have an effect on your finger which began with P and ended in K. Never mind that the audience had probably never seen a porcupine - the imagination suffices, especially where innuendo is concerned. Theatres were also named - The Globe, the Swan, The Rose and so on. Bandwagons are there to be jumped on, so any alehouse owner worth his ale would find a name. Not so far from us is an instance of theatrical bandwagonning too - the Theatre Royal in Bury St Edmunds (whose name indicates its audience could read) did not acquire the Royal licence to call itself so, but got away with it somehow. The aristocracy at the time of the building of that theatre tended to view anywhere outside London as a wilderness full of savages (see any Restoration Comedy where horror usually arises from the mere suggestion that anyone should intend to go to 'the country', otherwise abbreviated to 'Hampshire') so perhaps they just didn't notice or care that there was a theatre in the depths of Suffolk.

Visual naming may not have caught on in Ireland, where, as suggested, the host was perhaps the most noticeable feature - if he/she could maintain sufficiently riotous merriment, it may be that passers by were drawn to the place by the noise? - but certainly in Europe where, I read as a child, a great

banking family's dynasty was conceived doing business at a public house of some kind, known as the 'Rot Schild' (red shield) and took their name from it. True or not, they would not have had to look far for a customer wanting to put a bit on the slate.

Mark Lewinski
32 Fairview Grove

Dear Editors,

National Childrens Home collection

I would like to thank the residents of Tothill Road who contribute each January to the National Childrens Home house to house collections. This year we were able to donate £25 to this good cause.

If anyone is interested, collections are needed in other streets/roads of the village next year, please contact me and I can organise this for you.

Mary Cook
Tel 01638 742945

Dear Editors,

Nicknames and Place names.

Further to my article in the December 2002 issue of the "Crier" there has been no response to the origins of the names mentioned. However, John Clarke, formerly of Ivy Farm, has kindly supplied me with the following additional nicknames. Many of these pre-date my list and extend back to the nineteen thirties.

John's list is as follows:

Charles 'Old Boss'	? 'Rick' Lane,
or 'Charlie Bor' Ambrose,	Cephas 'Governor' Misson,
? 'Bandy' Atkinson (Schoolmaster),	George 'Prickwillow' Palmer,
? 'Toady' Aves,	Ed 'Bally' Preston,
Charlie 'Beef Benstead,	? 'Pledger' Preston,
John 'Bogey' Benstead,	Ernest 'Sammy' Preston,
Fred 'OK.' Benstead,	Henry 'Hinny' Scoff,
? 'Beaney' Benstead (Roadman 1930s),	Billy 'Beacham' Sheldrick,
? 'If' Benstead,	Charlie 'Gudgeon' Sheldrick,
John 'Chief Mourner' Bulman,	? 'Shilly' Sheldrick,
Fred 'Unify' Clark (Old Post-Office),	George 'Moses' Smith,
? 'Nobby' Clark (Window cleaner at	? 'Kyson' Stinson,
Newmarket),	Clem 'Gilo' Wadham,

? 'Taff' Farrow,
? 'Penney' Gautrey,
Will 'Wilkie' Heffer,
? 'Shot' Heffer (Lived in Mutton Row),
Tom 'Cack' Ison,

Jack 'Boxer' Webb,
Charles 'Carpenter
Lode Monkey' Webb,
? 'Tal Ann' Whitmore,
? 'Lardy' Woollard.

Graham Gillson.
01223 812107.

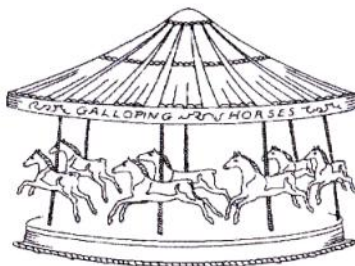
Dear Editors,

Computer Training Classes

I would like to draw your readers' attention to the Computer Training Classes in Swaffham Bulbeck. From complete computer illiteracy, I am now E.mailing church service details and times, news of fundraising events and general items to the editors of Contact. Why not join this group? Sessions take place on MONDAYS from 4.15. to 6.15 at Downing Court, Swaffham Bulbeck. The contact and teacher is Barbara Bendon on 07789 273902.

Patricia Harrison

Reach Fair



Bank Holiday Monday
5th May 2003 - 12 noon - 5 pm

Grand opening by the Mayor of Cambridge
Knights of Chivalry / Music and Dancing / Country Crafts
Stalls / Arts and Crafts / Children's Entertainment
Hog Roast / BBQ / Bar.....Plus lots more

Free Admission - Programmes £2.00

Grand Prize Draw

Registered Charity: 280601

Quiz Night - 8th February 2003

The Village Hall was filled by seventeen teams competing to be Quiz Champions. Playing their joker early, 'Denser' saw their lead being overtaken by 'EPXW', '5+1' and 'Stuffed Olives' but a late rally on the Marathon took 'Denser' to victory over '5+1' and 'The Hopefuls'.

Our thanks go not only to Jenny Brand and Lynn Rand, who set the quiz, and our question master Alastair Everett, but also to all those who gave of their time to prepare the food and made donations to the raffle. The excellent evening's entertainment raised over £350 for St Mary's Church Funds.

Watch The *Crier* for details of the next Quiz.

Francis Reeks

ART THAT SHOOK THE WORLD

A SPECIAL 5 WEEK COURSE
AT SWAFFHAM PRIOR VILLAGE HALL

WEDNESDAYS 10-12 AM. 4TH JUNE—2ND JULY

PLUS OPTIONAL VISIT TO NATIONAL GALLERY, LONDON

We will explore many images that have shocked or fascinated by their sheer audacity of invention and scale of ambition. Artists include Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Van Eyck, Rembrandt, Monet, Picasso, Dali and Rothko.

FOR MORE DETAILS/ENROLEMENT FORMS, please ring the
Tutor, *Deborah Monteiro* on tel: 743259

REMINDER!

The weather promises to be fine for the Bulb Walk and Coffee Morning on 6th March. So enjoy a walk around the garden of Manor Farm, Lower End (by kind permission of Ros Wood). Then come into the house for a nice hot cup of coffee.

There will be a Bring & Buy and Bric-a-brac stall, a Cake and Provisions stall and a raffle. All contributions to these will be gratefully received. Proceeds will be in aid of the Church.

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting **(with the usual quarterly Lower End bias).**

What a marathon! At 1030 everyone just wanted to get home, but some idiot insisted on raising the subject of shrinking footpaths. Encroaching vegetation on the east side of Lower End still drives the old with their walking sticks, and young parents behind pushchairs with toddlers in hand, into an often busy road, or across it. Others going to the Village Hall, or the Big Red Cat, go either sideways, in single file, or they also cross to the unobstructed side. It's all public highway, but a series of polite warnings have had little effect, so let's see what happens.



With a full complement of Councillors, we heard glum news about Council Tax increases – all for very sound reasons, employment costs, road salting, loss of income due to lower interest rates, etc. ECDC are floating the idea of collecting payments at the start of the month to help their interest income (I reckon this would cost the average householder about £15 p.a. but I'm not good with numbers, or I would have been an accountant, and probably worn a suit). The County will go ahead with library closures too. More publicity is wanted for KEEP WARM. ECDC offer help to the needy with discounts for appliances and insulation, etc. There is also good news that Capita are getting their act together on housing benefit payments, having made a right pig's ear so far. (Is there a use for left pigs' ears?). ECDC are once more at the forefront with helpful technology. They have made a bid to bring Broadband internet access to the villages, so you may read the Crier on-line in future.

ECDC are pushing for a planning appeal in public on the 24/7 (no rude noises at the back, please) proposal to give us another line of pylons across the fen when both old and new lines could go underground. The cost to do this is more than over ground, but they don't like to be questioned about their sums or assumptions, and wild bird deaths don't come into it either. We were told that electro-magnetic fields from power lines are insignificant compared to those from electric razors or clock radios. The new line is not down to better internet access for us, but to new science parks, etc. elsewhere.

After all these years, it has come to light that there is no lease agreement between the Charities Board and the PC over the Town Close Play Area. To save lawyers fees, another lease could be used as a template. We have supported the legal profession rather too generously of late. Maintenance comes into this, of course, as it also does for pot holes in the Village Hall driveway, the bus shelter (the jewel in the crown of the Conservation Area)

and hedging at the Station Road Playing Field (the right description for an unloved area where no-one plays?) not previously done in living memory. There will be tree felling at the school too. Hopefully, there will be replanting. The Parish precept for 2003/4 will be £11,000, including £36 for the Wildlife Trust. The PC has signed the core elements of the Freedom of Information Act. Village improvements ground to a halt when the contractor was sacked, but there was no news on the future of this.

SPEEDWATCH will soon hold an exhibition in the school, and there have been 17 replies from those interested in involvement (a 2% response – magnificent!). That level of interest probably explains why there are no ‘elderly people’ warning signs near The Beeches. We need these warnings – some elderly people can be very dangerous. A new plan for the cemetery is needed or we shan’t know where we are. As likely as not the Parish Clerk will scan the old plan into her computer and update it on screen.

An unusual pile of letters came up, loads of stuff – school news about Offsted in March, replaced mobile classrooms, and redecoration – all good news for a new Head and the village children. The playground will be re-inspected in April to ensure safety. Reach Fair car parking on Dencora Field (Is that really the best name for it?) as usual. And planning applications show that the village is alive and well, nothing dramatic, but improvements are always welcome. Down on the fen, action to stop unlawful rubbish tipping seems to be coming at long last. Watch this space! An Historic research and Information Centre will be opened in 2005, so we shan’t have to rely upon the memories of the senior members for ever.

All Parish Councillors will be up for re-election in May, and there are still 2 vacancies. (N.B. Most meetings are much shorter than this).

It’s one of life’s puzzles, I always think, why so many blondes dye their roots dark, and now it puzzles me how any account of a long meeting can be

as short as this. I must have missed something.

Frank Readhead.

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Bottisham Bowls Club

On behalf of all members of Bottisham Bowls Club I would like to thank the readers of this magazine for their wonderful response to our Jumble Sale held on the 18th January, it was a great success all round.

We raised a total of £428 which will help greatly with the funding of the club, enabling us to keep our subscriptions at a level that will be inviting enough to attract some more of you to come along and participate in This enjoyable sport.

Without labouring the point too much, active membership is The lifeblood of any club and if you feel like a little gentle exercise, good company and surroundings then were for you.

Our next social event is a Ceilidh to be held at the Royal British Legion on the 5th of April- so make a note in your diary and come and join the fun - non members most welcome

If you have any suggestions or ideas for the club - members or not - give me a call.

Ted Sketchley 01223-811582

E-Mail sketchley_home@tinyworld.co.uk



The dates have been set: 4-8 August, 2003, 9.30am-12 noon

The venue has been booked: Swaffham Prior School and Village Hall

The fees have been confirmed: £2.50 per day; £6 for a family ticket

And now we need an exciting programme!

Please come to a meeting on
Tuesday 25 February at 8.15 in the Red Lion, Swaffham Prior

We will be discussing ideas for this year's activities, and the more people we have to make suggestions the better Playscheme will be!

For more details on Playscheme 2003
(eligibility; programme; registration forms etc)
please call Dee Noyes on 743864



News from Swaffham Prior Church of England Primary School

The building project remains reasonably on course, and the arrival of the new mobile classroom caused quite a stir, especially as the vehicles got stuck in the playing field.

Class One has taken the building project as part of their term's work and have been using tools themselves in the classroom. They have all sat in the digger and are very knowledgeable about our new extension.

Class Two had an excellent view of the demolition and installation of the mobile classroom and captured events using the digital camera and through their writing. The new mobile is finally ready for school use and the extra space is invaluable.

Some of Class Three's most exciting work has been using simple pneumatics to make models with moving parts. The whole school has been inspired by their design and technology project and now everyone is involved in puppet making as part of home-school work. If anyone has any puppets to bring to our exhibition on the afternoon of Tuesday 8th April, or would like to come and see the children's work, all are welcome.

Class Four are concentrating on learning about Europe so if you have expertise to share, please let them know.

As part of the citizenship curriculum, the Year Three and Four pupils have discussed what a community is, what it means to them and designed a logo to represent the important aspects of our community. One of the designs is featured on the front cover of the *Crier*. It represents the community being made up of different elements which fit together as a whole. The fourth section of the jigsaw shows that our community is linked to others, but also welcomes people in too.

The newly formed School Council organised a very successful Blue Peter Bring and Buy Sale, raising over £100. They have met to discuss their class suggestions, which included more games at play, a Year Six Leavers Disco and a meadow area in the playing field.

Friends of Swaffham Prior Primary School

The Friends group have started work on refurbishing the swimming pool area, and have plans to develop a quiet area for children's play.

Their next event is a Social evening with racing entertainment – 22nd March Village Hall. Contact the school for more details.

Joanna Lakey



Police News

DISTRACTION BURGLARY AWARENESS DAY

The Constabulary's Community Safety Unit are holding a distraction burglary awareness day on Wednesday 26th March 2003 at the Burgess Hall, St Ivo Recreation Centre, St Ives, Cambs, starting at 10.00am and finishing at 3.00pm. The aim of the day is to raise awareness of bogus caller crime. Although this event has a serious message, the day is intended to be fun with activities including bingo, music, prizes etc. There will also be representatives from a range of organisations who will be available to offer advice and support. The day is aimed at victims of distraction burglary, and those most at risk of this crime – particularly the older and more vulnerable members of our community. Lunch and refreshments will be provided – and there is no charge for the day. Free coaches are also available to pick up residents should transport be required. If you, or someone you know would like to attend contact Julie Gilbert at Histon Police Station – places are limited so we would ask you to register your interest as soon as possible.

We are also looking for volunteers to help us with activities, for all or part of the day. If you can spare some time to help, please contact Julie Gilbert at Histon Police Station.

BOBBY SCHEME

The scheme provides a **free service** to elderly and disadvantaged (disabled and vulnerable) people and intends to reduce burglary by improving basic home security. The advisor will also talk through general safety issues and try and reassure those people who may be worried about crime. There are 2 'Bobby vans', which cover Cambridgeshire and both are staffed by trained carpenter/safety advisors. Their responsibility is to improve basic home security by installing such devices as new locks, peepholes, door chains and other security items.

If you fall into one of the categories shown below please contact the scheme to arrange an appointment for an advisor to visit your home.

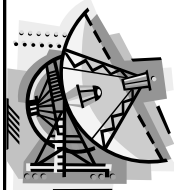
- If you have been the victim of burglary and you are over 60 years old.
- Under 60 years old with other problems (i.e. have a disability or live in a high crime area), or if there is anyone in your area that you feel is vulnerable.

If you want to find out more about the scheme, please ring the 'Bobby Scheme' office on 07866 602100. The office is staffed between 9 - 1pm; there is a voicemail option for out of these times. Or call Julie Gilbert at Histon Police Station.

The Bobby Scheme is funded by the National Lottery Charities Board and is supported by Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Victim Support, Age Concern, Help the Aged and Neighbourhood Watch.

BROADBAND IS COMING!

And it could be quite soon ...



Since last month's article, over twenty people in the village have expressed an interest on the **CARNET** Website (www.carnet.uk.net) - enough that the suppliers are now surveying the village and designing the network infrastructure.

If you haven't already registered but are interested, it's still possible to sign up in time to count towards the weight of support for the various applications to reduce the start-up costs, so please do!

James Matheson

GRAND JUMBLE & NEARLY NEW SALE

IN AID OF THE VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 8th March at 2.30PM

We require jumble, nearly new items, toys, clothes, bric-a-brac, books - in fact, anything saleable

Items can be collected by or left with:

Elaine Malster, 28 Fairview Grove (743894)

Trevor Jones, Sheldrick's Cottage, Lower End (741197)

Alastair Everitt, Anglesey House, 59 High Street (742974)

Alternatively items can be delivered to the Village Hall

on Friday 7th March 7.30-9.00PM

or Saturday 8th March 12.30-1.30PM

We would very much appreciate your help

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Tel: (01223) 576201

email:

Arch.Field.Unit@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

or visit the MU online at:

<http://www.archaeology.freewire.co.uk>

We are always happy to
discuss your particular
requirements or answer
any queries you may
have.

Guided Walks

Explore a variety of sites
around the county with an
expert guide.

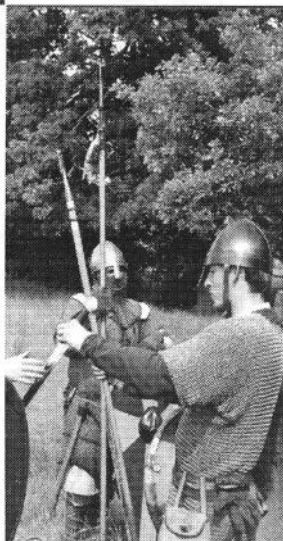


National Archaeology Day

Displays, exhibitions
and much more.
Something for all the
family.

Living History Events

Come and meet Celts,
Romans and Saxons. Find
out how they lived and
try your hand at ancient
crafts.



Excavation Open Days

Tours of selected AFU
digs. Usually advertised
in local media and on our
web site.



Training Excavation

A holiday with a difference!
Minimum age 14 years. Contact
the AFU for details.

Mobile Library

Use it - or lose it!

Encourage your children to use a library - ideal source for homework, course work, etc

You can buy stamps and reasonably priced greetings cards, rent videos, etc.

Every other Tuesday afternoon: Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm

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Community Representatives
— we need you!
AGM. 9.45 - 12 noon,
27th March 2003,
Littleport Leisure Centre
— All Welcome

Do you know about Healthy Living East Cambridgeshire (HLEC)? It is a relatively new initiative aimed at improving the health and well being for the people of East Cambs. £645,000 has been awarded to this initiative by the New Opportunities Fund - a stream of lottery money, other partners include East Cambs District Council and the East Cambs and Fenland Primary Care Trust.

The money is being spent on a range of projects and new services to address issues around fitness & food, community development, families children & young people, older & isolated people and information & outreach work. A few examples of the projects include new childcare facilities, smoking cessation classes, a youth counselling service - and many more at a location near you!

Healthy Living East Cambridgeshire is currently recruiting Community Representatives to sit on the steering group. If you are interested in doing this please telephone the project on: 01353 616186, or if you would like to find out more information about this initiative come along to our first AGM from 09.45am - 12noon on Thursday 27th March 2003 at Littleport Leisure Centre.

Visit www.hlec.org for further information.



WI Notes

Mr.R.Vincent gave a talk on the Devil's Ditch to the W.I. on 17th February. He began with a short history of the Ditch which was built approximately 1500 years ago. He then described a walk along the 7½ miles from Woodditton to Reach which he illustrated with some excellent slides. With her extensive knowledge his wife was able to help him out with the names of the many wild flowers discovered en route.

The slides were shot during all the seasons of the year and made many of us feel that a walk along the Ditch was a must in the weeks to come.

Whatever the season there would always be something to appreciate.

On 17th March we shall be holding our ACM and finishing the evening on a lighter note with a Beetle Drive.

STOP PRESS: The WI are arranging a coach trip to Houghton Hall in Norfolk on Sunday 17th August. We understand this is well worth a visit with the house and beautiful gardens, and there is a restaurant, so it promises to be a good day out. We need to know numbers now for booking the coach, so if you would like to come please contact Betty Fox on 742000 for more information.

Betty Prime

GARDEN CLUB

ON 18 FEBRUARY

The Restoration of Audley End organic kitchen garden. Many of you will know that the landscaping of the grounds was designed by Capability Brown in 1750. The head gardener, M.Thurlow regaled us enthusiastically with the five year old saga of the renovation of the two acre site. As an English Heritage site, it was required to be run on Victorian practices and carry Victorian bred plants, true to its past. Thus flowers would be long-stemmed, highly scented varieties. Vegetables had to be plentiful, innovative and various. It took five years to restore the old greenhouses, and 65% of the original structure was utilised.



100 tons of green waste are used as a mulch on the two acres before each season. Plants are puddled in and doubly mulched or dressed when planted. Only hand watering for vital plants once a week, i.e. no automatic sprinklers etc. No double digging, just hoeing once a week. Staff number four with a small solid core of volunteers. We were encouraged to think vertically, if space is an issue. Use that small strip by the garage wall? If you would like an endless crop of tomatoes sow “Essex Wonder” or “Tommy Toe” and use chicken manure after sowing for an endless crop.

Hopefully this will have given you sufficient impetus to (a) visit the site which is open from April and (b) perhaps use more of your garden.

Next month, on 18 March, we have Mr D. Elcombe coming to enlighten us on “British Orchids”. You will be very welcome at 8 pm in the Village Hall.

Tricia Harrison



STAINE HUNDRED

Maureen Rogers, secretary, welcomed members to the February Meeting of the Staine Hundred as the chairman was on holiday. The speaker, Gill Rushworth, needed no introduction as she is a long-standing member of the Committee. Her mother-in-law had been the last surviving member of the Rushworth family department store, which ran for 90 years in Huddersfield before finally being sold in 1966. In researching the history of Rushworths store, she found that very little has been written in general about such family stores which played a valuable part in town life for more than a century, until becoming the victims of the large multiple organizations.

Gill told us of the origins of London Stores, such as Swan & Edgar, Debenhams, and Marshall and Snelgrove. In Cambridge, Robert Sayle started in 1838; Eaden Lilleys was started in 1782 by Eaden joined in 1837 by Lilley; Joshua Taylor started in 1860. Most of these firms started in a small way and gradually acquired property on either side of the single shop to become large departmental stores. By the early 1840s, male apprentices were taken on who lived on the premises. These were not usually local people. Female shop assistants became more common and by 1870, Lilleys had 27 girls living in. The family department stores had much in common, hours were long, often 12 hour days for a 6 day week, with even longer hours before Christmas, the pay was poor, and assistants had to dress neatly in black clothes which they had paid for themselves.

At first, goods were crammed into shop windows, but the coming of plate glass, and of gas in the 1840s and electricity in the 1890s allowed larger windows and better window displays. Rushworths won a number of prizes for window-dressing. At first, such stores catered mainly for the upper class, but the coming of the sewing machine and free patterns given in magazines in the 1850s opened the stores to a wider clientele. The inter-war years were a great time of expansion, and by 1925 Rushworths had 25 different departments. Staff outings and improved conditions for the assistants followed. The stores survived the shortages and coupons of World War II. Many stores added restaurants. The lack of maintenance during the war years when often part of the store was taken over for other purposes put a strain on the finances so that many family businesses succumbed to the pressure from the multiple retailers and finally agreed to sell out. Our town centres are the poorer for their loss.

The next meeting is on Wednesday, March 12th at 7.30 pm at Bottisham Village College when Ann Holton Krayenbuhl will be talking about “Monks, Merchants and Craftsmen. The Broad Street area of Ely.”



Over the last four years the amount of recyclable waste collected through the Black Box scheme has almost doubled. In 1998-1999 we collected 1,248 tonnes of recyclable waste and in 2002-2003 we look set to collect 2,352 tonnes. This increase reflects public demand. To answer this demand we now have the Black Box collection across the district and we have introduced a new collection lorry to enable more collections to take place. This increase in recycling, together with the green waste collection that will be rolled out across the district next year, will be a significant help in reaching government targets for recycling.

As you know, there is a local initiative to bring Broadband to Swaffham Prior. East Cambs District Council supports this initiative and is also seeking funding to get Broadband across the whole district. We are making an application to the East of England Development Agency and need to show that we have support from Parish Councils, businesses and individuals across the District. If you want Broadband, please support our bid by writing to Margot Harbour at ECDC, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, Cambs, CB7 4PL, or e-mailing her at margot.harbour@eastcambs.gov.uk saying why you want Broadband and what you would use it for. If you are a business, please use headed paper. She needs your letters or e-mails of support by 31st March in order to include them with our bid for funds. You can also register your support on our web site - www.eastcambs.gov.uk.

Each week the Leader of the Council sends a letter to Councillors and staff about the highlights of the Council's activities. This letter is now published on our web site, together with other information about the Council and our services. We are currently conducting a poll to find out what you want on the site. Please take a look and let us know what you think of the site.

The 'Stay Warm Surgery' in Swaffham Bulbeck was useful to those who came. They all said they found the information and advice useful and were pleased with their two free low energy light bulbs. Some people who lived alone were also given a free 'one-cup' kettle. If you want advice on how to cut your fuel bills contact our Home Energy Conservation Officer, Ian Bowers, on 01353 616251. If you are over the age of 60, or receiving certain benefits he can also give you a free low energy light bulb and may be able to help you get grants or discounts towards the cost of home insulation.

We have now replaced the vandalised trees in Jubilee Gardens, Ely. The new Bandstand should be in use from April and the toddlers' play area will be open by June.

Charlotte Cane



Cambridgeshire
County Council

From our Local County Councillor

COUNTY COUNCIL NOTES MID FEBRUARY 2003

COUNTY BUDGET

After much debate over the last weeks and at full Council today (11th Feb.), the Conservative ruling party pushed through their prepared budget and the consequential increase in Council Tax of 9.2%.

This year's Governmental settlement saw the abolition of the hated Cost Adjustment. It brought much needed help to chronically underfunded Cambridgeshire. However, to prevent severe instant reductions on neighbouring counties, £9m. of the adjustment is to be phased in over the next 2 years. Had it been immediately available this money would have reduced the Cambridgeshire **Council Tax** by several percent, with less effect on hard-pressed pensioners and those on fixed incomes than will now happen.

The relatively good grant settlement means that Cambridgeshire is no longer the lowest funded Shire County, but 7th lowest out of 34. We are still £31 per person lower than the County average! The assumption for 2004-5 and 2005-6 is a Band D tax increase of not more than 6%. We shall see if this happens. Much will depend on the financial performance of **Social Services** who have had severe overspending problems over the last years.

Inherent within this year's Council Tax decision is the refusal by the Cabinet to cancel their plans to close ten rural libraries of which **Bottisham Village College Library** is one. Thank you everyone who protested to the Cabinet over the last 2 months. There was a strong campaign in and around Bottisham, but in the final vote the Cabinet was unanimous to close the libraries, although in the case of Bottisham the College side is untouched.

The result of this decision on Bottisham is that there are now discussions going on with the Village College Warden, East Cambs District Council, the Parish Council, Friends of BVC Library and the Head of the Library Service at Shire Hall, Mike Hosking. I shall assist wherever possible as local member and a library user. More news later.

Our local **roads** suffered from **snow and ice** as elsewhere but our salt

gritters were on duty almost continuously over the period. They did their best to maintain some movement however slow. The Highways Agency are responsible for salting trunk roads including A14, M11, A1, A428, but could not cope enough to prevent blockages and vehicle standstill. Traffic rapidly built up on feeder roads and Cambridge became nearly gridlocked.

Locally, our A1303 and B1102 were treated on Wednesday 29th at 7pm, Thursday at 4am and again after 1pm continuing in our area to midnight. On Friday 31st they were out again at 3.30am, 3.30pm and 5pm to midnight. On Saturday 1st Feb there were two more runs. It is difficult to see what more could be done. The gritter drivers deserve our thanks.

James Fitch

Notes from the Parish Council February Meeting

Mr Trevor Jones chaired the meeting with 6 members and 1 member of the Public.

Reports:

Councillor Fitch reported to the meeting.

Councillor Cane reported to the meeting.

Matters Arising.

Parish Council Vacancies: The Parish Council still has two vacancies.

Confirmation of the Parish Precept 2003/04: This was confirmed at £11,000

Town Close – Play Area: A letter was received on behalf of The Parochial Charities explaining that it had been brought to their attention that no formal agreement/lease was in place between The Parochial Charities and the Parish Council for the Play Area at Town Close. The Clerk followed this up and spoke with two local solicitors about drawing up such a document. The Clerk was told that this type of agreement would usually be drawn up by The Parochial Charities' solicitor and then passed to the Parish Council's solicitor for comment/approval. Following discussion and in light of the foregoing, it was agreed that The Parochial Charities would be asked to draw up this document.

Village Maintenance:

a) *Village Hall Driveway.* This has become badly potholed and steps will be taken to have this rectified.

b) *Bus Stop.* Estimates are to be obtained to have the bus stop tidied and painted.

Recreation Ground: Two estimates were received for the cutting back of all boundary hedgerows. The front (road) boundary hedgerow will be reduced to a height of one metre. Following discussion, it was agreed to appoint J.V. Waugh & Son.

Speed Watch Project – *response to Flyer*: 17 replies were received. The Speed Watch exhibition is to be organised with Christina Greaney of CCC. Details of the date & venue will be posted.

Correspondence Received:

CCC: “Highways Review”

Definitive Map Modification Order

ECDC: “Broadband Connectivity” – *invitation to meeting 17/2/03*

Notification of tree works at School

General: Letter from Reach Village Centre. *Reach Fair – car parking on “Dencora” field.*

School Governors’ report for the Spring Term + School newsletters.

Highways Agency – A11 Route Management Strategy

Histon Sector Newsletter/crime figures

Accounts for Payment: These were agreed.

Planning Matters:

a) “*Burwell to Horningsea, proposed 132Kv dual circuit overhead line running through Burwell, The Swaffhams, Reach & Lode parishes.*” ECDC Planning Committee considered this application. The Parish Council was represented by J Covill. The decision of the Planning Committee was to recommend that this be put to a Public Inquiry.

b) *Whiteway Drove – Appeal regarding the deposit & storage of waste materials.* A copy of CCC’s “Statement of Case” was received.

Planning Application: 28 Green Head Road – *two storey extension.* There were no objections to this application.

Any Other Business:

Wall at The Beeches. Andrew Tipple of CCC Highways is following up the ownership of this wall with CCC’s Rights of Way section.

Lower End Ditch. Following a further meeting, Stockbourne Plc agreed to put in hand the clearance work for this ditch.

Enhancement Scheme. A new contractor is to be appointed to complete this work.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday, 13th March 2003 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Karen King, Clerk of the Parish Council

**SWAFFHAM PRIOR WITH REACH, PAROCHIAL CHURCH
COUNCIL EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, 22nd JANUARY AT 7.30 P.M.
AT SWAFFHAM PRIOR HALL**

1. Matters Arising from the Minutes: Appointment of new incumbent

Jenny Moseley and Michael Cazenove reported on the interviews for the new incumbent of Bottisham, Lode, Quy, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior which had taken place on January 16th. Two very strong candidates had been shortlisted, and one was recommended by the Parish Representatives, as being most suitable for this new benefice. His appointment still had to be ratified by the Bishop, so the name could not be revealed at present. Subsequent to the meeting, we were able to announce that Revd David Lewis had been invited by the Bishop to become the new incumbent of Bottisham. He will be licensed on June 10th at Bottisham. The PCC members strongly felt that the new group of parishes should be called “The Anglesey Group”.

2. Fabric Reports

Reach

The architects had received a tender from Peter Saunders for £11,946 to carry out the modifications to the Entrance and Vestry Screens. The PCC agreed that this tender should be accepted and that the work should proceed as soon as possible. It was also reported that the altar had been moved forward, so that the officiant could face the congregation.

Swaffham Prior

John Norris reported that a new flag-flyer was needed as Michael Huber had left. An advert would be put in the Swaffham Crier.

Patrick Hansberry had cleaned out the gutters, and Peter Partiridge had mended the veneer of the table which stands at the back of the church. Secretary to write and thank him.

There were problems with two lights in the Chancel and with those in the North and South aisles. A spotlight was also needed above the altar.

It was proposed that a bigger base should be put on the pulpit to make it more stable. Henry Freeland would make a drawing, and a Faculty would not be needed.

3. Future Arrangements

Reach:

Jenny Moseley reported on the forthcoming arrangements for Reach. Services for Reach would be changed from the beginning of February, as

Stephen Earl would be taking over the services. Services will be on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 8.00 am (Parish Communion — Prayer Book version using the Common Worship Book) and on the 4th Sunday at 11.00 am (Family Communion — Common Worship (Modern Language)). Five Reach members have already gone on to the Electoral Roll at Burwell, preparatory to joining the Burwell PCC at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Officers will be as follows:

Churchwardens: Norah Smith, Dan Tucker

Treasurer: Jen Holmwood

Deanery Synod Jenny Moseley

Social events: Jan Robinson

Swaffham Prior

Elections were needed for the new PCC to be appointed at the Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 24th March.

John Norris wished to resign as Churchwarden. It was proposed that Francis Reeks should take over as Churchwarden, with Canolyn Cazenove.

A new Secretary was needed: Patricia Harrison was proposed. Michael Cazenove would continue as Treasurer until another could be found.

7. Dates of Future Meetings

Thursday 13th March at Swaffham Prior Hall at 7.30 pm to approve accounts. Monday 24th March at Swaffham Prior School at 7.30 pm Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting. (Reports are to be got ready for this meeting by March 10th and sent to Jenny Moselev, so a pack can be prepared in advance).

8. AOB

a) Ros Woods asked if a path could be made to the seat behind the cremation burial plot. John Norris suggested that a path should be mown.

b) Patricia Harrison asked for donations for flowers and a card for Kate Child, who was in hospital.

c) Francis Reeks said that there would be a Cambridge Voices Service in St Cyriac's on Ash Wednesday.

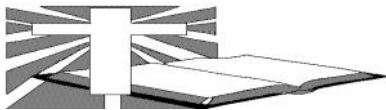
d) Social Events:

Saturday 8th February Quiz Night, 7.30 Village Hall

Saturday 1st March Moveable Feast, 7.00 pm.

Thursday 6th March Coffee Morning and Bulb Walk,
The Manor House.

Jenny Moseley



Zion Baptist Chapel

Moving On...

It is with mixed emotions that I come to write this article this month. This will be my last contribution on the Zion Chapel page as I will be moving on at Easter. My family and I will be moving to Kent where I will become minister of the Baptist Church at West Malling. Before I go however we will have the opportunity to worship together at the Chapel on Good Friday at 3pm.

For my family and I we will be moving away from friends made during our three years at Zion Chapel, and the fourteen years we have lived in Cambridge. We have met some delightful people and it will be difficult to say goodbye and move away from the area, but we know that this is the right move for us.

In his journeys the apostle Paul often had to say goodbye to friends as he left them behind and moved on to new people and new places. One of his most poignant farewells is reported in the book of Acts 20:13-36 as he left his friends in Ephesus. He had lived there with them for three years, he remembered the times he had with them, he had prayed with them and now he cried with them as he said goodbye. Let me address Paul's words to you: *I commit you to God and the word of his grace which can build you up and give you everything you need for living a Godly life* (Acts 20:32).

When you have to do difficult things in life, like saying goodbye or moving on, then I pray that you, like us, will be strengthened by the love of God working in you. Thank you for the love and friendship you have shown me and my family over the years, and thank you for the privilege of being amongst you. Now we must move on... God bless you.

David Bousfield

<p>Good Friday 18th April at 3:00pm Special Service with refreshments afterwards There will be news concerning the future of the chapel at this service</p>

<p>For more information please telephone David Bousfield on 01223-563307</p>
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Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

Masses: Newmarket: Sat 18:30; Sun 09:00, 10:30, 18:30;

Kirtling: Sun 09:45;

In Bottisham Parish Church, Sun 09:00 (Served from Cambridge).

From John Morrill, Deacon to the Roman Catholic Community

I promised to write this month about medieval monastic brewing, but that will have to wait. Something even more interesting has happened!

We Catholics have a new bishop. He is only the third in the history of the diocese of East Anglia, because, believe it or not, the diocese has only just got over celebrating its silver jubilee. During the centuries of persecution from the Reformation to the mid nineteenth century, the Catholics in Britain got by without bishops. Most of the priests who risked their lives and liberty were members of religious orders (Jesuits, Benedictines, Franciscans etc. who were answerable to superiors – abbots, priors, etc – abroad). Rome thought that to appoint diocesan bishops would be to inflame the political authorities in Britain and so desisted. From time to time men were ordained to be Bishops of places where there were no Christians (remote spots in the middle of the Islamic world) and then sent them to England to exercise a purely spiritual leadership, with no claim to jurisdiction that overlapped that of the Anglican Bishops. Amusingly the first man sent on such a mission (they were known as bishops *in partibus infidelium* [*bishops from heathen lands*]) had the surname Bishop. So he was Bishop Bishop! You can imagine the way this helped him to confuse his interrogators – “are you a Bishop?” “well, my name is Bishop”, “but are you also a bishop”, “what I am trying to tell you is that my name is Bishop” and so ad infinitum. When Catholic Bishops were restored in 1850, they were all took the name of their sees from places where there were no Anglican Bishops – so Westminster not London or Canterbury; Salford not Manchester; Middlesborough not York etc. And the biggest diocese was the diocese of Northampton which covered Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk. It was so big because Catholics were so thin on the ground. It was – and is – the part of England with the fewest Catholics proportionately. Initially churches were built in the major towns, with mission priests visiting the great open spaces in between. Newmarket got its first church in the 1880s, for example, but in the wilds of central Norfolk it took much longer. It was only in the 1970s that the idea arose of dividing this great area into two dioceses, and in 1976, the counties of Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk were set apart as the diocese of East Anglia. The first Bishop, Alan Clark, always claimed that his great contribution to the second Vatican Council was (as Vice Rector of the English College in Rome) to mix the gins and tonic just right to revive the spirits of the English Bishops at the end of grueling morning sessions and to send them back refreshed to the afternoon session! But he was a central figure in shaping the diocese’s mission, and he was the first co-chair of the Anglican/Catholic group to improve relations of the two Churches. He retired in 1995 and was immediately replaced by the much-loved Peter Smith who was appointed Archbishop of Wales in November 2001. Since then the see has been vacant. But the Nuncio (the Pope’s ambassador) has been taking soundings amongst many laypeople and clergy and he made his recommendations to Rome at the end of last year and the Pope has now appointed Michael Evans as our new Bishop. Fr Michael has for eight years been priest

of a thriving parish in Tunbridge Wells, having previously served as a university chaplain and as a teacher in the seminary for the archdiocese of Southwark. He is especially interested in involving youth in the life of the church, in Justice and Peace; and he has played a leading part in ecumenical activity, especially in dialogue between Catholics and Methodists. The press release suggests that – and this is becoming an East Anglian Episcopal tradition – he has a lovely smile! He is a man of prayer and pastoral experience. He will be ordained to the episcopate by the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster and the Archbishops of Sothwark and Wales in St Johns Cathedral in Norwich on 19 March. We are all very happy.



Church Services

March 2003

	ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior	ST ETHELREDA Reach
<i>NEXT BEFORE LENT</i> Sun 2	8:00am Holy Communion [†] 9:30am Family Service	11:00am Parish Communion ^{CW}	
Ash Wed 5		7:30pm Holy Communion	
<i>LENT 1</i> Sun 9	9:30am Parish Communion ^{CW}	11:00am Family Service	8:00am Holy Communion ^{CW}
<i>LENT 2</i> Sun 16	9:30am Village Communion ^{CW}	8:00am Parish Communion 6:00pm Evensong	
<i>LENT 3</i> Sun 23	9:30am Parish Communion ^{CW}	8:00am Holy Communion 11:00am Mattins	11:00am Family Communion
<i>LENT 4 MOTHE- RING</i> Sun 30	9:30am Family Service	11:00am Family Communion	

CHURCH NEWS

The appointment has been made for a new incumbent for what it is now to be known as “The Anglesey Group”: Bottisham, Lode, Quy, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior. The Bishop has invited the **Revd David Lewis** to take up the appointment, and he will be licensed at Bottisham Church on June 10th and reside at Bottisham Vicarage. David Lewis comes from a parish near Plymouth, he is in his middle fifties, and he has grown up children and a charming and very supportive wife, Pauline, who is anxious to get involved in all aspects of village and parish life. In fact they are both great cyclists, and are determined to cycle round the villages visiting and joining in with social events. He is also determined to get involved with all the schools in the benefice. As he will have five churches to look after he will be helped by the ministries of two able and experienced priests working part-time: **Revds David Kettle and Roger Bowen**, whom many people already know. David Lewis would like to be able to run at least one service every Sunday in each church in the benefice, and the support of extra clergy will make this possible. So we look forward very much to his coming, and are sure that he will be a good person for this new and large benefice. He is going to need a lot of support from lay people as well, because of his large administrative load. I am sure we shall support him as much as we can.

Elections of Churchwardens and the new PCC will take place at the Vestry and **Annual Parochial Church meeting on March 24th** at the School, at 7.30 pm. All parishioners are invited to attend that meeting. Please would all those who normally prepare reports for the Annual Meeting get them ready before March 10th and send them to me at 26 Great Lane, Reach so that a pack can be prepared.

If you would like to be considered as a PCC member please let John Norris know, so he can give you a nomination form. More members will be needed, as members of Reach on the combined Swaffham Prior and Reach PCC will officially separate from Swaffham Prior at the Annual Meeting. Five members of Reach PCC will put up for election on Burwell PCC, having joined the electoral roll there. Reach has already started their partnership with Burwell, and services at Reach begin to be taken by the Revd Stephen Earl from February 2nd with a lovely Candlemas Service in Taize style at 6.30 p.m. A quarter-peal was rung by the bells of St Mary’s Burwell to mark our new partnership at 4.00 p.m. on the same day. We have been made very welcome by Burwell, and this looks to be a happy and fruitful partnership. It is strongly hoped that Burwell people will join in services and events at Reach and vice-versa, so that we function as one parish with two centres of worship.

Jenny Moseley

Dates for Your Diary - March 2003

Thu	6	Bulb Walk and Coffee Morning, Manor Farm
Fri	7	
Sat	8	Grand Jumble and Nearly New Sale, Village Hall, 2:30pm
Sun	9	
Mon	10	
Tue	11	
Wed	12	Staine Hundred, Bottisham Village College, 7:30pm
Thu	13	PC, Village Hall, @ 7:30pm
Fri	14	<i>Crier</i> Copy Deadline
Sat	15	
Sun	16	
Mon	17	WI, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Tue	18	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm Village Gardeners, Village Hall, 8:00pm
Mon	24	Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Village School, 7:30pm
Tue	25	
Wed	26	
Thu	27	Healthy Living AGM, Littleport Leisure Centre, 9:45am <i>Crier</i> Collating, Village Hall, 2:30pm
Weekly Events		
Sun		11am, Boules, VH Car park
Tue		2.30-3.30, Baby & Toddler Group, VH Jamsing, 10-10.45 (0-18mnths), 11-11.45 (18-38mnths), VH Water Colour For Beginners, 1- 4pm VH 7-8.30pm, Youth Club, Youth Club Hut
Wed		Messy Play, 2.30-3.15, VH Cubs, Village School, 6.30-8:00pm.
Thu		2.30-4.30pm VH Teas. 7-8.30pm Karate, VH. 7-10pm, Youth Club, Youth Club Hut