



The Swaffham Crier

Volume 28 Number 4

April 2004



Editorial

Congratulations all round, team, correspondents, collators, distributors, advertisers all, and especially other Ed, *James Matheson* — who's done most of the work this year — on coming second (and winning £250) in the East Anglia Small Village Magazines competition. And gritted-teeth congratulations to our rivals Wilburton and Haddenham who snatched the first prize slot — we'll see them next year! This time, Crier manager Ruth Stinton did manage to drag along *one* editor with her to the Award Ceremony. Read all about it on page 6.

Meanwhile, *Reach Fair* is nearly here again. It may be that some Priorites, the Eds themselves even, have been secretly harbouring heretical thoughts on the lines of "Let's go *somewhere-else* for the day", but you know you won't! And certainly not this year, when Swaffham Prior itself is adding a Big Digger to the attractions, with a chance to win a family day out at *Big Digger Land*. Big Digger Land is where your children (and you too) get to drive real big diggers, and no, the second prize isn't *two* days out at Big Digger Land!

But now it's Easter, and, of course, *Easter Bunnies*! You know how much you love them, and so too do the Pumfreys (well, ish!) who, due to a little understandable confusion between boy-bunnies and girl-bunnies, now have eight bunnies, six of whom are extremely sweet silver and black baby bunnies, and they would be very happy to donate to any good home willing to have them. Ring 741376 — but remember to consult a professional bunny-sexer — if you're interested.

We'd like to join Carolyn Casenove in her warm accolade to John Norris, who's finally retiring after *40 years* looking after St. Mary's and St. Cyriacs. The current beautifully kept state of both of these churches — probably a first in their long history — owes a great deal to John, and he will be sorely missed.

Advance Dairy Warning: **Annual Village Assembly, 27 May**. Try not to forget this time, all you But-Nobody-Told-*Us* people!

Caroline Matheson

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Cover Picture: Eggs, June Readhead



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Coopers Lane

Coopers Lane until fairly recently was the only vehicle access to two arable fields and the cemetery.

Coopers Lands were bought by the Council for building, and allowed the village to use the new hard road access to the cemetery.

Coopers Lane now allows vehicles to one arable field and the surplus soil that needs to be taken from the cemetery. Also the householders whose gardens run from the Street to Coopers Lane have a rear access to their properties, which they have always been entitled to.

Keep Coopers Lane.

Mr S. Day
50 High Street

Dear Editors,

John Norris

As many of you will already know, after more than 40 years of being very closely involved with all aspects of our Church, as well as being Church Warden and Treasurer for many of them, John has decided that the time has come to relinquish his responsibilities to the 'younger' generation.

All of us owe John a huge vote of thanks and our eternal gratitude for his selfless devotion to these duties — our village is truly fortunate to have someone like John living in our midst freely giving so much of his time. He has also been a great benefactor — but for John and his family we would not have the clear story windows, pulpit enhancement and, with others, the glass doors.

As with any building, there are always things that need doing that don't necessarily warrant outside help. On occasions, too numerous to mention, John has volunteered to do these jobs himself — whether it was clearing gutters, bell ringing, varnishing the floor or climbing onto the roof to investigate leaks — nothing was too much trouble, however Marion has now banned him from any further roof exploits!

Most people just expect the Church to be there with no concept of how much time and effort so many people freely and willingly give to run and maintain it for the benefit of us all. John has been at the forefront of a small group of people who have done just that for very many years, and in addition to that he was also the driving force behind the tower renovations in 1965.

His advice, historical perspective and common sense have been invaluable in PCC meetings, and there is no one in the village who knows more about our Church than John — his advice and counsel will continue to be sought for many years.

John and Marion have interestingly lived in two houses in the village whose gardens run beside the Churchyard, so I am sure we will still see John continuing to

keep a weather eye on the Church for hopefully many years to come.

Finally, John won the Gay Bulleid award this year and, in our opinion, there was no one more deserving with such a track record of public service above and beyond the call of duty.

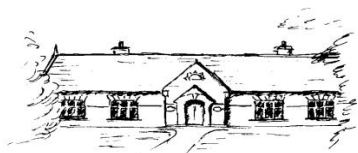
Yours sincerely,

Carolyn Cazenove and Francis Reeks (Churchwardens)

ANNUAL VILLAGE ASSEMBLY

This will take place on
Thursday, 27th May 2004 at 7.30pm
in the Village Hall.

If anyone has a topic they would like included on the Agenda, please contact Karen King on 01638 742358 or email: karen.king5@btopenworld.com



The AGM of the VHMC

The Village Hall Management Committee is holding its AGM on Wednesday 28 April at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. This is an open meeting and all are welcome.

There is one item which may be of general interest. Last year it was agreed in committee to remove the public telephone in the Village Hall unless a reduced rental was agreed with BT. BT has been unable to help. The figures speak for themselves. Those for 2002/2003 were costs of £195.34 and receipts from calls of £11.62. The bill for the last quarter was £48.44; there were only two outgoing calls at a cost of eight pence (8p). As this is an expensive and little used luxury the proposal to remove the phone will be ratified at the next VHMC meeting following the AGM. Anyone who objects to the decision could express their views at the AGM or give them to me in writing beforehand.

Janet Cooper

Secretary of the Village Hall Management Committee

CLEANER AVAILABLE
PLEASE TEL. 743164 FOR DETAILS.

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

Report of a marathon Parish Council Meeting on 11 March 2004.

We don't have to wait for the Athens Olympics to watch marathons. Yet another PC meeting finished well after bedtime, showing how well our village affairs are cared for. All those involved deserve the recently proposed Swaffham Prior Award of Merit, SPAM (not to be confused with SPAMfest, the Swaffham Prior Arts & Music Festival).

James Fitch had news of proposed boundary changes that are so hard for the average man on the no. 111 omnibus to grasp, though women and children may have no difficulty. We may become part of an enormous territory in the fastest growing district of the fastest growing county, and some reorganisation is needed. Super car parking fines in Cambridge City are coming, and guided buses on a single track between Cambridge and St. Ives may seem a little bit remote. Well, the old rail line towards the setting sun is a bit remote, but that should not stop us participating during the discussion period. Council tax will rise by 8%.



Charlotte Cane has achieved a delay to enable proper consideration of the ill-conceived plan to sell the ECDC offices. We, our children, and theirs, will all be grateful. A planning officer will meet the PC to explain new planning rules. Perhaps others would welcome a chance to join in too? A housing association wants to build 8 units on Dencora Field, but funds will not be available for 2 years, unless shared ownership is adopted. That needs time to think about; please do let the PC have your views on this. For those who are still unsure what this is all about, I can do no better than recommend my own report in the Crier of Aug/Sep 2003. The drama at Smock Mill may be resolved in 1 of 2 ways – either try to get public footpath status, needing proof of 20 years uninterrupted access, or adjacent land owners seek an injunction for grant of access. Then, any obstruction would no longer be just a civil matter. Breach of an injunction means contempt of court, police involvement, and possible detention of the culprit. Unlike the first, this option is neither difficult nor expensive to achieve. Why not both? According to our representatives, the recent Parish Forum was badly run, seemingly a cynical attempt to stifle debate on the sale of the ECDC offices, with no responsible councillors present; but ultimately it failed!

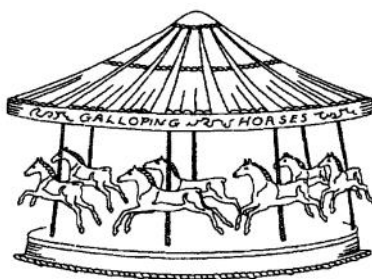
The initials PCSO at first confused me, but discussion about special police officers revealed the subject, and all agreed that the proposed numbers are woefully inadequate in rural areas. Recent events clearly demonstrate the need for an effective presence. Mole hills were not made into mountains, but all the angles were covered, and no poison will be used by the appointed contractor. Should the usual suspects need to rake the mounds of soil before action, afterwards, or not at all? Tangible relief swept around the table as the last option was adopted. The CALC subscription was deemed good value for the free legal advice we enjoy. We have 3 important wildlife sites in the parish, one near the old rail line (no plans for guided buses here). Not many people know that.

The Annual Village Assembly will happen on Thursday 27 May. Be there, so we get into double figures this time, and do let the PC have your ideas for discussion. There will soon be an interactive speed sign on Lower End at the village entry. Apparently, too many Reach cars have scratches on their door handles. Where's that grit bin? It's bin at the top of Fairview Grove and, when all the grit has bin removed for use on private front paths, it will be moved to a point half way down. Residents will then grin a bit.

The Coopers Lane dilemma seems to be resolved by evidence that access for vehicles from Greenhead Road was never permitted. Now seen by CCC as a footpath, Coopers Lane was a well-established bridleway, never more. A contemporary photograph shows a vehicle barrier built at the Greenhead Road end in 1972, with no drop kerb. This barrier was removed and replaced by the present posts and rails when the parish acquired the paved route to the cemetery gates in 1987. The timber posts are fine, but the old rails are to be replaced by new rails, properly secured. Access for agricultural purposes to fields off Coopers Lane can be obtained from the High Street end.

Frank Readhead

Reach Fair



**Bank Holiday Monday
3rd May 2004 - 12 noon**

**Grand opening by the Mayor of Cambridge
Traditional Fairground Rides**

**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 for Sale with Grand Prize Draw

Registered Charity: 280601

Prize Winners Again!



Winners: Front, from left, April Martin, Mavis Howard, Jean Osborne, Bob Jackson (chief executive of award sponsors Cambridge Building Society), Tom Francis, **Caroline Matheson** and Val Hume. Back from left, Sandra Calcraft, Neil Raha, Eric Johnston, Irene Gruby, Maurice Day, Sue Miller and Heather Patmore. Picture by Duncan Lamont from the *Cambridge Evening News* of 16 March (reproduced with thanks).

Following on from last year's win in the small village category of the Annual Village and Community Magazine Awards, sponsored by Cambridge Building Society and the Cambridge Evening News, we were runners-up this year. Not bad considering that the competition covers the whole region and attracts an entry of nearly 60 magazines and newsletters!

Our congratulations go to this year's winners in our category: *Village Voice* which covers Haddenham, Aldreth and Wilburton and who had been highly commended last year. *The Orwell Bulletin*, *Arkesden Village News* and *The Buntingford Journal* were highly commended this year.

In the large village category, the winner was *Sawston Scene*, the runner-up was *Melbourn Magazine*, and *Newport News*, *Cambourne Crier*, and *Meridian* (Swavesey's magazine) were highly commended.

The Crier was represented at the awards ceremony held at Over Community Centre on Monday 15 March by Caroline Matheson, our Editor, and Ruth Stinton,



our Distribution Manager. Caroline is shown in the *Evening News*' picture holding our trophy (and above in caricature which I was only allowed to print if I included mine as well, oh well!). See last year's April *Crier* for a picture of Ruth with the winners' trophy which is held this year by Jean Osborne.

Our success is undoubtedly due to the continuing high quality of the copy which arrives through our letterbox each month and on which the *Crier* relies totally - so keep it coming! Please! And a very big thank-you from the whole Editorial Team to all those who contribute in this and other ways to *The Crier*'s success. Many village magazines struggle to get enough copy and have to cajole people into writing, we don't, which is fortunate because the Editors would be unlikely to get round to doing so in time!

James Matheson



THE FRIENDS OF BURWELL MUSEUM
Registered Charity 10815240

PRESENT AN EVENING WITH

CANTILENA

SINGING GROUP

ON

SATURDAY 15TH MAY

AT

7.30 PM

IN

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH, BURWELL

INSTRUMENTAL INTERVAL WITH JENNY SEWELL

TICKETS ONLY £6

TO INCLUDE WINE AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
AVAILABLE FROM BURWELL POST OFFICE OR AT THE CHURCH ON THE EVENING

IN AID OF BURWELL MUSEUM FUNDS



The Miller's Music



Come and sing Mozart's Requiem on the 26th June 2004 at St Cyriac's Church Swaffham Prior.

Singers (Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass) are invited to join with an orchestra assembled for the occasion. The performance will be at 7.30pm with rehearsals on the 24th June at 7.30pm and during the day of the 26th June. Each singing place will cost £10.00 with all money raised going towards the Swaffham Prior Windmill Restoration Fund. Further information can be obtained from Jonathan Cook on 01638 741009 or Jo Stinton on 01223 290772.

Jonathan Cook
The Windmill
Swaffham Prior



- When?** 26-30 July, 9.30am – 12 noon
Where? Swaffham Prior School and Village Hall
Who? All primary school aged children currently attending, or who have attended, Swaffham Prior School, or resident in Swaffham Prior or Reach
How much? £2.50 per child/morning; £6.00 for a family/morning; subsidised places available
What? Craft, sport, music, drama, dance, trips, visitors, cookery etc
How? Playscheme is organised entirely by volunteers. We need YOUR help. The next two planning meetings will take place in the Red Lion on

21 April and 19 May, at 8.15

Please come along. The more ideas we have, the better Playscheme will be for your children.

- Note** We hope to have application forms out in the week starting 7 June. If you will not automatically receive one through Swaffham Prior School, please contact Dee on 743864. Forms should be returned by 18 June. Please note that we have been oversubscribed in previous years and we have to allocate places on a first come, first served basis.

We'd love to hear from prospective teenage helpers and anyone able to come in for an hour in the middle of the morning to help with refreshments. Please call the number

Easter Lilies

Each year we have had lilies in St Mary's Church at Easter time and, recently, many people have contributed to these in memory of a loved one.

Donations can be made anonymously or with your name and the name of your loved one. A list will then be compiled and placed in church for Easter Sunday. As a guide the Easter lilies cost £2.50 per stem last year. All contributions will be *very* welcome and will enable us to have a beautiful display.

If you would like to make a donation please put it through Sue Rust's door at 23 Greenhead Road or Ruth Scovil's door at The Oaks, Manor Farm Court, Lower End (the letterbox is in the door at the back of the house!). Please include the name of your loved one and your own unless, of course, you wish to make your gift anonymously.



Ruth Scovil

MUSIC OVER THE EASTER PERIOD

Over the forthcoming Easter long-weekend, Cambridge Voices and Ian de Massini will, once again, present a series of concerts in and around Cambridge, including our own village of Swaffham Prior, that will highlight the contrasting themes that surround these momentous days in the church year.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 9th @ 4.00pm

Cambridge Voices present their annual "Music for Holy Week" concert in St Cyriac & St Julitta's Church, Swaffham Prior, which has proved increasingly successful since its inception, some ten years ago. This year, the choir will perform Stainer's "Crucifixion", a wonderfully evocative setting of the Passion narrative that even includes audience participation in the glorious Passiontide hymns. In the first half of the concert, the choir will perform the famous "Miserere mei" by Allegri, a virtuosic setting of the "Stabat Mater" text, set for 10 solo voices, by Domenico Scarlatti, Sir John Tavener's deeply haunting "Funeral Ikos" and concluding with thy hypnotic masterpiece "Tulerunt Dominum", attributed to Josquin des Pres, depicting the very first moments of that first Easter dawn. Admission is by programme, at the door, costing £6 (no concessions).



EASTER EVE / HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 10th @ 4.00pm

Ian de Massini, Director of Cambridge Voices, will perform, from memory, the first 12 of the 24 Preludes and Fugues that make up Bach's "Well-tempered Clavier" Book 1 on the piano, again in St Cyriac & St Julitta's, Swaffham Prior. These astonishingly varied works by Bach were a deliberate statement, on the composer's part, to show the tremendous advancements he had made in keyboard virtuosity and in his breathtaking, harmonic awareness. Nowadays, this collection has come to be regarded as The Old Testament of the piano repertoire (with Beethoven's sonatas forming the complementary, New Testament). Admission is by programme, on the door, costing £6 (or you can buy a programme both for this concert and also for the next day's conclusion, when Ian performs the final 12 Preludes and Fugues in St Columba's, Cambridge, for £10).

EASTER DAY / SUNDAY, APRIL 11th @ 7.00pm

Ian de Massini performs the final 12 of the 24 Preludes and Fugues that make up Bach's "Well-tempered Clavier" Book 1, on the piano in the Cambridge church of St Columba's, Downing Street. Admission is by programme, at the door, costing £6 (or you can buy a programme for both this concert and for the one day before, in Swaffham Prior, for £10).

EASTER BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY @ 4.00pm

To bring the Easter festivities to a close, Cambridge Voices and Ian de Massini combine forces with The Orchestra of the Age of Reason and virtuoso recorder-player Michael Copley (formerly of The Academy of Ancient Music and The Cambridge Buskers) to present a concert-performance of Handel's delightfully tuneful pastoral entertainment "Acis and Galatea". For this work, Handel has provided some of his most sensual music for two flutes, two oboes, orchestra, soloists and chorus. The venue chosen is The Townley Memorial Hall in Fulbourn. Tickets cost £10, at the door, (£3 for under-16s, students and jobseekers) and includes interval refreshments.

Ian de Massini, Director of Cambridge Voices

(Tel. 0780 1234 343 or Email: iandemassini@argonet.co.uk)

Help!

We are planning a family wedding in the village on 7 August. Some of the older, infirm guests may need somewhere to put up their feet between the afternoon church ceremony and the evening reception party to follow. Others may leave their accommodation arrangements rather late. If you are willing and able to offer assistance, kindly contact us.

Frank & June Readhead
36, Lower End
tel. 744051

ELY's EEL Day Saturday 3rd April

If you have walked around Ely in the past six weeks you may have come across a few unusual pieces of art that you have not seen before and have asked yourself what on earth are they! The eel mosaic in Jubilee Gardens, the octagon of gleaves outside the Maltings, the new engraved glass entrance to Babylon Gallery, the circular bench outside Oliver Cromwell's and the beginnings of a willow hive in Cherry Park not to mention 70 circular discs set in the ground around Ely are all part of the new Eel trail which has its official launch on Saturday 3rd April.

The City has lots of recognised walks already taking in many points of interest and beauty but a partnership between East of England Development Agency, East Cambridgeshire District Council and the Ely Perspective (a body of volunteers who strive to improve the quality of life in Ely) have been working on a project to relaunch the existing City Trail to form the Eel Trail. As I am sure you are aware Ely is very proud of its connection with eels and it is thought that the name Ely is derived from the Isle of Eels when Ely was surrounded by water and marshland. Eels are still caught in the Great River Ouse although only one commercial catcher still remains, Sid Merry. Sid is a well-known character in Ely and quite a celebrity having appeared on television many times. Having lived all his life along the River Ouse as did his father and grandfather before him, Sid has always had a strong interest in river life. Every morning Sid turns out on his boat to set his nets and every evening, seven days a week he collects them in. Historically eels were part of the local staple diet as well as a valuable source of income. Clients also came from London with the popularity of jellied eels although today this is a dwindling market. Smoked eels, now considered a delicacy, can be purchased on Ely's award winning Farmers Market and dishes such as eel stew and eel pie can be found regularly on the menu of Ely's Lamb Hotel as well as a few of the other restaurants in the area.

The story of a life of an eel has been very cleverly portrayed in the five pieces of public art that you may or may not already have seen and the route of the trail is marked out by brass discs set in the ground. Elizabeth Jane Grosse was chosen as the commissioned artist for this project and has spent many hours researching eels including many conversations with our Eel expert Sid. Working with local schools the whole project has had a strong community input and this is reflected in the launch day where pupils from St Mary's School, Ely and Springmeadows are involved.

The Eel Day begins with a procession leaving from Palace Green at 11.00 am and following part of the actual trail ending in Jubilee Gardens. The procession is headed by a giant eel (Chinese dragon style) made by and involving pupils from St Mary's School. The general public are encouraged to join this procession which ends in Jubilee Gardens. In the Gardens there will be dancing, music, eel tasting, story telling, puppet show, displays and exhibitions and lots more.

For further information about the day, contact Tracey Harding, Tourism and Events Officer at East Cambridgeshire District Council on 01353 616377 or email tracey.harding@eastcambs.gov.uk.

Ely Museum

Spring 2004

Saturdays 3rd and 10th April

10.30am - 5pm

Easter Fun at Ely Museum

Join the Easter family trail at Ely Museum, find the right objects and win an Easter prize!

Suitable for children of all ages - normal admission charges apply - accompanied children free.

Tel 01353 666655 for more information

Saturday 1st May

1 - 4pm

Ask the Archaeologist

Bring along your object for a finds identification day- have you discovered a piece of pottery, flint, a coin or something else? Come and ask the experts to tell you more about your find.

Tel 01353 666655 for more information.

**Find Ely Museum on the corner of Market Street and Lynn Road
in the centre of Ely.**

Calling all 8-18 year olds.....

Godspell!



This will be more fun and hard work than you can possibly imagine — don't take our word for it, ask anyone who was involved with our 'Joseph' project!

Just keep the last two weeks of your Summer Holiday free for us — Monday, August 23rd with last performance on Sunday, September 5th — and have the time of your life. Professional direction, making new friends, mid-rehearsal –period disco, learning new skills, backstage involvement — how could you not want to be involved? Watch these pages for further information — don't make us have to come and get you!


Hilary Sage and Jeremy (not Jenny — as in last Crier, sorry, Eds) Webb



THE VILLAGE HALL JUMBLE SALE

£424 in 2003 and £408 in 2004. Why the shortfall?!! Simple. There were 27 fewer adults this year and no book dealers. In spite of this everyone did brilliantly. In line with the current fashion, targets were suggested and all were met or exceeded (apart from books which had no dealers - bad luck - not your fault.) So, all in all, a highly successful event which so many people enjoyed. One enthusiastic stall holder was overheard to say as she went home — “I just can’t wait for next year.” I think that’s what she said.

Alastair Everitt



HEALTHY LIVING
— EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE —

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday 24 March
Recital Hall, The Kings School, Ely 7.00 - 9.00pm
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - ADMISSION FREE

Healthy Living - East Cambridgeshire would like to invite you to their second AGM. All 17 of HLEC's projects will be exhibiting at the event and this is an opportunity for people to come and find out more about the Districts largest lottery funded initiative to improve healthy living.

We have guest speakers from NHS Direct and East Anglia Food Link.

HLEC will also be announcing the new community representatives for 2004/5.

For more information please contact the Healthy Living Team on 01353 616186 or visit www.hlec.org

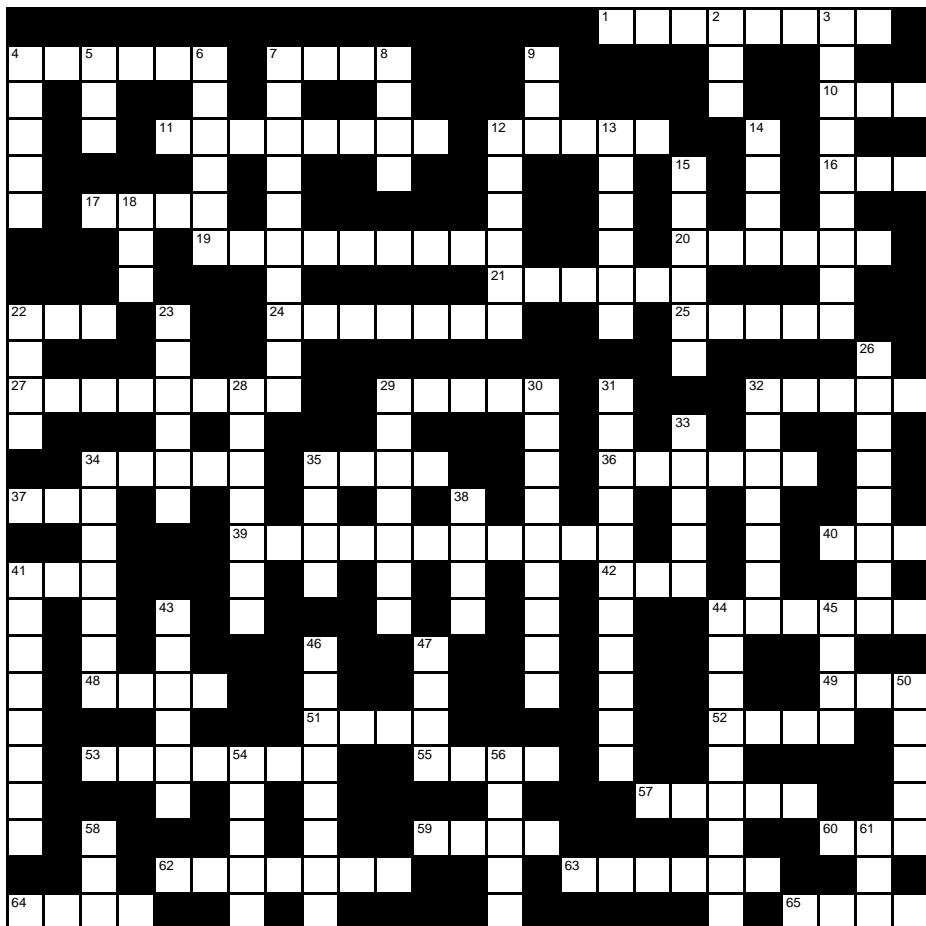
Crossword Number 10

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

NIBOR

This month's cryptic crossword has a nautical flavour. Send your answers to the editors by 14th February 2004. The first correct solution out of the hat will win a free meal at the Red Lion – See Lorraine at the pub for full details.



Name:.....

Address:.....

.....Tel:.....

Across

- 1 Silly dope with mark around 39 (4,4)
- 4 Directors get on the ship (6)
- 7 Yield to temptation and offend everybody (4)
- 10 Blade midway between gold enclosures (3)
- 11 The captain is after more expense (8)
- 12 Grab back sweetheart from boat (5)
- 16 Take public transport back to warship (3)
- 17 Vessel is right behind... (4)
- 19 ...Not left to absorb tar blend (9)
- 20 Steps taken by runner (6)
- 21 Cannon young Leonard returned to upper edge of the boat (6)
- 22 Get downwind of US general (3)
- 24 Joint used by winners of the FA cup maybe (7)
- 25 Back the returning soldier in the rowing team (5)
- 27 See great variation in cheap accommodation (8)
- 29 Flaps about Welsh and Scottish leaders consuming gin cocktail (5)
- 32 Follow path or note it (5)
- 34 Second seabird is back (5)
- 35 Nothing in the club could be junk (4)
- 36 Commercial break appears aimless (6)
- 37 A child gets love in an island race (3)
- 39 We tracked, he amended, 1 across (7,4)
- 40 Water is hard to find in Olympic events (3)

- 41 Bend forward (3)
- 42 Flipping large Mediterranean rock (3)
- 44 Falsely implicates what the snooker player needs to win (6)
- 48 Decorate ship's platform (4)
- 49 Nothing on board indicates distress (3)
- 51 Worker one is not in favour of (4)
- 52 Initially, every big buoy sinks then falls back (4)
- 53 Battles within the greater part of the rampart (7)
- 55 Drink rebel leader put in vessel (4)
- 57 Floats when you hear young men about (5)
- 59 Dramas tend to include post on ship (4)
- 60 Old chest found on old boat (3)
- 62 A new lug restored to 21 in full (7)
- 63 Rower's seat or baffle (6)
- 64 Makes profits with old Bob on the web (4)
- 65 Belongs to you, we hear, but follows erratic course (4)

Down

- 2 Pin down coppers for example (3)
- 3 Lookout for crowns set in disarray (5,4)
- 4 Get behind the Queen later (5)
- 5 Confess to pained expression before noon (3)
- 6 Vats I'd used for securing the lifeboat (6)

- 7 On board quarters for spoilt, fat creoles (10)
- 8 Cargo carried by pedalo adrift offshore (4)
- 9 Imagine being told that it may be dead (3)
- 12 Bridget goes short when the skipper is here (6)
- 13 Dry land for midnight game of golf (6)
- 14 Master a point (4)
- 15 Part of ship where a gelly might be prepared (6)
- 18 Back 4 down without hesitation (3)
- 22 Record local isthmus contents (4)
- 23 Run after exotic super ship's officer (6)
- 26 Clean bin adapted to house compass (8)
- 28 Passage that crew have access to (7)
- 29 Clothing enfolds the elements (7)
- 30 Tore atoms apart in luxury cabin (9)
- 31 Ring back; leg awkwardly placed to get raw spicy root (5,6)
- 32 Man in charge of one hundred in tender (7)
- 33 Liquor in the old days was put back a bit (5)
- 34 Head waiter takes casserole away (7)
- 35 Ray gives a smile (4)
- 38 Redhead in large sailing vessel (4)
- 41 B perhaps for ship's partition (8)
- 43 Rigging in which to stack leaflets (6)
- 44 Remove plank from part of ship's side (9)
- 45 Chaos in the dining room (4)
- 46 Clean a road drain (8)
- 47 Skinhead has joint on large boat (4)
- 50 Funnel heading south first (5)
- 54 A student one sees on his own (5)
- 56 Impaired by neglect but try us anyway (5)
- 58 Furry animal may act strangely (3)
- 61 Quarrel about stroke (3)

Solution to crossword no. 9

W	E	E	K	E	N	D	S		O	P	T	I	O	N
O		N		N		E			R		R			E
N	A	V	I	G	A	T	I	O	N		I	S	L	E
D		I		R		E			A		P			D
E		O		A		C			M	A	L	A	D	Y
R		U		V		T	I	M	E		E			
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We congratulate **Shirley Wilkins**, winner of last month's competition, who should collect her prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to the Nunns, Clarks, Dee Noyes and Hilary Sage.

Keep those entries coming!

Joanna Debenham BA(hons)

Soprano

Teacher of Singing, Music Theory and Piano

A graduate of the University of Huddersfield's excellent music department, Joanna specialised in singing and teaches it to all levels. Classically trained, she is equally at home with Musical Theatre and Classical techniques and pays particular attention to sound vocal production.

Singing at weddings also a speciality.

Telephone 01638 603142

SEASONED LOGS

FULL or HALF LOADS SUPPLIED

DELIVERED LOCALLY

TREE SURGERY & HEDGE CUTTING

01223 812625



**Reach & Swaffham Prior
Community Network**

The community broadband project serving the village now has its own Web pages describing what's available, what it costs, and so on. For further details, see www.rasp.org.uk



STAINED HUNDRED

The March Meeting was well attended to hear Ms Twigs Way talk about “John Loudon and the Histon Road Cemetery”. Even though most had never heard of him before, all enjoyed the lively and informative talk about a man who lived from 1783 to 1843, and is rated as one of the four greatest gardeners of his time. He was born in Lanarkshire, and even at an early age was a workaholic, leaving school at 14 to work in Edinburgh Nurseries, where he stayed awake two nights a week to learn as there was not enough hours in the day!

At the age of 20, he moved to London where most head gardeners were Scottish and employed others from Scotland to work with them. He wrote copiously about gardening: books, magazines and pamphlets. He had rheumatic fever which physically affected him and he later had both an arm and leg amputated, but it never stopped him writing and designing gardens. His plans for the “Lungs of London” which included large green belts around the industrial parts, were ahead of his time and he was particularly interested in the London Squares and parks and providing green spaces where the poorer people could go.

Having read “Gardening for Ladies”, he asked to meet the author and was surprised to find it was a young lady in her twenties, and at the age of 47 he married her. He sent her to be trained, and she continued to write about gardening for ladies in a magazine until she was replaced by a male author. They had one daughter Agnes.

Loudon became particularly interested in the design of cemeteries which he thought should be a place of education with all the trees named as in an arboretum and where one could learn about architecture from the tombs. He was asked to design Histon Road Cemetery and drew up plans which had an avenue of trees round the edge and a central avenue which contained over 2,000 holly trees, 114 pines, 18 cedars, 76 yews and 200 spruces. He said that multiple burials should only be allowed if there were 6 feet between the different layers, which would have meant burying the first one 24 feet under ground — not a task that many gravediggers would be willing to do! He also said that there should be no tombs above ground level, but the Committee who needed to run the cemetery at a profit did not agree to either of these proposals. In particular they needed to attract some of the middle class Dissenters who would not want to be buried in a churchyard and would want to leave their mark with an impressive tomb. The lodge stood just inside the gates, and the area nearest Histon Road was left for the growing of flowers by the lodge keeper who could thus sell them to the visitors and would not need so much in the way of wages. Loudon even suggested that this area could be sold off for housing at some future date. The central chapel was taken down by the council soon after WW II.

The next meeting is on April 21st when Mrs Donna Martin will talk about “Soham and its Abbey”.

Peggy Day



WI Notes

The A.G.M of the W.I followed the usual pattern and the business was dealt with in an efficient manner by the President, Par Airey. The only major change was that some members of the committee resigned in order to keep the number to seven with an option to add to it as and when necessary.

Pat then gave us an illustrated talk about her holiday to Antarctica. Pat never goes on ordinary 'touristy' holidays, they are always something completely different and this one was no exception. To see great blocks of ice floating past the ship was absolutely amazing and somewhat frightening. Rather Pat than me! But the penguins were lovely.

On Monday 19th April we are hoping to have a guided walk around Newmarket.

Betty Prime



VILLAGE GARDENERS

Our talk this month was given by Mr John Drake on the Ottoman Gardens of Istanbul. He had been asked by the Getty foundation to research into the history of the gardens, as a forerunner to the possible restoration of the few that remain. This is one of the first Muslim projects that the foundation has ever funded.

The Ottomans arrived in 1470 in Istanbul by fairly unconventional means. The wealth of the Sultans was such that they developed the amazing gardens and palaces for their own use. It was clear from the research that Mr Drake had done, that whilst flowers in profusion were very important to them, their gardens were very formal arrangements: "Kiosko" (large summer houses) , lawns, lakes, caged birds and tall slender cypress trees. The flowers, especially the tulips, were used especially as decoration on fabrics, palace interiors, engravings and floor coverings.

The sultans were responsible for the upkeep of Mecca and provided all the floral displays for the festivals. Rose, carnations, lilies, narcissi, hyacinths, came from all parts of their empire, and florists in the Middle Ages were clearly very important people.

By the early to mid 19th Century, the Sultans had built 60 palaces and gardens around the Bosphorus (Jopkapi probably being the most famous) — all providing separate private gardens for the Sultan and his entourage: his harem and lastly for the foreign visitors.

The Ottomans, like many other cultures at the time, were being strongly influenced by foreign plants and planting and so their historical garden formality began to change — the Sultan at the time of Victoria's golden jubilee sent her 30,000 photos of the palaces and gardens, bound in a red leather album, as a present! (they are on Microfiche at the British Library).

After WW1 and the demise of the Ottomans, many gardens became very neglected, and sadly, many have now disappeared under roads and houses.

In 1960, the Professor of Archaeology at the University in Istanbul started recording the Ottoman gardens that remained and his students sketched the gardens and built models of them as the original designers, centuries before had done.

In 1983, the National Palaces held a conference at which was discussed the opening of the gardens for the first time to the general public. This happened and now foreign advisors like Mr Drake work with the gardeners of the palaces, in the hope that one day historically sensitive restoration will happen.

Earthquake damage and the huge costs of repair preoccupy the government, and has affected the National Palace Staff in two very different ways. Salt water sadly now has got into the soil of the gardens along the coast, slowly killing plants and trees, but in other parts, fascinating garden archaeology has been revealed.

Next Meeting on Tuesday, 20th April, when Janet Hall from Reach will talk about Spring Bulbs.

Notes from the Parish Council March Meeting

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

Minutes of last meeting: These were agreed.

Reports: Councillor Fitch & Councillor Cane reported to the meeting.

Matters Arising:

- a) *Parish Forum – report:* Trevor Jones reported on this meeting.
- b) *PCSO meeting, 18/2/04 – report:* The Clerk reported on this meeting
- c) *Recreation Ground – mole hills:* A contractor has been appointed to deal with this problem using traps only. The Clerk awaits confirmation of when the work will be carried out.

Subscriptions: CALC (*The Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils*) & The Wildlife Trusts – these were agreed.

Meeting dates for 2004/05: These were agreed.

Annual Village Assembly: The date for this will be the **27th May 2004**. An agenda will be agreed at the next Parish Council meeting.

Additional Interactive Speed Sign – Lower End: CCC had contacted the Clerk to ask if the village would like an additional sign. A quick decision was needed on this so that the funds could be allocated before the end of this financial year. The meeting agreed that CCC's offer should be accepted. The sign will be located to help slow the traffic coming into the village from Reach and will be the same as the signs already in place on Mill Hill.

Relocation of Grit Bin – Fairview Grove: Several suggestions for this had been received. It was agreed that the bin at the top of Fairview Grove should be moved to approximately mid-way to serve both ends of Fairview Grove.

Correspondence Received: This was reported to the meeting.

Accounts for payment: These were agreed.

Planning Applications:

Gant Farm – *Proposed new dwelling.* The Clerk was asked to clarify further this application with ECDC Planning.

Swabian House, 5 Lower End – *Two storey extension to rear.* There were no objections to this application.

Any Other Business:

Grasscutting – K H Services is to be asked to carry out the final cut of the 2003/04 season during the last week in March, taking care to avoid the flowers in verges and at the cemetery.

Coopers Lane – after further investigation into the Parish files and photographs received for information from a resident, it was confirmed that this lane is a bridleway/footpath and historically was fenced off at the Green Head Road entrance but when the easement to the Cemetery gates was granted by CCC and purchased by the Parish Council, the barrier was moved into its current position. In light of this, the barrier is to be repaired and fixed.

Open Question Time: There were no questions.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on the 8th April 2004 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Karen King, Clerk of the Parish Council

Tel: 01638 742358. Email: karen.king5@btopenworld.com

Note: *A copy of the signed & dated minutes of all Parish Council meetings are displayed on the Parish Council noticeboard outside the Village Hall for public view.*

SWAFFHAM PRIOR VILLAGE HALL

I, Janet Cooper, hereby give notice that an application has been made for a public entertainment licence at the Village Hall. Anyone who wishes to make observations about this application should write to:-

Stephen Clements,
Executive Director (Environmental Services),
East Cambs. District Council,
The Grange,
Nutholt Lane,
Ely,
Cambs., CB8 4PL.



Green Waste recycling collections have come to Swaffham Prior, Swaffham Bulbeck and Reach. You should have received your bag in early March and the first collection was on 23rd March. The green waste is collected every fortnight along with your paper in the 'black box' and washed tins and bottles in separate bags. The April collections are on Tuesday 6th and Thursday 22nd. When you put your bag of green waste out you will get a new bag. If you need more bags, they can be bought from Swaffham Bulbeck shop for 50p or you can use a cardboard box. You can put green garden waste (but not thick branches or logs), vegetable peelings, cut flowers, cardboard and Yellow Pages in the Green Waste sack.

Last month I told you that at the Policy and Resources Committee in February 5 of the 9 members of the committee decided to move the Council's offices to rented offices on Lancaster Way Business Park, near Witchford and demolish the existing offices. I am delighted to tell you that full council on 24th February agreed to my motion putting the decision on hold while there was full consultation, and to allow for more options to be considered. I hope we can now find a more cost effective way of improving the Council's offices.

East Cambs have increased our share of the Council Tax by 10 pence a week for a Band D property to £112.65. The County is charging £813.24 (an increase of £1.02 per week), the Police are charging £129.33 (an increase of 31p per week), the Fire Authority are charging £45.99 (an increase of 17p per week) and your Parish Council is charging £33.76 (a decrease of 7p from last year). This makes the total bill for a Band D house in Swaffham Prior £1,134.97 (an increase of 8% on last year). For a Band A house the total charge is £756.65, just £75.10 of this is for East Cambs, and for a Band H the total charge is £2,269.94, just £225.30 of this is for East Cambs. East Cambs collects the money for all of these authorities, so it can be difficult to be sure how much of what you pay goes to which authority. For each pound that you pay, 72 pence goes to the County Council, 11 pence goes to the Police, 10 pence is kept by East Cambs, 4 pence goes to the fire authority and 3 pence goes to the Parish Council.

I have resigned as the District Councillor for The Swaffhams. I have accepted promotion to a different job, which means commuting to London. We have therefore decided to move to Oxfordshire from where the commuting will be easier and which is closer to the children's grandparents. I have decided to resign now rather than simply keeping the seat until we move because I know that my input and availability would be much more limited. It has not been an easy decision to make. I have enjoyed working with your Parish Council and the people of Swaffham Prior, Reach and Swaffham Bulbeck. And it has been a great honour to represent you on the Council.

Charlotte Cane



COUNTY COUNCIL NOTES MID MARCH 2004

COUNTY ELECTORAL BOUNDARY CHANGES LIKELY

The Boundary Committee for England is suggesting ten extra Cambridgeshire Councillors. The need for more members has become urgent as the population of Cambridgeshire leaps ahead holding the record as the fastest growing county in the UK. In East Cambs. there are twenty thousand more people since 1981 — an increase of over a third. As a consequence an additional electoral Division is likely to be made within East Cambs. To make space boundaries will have to be changed.

What is now recommended by the Commission is that the Burwell/Bottisham Division will be split so that Burwell, the Swaffhams and Reach will stand on their own as one, while Bottisham and Lode will join with all the other villages south of Newmarket within East Cambs. as another. Whereas Burwell/Swaffhams makes sense, the rest of the villages from Bottisham to Ashley and all in between seems to be a very bulky and cumbersome territory. The shape reminds one of a soup ladle with Lode, Bottisham, Brinkley, Burrough Green and Westley as the handle and all the other villages south of Newmarket form the scoop! North of Newmarket all the villages and towns of East Cambs. will be divided into the seven remaining County Divisions.

Should these suggestions be confirmed, probably in September, then the next County Election of 2005 will be fought on the new boundaries.

LIBRARY SERVICES

You will remember that during the campaign to save Bottisham Library (and 9 others) last year, the cabinet member promised extra money would be invested in the remaining library services. The original plan was to spend 2 million pounds over the next 3 years to employ more staff and increase opening hours. The cabinet has now found it necessary to *cut* the intended investment by £50,000 for the year 2004/5 because of the financial stringency we shall experience this coming year. The latest promise is to put back this money when more funds become available (2005 onwards?).

I always dislike broken promises and wish the County administration hadn't been so "bullish" in the first place. Raising people's expectations is only justified if you know you can carry out the commitment.

Meanwhile, **Bottisham Library** is flourishing under the new arrangements, and so far as I am aware, there is no threat to **Burwell Library** or cuts to the other villages' mobile service.

James Fitch

Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

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

From JOHN MORRILL, Deacon in the Catholic Parish of Newmarket and surrounding area (01223 811822).

My apologies that my column has been conspicuous by its absence in the past few months. Frances and/or I are away most weekends because both my parents are surrendering to their ageing bodies, and in the case of my father, to the terrors of dementia. Many others, especially in our age group have had to give themselves even more single-mindedly to their parents, and they will know what we are going through. But it is forcing me to take a break from all but the most essential things, and sadly this column is a victim of that. It is time for me to practice what I have so long preached about the dignity of every human person from conception to death; and it is very hard to keep faith with that.

Life in Newmarket goes on. Let me just tell you about our Holy Week.

- + There is a reconciliation service in Newmarket on Friday 2 April at 7:30pm
- + Masses as usual on Palm Sunday (Saturday 6:30pm and Sunday 10:30 in Newmarket, Sunday at 9am in Kirtling)
- + A Seder Meal (re-enactment of the Jewish Passover) in the Church Hall at 7:30pm on Mon 5 April
- + Chrism Mass in the Cathedral on Wednesday 7 April (coach from the Church in Newmarket at 5:15 pm)
- + Daily Office (Morning Prayer) on Thursday 8, Friday 9 and Saturday 10 April at 10am
- + Mass of the Last Supper on Thursday 8 April at 7:30
- + Churches Together Procession of Witness on Good Friday (meet outside the Rutland Arms at 10:45
- + Good Friday Liturgy (Newmarket 3pm)
- + Stations of the Cross (Newmarket 7:30pm)
- + Mass of the Easter Vigil (Newmarket, Sat 10th April) at 8:30pm
- + Easter Day Masses at Kirtling (9am) and Newmarket (10:30am)

So plenty to remind you that Easter matters!

More anon!

ANGLESEY CHRISTIANS TOGETHER

EASTER SERVICES 2004

We offer a warm welcome to everyone as we celebrate Easter.

8th April Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Holy Communion Holy Trinity Bottisham
 Holy Communion St. Mary's Swaffham Bulbeck

9th April Good Friday

Good Friday Pilgrimage (join us to walk all or part of the pilgrimage) refreshments served at Lode Chapel and St. Mary's Swaffham Prior. Arrival times at each Church are as follows:

8.00am St. Mary's Quay
9.00am Holy Trinity Bottisham
10.00am Lode Chapel
11.30am St. Mary's Swaffham Bulbeck
12.30pm St. Mary's Swaffham Prior

Other Services

10.00am Swaffham Bulbeck Free Church. Commercial End.

Saturday 10th April

8.30pm Easter Saturday Vigil and Service of Light at St James, Lode

11th April Easter Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) at St. Mary's Swaffham Prior
9.00am Roman Catholic Easter Day Mass at Holy Trinity Bottisham
9.30am Holy Communion at St. James Lode
 Family Communion at St. Mary's Quay
 Holy Communion at St. Mary's Swaffham Bulbeck
10.30am All Age Family Service at Bottisham Primary School.
 Led by Lode Chapel.
11.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Bottisham.
 Family Communion at St. Mary's Swaffham Prior.
 Swaffham Bulbeck Free Church. Commercial End.
6.00pm Evening service at Lode Chapel.

Anglesey Christians Together represent churches of different denominations in the five villages of Quay, Bottisham, Lode, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior working together in unity.

Revd David Lewis



Church of England Services

April 2004

	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior	ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck	Bottisham
Sun 4 Palm Sunday	11:00am Holy Communion	8:00am Holy Communion [†] 9:30am Family Service	11:00am Holy Communion
For Other Holy Week Services See The Previous Page			
Sun 11 Easter Day	8:00am Holy Communion [†] 11:00am Family Communion	9:30am Holy Communion	11:00am Holy Communion
Sun 18	11:00am Holy Communion	9:30am Village Communion	11:00am Holy Communion
Sun 25	11:00am Matins	9:30am Holy Communion	8:00am Holy Communion [†] 11:00am Family Service

PCC News

The revision of the Church Electoral roll is now complete. Grateful thanks to Barbara Dennis.

The Bulb Walk and Coffee morning was brilliant. A lovely change to see people, and incidentally raise a good deal of money, in this instance, nearly £400. A lot of work, effort and good will help, and especial thanks to Rosalind Wood for opening her house.

The Annual Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 30th, 7.15 pm for 7.30pm.

Please ring David Lewis if you would like a visit, or whatever 01223 812367.

Tricia Harrison

Dear Friends,

*Tw'as Easter Sunday. The full-blossomed trees
Filled all the air with fragrance and with joy.*

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)

April is one of my most favourite months, full of new life and new hope. A hope that springs from Easter. The Christian faith is a faith of hope, a hope that is summed up in the glory of the resurrection.

In about the year 1930, the Communist leader Bukharin journeyed from Moscow to Kiev. His mission was to address a huge assembly. His subject was atheism. For a solid hour he aimed his heavy artillery at Christianity, hurling argument and ridicule. At last he was finished and viewed what seemed to be the smouldering ashes of men's faith. "Are there any questions?" Bukharin demanded. A solitary man arose and asked permission to speak. He mounted the platform and moved close to the Communist. The audience was breathlessly silent as the man surveyed them first to the right, then to the left. At last he shouted the ancient Orthodox greeting, "CHRIST IS RISEN!" The vast assembly arose as one man and the response came crashing like the sound of an avalanche, "HE IS RISEN INDEED!"

Many people find it hard to come to terms with the Resurrection of our Lord. It seems to them one miracle too far. Yet, the promise of the resurrection was especially comforting to a woman named Frieda Barkman after her 15-year-old foster son, Vernon, was killed in an accident. Afraid that he would soon be forgotten by most of his friends, she was writing feverishly, hoping she could in some way help to keep alive the memory of her son. Then suddenly she realized that she did not need to do this. Vernon was still alive. He was not out of existence. He and all his Christian loved ones and friends would meet again. How did she know? Here is her answer: "Because of Easter. Because at our last family devotions he had prayed, "Thank you, God, that I am Your son."

As William and Gloria Gaither so beautifully put it:

*Because he lives I can face tomorrow,
Because he lives all fear is gone.
Because I know he holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because he lives.*

The miracle of that first Easter is a wonderful sign of hope to us all. It is a sign that Christ has triumphed over the grave, and has fulfilled all that he came in to the world to achieve.

So, as we greet the Easter dawn once again, let us fill our hearts with joy and thanksgiving at the wonderful truth of the resurrection and all that it stands for. Let us rejoice in faith and hope, full of the knowledge that, as that ancient Easter greeting proclaims: "CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!"

May God bless you all,

David

Dates for Your Diary - April 2004

Sat	3	Moveable Feast, 7pm Ely's Eel Day Easter Fun at Ely Museum, 10.30—5pm
Thu	8	7.30, VH, PC Meeting
Fri	9	Good Friday Cambridge Voices, St Cyriacs, 4pm
Sat	10	Well Tempered Clavier, Ian de Messini, St Cyriacs, 4pm Easter Fun at Ely Museum, 10.30—5pm
Sun	11	Easter Day Well Tempered Clavier, Ian de Messini, St Columbus, Cambridge, 7pm
Mon	12	4pm Memorial Hall, Fulbourn, Acis & Galatea, Cambridge Voices 1
Tue	13	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm
Wed	14	Crier Copy Deadline
Mon	19	WI Guided Walk round Newmarket
Tue	20	8pm, Village Gardeners, VH, Spring Bulbs.
Wed	21	Staine Hundred, BVC, 8pm
Tues	27	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm
Wed	28	Village Hall AGM, 8pm
May	3	Reach Fair
May	27	Annual Village Meeting

Weekly Events

Sun		11am, Boules, Village Hall Car park
Tue		2.30-4pm Baby & Toddler Group, Village Hall Jamsing, 10-10.45 (0-18mnths), 11-11.45 (18-38mnths), Village Hall Water Colour For Beginners, 1- 4pm Village Hall 7-8.30pm, Youth Club
Wed		Cubs, Village School, 6pm-8pm. Scouts, 7.45-9.15, School
Thu		Messy Play, 2.30-3.15, Village Hall 2.30-4.30pm Teas Village Hall 7-8.30pm Karate, Village Hall 7-10pm, Youth Club