

The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXX I Number 4 April 2007

Editorial

The Easter edition, and readers can look forward to an action-packed *Crier*, although our International Edition might have to be a trimmed down: 40 pages incurs a stonking postage-cost hike and we're not paying that!

This month saw the village breath a collective sigh of relief, not to mention break Out into wild celebrations (did some people spend all weekend in the Pub?) as, in the wake of the Lorraine and Dave's shock departure from the Red Lion for pastures new, it rapidly became clear that it will indeed be "business as usual" at the Lion. Read all about new managers Michelle and Dave in this month's issue: they are doing a fine job.

April sees the Crier become truly international, as our new Washington Correspondent Barb Mitchell contributes her first Letter from America, and also



Contact Ruth Scovill quickly for those Lilies

trouble brewing on our international borders: readers will note that Bulbeck are beginning to wonder about Prior's expansionist foreign policy — contact the Beacon (s w a f f h a m . b u l b e c k @virgin.net) to put them right.

In a "senior moment" this month. I could not remember what year it was, so consulted last month's Crier: the editorial was dated 2005. Church Services 2006 and the cover 2007., good guesses all but which to of them, choose? Many apologies for the unintentional omission of the annual Easter Lilies in that edition; get in touch with Ruth Scovill auickly participate.

Finally, don't forget to sponsor brave Bundle and a w o r d f o r RED2GREENHOUSE (see their ad), purveyors of the most excellent pickled onions ever in the Eds' opinion (spices are augmented with dried chillis, coriander and so forth). They operate from BVC, so you can order via urchin. Happy Easter All!



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Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: The Gravestone of Eliza Driver by Thomas Newbolt



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors.

BURWELL TIGERS UPDATE

In response to Steve Kent-Phillips letter in the last edition of The Crier I would firstly like to thank him for his kind words of support but would also like to allay anyone's fears that Tigers were discouraged by the turn out at the Tigers presentation at the Village Hall.

To the contrary, the club were pleased with the turn out and the support we received on the night. We got the chance to answer a number of questions and

hopefully put to rest some of the worries some people had about the development.

To be honest, due to the slow progress of securing the lease due to legal issues I can understand why people would not want to venture out on a cold, wet February night for a project they were not sure would happen! It is now our job to prove to your readers our dream will become reality! Sooner rather then later too!

et dd ligers F.C

Work has started with the ditches being cleared, undergrowth cut back and the rubbish being cleared up

too. Newmarket Plant Hire has supplied the manpower and the machinery to start the work and in return they will have advertising at the new ground when it's complete. Easter weekend will be a busy weekend when a lot more clearing up will be done.

We have received planning permission for the project and big thanks for that goes to Frank Redhead for all the work he has done for us with this. This now allows us to push on with the funding applications which obviously are key to the whole project and it is a lot of hard work. We have left no stone unturned and have sought a lot of advice. Meeting after meeting with experts in different fields is tiring and time consuming but as a club we have decided that its important to put the work in now and get it right. Other clubs have tried to cut corners and are now paying the price.

The first grant applications have been submitted and now we have to wait whilst they are processed, so do not panic if you do not see a lot of action as we have to wait for the money. We have to say what the grants are for in the applications and any work can not be carried out until we get the ok otherwise grants become 'retrospective' and will be turned down. When work begins it will happen quickly.

We have divided the project up into three stages.1- Site Security.2 - Car parking and pitches.3 - The pavilion will then finalise the development!

It will happen and as people see real progress I'm sure more people would like to offer help. Feel free to contact Tigers via the Tigers website – www.burwelltigers.co.uk.

Once again I would like to thank everyone for the support we have had so far and to the Crier for helping us get our message across.

Let us not forget the reason for this project. The children. We want as many kids to play football as possible. Boys and girls. If you are interested please contact us.

Thanks again

Steve O'Rourke Burwell Tigers F.C.

Dear Editors

Who is at Fault?

Mr K-P doesn't know much about the village if he thinks a *Crier* reporter turns up at every meeting. Most clubs and societies are self-help and do not thrash around trying to find someone to blame for totally inadequate publicity.

Where were the posters, where was the advance publicity, how many phone calls were made, how much effort was put in to attracting people? Mr K-P mentions he had three people from the two committees on which he sits, a few from *The Red Lion* where he drinks, a couple of neighbours, together with the PC Clerk and her husband. That didn't take much effort and wasn't much of an outreach either especially from someone who claims to know what 99.99% of the village think. I suggest he just talks to someone organizing Church events to know how to advertise.

Sadly, even if Mr K-P had advertised effectively the results may not have been much better—as people who organise meetings/events often find. Does Mr K-P go to events/meetings in which he has no or little interest?

But it wasn't just the Crier which had its knuckles rapped. There was also a moan "that nobody from the youth club, school. church (any of them), cubs (at any level), Village Hall committee or PTA attended, despite the oft-stated aim (in the Crier) of the Tigers to contribute (for free) the facilities available to those groups." Was the Crier really so supportive - and did I hear a very faint teeny weeny thanks? *And* why were the Gardening Club and the WI, let alone the Quilters and Tea Club, left out for not doing their bit?

While Burwell Tigers may have moved to Swaffham Prior I understood it is a facility for the whole area and one wonders whether there has been any coverage in the magazines of Reach, Burwell, Bulbeck, Bottisham and Lode. And also what support have they had from these villages? Maybe this will be revealed in the first 'Tigers Diary' as people (maybe not 99.99%) would really like to know.

Alastair Everitt

Dear Editors.

Free Speech and Participation

Whoa, fellers - before you go giving long-running absurdity and pointless antagonism a thumping, how about picking on a decent-sized target and taking out *The Archers?* - then I wouldn't have to turn Radio 4 off at 7.02pm every day. Of course what I wrote was ridiculous. In the interests of balance, I have responded to – always responded rather than instigated – unlikely arguments, with more unlikely

ones.

I took arguments that are used about Shakespeare and follow them down to their logically bonkers conclusions. I also took the ways people in Shakespeare's time who thought they were clever (and possibly they thought they were big, and maybe even thought themselves funny sometimes) would use word devices to hide meanings in their writing. Those were genuine tricks, we know they used them: I followed them down too, to equally ludicrous conclusions. (They liked puns, too, but even I have standards to uphold).

It was a simple point, really – if you construct your own argument to support your own point of view, it becomes personal and you can convince yourself of anything you want to. That's not so unlikely: there are people who believe the moon landings didn't take place, and have found all the evidence they need. There are plenty more mad ideas where that kind of thinking came from: Oswald didn't shoot Kennedy, Elvis isn't dead, and there was enough proof that there were Weapons of Mass Destruction in Iraq for an invasion, to name a few.

I have revelations for you all. It will probably mean the end of dialogue on this subject, but heck, that's what you want.

First, I don't care really who wrote Shakespeare's plays. I wrote that years ago, but perhaps you didn't notice.

Second: Mr Everitt and I are not mortal enemies, except on paper. Last time we bumped into one another we had a cheerful chat about it all. Having said that, I would volunteer for duel – as a fundraising event for the church or similar worthy cause, just as I suggested in my previous missive, it wasn't all rubbish like you thought it was – but I'm not going to put my paper opponent on the spot by asking him to say the same; in any case, the village 'do' always falls on a Saturday when I'm away on an examination meeting so that's out, anyway.

Argument and counter-argument is the basis for both our judicial system and our governmental decision-making process. A bit more participation by all would increase the quality of democracy and invigorate our culture, say our political leaders (except that they don't want you to challenge their arguments, they want you to validate them by voting).

Moreover, I have followed a dispute in the *Crier* not so long back, incomprehensible to me because I was not involved. At least Mr E & I laid out our arguments for the consideration of others. Nobody had any obligation to read what we wrote anyway. We filled a bit of space that otherwise would've been blank. We didn't bump anyone else off a page. Why fret?

So here's to you, fellers: participate more! You contribute more to the *Crier, and I for one will* happily write less. But if I don't see you all getting those articles in, I'll be back....

Mark Lewinski

PS Who said 'Those who stand for nothing fall for anything'? At least we stood, me & Mr E. Let's hear some more voices with something to say.

The Village Feast

ROLL UP! ROLL UP!

The Date of the Village Feast has Changed It will Now be Held

on

Saturday, 12 May

This will now allow everyone to attend especially those who would have missed it because of the FA Cup Final

See Page 8 for the Details

Easter Lilies

ach 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

NOT From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

Well, no reporter turned up for the March meeting. As I was being away it was arranged that Mark Lewinski should report and even though it was a very busy time of term he agreed to help out. Because of the – shall I say "spirited"

- letters in the March *Crier this could* have been an editorial coup. What fun, with the poacher turned gamekeeper. Mr L thought otherwise, feeling that anything he might happen to write could be construed as being a little personal.

This is a pity because I for one was looking forward to reading some other person's report. So, Mr Doe – you write a very amusing article, you are not short of a word or two, you have just contributed some important new information on the Bard's knowledge of fairy

culture – why don't you write the occasional report? Please think about it and let me know. This invitation goes out to everyone.

As there is a little spare space for this report I will backtrack on an item which turned up at the December meeting and which was not covered because of space. The CCC has a policy on road signs for community or charity events and it has made some recent changes which are shown in bold below:-

Signs should not exceed 0.5 sq. metres in area, should not be erected for more than 7 days before the event or remain in place for more than 48 hours afterwards. The signs should be erected within the village or town/city neighbourhood where the event is taking place. Normally, no more than three signs should be erected per event.

Organisers of community events should inform their local highways divisional office at least 2 weeks before erecting any temporary signs.

Steve Kent-Phillips who kindly erects the signs said at the meeting that he conforms to all the above regulations so it now up to the organizers to inform the highways divisional office and it seems sensible to send them through all at one go. No address was given so you may like to email Louise Collier on louise.collier@cambridgeshire.gov.uk for the details.

Alastair Everitt

Become a PARISH COUNCILLOR

Thursday, 3rd MAY 2007

This the date for the Next Parish Council Elections

If you are over 18 and have a few hours free each month you could help make a difference in your community.

To find out how you can be involved contact your Parish Clerk, Karen King, on 01638 742358

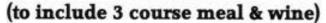


28th April 2007 🗸 7.00 pm



TICKETS

£15.00



available from

Janet Willmott (01638) 743472

(not later than 21st April please)

Proceeds to St Mary's Church

SID'S TOD TIDS

NO. 2

"The Vest is Best" for cold kidneys

"I wear mine all year round" confided Sid

The Village Feast 2006 Saturday 12 May at 2.00 pm

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

Maypole Dancing *Bouncy Castle* *Can Shy*
Bowls *Children's Play Area* *Lucky Dip*
Egg Throwing *Raffle*

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

Stalls Galore

Bottle Stall, Cakes and Preserves, Books, Plants Gifts and Collectibles and more.....

Admission 30p. Children Free

Your Feast help is needed....

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

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

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

Thanking you for your usual generous support



BRYOLOGISTS INVADE THE VILLAGE

ON THE MORNING of Saturday 18 March I glanced across the wall and saw two figures spread-eagled on the churchyard steps. Neither moved. Were they ill? Unlikely for both to be afflicted at the same time. Were they drunk? Unlikely at that time of day. I went forward to help and one stirred. The other remained prone. Could it be murder? Then the other twitched

and raised himself. They were Bryologists, and I became aware of several other weird men surrounding our churches.

This was the Cambridgeshire Bryophtye Group recording all the different mosses throughout Cambridgeshire. What had glued these two to the steps of St Mary's were the Orthotrichum Cupulatum and the Orthotrichum Anomalum.

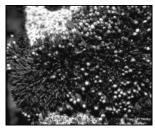
Usually easily distinguishable, on that Saturday there was a clear problem of identification. But they stuck at it, appeared to go away happy, and were very jolly people who seemed to be a cross between Three Men in a Boat and the Livingstone type characters who opened up Africa.

A few facts. Mosses and liverworts belong to a group of plants known as Bryophytes. There are clear differences between the two. World wide the number of species of mosses and liverworts has been



estimated at around 14-15,000, though no-one knows for sure. Just over 1,000 occur in Britain, (289 species of liverwort and 745 species, sub-species and varieties of moss). A large proportion of the British species occur in Wales with 76% occurring in North Wales alone.

Alastair Everitt



Orthotrichum Cupulatum?



Orthotrichum Anomalum?



Which is it?

Bulbeck Throws Down the Gauntlet

Last month's County Council "Commando Raid" on our signs did not go unremarked in our neighbouring village. This month we reprint a portion of Tim Burton's Bulbeck Beacon Editorial.

THIS MONTH SEES US NEARER SWAFFHAM PRIOR THAN AT ANY TIME IN OUR HISTORY. For those who have not observed the new road signs at the end of Fen Lane, the County Council has now decreed that the highway from there onwards should bear the name High Street, Swaffham Prior. This puts the parish boundary of our sister village at least 200 yards south of the one marked on my Ordnance Survey map, which aligns it with the hedgerow alongside the grounds of Swaffham Prior Hall. Was the Council 'put up' to this by our northern neighbours? If so, may we see the wraith of good Hugh de Bolebec, broadsword in hand, striding north to combat that of Vincent, Prior of Elv.

But that's not the worst of it. Our own village has been renamed 'Swaffam' on the southern sign, turning our noble Swabian name into something more appropriate on a sachet of upholstery cleaner. I hope our



Bulbeck's Sir Hugh de Bolebec may be better known to Crier readers as ancestor of the "real Shakespeare"....

Parish Council can rise to this double slight, on our lands and on our venerable name.

Tim Burton



For the benefit of the dyslexically challenged, the reason this sign was pictured in last month's *Crier* is because there is something wrong. *Green Bank Road, Swaffam Bulbeck*, um.... what could it be?

CAMBRIDGE V·O·I·C·E·S

with the Orchestra of the Age of Reason

Directed from the keyboard by lan de Massini

Good Friday 6th April 2007 at 5pm St Columba's United Reformed Church Downing Street, Cambridge

Audience participation in the Passiontide Chorales

Tickets £8 at the door

by kind Permission of the Churches Conservation Trust

Red Lion Renewal? - No, just Business As Usual...

In which Michelle and Josh tell how they very recently came to be running our local....

Michelle: we used to look after it for Dave & Lorraine while they were on holiday for...what, the last three years? I used to do a few shifts a week when I was here because I lived with Claire and Mick Brooks in Lower End until we bought our house about two years ago. So I knew Dave and Lorraine, who let us know that they were leaving, and we said we'd be interested in taking it. It was all very quick – we didn't really have much time to think about it! (laughs). I've got a personal licence, which I did when I was here with Lorraine, because to be a holiday cover I had to be a licence holder. You have to learn the law, and all the ins and outs...then a two-part exam. We know all the regulars and they know us – so it is quite nice. After the interview process, we got a call. As long as we could take it within a week, it was ours.

Josh: from us finding out that Lorraine was leaving and us moving in was about two and a half weeks...all very quick.

Michelle: It's long hours, but we've enjoyed every minute of our first few weeks.

Josh: It's a lot of hard work. People think you open at twelve, shut at three; open at six, close at midnight, but it's not like that at all. You get down here at 8.30, and you don't stop until one o'clock, when everybody's gone home. You might get an hour's sit down – but there's the potatoes to do, salads to sort out for tomorrow. There's never any time when you say, we've got nothing to do. There's deliveries coming... and I'm not here all the time. I work at Marshall's Aerospace - I'm an aeronautical engineer, on the manufacturing side. Michelle's in charge - I'm just the deputy!

I'm from Bottisham – went to school there straight to Marshall's, did my four-year apprenticeship there, and just carried on. I'm still there. My grandma and grandad, Jeff and Annie Haynes, owned the Sun and Gate, in Longmeadow. There were two pubs - the Sun, and next to it was the Gate, but one closed and they merged so it was the Sun and Gate when my grandad had it. But my dad and my auntie, they grew up there, and the house is still there, and my dad's got his business next door. My grandad would have liked to have seen us in here, and come over here for a drink.

Michelle: I'm from Chatteris originally – it's a bit like Burwell, with a few more shops. Or Soham. Nobody famous comes from Chatteris – except Dave 'Boy' Green, the boxer! Know him well—he went to school with my mum. I worked at Addenbrookes, and lodged in Swaffham Prior when I worked at the hospital.

Josh: We knew each other from bowling, then I was playing in the cup final at Cambridge. We had a few drinks afterwards and got chatting...that was three years ago.

Michelle: I think we first got the idea of running a pub when we first looked after

it for Lorraine – something different, we both enjoyed it. A completely different experience.

Michelle: I was an anatomical pathology technologist. It involves post-mortems. Histological work on children. Histology is the study of tissues and diseases. So this to me was completely new. I don't think people realised I had another job when I was here. I was just...here! (laughs).

Josh: We looked after it together purely because you worked here. We thought, okay, we'll do that! We never imagined running it. But we said, if we ever run a pub, we'd love it to be this one. And when it came up, we decided to go for it.

"You get the phone ring, funny little noises, funny little things down in the cellar – everyone says, oh, that's just Norman."

Michelle: and it's a lovely pub. A lovely village. We love it.

Josh: We like the area, my family's around, friends are here. When they asked us if we'd be prepared to run one of their other pubs we said it was this or nothing. Laid it out to them straight, and they appreciated that. We did pretty much everything we do now, but before it was: there's the rota, get on with it. It's a good pub, good reputation, Lorraine and Dave worked hard and brought the pub right up, so – if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

If people walk in and don't notice any change, that's ideal. Without people it's just an empty building! They're behind us 100%. Pam Waters, she's helped us out delivering leaflets...Steve who's going to do the quiz...things like that. And Sid comes down to see us every day.

Michelle: The worst bit? Not being able to watch any telly! Not having five minutes to yourself.

Josh: Everything's got to be planned.

Both, in unison: You can't be spontaneous!

Michelle: And I can't have Polo, my big fat black and white moggy – That's much worse. My mum's looking after her. That makes me very sad. She's just had an operation. Last time she saw me I was taking her to the vet's. She'll think I've abandoned her.

I trained from school as a vet nurse and then was interested in histopathology, because we used to send the tumours and things off to the lab, so I went to visit Addenbrookes for the day. I must have made some sort of impression - the boss of the department phoned and asked me to apply for a medical assistant job. It was very interesting, so I went...then after a couple of years they created a new department. Addenbrookes is East Anglia's regional centre for paediatric and perinatal pathology, so I did the qualifications in anatomical pathology.

Josh: But you can be your own boss now, and you can just do things your way. The pub itself is the best bit. It's one of those places you walk in through the front door and it feels very homely...

Michelle: I think it's about six hundred years old, but don't quote me. Parts of it are. It used to be one room, with bits added on later.

Josh: If there were any serious problems – there haven't been any - we just have to phone the owners and they'll send someone over. So far, it's only light-bulbs that have been trouble. Never known a place where so many light-bulbs go...

Michelle: We had about five go the other night. I'm sure it was the Norman the ghost. We just blame him. I don't know whether there's supposed to be a ghost, but I just call him Norman.

Josh: You get the phone ring, funny little noises, funny little things down in the cellar – everyone says, oh, that's just Norman. Everyone that's worked here before...

Michelle: It was me and Janet that came up with the Norman theory. We just decided to name him one day...the door that keeps opening upstairs...It's all speculation!

Josh: You get the phone go ding randomly at one o'clock in the morning...

Michelle: Buttons go...

Josh: and 'who put that in the middle of the floor in the cellar, it wasn't me!' (general laughter) silly little things like that.

Michelle: Maybe there is. But I think he'd have told us by now if there is.

Josh: Ask us again in a couple of years' time.

MICHELLE AND JOSH WOULD LIKE TO SAY A VERY BIG THANK-YOU TO CUSTOMERS FOR ALL THEIR SUPPORT!

From an interview with *Mark Lewinski*

ANNUAL VILLAGE ASSEMBLY WEDNESDAY, 16TH MAY 2006 THE VILLAGE HALL. 7.30PM

This is your chance to put your views, ask questions or just find out more about what is happening in *your* Village!

If there is any item you like included on the agenda, please let your Clerk, Karen King, know before the next Parish Council meeting — 12th April 2006.

Your Village needs you!!

ANNA BRADFORD

ANNA BRADFORD was born to a cattle farming family in Ballymena, Northern Ireland. In her mid 20's she felt called to do missionary work and in the early 1950's set sail for Nigeria to work for the Sudan United Mission. Whilst there she met and married Swaffham Prior lad Peter Bradford who was also a missionary and they had three children David. Richard and Jane.

In 1971 the family came back to England, living in Lode and Burwell for two years until they bought their home on Cage Hill. Peter taught at the Perse School and Anna taught history at Soham Village college. Peter became pastor of Zion Baptist Chapel in the village in 1979 and Anna was secretary from 1981 until Peter died in October 1992.

Anna was a very able speaker at Women's meetings and took services in the surrounding villages. She also led bible studies at the Chapel and was a member of the Women's Own there. She represented the Chapel on the Village Hall Committee, collated and delivered the Swaffham Crier for a number of years and was a W.I member.

In 2000 she moved to Ash Grove in Burwell and until her eyesight deteriorated, attended Trinity Church in Burwell and when she could, she loved to worship at the Round Church in Cambridge. Anna found it very difficult to cope with life when her health and eyesight caused problems and in December. 2005 moved to Brighton to be near her daughter Jane. While there she had a stroke and had to be moved to a nursing home in Tunbridge Wells.

Before she moved to Burwell, Anna made regular visits to people in the village, especially ladies who like her, were living on their own. She missed this when she moved to Burwell but was very grateful to those who continued to visit and help her in Ash Grove.

Anna died on 17th February and a celebration of her life was held in the Free Church Swaffham Bulbeck on 28th February and the W.I laid on a magnificent spread for her family and friends in our Village Hall afterwards.

Ruth Stinton



Reach Fair

7th May 2007 - 12 noon

The oldest Fair in England since 1201 Come and see Medieval Knights, Music & Dancing

Traditional fair rides and games, Arts and Crafts stalls, Children's Entertainment and hands on activities. BBQ, Hog Roast, Salad Bar and Beer Tent and much, much more



RED2GREENHOUSE

At Bottisham Village College

Reg charity No 1112429

We are a local charity working with adults with learning difficulties and school pupils.

We can offer you a range of local grown fresh vegetables, and a choice of plants for all seasons.

We are open Monday -Friday 9-30am to 3-30pm behind the College, just follow the signs.

Tel: 01223 813650

We Will Be Pleased To See You



Village Hall News

The Village Hall Management Committee is holding its AGM on Wednesday 2 May at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. This is an open meeting and all are welcome to come and express an opinion.

Janet Cooper

Secretary of the Village Hall Management Committee

Letter From America

April 2007

AS A FIRST EPISTLE let me begin by saying thank you to all of you that we encountered in our time spent in the village. Whether it was a passing

From Our Washington Correspondent Barb Mitchell

recognition or a deeper friendship each and every one of you has added to our precious memories of Swaffham Prior. Thank you also for the wonderful piece of art work of the twin churches to bring to mind the occasions which you have shared with us.

The weather is becoming warmer and the Cherry Blossom Festival is getting closer. This year the Festival celebrates the 95th anniversary of the gift of over 3000 cherry trees to the people of Washington DC from Tokyo, Japan in 1912. An additional 3800 cherry trees were given and planted in 1965.

While the festival takes place from March 31st until April 15th, the cherry trees are to be at their height of bloom the first week of April this year. More of the blossoms open each day just as more people announce their candidacy for the presidential election.



It will be an interminable time until our election day in November of 2008 with the two candidates (Obama and Clinton) at the center of attention already throwing insults and barbs on an almost daily basis. Individual states are in the process of setting the date for their individual primary elections. A change in dates could influence the way the campaign progresses as it will bring the focus to certain states earlier in the process. Whether a state is predominately Democrat or Republican doesn't influence the primary as the voters can only vote in their registered status (Democrat or Republican). The candidates are actually seeking a majority of delegates during the primaries. If a majority is not won, the presidential nominee is chosen by delegates at the party convention which happened in 1976 when President Gerald Ford narrowly defeated Ronald Reagan.

Barb Mitchell

Crossword Number 41

Compiled by **OUNCE**

Sponsored by The Red Lion

Answers to clues marked * have a common theme, and no other definition. Send your answers to the editors by 18th April 2007. 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.

1		2	3			4	5	6			7		8
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Name:	
Adress	••
Tel:	

Across

- 1 *Crazy pseudoclassical spouses depart (8)
- 5 * Five: a centre court unknown follows to Annie (8)
- 9 * High King (5)
- 10 * Unusual latrine (7)
- 12 Member left French cheese for animal (3)
- 13 Self-importance shown in, for example, nothing (3)
- 14 * Galilean satellite (6)
- 16 *Sons-in-law mingle after owl flies away (6)
- 18 Stray with endless tasks (7)
- 20 Son jumped, it's said. Dozed actually! (5)
- 21 * Mitchell MP (6)
- 23 Kind of 25, no motor though (3)
- 25 * Having made a will, lost head. (6)
- 29 Dr Bloodsucker? (5)
- 33 Bond has this type of 19 (7)
- 35 * Boomeranged and mixed after barge docked (6)
- 37 Red eruption signalled by birdcall from car-washes (6)
- 38 Dr Zero: former main mail centre (3)
- 40 Copy late, departed, big bird (3)
- 41 Mary * author of Greek novels (7)
- 42 * Found witch on dark night (5)
- 43 * 35D recedes wildly without old Bob (8)
- 44 * Play lyre many hours (8)

Down

- 1 * Italian town (7)
- 2 Revised different (7)
- 3 Behold, monarch joins penultimate bird (4)
- 4 * The Velcro design (9)
- 6 On the menu, the mixed grill Clara ate (1,2,5)
- 7 * Agreement. (6)
- 8 * Position (5)
- 11 Next, a crazy man from Amarillo (5)
- 14 Small print measure (2)
- 15 Energy from fry-up epicure consumes (3)
- 17 * Greeting from 11 we 'ear (4)
- 19 * Looks like an electoral prize (4)
- 22 Impulse revealed in dour gentleman's manner (4)
- 24 Wobbly technological gent removed addicted to spirits (9)
- 26 Alone, therefore, this depressed, say (4)
- 27 Puppet girl from Italian city (8)
- 28 A can-opener to right of player (5)
- 30 Age when old German currency docked from kinky 36D (3)
- 31 Fight or flight? Dale ran recklessly from source (7)
- 32 * Pirate (7)
- 34 * Large 12 (6)
- 35 Woman of unknown status (2)
- 36 Mad about queer vision (5)
- 39 People in general: Lawrence takes

Bundle's Big Charity Walk



BUNDLE AND I are walking from Melrose in Scotland to Holy Island and on to Seahouses, starting 23rd April in four days. Bundle would be very grateful for your sponsorship, 70 miles for Asthma UK and Collie Rescue? We are hoping to raise at least £2000.

If you are interested please see

www.bundlesbigcharitywalk.co.uk or come with your sponsorship to 17 Tothill Road, or stop me when you see us walking around the villages in training.

Thanks

Gerry Cutting

One day a man came into the office, and without preamble, began to measure the walls. I wondered what the 'Gilbert and Sullivan' he could be about, so I moved in closer until I could hear him singing quietly to himself the following plaintive air:-

THE SONG OF THE WALL-MEASURER

"I've a folding wooden rule And my only other tool Is a pencil. Yes, a pencil. And I measure any wall With no excuse at all That's essential, that's essential.

I'm impelled by strange desire, So I can't help but enquire If you've any little wall that I might measure. But there will be some delay, Don't expect me there today, In my job, I've very little leisure."

And when the song was done,
And the man had upped and gone,
And order had descended as of yore;
There was a sense of calm,
As though he'd left a soothing balm,
Whilst the walls looked as they had an hour before.

The Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

THE NEW AMALGAMATED GROUP of the Mothers' Union has now met for the second time. We got off to a good start in January by having a Service in Swaffham Bulbeck Church taken by Revd. David Lewis followed by tea. We had to battle against high



winds to get there but were not deterred and a very enjoyable afternoon was had by all!

Mrs. Lilian Brigden from Wisbech came to speak at our February meeting and we had a wonderful afternoon. Lilian spoke in the most lively and entertaining way

about her life as "A Tiller Girl". To say that she held our attention is an understatement and she was a delight to listen to. She ended her talk by stressing the importance of always keeping our joints supple, and so the afternoon was very appropriately rounded off by a few gentle exercises to music undertaken by us all, but all done from the seat of our chairs – nothing too strenuous!

We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 2.30pm in the School Hall at Swaffham Bulbeck which is a very warm and comfortable place to meet. We have a very varied and interesting Programme arranged for 2007, and in April we look forward to Hilary Sage coming to entertain us. This is one not to be missed!

"in April we look forward to Hilary Sage coming to entertain us. This is one not to be missed!"

People from all the five villages in our Benefice are very welcome indeed so please join us. Copies of the Programme are in all the Churches so please just help yourself to one, or contact Wyn Norton 01223 811509, Pauline Lewis 01223 812367, or Julie Sale 01223 811222. If you think you would like to join us but are worried about getting to Swaffham Bulbeck, lifts are arranged. Hope to see you there!

Pauline Lewis.

CROSSWORD RESULTS

We congratulate Bill Paterson, the winner of last month's competition, who should collect his prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Margaret McGregor, Robert & Julie Nunn and Shirley Wilkins.

Solution to crossword no. 40



Hunt The Bag

You've heard of "Hunt the Thimble"
That dear old party game.
And then there's "Hunt the Slipper"
And others much the same.
You can hunt for foxes- if you're cruel,
Though it's really not PC,
You can hunt wild geese – if you're a
fool,
Wotch "Persoin Hunt" on TV

Watch "Bargain Hunt" on TV But in East Cambs we play "Hunt the Bag"

There is no choice, you see.

Dustbins were made of metal
Used once and used again
When I was a lass in Yorkshire
And dustbin men were Men*
Now the thing is wheelie-bins, they say
For folks on a city street
But we use bin bags, round this way
To keep our rubbish neat.
Yes, in East Cambs we play "Hunt the
Bag"
It's really not a treat.

(*Actually they were mostly Men with bad backs.)

We can't dump loads of bin bags
Upon the village scene
We have to limit rubbish
Now that we've all gone green.
East Cambs Council give us - just one
bag
That is our weekly ration
But we have to **find** it - that's a drag
For bin men have a passion
To play **their** game of "Hide the Bag"
Each in their own strange fashion.

We "Hunt the Bag" each bin day
Is it tied onto the gate?
Is it stuffed behind the drain-pipe?
Looped in a figure-eight?
Is it balled and thrown up – randomly
O'er the garden hedge or wall?
Is it blowing free? Caught in a tree?
Or can't be found at all?
Yes, in East Cambs we play "Hunt the
Bag"
It's really not a Ball.

It's less bad in the Summer
In Winter it's no lark
To hunt a balled, black bin bag
That's hidden in the dark.
If it's raining, then the bin bag's wet
And it might be muddy too.
Sometimes it's caught where you just
can't get
Though its tatters are in view.
Oh, in East Cambs we play "Hunt the
Bag"
I'm sure you do it too.

Why not:

Deliver once a quarter,
A dozen bags or so,
In a roll that's left upon the step?
(As South Cambs did, you know.)
Put the bin bag in the letter box,
If it's not a heinous crime
For a bin man to walk down the path?
(It doesn't take much time.)
For we'd rather **not** play "Hunt the Bag",
And there I'll end my rhyme.

Chris Carrington

If you've never visited Oliver Cromwell's House in Ely (or it's just been a long time), now's the time to think again, because.....

It's All Happening at Oliver Cromwell's

2-9th April Easter Trail

Pick up a quiz sheet for just 50 p (two levels of trail available under 8 years or over) and follow the trail around the house. Can you answer all the questions and count the correct amount of eggs?

All completed entries receive a chocolate egg.

Normal admission price applies

Mon 27th May Live the City (10.30 am to 4.30 pm)

A New Walking Treasure Hunt Experience

Turn 'clue detective' in the city of Ely. Our brain teasing clue trail will lead you on a fascinating self-guided walking tour through the historic heart of Ely. Your final destination is Oliver Cromwell House where using your Treasure Hunt answers you take part in a big screen Interactive quiz. Who will be our Showdown Champions? This is a great activity for young and old alike and is ideal for families.

Arrive at Oliver Cromwell's House anytime between 10.30 am and 3.00 pm. You will then be given full instructions and will be booked in for a return slot for your 'Showdown'. Tickets are just £4.00 adults, £2.00 per children and a great family ticket price of just £10.00 (2 adults, 3 children). All winners receive a certificate and goodie bag.



Sat 9th June

Living History Day (10 am to 4.30 pm)

Oliver Cromwell's House comes alive with demonstrations and activities in all the rooms to show how life truly was in the 17th century. Be enthralled by the Civil War Encampment outside on the Green, marvel at the remedies made by the barber surgeon and be amazed at the 17th century Fashion Show revealing clothes of the time. End your visit with a puppet show telling the story of the English Civil War.

Normal admission price applies

Cookery Lecture Sessions

Local food historian, chef, lecturer and writer. Alison Sloan, is renowned for her Cookery Lectures and Workshops which she runs up and down the country at a variety of Oliver Cromwell's venues and attractions. House in Ely which also houses the city's Tourist Information Centre is pleased to welcome Alison to their atmospheric building to run a series of themed Cookery Lectures. The lectures are spread throughout the year on a wide variety of subjects. All the lectures last 2 hours and include a talk, cookery demonstration and then the chance to eat what has been made during the refreshment break. Recipe cards are also provided so that you can recreate the dishes at home.



Alison Sloane will be in action in Cromwell's Kitchen

All places must be pre-booked as places are limited. Price per person is £10. To book your place contact the Tourist Information Centre on 01353 662062.

Tuesday 24th April – 2.00–4pm: The History of Afternoon Tea

What better way to celebrate St George's Day than to indulge in a traditional English Afternoon Tea. You will hear about the history of afternoon tea and then see a selection of mouth-watering cakes and savouries made. You will then have a chance to sample these delights along with a cup of tea (of course!). Recipe packs will be given out to take home.

Tuesday 12th June – 10 am-12 noon: Flower Power

Learn the power of flowers in traditional and modern day cooking and see how you can use flowers not just for decoration but also for cooking. For your mid morning break you will then have a chance to sample these delights which will include Lavender Tea and a slice of Rose Petal Swiss Roll. Recipe packs will be given out to take home.

Monday 3rd September – 2pm-4 pm: Mrs Cromwell's Kitchen

To celebrate Cromwell's Day, find out what Mrs Cromwell, would have dished up for her family. Learn about cooking ingredients and methods during the 17th century and watch a selection of dishes being made. You then have a chance to sample the dishes made. Recipe packs will be given out to take home.

Tuesday 13th November - 10am to 12 noon: Sugar and Spice and All Things

Nice

This session has a strong Christmassy feel and looks at the importance of spices in cookery at this traditional time of year - the aroma alone will make your mouth water. Several dishes will be prepared and then you have the chance to enjoy a slice of Spiced Apple Cake with a glass of spiced wine. Recipe packs will be given out to take home.

The Cantilena Singers

Saturday 14th April 2007 7:30 pm All Saints Church Worlington

Celebrating The Two Elizabeths & The Bard

A Selection Of Music & Song Spanning 400 Years

A Selection of Madrigals from The Triumphs of Oriana
Elizabethan lute songs and SHAKESPEARE (Ooops—see letters! Eds)
settings performed by James Eisner
A Selection of Settings from A Garland for the Queen
Vaughan Williams, Three Shakespeare Songs

Director **Daniel Spreadbury**Solo Tenor **James Eisner**Wine & Savouries Included
Tickets £7.50 - 01638 713667 Or At The Door
Proceeds to Church and other charitable causes

Repeated: Saturday 21st April 2007 7:30 pm Holy Trinity Bottisham

Refreshments Available
Tickets prices tba, available at The Door or contact 01223 811456 or 01223
812115

Proceeds to Church and other charitable causes

School News

WE HAVE HAD a very busy Spring Term at Swaffham Prior School. A new School Council has been elected and they have been very busy thinking about how to raise money for Comic Relief. They organised a 'Red Nose' cake competition, badge making stall and charged the



children money to come to school dressed in clothes that were too big for them! Great fun was had by all and lots of money was raised for the charity.

We have been thinking very hard about Problem Solving this term and on 27th February we were all able to put our skills to the test when we had a 'Happy Puzzle Day' in school. The Happy Puzzle Company visited us for the day and all of the children were involved in solving brain straining puzzles, which also involved a lot of team work. Each class also worked on a problem solving project throughout the day. In the evening over 70 people came to our Family Challenge Evening. Families raced to solve puzzles before their neighbours, it was an excellent event.

Jen Holmwood came back to visit after a trip to Kenya. We now have a strong link with the Iganjo School and Jen was able to show us some more pictures of her recent visit to Kenya, including some of the children wearing Swaffham Prior sweatshirts. More letters will be written soon.

FoSPS have been very active this term. They have run their usual cake stalls, raising lots of money. A very successful Spuds and Puds Evening was held on 9th March in Reach village hall. There were delicious 'Spuds' to eat and a wonderful array of home-made puddings, it was very hard to choose which to have. All of the recipes are in a book which is for sale at the school for £2. The now annual Easter Egg Bingo was held on 23rd March. This involved lots of chocolate and again raised lots of money for the school. FoSPS are currently saving for a large piece of play equipment for our field.

Our sports clubs continue to be popular at school and we are very proud to have recently been awarded the Activemark. This is due to the hard work of Mrs Jackson and all of the staff who offer extra sports clubs after school.

Children in Class 4 have been busy preparing for and taking part in some local inter-school competitions. We sent a team to the Circle Schools Geography Quiz in February. They were very pleased to come 5^{th, especially when there was only 5} points between them and the team in first place. Four Year 5 children are busy preparing for the Y5 Maths Challenge which takes place in April.

Some children in Classes 3 and 4 enjoyed going to the Corn Exchange in March to listen to the BBC Concert Orchestra. It was a very interactive performance and ended with a grand Dr. Who finale, which everyone really enjoyed!

As part of Cambridge Science Week we had a visit from the Time Truck. Class 3 and 4 got stuck into learning all about Rocks and Soils and Space.

Our Easter church Service is being held at St Mary's on Thursday 29th March and we hope to see lots of members of the community joining in with our Easter celebrations.

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

Bottisham Tennis Club Announces the 2007 Season

Club nights, for mixed doubles and singles practice, are on Mondays & Fridays 7-9 p.m. at Bottisham Village College starting Monday 2nd April 2007. New Members are always welcome – just come to one of the Monday or Friday sessions.

Use of courts

Bottisham Tennis Club has the use of the courts at the College. Members can use the three hard courts throughout the year out of school hours. On club nights we have the use of the two astroturf courts (with floodlights) in addition.

Coaching Sessions

This season we are holding coaching sessions for both adults and juniors. These will be held on Monday evenings 21 May to 9 July 7 - 8 p.m. (juniors up to 14) and 8 - 9 p.m. (adults).

Cost will be £10 (juniors), £40 (adults) for the full 8 weeks including introductory membership of the Club.

Club Tournaments and matches

Tournaments will be held on Sundays 10th June and 23rd September, and various matches with neighbouring clubs are planned. All members are welcome to join in.

Membership Fees

Adults	£38.00
Juniors (under 18)	£10.00
Family (2 adults & 2 or more children)	£80.00

Discounts

Your membership also allows you 10% discount on most goods at the Racquet Master Tennis Shop, 7 Exeter Road, Newmarket.

More Information/Contacts

If you would like to join us or have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact a committee member:

 Charlie Platten
 01223 813016

 Mike Young
 01223 811754

or just come to a Monday or Friday session for a free introductory game.

Burwell Surgery

Feedback from Patient Questionnaire

We firstly wanted to thank all those who completed our recent patient survey. We now have the results of this and wanted to share them with you.

Firstly, we are pleased to report that our overall scores are significantly higher

than the average scores obtained by other surgeries doing the survey. We also received very many favourable comments and we are very grateful for this.

Although there were a number of different areas that were commented on, there were only two specific areas which had more than three individual comments relating to them.

Firstly, eleven people commented that they would like us to have more late night opening or a return to Saturday morning surgeries. We do understand that it is difficult for people to attend appointments before 5.30 pm sometimes, although we try to compensate this to a certain extent by opening slightly earlier in the morning (our first appointment is at 8.40 am). We do not have any immediate plans to offer evening or Saturday morning surgeries but this may change in the future.

The second issue that people commented on was the length of time that people often have to wait in the waiting room before they get to see their doctor or nurse. We are aware of this as an issue and hope to take steps to improve this in coming months. The routine appointment length that we have is ten minutes. We have always taken the view that if patients present us with more issues than can be easily dealt with in ten minutes, we try to take the time to address these rather than sending people away. We would encourage people to book double appointments or even longer, if there are problems that may take longer than a routine problem to deal with. Our proposals in coming months are to ask the receptionist to inform anybody in the waiting room if their doctor is running more than twenty minutes late and we are also proposing to block off some 'catch-up' appointments and monitor the situation closely.

As always, we are always keen to receive your feedback. Please feel free to either telephone or write to our Practice Manager, Aileen Allen, if you have any further comments to make on our service.

Alex Manning



VILLAGE GARDENERS

MR JOHN DRAKE, the well known garden historian, from Fen Ditton, gave us the inside story into the development of the Tradescant garden museum of Garden History which is in Lambeth.

The Trust to set up this memorial garden was formed in 1977, by what sounded like a pretty formidable lady—Mrs Nicholson. She found the much neglected churchyard, whilst doing the "jubilee" walk. It was attached to the closed and decommisioned Lambeth parish church and when she found the tombs of Admiral Blythe, of Bounty fame, and that of John Tradescant, she was determined to acquire it.

She finally did, from the church commissioners, with a full repairing lease—the roof alone costing £90,000 to repair.

To find a group of volunteers who knew about garden history was her next challenge. One of those volunteers was our speaker who with others had to set about restoring the the garden to some sort of order, with a special brief to keep the plants as historically correct as possible—a subject very close to our speaker's heart.

John Tradescant had come with his family from Holland to Suffolk, right at the beginning of the 17th century. He worked for the owners of Chilham castle in Kent(where there still stands a magnificent avenue of sweet chestnuts planted by him in 1610) and the Archbishop of



Canterbury. He is better known as advisor to the Cecil family at Hatfield House and to the Duke of Buckingham- a good friend of King James 1st.

John Tradescant (junior) worked as an advisor to Henrietta Maria-the Queen, but travelled further than his father, to Virginia, in 1630, bringing back many plants including the Yukka and Aqualegias. (John Drake, interestingly holds the national collection of these plants.)

Father and son. at this point, decided it was more lucrative to open a plant nursery than advise on plants, which they did near Stockwell in south London. They developed a "closet" of varieties, which was finally left to the Ashmolean museum, when the family died out on the death of the third John Tradescant at the age of 10.

The garden museum was developed with the use of plant directories held by three gardeners in the mid 17th century; John Parkinson, John Gerard, both of whom had gardens in the city of London and Tradescant himself. Many plants had already been collected from Asia, Africa, Europe and America—many of which were highly scented—highly prized and effective when planted near the stinking streets of the capital.

Over the years the garden museum has been patiently and painstakingly restored—leaving the tombs and memorials exactly where they have always been. The soil which was mostly London dust, has been enriched with metropolitan police horse manure (local re-cycling), and thousands of pounds worth of paving. acquired by volunteers, such as Lady Salisbury. Friends in high places who know the right people! Many plants were donated by plant growers—to create a peaceful setting—Saxiphrage, wall flowers, box, violas, phlomis, cistus and valerian—all which could have been there in the seventeen hundreds.

It's maintenance is a problem, as the volunteers who have the necessary knowledge if plants are difficult to find; but it's open from Easter to October (not Saturdays). The church has a small exhibition of garden artefacts too. It sounds for all sorts of reasons to be well worth a visit if you are Lambeth way- or even down Lambeth walk.

Margaret Joyce

The Reading Group Reads...



Arthur Conan Doyle was a detective in his own right.

Arthur & George by Julian Barnes

A HIDDEN TREASURE THIS. The Arthur of the title is more widely known by his surname - Conan Doyle - and the events at the heart of the book actually happened. It's written like a novel which throws the events into much sharper relief.

Two very different people at the turn of the 20th century; the one a solicitor, child of an Indian vicar and a Scottish mother living in the Midlands (imagine that); the other, the son of a well-to-do family, trained as a doctor but becoming a successful writer. The one becomes an innocent victim in a dreadful local crime; the other is fired by the miscarriage of justice at a time when his

own life is at a low point. Julian Barnes mixes intense research and vivid imagination and brings the characters, the issues and the times, very much to life. He gives an insight into the minds of men (and some women) of a different age.

He also kept us as a group a very focussed in our discussion (which I have to say, is not always so). A very good read.

Next month is **Arnold Bennett's Untold Stories** and we're meeting at Janet's house, 39 High St. May's book is **Arundati Roy's The God of Small Things** and we'll probably be back at Caroline's then.

Brenda Wilson

And Also from Last Month...

The Egg And I by Betty MacDonald

FOR ME, part of the enjoyment of the Reading Group is making new friends and acquaintances; not just the people who turn up to discuss books and drink the odd glass of wine, but also the authors and books that I might not otherwise have considered reading. The other side of this coin is introducing your own 'old friends and acquaintances' to the rest of the group. This can be rather worrying, because



old and new friends don't always get along. So it was with some trepidation that I suggested we read Betty Macdonald's "The Egg and I", as she is an old and well-loved 'friend' of mine.

Betty MacDonald was born in Boulder, Colorado in 1908. "The Egg and I", her first book, was published in 1945 and is a humorous semi-autobiographical account of the hardships of her life with her first husband as they started a chicken farm on the Olympic Peninsula, in the Pacific Northwest of America. Attempts to describe



humour are never successful; suffice it to say that "The Egg and I" rapidly became a best-seller, then a movie (in 1947) and, in the early 1950s, America's first TV comedy serial. Betty MacDonald wrote three more books for adults, describing her family's fight for survival in the Depression, her time as a patient in a TB clinic, and her life with her second husband and teenage daughters on Vashon Island; none of which sound like great topics for humour, I know, but all I can say is "Read them" and also "Don't judge a book by its cover" as Betty MacDonald's publisher seems to specialise in particularly awful ones. Finally, I'm happy to report that the majority of the Group

present that night were pleased to have a made a new

'friend' and were looking forward to reading more of her books.

Chris Carrington



WI Notes

THE MARCH MEETING was held on 19th in the Village Hall. Following the normal business we had the AGM and listened to the President and Secretary give their reports on the year. The financial statement was available for members to view. No other members could be persuaded to join the committee but fortunately all the existing committee members agreed to

continue. Margaret Phillips was standing down as president at the end of her three year stint and was thanked for all her hard work. Pat Cook will be the new president and is very grateful that all the committee are staying on to give her the support she will need in this new role.

Following the AGM there was a break for wine and nibbles before we settled down to listen to our speaker, Hannah Baldock, who talked about her work as a veterinary nurse with Pet Doctors. Hannah is head nurse and works in Burwell and Soham and despite a very heavy work load says she would not want any other career. We learned that as well as the routine appointments with sick animals a lot of effort is now being put into educating pet owners in how to keep their pets healthy. Just like with humans there is an increasing problem with pet obesity – not helped by TV ads for pet food that would be better avoided. The importance of regular vaccinations was also stressed. Hannah finished her talk with a little bit about Canine Partners and Dogs for the Disabled – two charities which provide dogs to help a range of disabled people and the real difference the animals make to their lives.

Next months meeting will be on $16^{th}\,\mathrm{April}$ when the speaker will be Annette Bond talking about Family History.

Hope you are all enjoying our newly planted daffodils in the church yard and on Cage Hill!

Pat Cook

Notes from the Parish Council March Meeting

Chairman Mr John Covill chaired the meeting with 5 Parish Councillors and 2 members of the Public.

Apologies: Sandra Wilson.

Minutes of Last Meeting: These were agreed.

Matters Arising:

Following on from last month's report, Geoffrey Woollard updated the meeting on the current situation with the High Street signs, noting that two had been moved but one still remained outside the village boundary and one still had a spelling error. He implored Cllr Alderson, with the support of all members present, to take the matter up with ECDC reiterating that the signs were still unnecessary and wrongly placed.

Reports: CCC – Cllr Hazel Williams reported to the meeting

ECDC – Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting

Correspondence Received: This was reported.

Parish Council Elections: The details and timetable for the forthcoming elections on the 3rd May 2007 were reported to the meeting. Nomination papers must be with ECDC by 12 noon on the 4th April 2007. Posters are to be displayed. Please see separate notice in Crier.

Exclusive Grant of Burial: This was approved.

Review of Cemetery Charges: It was agreed that there should be no changes in the current charges.

Proposed "Pocket Park", Water Tower site, Mill Hill: Subsequent to the posting of the agenda, a letter was received confirming that the current planning application for the scheme had been withdrawn. This was not discussed further.

Play Area – Annual Inspection (outstanding items): The Clerk told the meeting that RoSPA were due to carry out the annual inspection during April. Items that needed attention were the green moss covering to the surfacing under the swings and slide. Also the new growth at the bottom of the trees on the front boundary needed to be cut back. It was agreed that as the inspection was so close, all items would be left until the inspection report was received and then all items would be actioned.

Confirmation of Meeting Dates/Annual Village Assembly: It was agreed that Parish Council meetings would continue to take place on the 2nd Thursday of each month with the exception of August when there will be no meeting unless specifically called.

The Annual Village Assembly will, subject to Village Hall availability, take place on Wednesday, 16th May 2007.

Outstanding items of Maintenance/Repair:

Road sign – Rogers Road. CCC had again confirmed that the replacement of the missing arm on this sign was not their responsibility as it was not to CCC specification and that the Parish Council should arrange for the repair.

Bus stop sign – Rogers Road. The Clerk had spoken with Paul Nelson of CCC. He told the Clerk that he was having to look at budget cuts which were taking priority but confirmed that from the 8th April he would have a new member of staff whose

priority would be to deal with matters such as bus stops and that he would make the bus stop at the top of Rogers Road a priority.

Footpath – Rogers Road. Paul Butcher of CCC Highways confirmed that it was very unlikely due to budget cuts that this path would be resurfaced.

Road edging – Lower End. Paul Butcher told the Clerk that this work was programmed in for approximately September/October following the work to the footpaths on the High Street. The work to be carried out will involve extending the kerbing from The Beeches along Lower End.

Whilst talking with Paul Butcher, he confirmed that, funds permitting, a "slurry seal" would be carried out on the footpath running from The Beeches to Cage Hill later in the year. Also, with reference to the resurfacing of the footpath on Station Road, he felt that a bid through the Jointly Funded Minor Highways Improvements Scheme might be more successful.

Accounts for payment: These were agreed.

Planning Applications:

Commissioners Farm, Swaffham Prior Fen – *replacement barn with brick and timber frame.* (*Demolition of existing agricultural storage barn*). There were no objections.

Planning Approvals:

Recreation Ground, Station Road - Sports pavilion and associated car parking.

Items for the Next Agenda:

Repair works to road sign on Rogers Road.

Agenda for Annual Village Assembly.

Year End Financial Summary.

If anyone has an item they would like included on the Agenda for the Annual Village Assembly, please contact the Clerk as below.

Open Question Time

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday, 12th April 2007 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

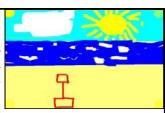
Karen King – Clerk of the Parish Council Tel: 742358. Email:

karen.king5@btopenworld.com

Health, Safety and PC Insanity

A LYTHAM ST ANNE'S PENSIONER who lives beside the seaside has been warned that he faces a heavy fine for fly-tipping if he returns sand that has blown from the beach into his garden to the beach. Instead, he should treat it as litter and take it to the municipal refuse tip.

Francis Reeks



All reader's contributions very welcome. Eds



Lode Baptist Chapel

Amazing Grace

During the first week of April we hope you'll visit the Cry Freedom community exhibition at Lode Chapel (see page opposite). We also hope you'll go and see the film 'Amazing Grace' which opened at cinemas on 23rd March. It tells the story of William Wilberforce, a key campaigner for the abolition of the slave trade. Also depicted in the film is John Newton, a slave trader who became an Anglican vicar and famous hymn writer – indeed, he wrote the hymn which gives its name to the film. But what is grace – and what's so amazing about it?

Do you remember Andrew Walker – the 18 year old A-Level student who was killed when two young racists embedded an ice axe in his skull as he waited at a bus stop? His mother, Gee, listened to the harrowing details of the attack in court and within minutes of the trial coming to its conclusion offered words of compassion to her son's killers saying "I forgive them". That is grace – a love which is offered to those who don't deserve it!

Some may be surprised how Gee Walker was able to forgive; others may think she is a fool for even trying. There will be those who label Andrew's killers plain evil; others will seek to show them the type of love they may never have experienced. Some may hold on to bitterness and anger and allow it to eat away at them; others may let go and instead hope that some light may be found in the darkness.

John Newton was involved in the slave trade in which Africans were removed from their homeland, crammed into ships for long voyages to destinations where they were sold like 'things' rather than humans. He became a Christian, began to realise the shameful error of his ways, and joined the abolition campaign. But how can a man involved in such an evil trade ever live with himself? The answer – grace!

"Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now am found, Was blind, but now, I see."

The truth is that when each one of us examines our own life we find things that we are ashamed of – words we wish we hadn't said, actions we've regretted, and thoughts that appal even us! The amazing message of Easter is that God knows exactly who we are (warts and all) – and still offers us His grace.

Simon Goddard

We welcome you to any of our services or other midweek activities. Morning Worship every Sunday at 10.30am with Sunday School,

except for the 4th Sunday of each month when we hold our monthly miniholiday club at Bottisham Primary School.

Next club – 10.30am Sunday 22nd April. All welcome!

For more information please contact:

Simon Goddard on 812881 or Peter Wells on 812388 Lode Chapel, High Street, Lode, CB5 9EW.

Email: simon.goddard@lodechapel.org.uk
Web: www.lodechapel.org.uk

CRY FREEDOM!

Community Exhibition

marking 200 years since the abolition of the Slave Trade, and to raise awareness of how modern slavery continues



Venue: Lode Chapel

Launch Event:

6.30pm, Sunday 1st April

Exhibition Open

10am – 4pm, Monday 2nd April 10am – 4pm, Tuesday 3rd April 10am – 4pm, Wednesday 4th April 10am – 4pm, Thursday 5th April 1pm – 4pm, Friday 6th April 10am – 4pm, Saturday 7th April

The multimedia exhibition will include contributions from:

- · local artists, poets and photographers,
- children at Swaffham Bulbeck and Bottisham Primary Schools,
 - pupils at Bottisham Village College.

There will be something for everyone, and opportunities to:

- try and 'break free' from the labyrinth.
 - · help make a huge paper chain
- (which will be symbolically broken on Easter Day),
 - be inspired by Martin Luther King Jr.
- and write your own 1 Have a Dream...',
- · find out more about the 'Stop The Traffik' campaign.

For more information contact: Simon Goddard on (01223) 812881 or simon.goddard@lodechapel.org.uk

Dear Friends.

I am writing this letter at the end of what has been a most beautiful spring day. Days like today are a precious sign of new growth and new hope, and are there to be treasured.

The first Easter Day was a day such as that. A day when Jesus' disciples made the most wonderful discovery - the most amazing miracle in history had occurred - their Lord had risen from the dead.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of the Christian faith. The apostle Paul wrote, "And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain" (1 Corinthians. 15:17). Our belief in this great teaching is not based upon some religious feeling or upon an unfounded idea about what may have happened in the past. Nor are we talking about an isolated rumour, but about a historical fact with solid evidence to support it.

About 100 years ago a group of lawyers met in England to discuss the biblical accounts of Jesus' resurrection. They wanted to see if sufficient evidence was available to make a case that would hold up in a court of law. When their study was completed, they published the results of their investigation. They concluded that Christ's resurrection was one of the most well established facts of history!

A few years later the writer, Frank Morison, was fascinated by the historical accounts about Jesus. He deeply admired Jesus as a man, but he found himself seriously sceptical about the miraculous aspects of the biblical accounts of his life. So, he set out to investigate every aspect of the last seven days of his life with a view to "strip it of its overgrowth of primitive beliefs and dogmatic suppositions, and to see this supremely great person as he really was." Yet, as he compiled his evidence, Frank Morison became deeply affected by one startling historical conundrum – the issue of the huge stone that was rolled across the entrance to Jesus' tomb after his death. Every piece of historical evidence pointed to one irrefutable fact – the stone had been mysteriously rolled away from the entrance to the tomb early on that first Easter morning.

Frank Morison found himself becoming obsessed with one simple question – who moved the stone? That burning question drove Frank Morison to investigate every possible piece of evidence from every angle, and his ultimate conclusion, was to change his life. As he later wrote: "It is not that the facts themselves altered, for they are recorded imperishably in the monuments and on the pages of human history. But the interpretation to be put upon the facts underwent a change. Somehow the perspective shifted – not suddenly, as in a flash of insight or inspiration, but slowly, almost imperceptibly, by the very stubbornness of the facts themselves."

His conclusion was recorded in his book 'Who Moved the Stone', which was first published in 1930, and reprinted on numerous occasions since, and which became an international best seller. The final sentence of the book reads: "There may be, and as the writer thinks, there certainly is, a deep and profoundly historical basis for that much disputed sentence in the Apostles' Creed – 'The third day he rose

again from the dead.""

The realisation of this wonderful truth brought Frank Morison to a living faith in the risen Christ, as it has done for millions upon millions of Christians around the world over the past 2000 years. This Easter we shall be celebrating that wonderful truth in our Churches, as we proclaim with joy and thanksgiving – *Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

I hope that you can and will join us in proclaiming that statement of truth.

I wish you all a very happy and blessed Easter.

David

MOBILE LIBRARY

Tuesday: April 10 and April 24 Cage Hill 15.05-15.45 Chapel 15.50-16.10

Book Club Requests welcomed

For Renewals or Enquiries please ring 0845 045 5225

Use it or lose it!



Please continue to look through your house/garden for things that you haven't used in years. If you have any offers or wants, please contact me on jun.thompson@tesco.net, phone on 01223 813362, or drop a note through 23 Longmeadow. As a quick reminder, everything is free and nothing is expected in return.



Church of England Sunday Services April 2007

	St Mary's Swaffham Prior	ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck	Bottisham
Sun	11:00am	8:00am Holy Communion [†] 9:30am Family Service	11:00am
1	Holy Communion		Family Service
Sun 8	8:00am Holy Communion [†] 11:00am Holy Communion	9:30am Holy Communion	11:00am Holy Communion
Sun	11:00am	9:30am	8:00am Holy Communion [†] 11:00am Holy Communion
15	Holy Communion	Village Communion	
Sun	11:00am	9:30am	11:00am
22	Matins	Holy Communion	Holy Communion
Sun 29			10:30am Benefice Communion

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

Masses: Newmarket: Sat 1830; Sun 1030;

Kirtling: Sun 0900;

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

ANGLESEY CHRISTIANS TOGETHER ACTIVITIES FOR



Monday 2nd April

10am-4pm 'Cry Freedom' Exhibition Lode Chapel

7pm Compline St. Mary's, Swaffham Bulbeck

Tuesday 3rd April

10am-4pm 'Cry Freedom' Exhibition Lode Chapel

7pm Compline St. Mary's, Swaffham Bulbeck

Wednesday 4th April

10am-4pm 'Cry Freedom' Exhibition Lode Chapel

7pm Compline St. James, Lode

Thursday 5th April MAUNDY THURSDAY

10am-4pm 'Cry Freedom' Exhibition Lode Chapel

7.30pm Holy Communion St. Mary's, Swaffham Prior

Friday 6th April GOOD FRIDAY

10am-12noon Children's Workshop St. Mary's, Swaffham Bulbeck

10amGood Friday ServiceSwaffham Bulbeck Free Church10.30amOpen Air WorshipThe Triangle, Bottisham11.15amGood Friday WorshipHoly Trinity, Bottisham

1pm-4pm 'Cry Freedom' Exhibition Lode Chapel

Saturday 7th April EASTER EVE

10am-4pm 'Cry Freedom' Exhibition Lode Chapel

5pm St. John's Passion, Cambridge Voices, St. Cyriac's, Swaffham Prior

8pm Vigil and Service of Light St. James, Lode

Sunday 8th April EASTER DAY

8am Holy Communion (BCP) St. Mary's, Swaffham Prior
9am Easter Day R.C. Mass Holy Trinity, Bottisham
9.30am Holy Communion St. James, Lode
9.30am Holy Communion St. Mary's, Swaffham Bulbeck

10.30am Easter Day Service

with activities for children Lode Chapel

11amEaster Day Service Swaffham Bulbeck Free Church11amHoly CommunionHoly Trinity, Bottisham11amHoly CommunionSt. Mary's, Stow-cum Quy11amHoly CommunionSt. Mary's, Swaffham Prior

April 2007 Diary, Club Schedules & Contacts

Mon	2	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm To 9th: Easter Trail, Oliver Cromwell's House, Ely To 7 April: Cry Freedom, Lode Chapel, 10am—4pm (see p. 35)						
Wed	4	Reading Group, 8pm, Janet Cooper's						
Sat	7	Cambridge Voices St John's Passion, St Cyriac's 5pm						
Sun	8	EASTER DAY						
Tue	10	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3.05-3:45, Chapel 3:50-4.10pm						
Thu	12	PC Meeting, 7.30pm VH						
Sat	14	Cantilena Singers, All Saints Church Worlington, 7.30pm						
Mon	16	WI, VH, 7.30pm						
Tue	17	Village Gardeners, VH, 8pm						
Wed	18	Crier Copy Deadline						
Thu	19	Mothers' Union, School Hall, Bulbeck, 2.30pm						
Tue	24	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3.05-3:45, Chapel 3:50-4.10pm History of Afternoon Tea, Oliver Cromwell's House, Ely, 2-4pm						
Sat	28	Moveable Feast, 7pm						
Wed	2	Village Hall AGM, MAY						
Mon	7	Reach Fair, 12 noon, Reach						
Sat	12	Village Feast, 2pm						
Wed	16	Village Assembly						

Club FOSPS	Contact Clare Freeman	Tel. 741316	Date 2 nd Mon of Term	Time 8pm	Place Village School
Toddlers	Fleur Routley	743992	Fri	9.30-11.30am	Village Hall
Jamsing	Jo Pumfrey	741376	Tues (term)	9.20-12	Village Hall
Cubs	Andrew Noyes	743864	Weds (term)	6:00-7:30pm	Village School
Reading Group	Brenda Wilson	743937	1 st Weds of month	8:00pm	(See Crier)
Scouts	Andrew Noyes	743864	Weds (term)	7:45-9:15pm	Village School
Village Gardeners	Margaret Joyce	744390	3 rd Tues of month	8:00pm	Village Hall
WI	Margaret Phillips	741495	3 rd Mon of month	7.30 pm	Village Hall
Youth Club	Alan Badcock	742228	Tues	7-8:30pm	Youth Club Hut
1 outil Club	Alali Dadcock	142220	Thurs	7-10:00pm	