



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXX1 Number 6

June 2007



Editorial

AND IT'S FESTIVAL TIME AGAIN! Too many events to do them justice in the *Crier*—residents can expect to receive a full programme through their letter-boxes. Crier photographers need to have those cameras ready though, posterity awaits...

We have *four and a half pages* of letters this month, including much heart-felt support for Lisa Arksey's Cooper's Green letter of last month. This is despite the fact that many of you of having severe problems getting in touch at all, our email currently discriminating against local broadband users. What is it about computers?? They are *so* obliging, make themselves *so* indispensable and THEN, just when you need them most....

Also figuring in Letters is Geoffrey Woollards Appeal DON'T DITCH OUR LODS, a campaign which, with a little help, Geoffrey fought and won 30 years ago, but now is going to have to

start all over again: expect to hear more about this, and further rather disturbing reports of National Trust antics generally, in future issues.

May was an eventful month in Prior, with Feasts (moveable and otherwise), Assemblies, and all sorts going on—faithfully reported in this month's issue. Here you will also see a welcome return of a previous *Crier* editor—John Chalmers reports on the PC this month.

Lastly TWO STRAY CATS, one a pretty little grey and white, the other a long-haired grey, and with disproportionately BIG appetites, have moved in on Greenhead Rd. If you know anything about them please get in touch with Ruth Stinton (742641), who will direct you to their current accommodation address. See you Festivaling, although probably not soap-boxing down Cage Hill!

Caroline Matheson



Maypole Dancing at the Feast

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Cover Picture: St Cyriac's Church by James McCubbin



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Cooper's Green

I and my husband were saddened to read Lisa's letter last month regarding her children being scared off Coopers Green. We have lived in the bungalow opposite the Green for some 35 years, our children and many others would play on the Green, in fact we used to cut a cricket square for them to play on, and in all that time have never had windows broken or any other damage.

We are so lucky to have such a lovely safe and well looked after (by the Parish Council) environment, and feel aggrieved that others wish to restrict access to this public space. We have both noticed that in recent months fewer children have been using the Green. Now we know why.

Sue & Richard Rust

Dear Editors,

Interestingly worded article in the last crier re Coopers Green. For some reason the wording has led some keen readers to assume I or my close neighbours have objected to kids playing there. All our children have played there and continue, as far as I know, to do so without hindrance, my own included! I would not wish for anyone to think there had been any objection to that continuing. Please also be so kind as to point out that whilst there was considerable local objection to church CLOCK bells, (which had long ceased to ring), being re-installed to "ring like Big Ben across the village" (Alastair's words at the time), there was a realistic compromise in that they were modified prior to being installed, at my suggestion, to happily ring until 8 in the evening and re start at 7, and that I, for one, happily paid toward that cost at the time. It seems silly to use an old, and resolved, dispute to highlight a personal one, and I assume it had more to do with the wording than the intent.

Oh, and to his credit, (and I am loath to say this) AE did a good job in getting them bells set up. In the end it all worked out well (me thinks)

Tom R

Dear Editors,

With reference to the letter by Lisa Arksey, we have lived opposite Cooper's Green for many years, our children and grandchildren have all played on the green and still do. We have never had any cause to complain about the children playing there.

We would like to make it quite clear that Joyce Nash and our neighbour Sue Rust are not the ones who have complained to the children. We hope the lady who objects and complains has a change of attitude in the future, as we have found the children who use the green to be full of fun and well-behaved.

Joyce Nash

Dear Editors,

The District Council Elections

I would like to say a BIG thank you to everyone who voted for me in the Local Elections held on 3rd May 2007. What a fantastic turn out of people voting - 44.4% in Swaffham Prior - which is just fantastic! Whilst I didn't win this time – I was so proud that so many of you were extremely loyal in voting for me and you all gave me so much support and encouragement.

May I also say a huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped – delivering leaflets, delivering our Newsletters, canvassing, displaying Liberal Democrat Signs of all kinds, the people that counted the votes – it was just a tremendous turnout by everyone involved in Liberal Democrats. Canvassing, meeting people face to face in our villages and treating people as people and not just a number meant so much to me and hopefully to the people I spoke with. I met the most amazing people from all walks of life and I can honestly say “being involved” - with so much support was a truly wonderful experience which I would recommend to you all. You are not alone at any time and there is someone there always to help. When I met Alan Alderson last night at the Elections, there was no animosity – just friendly banter. At the end of the day, in our own local elections, there are genuine people who will give it their best shot and do what they can for you.

Conservatives	438	Alan Alderson
Liberal Democrats	222	Tina Jost
Labour	44	Sandra Wilson

Keep Voting – we DO make a difference!

Tina Jost

Dear Editors,

Moveable Feast

I would like to thank everyone who took part in this year's Moveable Feast, and in particular to the hosts Pam and Martin, Brenda, Dee and Andrew, Caroline and James, Katrina and David for so generously opening up their homes and providing such wonderful food. The deserts were delicious too, thank you to the cooks, and we made a magnificent £333.15 for Church funds in the process. A good evening all round - if you weren't there this year look out for the date in 2008, not to be missed!

Janet Willmott

Dear Editors,

Those Bryologists

Many thanks for the copy of *The Swaffham Crier* with the account of our bryological ‘invasion’. In the end we recorded 47 species from the churchyard, more than we have ever recorded in a Cambridgeshire churchyard before – but you do have 2 churches!

Chris Preston
Cambridge

Dear Editors,

Mary Edge

I would like to express my thanks for the cards and comforting messages received from Swaffham Prior friends and former neighbours of Tothill Road on the occasion of my mother's death on 30th April 2007. The efforts of those who made the long journey to attend her funeral in Bolton are especially appreciated.

We lived in the village for over 20 years but it was my mother's wish to one day return to her roots in Lancashire, and despite her failing health she enjoyed the last 20 months of her life living much nearer to her relatives and old friends. She would proudly show visitors to our new home an aerial photo of Swaffham Prior with our former bungalow, the two churches and other prominent landmarks. This picture does have pride of place on my hallway wall.

Thank you again for your kind thoughts at this time. They are greatly appreciated.

With kind regards

Graham Edge

52 Lentworth Drive, Walkden,
Manchester, M28 3EX.

Dear Editors,

Jessie Flack

Many of you knew our mum Jessie who for many years lived at Mill Hill, Swaffham Prior. During the years she worked at the Primary School serving dinners and later on she worked as a home help cycling to Burwell most days to look after all the old folk.

Mum and dad lived in Swaffham Prior for over 60 years. They started their married life living at the bottom of Rogers Road in the house where Clare and Tom Nubolt now live. They then moved to Mill Hill where they stayed until dad died in 2000 and mum moved to the bungalows at Swaffham Bulbeck. In 2002 she moved to a nursing home at Sawston where she remained until she passed away on 11th April.

I am sure many of you will remember seeing mum and dad walk around the village most afternoons — they were inseparable and this was their daily exercise. They were well known in Swaffham Prior, dad spending most lunch times with his mates in the Red Lion where there is a caricature of him along with all the other old gentlemen who used to sit and play dominoes during the day. Mum was usually riding her cycle around the village visiting her friends or going to the village shop (when we had one).

As a family we would like, through the Crier, to thank all those friends who attended her funeral at the Free Church, Swaffham Bulbeck on Monday 30th April. It was a lovely service and it was nice to see so many friendly faces. May we also thank Ruth for playing the organ, Jean and Cecil Nash for the kindness they showed us and to Brian Mizon for taking the service. We are most grateful to these people for making the day very special to us. The sun was shining and it was a most beautiful day as well as a most memorable service. Thank you all.

Sandra Butcher and family

Dear Editors,

DON'T DITCH OUR LODES!

Some 30 years ago, a hugely successful campaign was being waged under the above slogan. The Cambridgeshire Lodes, ancient canals of probable Roman origin, were threatened by the then authorities. Folk from far and wide rallied round to save these important historic and recreational features and, with the staunch support of such as County Councillor Mrs Margaret Shaw, County Councillor Mr Robert James, the Rt. Hon. Francis Pym, M.P., and Mr Ted Blackwell of Burwell, the decision was made to maintain and to preserve The Lodes. Such is the situation today: The Lodes have been maintained and preserved.

But documents have come to me indicating that The Environment Agency has commissioned a 'scoping report' costing some £200,000 and that it is looking critically at The Lodes, a possibility again being that of converting all or some of them into ditches. It appears that the old slogan is just as relevant now as it was in the 1970s.

A new factor is The National Trust's plans to buy up and partially to flood some 10,000 acres of rich fen land and it appears that the Trust is supportive of 'lowering' some of The Lodes. Lowering is much the same as ditching. Fortunately, the Swaffham Internal Drainage Board is on record as unanimously supporting The Lodes being maintained in their current form.

However, the Philistines could still be triumphant if their opponents are inactive. Many fine friends of The Lodes are no longer with us. I am 30 years older and cannot do what I could. So, this is a call to arms for our younger and more civilised allies - 'Don't Ditch Our Lodes!'

Geoffrey Woollard,

Chapel Farm, River Bank, Nr. Upware.

Dear Editors,

Crier Features

Most disappointed not to see in the last issue the articles, letters or features from those who tell others what not to write. Where are their preferred subjects, then - surely they can set the standard by contributing what should go in instead?

At the very least, they can do something useful and offer to guest-edit the next issue. They can have no end of fun generating copy from around and about the village. Go for it, you guys.

Mark Lewinski

PS. Ophir Catling's bicycle statistics sound pretty unlikely, adding up to 234,000 stolen in Cambridge every year. That's enough to keep an entire national cycle industry in business, and would involve huge deliveries of new ones daily, not to mention the truckloads of stolen goods departing simultaneously. Is that what's keeping the traffic so congested?

Dear Editors,

Trick or Treat

Although this event seems along time away, I would like to make the following suggestion:

The children in the village love "Trick or Treating" and I feel that the **Crier** can play its part it making this event better for those who participate and even for those who do not.

I believe it would be useful if households who are happy to be called upon could display "a luminous centre page pullout" supplied in the September & October issues of the Crier and/or put their address on a list issued in the Crier stating that they are happy to be called upon.

By doing this, those who have invested heavily in goodies get the callers and those whose names are not on the "call-by" list can take it easy and won't get annoyed.

What do you think?

Worth a try or a complete waste of time.

Tim Doe



Eds Note: We'd happily publish a list, if one could be collated. People who welcome callers often have a pumpkin or a candle in the window. Perhaps we could offer this alternative KEEP AWAY notice? It would nicely compliment all those no-smoking ones we have to stick up, and the Village Hall must have some to spare BECAUSE:—

THE PUMPKINS ARE BACK

Some years ago Pumpkins were thrown off the Autumn Show's list of exhibits. They are making a return at this year's show on September 15th.

The class is to be the Largest Pumpkin.

This early announcement is so that people can sow the seeds now.

SWAFFHAM PRIOR FESTIVAL

**SATURDAY 23rd JUNE
VILLAGE HALL**

A chance to see some local talent
at a real FAMILY SHOW!

KEITH PEARSON'S COUP de GRASS

Hot 4-piece bluegrass band
Featuring ex-World Champ harmonica player
- Yes! seriously -

PLUS

KIERAN RAJA & RYAN NOYES

aka The Cage Hill Hillbillies

AND

MINNIE WILLMOTT

7.30 for 8 start

Drinks at the bar

Parking at the rear

Tickets £5 adults, £2.50 for kids under 12

Contact Andrew Noyes 01638 743864

Email: noyeshome@swaffham-prior.co.uk

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

IT WAS JUST AS IF I HAD NEVER BEEN AWAY – my first PC meeting in over 10 years, and it's still the same Mad Hatter's Tea Party even though some of the guests have changed; we still have a March Hare and a Dormouse, and a wonderfully patient Alice doing her best to make sense of it all.

The sense of unreality starts with the Agenda, with Apologies for Absence and Declaration of Interest coming after the first two items of business. It seems a bit odd that you can elect the Chairman without knowing who is there, and the Parish Councillor Responsible for Finance without asking for declarations of interest. In the event, Hazel Williams apologised for nearly being late, and no-one declared an interest in anything.



So on to the business; Geoffrey nominated John Covill for Chairman 'Cos he's a good old boy' and Andrew Camps for Vice 'Cos so is he', and so it was. The confirmation of other responsibilities wasn't quite so straightforward – who was the 'RFO' (Responsible Financial Officer) and who the 'PCRF' (see above)? Did anyone know the difference? Steve K-P said he couldn't be either because he was the internal auditor – so that makes at least three finance posts to be filled. After a lot of mumbling, they all agreed to agree on something and Karen wrote it down, but I don't think anyone else would be able to confirm afterwards what it was.

Then there was a bit of procedural wrangling about Matters Arising, because two of the items listed did not appear in the previous Minutes (and therefore could not have arisen from them), but it all got swept aside and forgotten when Geoffrey worked himself into a full-scale rant about Street Signs – why haven't the ECDC done anything yet? – and if nothing was done soon, he would uproot them himself and dump them on Allen's doorstep. Goodness me. The next debate came as a welcome bit of light relief - which side of the electricity substation on Cage Hill is the front? (If anyone is interested to determine the matter for themselves, apparently

you can feed the new CB25 postcode into Google Earth and get a nice photo of the substation, but not into Google Maps, so you won't be able to find it).

Hazel reported that the CCC had considered various options for sorting the lorry bridge/crossing problem at Ely, and discounted most (including the proposal to dig a much deeper hole for the roadway under the bridge – who thinks these things up??) but was considering building stacking lanes for trucks on each side of the crossing.



Reach Lode: plans are afoot to ditch it.

Maybe the drivers will be able to pass the time watching the aircraft stacking overhead in the newly-defined holding patterns for Stansted. She drew the council's attention to Speed Limit Policy new review document, but had to admit that it was unlikely to result in any help for Mill Hill, which became a topic in itself, with everyone expressing dissatisfaction about obscure sets of rules which don't allow for any sensible traffic calming measures or a reduction in the speed limit.

Her best news was that this was 'Compost Awareness Week', and we can get free 'Environmentally Friendly Soil Conditioner' from the Donarbon site in Milton – but you have to take your own bag. Alternatively, hire a skip from them, and they will deliver it full of compost.

For ECDC, Allen was quizzed about the LodeStar festival, which has now been reduced from 30,000 to 10,000 capacity, so we can anticipate a mere 3,500 cars passing through the Lode crossroads. He then got a grilling about Travellers on Headlake Drove, and the fact that the number of vans had increased that very day. Members of the council who should know better asked why immediate action was not being taken to remove them, and weren't happy to be reminded that there were rules that had to be followed whether they liked them or not. Like the speed limit issue, there is a real sense of powerlessness about this.

Amongst the correspondence received was the Ely Ouse Lodes Strategy Document (or something like that), the very mention of which got Geoffrey going on the subject of NT plans to expand the Wicken Fen area. It seems that there are proposals to reduce (or stop entirely) the maintenance of some major lodes (including Reach and Burwell), which could eventually vanish, particularly if the surrounding area has become fenland. The 'Future Fen Policy' document that proposes this has been 'widely consulted' – but not with Reach PC. Geoffrey handed out badges with the words 'Don't Ditch our Lodes' – they were 30 years old, and had been made for a previous campaign. We may need some more.

The other significant bit of correspondence concerned the use of Coopers Green – someone is unhappy about some of things some other people do on it. The PC reminded itself that they (the PC) owned it, and that it was registered as an 'Amenity Area', and thus available for recreational use. Two proposals were made to address the problem – the first (which everyone could sense coming) being to build houses on it, the second to offer the complainant a booklet on conflict resolution. The latter was adopted, but I'm sure we haven't heard the last of the former.

And lastly, the Rogers Road sign – the old fingerpost is rotten, and will cost around £600 to make a proper job of replacing, which the PC would have to pay, as the CC would only consider a standard boring modern one. Sorry folks, but with the best will in the world, they didn't think this was a sensible use of PC funds.

By this time it was 9.30, and I had to leave to attend another meeting, so I don't

“ The other significant bit of correspondence concerned the use of Coopers Green – someone is unhappy about some of things some other people do on it ”

know what kept them going until after 10, but am willing to bet that Geoffrey had his say. The man is unstoppable, but at least it prevents the dormice falling asleep.

Don't ditch our Lodes.

John Chalmers

GOODBYE BOTTSHAM!



Bobby Matheson and Hannah Willmott returning from BVC's Leavers' Day

DO WE KNOW these gorgeously attired young celebrities? Possibly, but not stepping off the school bus looking like this, we don't! The month of May saw Bottisham Village College's Leavers' Day, when leavers dress their best, and celebrations start with an (allegedly) champagne breakfast. Prior made a big impression this year, with Hannah's stunning outfit and super-model *je ne sais quoi* the talk of the school, and another Prior leaver, Head Boy Peter Hollingsworth, playing a starring rôle with his band. The day was much enjoyed by all. Only a few *exams* to get through now, and then it's on to the Leavers' Ball...

BEWARE LEAD THIEVES!



WE HAVE JUST HEARD that all of the lead has been illegally removed from Quy church, which suggests that we should all be on the look out around the village, and not just for the churches, in case it is just the first in a 'campaign' in our area.

We have no roof-work planned for of either St Mary's or St Cyriac's and **so anyone on the roof of either building should be treated as suspicious.** Please be aware and report any suspicious activity.

May I please ask that we all spread the word around the village to ensure that as many people as possible are aware of this threat.

Christopher Walkinshawe

The Cambridge Evening News Reported:

A 100-YEAR-OLD church organ was wrecked after thieves stripped lead from a roof allowing rain to flood in. The organ at St Mary's church, in Stow-cum-Quy, was in perfect working order, despite being built more than a century ago, until the lead sheeting was stolen from the roof.

The theft left the church open to the elements, and a week of heavy rain led to extensive water damage to the instrument, which is now unplayable.

Organist Lynn Hatley said: "It is very sad, because the organ had all its original parts and worked perfectly - the only work it had in 100 years was when an electrical blower was installed in 1953.

"The thieves must have used a ladder to get on to the roof, then rolled the lead up and taken it away - you can see where they dragged it over the wall.

"If this had happened a couple of weeks earlier we might have got away without too much damage, but because of all the rain the organ repairers tell us it has been completely wrecked.

"We will need to take it apart and completely restore it, which will cost about £20,000 - we hope the insurance will cover it, otherwise we will have to do a lot of fundraising.

"It is a great shame because the organ was used all the time, and there is a big wedding planned at the church next month which will now have to make other arrangements for music."

The theft happened between Sunday, May 6, and Friday, May 11, when the damaged roof was discovered.

It follows a spate of thefts of metal across the region during the last year.

Anyone with information about the incident should contact police on 0845 4564564, or call Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

The Perplexing £ s d Test

20 shillings in a pound;
 12 pence in a shilling.
 2 halfpennies in one penny,
 4 farthings in one penny

Each answer is an amount of money in the old £ s d monetary system.

The final total amount of money has been given. You are asked to insert each of the twelve amounts of money which, added together, equals the final total of £32.17.8½.

Good Luck!

No	Clue	Pound £	Shillings s	Pence d
1	A stone			
2	A bicycle			
3	A man's name			
4	A singer			
5	A type of pig			
6	A leather worker			
7	Part of a monkey's leg			
8	Sun, moon and mars			
9	A royal headdress			
10	50% of panties			
11	Batter			
12	Unwell sea creature			
	TOTAL	32	17	8 ½

Chris Carrington

FESTIVAL HELP NEEDED!

22nd June to 1st July

Volunteers still needed to help with setting up, participating and helping with ALL the Village events – please contact Tina Jost as soon as possible to let her know how you can help.

Thank you so much!



Tina Jost

Art Exhibitions (Adult & Childrens)
Art Auction (Adult & Childrens)
"Combertones" Dixieland Jazz
Festival of Flowers
Village Market Stalls
Scouts 100th Anniversary Display
School Production of "If the World were a Village" plus School Choir,
A Musically Entertaining evening with "Coup de Grass" and "Cage Hill Hillbillies"
Cream Teas
Working Windmill
Village Cage & Pound
Old Forge
Songs of Praise

Art in Action
"Stepping Out" - Tap Dancing
"The Good Old Days" - Piano, B&W Photos, Traditional
Film Evening of Village Life
Worship Tonight (WOW) and "A Note for a Child" – Beautiful Music
"The Lighter Side of Village Life" - Comedy Evening for all the family
Summer Fair of Swaffham Prior Church of England Primary School
"Handel's Messiah" Cambridge Voices & the Orchestra of the Age of Reason directed by Ian de Massini
Arrangements with Bach Piano Recital – Ian de Massini
The Big Raffle Draw

THAT VILLAGE ASSEMBLY

Including

GEOFFREY'S HALF-HOUR

THE ANNUAL VILLAGE ASSEMBLY is of course the one occasion of the year when the Sports & Recreation Committee really star, almost to the point of a heartfelt standing ovation when their spot is announced. *Who??* we hear you cry. *But don't they always forget to come?*

Precisely!! You see, our Assembly can be a bit of a marathon, and as the hours roll by but the items on the agenda don't, participants can console themselves in happy anticipation of those golden words: "**Item 13. The Sports & Recreation Committee.** What, no report? Not here? (*the Chairman always feigns surprise*) Well, on to the next..."

In fact, there are quite extraordinary numbers of people and things necessary for the good-running of our little village, and lots of chestnuts old (mostly) and new (very occasionally) to be considered at the Assembly. Affordable housing, the new football ground, the School, buses, traffic, waste-collection, street-lights, sign-posts, fire-stations, our Parish, County and District representatives, the Village Hall, the Parochial Charities, the Scouts, the Youth Club, the evil "Parish Plan", the National Trust and *its* evil plans: everything/body has to be crammed in somehow.

But whereas presenters generally have brevity down to a fine art—short, and sometimes even *entertaining* reports, with additional facts on printed handouts—the audience has no such inhibitions. Yes, for once we have these people in our sights: *why* is this, *what* is that, *when* will someone do something about it. The point of a village meeting of course, and this one was no exception.

It kicked off with 20 present, rose to nearly 30 with a picturesque invasion of fully-uniformed Scouts (now becoming a regular intermission) and then tailed off steepishly after our Councillors left, leaving a loyal band wishing to raise further chestnuts at Open Question Time. This item is cunningly contrived to occur right at the end of the meeting, and this works every time. Any Questions is short, Any Answers practically monosyllabic: the Assembly, with the Lion Snug firmly in its sights, is already half-way to the door.

But did you enjoy it Mrs Lincoln? Well YES as a matter of fact, a marathon well worth the effort. Our PC and Village Orgs do a Good Job, Hastoes Affordable-Superior-Architecture Housing Association was really quite convincing; lots of interesting happenings and snippets in our midst, lots of opportunities for everyone to ask/congratulate/commiserate/moan about it all, and particularly good having our Councillors there, who were very informative, very ready to take matters up elsewhere, and only a pity they had to leave after their presentations (perhaps we should put *them* on at the end).

And the real star of the show? Geoffrey Woollard of course, whose entertaining interventions may have drawn the meeting out a tad (or two, hence our subtitle) but were well worth having. Geoffrey v. The Mighty National Trust. Who shall we back to win? No contest there: *Geoffrey* every time.

Caroline Matheson

Whilst the New World undoubtedly has its exciting life style,
one should not ignore the Old World,
with its many Historically Important Sites.

**“.....an holy nation, a peculiar people”
(1st Peter 2.9)**

I'd like to visit the Holy Land
Where the Dawn of Christianity was planned.
They have some Notably Ancient Sites
And a few Very Significant 'Heights'.

But then again, on the other hand,
There is quite simply, too much sand.

I like to think that I could see
The shores and boats of Galilee,
And sample the Bread 'n Fish Take-a-Way
That was surely there in J.C's day.

On second thoughts, it was simple fare,
And I wouldn't like the sand which is there.

I like to think that I could be
One of the thousands who daily see
The famous Stable and the Star,
That shone in the sky, that Night, from afar.

On reflection though, I don't think I might,
It's probably not safe to go out at night!

And so after all, I don't think I'll go,
Swimming, as ever, against the flow.
News of their conflict starts to pall
And it's probably not safe to go there at all!

Ophir

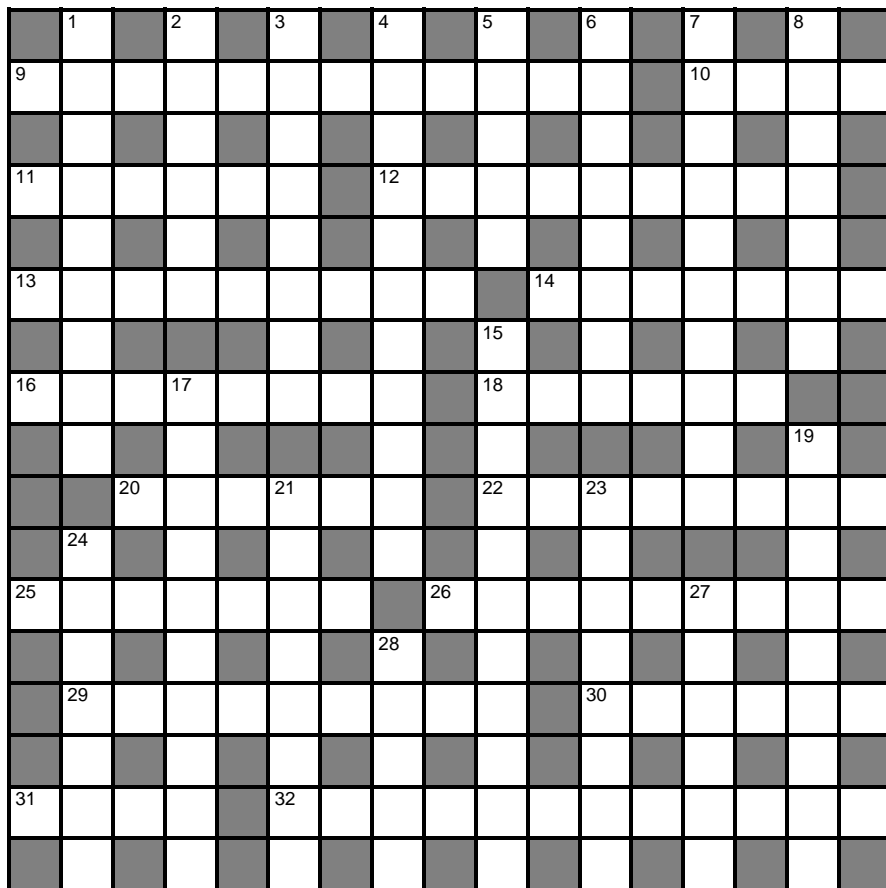
Crossword Number 43

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

OUNCE

This month's puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18th June 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.



Name:.....

Address:.....

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

Across

- 9 What Meg bit, an unorthodox pugilist (12)
- 10 Add golfer's warnings, we hear, for outmoded sportswear (4)
- 11 Dealer in old rap erring on caution's side (6)
- 12 Journalist! Fifth is traitor! (9)
- 13 Take a chance on dance Vera tuned (9)
- 14 Pardon the Latin Four in Forge Case (7)
- 16 Marine, having swallowed two doughnuts, follows directions for TV studio (8)
- 18 Moonwalker: Loony Linda right? (6)
- 20 "Monster!" Tabloid after Deputy Head - nothing new (6)
- 22 Circus swingers catch Bridge opponents after Eastern Final (8)
- 25 Writer returns with music by Holst (7)
- 26 Grasping limbs ruined Lawrence's northern castle (9)
- 29 Tigress he destroyed for tourist (9)
- 30 Therapeutic mixture Ada left ready made (6)
- 31 Don't mope, disperse, to get this verse (4)
- 32 Arrange odd upper-class park into square for bashing? (6-6)

Down

- 1 Tormented, wild gander hid (9)
- 2 Good man led a quiet pupil to English basic commodity (6)
- 3 Teratoma: malformation due to almond liqueur (8)

- 4 Create money by adapting Japanese ritual (3,8)
- 5 A Greek leader, one the French made nimble (5)
- 6 Lincs town, site of 1066 Bridge Battle fame? (8)
- 7 Season and cook Minster pig (10)
- 8 Sly, pelt Tory Leader I have followed (7)
- 15 Crazy cadger tilts ground level 'gates' (6-5)
- 17 Manoeuvres near deserted Sergeant at arms in disarray (10)
- 19 Crosby takes in oriental leader for execution (9)
- 21 Peony get mutated DNA constitution. (8)
- 23 Leo, Greta's scruffy secret persona (5,3)
- 24 Hop East for possible site of 4D (3-4)
- 27 Brief roles in "Embraced By..." became Oscar-winning performances (6)
- 28 Friends star fermented pear juice (5)

Solution to crossword no. 42

D	E	C	I	P	H	E	R		U	S	A	B	L	E	
O	R		I	S					C	O	N				
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THE 2007 VILLAGE FEAST

THE FEAST always seems to begin with just a bit of uncertainty. Will it rain? – yes it will - no it won't - yes it will - no it won't - yes it will. With faith and a certain amount of defiance the stalls were set out, they were covered, and then uncovered, the rain stopped, the gates opened, there was a brief threatening light shower, and then it was fine.

One attraction of our Feast is that

Egg expectations

it is a small village event in stark contrast to the now rather magnificent and slightly overwhelming Reach Fair. The Feast is just simple fun. Like the “bun on a string” competition. And it was full of little amusing incidents. One I especially liked concerned the young girl who, when the bric a brac was being sold off, came up with her 20p and purchased



In Flight



an item. Five minutes later she returned and exchanged it for something else, and she proceeded to do this another three times before returning the last object and asking for her money back – which she got.

The School's May Pole dancing was outstanding, the Scouts gave us lessons on map co-ordinates, and all the stalls were busy busy busy. The afternoon ended with the usual egg throwing competi-

Final Egg



tion and the event was wide open with the champion pair being absent. There was no outright winner this year but Simon Jeacock must be commended for making three superb one handed catches in a row, with one being behind him only inches from the ground. No longer will Dominic and Paul have it their own way – if they dare to turn up next year.

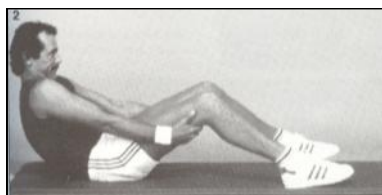
A big thank you to all who made donations, to those who looked after the stalls, and to all those who came and supported the Feast. Nearly £850 was made for the Village Hall funds.

Alastair Everitt

A Feast or Literary Postscript

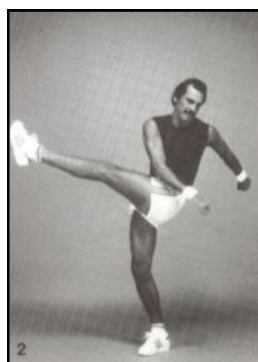
AS THE YEAR of the paunch begins to arrive those who were once lean are inevitably drawn to a book entitled *Flatten Your Stomach*.

And so it happened when one visitor to the Feast selected



it from the Bookstall. He opened it, only to become horrified and panicky as he came face to face with pictures like these.

He hurriedly put it down and wandered off in a daze.



Alastair Everitt

ROGATION DAY

SUNDAY 13 MAY was Rogation Sunday, which is traditionally associated with asking God for his blessing on the land, and the old practice of "beating the bounds" of the parish. In the Anglesey Benefice, Family Services are held at farms, and Swaffham Prior's service at the Adventurer's Farm, hosted by James and Janet Willmott, followed by the now traditional and extremely delicious lunch.



"Robin marvelled at Janet and Penny's trick of balancing two glasses of red wine on a lasagne dish!"



The weather sent us indoors and we shared the stables with the horses for the service – they really appreciated the hymns! Janet provided a wonderful selection of hot main courses followed by exotic fruit platters for dessert, and although a primarily a social event rather than a fundraiser, £160 was raised for church funds. We are grateful to the Willmott family for their hospitality and to Janet for the wonderful food.



Dee Noyes

Moveable Feast Saturday

28th April, 2007

WE WERE LUCKY TO HAVE A FINE EVENING and even luckier in the interesting venues Janet Willmott had found for us to visit. We all (28 of us) began at Pam and Martin Mead's beautiful barn conversion. The light flooded in through the huge window and we were able to admire all the hard work that Martin must have put into the conversion. The starter Pam prepared was a tasty dish to begin the



Puddings were served at architectural state-of-the-art *Underhill*

meal. After much chat and admiring comments we moved onto various locations for our main course.

Robin and I enjoyed a delicious meal of three different meat or vegetable lasagnes and salads at Dee and Andrew Noyes' house. Other fellow diners went to Caroline and James Matheson's house or Janet and James Willmott's where I gather the food was equally delicious. The wine flowed freely, as did the chat, and then it was time to move onto our pudding venue at Katrina and David's house.

We were altogether again at our final destination for puddings, coffee and tea. Needless to say we were very interested to see their home in Greenhead Road. Most of us had watched it being built and were delighted to have the opportunity to go inside! We were encouraged to have a good look around and appreciated it. There were some fabulous looking, and tasting, puddings and I think we were all probably tempted to try more than one - or two! I know several ladies provided the puddings and I don't know who you all were but they were very yummy!

Thank you to everybody who fed us all and welcomed us into their homes and thank you to all the diners, without whom there would be no point in having a Moveable Feast. Last, but not least, thank you to Janet Willmott for organising the whole occasion. It was a great success and I thought I heard you say that you were already planning next year's Moveable Feast! If any of you have never been before do try and come next year. It is such fun as you meet and have a chance to chat to people whom you have probably never spoken to before. It's a great way to get to know others who live in, or near, Swaffham Prior.

I very nearly forgot that in addition to having such a good time we raised £333.15 for the Church. A very enjoyable way to do some fundraising!

Ruth Scovil

School News

AS ALWAYS, LIFE IS VERY BUSY AT SWAFFHAM PRIOR SCHOOL.



I am very pleased to say that following Miss Lakey's resignation I have been appointed as permanent head of the school. This became official on the 1st May and I am enjoying taking on the role and looking ahead to the future of the school. One of my first jobs was to appoint a new deputy head. The interviews took place on the 10th May and after interviewing a very strong field of candidates the Governors appointed Mrs Eloise Cheales as our new deputy head. Mrs Cheales currently teaches in Surrey, and is very much looking forward to starting her new role at our school in September.

As summer is here we have been doing lots of activities outside, and none more exciting than our Sports Week, which took place during the week of 21st-25th May. Mrs Jackson spent a lot of time organising it and we were able to take part in lots of varied activities including; Tai-chi, bowls, football, trigolf, orienteering and whole school aerobics. The pinnacle of the week was a visit from England hockey player Jo Ellis. She got the children enthused about the sport and hopefully we might see some future England players from Swaffham Prior. The week finished with the whole school using up their energy on a fun bouncy castle.

During the same week we took part in the National Walk to School Week. All of the children were encouraged to walk to school this week. Those that live out of the village had to park on the outskirts and walk the rest of the way and the children from Reach who come by bus walked round the school field. Not only does this type of activity help the children to become fitter, but it also has a positive effect on the environment. Because of this we are going to continue the walking theme into the rest of the summer term by asking the children and families to take part in a 'Walk on Wednesday' campaign.

We are lucky to have very supportive parents at our school and as usual they have been doing an enormous amount to raise funds for the school. FoSPS have been busy with their Spuds and Puds Night, Easter Egg Bingo, Barrow of Booze and planning for the school Summer Fair which is on 30th June. In collaboration with the School Council they have also started to run the CCC (Children's Council Café) once a month. This has been an enormous success and members of the community are more than welcome to come along. The next one will be on 22nd June from 2.30 – 3.30pm. Come along for some delicious cake and a chat.

The children in Class 4 have been very busy with their Maypole dancing this term and have been very lucky that the rain just managed to hold off for the Reach Fair and the Village Feast. We also had a visit from the residents of Burwell Day Centre who enjoyed watching the children dance and hear the choir sing. I must thank Mrs Johnstone and Mrs Holt for their hard work with the children.

Well, let's hope the sun continues to shine for the rest of the term and that the

children in Class 4 have a brilliant time on their residential trip to Aylmerton, that Class 3 enjoy being Tudors at Peterborough Cathedral and that Class 1 and 2 learn a great deal on their trip to the Butterfly Farm.

Emma Vincent
Head Teacher

Cage Hill

Soap Box Challenge

Date: To be Confirmed — Possibly during the Festival (as yet not approved by the organisers, in fact, this is probably the first they have heard of it)

Venue: Cage Hill and the High Street

Sponsors: Probably the Red Lion

Rules: (The ones thought of so far!)

- Starting at various points up the hill, try to make the corner at the bottom of the hill and see how far along the High Street you can get.
- One Rider per soap box cart.
- Soap Box Carts to be built from scratch (No old go-karts etc)
- Brakes —optional
- No means of propulsion apart from the gradient of the hill
- No less than 4 wheels
- Enter at own risk!
- Crash helmets must be worn!

Assistance will be needed as follows:

- We need marshals for stopping the traffic
- Some straw bales for crashing into on the outside of the bend
- A first aider
- Anyone interested in helping with this proposed event to call Tim Doe on 01638-743656

Bring your own plasters!

Tim Doe

We congratulate Hilary Sage, the winner of last Crossword month's competition, who should collect her prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Bob & Julie Nunn and Shirley Wilkins.



WI Notes

OUR FUND RAISING EFFORTS at the Swaffham Prior Feast fell rather flat this year – the cold wind and showers deterred all but the hardest folk from buying ice cream despite the hard sell tactics. Perhaps we should look at a soup kitchen next year!

At the May meeting we debated and voted unanimously in favour of the 2007

WI resolution ‘that urges H.M Government to stop the closure of Community Hospitals, which provide essential services to local people.’ This will be now taken to the national AGM in June. After a break for refreshments we were entertained by several members giving us a potted history of their lives – you would never believe what secrets were revealed – but of course you would have to be a WI member to share in such revelations. Our June meeting is an outing to Little Bentley Hall and in July we have our summer party hosted by Betty Fox. We hope the weather will be good for both these events.



Little Bentley Hall: the WI's June Destination

The next meeting in the village hall will be on August 20th when we are having an Ascot Evening – posh frocks, hats and horse racing – sounds intriguing – not too many horses I hope.

New members are always welcome – we are a really friendly group – why not give us a try?

Pat Cook

The Reading Group Reads....

Arundhati Roy's

The God of Small Things

OR NOT, as the case may be! Arundhati Roy's first novel, *The God of Small Things*, took four years to write, was acclaimed as a masterpiece and rapidly became an international literary sensation.

Brought up in Kerala, Roy trained as an architect in New



Delhi, where she wrote screenplays for television and film, before locking herself away to write *The God of Small Things*. Drawn from experiences in Roy's life, it tells the tragic story of a Syrian Christian family from Aymenem, in Kerala, riven by internal jealousies and divided by social prejudices.....yes, it's not a *happy* book.

Alas, its (allegedly) unique structure and lyrical prose were completely lost on all present, who unanimously gave it the thumbs down, although numbers, despite much shenanigans *not* to collide with the VH AGM, were severely depleted—where were we all? Next month's book is by LOCAL BOY Jason Webster's *Duende*, and the meeting will be 8pm at Kent House., when we'll also decide on our next 6 months' books.

Caroline Matheson

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre presents

HMS PINAFORE

by Gilbert & Sullivan

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre proudly presents "HMS Pinafore" by Gilbert and Sullivan on 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th June 2007 at 7.30pm with a matinee on Sat 9th June at 2.30pm.

Tickets cost £7 for the Wednesday and Thursday evening performances. £8 for Friday and Saturday evening performances. Matinee tickets are £4. All tickets include a programme.

As usual, performances take place inside a barn which has been adapted to create a theatre. There is a licensed bar. Toilet facilities (including disabled) are available and there is off-road parking.

For tickets or further information, please contact Kari Karolia on 01223 813655 or email kari.karolia@gmail.com Visit our website at www.sbstgands.co.uk

SID'S TOP TIPS

NO. 4

**When your stomach is awry
give Calvados a try**



EAST CAMBS DISTRICT COUNCIL

From our District
Councillor
Allen Alderson

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK all those who supported me in the recent East Cambs District Council election, and for your trust in allowing me the privilege of being your voice on the District Council.

However, let me assure all those who voted for my opponents that I am just as much their spokesman and will strive to act on their behalf also.

For the last four years we have had a hung council consisting of equal representation of Liberals and Conservatives with the six Independents holding the balance of power.

This often resulted in proposals being drawn out, with some not reaching fruition.

Following the elections the Conservatives are the largest parts with an overall majority of nine. The new composition of the Council should result in a clearer sense of direction. This in turn will hopefully help the Council officers by knowing that will be easier to deal with the many issues that confront our district.

50% of the workers in East Cambs commute out of the District to work, resulting in more vehicles on our all ready overcrowded roads.

We must therefore do all we can to increase local employment prospects and attract additional retail services to support the needs of the residence of the District.

There will be many other challenges on things such as transport, recycling, housing, then leisure and sport.

Our Conservative group will and endeavour to meet those challenges.

Allen Alderson

*Congratulations Allen! Whatever else being DC might involve, it's certainly **very hard work**: your electorate clearly appreciates what you have been doing. Eds*

Have you heard about Care and Repair?

We are a non-profit making organisation based in Soham, which has been helping elderly and disabled people organise building works to their own homes for 12 years. We help with repairs, adaptations and improvements. Caseworkers visit people in their own homes to give a confidential service providing free advice. We are funded by the District Council, Social Services, Health Service and Charities.

The building works may be large or small from extensions to dangerous electrics, from a leaking flat roof to a level access shower. The aim is to ensure that people remain at home in security and safety. We employ contractors from our vetted list

and oversee the work.

Much of the building work we do is paid for by grants from the local authorities. We help people apply for these grants if they are entitled to receive them. The District Council also provide loans for large repairs and we can help organise works to be paid for by these loans. We charge a fee for arranging the building works, which is included in the grant or loan.

Other people who contact us want to pay for the building works themselves, but need a helping hand planning and arranging the building work. We always agree any costs with our clients before proceeding with planning or arranging building work.

If you are elderly or disabled and need to carry out repairs or need to adapt your home, please contact us to find out more. Our details are

Care and Repair East Cambridgeshire Ltd

Telephone 01353 723777 Fax 01353 723778

Our web site is www.careandrepair-ecambs.co.uk

PS We have a handyperson service for small jobs. It costs £10 plus the cost of any materials. This is ideal for small carpentry or building work.

The Cantilena Singers
Cambridge Composers through the Ages
Sat 7th July 2007 7:30
St Mary's Church, Burwell
Director Daniel Spreadbury

Programme includes
What is Our Life - Gibbons
It was a Lover and His Lass - Rutter
Three Motets - Stanford
Seven Part Songs - Stanford
Oculi Omnium - Wood
Hail Gladdening Light - Wood
plus a selection of songs from Cambridge
composers

Programmes/Tickets on the door; prices tba
Proceeds to church and charity
tel: 01223 812115 for detail

What's Happening At....

Oliver Cromwell's House

Saturday 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

Tuesday 12th June: Cookery Lecture – Flower Power (10 am-12 noon)

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. £10 per person, places must be pre-booked. Contact us for dates of other Cookery Lectures.

**Ely Tourist Information Centre, Oliver Cromwell's House,
29 St Mary's Street, Ely, Cambs. CB7 4HF**

Tel: 01353 662062 Fax: 01353 668518

E-mail: tic@eastcambs.gov.uk. www.eastcambs.gov.uk/tourism

OPEN HOUSE

In aid of Cancer Research UK

Tuesday 5th June 2007

**My house will be open to visitors all day
between 10.30 a.m. and 8.30 p.m.**

Refreshments / Raffle

Mini Manicures

Reflexology Taster

Hand / Foot Massage

Facials / Make-up

**Please come and support this event
to help raise money for this good cause**

11 Tunbridge Close Bottisham Cambridge CB25 9EB

Contact Diane – 01223 811182

FREECYCLE

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.

Offers	Wants	Details:
Sofa Workshop 3-seater sofa, dark green loose cover Sofa Workshop 2-seater sofa, burgundy loose cover Wood for wood burner from unwanted garden shed		Chrissie, 01223 812970 (evenings)
	Exercise rowing machine	Nicole, 01223 812363
	Portable potty Balls for ball pool	Jun, 01223 813362



BOTTISHAM TRINITY FAIR

SATURDAY 23rd JUNE
2 - 4pm Vicarage Gardens

GAMES

JEWELLRY

CARDS

PLANT STALL

CRAFTS

BOTTISHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL DANCERS

Notes from the Parish Council May Meeting

Following confirmation of office, Chairman Mr John Covill chaired the meeting with 6 Parish Councillors and 2 members of the Public.

Election of Chairman & Vice-Chairman:

John Covill was unanimously elected as Chairman and Andrew Camps was unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman.

Following the election process, Parish Councillors signed their “Declaration of Acceptance of Office”. Parish Councillors are:

Mr John Covill (Chairman)
Mr Andrew Camps (Vice-Chairman)
Mr Eric Day
Mr Steve Kent-Phillips
Mr Peter Hart
Mr Geoffrey Woollard
Mrs Sandra Gyn
Mrs Sandra Wilson

The Parish Council has one vacancy. Anyone interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk for further information.

Confirmation of PC Representatives for Village Committees/Groups:

Peter Hart – Village Hall Management Committee

Steve Kent-Phillips – Sports & Recreation Committee

Eric Day, John Covill & Andrew Camps – Parochial Charities

Confirmation of RFO & PCRF:

John Covill - RFO (Responsible Financial Officer)

Steve Kent-Phillips - PCRF (Parish Councillor Responsible for Finance)

Minutes of Last Meeting: These were agreed following minor amendment.

Matters Arising:

High Street signs & numbering: Awaiting reply from Andrew Killington of ECDC on action to be taken.

Agenda for Annual Village Assembly: This was discussed.

Repairs to Electricity Substation, Cage Hill: It was hoped that repairs to the fencing around the substation would be carried out in the near future. The Clerk is to contact EDF to discuss the type of fencing used. It was suggested at the meeting that a paling type fence, which would allow for some view of the substation, should be used.

Reports: CCC – Cllr Hazel Williams reported to the meeting

ECDC – Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting

Correspondence Received: This was reported.

Mill Hill – Traffic Calming & Monitoring: This was discussed further and the Clerk is to contact CCC Highways with a view to a meeting ‘on site’ to discuss the

way forward.

Coopers Green, Green Head Road: A letter had been received expressing concern about the use of this area by young people. It was noted that the green had been used as a play area by children for many years but it was agreed that consideration should always be given to neighbours of the area.

Repair/Replacement of Road Sign, Rogers Road:

Quotes had been invited for this work. One quote was received. Following discussion it was agreed that the cost was too high. The Clerk is to again contact CCC to ask if the complete signpost could be replaced with a sign to CCC's specification rather than the traditional one in place.

Play Area – RoSPA Annual Inspection and Future Repairs/Maintenance:

Following receipt of the annual inspection report, items to be addressed are:

replacement of surfacing under 4-bay swings

tidying of new growth at base of trees on front boundary

tidying of area beneath baby swings

clearing of moss covering on surface beneath slide.

The Clerk to obtain prices for the main items above.

Approval of Accounts & Annual Audit Return for 2006/07: These were approved

Appointment of Internal Auditor: It was agreed to appoint Mr Terry Chalmers of Burwell to carry out this audit.

Accounts for payment: These were agreed.

Planning Applications: Rear of 16 Green Head Road – *two-storey extension*. No objections.

new gates.

Items for the Next Agenda will include:

Quality Status

New Code of Conduct

Parish Council Vacancy

Jointly Funded Minor Highways Improvements – 2008/09 Bidding Round

Additional items raised:

The Clerk reported that the cemetery was very untidy and that she had chased the grasscutting contractor. Also the Pound needed tidying. Also the edging and stone covering to the footpath was badly in need of repair/replacement.

Open Question Time – general discussion.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday, 14th June 2007 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

**Karen King – Clerk
of the Parish Council**

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



Lode Baptist Chapel

Time for Change?

Last month Tony Blair announced that he was stepping down as leader of the Labour party and prime minister – so at the end of this month it will be all change at the top. The Conservative party, under the leadership of David Cameron, also seems to be undergoing something of an revamp.

I love to discuss politics, and I once stood as a candidate for the city council, but this column is not the place for a party political broadcast. Nonetheless, it is interesting to note the way in which the parties seem to need to keep constantly changing and adapting in order for them to be electable. I'm sure the politicians would argue that the principles remain the same, but the way in which they are best applied to our current situation needs to be constantly under review.

I guess, in a similar sort of way, I would want to say that this should also be true of the church. God's character never changes – divine principles like love and justice are not limited to a particular period of history. The teaching of Jesus, for example “love your enemy”, also remains as radical and challenging as it was 2,000 years ago. The church community, however, continually needs to be reviewing how it communicates these truths. I believe in a creative God who enables us, if we are willing, to constantly think of new ways of 'being and doing church'.

Do people reject Christianity because they don't believe in God and because they disagree with the teaching of Jesus? Some do – but in my experience many others, when they really hear what Jesus had to say, agree with him, but reject Christianity because they think the church is irrelevant or out of date.

So what would a church that was relevant to today's world look like? How can we remain true to the challenging life of Jesus, whilst making sure people aren't put off by a church that belongs to a different century? I'd be interested to know what YOU think – perhaps you'll contact me on simon.goddard@lodechapel.org.uk (or on 01223 812881) with some of your own ideas, or with your thoughts on these suggestions:

Church should help people to think about and take action on the issues that face the world today like poverty and climate change.

Church should encourage people to use their own creative ways of responding to God by writing songs or poems, painting, sculpting etc. instead of just singing.

Church should perhaps meet at a more convenient time and place, perhaps around a meal table in someone's home, so that there can be more discussion and participation.

Lode Chapel recently started a monthly Sunday Club which uses craft activities and video and seeks to be a bit more relevant, particularly if you have children. We've also started midweek small groups which meet in people's homes – but we

know we've still got a long way to go. I'd love to hear your suggestions, so please do get in touch.

Simon Goddard

St Mary's, Swaffham Prior - April and May Fundraising Events

THE MOVEABLE FEAST (p.21) was great fun and is reported on elsewhere; grateful thanks to Janet Willmott for organising this and to all hosts and participants. Just over £330 was handed to St Mary's Church.

Four beautiful luxury hampers, containing champagne, wine, coffee, tea, cookies and all manner of enticing delicacies were raffled at Reach Fair and raised £200. Many thanks to all who sold tickets and contributed goodies.

The Rogation Service (p.22) was held at Adventurer's Farm and was followed by the now traditional lunch. Although a primarily a social event rather than a fundraiser, £160 was raised for church funds. We are grateful to the Willmott family for their hospitality and to Janet for the wonderful food.

Dee Noyes



**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
BOTTISHAM**

SONGS OF PRAISE

**WITH THE
CAMBRIDGE SALVATION ARMY BAND**

**VICARAGE GARDEN
(bring your own chairs
in Church if wet)**

**SUNDAY 3rd JUNE
6.30pm**



Church of England Services

June 2007

	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior	ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck	Bottisham
Sun 3	11:00am Holy Communion	8:00am Holy Communion 9:30am Family Service	11:00am Pet Service 6.30pm Songs of Praise
Sun 10	8:00am Holy Communion 11:00am Family Service	9:30am Holy Communion	11:00am Holy Communion
Sun 17	11:00am Holy Communion	9:30am Village Communion	8:00am Holy Communion 11:00am Family Communion
Sun 24	11:00am Matins 6.30pm Songs of Praise	9:30am Holy Communion	11:00am Holy Communion

PASTORAL LETTER, June 2006

Bottisham Vicarage

Dear Friends,

This June marks the 4th anniversary of Pauline and my arrival in the Anglesey Group of Parishes. I always remember the trepidation I felt four years ago about the challenge and responsibility of looking after five parishes, and I would be fooling myself if I said that it has been easy. It has been very hard work, and has necessitated long hours spent in administration, pastoral care and in coping with the demands of the weekly routine of all the regular Sunday services, the schools, the residential homes, and the many weddings, baptisms and funerals that have inevitably come my way.

That is why I am so delighted to be able to announce the impending arrival of a Curate in the Anglesey Group. I must say that I never expected to get a Curate, but I guess the experience that I gained in training Curates in my last parish have

influenced the decision by the Diocese to place one with us now. His name is Jonathan Dowman. He is the son of a Clergyman, Peter Dowman, who is Rector of a group of Parishes centred on Warboys in the fens. Jonathan is 30 and is currently studying for the ministry at Trinity Theological College, Bristol. He is married to Emma and they have a four-month old baby girl – Amber.

Ely Diocese are currently purchasing a house for Jonathan and Emma and Amber in Bottisham, and I am expecting them to move in towards the end of June. It will be a hectic time for them all when they arrive, because almost immediately after they have moved in Jonathan will be whisked away on retreat to prepare for his ordination in Ely Cathedral on June 30th.

Inevitably Jonathan's ordination will be a special time for his family and friends to share with him in that very important milestone in his life; but we too will have an opportunity to celebrate his ordination with him, and to welcome him and Emma and Amber to our group of villages at a special **service of welcome at Holy Trinity Church in Bottisham on the 1st July at 10.30am**, to which folk from all five villages are welcome.

Jonathan's first year with us will be a time of settling in and getting to know the five villages, and my task will be to help him get to grips with the responsibilities and demands of ministry. A curacy is the like an apprenticeship, and it lasts for four years. It is a time when a Minister's sense of calling is honed, shaped, guided and affirmed in preparation for the moment when he or she is ready to take on their own parochial responsibility. My task, therefore, is to be a colleague, friend, guide and mentor to help Jonathan refine and develop his ministry, to the point when his personal gifts and skills are sufficiently developed and realised for him to 'fly the nest' and go it alone.

Inevitably, it is a huge responsibility for me to help him in this journey of discovery, but a great privilege and joy as well. In the first year Jonathan will be 'learning the ropes' and during this period he will be described as a Deacon. Then in 12 months time he will return to Ely Cathedral for the second stage of his ordination, when he will be ordained as a Priest. From then on I expect Jonathan to be a real asset and important resource for the five Churches. The very fact that he is young, with a young family, will in itself be a real boost for the Angelsey Benefice, and I am sure he and Emma will have a special ministry amongst children and young families.

I am sure that the next four years will be an exciting and stimulating time for Pauline and myself and our five parishes, and I hope and pray that during that period you will all get to know and love them.

May God bless you all.

David

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

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

Dates for Your Diary

June 2007

Sun	3	Song of Praise, Bottisham Vicarage Garden, 6.30pm
Mon	4	
Tue	5	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:05-3:45, Chapel 3:50-4:10pm
Wed	6	Reading Group, 8pm, Kent House HMS Pinafore, Bulbeck Barn, 7.30pm. Runs to Sat 9th, with matinee 2.30pm.
Thu	14	PC Meeting, 7.30pm, VJ
Mon	18	Crier Copy Deadline
Tue	19	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:05-3:45, Chapel 3:50-4:10pm
Sat	23	FESTIVAL Opening Show, 7.30 for 8pm, VH Bottisham Trinity Fair, 2-4pm, Bottisham Vicarage

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 nd Mon of Term	8pm	Village School
Baby & Toddlers	Fleur Routley	743992	Tues	2:30-4:00pm	Village Hall
Messy Play	Julia Turner	742688	Thurs	2.00-2.45	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
			Thurs	7-10:00pm	

***Village
Clubs
&
Societies***