

The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXII Number 4 April 2008



Editorial

Working for the Community! Or should that be for yet-another Gratuitous Government Initiative as we grumpily suggested last month? As the "Parish Plan" debate hots up (see *Our Reporter*), we'll need to distinguish.

Maybe the key is that little word for, because GGIs mostly kick off with with: "Working with Community". Anyone already engaged in community works is entitled to wonder whether this doesn't just mean more work for them and ask whether it's worth it. So apologies for any editorial ire last month, but before signing us up for the Five Year Plan, the planners might consider the workers and what they do already.

The Wicken Vision Meeting was greatly attended, standing room only at the



I'm dreaming of a White Easter ... (see p 13)

and back, the (undeservedly really - it was the Grapevine) took the credit from the very Consultant whose ilk in last month's criticised editorial. However said Consultant also promised to Report the meeting for us this month but we've lost his contact info, as have others, so we can't remind him. If Wicken Vision have been in touch with anyone, please could they remind them.

Looking back to last year's April Crier - as we do to see if anything should be in that isn't - we can't help but notice VILLAGE NO ASSEMBLY NOTICE. This matters because the PC want us to decide about Parish Planning at this meeting, not to mention discuss more Wicken Visions. But no date. no advance notice? Perhaps Letters and Our Reporter throw some light...

Don't forget: Grand Village Sale/Open Gardens coming up in June - get those cupboards sorted. And the Cage Hill Soap-Box Challenge - readers need information now!

Caroline Matheson

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Cover Picture: St. George's Mushroom by George Trapp (see page 15)



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Moveable Feast

I was overwhelmed by the fantastic response to this year's Moveable Feast, so much so that I had to have a reserve list for those that I had to regrettably turn away because I hadn't anticipated such an amazing uptake, about which I felt awful.

However, 34 brave souls (ad)ventured down onto the fen (sorry about the pun!) to the beautiful home of Linda & Colin Evans and their daughter and son-in-law Jill and John Jordan, for the starter. What a spread! A sumptuous choice of culinary treats awaited us along with a very warm welcome. The guests then departed for their main course destinations and grateful thanks go to Ruth & Robin, David & Annie and Kate for offering up their homes to entertain us. James and I had a diverse and delightful mix of guests and the time went too quickly before heading off back to the High Street at the kind invitation of Pat & Peter and to the most amazing selection of puddings supplied by other "Feast goers". Several participants had taken me at my word and had made this their "first time", and assured me by the end of the evening that it wouldn't be their last, having had such a delightful evening.

A very big thank you to everyone involved. We enjoyed wonderful hospitality, good food and wine, friendship AND made an amazing £491.46 for St. Mary's Church funds - *definitely* don't miss out on next year!! I promise to be able to accommodate more of you, I'm working on it already, watch this space as they say....

Janet Willmott

Dear Editors.

The Water Tower

I'll come and photograph it before it's lost. If any of your readers are interested, there is a "British Water Tower Appreciation Society" the web site address is http://www.watertowerproject.org.uk/

Ferrers Young

Dear Editors,

Children's Home Donations

I would like to say thank you to the residents of Tothill Road who recently gave to a house to house collection on behalf of the National Children's Home. A total of £31.35 has been forwarded to this very worthwhile charity. A website:

www.nch.org/childrentoday

has been set up where you will find lots of stories about the children who will be helped with donations such as this, All donations are appreciated, however large or small. Please take a look at the website if you have time.

Mary Cook

Dear Editors

Any Other Business

It is a delight I've long been denied - to open the *Crier* and find Mr Everitt being rude about me when I'm trying to be helpful, re Any Other Business. He's got that AOB in his bonnet, and I can tell he misses my replies, prefacing as he does his criticism of me with the phrase 'as usual' when he knows it's been a while now. People will think we're like those two old dears in *Cider With Rosie* who go on about each other to a great old age; then one expires and the other does the same within a week, with nothing left to live for. Or like my evil mog - stroke it and it'll bite you eventually - not out of any animosity, just force of habit. But how to respond? I've told everyone we are not adversaries. They'll think either I fibbed or that we're faking it. Or maybe that we can't help ourselves.

Mr Everitt wants the facts and says I don't give him many. So here's some: I've worked in a lot of educational establishments and for a number of examination boards in a lot of years; and I've experienced hundreds of formal meetings with innumerable contributors, from thoroughly equitable through cheerfully oblivious to thoroughly villainous; and well he knows that without a very expensive lawyer I would not be a wise chap to give him any facts on these pages about when and where. But he knows where to find me - I can tell him more whenever he likes.

It is a fact that I refer not to my current employment when I say I have observed AOB utilised as the nastiest and most underhand weapon in the hands of the most machiavellian, and like a blunt power tool in the hands of a child when wielded by the more inept. It is not a safe mechanism. It's another fact that I was explaining entirely theoretically in relation to PCC meetings because I am not making reference to this place or to any other PCC, and if it's not a fact that it was pretty evident when I wrote that last time, I've spelled it out for him now. Why ask for decision making power for a device that is likely to cause discontent and inaccurate decisions just by its very use?

If you are making decisions on behalf of your community the first duty is to be fair, honest and totally open. It's a fact that Mr Everitt wrote "points not on the agenda can be raised though this may depend on the skill of a member to relate it to some other topic being discussed" - a precise example of the underhand tactics that are sometimes used by someone with their own agenda; and evidence moreover that Mr Everitt does actually have some understanding of underhand tactics, though I'm interested that he uses the word 'skill' to describe them.

I'll expect the sound of the sharpening of Mr Everitt's blade, and to feel the blows of his rapier wit upon the pages of the next issue. But I can't think why he would want to continue, unless it's for the fun of it.

Mark Lewinski

(PS Don't read this, Peter. It'll only confirm your worst fears.)

Dear Editors,

Old Times, Old Timers

I reckon that it's either my speaking that's deteriorated with advancing years or Alastair Everitt's hearing that's not what it was for the same reason, but the latter 'old boy' certainly misheard this 'old boy' at the beginning of the Parish Council meeting on the 10th of January. I remarked then that it was my missus's sixty-eighth birthday, not mine (I am fast approaching seventy years of age, what used to be considered one's 'allotted span,' but I live in hope for a bit more).

And another thing: I hear that Alastair and Elizabeth Everitt are planning to move from Anglesey House, the former home (before he went to live at the Manor House) of my great uncle, Charles Yorke Woollard (1877-1932), to somewhere else in the village. I have told Alastair that were they to go further afield they would both be greatly missed by many in the parish including this reader of *The Swaffham Crier*.

Geoffrey Woollard (aged sixty-nine and three quarters).

PS. The aforementioned Charles Yorke Woollard was the third son of my great grandparents, Joshua Samuel Woollard (1844 - 1929) and Martha, née Clark (1849 - 1931). C.Y. Woollard farmed extensively in Swaffham Prior and elsewhere and lived for much of his married life at Anglesey House, moving in about 1924 to the Manor House. He married Winifred Mary Taylor (1890 - 1931), a daughter of William Farrow Taylor (1855 - 1920), founder and owner of the *Cambridge Daily News*. The wedding was reported in October, 1913, as follows:

" Interesting Wedding Woollard - Taylor

THE WEDDING TOOK PLACE at St. Andrew's Church, Chesterton, Cambridge, on Tuesday afternoon of Mr Charles Yorke Woollard, of Anglesey House, Swaffham Prior, third son of Mr and Mrs J.S. Woollard, of Chalk Farm, Bottisham, and Miss Winifred Mary Taylor, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs W.F. Taylor, of 1, Camden-place, Cambridge. A number of members and friends of the two families were present at the ceremony.

The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a dress of white charmeuse, trimmed with applique, and wore a lace veil surmounted by a wreath of orange blossom. Her only ornament was a gold pendant, set with pearls and amethysts, and she carried a sheaf of Madonna lilies and white heather, the gift of the bridegroom. There were seven bridesmaids in attendance upon her, Miss G.M. and Miss C.A. Taylor (sisters), Miss Grace and Miss Janet Woollard (sisters of the bridegroom), Miss Gwen Verrinder (friend of the bride), Miss Marjorie Lacey (niece of the bride), and Miss Joan Woollard (niece of the bridegroom). The five elder bridesmaids wore picturesque dresses of pheasant coloured crepe de chine, with a coatee of a darker shade of brocade, and Juliet caps. They wore pendants and chains, and carried shower bouquets of malmaisons, the gift of the bridegroom. The two little bridesmaids looked charming in dainty frocks of pale pink satin charmeuse, fashioned after the period of Charles I., also wearing pearl necklaces and carrying crooks draped with pheasant-coloured ribbons and malmaisons, the gifts of the bridegroom. Mr Frank S. Woollard (brother) acted as best man. The bridegroom's mother (Mrs J.S. Woollard) was becomingly gowned in a dress of soft black voile, relieved with white, and carried a shower bouquet of light and dark brown chrysanthemums. The bride's mother was attired in a heliotrope gown, with hat to match, and carried a bouquet of pink roses.

The service, which was partly choral, was conducted by the Rev. J. Morgan (Vicar of St. Andrew's-the-Great), assisted by the Rev. Lawrence Fisher (Vicar of St. Mary's, Swaffham Prior). The hymn 'Lead us, Heavenly Father', was sung at the entrance of the bride, and 'The voice that breathed o'er Eden' at the close, whilst the happy couple left the church to the strains of Mendelssohn's Wedding March. After the service a

reception was held at 1, Camden-place, where Mr and Mrs C.Y. Woollard received the good wishes and congratulations of a number of relatives and friends. Later in the afternoon they left for Brighton, where the honeymoon is being spent. The bride's travelling dress was a costume of navy whipcord, and a black velvet hat, trimmed with flowers and lace.. The presents included the following:

Bridegroom to bride - Fitted dressing case.

Bride to bridegroom - Suit case.

Bride's father and mother - House linen.

Bridegroom's father - Cheque.

Bridegroom's mother - Cutlery, gravy ladle, and sugar tongs.

Mr C.C. Ambrose - Soup ladle.

Mr and Mrs G.E. Asbee - Salad bowl.

Miss G. Bolton - Table centre.

Mr and Mrs L. Cole - Cheese dish.

Mr and Mrs A. Cook (Ipswich) - Cheque.

Mr and Mrs A. Chapman - Fruit knives and forks.

Mr and Mrs A.R. Chapman - Tea knives.

Miss J. McCoull - D'oyleys.

Miss I. McCoull - Slipper ornaments.

Mr and Mrs W. Child - Salt spoons.

Mrs Hedlev Baxter - Fan.

Miss Clark - Pair of vases.

Mr A. Christmas - Case of carvers.

Master Gordon Chapman - Tea cosy.

Mr and Mrs C.R. Chamberlin (York) - Fruit knives and forks.

Mr Caldwell Cook - Clock.

Misses L.A. Day - D'oyleys.

Rev. and Mrs L. Fisher - Inkstand.

Major and Mrs D. Finch - Pendant and chain.

Mr and Mrs H. Flanders - Coffee maker.

Mr and Mrs J. Hill - Book.

Mr C.W. Holland - Pendant and chain.

Dr. and Mrs G. Johnson - Sugar muffineer.

Mr and Mrs H. Kent - Muffin dish.

Mr and Mrs W. Kisby - Serviettes.

Mr and Mrs A.E. Lacey - Punch bowl.

Miss Mariorie Lacev - Table centre.

Misses N. and E. Lacev - Umbrella.

Mr and Mrs G.H. Lavender - Afternoon cloth.

Rev. and Mrs J. Morgan - Book.

Mr and Mrs Maris - Candlesticks.

Miss M. Maris - Table centre.

Mr Longhurst Murphy - Rose bowl.

Mr and Mrs Miller - Sachet bag.

Mr F. Miller and Miss J. Miller - Revolving

bookcase. Mr and Mrs Muirhead and family - Coffee maker.

Mr C, and Misses McNair - Coffee cups and trav.

Mr and Mrs J. Newman - Salt cellars.

Mr and Mrs J. Nutter and family - Candlesticks.

Mr J. Nutter. iun. - Flower vases.

Miss A. Norton - Serviette rings.

Mrs Partoon - Tobacco jar.

Mr and Mrs J.V. Pryor - Toast racks.

Mr and Mrs C. Palmer - Pair of ornaments.

Mr J. Palmer - Biscuit barrel.

Mr and Mrs W.B. Redfern - Fruit spoons.

Dr. and Mrs G. Roper - Book.

Mr and Mrs E. Rider - Candlesticks.

Mrs L. Rees - Set of Chinese mats.

Mr and Mrs G. Stace - Handbag.

Mr W. Saint and family - Clock.

Mr and Mrs E. Saint - Inkstand. Mr and Mrs D.J. Scott - Picture.

Mrs C.W. Taylor - Gate table.

Mrs W. Taylor - Tea cosy.

Mrs and Misses Tofts - Cake stand.

Mr and Mrs T.J. Tompson - Afternoon cloth.

Misses E. and J. Tompson - Eiderdown guilt.

Mr and Mrs J. Towler - Set of hot water jugs.

Mr C.G. Taylor - Tea service.

Mr A. and Miss C. Taylor - Tea set.

Miss G. Taylor - Dinner service.

Master H. Taylor - Book.

Masters Bobbie and Guy Taylor - Set of carvers.

Mr and Mrs H.E. Verrinder and Mr R. Verrinder -

Cake basket.

Miss G. Verrinder - Table centre.

Mr and Mrs W. Woollard - Cheque.

Mr Frank Woollard - Candlesticks.

Mr A.L. Woollard - Rose bowl.

Mr Fred Woollard - Muffin dish.

Miss D. Woollard - Tea spoons.

Miss W. Woollard - Tea knives.

Misses G. and M. Woollard - Fish knives and forks.

Miss J. Woollard - Salt cellars.

Miss E. White - Cushion and afternoon cloth.

Miss Wontner - Mustard pot.

Mrs, Miss and Miss D. Woollard - Tea spoons.

Mrs E.A. and R.J. Wadsworth - Card basket.

Mr A.R. and Miss M.A. Wadsworth - Pair of

ornaments.

Members of the 'Cambridge Daily News' staff -

Spirit kettle and pair of pictures.

A pair of knife rests from 'All at Liberty Hall'. Swaffham Prior.

The wedding cake was made by Messrs. Matthew and Son, Ltd., of Trinity-street, who also did the catering at the reception. Mr G.H. Lavender supplied the dresses, and Messrs. R. Sayle and Co. the house linen." They don't report weddings like that nowadays! Geoffrey Woollard

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

ALLEN ALDERSON ANNOUNCED THE GOOD NEWS that ECDC is continuing with weekly garbage collections and from 1st April will be collecting plastic bottles for recycling. Allen has also been doing sterling work collecting up left-over travellers' rubbish for ECDC lorries to collect. Allen was modesty itself and said that walking his two dogs made it easy to collect the rubbish. Please note all you dog owners. Meanwhile the PC was filled with much admiration and it is writing to the Chief Executive about Allen's remarkable behaviour.

The good news from Hazel Williams about Gordon Brown's free bus passes is that everything is on track and the aged should receive the new passes before 1st April. The bad news is that (according to a post office) the new passes are unlikely to be sent out before June.

The meeting had been relatively quiet except that Geoffrey continues to be incensed about the travellers, not fully appreciating that they are an ethnic minority and deserve everyone's respect. He still remains convinced that writing to the man at the very top will produce results and refused to accept the assurances of Hazel and Allen that everything possible is being done in what is a very difficult situation – human rights and all that.

The Play Area has been refurbished and only a little re-painting is required. A wonderful opportunity to involve the scouts the PC thought. Alas this cannot be because for health and safety reasons scouts are not allowed to climb ladders. Who produced this H&S ruling? Was it the scouts themselves, is it a national ruling, or just some local enthusiast throwing his/her weight about? We ought to know who is controlling our lives..

Matters arising (for information only) raises another curiosity. A topic was discussed from last month's minutes and at one time it was proposed to have a vote. Because the topic was not on the Agenda no vote was possible though they did agree to send a letter. I'm not sure they are even allowed to do this. Someone really must explain why a topic featured in the previous month's minutes cannot be taken forward if it is not on the Agenda. What a way to carry on a business.

All had been relatively peaceful until the "Parish Plan" came up. This is quite a hot potato with some members holding diametrically opposing views. A Parish Plan was strongly supported by new PC member John Jordan who asked how the PC knows what people think about property, traffic etc unless there is a survey. He thought it essential the PC had a strategy. Geoffrey thought it unnecessary while Steve Kent-Phillips considered it a good thing we have nothing in stone, that parish plans go out of date, that the PC is very effective as it is and that the result is not worth the £3,000-3,500 cost (Steve was right about the cost as this is the figure given by Jo of ACRE in January 2007).

Hazel Williams is the greatest supporter of Parish Plans and almost appeared to be aiming at a government target for parish councils in her patch. She maintained that people must be involved, opinions must be garnered, and again made the implied threat that fund availability may depend on having a parish plan. She raised traffic calming in Mill Hill and asked the PC "What evidence do you have that people support you?" if there isn't a questionnaire.

Hazel then produced what she considered to be her ace by quoting the Haddenham and Aldreth Parish Plan. This is a lavish 24 page A4 four coloured publication. Because of this Parish Plan (taking up to anything from 2-4 years to produce) a bus stop was moved to make it more convenient for passengers. Yes, that was Hazel's triumphant justification for this expensive operation. This was the only,

An effort will be made to publicise the "Parish Plan Discussion" through the *Crier*, though David Almond wondered how ... when the Editors (known as the Rupert Murdoch of the Fens) wrote in the last *Crier* "We have more things to do in life than sit on working parties for Gratuitous Government Initiatives."

and therefore the best, benefit she mentioned and I thought to myself that if all this work was needed to move a bus stop then Haddenham must indeed be a very dysfunctional village.

The debate continued until it was agreed to put it before the village at the Annual Village Assembly in May when a copy of a typical Parish Plan will be provided for people to see, discuss and take away. The biggest problem acknowledged by all old-timers is how to persuade folks to turn up. An effort will be made to publicise the "Parish Plan Discussion", especially through the *Crier* though David Almond (a supporter of a plan) wondered how objective this would be achieved when the Editors (known as the Rupert Murdoch of the Fens) wrote in the last *Crier "We have more things to do in life than sit on working parties for Gratuitous Government Initiatives.*)

Also on the agenda of the Annual Village Assembly will be the Wicken Fen Vision which is of serious concern for some in the community. Six PC members from about 55 people attended the recent meeting with the National Trust in the Village Hall. Geoffrey's description of a "rowdy" meeting was corrected to "very lively". Geoffrey said that John Harrison had asked the most pertinent question and the answer exposed the weakness of the NT's position. Geoffrey had also attended (this being his thing) other meetings and reported that at Wicken, with about 29 attending, the "very rowdy" meeting ended early because the NT would not allow a vote on the "Vision". At Fen Ditton, with about 25 people attending, it appeared from the nature of the questions that most people "had no idea what was involved".

I am quoting Geoffrey's account and though Geoffrey is a good man, nay, a very good man with some integrity, I cannot guarantee that his account has the same honesty and accuracy as the usual *Crier* reporting. But what is important is that our village should be aware of the consequences of the Wicken Vision, and the Annual Village Assembly will be an ideal opportunity to learn more and to speak your mind.

Of course some people don't give a hoot about anything in the village and won't turn up.

This and other matters took up time, but one of the last items concerned the Clerk's Holiday Allowances. According to the hefty regulations Karen is allowed **"56 hours per year holiday."** I know she has to take this holiday but not whether it is paid or unpaid.

Incidentally the date of the Annual Village Assembly will not be decided until the PC Meeting on 10th April – probably because it wasn't on the March Agenda

Alastair Everitt

ROGATION SUNDAY - 27TH APRIL, 2008

THE SWAFFHAM PRIOR ROGATION DAY SERVICE will be held once again this year at Adventurers Farm, at 12 noon. Please allow yourself enough time to get to the farm from the village and park. Everyone is welcome to attend this short service and you are warmly invited, if you wish, to stay and enjoy Sunday lunch afterwards at the farm. Whilst confirmation of your attendance at the service is not required, you are requested to purchase a ticket(s), payable in advance, to participate in the fully catered for meal. Please contact Janet Willmott directly on 01638 743472 or 07833 960678 to book your place, by no later than Monday 21st April, adults £7.50 and under 12s £4.50. Proceeds to St. Mary's Church, Swaffham Prior.

Janet Willmott

MUSIC FOR HOLY WEEK

IAN DE MASSINI AND THE CAMBRIDGE VOICES were outstanding, and our local doctor was overheard muttering "Ethereal. Just Ethereal" as he staggered out of St. Mary's and disappeared into the spring-time blizzard.

A review of the occasion will not appear until next month and this will be by the regular reporter of the Annual Boxing Day Hockey Match – the celebrated Tony Bowers.

Tony Bowers is also author of *The Idle Hill of Summer* which may be a future choice of the Swaffham Prior Reading Group. And the author is willing to attend if asked (just try to get along Jane Austen or Tony Trollope!)

A recent review of *The Idle Hill of Summer* says "A thoroughly gripping and sensitive novel. The descriptions and pastoral pictures are outstanding. It will appeal to anyone who enjoyed Michael Frayn's *Spies*." It can be ordered from W.H.Smith, Amazon etc.

GBS

The Village Feast 2006 Saturday 10 May

at

2.00 pm

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 seeking 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, and MORE BOOKS - if you want to make space by clearing out some of your books, just give a ring to Alastair Everitt (742974).

But, if you have **Collectibles** or **Bric a Brac** please phone Elisabeth Everitt (742974)

We shall also be collecting or the **Bottle Stall** and will be calling in early May for anything you can offer.

Thank you for your usual generous support

Passion for puddings?

Indulge it at the Friends of Swaffham Prior School

Spuds and Puds Evening

Friday 25 April 2008 Swaffham Prior Village Hall

Yes there's a **healthy** baked potato supper to start with, but that's just an excuse for the slide into **decadence** that follows: a huge selection of fabulously **delicious** puddings provided by our most talented cooks, all waiting to be sampled.

Come on – you know you you to!

Doors open 5.30pm, food served from 6.00-8.00pm Tickets: £5.00 per adult £3.00 per child. Bar for grown-ups. Contact: Clare Freeman (741316) or Catherine Wrench (742654)



Reach Fair

Bank Holiday Monday 5th May 2008 - 12 noon

Grand opening by the Mayor of Cambridge

Traditional Fairground Rides

Music and Dancing / Country Crafts
Stalls / Arts and Crafts / Children's Entertainment
Hog Roast / BBQ / Bar.....Plus lots more

Car Park from Burwell Road £3.00

Registered Charity: 280601



Village Hall AGM

The Village Hall Management Committee is holding its AGM on Wednesday 30 April at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. Come and hear about the record number of events, about the regular raids on the oil tank, about the resignation of Janet Cooper as Secretary and the seamless introduction of Maggie Cotner, and about the 10th anniversary, after refurbishment, of the reopening of the Village Hall by Mr Michael Marshall.

This is an open meeting and all are welcome to come and express an opinion or make a suggestion. The AGM rarely takes very long and if you come you may receive a glass of wine or two.

Alastair Everitt

Open Gardens and Teas in the Village Hall

20th June 2.00-6.00pm

During the serving of teas, I shall be running a TOMBOLA, if you have any items which you think would be suitable I should be delighted to receive them, at any time, (some people have been enquiring when the next one is taking place).

Monies raised at this event as usual go to:

Open Gardens: the Village Garden Club.

Tea and Tombola: the Church.

Kate Child

Swaffham Prior Grand Village Sale

14th June 10.00am-2.00pm

Following the previous announcements (in case you missed them) this is to remind you all that anyone in the village who would like to get rid of any unwanted items, without hassle, just puts them out on their drive or garage, and sits back and waits for the hordes of customers to come and buy them! I hear via the village network that some neighbours are getting together and sharing a drive (a good idea if on holiday)

For those who feel they live off the beaten track and won't be found easily, remember there is the meadow opposite the thatched cottage in the High Street (kind permission of Marcia Miller) for a sort of table top / car boot sale. Now that Spring Cleaning time is imminent, please hold on to any itams which you might otherwise dispose of — remember there could be CASH IN YOUR ATTIC! the seller fixes the price, and it is suggested you donate half (more if you like) to The MARY LOO PROJECT (NB, toilet in the church).

Kate Child

Reunion Party

Were you a pupil in the year group 1975-1980 at Bottisham Village College? There will be a Reunion Party for ex-pupils and teachers on Saturday 7^{th} June 2008 at Bottisham Village College, $8-12 \mathrm{pm}$. Please contact Karin Fitch if you wish to come on 01954 251700 / karin.murphy@hotmail.co.uk. We hope to keep entry cost down to £5 per person (depending on final numbers coming). Please bring a bottle and a few nibbles.

Come and revisit old times and old faces; the more, the merrier!



Snow on Easter Sunday!
Helena Pumfrey with the Pumfrey Easter Snow Bunny

BAD HORSE DAY

WHILE OUR HUMANS WERE AWAY ON HOLIDAY AT HALF TERM we thought we would have a little break of our own! A "break out" really.....

The sun was shining the day was young and with our paddock bare of grass and a good hefty push on the gate our adventure began. It was all too exciting to go just for a trot, so at a full canter we made our way the mile to the village.



The Willmott Three

The birds sang our hearts raced this really was very exciting. Hooves clattering on the tarmac we pondered only for a second at the school deciding whether to go left or right. This was much to the consternation of Mrs Cooper, who we now know immediately rang our humans to tell them of our escape, but we knew they were on a mountain in France - what could they do about it? We were unstoppable.

Instinct told us to go left, and oh what a good decision. Only a short way and the lovely luscious grass of the village play park awaited us - what bliss, what a treat for our tummies. It was sadly all a bit short lived though. The human troops rallied and while Peggy-Sue and I were gracious enough to admit defeat and submit relatively quietly, Grommit was bent on giving them all a run for their money, to be quite honest he was showing off a bit. We did put on quite a good show though, it was worth the telling off.

However, we have been brought up well enough (well two of us have!) to know that we should apologise for our wayward behaviour and say a **big thank you** to all our humans' friends and villagers who so patiently and kindly rounded us up, kept us safe and got us home again. They know who they are and we are very grateful. Grommit was formulating a sequel on the long walk home "Escape from



Good Horse Day—Grommit leading Palm Sunday Procession in 2006

Adventurers Farm Part Two" but we find that there is now a padlock on the field gate - ho hum!! Foxy, Peggy-Sue and Grommit Willmott

Eds Note: It seems that Andy Pumfrey, who was decorating at the Farm at the time, sensed something was amiss (due to a furtive thundering of hooves heading off up Station Road) and **phoned home**. First to the rescue were Jo and Helena Pumfrey, who strategically positioned a car to block the entrance to Town Close, soon followed by Phil Kingsmill, Justine Lankser and family, and Julie and Zoe Nunn. *Crier* HQ was right opposite the scene of the drama and predictably managed to miss everything.

ST. GEORGE'S MUSHROOM

Tricholoma Gambosum

According to this week's cover illustrator, a mycologist with roots in Russia, Palestine, Swaffham Prior and Bulgaria, the St. George's Mushroom is a delicious white, fleshy mushroom found in pastureland and the outskirts of woodland. Traditionally it appears around the 23rd of April, St. George's Day, though often maturing a week later. It is easily identified because no other white mushroom grows during this season. There are two known places where it grows in Cambridgeshire. See you there, but please take the usual precautions when dealing with mushrooms.

A Yorkshire Oyster

Crier Profile: Tamworth Country Festival

Concluding part of Andrew Noyes Australian Diary.

On the Tuesday evening we drove out in to the country to have dinner with Sophie's fiancé and his parents. It wasn't the outback but it was certainly remote – down a long dusty track with several sets of gates to keep in the cattle. Like many bungalows built on slopes in OZ – and they are everywhere! - theirs was propped up on posts and girders. Slightly alarming floors – and I don't drink much! – but the space underneath the building is useful storage.

We had a bar-b-que - no surprises there – and then sat in the dark under the stars, including the Southern Cross, waiting for the moon to come over the ridge. Magic. The cicadas were on form.



The following evening, after Gig No. 6, we visited a rather eccentric but generous doctor and his famous painter wife, Michelle Hungerford. Our hosts' bungalow the night before was remote, and so was the Hungerford's, but for different reasons. Their huge abode – also propped up – was perched on the top of the big hill over looking Tamworth. Some view!

Their swimming pool was a real bonus after 2 ¾ hours on stage. A tour of Michelle's studio and her working canvasses was followed by a great meal and some more playing. Sore fingers! Phil Hungerford, like me I suspect, is a frustrated musician wanting to burst out of his suit of respectability. He has played with Slim Dusty, I will have you know! Great people.

Towards the end of the 10 days more and more were we approached by punters who had seen us on stage. Because they stared at us for 2 hours didn't mean however that we stared back at them! It was as if we were their best mates — total strangers treating you like long lost friends. Curious thing celebrity. The ones that don't approach are the ones you would prefer to talk to, I was told!

Gigs 8, 9 and 10 were great. We had gelled, we had our spot, felt comfortable on stage, the audiences were growing even when the buses came at 4 o'clock to take people back to their camp sites, we played like demons, sold lots of CDs and finally I was feeling better. The weather was kind which meant it wasn't baking hot. In fact the OZ summer was unusually cool and wet this year.

During the last few days I got to know Dave and Leanne Craswell better, so much so that I passed on to Dave my chest infection! I had flown 10,500 miles to the other side of the world to play my geetar – how silly was that! – and could have ended up anywhere sleeping on a floor, but I was blessed to stay in a proper house

on 2 floors with oak trees outside, living with the kindest people you could hope for. Thank you Lord.

The 9th gig was the saddest for it was almost the end. There was a 10th but that was wind down. As glad as I was to be going home, I was sad to be leaving. It was all over.

At Sydney airport I bought 'local' pressies – no budgie pouches! – to bring home but subsequently discovered they were made in China. Globalisation! The Aussies sell huge amounts of coal to the Chinese and it's shipped out of their big coal port on the East coast called.......Newcastle!

Jet lag from 23 hours non-stop travelling in the dark is difficult – never experienced it before - but the huge golden temple in Bangkok airport at 3 a.m. was pretty memorable. In a brand new all ultra modern high tec airport!

Did I enjoy it? Most of the time. Would have been better to have felt less poorly but the germ sharing policy on long haul flights is clearly working. The folks were great and the experience special. I visited a country that I would otherwise have never seen, doing something I love. Didn't make any money but our fees covered the costs, so can't complain. Would I go again? Yes, but with a face mask and I would be more prepared for the rock n roll life style of the travelling muso — read Eric Clapton's autobiography. Will I be allowed out again? Only if I eat my greens every night and hoover for England. Time will tell!

Andrew Noyes

Anyone for Ebay?



Recently I was presented with a very odd, unusual collection of STUFF! To help raise money for the Mary Loo

Project. I scratched my head and wondered what the devil to do with it, in the middle of the night I had an idea. Next morning I rang a cousin in Norwich, who puts things which they are given for their church on Ebay and asked if he would do likewise for us Over he came taking a car load back, some of which in my innocence I had rejected as junk! In the course of a few weeks he made £400 for us.

Is there any one out there in S.Prior who under stands EBay [I don't] who would be willing to put things on for us, as I feel I cannot ask him to continually drive over from Norwich. I am sure I could get volunteers to do the packing and posting.

3 ways to help re-cycle

Garage Sales: 14th June.
Tombola: 22nd June
eBay: Any Time

Any queries and more ideas please, just give me a ring 743983

Merriweather

"Noddy, get that frock on and get on that stage" — Shakespeare?? At St Cyriac's on Feast Saturday 10th May, 7.30pm, for one night only, Alex Knight's One-Man-Shakespeare is not to be missed.....



THIS IS THE STORY OF A LIFE IN SHAKESPEARE'S THEATRE. It lasts two hours, including interval.

"My name is Merriweather; Nicodemus; Doctor Nicodemus Merriweather, and I am an actor. Some are born great, some achieve greatness, some have greatness sharing their dressing room once in a while. Richard Burbage shared mine, and Will Kemp, and Bob Armin, and Gus Phillips, and Ned Alleyn (once, and never again) and Will Shakespeare. Ha! Ha! Yes, him..."

Nicodemus Merriweather (born Nick Meadows in 1571 nr St Martins in the Field) ran away to join the theatre on his fifteenth birthday. He freely admits the inherent stupidity of his actions.

Thrust into the breech by William Shakespeare himself, Merriweather's inglorious debut on the London stage both made the history books ('a night of errors!') and heralded a

career of playing sidekicks, foils, straight men and stooges to all the truly great actors of the age, but while his work may have drawn only moderate praise ('Really quite good as Sebastian', 'A convincing Claudio', 'Plausible Edgar'), and if triumph came far too late in his life to be exploited, he did serve alongside the greats of his day for more than fifteen years. Now he tells his story.

"When I was a boy, I had no idea that I might end up an actor. John Meadows, my father, was a farmer, and we lived hard by St Martin in the Fields. Now one day, when I was nearly fifteen, a troupe of players came by on their way back to

Southwark, and rather than roll on past, they stopped and set their stage up and everyone from the village came to watch, and they played a play. It was called Titus Andronicus, and it was very strong meat for a boy of nearly fifteen; some poor girl raped, then her hands are cut off and her tongue ripped out, then Titus, who's her father, goes mad and kills the guilty men, bakes them in a pie, and feeds them to their own mother. Phew! And the very best bit about the play was that the villain was... a black man – a Moor; we poor country people had never seen the like of such a fellow before..."

Merriweather's perspective is unique, his memory remarkable, and his honesty unflinching. His tenure with



the Lord Chamberlain's — later The King's Men — took him through turbulent times – The Essex Rebellion, The Gunpowder Plot, a change of royal dynasty; true horror – the execution of Roderigo Lopez, and his own interrogation in The Clink, *and* the Plague – while all the time he saw how Will and those closest to him turned life in the late 16th/early 17th centuries into the greatest drama in history.

During the course of the play, Merriweather portrays forty or more characters, some real people, others Will's own creations in their finest speeches. Hilariously funny, hair-raising, bloody and poignantly sad, 'Merriweather' is a great night out for lovers of The Bard and newcomers to Shakespeare alike.



"Then news went round that he was writing his last play, and that it was going to be the best ever with tragedy, comedy, magic and history (or at least mythology), and a bear. He called it The Winters Tale, and a right winters tale it was too. Burbage played Leontes, the insanely jealous king, while I played a bear — I'd been with the company for fifteen years, and there I was, in Will Shakespeare's farewell to the London Stage, dressed up in a flea-ridden bear skin, trying to bring about the fatuous stage direction 'Exit Antigonus, pursued by a bear'...'

About the Show

Merriweather is a one man show, all of the costumes and properties for which come on stage with the performer in his special one-man-theatre that he carries on his back. The show is designed to be entirely self-contained.

The script was inspired by Anthony Holden's book 'Shakespeare', and tells the story of Shakespeare's career, attempting to explain why he wrote what he wrote when he wrote it, as told by a former member of the company, ten years after Will's death.

Merriweather is a fictional character, but only because he never became famous – he could very easily have existed – the acting profession has always had its Merriweathers; able, reliable, voluble, but never quite making it beyond one very good role at just the wrong time for it to be really useful, and then falling back into obscurity. Merriweather worked with the best actors of his day alongside the greatest literary genius who ever lived.

Shakespeare is among the forty characters that make up the cast; it is Will who gives Merriweather his big chance to join the company, and his appearances in the show are from Merriweather's rather awed perspective. There's been more than one suggestion that the historical Will would have had a Warwickshire accent, and he certainly has in this story; just because he's the greatest literary genius of all time, why shouldn't he have a regional accent?

Favourite Shakespeare line 'Noddy, get that frock on and get on that stage'.

Alex Knight 07905 526409

Continued from Last Month: John Norris Remembers ... The Renovation of St Mary's



This final adornment was made from stainless steel by Mackays to Mr Bourne's design. The six sides gave the spire a sense of depth, and were meant to provide extra stability by being welded with a fin at each corner. After construction the forty foot long structure was still not stiff enough, so it was opened up and braces installed internally, substantially increasing the weight. The crown at the top is almost six feet in diameter, but as it is a

hundred feet up, it looks much smaller.

It arrived on site one misty November morning, with a team of strong men to carry it off the lorry up to the scaffolding. Martin Bell, then a young reporter for Look East was present with his camera-man to record the momentous event .for the evening news. In the meanwhile two scaffolding frames had been erected over the top of the tower so that after the fleche had arrived at the top it could be transferred between these new frames which had a rail track on their sides. The upward hoist was electric and it's rope fixed just above the point of balance of the fleche., this enabled it to be carried over the top wall and dropped onto the steel frame. After the event Martin came into our garden room for coffee. He told us that his feet were so cold that even the stone slabs of the floor seemed hot. to his frozen feet

It was just as well that a helicopter was not used, as the fleche was three inches too short. A secure weather joint had to be made at the bottom of the fleche and this required space to make it. After an hour or so it was lowered onto it's resting place where it is seen to-day

The repairs to the porch followed after a few months. The contractors gave a price of £250 to demolish the old tin roof, and clear the site. This seemed far too much, so Reg Webb and I had a go. It took a little over an hour! Most of it was down hill so it was really a matter of clearing up. In the top of the south wall was a bottle with yellow paper inside, referring to a "Fatal Wedding" and a child on the railway line. This all seemed to perhaps refer to a young pregnant girl, who had disposed of her illegitimate baby. The bottle was of the type with a marble in the neck, and came from Cook & Son's factory in Burwell. It is now in the vestry, with a note inside written by John Byrom, but the original yellow advert is not with the bottle, perhaps just as well; all very sad.

Another interesting job for me was to help the stone mason to cut the ashlars at the top of the buttress; the one on the south side of the porch. The newly quarried lime stone, "Free Stone" is quite soft, and can easily be cut with a crosscut saw. After the mason had marked out the edges, and he had give me instructions to go carefully as there were no spares, I started sawing. It was so easy! In time with reaction from the carbon dioxide in the air these stones become extremely hard.

It is worth mentioning that under the porch roof. An area of the original clunch face has been left unaltered except that the pointing has been replaced. Two other interesting features of the softness of clunch, are the grooves cut by a bell rope over the door lintel, and the wear on the steps going up to the old ringing floor. How they managed to get up those steps for the last year or so safely to ring the bells is a mystery.

On completion the Bishop was asked to rededicate the tower, but refused to do so until the final bill was paid. At the time two thousand pounds were owing, so I had a whip round of those with a bob or two, and raised the money by loans, repayable when we could. A year later fifty pounds each was in hand, but they all refused the cash and converted their loan into a gift. So in 1965 a service of dedication was held just before the Vicar retired.

The churchwardens Mr Ken Taylor and Mr Betts also left the village at this time, as did Mr Gill the PCC secretary, so a new team was elected to welcome the new vicar, Rev Robin Ellis. He arrived with a young family, who found the old vicarage totally unsuitable for their needs A large damp building with poor facilities, and in need of repairs everywhere.. The house in Lower End where Mr Taylor lived was the vicarage until a new one was built next to the churchyard in Greenhead Road. several years later. The new wardens were Mrs Peggy Woollard, and John Norris .

So many vicarages built in the eighteenth century were unsuited to modern needs so that they were sold for peanuts. The one in this village sold for six thousand pounds, together with six acres of land Some forty years later the cognoscente now occupy these buildings after expensive repairs; but their original grandeur still shines through and they are splendid homes.

This was the end of a very busy year and a half, and those involved, and there were many, felt it was a job well done

Some forty three years later, the tower is still presenting us with problems. In that the drains from the roof of the tower have become blocked up with pigeon droppings, and water is how running down the sides of the tower. This may seem a simple job to repair, but unseen from below, there is a complicated system of pipes which should transfer water to the ground if the outlets become blocked. But these are blocked too! We do have an expert on hand who is fairly confident that he can restore order once again.

During a sharp storm in the spring of 2007, the nave gutters could not cope with the heavy downpour, and water came over the top of the gutters and ran down the south wall spoiling the floor blocks. We were able to get rid of the water by brushing it down the hot air heating gratings where it soaked away through the old brickwork very well!

The trouble was caused by an accumulation of "needles" blown onto the roof from the large Cedar tree nearby. This tree is far too close to the building; when it was planted in 1929. it was very small, but to-day it towers above the side-isle roof and causes trouble.

I will now turn to what has happened inside the church during the past fifty years. Back in 1959, the heating was almost nil, it being provided by three calor

paraffin stoves in the isle, the ones with an upturned bottle of fuel which gurgled. every five minutes or so. There was an old coal-fired hot air system with five gratings in the nave, but none in the chancel. which had not been used for years. I arranged for a farm hot air blower to be connected to the flues in the boiler house, and see what advantage we could get. It worked very well, although very noisy, but gave us hope that some better form of heating was available.

At this time the only way to approach the back of the churches was along the lane, now a grass track, leading to the High Street. Coopers Lane was constructed some thirty years later. A tank for the fuel was purchased, and placed near the gate, so that in the summer it would be filled by a tanker. This site involved a very long feed pipe to the cellar and the new boiler. We took the opportunity of buying a much larger machine, with a silencer, and a long flue leading up to the original chimney. This heater has been in operation ever since, with several new parts and regular servicing, and is enjoyed by all.

The pews were the next job to be tackled, as they were painted black, and just as they were in St Cyriacs at the turn of the century. They do not fit well in St Mary's nave, as they are too long, being designed for the another church. They were taken one at a time to the hard standing at Anglesey House, given a thorough wash, and wiped over with paint remover. We were lucky that the coat of paint was very thin and came off easily. Marion was in charge of this work, and demanded a very high standard! Twenty four pews were done, and fitted in the church somehow. To-day four of them reside in St Cyriacs from whence they came. In those days the clerics officiated from inside the chancel, and the pews came nearer to the screen, fitting more in.

In 1979 the heating, although much better, could not cope with the cold blast coming from the tower. Several attempts at a curtain, or a polythene sheet was tried, and although successful was not appropriate. Both the vicar John Byrom and I had lost sons in road accidents, and we decided to offer a screen as a memorial to those boys. Mr Halliwell an architect living in Reach designed the present doors and the plaque on the south wall. Whilst this was going on John and Shirley Wilkins lost a son whilst going to school, so his name was added.

The screen is a great success, in spite of the spelling mistake of millennium. That word was not in common use until recently. Shortly after I retired in 1986 Marion and I sponsored new clere-story windows. The glass put in during the 1902 rebuilding is very soft, and the acid rain of the past eighty years has etched the surface, making them very dull. The new material is very hard Russian Greenhouse glass, and has made a huge difference to the lighting the building. At this time we also improved the candle sticks at the East End , by re-brassing them, and now they look splendid, especially the large ones which had been painted, black. The pulpit fell over with the schoolmaster inside during the Christmas rehearsals in 2000, so we arranged for a wide plinth to be added for safety in the future.

All in all we have been privileged to help in so many ways, and have been pleased to have been able to do so .

John Norris

Eds Note: Very sadly, John's wife, Marion, who shared all these experiences with him, died a few days ago on March 16th. She will be greatly missed.

Building Society helps local people spring into retirement

Cambridge Building Society will be giving local homeowners an opportunity to boost their retirement finances next month by running a series of equity release surgeries in its branches.

Experts from the Society's partner company Just Retirement Solutions will be conducting information surgeries at 7 of the network's 23 local branches throughout March and April. Homeowners aged 60 and over are invited to take this unique opportunity to receive professional advice about how they can unlock some of the value of their home, and use the money to improve the quality of their own, or their family's lives.

The surgeries will take place as follows:

Histon, Wednesday 5th March 2 High Street, Histon 01223 727857

Ely, Wednesday 12th March 41 High Street, Ely 01353 617515

St Andrews Street, Cambridge, Wednesday 19th March 32 St Andrews Street, Cambridge 01223 727633

Cherry Hinton Village, Wednesday 26th March 23 High Street, Cherry Hinton 01223 727846

Bar Hill, Thursday 27th March 10 The Maill, Bar Hill 01954 780111

Sawston, Wednesday 2nd April 37 High Street, Sawston 01223 727862

St Ives, Wednesday 9th April 2 Station Road, St Ives 01480 377500

Interested persons are invited to call their local branch of the Cambridge Building Society to book an appointment or just drop-in on the day.

For more information, please contact Miranda Steel on 01223 727663

Mobile Library Dates for Your Diary

April 8th and 22nd May 6th and 20th June 3rd and 17th July 1st, 15th and 29th



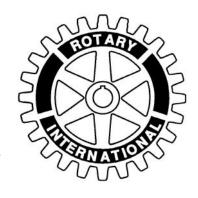
Cage Hill 15:15 15:50 Chapel 15:55 16:15

Any enquiries, the number to call is 0845 045 5225.

A NEW KIND OF ROTARY CLUB

EVERYONE IS FAMILIAR with the Rotary 'wheel' logo, appearing as it does in so many places from Christmas charity collection buckets to hotel foyers, but who are Rotarians and what do they actually do?

People who live or work in the North of Cambridge are finding out more, thanks to an initiative to establish a new Rotary group – the fifth in the Cambridge locality.



'Rotary is all about serving the community, with people from all walks of life getting together in a sociable group and meeting regularly to enjoy a meal and plan projects to raise money for charity, or to help others in a multitude of ways,' explains Gordon Hannah of the Rotary Club of Cambridge Rutherford, an established group helping the embryonic club get off the ground.

'Rotary groups normally hold meetings once a week, and members aim to get to two or three meetings a month, where we're likely to have a short talk from a guest speaker over breakfast, lunch or dinner. Members also take part in one of four committees: either developing membership; assisting a local or international good cause; planning interchange visits with overseas Rotaries; or arranging learning visits for foreign students, who are counselled throughout their Cambridge stay by Rotarians. They change annually between committees, to ensure ideas and projects are kept fresh.'

Mike Hellowell, also of the Rutherford club, adds: 'Cambridge's Rotary groups often hit the local headlines. For example, Rutherford recently organised a 'rubber duck race' on the river and Golf Day in aid of the Teenage Cancer Trust at Addenbrooke's and the Cancer Help Centre at Scotsdales. We also regularly raise money to supply 'shelter boxes' to disaster areas worldwide, and it is fascinating to note that, over the last 20 years, it is primarily the efforts of Rotary working internationally that have wiped out Polio from most of the world.'

'Every Rotary has a 'home base' and for the new North Cambridge one this is the Holiday Inn at Impington,' says founder member Trevor Kartupelis, who is involved in getting the venture off the ground. 'There is no such thing as a typical member, in terms of age, employment, or interests. The essential thing is to be willing to commit some time and lots of enthusiasm! The Rotary motto is 'Service above Self', and members put this into action in numerous ways, while also having fun and enjoying good company.'

If you are interested in finding out more, call Gordon Hannah on 01223 890654 or email cambridgenorthrotary@hotmail.co.uk

New Recycling Services coming to a Street near You from 31st March 2008

EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL will be entering into a new Waste contract with Veolia Environmental Services, which starts on Monday 31st March 2008. The service includes refuse, recycling and street cleansing

- The Council is remaining with a weekly black sack refuse collection. Residents should restrict the number of black refuse sacks they put out for collection to 5. Contact the Council if you need advice on how to REDUCE your Waste
- The following changes will be implemented:-
- We will limit the number of free replacement paper sacks to 4, you may
 of course place more bags out even using cardboard boxes for grass
 cuttings. Remember the weight of the box or sacks, if it's too heavy for
 you, then its too heavy for us! You can purchase extra sacks through
 various outlets, please contact Veolia on 01353 863864 for your nearest
 stockist.
- We are introducing a new Kerbside plastic bottle collection (without the lids) using a clear plastic bag. Remember wash and squash all bottles, these will be collected at the same time as your black box. All householders will receive 1 free replacement plastic bag on the day of collection.
- Plastic bottle banks will be removed from the bring sites.

Reduce Recycle Reuse

Tel: 01353 665555

Friends of Burwell Musem WINSTON THE SINGING FARMER

On the 4th April Winston, the Singing Farmer will perform from 7.30 p.m. at the Gardiner Memorial Hall. Tickets cost £10 - including a Ploughman's Supper - and can be obtained from Tina's and the Post Office in Burwell, or by contacting Margaret Moss on 01638 741705. The audience is perfectly entitled to bring it's own liquid refreshment!

School News

We can not believe that the Spring Term is over already!

As usual we have had a very busy term with lots of exciting events happening.

We had an International Day on 5th February where the children took part in lots of activities about China. They tried Chinese cooking, made Chinese dragons,



learnt about the story of Chinese New Year and made their very own Terracotta Army which we plan to bury in the school field. Our day was ably assisted by a replica model of one of the Terracotta Army that one of our parents loaned from the Chinese Embassy. It was a very successful day.

The whole school have made visits to the Fitzwilliam Museum this term. Our Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning theme for the half term was, 'It's Good To Be Me' and this theme was continued on the visit where the children worked with the museum staff to look at some portraits and then had the opportunity to work in the museum studio to create some of their own.

We held our own Writing Week during the week beginning 3rd March. We began with a visit from the author Mick Gowar who worked with all of the children and inspired them to write stories about Bogles and poems that were noisy and about moon animals. Throughout the week the children were engaged in making books and writing their own stories. The classes paired up to write a different chapter of a story and each younger child had an older child to work with to write a paired story. We finished the week with an assembly to show the parents what we had been doing.

'Bring Your Parent To Lunch Week' has been very successful. All of the parents were invited to come and have a school dinner with their children during this week. We wanted to show what an improvement has been made to our school lunches and to ask the parents for their opinion and any suggestions they might have. The majority of the parents were very impressed by the standard of the food served and left us with a few suggestions for how we can improve the service even further. Thanks must go to our school cook, Mrs Armstrong, who coped well with the increase in numbers that week.

Achieving Health Promoting School status remains one of the foci for the school this year. We have had a number of parents helping us to evaluate our practice and suggest ways forward. We are focusing on the Physical Activity and Healthy Eating strands at the moment and have an action plan in place to move forward with this initiative.

Our monthly CC Café continues to be a popular event on Friday afternoons. All members of the community are welcome to come along and enjoy a homemade cake and coffee between 2.30 and 3.30pm. The dates for the next few months are: 18th April and 13th June.

As you are hopefully aware we are desperately trying to raise the money for a new swimming pool for the school. Contained in this magazine is an envelope from our Parent Association (FoSPS) asking for donations towards the pool fund. We really do appreciate any support you can give us. In school the children are raising money by taking part in a sponsored swim in June, collecting small change and many other things. Some of our fit parents are attempting a sponsored cycle ride from Lands End to Swaffham Prior, please support them if you can. The children are very keen to help raise money for the new pool and below they have written some things about why the pool is important to them.

Emma Vincent
Head Teacher

"I really miss our pool it was great fun. In the summer we used to play in it all day. I wish we had our pool back. Please help us get another pool. I miss it." (Darcey Luttrell)

"The pool was great fun in the summer and we used to learn to swim in it. It was brilliant in the summer, but sadly after 48 years it has broken. Lots of people in the village learnt to swim in that pool, so please help us to raise money for new one." (Sophie Bell)

"We are trying to raise money for a new swimming pool because our old one is broken. It means that Class 1, 2 and 3 won't bet swimming lessons in the summer. Also it means that we can't use it for having fun either. We are really upset and it would be brilliant to have a new one." (Susie Tucker)

COMPUTER "LITRACEY"

HAVING ONLY DISCOVERED COMPUTERS in the past few months myself, and the ability to write a coherent letter on this wordy processor thing, I thought I ought to share this little story. In the summer my father and I were invited to a BBQ. Whilst enjoying the food and atmosphere I took a few photographs to preserve the occasion. As the BBQ was only next door to me, I popped home to print off the results, my dad was amazed at how quickly I had come up with the prints and commented on the quality of the pictures. I explained to him that the camera was a fuji with 4 million pixels, he told me that "although the photos looked OK no camera is worth that much!" This is from the same guy who always says "over and out" when he's done on his mobile!

Pierre

Bulbeck Gilbert & Sullivan

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre, now in its 27th year, will be performing Gilbert and Sullivan's **Yeomen of the Guard** from Wednesday 4th to Saturday 7th June 2008 at Downing Farm, Swaffham Bulbeck. Evening performances start at 7.30pm and on Saturday there is a matinee at 2.30pm. There is a licensed bar at evening performances and tea, coffee and soft drinks are provided at the matinee. Ticket prices are £7 for Wednesday and Thursday evenings, £8 for Friday and Saturday evenings and £4 for the matinee. Tickets will be available from Kari Karolia, 133 High Street, Swaffham Bulbeck, Cambridge CB25 0LX, tel: 01223 813655, e-mail: kari.karolia@gmail.com from 28th April 2008 and from the Country Swaffham Bulbeck from 12th May. See also our www.sbstgands.co.uk

Yeomen of the Guard

This operetta, first performed in 1888, breaks away from the topsy-turvy farce of its antecedents, and presents a coherent and dramatic story of wit, gravity and pathos. Sullivan wanted something more like serious opera from Gilbert and the plot enabled him to put more of his musical talent on display. Set in the Tower of

London in Tudor times Gilbert uses old English dialogue and the costumes reflect that era. The only twist that the audience is asked to believe is that the prisoner Colonel Fairfax can be unrecognisably transformed into Sergeant Meryll's son Leonard, merely by shaving off his beard and dressing in a Tower warder's uniform.

Fairfax has been falsely condemned to death in the Tower. As a last wish he is secretly married to Elsie, the travelling jester Jack Point's merrymaid. She marries him for a purse of money with Jack Point's approval, on the assurance that he will be dead in half an hour. She is blindfolded and cannot see his face. But Fairfax's old friend Sergeant Meryll, aided by his daughter Phoebe, helps Fairfax to escape and hide amongst the warders, and the blame falls on the gormless jailer Wilfred. In the second act Elsie, believing that Wilfred,



goaded on by Jack Point, has shot Fairfax dead escaping across the river, in turn falls for the wooing of Leonard (alias Fairfax). Fairfax is portrayed as a rather devious character throughout and does not attract much empathy. The plot crystallises to everyone's satisfaction at the end, when Fairfax is reprieved, except for poor Jack Point, who has nurtured a lifetime of love for his travelling partner Elsie......



WI Notes

There was no speaker this month as it was our Annual Meeting. Following the usual monthly business we listened to the annual reports from the Treasurer and Secretary. There were no changes to either the committee membership or the office of President - With thanks given to all the committee for their hard work over the year and gifts for the President, Secretary and Treasurer as

well as for our two visiting members from Swaffham Bulbeck we moved swiftly on to the social part of the evening. After wine and nibbles and the raffle we were entertained by a quiz and the winning teams received easter eggs as prizes.

In April the meeting will be on Monday 21^{st} at 7:30 in the Village Hall when our speaker will be Chris Winter with a talk entitled 'Where there's a will...

'If you are interested in joining our friendly group - give me a ring on 01638 742224 or come along to the meeting where you will receive a warm welcome

Pat Cook

Village Gardeners

Beth Chatto's Garden

The Village Gardeners are having a coach trip to Beth Chatto's garden in Essex, on Saturday 7th June. The cost will be about

£20.00. Please phone Roger Connan on 742182 or Margaret Joyce on 744390 if you would like more details.



Margaret Joyce

NOT ENOUGH TIME.

I've not enough time to read 'Poetry'
That is nothing but disjointed prose.

If the Poet can't bother to spare the time
To make the lines scan, nor use words that rhyme,
I find my impatience blossoms and grows;
And I yearn for a good rhyming verse.

I've not enough time to hear 'Music'
That is nothing but formless noise.
If the composer can't bother to write a tune
At the beginning, or at least pretty soon,
I find that I lose my sangfroid and poise;
And my comments get pointed and terse.

I've not enough time to view 'Pictures'
That represent nothing at all.

If the Artist doesn't wish to be hide-bound by life
And prefers to paint patterns, in which freedom is rife,
O.K.-- but to explain them at length is just gall;
And I can't think which version is worse.

I've not enough time to read 'Novels'

That are f*** of f*** letter words.

If the authors' command of good English text

Only serves to leave me angry and vexed,

I'm inclined to call them indescribable t**ds;

As I let rip an Old Saxon curse.

I've not enough time to read 'Critics'
Who write as though they're the one judge.
The arbiters then, by whom standards are set
And everything's rubbish if they are not met;
And here I wink heavily, and give a nudge, nudge,
As I'm wheeled back indoors by my nurse.

Ophir



From our District Councillor Allen Alderson

Cecilia Tredget, Deputy Chief Executive at East Cambs County Council, has been offered and accepted the post of Regional Director of the Improvement an Efficiency Partnership hosted by the East of England Regional Assembly,

Cecilia will commence her new role at EERA in early April.

The new concessionary fares scheme went live on 1st April 2008, and over 8000 applications have been received in East Cambs for the new "smart" enabled Bus Passes, which represents an increase in pass-holders of 6%. It is anticipated



the overall increase will rise to 20% by the end of the year. Anyone over 60, and people with certain types of disability that prohibit them from being able to drive are eligible to receive the new pass. Previous pass-holders were able to travel free throughout the County, but from April 1st, free travel will be possible throughout England on local bus services, including London. This new scheme is a development founded by the Department of Transport and administered by the District Council. It is anticipated the new scheme will initially increase bus

passenger travel by at least 5%, making an important contribution to reducing car travel.

The new recycling contract between ECDC and Veolia commenced on April 1. The time of your round will remain the same. There are two changes to collectables on the round. You will now be issued with a clear plastic bag for the collection of plastic bottles. Please remove the lids, wash and squash all bottles. Remember, if it is a bottle, it can go in the bag. No other type of plastic or packaging will be taken: these should go to the weekly refuse collection.

Secondly, the replacement of free paper sacks will be limited to four. You can of course place out more bags, even using cardboard boxes for grasscuttings. Extra paper sacks can be purchased at Swaffham Bulbeck Village Stores.



RED2GREENHOUSE

At Bottisham Village College

Reg Charity No 1112429

We are a local charity working with adults with learning difficulties and pupils from Bottisham Village College.

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

Also home made jams and pickles.

We are open Tuesday - Friday 9.30am - 3.30pm Saturday - 10.00am - 12.00pm We are behind the College, just follow the signs.

> Telephone 01223 813650 We Look Forward To Seeing You

Crossword Number 51

Sponsored by The Red Lion

Compiled by **OUNCE**

A weather forecast may help you with the crossword this month. Send your answers to the editors by 18 April 2008. The first correct solution out of the hat will win a free meal at the Red Lion—See the manager at the pub for full details.

1	2		3			4		5	6
7		8			9				
10					11		12		
				13					
14			15				16		
17				18					
		19							
20	21							22	
							23		
24			25				26		
27					28	29			30
31					32				

Name:	
AdressTel:	

Across

- 7 Weather in which you find eccentric ex-PM snoring? Dunderhead! (8)
- **9** Weather for Prior and Doctor? (8)
- **10** Weather (lots of 9As) makes lunatic proud now (8)
- 11 Weather from dismantled weathervane Ern leaves (8)
- **14** Weather opposite of abysmal? Possibly, as ignored (5)
- 15 Sleighs depart weightlessly, but damply (5)
- 16 Correct error in diagram endocrinologist drew on board (5)
- 17 French river I don't want to hear with buts (3)
- **18** Mangled Native American bird shows little interest (9)
- **20** Frenzied flea knows lots needed for 7A (9)
- 22 Pigeon's cry for a hundred rings (3)
- **24** 31A weather needed to throw in medium brandy (5)
- **25** Beats down really untalented male singer initially (5)
- 26 Foraying madly in weather after weather is gone (5)
- 27 Senorita confuses official witnesses(8)
- **28** Weather prediction from coarse index (8)
- **31** Weather for Simon's film boys (8)
- 32 Last in releasing weather (8)

Down

- 1 Earl replaces Charles' First among first four in cot (4)
- 2 Source of crude mixture I sell low (3-5)
- 3 Stoic leaves fractious German woman (4)

- **4** Loud youth leader leaves vast confusion for regulators (6-6)
- 5 Embellish chair lost by North American conglomerate (8)
- **6** Small change after a quiet finish European Commission adds to my operation (12)
- 8 Light 23D for Ford (6)
- 12 Rubbishy endeavour to get remains inside (6)
- 13 Get angry and pet Medusa wildly (7,2)
- **14** Head after silly fuss swallowed by Bill; what elation (12)
- 15 Methods and resources questionable. Any news Adams? (4,3,5)
- **19** Raffia work liaison? (6)
- 21 Satellite (origin BT) revolving (8)
- 22 Disastrously impractical to take rap about regional weather (8)
- 23 It's a simple weather (6)
- **29** Giant in Gog Magog region? (4)
- **30** Single digit, we hear? Depart for African Republic (4)

Solution to crossword no. 50

1 	N	² L	Α	3 W	S		⁴ C	БH	0	⁶ L	Е	7 R	1	⁸ C
N		0		_		ຶຶ		Е		1		Α		R
¹⁰ U	Z	G	0	D	ш	Υ		¹¹ A	R	Т	-1	S	Т	Е
N		Α		Е		R		D		Е		Т		Α
¹² D	Α	R	Ε		13 L	כ	М	В	Е	R	J	Α	С	K
Α		1		¹⁴ P		Ρ		Α		Α				Υ
15 T	Α	Т	Τ	0	0		16 U	Z	O	Г	П	17 A	R	
Е		Н		J		¹⁸ P		D		-1		М		¹⁹ H
	²⁰ A	М	Α	L	G	Α	М		²¹ O	S	S	-1	F	Υ
²² A				Т		R		²³ S		М		D		D
²⁴ C	Α	²⁵ R	D	R	Е	Α	D	Е	R		²⁶ T	S	Α	R
Т		Е		Υ		ا ـ		D		²⁷ S		Н		0
28 S	С	R	U	М	М	Υ		²⁹ A	М	U	S	1	N	G
U		U		Α		S		N		С		Р		Е
30 P	Е	Ν	Α	N	С	Е	S		³¹ C	Н	0	S	Е	N

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



From our Local County Councillor Hazel Williams

Council Tax

The following council tax increases have been agreed for next year.

County Council 5%

Police Authority 5%

Fire Authority 4%

District Council 3.7%

The county part of the council tax will be £979.11 for a band D property but when combined with the district (£125.82), parish (£43.47), police (£156.87) and fire (£54.45) a band D property will pay £1359.72 for council tax in 2008/9 in Swaffham Prior.

RTPI National Planning Award success

At the annual award ceremony earlier this month, the Cambridge Waste Management Park at Waterbeach won the Climate Change category for 2007. The County Council worked closely with Donarbon to bring forward innovative proposals for the management of waste .By much reducing the methane produced in landfill, the new Mechanical and Biological Treatment plant will have a highly beneficial effect on global warming.

Concessionary Bus Fare Scheme

The new scheme will be countywide and a reimbursement rate has been agreed with the operators. The scheme is on track to begin on 1st April 2008.

Park & Ride

Off-Bus Ticketing

Ticket machines are now working at 4 of the 5 sites (Cowley will not have machines fitted).

Addenbrookes Access Road/Milton Park and Ride

These two major schemes are progressing but have suffered slight delays due to the bad weather in January and February. Completion dates may need to be revised, possibly to Autumn 2008 and September 2008 respectively depending on weather.

Sewage works move to Honey Hill

We heard in presentations on the Minerals & Waste Plan that the move of Anglian Water to Honey Hill, Horningsea, is now less likely. A consultants' feasibility report is due at the end of this month.

Surgeries

County Councillor Surgeries will be on the 2nd Saturday in the month (8th March, 12th April, 10th May) at Centre Peace on The Causeway from 10.30am - noon

Notes from the Parish Council March Meeting

Chairman John Covill chaired the meeting the 7 Parish Councillors and 2 members of the Public.

Minutes of February Meeting: These were agreed.

Reports: CCC – Cllr Hazel Williams

ECDC - Cllr Allen Alderson

Correspondence Received:

Trees within the Swaffham Prior Conservation Area - approval of treeworks at Town Close.

Trees within the Swaffham Prior Conservation Area – approval of treeworks at 45 High Street.

Road Safety Measures/Traffic Calming, Mill: No further news. Cllr Williams to check on status of schemes.

High Street Signs: No progress to report. Reply from ECDC awaited.

Parish Plan for Village: There was significant discussion on this topic and it was decided to make this an agenda item for the Annual Village Meeting and to encourage people to come along and give their views.

Play Area – estimates received for painting of equipment: Following the consideration of estimates received for the painting of the play area equipment, it was agreed to instruct Simon King to carry out the work. The remaining piece of play area furniture is soon to be ordered and this will complete the refurbishment of the play area. The annual inspection by RoSPA is due to be carried out during the month of April.

The Lodes & The Fens: Geoffrey Woollard gave a summary of the Public Meeting held on the 5th March 2008.

Planning Applications received including:

Baldwin Manor, 80 High Street – refurbishment of existing corner outbuilding to provide utility area and level access shower room. There were no objections

Payment of accounts: These were agreed.

Items for the Next Agenda:

Annual Village Meeting

Affordable Housing

High Street Signs

End of Year Financial Summary

Traffic Calming, Mill Hill

Play Area

The Lodes & The Fens

Open Question Time:

General discussion.

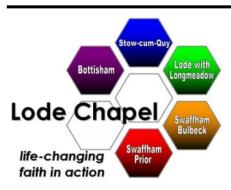
Should anyone require any further information on any of the reported items above, please contact me.



The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday, 10th April 2008 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. *All are welcome to attend.*

Karen King

Clerk to the Parish Council Tel: 742358. Email: karen.king5@btopenworld.com



Lode Baptist Chapel Fools for Jesus?

A friend of mine has a 'bumper' sticker on her wheelchair — it says "I'm a fool for Jesus, who are you a fool for?" Whatever you make of the message, to me it's a reminder not to take myself too seriously. I love a good joke, and my wife will tell you that I also frequently tell a few bad ones! I often see her cringing as I tell them to people at church.

I don't know about you, but I've met a few Christians who have given me the impression that it's a sin to smile. There are many sins, but I don't think having a laugh is often one of them. In fact I've known a number of people who have been put off Jesus because they've got the idea that becoming a Christian would mean them entering a "fun free zone". In years gone by it's even been known for a village church to tie up the local swings on a Sunday to stop the children from playing on them!

To me, such behaviour is an anathema – I believe all good things are a gift from God. Whilst it is possible that these good things can be corrupted and used for harm, this is no reason to abandon them altogether. Jesus certainly seemed to enjoy himself – indeed, I get the impression that he was the life and soul of the party. Remember, his very first miracle was to turn water into wine at a wedding reception! There were religious people around even then, though, who accused him and his disciples of having too much fun and spending too much time with the wrong sort of people. People who spend all their time saying "don't do this, don't do that…" sound very different to the Jesus I know, who said "I have come that they might have life, and have it to the full".

Thankfully there are people in the history of the church who have fully embraced these words of Jesus. One of them is a great favourite of mine, St. Francis of Assisi. Not only did he preach to the birds (which is quite funny in itself) he also called himself 'Le Jongleur de Dieu' which means 'God's Juggler'. Francis and his friends would go from place to place doing acrobatics, singing funny songs and generally making fools of themselves. People would come and watch, laughing and having a

good time, and when the show was over people would stop and ask what made them so happy. In reply, Francis would tell the people the good news about Jesus.

We can learn much from St. Francis, and from the one he followed. That's why at Lode Chapel we're working with the Anglicans to offer what could be called 'funchurch'. Yes, there's an important message to get across, but that doesn't mean it has to be boring! Over the last few months we've played Pictionary and Call My Bluff during our Sunday Club, and in January we even had a pool party where the people ate fruit kebabs, listened to the Beach Boys and wore their sunhats. Sunday mornings certainly aren't what they used to be! I think my friend with the bumper sticker is right – although I want one that says "I'm a fool for Jesus – why not join me?"

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).

Next 'Sunday Club', 27th April, with activities for all of the family, 10.30am at Bottisham Primary School.

For more information please contact:
Simon Goddard on 812881 or Peter Wells on 812388
Lode Chapel, High Street, Lode, CB25 9EW.
Email: simon.goddard@lodechapel.org.uk

Web: www.lodechapel.org.uk

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. Everything is free and nothing is expected in return.

Offers	Wants	Details:
Zanussi larder fridge, slimline (18" wide) nmjk – white White Chest freezer, size of normal fridge (both in full working order)	Fridge Freezer (looks and colour unimportant as it is going in my shed!)	Gerry Ratcliffe (01223 812458)
exercise rowing machine		Nicole, 01223 812363



Church of England Services April 2008

	St Mary's Swaffham Prior	ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck	Bottisham
Sun	11:00am	8:00am Holy Communion 9:30am Family Service	11:00am
6	Mattins		Family Service
Sun	8:00am Holy Communion 11:00am Holy Communion	9:30am	11:00am
13		Holy Communion	Holy Communion
Sun	8:00am Holy Communion 11:00am Morning Prayer	9:30am	11:00am
20		Village Communion	Holy Communion
Sun 27	12 noon Rogation Service (Adventurers' Farm)	10:30am Rogation 6:30pm Evensong	11:00am Rogation Service

PASTORAL LETTER, April 2008

Bottisham Vicarage

Dear Friends,

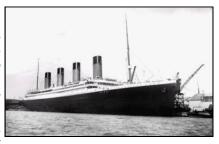
April is one of my most favourite months. Both my wife and my youngest son were born in April and I am eternally grateful for them both. April is a month of great hope and expectation. It marks the real onset of Spring, and Easter often falls in that month (although it has been much earlier this year). April also contains April Fools Day. It was Charles Lamb who wrote: 'Here cometh April again, and as far as I can see the world hath more fools in it than ever.'

It was on April 14th 1912 that the great liner 'Titanic' sunk. In its day, the Titanic was the world's largest ship, weighing 46,328 tons. It was 882 ft long with 3 anchors weighing more than 10 tons each. It employed a crew of 400, a hotel staff of 518 and could carry 2,433 passengers. The 159 furnaces burned 650 tons of coal a day. The ship had a complete gymnasium, heated pool, squash court and the first miniature golf course, all below deck. Its lavish appointments included opulent dining rooms with 24-hour service, orchestra on the promenade deck, palm courts and gilded Turkish baths.

Several millionaires were on the passenger list. But, on that April night the

"unthinkable" happened to the "unsinkable". Near midnight, the great Titanic struck an iceberg, ripping a 300 ft hole through 5 of its 16 watertight compartments. It sank in two and a half hours, killing 1,513 people.

Why did so many die? Well, the crew disregarded the danger of the weather. Warning after warning had been sent to tell them they were speeding into an ice-field. But



the messages were ignored. In fact, when a nearby ship sent an urgent warning, the Titanic was talking to Cape Race about the time chauffeurs were to meet arriving passengers at the dock, and what menus were to be ready. Preoccupied with trivia, the Titanic responded to the warning: "Shut up. I am talking to Cape Race. You are jamming my signals." In addition, there were not enough lifeboats on board, and the radio operator of the nearby California was off duty. It was a classic combination of foolish failures.

One woman being helped into a lifeboat suddenly thought of something she needed, so she asked permission to return to her stateroom before they cast off. She was granted three minutes or they would have to leave without her. She ran across the deck that was already slanted at a dangerous angle. She raced through the gambling room with all the money that had rolled to one side, ankle deep. She came to her stateroom and quickly pushed aside her diamond rings and expensive bracelets and necklaces as she reached to the shelf above her bed and grabbed three small oranges. She quickly found her way back to the lifeboat and got in.

Thirty minutes earlier she would not have chosen a crate of oranges over even the smallest diamond. But death had boarded the Titanic. One blast of its awful breath had transformed all values. Instantaneously, priceless things had become worthless. And in that moment she preferred three small oranges to a crate of diamonds.

Easter reminds us about the true meaning of life. It reminds us that all our possessions are pointless by comparison to the hope of the eternal life that God offers us. Easter is about hope; a hope that overcomes the pain of bereavement, illness, despair and fear; a hope that springs from the realisation the Christ has defeated death, pain, and fear forever. As William and Gloria Gaither so eloquently put it: 'Because he lives I can face tomorrow, because he lives all fear is gone. Because I know he holds the future, and life is worth the living, just because he lives.'

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 April 2008

Fri	4	Winston the Singing Farmer, 7.30 pm Gardiner Memorial Hall, Burwell
Tue	8	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 15:15-15:50 Chapel 15:55-16:15
Thu	10	PC Meeting, 7.30pm, VH
Fri	18	Crier Copy Deadline
Mon	21	WI, 7.30pm VH
Tue	22	Village Gardeners 8pm VH Mobile Library, Cage Hill 15:15-15:50 Chapel 15:55-16:15
Fri	25	Spuds & Puds, 5.30pm, VH
Sun	27	Rogation Service, Adventurers' Farm, 12 noon
May	5	Reach Fair
	10	Village Feast

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place	
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 nd Mon of Term	8pm	Village School	
Baby & Toddlers	Nicki Webb	605705	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 Thurs	7-8:30pm 7-10:00pm	Youth Club Hut	

Village Clubs & Societies