



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXII Number 11

November 2008



Editorial

NOT the best month to be working Mums and Dads who like to go to the Pub with school-age children who like to go to Youth Club.

Disaster all round, in fact.

Firstly, our immensely popular new publicans Sue & Pete have left the Pub. If you were one of the many that had not yet got round to returning after the Churchill fiasco, let's tell you: they were *universally adored*: staff, locals, visitors, real-beer-freaks, foodsters, dogs, cats, you name it, how could Clear Pubs have so short-sightedly let them go? Read Cambridge's Ale magazine article in this issue, and meanwhile Clear Pub's Area Manager has told us they are doing all they can (but his mobile was deluged, he had to turn it off). Readers can still comment to managing director Andy Wilkinson: andy@clearpubs.co.uk.

It can't be easy financing a pub, especially when it's been on its knees, but *some* things are free, like more Free House *food* to accompany the Free House beer, perhaps?

Secondly, what's this we hear that the Village Hall wants the thunderingly successful and much needed After School Club *out* after Christmas, and that 1-mile-away Reach Village Hall might be more *suitable*?



"It is a truth universally acknowledged that those in possession of pristine spanking brand new **furbishings** must quail at the sight of approaching infant life....". Ah yes, a reprint from May 1999's editorial,

as too the cartoon: but doesn't that make the furbishings a bit more elderly now?

Lastly (we hope!) the Youth Club! Never mind vandalism, sounds like rape & pillage to us! Readers please note, they're going to need both financial and practical assistance to put things right.

See you Adventing, Village Variety Panto-ing, Christmas Marketing.....

Caroline Matheson

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VHMC Take Over Windmill

Cover Picture: *Poor Lion* by **Thomas Newbolt** (reprinted and retitled from Oct 2004)



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

The Bus Cuts

Thank you for your e-mail and for the copy of that which you have sent to the County Council with regard to the proposed changes in bus services (*we complained to everyone last month. Eds*).

With regard to the principle of consultation and not involving the local magazines, I do take on board that point and will see whether I can persuade the authority to extend the consultation.

On the wider issue I am very concerned about these proposals and as you will expect I have received considerable amount of correspondence on the matter. Obviously the County Council must make the decision itself as it falls entirely to them to do so, but I have already been in contact with them and will continue to press County Councillors to recognise the importance of these services for our communities and can only hope that local opinion will not be ignored.

James Paice, MP

Dear Swaffham Crier,

I noted all the information about the threatened cuts to the bus going through Prior, but no mention of the current bus times.

Do you think that that could be incorporated into future Criers?

That might then encourage more people to use the bus.

Ian de Massini

*Willingly Ian, but we'd need a Transport Correspondent to squish relevant timetable information into a sufficiently confined space (half a **Crier** page?) to justify repeat publication, and to keep it up to date. Any volunteers, please do get in touch! Eds*

Dear Editors,

Swaffham Prior Parochial Charities Christmas Grant

Once again it is time to remind all who consider themselves eligible for our Christmas grant that they should apply as soon as possible.

As usual, the majority of these applications will come from our pensioners, particularly those who have to manage on the state pension, but if you are in particular need, or know of anybody who may be in difficulty, but is unlikely to apply on their own behalf, the Trustees will always be happy to consider requests for assistance.

Applications should be sent to me, or to any Trustee, and I stress that this assistance is available at all times, not merely at Christmas.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Pam Waters

31 Tothill Rd, CB25 0JX, Tel: 01638 741035

Clerk to the Trustees.

Dear Editors,

Sue Evans' Retirement

It is official!!!! District Nursing Sister Sue Evans MBE is retiring in mid January 09 - look out for posters around the villages nearer the time, as there will be a drop in session to say farewell. She will be greatly missed by patients and the District Nursing Team at Burwell Surgery but it is time for her to put her feet up, although now being the 'Parish Nurse' not sure that will happen!!!

If you or your family has been nursed by Sue Evans over the years and you would like to contribute to her leaving present, please give a donation to any member of the Burwell Surgery staff for the attention of the District Nurses.

Hazel, Maureen, Trudi, Laura.

Dear Editors,

Macmillan Cancer Relief Coffee Morning

We raised £572.50p! That's a fantastic amount and it's all down to your generous support. We all had a very enjoyable time catching up with friends and meeting newcomers. On top of all that we even had Sarah Jones from the Cambridge office of Macmillan AND Anglia news cameras! So Swaffham Prior, our coffee morning and several locals were famous for a few seconds.

Thank you to all of you who came to the coffee morning; those who donated delicious cakes; those who sent donations; Liz Tissier who once again ran the cake stall and Maggie Cotner who was kept busy selling raffle tickets. It just wouldn't be so successful without all your support - and your money!

With many thanks to you all and I look forward to seeing you again next year!

Ruth Scovil

Dear Editors,

The Gay Bullied Good Neighbour Award

If you have anyone you would like to be considered for this annual award can you please give your nominations to Pat Cook - 6 High St. Tel 01638 742224 by the end of November please.

Pat Cook

Dear Editors,

Village Quiz

We would like to thank everyone who attended the quiz last month, we hope everybody enjoyed themselves, we raised £300 for St Mary's church. Congratulations to the winning team, One Too Many, made up of the Everitts and the Carringtons, sorry but we do not know the names of the other members of the team. Thank you to Steve for being our quiz master for the night, who stood in for Andrew as he was holiday, (we missed his jokes but Steve's singing made up for it). We would also like to thank the ladies who helped with the food and a thank you also goes to those who donated prizes for the raffle. Hope to see you all at the next quiz which is on the 28th February 2009.

Lynne Rand and Jenny Brand

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

FOR A CHANGE I was a little early and I witnessed Geoffrey Woollard bending the ear of Allen Alderson in a far corner of the room. Then they went out, only to return several minutes later with very satisfied (smug may even be the word) smiles – or were they smirks. Both certainly had “mission accomplished” looks.



With Hazel being at an Education Seminar at the Grange, Allen batted first with ECDC affairs. He reported that, like most people and organizations, ECDC opposed the proposed bus cuts because they undermined its “sustainable strategy”. He was shocked that CCC should even be considering something which would put more cars on the road and isolate the young. But there is good news because £750,000 is being made available in Cambridgeshire for grants of between £250 and £500 for non-profit organisations with an income less than £20,000 – the Youth Club and Burwell Tigers were singled out as worthy possibilities. Geoffrey raised the Travellers again – “why hadn’t they left?” It seems that a person in one of the two families involved has developed a medical condition necessitating visits to Addenbrookes, which means there is no point in applying for a court order as any attempt to move any person in need of medical attention would be an infringement of its human rights. John Jordan summed it up by saying “The trouble with travellers is that they don’t travel.” *(Well, I met some very nice travelers down the Fen and had a chat. But most unfortunately, my dog, a born-and-bred East Anglian dog, then went and POUNCED on the travellers dog, which was just minding its own business at the time. I left in a hurry. Editress).*

Allen, still being in the hot seat, was asked whether ECDC had invested any money in that ice block in the North Atlantic with its tiny 300,000 inhabitants. Nope, said Allen proudly, we have stashed it away elsewhere. Geoffrey asked why the rates are so high if there is so much spare cash. Allen explained that money must be kept in reserve for large items of expenditure planned over the next few years – such as a New Leisure Centre – AT ELY, or the replacement of an aging swimming pool – AT ELY.

ECDC is also considering whether to deliver at one time 52 bin bags to each household in order to save some money. This appeared to be sensible until I remembered that a member of another far off council was astonished that ANY bin bags were supplied at all. When you stop and think it is stupid to supply free bin bags. EVERYONE has their own supply of bin bags, especially those who put out three of four bags. How much does it cost ECDC to supply them? Come on Allen and Hazel – how much does it cost US?

Hazel Williams had arrived and made her contribution. She was equally enraged about the proposed bus cuts and in her opinion there was no need for CCC



Kittens

Good home required for kittens. Tel: Elaine Malster, 01638 743891

to make the proposed cut. Any sixth former who has just paid out £500 must feel pretty bitter about the duplicity of CCC, just as pension fund people felt and feel about the annual 5 billion raid by the duplicitous Mr Brown, who while seemingly currently being a financial hero, did not even realise that cutting the 10 pence tax level would harm those who paid the 10 pence tax. Would you buy a car from this man? Would you trust him to write out the invoice?

Back to reality. Mrs Williams had also recently attended a Fire Authority meeting and learned that the Government has said that Green Goddesses will no longer be available in the event of a firemen's strike. It seems the soldiers are elsewhere. The only solution appears to be to hire a private company which will have reserve firemen who have been trained in a college and who know how to use a regular fire engine. And it will all be very expensive.

Hazel is always very busy and she had also been at an Age Concern meeting which revealed that elderly men are the main problem. Geoffrey said that when he reached that state he would take the money, go on a cruise, and throw himself overboard. "Can that be soon Geoffrey" was the cry - and it wasn't a question. Hazel had also been to a Transport Meeting and mentioned a point which put everyone into a tither, until four minutes later Hazel admitted she had got it wrong and could her remarks be struck from the record. This is often easier said than done especially with those whose attention may have drifted at the vital moment of the admitted mistake. This error could remain around in the skirting boards for quite some time.

The £30,000 to be spent on the Mill Hill traffic scheme is losing £7,000 which has been taken for administration costs. Which of course resulted in more comments about the Quay traffic calming disaster and it was noted that some frustrated drivers have resorted to mounting the pavement and going round the wrong side of the barrier. Never has money been spent so effectively to create the largest amount of driver distress, anger and potential to commit a crime or a crash.

Finally we learned that the County and other councils have achieved so many government targets that a huge bonus has been paid, of which ECDC has received one million pounds. This is great. But is one of the future targets the completion of Parish Plans? Is this why Allen and Hazel and others support them? Come on Allen and Hazel – speak to the people. They are curious about your silence. How can you continue to ignore the question?

At 8.40 we were still on ECDC matters and Chairman John Covill insisted that the meeting move on. "But, but" protested one ECDC representative. The Chairman prevailed and did move on. Meanwhile illness had been in the air. Both Hazel Williams and John Jordan had pretty awful colds and were sitting each side of Allen. I began to hope that he would be alright until I realised that I had been sitting behind Allen, and even as I type I am beginning to snuffle.,

Everything now began to move more quickly, and the last Neighbourhood Panel meeting was discussed in some depth. Andrew Camps reported on the last meeting, with Asbos in Burwell being number one on the agenda as it appears they are a pretty rough lot down there, in spite of their Parish Plan. Speedwatch came next and

Andrew revealed that it is designed for 30mph areas. So it will be of no use on Mill Hill. Peter Hart claimed it could still be used in 40mph areas, but using different criteria. Andrew said this was not the case. Geoffrey Woollard, who had been at four such meetings, quietly and reasonably, said that Neighbourhood Panels were not working well, had no statutory foundation, were in danger of taking over the role of the parish council, and that people could begin making complaints to the wrong body. Hazel disagreed and knew four people from Burwell who attended with complaints about hooligans. So?? Had they been to a Burwell PC meeting? Geoffrey thought it all unnecessary. Peter Hart went to his first one and thought it useful while Eric Day (also a first attendee) found it interesting and was especially pleased that one issue had been flagged – “that’s the fourth time that has been flagged” said Geoffrey, and we began to get the picture. As Geoffrey, disinterestedly, has been to all meetings we may have to trust him on this and recognize Neighbourhood Panels as just another “talking shop”.

There was another lurch forward with the meeting and Steve Kent-Phillips said he had been successful in obtaining a quote for tidying up the Village Hall driveway. After a discussion whether second and third quotes were required it was approved and John Jordan exclaimed “At last, a result tonight!”.

This is a very happy note on which to close.

Alastair Everitt

VILLAGE VARIETY SHOW

GREETINGS! It’s that time again – the eagerly anticipated Village Variety Show – all in aid of the Church.



As before this takes place only if boys and girls, Mums and Dads, Uncles and Aunties, Grandmas and Granddads come forward to entertain the folks! So, if you fancy singing a song, reciting a poem or standing on your head whilst drinking a glass of whisky and waggling your ears all at the same time, please contact Andrew Noyes on 743864 or noyeshome@swaffham-prior.co.uk

Once again there will be a 10 minute panto to conclude the evening so that alone is reason to miss both X Factor and Strictly Come Dancing,

or is it the other way round?!

Look forward to seeing you on the night. 7 pm start so it’s not too late for the little ones. Tickets £5 adults, £3 for kids.

Andrew Noyes

YOUTH CLUB TARGETED BY VANDALS

SWAFFHAM PRIOR YOUTH CLUB has been broken into on Saturday the 5th and 11th of October. The police and forensics have been involved obtaining 100% DNA by blood and sperm which was left at the scene. Two witnesses have come forward stating that they have heard noises emanating from what seems to be a mixed group of youths on the above date.

From the break ins we have incurred damages and loss of goods. Seeing as we are a voluntary non-profit organisation we are now forced to seek out financial help from the community. Any help offered with repairs or voluntary work would also be greatly appreciated. Maybe the organisation of a neighbourhood watch scheme might be the way forward

Any information please contact the Police on 0845 4564564. All calls are 100% Anonymous

Alan & Gill Badcock
Youth Club Leaders



ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

30 November 4.00pm

YES, IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN, when we serve mulled wine and mince pies after the Advent Celebration. We normally provide about 200 mince-pies, so if you are able to give some (home-made or bought — 2 packets for the price of one is always and advantage!!) please let me know, not later than Friday, 20th November, Thank you!

Kate Child
743983

FREECYCLE

I have changed my e-mail address. If you have any offers or wants, please contact me on jun.thompson@tiscali.co.uk, phone on 01223 813362, or drop a note through 23 Longmeadow. Everything is free and nothing is expected in return.

OFFERS

3-tiered steam cuisine (hardly used):

Doreen, 01223 811622

A nice, sturdy, wooden desk. Drawers both sides and in center.

Fruit machine. Needs TLC but I've been told it works. Haven't tested it.

Anita, anitarlang@hotmail.com

Farewell Pete and Sue, we're devastated! We are reprinting this article from Cambridge and District's Autumn edition of the Ale Magazine (many thanks) as a tribute to their all too short tenancy, we couldn't have put things better. Well, not much!

Red Lion Roars Again

FOR MANY YEARS NOW I've paid occasional visits to the Red Lion Swaffham Prior and one word always sprung instantly to mind - potential. It occupies a lovely seventeenth century building with low ceilings and masses of beams and exposed brickwork, all overlooked by the towers of the village's two churches.

That potential is finally being realised. Firstly owners Churchill Taverns went belly up and the Clear Pub Company took over. They installed experienced licensees Peter Butler and Sue Gilliband who arrived in June, having previously been at the Good Beer Guide - listed Woolpack in St Neots.

Peter is a self-confessed real ale nut and has a completely free hand as to which beers he can order. Currently he has four handpumps selling Greene King IPA, Woodforde's Wherry and two changing guests (St Austell Tribute and Everards Tiger when we called). Two more pumps are on order and Peter intends to sell a real mild (probably Woodforde's excellent Mardler) and a real cider. He's also in touch with local micros like Potton and Buntingford and the latter's Western Viscount was limbering up in the cellar.

The passion for beer extends to the food as Sue loves to cook with it. The menu includes beer-battered cod and chips (Wherry is apparently excellent for batter) and Steak and Ale pie. Sue tries to source as much food locally as she can hence the Bottisham smoked ham; most meat comes from the butcher in Burwell and bread from local firm GI. *(Doh no, Ale Magazine! You mean **GI bread** from Burwell's Lanes, plus Lanes' delightful organic bread made from flour milled at our very own working Swaffham Prior windmill. Also, local-hunt pheasant with locally picked blackberries...as we said, we're devastated. Eds).*

The Red Lion has an L-shaped main bar with a slightly separate dining area at one end. To the right of the entrance is a small games-oriented room (the crib team has just won the pairs at Newmarket). There are two wood-burning stoves which will no doubt be in action by now unless summer has finally arrived. Behind the car park is a massive sloping garden leading up to the churchyard and next year Peter hopes to erect a marquee there for a beer festival.

So - why two churches in such a small village? Well, until a little while ago (1086) St Mary's and St Cyriac's served separate parishes. At the dissolution, the tithes from one passed to the Bishop of Ely and from the other to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral so both were worth keeping going for purely mercenary reasons. St Cyriac's is no longer consecrated but is still used for various events. Well worth a visit especially with the prospect of a great pint over the churchyard wall.

SWAFFHAM PRIOR CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 15th November 2008

2.00 - 4.30pm

In the Village Hall

Any donations for the following stalls would be welcome:



Tombola
Raffle
Provisions
Books
Toys



Christmas decorations etc

Please contact

Pat Cook, 6 High St, Tel: 742224

Christmas Market

Provisions Stall

Contribution for the above
would be gratefully received

by Jan Pattinson(743866). Please mark if
the items can be frozen.



Buns Bread Christmas Pudding Biscuits

Mince Pies
Quiches
Fruit Tarts
Fudge

Flapjacks
Pickles
Jams
Coconut Ice

Walk on the wild side at Anglesey Abbey

ON FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER AT 10.30AM, Anglesey Abbey garden's latest best kept secret will be in the limelight. A new pathway to the Hoe Fen Wildlife Discovery Area will be officially opened and all are invited to join the celebrations.

The vision for the Hoe Fen project was conceived by Head Gardener, Richard Todd while on a three-month sabbatical. His idea was to revitalise a 25acre area of overgrown scrub and woodland, to create a wide range of habitat sites for wildlife. At the heart of the project was the aim to involve all ages and abilities in its creation.

The project has benefited from links with many groups, business partners, schools and National Trust regional staff and would not have been possible without the assistance received from the community. Many groups, including Cambridge



Mencap, Arts And Minds, Volunteers Plus, Romsey Mill, the Richmond Fellowship Employment Service, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mental Health Trust and Goldman Sachs interns volunteered to level, clear and build structures for the creation of the naturalistic walkway. All the features, such as a pond dipping platform, log habitat

wall, natural log seats, bridges and a log cabin, have been the result of many hours of hard work.

Richard Todd says of the project 'Gardens like Anglesey Abbey are a resource that should be used and shared by all ages. We at Anglesey Abbey are committed to working with our local community to promote inclusion that will enable as many as possible to experience fulfilling practical tasks, to raise the awareness and importance of our natural surroundings, to increase the level of skills, confidence and knowledge and the promotion of social and interpersonal skills'.

Involving business partners and large groups required a great deal of detailed planning. The result is the addition of an exciting conservation area to Anglesey Abbey's grounds which will provide pleasure for visitors and wildlife alike in the years ahead.

Richard is delighted with the project saying 'It is a fantastic achievement by all concerned to have accomplished so much in such a short space of time. They have

created a wonderful opportunity for exploring and encouraging wildlife habitats for the future. All of us at Anglesey Abbey are looking forward to welcoming visitors to the new pathway and Hoe Fen.'

The celebration on 7 November brings together all those involved in the project, three years to the date the first groups said 'yes' to Richard's plan. Guests at the 10.30am official opening will be the first to explore the Hoe Fen walkway with Richard Todd as their guide. After a half hour walk, toasted marshmallows and a cup of coffee will warm fingers and toes at the Hoe Fen Discovery Area. Visitors to Anglesey Abbey on Friday 7 November will also be able to enjoy an hour-long guided walk to Hoe Fen at 2pm and 3pm.

If you would like to attend the opening of the new Hoe Fen Walkway please contact:

Rachel Stock, Interpretation & Marketing Officer

tel: 01223 810090 email: rachel.stock@nationaltrust.org.uk

Anglesey Abbey has a fantastic garden for all to enjoy. Avenues give spectacular vistas where the eye is led to one of the many sculptures and diverse planting gives it year round colour and scent. Its wide appeal sees an increase in visitors every year, especially during the winter season. Pathways meandering through the winter garden help lift the winter blues.

Gardens & Lode Mill open 5 November to 31 December, Wednesday to Sunday from 10.30am to 4.30pm.

Admission: £4.75 adult, £2.40 child, NT members free

Cantilena Singers

A traditional Christmas concert.

Sat 6th December 2008, 7:30pm, All Saints

Church Worlington

Director Daniel Spreadbury

Programme to include:

- 12 Days of Christmas
 - The Gift
- The Yorkshire Wassail
- Ding Dong Merrily on High
- O Magnum Mysterium
- Cannon for 3 Choirs
 - In dulce Jubilo
- Coventry Carol

Tickets on the door; proceeds to church and charity

Contact: R. Braun 01223 812115; email simon.andrews@bbsrc.ac.uk ;
web www.cantilena.info

News from Wicken Fen

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE who took time to attend our recent User Drop-in sessions at the Fen. The sessions were well attended, particularly by the horseriding fraternity and provided plenty of useful feedback and suggestions. Details of the User Forum consisting of representatives of the various User Groups that regularly use Wicken Fen and the wider Vision lands will be announced shortly.

Development of the Wicken Fen Spine Route continues with the appointment of Peterborough based consultants Royal Haskoning to design and supervise the construction of the new Reach Lode Bridge. Construction is expected to commence

next Summer and when completed will enable unbroken access from Wicken down to Anglesey Abbey or Waterbeach. Discussions are progressing with the Environment Agency over the modernisation or replacement of the Burwell Lode Bridge. Ideally agreement can be reached for the bridge to be permanently in the



down position in order to assist access for cyclists and horesriders. A grant has recently been received from the Environment Agency which will allow the path across Guinea Hall Fen from Monk's Lode to Priory Farm to be upgraded.

Button, a Konik pony foal made an unexpected entrance to the world on 18 October. His mother had not displayed signs of being pregnant and it is relatively unusual for foals to be born this time of year. Regretfully young Button was rejected by his mother and is now being cared for by the World Horse Welfare charity in Snetterton, Norfolk. Button should be able to return to Wicken Fen when he is able to look after himself in roughly 6 – 8 months time.

Christmas is fast approaching and Father Christmas will be visiting the Fen on 7, 13 and 14th December. A Christmas trail around the boardwalk will lead you to his secret grotto, where he will have a present for every child.

Stuck for Christmas present ideas? - The Visitor Centre has an impressive range of books, children's toys and games, bird feeders and local crafts. For that special present why not give a year's membership to the National Trust providing unlimited access to over 300 historic houses, gardens and other countryside attractions. Memberships can easily be arranged at the Visitor Centre.

Howard Cooper

Harvest Supper 2008

NEARLY 80 PEOPLE of all ages attended the annual Harvest Supper on Saturday 4 October. Drinks from the bar were followed by a relaxed meal of ham and turkey, home-made bread and a wonderful range of salads, and a mouth-watering selection of puddings. This year's entertainment was interactive – a mini singing workshop led by Cath Coombs. Tina Jost's beautiful oil painting was auctioned by Andrew Noyes and the Vicar announced the winners of the highly desirable raffle prizes.

A huge number of people contribute to an event of this kind and we would like to thank: Tina Jost for donating the painting for auction; all who donated raffle prizes - Catherine Wrench, Claire Snaith, Lindsey Raja, The Red Lion, Waitrose, the Willmott family, Pru and Clifton Mead and Jo Pumfrey; Cath Coombs for the entertainment; Jennifer and David for washing up; Pat and Peter Cook for running the bar; Gerry and Karen King for providing the bread; all who donated



Ann Zeid serving wonderful salads

salads – Justeen Lankfer, Jane Blanks, Shirley Wilkins, Brenda Wilson, Jill Jordan, Linda Evans, Kaye Lewinski, Ann Zeid, Mandy Kingsmill, Jo Pumfrey, Dee Noyes; Ruth Dalton for staffing the door; William and Thomas for helping with the tables; Grace, Helena, Maddie, Bella and Emily for helping with the raffle. Together we raised £343 for St Mary's Church funds, and the auction and raffle proceeds of £151 will go to the Diocese of



Raffle, with Tina's glorious chicken in the background

John Norris Remembers...

Maintaining the Village Infrastructure

IT IS SOME TIME AGO that the improvements were made to the old part of the village, but many visitors still comment on the change. We must be grateful to the East Cambs Council, and their highways department for all that they do, both to the roads and the church yard.

It is several years ago that the day to day upkeep of the ground surrounding the two churches was taken over by the Council. We were lucky in that the area was declared a closed church yard as far back as 1929, when the two schools near the road were replaced by the present one on Station Road, and a new cemetery provided by the Parish Council to the East of the old grave yard. This meant that the area was now a public place, and could be maintained by the local authority.

The new footway is a great benefit to those using wheels as a form of transport, as it is almost level, just enough camber to run off the water. I well remember the difficulty I had when my wife needed a wheel-chair. It was a constant battle to stop running into the road, down the slope caused by the sinking road. The pavement in front of Anglesey House was level with the road surface, but now, after the improvements it is the six inches above the road surface required by the regulations. It will be much safer for the children too, when this end of the village starts breeding again. When I came here in 1959, most of the houses had children of school age living in them, but as time passes they grow up !!

All the old patches caused by water and electricity repairs have gone, and the new surfaces both to the footway and the road have a pleasing appearance. It is a pity that the yellow and white line have to be there, but it would be chaos without them. Indeed it is sometimes chaos with them.

The area surrounding the churches is not easy to maintain, as it is far from being level, but Malcolm is a dab hand at working round the hills, and the un-level ground. The trees too need constant attention as they are very mature, and grow very quickly. I am please to see that the Allix plot has had some attention, and now looks cared for. This site was taken from Anglesey House garden for private burials, and is not part of the churchyard

All in all we have had a useful makeover, so I felt it appropriate to thank on behalf of the residents and visitors, the Local Authority for their interest in our village. I know we all pay for it in our rates, but it has been done, and not put off for another twenty years, well done and thank you.

John Norris

Silver Bird Big Band Sound Cancelled

I regret to inform you that this event has been cancelled due to lack of support. I regret any inconvenience this may have caused you but we cannot take the risk of such a big loss if the evening fails.

Thank you for your help,

Brenda Chapman

VILLAGE VARIETY SHOW

~ AND MINI PANTO ~

Saturday 22nd November

7 p.m.

Swaffham Prior Village Hall

Tickets £5 and £3



Available from:

Andrew Noyes 743864

Kaye Lewinski 744062

**~ BAR AND RAFFLE ~
IN AID OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH**



WI Notes

The Speaker at the October meeting was Jim Henderson who gave a very thought provoking talk about his experience as a doctor on secondment to the Atomic Casualty Commission in Hiroshima in 1954 studying late side effects in survivors of the bombing in 1945. Jim explained differences between the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs, how the geography of the two sites resulted in differences in the way the populations were affected and how the outcomes were not all as expected.

In November the speaker will be Paula Dollan with an entertaining talk entitled 'A funny thing happened...'

If you are interested in joining our friendly group - give me a ring on 01638 742224 .

Pat Cook

Grass Roots

Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (registered charity 1103314) has a major new grant programme now (Oct 08) open for applications. **Grassroots Grants** (funded by the Office of the Third Sector) offers not-for-profit voluntary or community organisations in Cambridgeshire, which has been active in their community for not less than 12 months, have a governing document and evidenced income of less than £20,000 per annum (averaged over the last three years), grants of between £250 and £5,000 for projects that address local needs.



Managed by the Community Development Foundation
Funded by the Office of the Third Sector

Examples of what can be funded are given below

Purchase of capital items such as computer equipment, oven or furniture

Costs of putting on a local event or workshop

Staff costs to enable the employment of individuals

Contribution to rent costs (related to activities/service delivery)

Cost of attending a conference or event

Training for volunteers

Additional activities to expand an existing funded project

Full details on Grassroots Grants are on the Grassroots Grants Guidelines on the CCF web site (www.cambscf.org.uk) along with the application form (one for grant requests up to £500 and another for sums between £500 and £5000).

The Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

On Monday 4th August a coach left Bottisham Church destined for Old Hunstanton. This originally started off as a Mothers' Union Outing and we then extended it to anyone in the Benefice who also wanted to come. We were off to see the Flower Festival at St. Mary's Church in Old Hunstanton and on the day 40 people filled the coach to do just that. It was a wonderful day – the weather was sunny, the journey was good, and we were given such a welcome at Old Hunstanton. The Flower Festival is a major annual event for St.Mary's Church and we all agreed that it was well worth going to. Most of us ate there and ate very well! We had ordered our meal before we went and were impressed by the "professionalism" in the Refreshments Marquee! After spending a lovely morning looking around the Flower Festival and having our lunch we then made our way into Hunstanton where we were all able to "do our own thing" for an hour and a half. For some of the men who came this hour and a half included a round on the "Pitch and Putt" Course, others walked along the sea front and most of us were able to enjoy a cup of tea in one of the cafes the before returning home. We all agreed it was a very enjoyable outing and are now thinking of somewhere to go next year!

At our September Meeting Tor Docherty – the Chief Executive of "Red2Green" – came to speak to us about the work that takes place there. It was such an interesting talk and made all of us realise that we really weren't aware of all the marvellous work that goes on so locally. Red2Green is based in Harvey's Barn in

Swaffham Bulbeck and provides all sorts of opportunities and tuition for adults with learning difficulties. It is such a worthwhile Charity and we were all intrigued by what Tor had to tell us and are very grateful that she was able to spend the afternoon with us.

We continue to meet in Lode Chapel on the 3rd Thursday afternoon of each month and our Meetings always begin at 2.30pm (except our Christmas Lunch which will be at an earlier time). Programmes for the year are available in all of our 5 Churches – please do help yourself to one and do join our Meetings if you would like to. Everyone is very welcome and we will be delighted to see you.

Our Meeting on Thursday 16th October was a very entertaining and enjoyable afternoon with Rosemary Wheeler telling us about "Hats Galore"!

Pauline Lewis.

CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY

I like to get a round of golf
Or two in, now and then;
I can safely leave the office
To be run by all the men.

But if the office wants me
My secretary phones the bar;
She'll leave a message for me,
And I'll phone in, from the car.

It does me good to get away,
The strain can be too much,
Not that I come here every day,
For one must keep in touch.

I'm really quite good at the game—
Dedication – don't you see?
Application is the name
When standing at the tee..

Ophir

Swaffham Bulbeck C of E Primary School

Caretaker vacancy

As our much respected and hard-working caretaker has moved out of the village, we are in need of a replacement. We are looking for someone who:

has some practical DIY skills

has the ability to work well with other staff members

is adaptable and flexible

has commitment, enthusiasm and a sense of humour

will maintain and promote the caring, positive ethos of the school

will share the schools commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children

To discuss the position further, hours of work, rate of pay etc. please contact the school on 01223 811595 or email office@swaffhambulbeck.cambs.sch.uk.

Swaffham Bulbeck Cof E Primary School, 84 High Street, CB25 0LX

Swaffham Bulbeck School PSA Bonfire & Firework Party

Friday 7th November

Open: 6pm

Vicarage Field (behind the church)

Adults: £3 Children: £2

Lite ropes for sale: £1

Hot food & drinks available

"NO SPARKLERS PLEASE"



Your children are your responsibility. Please keep away from the firework display site.

Swaffham Bulbeck School PSA Christmas Fair

Come along to our Fair on Friday 5th December from
3.30pm in the school hall.

Grand Raffle, Christmas Wreaths, Face painting

Xmas nick-nack Stall, Games, Refreshments

And lots more!

There will be large luxury Hampers and other fantastic prizes to
win in our raffle.





EAST CAMBS DISTRICT COUNCIL

From our District
Councillor
Allen Alderson

Over the next two and a half years, grant funding is being made available to “grassroot” community groups in East Cambs which may be relevant to some groups in the Swaffhams. In summary, not-for-profit voluntary or community organisations, which have been active in their community for not less than twelve months, have a governing document and evidenced income of less than £20,000 per annum (averaged over the last three years) can apply for a Grassroots Grant of between £250 and £5000 for projects that address local needs.



The grants are administered by the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF) — a local registered charity which makes grants to local groups on behalf of donors including local companies, individuals, and local and national government.

More details can be found on the CCF website: www.cambs.org.uk (including the application form). Groups are encouraged to call the CCF office (01223 421588) to talk about their funding needs before completing an application form.

I am sure this funding could apply to some of our local groups, so let us make use of it for the good of our Swaffham ward.

There has sometimes been hiccups in the delivery of refuse sacks, so East Cambs County Council now propose to make a once a year delivery of the black plastic bags and the clear plastic bags for plastic bottles. I will give more information on this when it is available.

On Saturday, October 18, Ely hosted its annual Apple Festival. As usual, it was held on Palace Green and was a great success. Events included:

- Apple identifiers — capable of identifying the variety by sight
- Longest Peel Competition
- The popular Apple Café, which served a variety of apple related refreshments
- A variety of stalls containing everything from rural crafts such as bee keeping to live folk music.

The event was run and organised by East Cambs District Council and many thanks should be given to Tracey Harding, our Tourism Leader at East Cambs for making the day such a success.

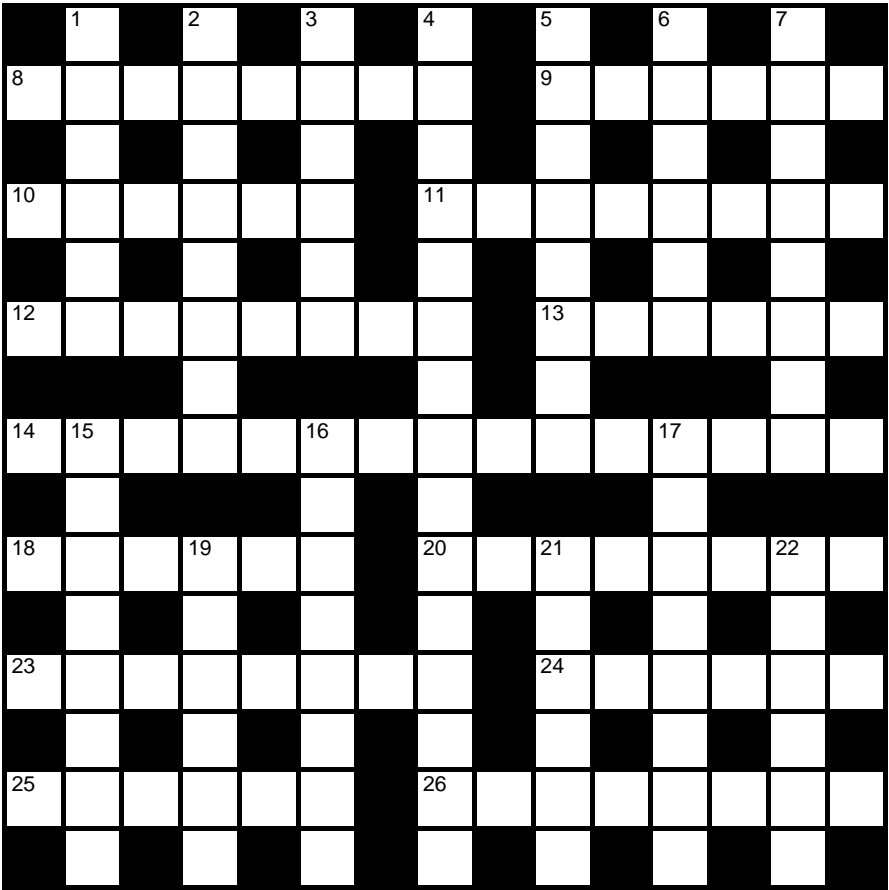
Crossword Number 57

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

Compiled by

NIBOR

This month's puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18 November 2008. The first correct solution out of the hat will win a free meal for two at the Red Lion—See the manager at the pub for full details.



Name:.....

Address.....

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

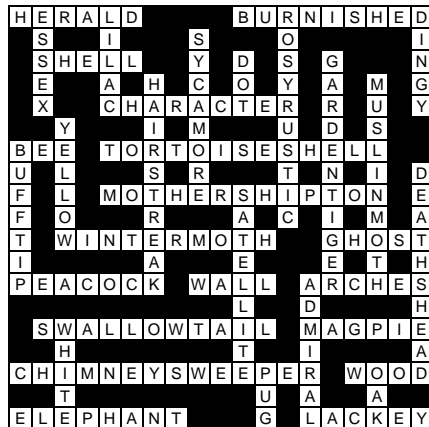
Across

- 8 Men found in underwear, sort of shirt and gown (8)
- 9 Cheered up then made us mad (6)
- 10 Turn sharply round points to find cover (6)
- 11 Mobile phone may produce nitrogen compound (8)
- 12 Hermit finds solitary beast (4,4)
- 13 Code discovered in streptococci pheromones (6)
- 14 Large shop needs French district warehouse (10,5)
- 18 Chill out and wind down (6)
- 20 Starship built for musicians (8)
- 23 Harmless prevarication not made by black men (5,3)
- 24 Resident not recorded but very fashionable (4,2)
- 25 Baby worker is after a bit of information (6)
- 26 Delight in tenth rally (8)
- 5 Dado is terribly anti cows (8)
- 6 Quarrel about the effect of a good bra (4-2)
- 7 Caribou drops sweet, we hear (8)
- 15 Tap Helen maybe, or Nellie perhaps... (8)
- 16 ...Model let me tap anyway (8)
- 17 Seven-year itch is disastrous without canes; it's robbery (8)
- 19 A lost cat and where it may have gone (6)
- 21 Give account of dead soldiers first (6)
- 22 A small amount of pudding (6)

Solution to crossword no. 56

Down

- 1 Not there to be attached... (6)
- 2 ... and the French create havoc and then more of the same (2,6)
- 3 I rowed out to find a strange man (6)
- 4 Type of lily favoured by the Magi (4-2-9)



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

Notes from the Parish Council October Meeting

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

Minutes of Meetings: These were agreed.

Reports: CCC – Cllr Hazel Williams

ECDC – Cllr Allen Alderson

Correspondence Received: This was reported to meeting.

Traffic Calming Measures for Mill Hill: John Jordan asked whether CCC Highways had given a start date for the traffic calming measures on Mill Hill. The Clerk confirmed that no date had been received but that she would ask Andrew Carauna of CCC Highways.

John Jordan asked whether there had been any more news on the £10,000 contribution promised by Ashwell Developments and what this would be spent on. The Clerk confirmed that the £10,000 from Ashwell Developments was due to be paid at the end of their financial year (this month). This was to be an agenda item for the November meeting.

Report on Neighbourhood Panel Meeting 7/10/08: Andrew Camps report on the meeting. He said that the meeting was well attended. The Speedwatch Scheme as reported in the last Crier

Worried about the current mortgage market?

Mortgage deal coming to an end?

We could save you money on your mortgage payments.

Because we are not tied to any lender we have access to the whole of market, making it easier for us to find a mortgage to suit your individual needs.

To make it easier for you, we are quite happy to come to your home, day or evening, to review your mortgage requirements. Our fully advised service, from qualified professionals, means we always give the most suitable advice, even if that means advising you not to change your mortgage at this particular time. If we can't help you right now, we will advise of the most suitable time to review again.

We will also carry out a review of your mortgage protection needs. We advise you what protection you need to give you the peace of mind of knowing your home is protected.

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Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage or any other debt secured on it. Essential Mortgages is an appointed representative of Mortgage Broking Services Ltd, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority FSA No 306012. We also provide advice on non-regulated products which are not authorised by Mortgage Broking Services Ltd.

report was discussed at length and received mixed views. The question of fly-tipping in the Fens was also discussed.

Cemetery Maintenance: Steve Kent-Phillips had obtained a quote for the work needed. This was discussed and it was agreed to invite further quotes before a decision was made. The Clerk had also arranged for David Bynoe of the Probation Service to meet with Parish Councillors at the cemetery to assess the work needed and whether one of the Probation Service teams could help.

Cutting back of Vegetation on Village Hall Driveway: A quote for this work was agreed.

Asset Register – ongoing review: Further report next month.

Risk Assessment of Clerk's Office – Approval of Expenditure: This was agreed.

Planning Applications Received including:

70 High Street - *one and a half storey pitched roof extension (part demolition of existing flat roofed extension) along with associated internal and external alterations to building and demolition and replacement of existing garage.*

Ref: 08/00891/FUL & 08/00894/LBC. There were no objections.

Accounts for Payment: These were agreed.

Items for Next Agenda:

Traffic Calming Scheme – Mill Hill

Cemetery Maintenance

Asset Register – ongoing review

The Lodes & Fens.

Open Question Time:

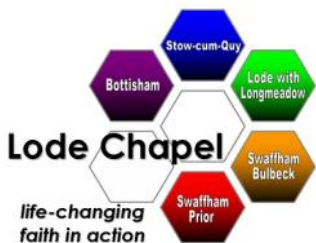
There was discussion re Speedwatch Scheme and the need for speed reductions through the Village.

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

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 13th November 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@bopenworld.com



Money, Money, Money – It's Not Funny!

“I went into town the other day”, the stand up comic begins, “and all I wanted was a toaster”. “When I got to the shop, however, they had a special on – and they threw in a free bank!” I know what ABBA said, but if life is funny in a rich man's world, then I don't think many of us are laughing at the moment. The credit crunch has really shaken our confidence in all sorts of institutions, and that in turn has caused us to wonder what the future is likely to hold for our work, for our pensions and for our families.

Many people are talking about the rights and wrongs in all of this, but for others the highest priority is dealing with the challenges that face them right now. If you fall into that category then perhaps the ‘Money Secret’ is something you would be interested in. Produced initially as a book, written by Rob Parsons, the blurb says it helps you to: face your financial fears, regain control of your finances, and discover the secrets to debt-free living.

Whilst you might like to invest in the book – I've seen it available online second-hand for less than a pound (ISBN 978-0340862773 RRP £6.99) – a recommended way to benefit from the material is to get together with others facing similar challenges. It can be very lonely dealing with financial pressures, but talking with others in the same situation can be a real help. At Lode Chapel we have access to the ‘Money Secret’ in a format specially designed for a small group setting and we would be happy to co-ordinate a local group or two if that would be helpful. Do contact me (details below) if you would like more information, or are interested in working through the material.

Of course, if your financial situation needs urgent expert help, then there are other local services that it would be appropriate for you to contact.

Cambridge Citizen's Advice Bureau:

www.cambridgecab.org.uk Tel: 0844 848 7979

Cambridge Money Advice Centre:

www.mac-cambridge.org.uk Tel: 01223 727 455

One more thing...

Have you ever wondered what goes on in a Baptist church? We've recently posted a video on our website which is a clip from a recent baptismal service. We have special thanksgiving services for babies, but wait until people are old enough to make their own decision about the Christian faith before baptism takes place. Three of our young people made got baptised in October – visit www.lodechapel.org.uk to see them getting very wet!

Simon Goddard

We welcome you to any of our services or other midweek activities.
Morning Worship every Sunday at 10.30am with Sunday School,
The next 'Sunday Club' is Sunday 23rd November,
10.30am at Bottisham Primary School.

For more information please contact: Rev. Simon Goddard.

1 Hall Farm Cottage, Lode Road, Bottisham, CB25 9DN.

Tel: (01223) 812881

Email: simon.goddard@lodechapel.org.uk

Web: www.lodechapel.org.uk

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

Masses: Newmarket: Sat 1830; Sun 1030;

Kirtling: Sun 0900;

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

P. MARSH ELECTRICALS AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE (Kitchen and Bathroom refits)

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(Based in Burwell)



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Church of England Services November 2008

	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior	ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck	Bottisham
Sun 9	10:50am Remembrance Service	10:50am Remembrance Service 11:10am ReNew (Primary School)	10:50am Remembrance Service
Sun 16	11:00am Holy Communion	9:30am Village Communion	11:00am Morning Prayer
Sun 23	11:00am Matins	8:00am Holy Communion 9.30am Morning Prayer	11:00am Holy Communion
Sun 25	4:00pm ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT		

PASTORAL LETTER, November 2008

Bottisham Vicarage

Dear Friends,

On Remembrance Sunday we honour the memory of all those who gave their lives in the service of their country in the two world wars, and in many other conflicts since.

There have been many stories of acts of unselfish heroism in times of war. One in particular, that came to my attention recently, was the story of the soldier who asked his officer if he might go out into the "No Man's Land" between the trenches in World War I to bring in one of his comrades who lay grievously wounded.

"You can go," said the officer, "but it's not worth it. Your friend is probably killed, and you will throw your own life away." But the man went.

Somehow he managed to get to his friend, hoist him onto his shoulder,

and bring him back to the trenches. The two of them tumbled in together and lay in the trench bottom.

The officer looked very tenderly on the would-be rescuer, and then he said, "I told you it wouldn't be worth it. Your friend is dead and you are mortally wounded." "It was worth it, though, sir," the soldier replied. "How do you mean, 'worth it'? I tell you your friend is dead," responded the officer. "Yes, sir," the soldier answered, "but it was worth it, because when I got to him he was still alive, and he said to me, 'Jim, I knew you'd come.'"

That story speaks to me of the triumph of human love over the terrible forces of destruction that are unleashed in times of war, and it reminds me that the greatest of all human facets is indeed love.

The Bible tells us that '*God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him*' (1 John 4:16). That passage from the 1st letter of John goes on to point out that '*We love because He first loved us*' (1 John 4:19). It also says '*No-one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us*' (1 John 4:12).

Those amazing verses explain where love comes from, and why we should love one another. To love each other is to reflect God's meaning and significance in the world.

St. John learnt his amazing understanding of where love comes from through his Lord, Jesus Christ. Jesus said to him, and the other disciples, and to all of us: '*My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no-one than this: that he lay down his life for his friends*' (John 15: 12/13).

That is exactly what Jesus did – he lay down his life for all of us, because he counts us all as his friends.

Just like that world war one soldier, Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for his friends, and he did it as an act of atonement – to enable us to be 'at one' with God. What's more, after his terrible sacrificial death on the cross, he rose again from the dead to demonstrate that he was much more than a mere man - he was the son of God.

Christians believe that Jesus lives forever, both in heaven, and in the hearts and souls of all who believe in him. We believe that his very presence in our lives helps us to cope with tragedy, pain, suffering, bereavement and anxiety. Whenever the going gets tough we can turn to our Lord Jesus. We can experience the comfort, hope and strength of his presence with us, and be able to say to him. "Lord, I knew you'd come.

May God bless you all,

David

Dates for Your Diary - November 2008

Tue	4	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:15-3:50pm Chapel 3:55-4:15
Fri	7	Walk on the wild side, Anglesey Abbey, 10.30am. Bulbeck Fireworks, 6pm, Vicarage Field
Thu	13	PC Meeting, 7.30pm, VH
Fri	14	
Sat	15	Christmas Market, VH, 2-4pm
Sun	16	
Mon	17	WI, VH
Tue	18	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:15-3:50pm Chapel 3:55-4:15 Crier Copy Deadline
Sat	22	Village Variety Show, 7pm, VH
Sun	30	Advent by Candlelight, St Mary's & St Cyriacs, 4pm

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2nd 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	1st Weds of month	8:00pm	(See Crier)
Scouts	Andrew Noyes	743864	Weds (term)	7:45-9:15pm	Village School
Village Gardeners	Margaret Joyce	744390	3rd Tues of month	8:00pm	Village Hall
WI	Margaret Phillips	741495	3rd 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***