



# The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXII Number 10

October 2008



## Editorial

LIKE MANY COMMUNITY MAGAZINES, the *Crier* takes an August summer holiday. Into the middle this, the County Council carefully dropped the bombshell that they were cancelling our evening bus service, any objections to arrive by September 26.

But we don't run a September issue! You can read all about it in this issue (*Letters*, *Our Reporter*, Karen King, and Allen Alderson). Concerned readers should nevertheless turn up at the Neighbourhood Panel meeting:

### SP VILLAGE HALL

**TUESDAY OCT 7, 7pm**

since Hazel Williams has obtained the assurance of the Council that any comments here *will* be "taken into account".

Even for those of us not entitled to subsidised transport, our current half-hourly service represents excellent value, since when fuel and parking is taken into account, it's both faster and cheaper: a pleasant journey with no worries about what to do with the car when you get there.

But for our young people, who had just paid £500 for a yearly bus-pass *before* this cut was announced, it's there lifeline into the social centre of Cambridge — come on CCC! This is *not* the time to be cancelling buses.

Record number of entries for the Crossword this month, but no worries for Crossword Federers Bob and Julie Nunn, who effortlessly shrugged off the competition to be the first readers to sample our prize double meal from the excellent home-cooked cuisine at the Red Lion.

You see, there were two obscure birds that might have fitted 25 down, a *stilt* and a *stint*, but only *one* that might also be a *spile*! — yes, the *Crier* crossword can be evil, but who will be the *Nadal* come to challenge?

The Quiz Night went off with a bang, where cool, calm and collected *Densa* (Quiz Federers from outside the village) got into an unaccustomed fluff, we hear, and "Nevermind the Buzzcocks!" Quiz Master Steve Kent Phillips gave a quite exceptional solo rendition of various pop songs—*was this what did for Densa?* Alas, the editors missed it, we don't know who won, let us know, someone! See you Halloweening...

*Caroline Matheson*

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**Cover Picture:** *Couchin* by **Tina Jost** (*Couchin* is to be auctioned at the Harvest Supper)



## Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

### **BOTTISHAM SWIMMING POOL & SPORTS CENTRE: A NEW ERA BEGINS**

By the time you read this the Swimming Pool will have been re-launched under its new Management. As Chairman of the previous Management Committee, I felt it would be appropriate for me to give an explanation for the change.

For more than 30 years the pool was successfully run as an independent charity and as a community we pay tribute to those who put so much effort and energy into its creation and continuance. However over recent years, it has become increasingly difficult to operate economically. Changes in the law relating to staffing and security have resulted in greatly increased costs.

Changes in the approach of the Charity Commissioners to the status of committee members, all of whom willingly volunteered their services, meant that they became Trustees with personal financial responsibility, making it increasingly difficult to get new members to join the committee and, in recent years, there was a disappointing lack of support from the local community.

The final straw was a sudden drastic reduction in the frequency of use of all sports facilities which occurred over the last two years and which was in large part responsible for very bad losses.

The Trustees decided that it was impractical to continue to manage the Bodytone Fitness Suite which they had been doing for the last five years, and terminated their agreement with the College Governors. Because of changes in the law relating to Child Protection issues, the Governors could not offer community use of the Bodytone, in isolation, and they asked the Trustees if they would be prepared to allow them to take over the running of the Pool as well so that they could continue to offer the sports facility as an integrated whole.

After a considerable amount of heart-seaching, the Trustees came to the conclusion that it would be in the best interests of the community to wind up the charity and transfer their lease of the swimming pool to the Governors to allow this to be done.

The Governors approached the County Council and successfully obtained a substantial capital grant to get the pool relined, the surroundings refurbished and the Bodytone suite and other facilities refurbished.

The whole sports facility is now back in operation and it all looks extremely good and I would encourage everyone to wholeheartedly support the new management by making full use of the facilities.

Just as before, it will depend on the support of our local community to keep our pool and sports centre open; it is a first class facility and deserves all our help. I beseech everyone, don't let the efforts of the last thirty years go to waste: It would be such a shame!

*Peter Swannell.*

Dear Editors,

## **Greetings from Jan & Gabi Petersen**

During a recent trip to Germany we visited Jan & Gabi at their home in the village of Joldelund in Schleswig Holstein where Jan is the parish priest. Joldelund is a rural village, similar in size to Swaffham Prior with an 800 year old fieldstone church housing an interesting painted 16<sup>th</sup> century altar screen and a brand new organ. Here Jan oversees the kindergarten school as well as teaching R.E. in the sixth form college of the local town, has started a scout group and is reviving the village brass band, whilst Gabi still works part time for a local vet.

Their family is growing with Malte, Finja and Lasse awaiting the arrival of a sibling in December. Their home at the Pastorat incorporates a parish room and office with a very large garden where they keep chickens, ducks, turkeys and geese and Jan enjoys driving round on his own tractor which is also used for family picnic trips.

They asked us to send greetings to all their friends in Swaffham Prior and hope to pay a visit to Swaffham Prior before too long.

*Jutta & Francis Reeks*

**Jan, Gabi & family, trying out Jan's new tractor — a 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday present.**



Dear Editors,

## **Reduction of Bus Services (copy of letter to County Council)**

As editor of Clunch, Burwell's community magazine, I would like to point out that it has not been possible for us to publish this [proposal to reduce bus services] before the consultation period expires. Our publication schedule means that our deadline is the beginning of the month for the end of the month. We have put a piece in this issue but it will not hit the doormat until Friday 26th or Saturday 27th.

I understand that Swaffham Prior's village magazine is in the same situation.

I feel that the consultation period in this respect has been too short to allow for a proper feedback to be gathered from those affected - I note that no public notices have been displayed in the village to advise of the consultation. Perhaps in light of this you would consider lengthening the time that people have to register their views?

**Joanne Scrace**  
Co-editor, Clunch

And the County Council's response:

We have spoken with our managers here and unfortunately it is not possible to extend the consultation period. They have said that we will consider late comments if they are soon after the closing date. All we can suggest is to gather the feedback in and send it in when you can.

Kind regards

Passenger Transport Team (Passenger.Transport@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

*Eds Note: Thanks Joanne. See lots more comment on this elsewhere in this issue!*

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## **From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting**

IT WAS TO SOME EXTENT an evening which concentrated on roads and transport – and on only that will be this report.

CCC is proposing to cut its subsidy on rural bus services and No 10 has got it in the neck. CCC sent an undated information sheet to the PC and asked for views between “Now (whenever that was) and 26 September”. It is one of the worst information sheets I have ever seen and I leave it to the Editor to see how she can reproduce it [Eds note: see p26]. (The smudged part is because a dollar sign was used instead of a pound sign). After analyzing passenger figures over 12 months they have the remarkable fact that over all the bus journeys from Newmarket to Cambridge, and vice versa, the average number of people who use a bus during that journey is only 5. Even on the quiet times when I tend to use the service more than 5 have got on and off just from Prior to Cambridge. And there are very full buses which would push up the average. What is needed are the details behind this bald statement.



But that is not what was of interest during the meeting. Being a person, amongst many others, who has always applauded the bus service it soon became fairly obvious that not many of the PC used the bus. There has always been a bit of a controversy over the bus ever since that Tory MP said he didn't use the bus “because you didn't know who you were going to sit next to.” Of course, the bus is a great leveller of people and maybe sharing a bus stop is not an attractive idea to many.

One PC member had tried a bus and found it alright, another supported late night buses because it allowed the young to go to Cambridge, and return. That was about

it, plus Steve Kent-Phillips who had taken a bus, once or twice, maybe more. There was no uncertainty in his mind. It was a “useless bus” and a “rubbish service”, which took 40 minutes to get into Cambridge, and went nowhere near the colleges, or the Station. All this is debatable because it leaves both Cambridge and Swaffham Prior almost exactly on the hour and the half hour – unless there has been a traffic problem, or, as happened with one person I know, when the bus ran out of petrol. As for the Colleges, Drummer Street backs on to part of Emmanuel’s backside as also to some extent that of Christ’s, while Jesus is but 400 yards across the grass. Drummer Street is also only about three hundred yards from the Market, which is the heart of Cambridge, and just 100 yards from John Lewis. The more energetic may even wish to walk a little further and jump on a punt. So that criticism is wrong.

However it does not go to the Station – which is out of town – and I agree having to change buses is an irritant if wishing to catch a train. This problem does exist for everyone but semi-regular travellers have generally worked out their own solution to the problem.

The latest news is that CCC wishes to cut all buses after the 6.00pm from Cambridge and to cancel all buses on Sunday. Hazel Williams appeared to know a little more than the PC and it was agreed that they should ask for the 6.30pm (which does have a lot of passengers) retained and also the last 23.00 bus at night.

I think this will be conceded because it is a well known trick that if you threaten to take everything away people will be grateful to have achieved just a small victory and to think it is “people power.” It is nothing of the kind especially when people have been fobbed off with inadequate and unconvincing evidence.

It reminds me of the time when I used to travel on the Brighton Belle and they threatened to remove the kipper from the breakfast menu. Everyone was outraged, protests were led by the best including Sir Laurence Olivier, and after a year’s struggle the kipper was saved. Three month’s later the Brighton Belle was removed and everyone was so exhausted with saving the kipper, that there was scarcely a whimper when the service shut down.

As I have mentioned before, many of the documents received are circulated before the PC meeting rather than being read during the meeting. This is the advance of technology. The result is that often those in the public gallery have little idea about what is being discussed, and understandably are left out of the jollity which often accompanies discussions. So I may not be entirely correct on the following. It seems that with the payment of £80 the village could join a Speedwatch Scheme which would allow the use of a speed check gadget on Mill Hill. It is manned by volunteers who have to operate in another village so that they do not misuse their power on someone they dislike. This seems to be wise precaution.

The PC agreed to pay the £80 but expressed concern whether 6 to 7 volunteers could be found. I think they are underestimating the people in the Mill Hill area who have been shouting so long about the traffic problem and who undoubtedly will be more than happy to volunteer and put in their stint. Yes?

*Alastair Everitt*



## VILLAGE HALL NEWS

This is a call to the village for some new blood to help run and manage the Village Hall.

Not so long after the decision was made to renovate and extend the Hall I became involved, and hogged the role of Chairman. I have held this position, for better or for worse, for more than ten years and would like to hand it on to someone else.

Is there anyone, or a group of people, perhaps among the younger generation, who would like to help this important and central village amenity? As well as an excellent supporting Committee made up of representatives of the various user groups, there are a number of Officers including Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and Bookings Clerk. Of these we are in need of a Secretary *immediately*, the role of whom could be restricted to minute taking and the distribution of agendas and minutes.

At the Village Hall AGM in April I shall be resigning and will not be standing again either as Chairman or a member of the Committee. I hope that before then someone will have offered to take on the role. Please think whether you would like to, and perhaps talk to others with whom you think you could work well to manage the Hall and reinvigorate some of the events that take place there. I am very happy to talk to anyone or any group about what is involved.

*Alastair Everitt*



## MOLLY WONDERS

I overheard school children the other day being told that “as Britain became more industrialised 200 years ago so more reliable sources of power were needed than water and wind.”

What is being done today – RETURNING TO WIND POWER! It seems all the coal, oil and nuclear power stations have to be kept going in case the wind drops. If the wind does blow double the price is charged for any power produced. A very odd carry-on.

You humans got it wrong with biofuels. Have you made the same bloomer with wind power?

## Donations!

Many thanks to Hilary Sage for her very kind donation to the *Crier* this month. Hilary moved down the road from Swaffham Prior to Burwell last month — we'd like to wish her all the very best in her new home.

# Please come and have your say ...

If you are concerned about the cancellation of your evening bus service, refuse and recycling collection, housing and planning issues; crime, or the fear of crime, and anti-social behaviour; speeding, parking and other traffic issues; provision for young people; health; environmental issues or other issues in your neighbourhood?

at the next **Neighbourhood Panel meeting** in your area

**Tuesday, 7th October at Swaffham Prior Village Hall**

**Wednesday, 8th October at Soham Village College (Beechurst Hall)**

**Monday, 27th October at The Glebe, High Street, Sutton**

**Tuesday, 28th October at the Village Hall, Victoria Street, Littleport**

**Wednesday, 29th October at Ely Community College**

(all meetings begin at 7pm, and finish by 9pm)

If you have any interest in the issues at the top of this sheet, or any other 'issues of concern', then please make every effort to attend. *Allan Williams*

## SWAFFHAM PRIOR CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> 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

# WHAT'S WRONG WITH PARISH PLANS

## PART THREE: A Comparison to HIPs

THE CURRENT HOUSING CRISIS has resulted in even more strident criticism of HIPs (*Home Information Packs*, *Alastair's been moving house—Eds*). Almost all people (in this case one can safely generalise) think they are a waste of time – except for a spokesman for the Communities and Local Government department who, in reply to the criticism, on the 26<sup>th</sup> August said:

**“HIPs are already bringing benefits to consumers by providing important information to help families to cut their fuel bills and carbon emissions and have reduced the price of property searches by increasing transparency in the home-buying and selling process.”**

This is not only economical with the truth – it is a downright lie. Having recently spent nearly £400 on a HIP I thought I would become one of the few who ask to see one – purely out of curiosity, just as I might ask to look at a Victorian tram ticket. And what do I find? – 51 pages of what Tony Hancock speaking of the *Blabbermouth* magazine called “unadulterated rubbish”. There are some simple searches which duplicate those of solicitors (so why do them?) and some bland information which we know already, such as that if you improve loft insulation, replace the boiler, use low energy light bulbs, install double glazing, have solar panels – that if you make all these changes you can reduce your heating costs and increase your CO<sub>2</sub> rating. All this you get for your £400. Thank you very much! It does not say the likely cost of all the above which could run into several thousands.

I only mention this because it is an extra expense **which we have to accept**. If you don't like it you can't sell your house. So, how does this relate to Parish Plans? Both are time wasters which keep people in employment not only wasting their time but also the time of others when they con a Parish Council into spending time and money on this fruitless exercise – **fruitless according to the Defra report which I quoted last month**. Do remember that at the Village Assembly Allen Alderson said many times that if we do not complete a Parish Plan our views will be ignored. The Defra report says they are likely to be ignored anyway.

The promotion of Parish Plans is relentless and the Summer 2008 magazine of Cambridgeshire ACRE announced it has just appointed a new community planning team, and then reports on the progress of Parish Plans in Fenland, South Cambridgeshire, and in ECDC which is our concern.

It proudly announces that “the completed Haddenham plan was presented to the East Cambridgeshire Strategic Partnership [employing even more people!] in March,

**Having recently spent nearly £400 on a HIP I thought I would become one of the few who ask to see one....and what do I find? – 51 pages of what Tony Hancock, speaking of the *Blabbermouth* magazine, called “unadulterated rubbish”.**



with three others following in June.

It has already been demonstrated that the Haddenham Plan can have no impact at all on national policy. But it is worse than this. In the Aug/Sept *Crier*, quoting Defra's report, it is a fact that from 2004 any Parish Plan without "a sustainability appraisal" could not be accepted as a "Supplementary Planning Document". There is no "sustainability appraisal" in the Haddenham Plan. Therefore it is valueless – apart from at the local level.

Have the people at ACRE read the Defra report, has anyone at ECDC (they also have people working on it) read it, have our two ECDC councillors read it? What is the hidden agenda which is driving our two councillors to maintain the value of Parish Plans, just as that bloke did for HIPs?

*Alastair Everitt*

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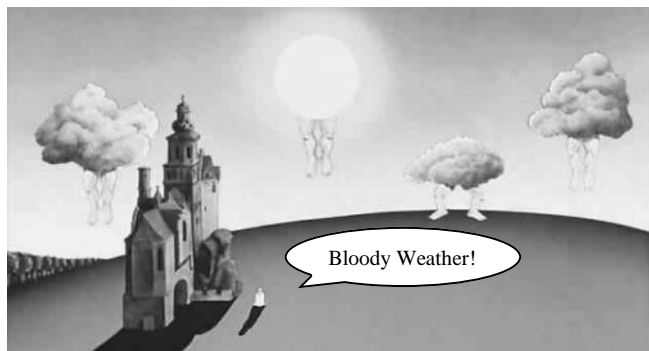
## What Weather? – 'Which?' Weather!

IN THE AUGUST 1969 *'Which?'* appeared a report on "Weather Forecasting" which noticed that "early morning forecasts were more accurate than the forecasts the evening before." It went on to say that compared to some countries the UK does have "weather which is more fickle" and that "often, even when the weather was forecast correctly, it did not arrive at the time it was supposed to."

Now we are given a piece of advice which is as relevant today as it was forty years ago. **"If the evening forecast says that it will be sunny the following morning but will get cloudy later and rain in the afternoon, and you wake up to find it cloudy, you can expect it to rain *before* the afternoon. What has happened is that the weather has moved your way faster than expected."** This is a brilliant analysis.

Forty years later the Met Office still has difficulties and noted in September this year that "The world atmosphere is a very tricky thing." But major improvements in forecasting are expected in the next few years with the arrival early next year of a new £33 million supercomputer. So we will have to wait a little for an improvement in the weather

Meanwhile the advice given in the 1969 *Which?* is well worth heeding.



# THE HARVEST SHOW

NO HARVEST SHOW IS EVER QUITE THE SAME – except for the receipts. At £186 these were £10 less than last year (**where were the JAMS this year?**), a donation from which will be made to Farm Africa.

One of the highlights of the Show this year was the winning red wine which was made by Tina Jost from Swaffham Prior's very first vineyard since the Romans were here.

Thanks to everyone, especially Jenny Brand who organized the event. The Cream Teas received high praise this year for the superb jam and lovely large dollops of cream with the new style scones. Thank you June.

Below are the 1<sup>st</sup> winners of the adults, and the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> winners of the children's section.

1. Mixed Vegetables - David Turner, 2. Potatoes – Paul Latchford, 3. Beetroot – Ruth Dalton, 4. Carrots – Ruth Dalton, 5. Marrow – Lucy Whiteside, 7. French Beans – Simon Everitt, 8. Runner Beans – Peter Hart, 9. Indoor Tomatoes – Pumfrey Family. 10. Outdoor Tomatoes – Julian Luttrell, 11. Cucumber – Peter Hart, 12. Longest Runner Bean – Simon Everitt, 13. Largest Oven Buster – Paul Latchford, 14. Onions from seed – Paul Latchford, 15. Onions from sets – Ruth Dalton, 16. Shallots – Julian Luttrell, 17. Uncommon plant – Pumfrey family, 17a. Largest Pumpkin – Simon Everitt, 19. Dessert Apples – Peter Hart, 20. Cooking Apples, 21. Plums – Paul Latchford, 23. Raspberries, 24. Dahlias – Eric Day, 25. Pom-Pom Dahlias – Eric Day, 28. Michaelmas Daisies – Elisabeth Everitt, 29. Roses – Eric Day, 30. Floribunda Roses – Paul Latchford, 31. Vase of Perennials – Alastair Everitt, 32. Flowering Pot Plant – Elisabeth Everitt, 33. Foliage Pot Plant – Elisabeth Everitt, 36. Miniature flower arrangement – Prue Hines, 37. Soft Fruit Jam – Kate Child, 39. Jelly – Shirley Wilkins, 40. Orange Marmalade – Kate Child, 41. Chutney – Juliette Vickery, 44. Victoria Sponge – Lynne Rand, 45. Flapjacks – Emilia Hubbard, 47. Small Cakes – Alice Hubbard, 48. Any Cake – Elisabeth Everitt, 50. Scones – Shirley Wilkins, 51. Wholemeal loaf – Marcia Miller, 52. White Loaf – Juliette Vickery, 53. Bread Rolls – Marcia Miller. 62. Red Wine – Tina Jost, 63. White Wine – Simon Everitt, 64. Any other wine – Simon Everitt. The winners in the Children's Section.

*These become better and better each year – especially the animals)*

55. Tallest Sunflower; Tom Whiteside; Lucy Whiteside; Toby Jost.  
56. Largest Sunflower Head; (All Whitesides – Lucy; Tom; Lucy.  
57. Chocolate Crispies; Freya Thomas; Bella Lewinski; Alice Lingley  
58. "Happy Faces" biscuits; T. Whiteside; Maddie Lewinski; Emily Noyes  
59. Garden on a Plate; Lucy Whiteside; Freya Thomas; Sophie Bell  
60. Veg or fruit Animal; Helene Pumfrey; Cleo Wrench; Tallianne Breakspear  
61. Model; Emilia/Alice Hubbard; Anis Wrench; Tristan Latchford.

*Alastair Everitt*



*Winners Andy Pumfrey & Rhiannon Jordan*

Janet Willmott who was on stand-by to help with transport.

The suspense mounted throughout the morning as each new bucket offered up its contents. Some were delighted at the quantity and divulged their green-fingered secrets; some were disappointed and wondered if the dismal summer had blighted their chances. But all kept smiling, said they had enjoyed the challenge and would love to try again next year!



*The Weigh-in*

The winner of the adult competition was Andy Pumfrey with a yield of 2.782kg, and Rhiannon Jordan took the children's prize with 0.368kg of potatoes. Andy received a box of organic vegetables — kindly donated by Waterland Organics — and chicken, wine, and pudding to go with his home-grown potatoes for Sunday lunch. Rhiannon walked off with sausages, beans, popcorn, icecreams and sweets to make a Saturday evening supper. But nothing could beat the glory of winning the 2008 contest!

Once again, many thanks to all who participated. By popular demand, we will be

## SPUDS IN BUCKETS! THE RESULT

THERE WERE 106 ENTRIES in the first Swaffham Prior Spuds in Buckets competition, where the aim was to grow the heaviest yield of potatoes from one seed potato in the regulation bucket between 10 March and 13 September.

Excitement had been building throughout the summer with many personal contests developing, and when the day of the weigh-in arrived there was a real air of tension as each bucket was emptied, the soil sifted and those precious potatoes lifted, cleaned and weighed. Thank you to Linda and Colin Evans, Kate Child, John Norris and Phil Kingsmill who organised and adjudicated this process, and

running the competition next year, starting on Saturday 14 March, when buckets and spuds may be collected from the Jumble Sale in the Village Hall. More information in due course.

And just in case, like me, you assumed that, as your potato plant had completely died off you would have no potatoes, it is worth checking. I found nearly 1kg of potatoes lurking in my neglected bucket! Isn't nature wonderful?!

*Dee Noyes*



## Roll of Honour — Top Ten Positions

Position	Name	Quantity of Potatoes
1	Andy Pumfrey	2.782kg
2	Andrew Camps	2.198kg
3	Andrew Camps	2.182kg
4	Kate Child	1.678kg
5	Laura Davey	1.324kg
6	Marcia Miller	1.296k
7	Laura Davey	1.224k
8	Sarah Whiteside	1.190kg
9	John Norris	1.066kg
10	Tricia Harrison	0.924k



## Little Windmills Pre-School

Invites you to our open morning on **Friday 17 October**  
**2008 from 10.00 – 11.30.**



Please join us for a cup of tea / coffee and a slice of cake. An opportunity to see how our Pre-school is run and a fun morning for your child (ren) guaranteed!

If you can't make it on the 17<sup>th</sup> but would like to visit us, please give us a call and we can find a date convenient for you to visit.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Tania Verdonk on:

**07811 379491**

Swaffham Bulbeck School PSA  
**Bonfire & Firework Party**  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

**PASTRY CASE HISTORIES 1 or**

**'If Pastry be the Food of Love'.**

He loved her, not for her pretty face,  
Nor e'en her Paris hat;  
But because she said that she could make  
Good pastry without fat

**PASTRY CASE HISTORIES 2, or**

**The Sad Sequel.**

As he stood upon the embankment  
Just before ending his life,  
He thought of his dog, and his garden;  
And then he thought of his wife.

He thought of her as he first knew her,  
Young, lissom and thin.  
He'd noticed her eccentric habit  
Of diluting her milk drinks with gin;

But he questioned her not, and they married;  
Ah! What a glorious day.  
Her dress was in pale puce-magenta,  
Relieved with rhinoceros-breath grey.

For a time all went well, they were happy,  
Till one day something altered all that:  
He'd realised eventually, she could not make,  
Good pastry without adding fat.

*Ophir*

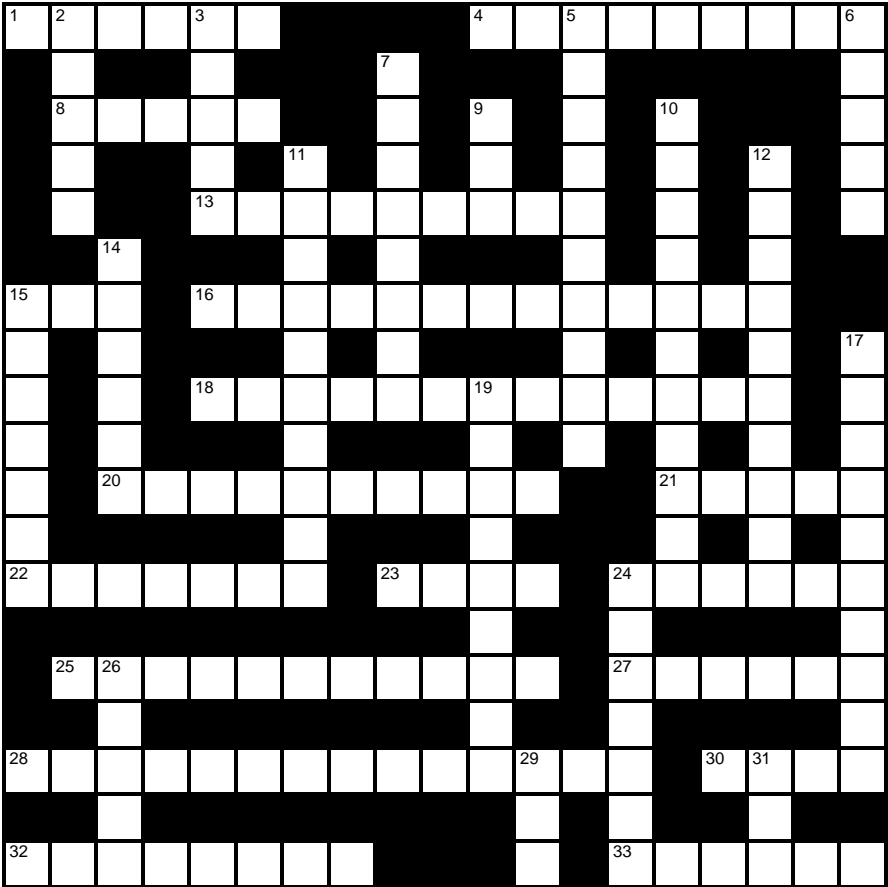
Crossword Number 56

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

**OUNCE**

This month’s crossword is on the theme of lepidoptera. The clues are a mixture of straight and cryptic. where the answer is a partial name the other part is included in the clue in brackets e.g. pale (tussock). Send your answers to the editors by 18 October 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

- 1 Triumph model (6)
- 4 Scottish stream I doff (brass) (9)
- 8 See 14 Down
- 13 (Hebrew or Chinese) role (9)
- 15 (Narrow or broad-bordered) honeymaker (3)
- 16 (Small or large) reptile conch (13)
- 18 Yorkshire prophetess (6,7)
- 20 Hermit won't mix (6,4)
- 21 Spectre (5)
- 22 Showy bird (7)
- 23 Hadrian's structure (4)
- 24 (Black or buff) search madly (6)
- 25 Drink last (11)
- 27 Old children's show; bird (6)
- 28 Soot remover (7,7)
- 30/26 How I towed fiddle (4,5)
- 32 Trunk owner (8)
- 33 Flunky, without note? (6)

## Down

- 2 Local (skipper) (5)
- 3 Pale purple shrub (beauty) (5)
- 5 Mess suitors cry over (4,6)
- 6 Dull version of 2D; bad pronunciation of boat? (5)
- 7 Much iller we hear (8)
- 9 Morse E (3)
- 10 Cultivated predator? (6,5)
- 11 Kate Harris could be (green, brown, or purple) (10)

- 12 Milton mush? Yes (6,4)
- 14/8 We sell holly varieties (6,5)
- 15 Polish end (4-3)
- 17 Thea shaded mixture (6,4)
- 19 Sputnik (9)
- 24 (Red) navy man (7)
- 26 See 30 Across
- 29 (Common or netted) lapdog (3)
- 31 Hardy's Gabriel; timber (3)

## Solution to crossword no. 55

E	G	R	E	S	S		S	P	L	A	T	T	E	R
T		E		O	O		A	G	W		E			
C	H	E	R	O	O	T		R	I	G	G	I	N	G
E		D		T		T		T	R		L		I	
T	H	U	S		C	E	R	E	B	E	L	L	U	M
E		C		I		R		R		S				E
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We congratulate Robert and Julie Nunn, the winners of last month's competition, who should collect their prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Margaret Beckley, Jenny Brand, Jackie Knowler, Danin O'Dowd, Hilary Sage and Shirley Wilkins. Apologies, Shirley also merited an honourable mention last month—her entry was temporarily mislaid by the Editors.



**Nine Years On, and.....**  
**TIGERS ARE**  
**HERE!**



The day begins with a sponsored walk from Margaret's Field, Burwell, to the new ground in Swaffham Prior. The rain holds off and...





**.... after all the years of anticipation, we enter the new ground...**

**..... then kick off with a barbeque and a match between members of the original U8 and U9 Tigers teams (now 9 years older) and the team coaches (won 2-1 by the younger team).**



**Now the ground is in regular use for Colts matches on Sundays. For more information about the club see the web site [www.burwelltigers.co.uk](http://www.burwelltigers.co.uk)**

## BURWELL LIBRARY

Something for the grown ups.....

**ENGAGE IN THE MORNING** is the name of the new club starting at Burwell Library. We will be meeting on the second Wednesday of every month from 10.00 to 12.00 – the first session is on the 8<sup>th</sup> October. There will be guest speakers and events, tea, coffee and biscuits will be served and you can have the library to yourself to choose your books.

Our first speaker will be Cathy Inman from Trading Standards who will talk about doorstep selling and rogue traders, etc., and will answer any queries you may have. On the 12<sup>th</sup> November our Librarian, Jenni Johns, will speak about A Good Read.

Please come along, you will be very welcome. The sessions are free and, if you're not already a member of the library, it's very easy to join. Just turn up on the day or, if you would like more information, call into the library.

We will also be very pleased to hear from anyone who would be willing to come along and speak to us about any special interests they may have.

### Opening Times

<b>Monday</b>	<b>2.30-5; 6-8</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10-12.30; 2.30-5</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>closed</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>2.30-5; 6-8</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>10-12.30; 2.30-5</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10-12.30</b>

## GET YOUR 40'S GLAD RAGS ON

### COME CUT A RUG WITH THE SILVER BIRD BIG BAND SOUND

1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER - 7.30 - 11 P.M. AT  
BURWELL SPORTS HALL

Ticket £12 including light refreshments  
Available from Tina's of Burwell or Post Office

Phone 01638 741581 or 741705

BAR AVAILABLE OR BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS/  
GLASSES

Proceeds to the Friends of Burwell Museum

## School News



Everyone has settled back into school life and routine very quickly. Our new Reception children have settled in very well and are fully involved in the life of the school. The Year Six children are enjoying their new responsibilities, especially our Year 6 buddies who are helping to ensure that all children enjoy their play time.

The swimming pool appeal has gone extremely well and thanks to the efforts of the local community, children and parents we are able to have the pool installed this year, ready for use next summer. We will of course be having an opening ceremony, so watch out for details as we would like as many local people to be involved as possible.

We have been working hard over the last few months to re-design our new curriculum and the children have been fully involved in this. Each class now has an over-arching theme for each term, which all subjects are based on and which teach important key skills as well as thinking and communication skills. The children have responded very enthusiastically, showing that their creativity and independence are developing already. The term started off with a 'wow' factor when all children visited the mobile planetarium for the day which was housed at St. Cyriac's church. This fitted in well with this term's 'contexts for learning', 'Mission to Mars' and 'Wow, that's amazing!'

We have been very successful in achieving many awards recently. Just before the summer holidays we were told we had achieved Health Promoting School status, which was a real triumph as we had put in a lot of hard work towards this over the year. We just need to make sure we stay healthy now! We also achieved our International School's Award this month in recognition for the amount of work we do with the children which relates to other countries and cultures.

We will be having another Walk to School week from the 6-10<sup>th</sup> October, so hopefully you will see lots of children walking to and from school on those days. We are continuing with our Walk on a Wednesday campaign where the children have to walk to school or park at least half a mile away from school and walk the rest of the way. Children achieving every Wednesday in a month will receive a special badge.

We will soon be celebrating Harvest and our Harvest Festival service will be held at St. Mary's on 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 11am. It would be lovely to see some of the village community there and all are welcome.

### RECEPTION ADMISSIONS 2009

We are now accepting applications for Reception places for September 2008. If you would like an admissions form or to have a visit to our school please contact us on 01638 741529 or just pop in.

Applications need to be in by 5th December.

*Emma Vincent, Head Teacher*



## WI Notes

Our speaker at the monthly meeting had us all in a quandary. What *did* he do, we wondered? His subject was “Chaplain to Horse-racing”.

We guessed he perhaps ministered to the needs of horses — i.e. fed and watered them and calmed their fears on race days, so was he really a glorified stable-boy?

However, all our questions were answered in a highly amusing talk by the Rev. Graham Locking, a very colourful character and a Methodist minister for thirty years, who helps and befriends members of the racing fraternity. His career began with ministering to the down and outs in Stepney, changing into becoming a freelance minister in 1998. He is cheery and non-judgemental, a man who obviously cares deeply for people and accepts them as they are, with all their human failings.

Next month's meeting is on October 20th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. New members are very welcome.



*Rev Graham Locking, Chaplain to Horse Racing, gave last month's talk at the WI*

***Shirley Wilkins***

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## Burwell Surgery News

To improve our service to patients who find it difficult to attend during the day, we will be extending our opening hours by opening until 8.30 pm on Monday evenings from the 1st September.

Extra doctor appointments will be available on Mondays from 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm. These will be routine, pre-bookable appointments only.

This will not include other services provided by the surgery ie nurse appointments, repeat prescriptions or dispensary services - these will continue to be available at the current times.

Suffolk Doctors on Call will still be responsible for all calls after 6.00 pm so if you need a doctor then, please continue to ring 01638 741234 when your call will be transferred to Suffolk Doctors on Call.

If you have any queries about this new service, please contact the practice manager or reception.

***Janet Parker***  
Practice Administrator

It's All Happening at....

## OLIVER CROMWELL'S HOUSE

### Pre-Halloween Ghost Tours

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> and Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**Departs from Oliver Cromwell's House at 7.30pm**

Join us for one of our immensely popular Ghost tours around one of the most haunted cities in Europe. Hear the stories that have travelled down through the ages as well as more recent tales. Ghostly sightings guaranteed! Refreshments after the tour, including a visit to the haunted bedroom.

All tickets £7 per person (not suitable for under 8 years old). All places must be pre-booked. Price includes hot chocolate and biscuits.

### **Halloween Family Ghost Tours - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

Family Ghost Tour (aimed at families with young children)

Departs from Oliver Cromwell's House at 3 pm

Take a short journey around some of the haunted parts of Ely with our Guide and see how many ghosts you can spot! Arrive back at Oliver Cromwell's House to gather in the dimly lit parour to hear a spooky tale, followed by refreshments. Please feel free to dress-up.

All tickets £4 per person (under 3's free). All places must be pre-booked. Price includes squash and biscuits.

6.00 pm – Family Ghost Tour (aimed at families with older children)

Journey with our guide around the dark streets of Ely and hear the haunted tales of Ely with ghostly sightings guaranteed! Arrive back at Oliver Cromwell's House to huddle in the candle lit haunted bedroom of Oliver Cromwell to hear a spooky tale. Please feel free to dress-up.

All tickets £5 per person. All places must be pre-booked. Price includes hot chocolate, squash and biscuits.

*Tickets go on sale 1<sup>st</sup> September. If there are 15 or more of you then why not consider booking your own personal group tour? Contact us for more details at:*

*Oliver Cromwell's House, 29 St Mary's Street, Ely, Cambs. CB7 5HF*

*Tel: 01353 662062. E-mail: [tic@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:tic@eastcambs.gov.uk), [www.eastcambs.gov.uk/tourism](http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/tourism)*



**SWAFFHAM BULBECK PARISH COUNCIL  
VACANCY FOR PART-TIME GROUNDSMAN  
The Denny-Recreation Ground**

If you are interested in the above post and would like further details, please contact the Clerk for a full job description.

**Karen King – Clerk**

**Tel: 01638 742358**

**Email: [karen.king5@btopenworld.com](mailto:karen.king5@btopenworld.com)**

## FREECYCLE

JUST TYPE ‘CAMBRIDGE FREECYCLE’ ON GOOGLE or your search engine of choice and a whole new world opens not only for those who wish to acquire but more importantly to those who just wish to pass something to a good home rather than trashing it at the dump. For example just try getting rid of a nice Silver Cross pram to expectant mothers or to two charities. Hopeless. Put it on freecycle and there are six people wanting it.

The local site for Cambridge covers Newmarket, Haverhill, Willingham and half-way to Huntingdon. The downside is a very full inbox, but you can subscribe/unsubscribe as you want to. You pay nothing/you receive nothing. It is just a wonderful way of distributing goods which otherwise would end up in Landfill. Try it.

Readers wishing to participate in our own local scheme need only contact Jun Thompson, [jun.thompson@tesco.net](mailto: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	Details:
Pair of 3ft divan bed bases (no mattresses) Sleepezee, very good condition Wooden standard lamp	Loder and Julia 01223 812777
A Le Creuset oven dish 33x24x6 cms. Hardly used. A Technics CD disc player and stereo integrated amplifier. Two Mordaunt-Short speakers. (Last 2 items are at least 14 years old, and may need checking.)	Ken, 01223 812740
Archive boxes - very sturdy cardboard type	Jacqui Green, 01223 811190

Offers	Details:
basic children's bunk bed, no mattresses, suit up to 10 years old 1 girls bike, suit approx 10 years old, needs some simple maintenance and a clean 4 boys bikes, suit approx 3, 7, 10 and 12 years old, all need some simple maintenance and a clean 1200mm by 800mm table , white metal frame with timber top roof bars for a Ford Galaxy.	Trish or David, 01223 812095
Russell Hobbs 2 slice Chrome toaster Old fashioned Bullworker exerciser with instructions. Small hand-operated shredder.	Maureen, 01223 812283
Nearly new toastie machine (from Tesco). In excellent condition.	Jill (ring Jun 813362). Jill, I have to confess that I lost your telephone number!

## P. MARSH ELECTRICALS AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE

(Kitchen and Bathroom refits)

Part-P registered Electrician, (in compliance with current electrical laws). NICEIC registered.

From a single socket to a full house re-wire.

Testing and inspections of electrical systems.

General household maintenance, from a dripping tap to a full kitchen/ bathroom refit.

01638 744 281

Peter: 07759 308 270

Honor: 07941 107 321

(Based in Burwell)



**P. MARSH ELECTRICALS**



## Simon Goddard Ordained

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August more than a hundred and twenty people gathered at Bottisham Primary School for the joint holiday club and ordination celebration. Face painting was available upon arrival, and the first part of the service was led by Jonathan and Emma Dowman, the local Anglican curate and his wife, who helped the parents of holiday club children share in some of the experiences from the week.

Simon was then ordained by Rev. Paul Hills (from the Eastern Baptist Association), and Rev. Dr. Nigel Wright (from Spurgeon's College) gave a short talk. The service ended with Simon being 'anointed' with confetti by the children, two of whom also prayed for him in his new ministry.

The celebrations continued with a barbeque, bouncy castle, free ice-creams, a craft activity with the Wildlife Trust and a Composting display from WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme). There were even free low energy light bulbs given away (courtesy of the Energy Saving Trust) to tie in with the environmental theme of the holiday club and to remind people of the holiday club memory verse: "Jesus said: 'I am the light of the world'". It was, indeed, a unique and enjoyable occasion for all involved.



### 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.

**Call now to arrange  
a free no obligation  
mortgage health  
check**



**essentialmortgages  
01638 741645**

36 Hawthorn Way, Burwell, Cambridge CB25 0DQ • telephone 01638 741 645 • mobile 07835 735 662 • email [enquiries@essentialmortgages.net](mailto:enquiries@essentialmortgages.net)  
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.





**CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
COUNTY COUNCIL**

From our District  
Councillor  
**Allen Alderson**

**There are proposals to cut some of the bus services on the 10 and 10A bus routes (Cambridge, the Swaffhams, Reach, Newmarket).**

The cuts proposed are after 6pm on weekdays and Saturdays and altogether on Sundays. Not all bus journeys within Cambridgeshire carry enough passengers to run at a profit. The bus operators are less willing to run some rural services serving fewer people. In these cases, Cambs County Council attempts to set up subsidised services. Currently there are 70 such subsidised services at a total cost to the Council of £2.77 million per year.

I can see no justification for the removal of the 10 and 10A services and no evidence has been provided of alternative provision. At a time of high fuel prices, removal of these services is bound to hit families, young and older people particularly hard.

I have protested in the strongest terms to the axing of these services and am supported by our County Councillor Hazel Williams, and the three Parish Councils in our Ward. Many other people have voiced their concerns and we are putting utmost pressure on the County Council to reverse some or all of these cuts.

I have sometimes been asked if we have a *source-separated* or *co-mingled* subsystem for our kerbside recyclables. It is a source separated system, for those who are interested the end processors are:

Paper—Aylesford Newsprint Ltd, Kent,— stays in the UK

Glass — Berrymans, Yorkshire — stays in the UK

Aluminium Cans — Reprocessed in West Midlands — stays in the UK

Steel Cans — Reprocessed by Corus — stays in the UK

Type HDPE—Sent to North West UK, some stays in the UK, some shipped to India and China.

Type PET—Sent to Leicester before shipment to the Middle East

Type PVC — Sent to China

Organic Waster — Composted at Donarbons Waste Management in Waterbeach and used locally

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have been awarded Beacon Status for their efforts in recycling. They are ahead of targets and aim to improve still further.

***Allen Alderson***

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*Eds note: The County Council says they are cutting post-6pm buses because only 5 people travel on each on average, and they are just used for shopping, leisure and socialising (see summary response overleaf). Who is staffing the shops then? And 5 people? How do they know anyway? Do they count college youngsters travelling with their prepaid £500 passes, for example?*

Service number and route (See attached timetable for full details)	Days of operation	Annual cost	Total annual passenger journeys per year	Average number of passengers per journey	Cost per passenger journey	Journey purpose
10 Cambridge - Burwell - Newmarket	Monday to Saturday evenings and Sunday	£99,764	11408	5	£8.74	Shopping, social and leisure

Alternative services	Potential mitigation action	Proposed Action
There are no alternative services at these times, although there are regular 10/10A journeys to Cambridge and Newmarket up to every 30 minutes during the day, Monday to Saturday.	None	Withdraw service

## Notes from the Parish Council August & September Meetings

Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> August 2008: Chairman John Covill chaired the meeting with 8 Parish Councillors. No members of the public were present.

Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008: Vice-Chairman Andrew Camps chaired the meeting with 5 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:

**CCC: Changes to Contracted Bus Services in Your Area (routes 10/10A).** The proposed changes suggested were *all services after 18.30 on weekdays, all services on a Sunday and all services on Bank Holidays. Service 10 remains the same otherwise.*

Firstly, the PC considered the period of consultation ending 26<sup>th</sup> September 2008 was very badly advertised, allowing people little time to consider the proposals and respond by this date. The Parish Council's written response was as follows:

*"It is appreciated that the County Council faces financial restraints particularly with the cutting of subsidies to such services and in a perfect world this would not be so but it must be stressed that bus services to the rural villages are not just a financial consideration for the County Council but also a very important social consideration for people who live in the villages and do not have adequate alternative means of transport. Those particularly affected are people who work in Cambridge and Newmarket, young people attending a number of colleges and schools in Cambridge and people travelling to and from Cambridge for entertainment, shopping, etc.*

*It is the opinion of the Parish Council that;*

*Services such as the Monday – Saturday 10A at 18.30 should be retained as this is essential for people returning from work in the evening and is currently very well used. It is essential that an adequate late night service is retained.*

**ECDC (Neighbourhood Panel) – Pilot scheme for use of Speedwatch equipment.** Details of this scheme were discussed and it was noted that pilot arrangements (during April to June) for the use of Speedwatch equipment in the

Soham and East panel area had been a great success. The PC agreed to support possible extension of this scheme across East Cambridgeshire. *If anyone would like further details, please contact me.*

**Jointly Funded Minor Highways Improvements – Amended Proposals for Mill Hill-** August meeting: Revised proposals and plans had been received from Andrew Carauna of CCC Highways. The majority of the PC agreed that the proposals did not go far enough to alleviate the problems on Mill Hill and were surprised that such relatively minor measures could cost £30,000. The outcome of lengthy discussion was to ask Andrew Carauna/John Richards/Kevin Hall of CCC Highways to attend the September PC meeting or a meeting on site with Councillors to discuss the proposals.

Following a meeting between Andrew Carauna and Parish Councillors, further revised plans were received. These were agreed at the September PC meeting. It is envisaged that the work will go ahead early next year. I summarise below the measures agreed:

- 2 adjacent kerb build-outs narrowing road to 6.5m and new wooden gates under existing 40mph/village name plate signs.
- 4 adjacent kerb build-outs narrowing road to 6.3m with wooden bollards (1 being a dropped crossing).
- White lining between build outs to continue narrowing effect.
- Renew 40mph roundel markings.

*If anyone would like to see the scheme plans, please let me know.*

**Cemetery Maintenance:** Martin Harris of the Probation Service confirmed that one of his teams could help with the cutting back of vegetation, etc. A meeting was to be arranged at the cemetery to discuss and agree timescales. An estimate was also to be sought from a local contractor.

**Cutting of Verges – Measures to Protect Wildflowers:** Awaiting replies from CCC.

**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 were no questions.

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

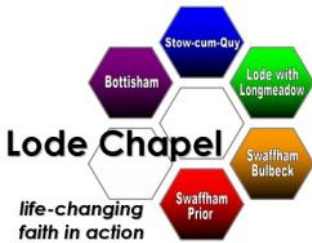
**The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

**All are welcome to attend.**

***Karen King***

Clerk to the Parsh Council

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



# Lode Baptist Chapel

## Light not Fright!

At the end of this month is that commercial success story commonly referred to as 'Halloween'. Parents are pressurised to buy all sorts of associated merchandise and children urged by their friends to go out trick-or-treating. This activity, an import from America, may seem like harmless fun, but the old and the vulnerable can often feel intimidated and frightened as they sit at home dreading the knock on the door. Some children can also be scared and deeply affected by the dark symbolism that has become linked with the 31<sup>st</sup> October. Not wanting to stop their children having fun, however, it's hard for parents to know what to do.

But this year there is a positive alternative...

The 'Sunday Club' / 'RE:NEW' team who organised the successful WasteWatchers holiday club during the Summer, invite children of primary school age to come to a **Light Party** for an evening of fun and games.

Aware that children today live in a world which already has enough darkness and evil to be going on with, we want to take the opportunity to celebrate the light – those things in our world which are good and bright and colourful. There will still be the opportunity to dress up – but ghosts, witches, wizards and monsters will not be allowed in! Children are encouraged to be creative as they think about dressing up as something or somebody that will make other children smile rather than scream! It could be a clown, or a colourful animal or flower. It could even be a 'good' superhero – Superman and Sporticus would both be welcome. Indeed, Halloween is so called because it is the eve of All Hallows (Saints) Day – a day when we remember the heroes of the past, those people who have inspired us to 'live in the light'. If children do not want to wear fancy dress then they are encouraged instead to wear the brightest clothes they can find!

The party will begin at 6.30pm (the doors will be open from 6.15pm) and finish at 8.00pm. Places will be limited, and so to avoid disappointment on the night, we strongly encourage you to register beforehand. You can do this by sending an email to [simon.goddard@lodehcapel.org.uk](mailto:simon.goddard@lodehcapel.org.uk) or by ringing (01223) 812881. In your message please include: your child's name and date of birth; your name and address; and an emergency contact number. There will be some snacks during the party, so please also let us know if your child has any dietary restrictions, or if there is any other medical information we should be aware of. When they drop their children off, parents will be invited to make a voluntary contribution of £2 per child to cover the cost of resources and the hire of the school.

### LIGHT PARTY

**6.30pm-8.00pm, Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**Venue: Bottisham Primary School**

**Age: 5-11 years.**

**Cost: £2 voluntary contribution.**

**Register early. No scary costumes.**

We're looking forward to having a great time, and hope your child will be able to join us.

***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 LIGHT PARTY replaces the 'Sunday Club' in October,

so the next 'Sunday Club' is

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:simon.goddard@lodechapel.org.uk)

**Web:** [www.lodechapel.org.uk](http://www.lodechapel.org.uk)

## HEDGEHOG ALERT

(courtesy of Lisa Goddard)



With bonfire night looming, this is a dangerous time for hedgehogs. You can help them by following these simple guidelines, from the Wildlife Trust:

1. Try and build the bonfire as close to the night as possible so there's less chance of a hedgehog moving in
2. Make your pile of material next to the bonfire site and re-build the stack before lighting it
3. Search the bonfire for hibernating creatures using a torch and rake before starting the fire
4. Move any hedgehogs found to somewhere dry and safe away from the fire (possibly a ready-made hedgehog box)
5. Before bonfire night make an alternative hedgehog home by raking up grass cuttings or autumn leaves into a pile a safe distance from the fire. Hopefully sleepy hogs will choose to snooze there instead of the bonfire

## Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

**Masses:** Newmarket: Sat 1830; Sun 1030;

Kirtling: Sun 0900;

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



## Church of England Services

### October 2008

	<b>ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior</b>	<b>ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck</b>	<b>Bottisham</b>
<b>Sun 5</b>	<b>11:00am</b> Harvest Festival	<b>8:00am</b> Holy Communion <b>9:30am</b> Family Service	<b>8:00am</b> Holy Communion <b>11:00am</b> Family Service <b>6:30pm</b> Sung Evensong
<b>Sun 12</b>	<b>11:00am</b> Holy Communion	<b>9:30am</b> Harvest Festival	<b>11:00am</b> Holy Communion
<b>Sun 19</b>	<b>8:00am</b> Holy Communion	<b>9:30am</b> Village Communion	<b>11:00am</b> Morning Prayer
<b>Sun 26</b>	<b>11:00am</b> Matins	<b>8:00am</b> Holy Communion <b>9:30am</b> Morning Prayer	<b>11:00am</b> Family Communion

#### PASTORAL LETTER, October 2008

#### Bottisham Vicarage

Dear Friends,

On one of the Sundays during a holiday in Cornwall we found ourselves talking to the Priest who had celebrated Holy Communion that morning. It turned out that he was a retired farmer who had been called to the ordained ministry later on in life. He told us that the farmers in that area of Cornwall were becoming increasingly organised and efficient, and, such was the productivity of the soil in the Marazion area, that the farmers were getting two crops of potatoes (the major crop in that part of Cornwall) from each field each season. Certainly, if the sheer number of hi-tech tractors that we met on the country lanes was anything to go by, some of those Cornish farmers had a lot to be grateful for. Our caravan site seemed to constantly reverberate with the coming and going of those huge and powerful tractors each day.

I gather it has not been a good harvest for some farmers this year as the weather has been very much against them. Yet, good year or bad, the miracle of the harvest

still takes place each year, and, as farmer and God work hand in hand to bring in the harvest, we should always seek to be grateful for God's loving generosity, and the way that He helps us harness our human skills and knowledge to make the best of the resources He has given to us.

The Christian writer, Jack Exum, on a trip to Canada visited one Christian who operated a large grain farm. His farm included some twenty-five hundred acres. Jack asked him how he planted the seed. He showed Jack a distributor that was some thirty feet wide. "We take that double tandem truck, fill it with certified seed, back it up to the distributor, open the slots, and pour in the seed." He went on to say, "If you're ever going to be cheap, don't be cheap with the seed."

One bushel of seed invested yields thirty bushels of grain harvested in a good year. Thirty to one - not a bad return, if you are ready to believe and willing to invest. God says, "Believe Me, trust Me, try My plan, prove My ways, and see the kind of harvest I will give."

Saint Paul guarantees this principle of truth in the Scripture with the promise, *"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."* (2 Corinthians 9:8).

All grace, all ways, all sufficiency, all things! There are four promises in one breath. Knowing it is one thing, believing it is quite another. God always wants to give generously to those who trust, love and believe in Him. So, as we celebrate harvest this month, let us always remember those words of St. Paul, and live a life of gratitude and love for all the ways that God blesses us.

At the same time let's remember those who through no fault of their own are suffering from a poor harvest because of bad weather, political strife or disease. God cares about them too, and wants to bless them with hope and strength in their time of need. We should pray for them and do what we can to support them in their difficulty. Remember John Wesley's rule for Christian living:

*Do all the good you can,  
By all the means you can,  
In all the ways you can,  
In all the places you can,  
At all the times you can,  
To all the people you can,  
As long as ever...  
You can!*

At harvest time we remember God's generosity and love towards us, and that should indeed prompt us to respond with generosity towards those who are not as well off as ourselves. God blesses us not simply for ourselves, but in order that we can be more fruitful towards others in our lives. And remember the words of John Bunyan: *'He who bestows his goods upon the poor, Shall have as much again, and ten times more.'*

May God bless you all.

*David*

## ***Dates for Your Diary***    **October 2008**

Sat	4	Harvest Supper, 6pm, VH
Tue	7	NIEGHBORHOOD PANEL MEETING (Buses!) 7pm, VH Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3.15-3.50 Chapel 3:55-4:15pm
Wed	8	Engage in the Morning, Burwell Library, 10-12noon
Thu	9	PC Meeting, 7.30pm, VH
Fri	17	Little Windmill Open Morning, 10-11.30am
Sat	18	<b>Crier Copy Deadline</b>
Sun	19	
Mon	20	WI, VH, 7.30pm
Tue	21	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3.15-3.50 Chapel 3:55-4:15pm
Wed	29	Ghost Tour, Oliver Cromwell 's House, Ely, 7.30pm (to the 31st)
Nov	1	Silver Bird Big Band Sound, 7.30-11pm, Burwell Sports Hall
Nov	7	Firework Do, Vicarage Field, Swaffham Bulbeck, 6pm
Nov	15	Christmas Market, 2—4.30pm, VH

<b>Club</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Tel.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 <sup>nd</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> Tues of month	8:00pm	Village Hall
WI	Margaret Phillips	741495	3 <sup>rd</sup> 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***