



# The Swaffham Crier

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## Editorial

**FIRST IT'S MILK AND THEN IT'S EGGS!** Home-laid eggs put out for sale on the High Street (at a fraction of supermarket prices) are the comestibles being pinched now, at least once by someone who then made a speedy get-away by car.

Also, they took the rhubarb as well. Is this some strange side-effect of the credit-crumble? Or rhubarb fool on the menu? Readers should be on the look out.

In this 2-month's worth bumper edition, there's the definitive Soapbox results and pictures Karters have been waiting for, a brilliant blow-by-blow account of the recent Bulbeck-Prior cricket match by Josh Willmot, tributes to much loved ex-publican Blind Bob who died last month, John

Chalmers on RASPs latest planning victory and (our Village Meeting hopes) the National Trust's shortly-to-be Planning *Flop* for their new bridge. Together with much much more of course, even a learned dispute about Ecology between Mark Lewinski and *moi*. This sort of thing is always a risky pursuit in Swaffham Prior, where you can be sure that the ex-President of the relevant Royal Society will be lurking up some leafy driveway or other.

We need to get down to BVC, where every year, they host a great many fascinating *adult-learning* courses, but there's been a bit of a crunch in uptake recently, and it would be a shame if they stopped. Interested readers need to enquire—sorry we haven't been able to publish them.

Have a Great Summer Holiday everyone, and see you in ....October!



Class Karter

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**Caroline Matheson**

**Cover Picture: The Playground by Thomas Newbolt**



# Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

## **News from RASP (and that planning application)**

Reach and Swaffham Prior Community Broadband is alive and well, serving some 60 homes and businesses in the two villages and Upware (and various points in between). The basic setup remains unchanged - an entirely self-funded organisation, run by volunteers and reliant on the good will and generosity of present and former members and donors of equipment. We provide the only available service to Upware, which would otherwise be a 'NotSpot' for broadband.

RASP was set up in the days before the BT service became available, using an internet connection provided by a company in Reach, which had fibre optic cables laid in by BT specifically for their purposes. The company has gone, but the fibres remain, and we still have access to them - but, of course, we have to pay for the service we get. A small building behind Vine House in Reach is therefore the hub of our activities; from there we distribute the service to users in Reach, and connect to Swaffham Prior and Upware using specialist point-to point radio links.

That's where the Planning Committee get involved; the radio links we use need line-of sight (even the odd tree can have a significant effect), so the antennas have to be at a certain minimum height. An earlier simple pole had to be replaced when we needed to add antennas for the Upware service, and we needed something substantial enough to put a ladder up to, for maintenance purposes. For simple financial reasons, this had to be DIY job, which ended up as the structure that is now clearly visible from certain parts of Reach. It serves the purpose very well, and it's ugly. However, the planning authorities have now approved a retrospective application, for a period of four years, on the condition that we come up with some way of making it look less obvious (all ideas gratefully received).

They approved it because it is providing an important service - essential in the case of Upware - that is very much in tune with current government thinking ('every house should have 2Mb'), but well ahead of the game. The time limit was suggested in our application, because we believe that technology, and/or the providers of it, are likely to make it redundant in its present form by then.

We would be very pleased to be made redundant - the RASP team could then spend their evenings and weekends doing something else; but until other organisations can provide an equivalent service with the same technology benefits over ADSL, and at a reasonable price, we will carry on and improve the system wherever we can. We are gradually moving parts of the infrastructure and some clients away from the increasingly-congested 2.4 GHz band to 5.8, but encountering some interesting technical problems on the way - so a few of our clients are currently getting an intermittent service (sorry!), but we are doing our best to fix it. Meanwhile we never hear a word from the other 90+%....

RASP provides a service that is in many respects superior to that available from BT, at the same price (except that we don't do introductory discounts), and with

local support. With more clients we can afford better technology and more bandwidth - and show the government how it's done. Maybe they could give us a grant.... but somehow I don't think it works like that.

**John Chalmers**  
RASP Treasurer

Dear Editors,

### **Magpies are Still Guilty**

Love and respect y'all though I do, your note at the end of my June letter needs correcting. My RSPB book of birds (yes, the RSPB ) identifies the magpie as a predator of other birds' nests, and another reference book which of some considerable years' standing (upon my bookshelf) must predate the influence of the wicked heir of Holkham Hall, the principle (*sic*) trustee/spokesman of the just as wicked Songbird Survival Trust - whose motto we can guess would be along the lines of 'we need 'em alive, how else can we shoot the buggers' - plus his scheming gamekeeper, poisoning anything not worth shooting.

Against the magpie entry it reads: *Food: insects, small mammals, nestling birds, eggs, snails, slugs, other invertebrates, corn, seed, fruit, berries, nuts.* As a fan of the delights of Melodrama, I am sorry these folk are unlikely to be plying their evil trade when I'm up there next week (or by the time you read this, last week). Perhaps I'll get the chance to encourage them to found the Holkham Melodramatic re-enactment society, all black cloaks under which are secreted poison bottles and shotguns, and wicked moustaches on their villainous faces, glinty eyes and bad teeth.

But enough of that.

I'd very much like to see the RSPB research cited but not referenced, as I simply don't believe it says the RSPB found the magpie a "prudent predator" living in benign harmony with its victims. It may well say that in a time of decline it cannot measure the effect the magpie exerts on small bird depletion against other contributory factors: in other words, lots of things are hammering our bird population and you can't separate out the magpie's tally of kills as it contributes to the whole and say whether/to what extent it's reducing numbers more than they would decline anyway. But a bit of basic Darwinian observation can only conclude that the rise of one species impacts accordingly on those it preys upon, and the RSPB are not so pre-darwinian as to be in denial about that. Which is why I said if you want to try to keep the increasing numbers of magpies feeling less inclined to kill smaller wildlife, go out and provide easier food by generating as many road kills as you can. Or maybe a smaller number of larger ones - hang around on the stretch of road between Burwell and Fordham and you might get one of the muntjacs I keep seeing in the fields there. No-one cares about them and a single one could keep a family of magpies out of the birdie nests for days. *They kill birds small birds and the more of them there are the more they will kill.* They won't get together and agree quotas (if they could, they could do a lot to help ecology worldwide). And as small birds decline, (this is the phase we are in) so they will modify their menu requirements. You try measuring that.

I go on my own observations, and I've watched birds since I was a boy. There is so much less small bird activity now that militating for the predators is worse than missing the silent warning.

Happy hunting

**Mark Lewinski**

Ed's Reply:

### **Oh no they're not!**

The reference Mark requires is [http://www.rspb.org.uk/wildlife/birdguide/name/m/magpie/effect\\_on\\_songbirds.asp](http://www.rspb.org.uk/wildlife/birdguide/name/m/magpie/effect_on_songbirds.asp):

*"The Effect of Magpies on Songbirds ...the RSPB commissioned the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) to analyse its 35 years of bird monitoring records. It found no evidence that increased numbers of magpies have caused declines in songbirds and confirms that populations of prey species are not determined by the numbers of their predators. It is the availability of food and suitable places in which to nest that decide the population.*

*Having discounted predation as a possible factor, the RSPB continues to study the loss of food and habitats caused by intensive farming. The change from spring to autumn sowing and the increase in the use of agricultural chemicals have reduced the amount of insects and weed seeds available for songbirds to eat. These changes, and others, including the removal of hedgerows which are used for nesting, roosting and feeding sites by some birds, have probably played a part in the severe declines in many of our farmland species."* There are also similar observations on sparrow-hawks and other birds of prey.

Mark may well be right that it is *feeding* magpies that best stops them raiding nests (<http://www.againstcorvidtraps.co.uk/magpies.html>, the alternative *extermination* option needing to be nigh on exactly that), but it seems that the magpie only consumes the "spares", the great many extra young that resources can't support, so maximising the utilisation of what is available to the prey on his territory and avoiding *diminished returns* for himself, not the least since a diminished population of songbirds would have their pick of those prime difficult-to-raid nesting sites—ivy and prickly bushes, if readers are keen to improve their gardens. By no means all predator-prey relationships maintain prey at their "carrying capacity" (the number there'd be without predation) like this, but a great many do and maybe this is why. Certainly a similar situation can be seen for "carrying capacity" prey needing to forage more riskily for limited food: they make the easier target for the predator.

How such crafty "prudence" might evolve (the *prudent predator* was a term coined by US ecologist Lawrence Slobodkin in 1961), which appears to be considerably more successful than Gordon Brown's in preventing "boom and bust", is definitely a tricky question! The gentlemanly disputations between opposing camps have rivalled even certain *Crier* Letters passim. But creatures evolve together, and for a long-lived territorial bird such as the Magpie, whose territory will most likely be inherited by the most successful of his offspring (whence his genes),

it would appear that any “success” that degrades the territory is no success at all. It is those plundering pillaging mess-up-and-move-on nomadic types that would be the problem, and we all know about that. They also pinch eggs! (*see Editorial*)

Perhaps the “prudent” genetic trait is no more than a profound disinclination to over-exert oneself, as might readily be seen in the family cat, and readers will be glad to know that the RSPB has entirely similar comments to make on this four-legged raider. So the next time he/she comes clattering through the cat flap with a mangled baby-bluetit just as the local twitcher is settling down to his tea and cakes, do not hang your head in shame. Instead, look him squarely in the eye and say:

“My cat is an example of Slobodkin’s prudent predator, without which we’d all look a bit sick. More tea?”

***Caroline Matheson***



Some recent bird photos taken by John Covill in his barn

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Dear Editors,

### **Church Clock**

Hickory, Dickory Dock,  
I cannot see the church clock.  
I’m told it’s still there  
But I’ve ceased to care.  
Hickory, Dickory Dock.

***Ophir Catling***  
From Skye

## From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

To avoid frightening any long-standing readers, I'll say now: Alastair Everitt is alive and well as far as I know and this was his idea. I've only attended one PCM before, back when young men entertained themselves for years making our lives hell driving motorbikes up and down at the end of our garden. So I plead for clemency in advance if I got anything wrong.



I can say they are a jolly lot, to begin with at least, making merry as I was trying to check who was who, by all claiming to be Geoffrey Woollard. I tell you this not as a by-the-by but to encourage you all to take an interest *because a vacancy has arisen and you should know that they are a good lot and not to be afraid of putting yourself up for a seat*. The first item was the resignation of Mr J Jordon for work reasons. Can it go in the *Crier*? Of course. (Even your humble novice reporter was sized up later as they wondered who might be interested, but I told them I don't think I'm Parish Council material. Ah yes, maintain the independence of the press, said Geoffrey, with a gleam). This resignation puts a damper on things, said one, but the next item brightened things a bit: there is to be a review of the so-called traffic calming at Quay. A kind of equilibrium was restored.

Geoffrey then congratulated our new CCC rep David Brown on getting onto the Local Government Association (LGA) in seemingly just a few days - it had taken him about ten years, he said. Hooray. So we were now fully cheerful again.

But serious business then landed upon us. *Valuable historic papers* are coming up for auction at Sotheby's relating to the draining of the Fens - a subject close to Cllr Woollard's heart - and he asked that Cllr Brown do what can be done to ensure Cambridge Archives acquire them? (Plinths and £300K given to Antony Gormley got a mention here). David said he had a meeting the next day with the relevant body.

They are a gymnastically minded lot, the Parish Council: a deft flick of the mind from heritage principles to low life activity: flytipping was next. Most stuff previously noted in certain locations has gone apart from tree loppings but there was some doubt about Barston Drove. It was supposed to have been cleared but what with the rain, possibly not. Silent exasperation.

Then to more formal waste disposal: *do we all know that from October rubbish and recycling will all be on the same day - Thursday?* (I didn't, but that may be my fault). Same frequency ie recycling on alternate weeks, rubbish weekly. It is intended to ensure rubbish spends less time on the kerb, cut the number of rounds made, save fuel and cut emissions.(Can we expect a Council tax cut, then?)

On to more enduring things: *the church clock*. A site meeting is to be held with the tree officer to obtain their opinion on getting line of sight of said clock. If you can see it where you couldn't see it before, something has happened. Till then, it's still under discussion.

And to things that might or might not endure in future: *The Reach Lode Bridge*.

To join Wicken and Anglesey Abbey for walkers and cyclists. Is it a controversy? A temperature rise was detected. What was the policy on this edifice? Allen Alderson didn't have the info. Are we likely to get a planning application? It does fall to SP PC. Geoffrey had a head of steam up now. 3m wide. 20ft high, he says. (deft switch from metric to imperial) We don't want it going through on a delegated officers' decision. Cost - there was some disbelief that £300K will cover it. Cllr Woollard is keen that we all take an interest - "It's enormous" He said (present tense? Is it lurking somewhere waiting to slip across the Lode while we are not looking?) Like the Orwell Bridge, he says. Only not as elegant. Not as useful either, he added. But perhaps he's happy to drive twice as far to Wicken Fen - some of us look forward to the day we can cycle there in the same time as it would have taken to drive.

(Reporter's note: How to decide what else to include? I'm on side 2 of 6 sides of notes).

*General correspondence* - lots. Mill Hill - Cllr Alderson favours a reduction of speed limit to 30mph. Sounds like he's not he only one. General outrage at the van that took out two of the nice new wooden posts and nothing has replaced them (nb two plastic ones have since appeared opposite the surviving wooden ones - can the people who do those makeover programmes start a roadside version? I'm no style guru but even I can see it looks awful). Apparently they have to order new wooden ones. Methinks a stock of spares when ordering the first ones wouldn't have been a bad idea.

The touchpaper was lit now - we were on to *bonfires*. Mr Montero has my vote if he's planning to stand for the vacancy. He's brought this up. But he wasn't with us. Should we defer till we have Mr Montero's presence? - GW. But Karen King, our assiduous clerk, had already sought E cambs guidance - *there are no bylaws which forbid or restrict bonfires, but it is advised that bonfires should not cause a smoke nuisance and be lit only when absolutely necessary*. (what the heck is *absolutely necessary*? When is there absolutely no alternative but to burn something, since the days of Joan of Arc?) John Covill, our calm and thoughtful chair, spoke for all in saying that anything bonfired should be what burns quickly, without much smoke *and especially not green waste that smoulders* *he* (my italics. Bonfire folk, I declare an interest. Fairview Grove and the old folk in the Beeches get it worse than most). Peter Hart: discourage bonfires, encourage shredding. Hear hear. Peter Almond: how do we discourage? (mental note: my answer tells me why I am not suitable PC material).

But we were on an antisocial roll now. *Bird scarers* - someone was being woken at 6am. GW - pigeons are quite capable of starting breakfast at 3.30am and feeding till 11pm (mental note - what do they need wings for, then? They'll be pretty useless after all that eating and they have no headlights for night flight). Rural noise, said Peter Hart. A balance is required, said Geoffrey, who knows more than some about farming. No-one present had heard them recently. Cllr Alderson recalled having had a problem once with bird scarers, phoned the farmer and that had fixed it. There you go, then. So long as you know who to phone (do they put 'How's my banging? Phone 0845...' on those things?) you can sort it.

Down to earth again - onto *dog fouling* now. Or rather, we weren't, but they were. Swaffham Bulbeck are looking to increase their number of bins. Competitive hackles were almost visibly rising. If SP wants to join the scheme the council would add a further 2 to the 6 bins we might buy. They will instal. Bulbeck have already installed. Does it reduce the problem? The novelty seems to have worn off in Bulbeck, apparently. Hackles lowered again.

Who empties the bins? Why, Veolia, of course. *On Thursdays, from October.* A triple benefit, then...

Cllr Woollard made a confession. He had been provoked, he said, at a neighbourhood panel meeting, where the Chair had said the increase in fouling was due to the dog warden being away. It's not, he'd retorted: it's stupid dogs with stupid owners. (Several councillors at this point rushed to the defence of the dogs). We need to gather evidence! Someone said. Interesting if not entirely focused discussion ensued regarding CCTV with slow motion replays, and vigilante groups (- Steve Kent -Phillips, but I'm pretty sure he wasn't offering to start one) in which my notes record Cllr Woollard saying 'Let's get right behind 'em' and David Almond: 'It's not nice carrying it in your hand. It'd be nice if there was a bin within 100 yards.' But I think this did include the use of a plastic bag.

A voice of reason cut though this, fortunately - much more of the above and I'd have not been able to continue writing. Sandra Gynn: 'When we've got our bins people might be more community aware.'

Everything after this was an anticlimax. *The Pound sign* needs repairs (there's a joke in there somewhere, submit yours to next issue of the *Crier*) Peter Hart will look at what needs doing.

*Village hall driveway repairs*, and Eric Day will oversee cutting back of the driveway vegetation but he warned he is not a moderate in these things. It will be more than a gentle trim.

*Planning applications* - fences, windows, utility rooms added to the Mill Hill conurbation, rendering now not being rendered; the utility rooms didn't seem to add much; the only bit that seemed to matter was that nobody was standing for a chain link fence between the new houses and around the boundary. 2 metre high closeboard as previously agreed or nothing. Except that nothing wasn't one of the options. So that settled that.

*Clerk's report* - the cemetery water supply is an issue. Pony keepers in adjacent field, turn the tap off when finished. Or else. Andrew has cleared the cemetery path - a job well done. I was put in mind of the number of times I've thought that a lot of people in small communities seem to think there is some council fairy that comes round and makes their area functional and pleasant. But it's not. It's local people making an effort. So take a look outside your own front doors and see what you can do. (nb: it's a good while since SP was a serious contender for best kept village - why's that, then?) The village seats need a coat of something with some urgency. Someone suggested scouts do it. I was keen to provide my daughter & friends with brushes and pots of wood preserver but it will take a more skilled hand. Neighbourhood panel - mutterings at the news that our village hall is considered too small to host such an event. (I've always been told that it's in a downturn that plans



for expansion should be made. Any takers?)

Very sad, though, is the continuing vandalism of the memorial noticeboard in the bus shelter. There is a long and dishonourable culture of graffiti in this country and in a bus shelter anything that can be will be. This correspondent confesses that yes, that might have been me in my teenage days a long time ago, but I wonder if I would have defaced anything that said it was a memorial? It needs a new but still central location, and several ideas were put forward. Also, someone in Fairview Grove had asked for a noticeboard but when grilled in open questions, this writer did not feel he had a mandate to speak for our little community as such.

Inconclusive. Any ideas? Send them to the *Crier* and/or any PC member.

I took a few notes in the open questions part of the meeting but nothing coherent remains except:

‘You can’t see the church clock? We’re going to move the church, mate’.

...why did I write that?

*Mark Lewinski*

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## MARYLOO CONCERT, Festival, Saturday 27 June 2009

What a treat to attend this concert by Cambridge Voices, conducted by Ian de Massini. The first half, in St Cyriac’s church, was more serious, and described as ‘a sequence of anthems and motets in honour of Mary, the mother of Christ’. I particularly enjoyed the three versions of *Regina caeli laetare*, a beautifully-sung solo plainsong followed by two more complex choral settings of the same words. Composers from many centuries were represented, including Mendelssohn in his 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. John Rutter’s beautiful *Ave Maria*, written in 2006, and Jonathan Rathbone’s setting of *Gabriel’s Message*, well known as a Christmas carol, provided an up-to-date finale.

The second half of the concert, transferred to St Mary’s, concentrated on the final syllable of the title. Like the ‘elephant ears’ in *La Dona e Mobile* (listen to it if you don’t believe me) some music will be difficult to take seriously in future. The tone was set with ‘Comfort ye my people’ from Handel’s *Messiah*. There was never any compromise in the high quality of the music (if you discount an enthusiastic but less-than-melodious plastic trumpet played simultaneously by the organist!) but the jokes kept coming, interspersed with more serious items from Fauré’s *Missa Brevis* ‘constructed’ by Ian de Massini. I don’t know the work well enough to be sure how much was Fauré and how much de Massini, but the result was very pleasing. We enjoyed a solo performance of *The Derby Ram* specially adapted to donate his tail as a bellringer’s sally in Swaffham Prior. The final item on the programme was - wait for it - Happy We(e?). After much applause we were treated to an encore - a complex new piece to be performed at a formal Cambridge college function, which consisted of the names of the colleges, the order and frequency determined by the size of their bank accounts!

I wonder how the Maryloo fund is progressing - it would be good to be eager for the Red Lion because of the beer rather than the loo!

*Trish Whitehead*

# Prior v. Bulbeck: The Cricket Match

IT WAS A FINE SUNNY SUNDAY AFTERNOON when a Swaffham Prior cricket team, assembled with a perfect blend of youth and 'experience', took to the Denny to face up to its age old foe, Swaffham Bulbeck. The weather was all the more surprising considering it was a weekend that also included Wimbledon and Glastonbury, the two great rain bringers in English history.

Under these sunny skies the Prior team got together for the first official meeting, and the ever important question was raised of what to do upon winning the toss. However, Prior skipper Josh Willmott bravely lost the toss and Prior were put in to bat on a tricky looking wicket. The Prior players were all well aware that Bulbeck were taking this years cricket very seriously, mainly from the fact that all of their players were wearing whites and the large majority even had their own kit. This however acted only to boost the spirits of the Prior XI, knowing that they were to be tested against a team of seasoned players, all of which play more than once every 3 years (more than can be said for most of the Prior players).

In an Ashes cricketing summer, where the likes of Pietersen, Flintoff and Strauss will all become household names, it was Bodger and Mead that were sent out to blunt the early onslaught of the Bulbeckian opening bowlers. A job that was done admirably with solid defence and a smattering of elegant strokes (mainly from the young Chris Bodger's blade) getting Prior off to a good start. Bodger however was the first batsman out, undone by a crafty Bulbeck bowler who, rather not in the spirit of the game, decided to bowl straight. This brought to the crease the Prior captain



Willmott, who with Mead set about building a good partnership from which to launch a late assault on the Bulbeck bowling. Some lusty blows from both batsmen, including consecutive fours off the bat of Mead and an agricultural swipe from Willmott which managed to go for six got the score rattling along. With the score at 48(ish) for 1 off 9 (ish) overs, a score in excess of 120 seemed to be on the cards (much more than was hoped for in the pre game team talk).

**“ Willmott’s dismissal brought about the noblest of English cricketing traditions.... the legendary English batting collapse. ”**

However, Willmott’s dismissal brought about the noblest of English cricketing traditions. Stretching further back than the Ashes contest, further back than the likes of Jack Hobbs and W.G. Grace could ever have imagined... the legendary English batting collapse. Only a true Englishman can be involved in such a collapse, and there was clearly a plethora of true Englishmen on show on that Sunday. The crowd by this point had swelled and the atmosphere had turned in to a cauldron of noise. It should be noted that as is often the case in a batting collapse, no batsman threw their wicket away; all went down fighting, or often just swinging. Tom Wood, Phil Hubbard, Dominic Bowers, and David Blocksage all fought but fell gallantly. Elegant strokes from Bowers and sheer defiance from Blocksage and Hubbard were not enough in the face of the Bulbeck onslaught. Mike Carrington was the next to fall in the most unlucky of manners. It was initially believed that the ball didn’t bounce very much after pitching. However, after much discussion it was decided that it seemed to have stayed so low, the only explanation anyone who was witness to it could give was to suggest some kind of witchcraft by the Bulbeck bowler. Unlucky indeed.

Young William Kingsmill was another of the promising youth on display, however he was also unluckily out before another promising young player, Tom Pumphrey, came in and played some nice shots; including one which he managed to hit in to his own face. Fortunately he was wearing a helmet, which is more can be said for the writer of this report who found out to his peril that it hurts a lot LOT more when you hit the ball into your face without a helmet on. Tim Doe, one of the heroes from three years ago, bravely decided to come in at number 11 bat, deciding that by that point all of the good Bulbeck bowlers would have finished. There was however one fatal flaw in his plan, that being that if he is batting at 11 there would be no one to bat with if the other person got out. This inevitably was the case as Pumphrey got out leaving Doe stranded. In the spirit of the day though, Bulbeck allowed Doe to continue batting on his own as long as he was always on strike, therefore requiring him to hit only 2s and boundaries. This was no problem however, as two balls later he was out and the inning was over for a slightly disappointing 75.

A superb tea was provided by Bulbeck and swiftly demolished by Prior allowing time for the Prior bowlers to loosen up and the fielders to test out who was able to catch and throw, providing bountiful entertainment to the masses of the watching

crowd. It was at this point however that a hammer blow was landed on the Prior team with the withdrawal of Phil Hubbard due to injury. Having stepped up to play just the day before, he had clearly had too little time to fully prepare himself physically for the challenge. This however serves to give him even more credit for being able to bat at all in the first innings. Hester Bowers was then swiftly roped in to the team and was handed a pair of white trousers that Harry Potter's Hagrid may have found a bit roomy. However she rolled up her sleeves (and trousers) and set about the task at hand. Carrington and Pumphrey were given the honour of bowling the opening overs and both did so extremely well, bowling tight probing lines and not allowing the Bulbeck players to score runs. The first to strike was Carrington, quickly followed by a brace for Pumphrey putting the highly rated Bulbeck top order back in the hutch (for non cricketing people, that is simply cricket speak for 'getting them out').

Assisted by good fielding all round, not least by Doe behind the stumps, the Prior bowlers continued to mount the pressure. Kingsmill then out-thought the next Bulbeck batsman by bowling a crafty number of wides before firing in a straight one to put the middle stump lying flat on the turf. Chris Bodger was then brought in to the attack and proceeded to bowl far too fast for any of the Bulbeck batsmen. Indeed they were unable to lay a bat on anything he bowled, which is perhaps the reason why he was unable to pick up an absolute hatful of wickets. Blocksage was then brought on to bowl, and after assuring the captain that he would be a rubbish bowler, he proceeded to bowl the tightest 2 overs seen for many a year on the



Bulbeck Denny. Good catches from Kingsmill and Doe bought more wickets for Prior, and after some tight overs from Willmott and Bowers (D), the asking rate was soaring. However, Prior made the fatal mistake of taking too many wickets, as in at number 9 strode a giant of a Bulbeck batsman, Ben Raynor, who proceeded to smite everything that was anywhere near him to wherever he decided he wanted to smite it. Unlike Blocksage's modesty in saying that he couldn't bowl, Mead was in fact unerringly accurate in his own assessment of his bowling as 'not great'. With about 12 needed off the last 2 overs the game was set up perfectly, Chris Bodger was brought back on and after going for a few runs of the flashing blade of the Bulbeck batsman, he held his nerve and picked up another wicket thanks to a superb one handed catch by Wood. This left the equation as 2 needed off the last 2 overs with 2 wickets in hand. When the question was put to the team as who would like to bowl, all of a sudden people had untied laces or had spotted something in the distance which was they were unable to look away from. Tim Doe then gallantly put up his hand to bowl the last over and after giving up the keeping pads and gloves took the bowl to face up to the big hitting Bulbeck batsman. A fairytale finish was on the cards for Prior as the atmosphere in the crowd reached fever pitch. Doe charged in to bowl; the fielders crept in, the crowd held its breath. Everything stood still for that moment as Doe released the ball. As it happened, it turned out to be a really slow full toss on leg stump which the Bulbeck batsman dispatched for four and it was suddenly all over. Bulbeck had won by 2 wickets.

As the game finished and the players were walking off the field, the clouds came over and the heavens opened. A deluge of rain sent to seemingly wash away the bitterness of defeat. There was no bitterness from Prior however, who were all aware that they had been involved in a superb game of cricket and had only narrowly lost to a team containing people who genuinely class themselves as 'cricketers'. A "Man of the Match Award" had been donated by Mr Gary du Plooy from Cricket Stick, a new cricket shop opened in Burwell (for anyone wanting to buy any cricket supplies I would genuinely recommend going to see him) and this was given, by a unanimous vote, to Chris Bodger of Prior for his superb all round display of batting and bowling. Bulbeck should also be highly commended, as the cricket club offered to pay for the teas and for the use of the facilities meaning that all the money raised from both teams could be put towards a charitable cause. Plans are already in the pipeline for a rematch next year, so for those hopeful of playing, take a few weeks off to recover then back in to the nets for training, remember line and length, let the pitch do the work, head over the ball, play in the 'V', back up the stumps, long barrier and watch the ball.

**A "Man of the Match Award" had been donated by Mr Gary du Plooy from Cricket Stick, a new cricket shop opened in Burwell....and this was given, by a unanimous vote, to Chris Bodger of Prior for his superb all round display of batting and bowling.**

*Josh Willmott*

# Bob Scrutton - Appreciations

## "Blind Bob"

*Reprinted, with many thanks, from Bulbeck Beacon*

It was with great sadness that we learnt that Robert Percy 'Bob' Scrutton died peacefully in Adden-brookes hospital on 9th June aged 85.

Robert Percy Scrutton was born on the 27th November 1923. He met his wife Patricia 'Vera', working in a sweet shop owned by her brother in law and married her after a 5 year courtship. They had one son called Paul. During their life together Vera took an interest in catering and they often helped out at one of their local pubs. Bob trained as a master printer but had to give this up about 43 years ago when he was losing his sight. He and Vera decided to take over a pub and became tenants of the Royal Oak in Commercial End. An evening in Bob's company was extremely entertaining with the bonus of good beer served straight from the barrel behind the bar. Whatever the weather the beer was always served in excellent condition at the correct temperature. Under his management the pub soon became well known around the Cambridge area as Blind Bob's and attracted customers from all walks of life from the aristocracy to us ordinary folk. There were regular jazz evenings with free food and one of the local Morris dance groups was founded there and still come and perform outside the old pub on the May day bank holiday.

It would be an understatement to describe him just as a 'landlord'. Bob was a mine of information on who won, owned, trained and rode the winning horses in the classic races from the fifties up to this year.

About 3 years ago after a short spell in hospital Vera was unable to drive for a while. Bob had bought a second hand Ford Fiesta while she was in hospital and so they wanted a chauffeur and a village retiree volunteered to take this on for Newmarket's Tuesday market days always ending up at the Dullingham Boot. Bob only liked going to real pubs not the restaurant pubs so common nowadays.

Both Vera and Bob loved jazz and were well acquainted with all the local players. When one of their friends passed away many of the local jazz musicians sent him on his way with loud jazz music at the crema-torium. The jazz 'concert' must have been quite a shock for the people turning up for a cremation in the other chapel.

On one occasion Vera wanted to join a group of friends to play bingo. Bob wanted to go to a pub and dictated the route to the driver. All went well until one junction did not quite fit his memory. His driver had no idea where he was. Bob just said, "Keep going down this road and tell me the first stud you see". Sure enough when the stud was seen he was able to confirm that they were driving in the right direction.

Thanks Bob for the 20 plus years you gave to village life and we send love and prayers to Vera, Paul and Maggie, Keighley and Luke.

*John Somers*

As John Somers has written, Bob - and Vera - Scrutton were much more than landlords - Bob was a host.. The Royal Oak was a one room pub, and the small

circle round the bar would slowly expand to include each individual or group who came in; and Bob would, if necessary, tactfully keep the conversation going, making everyone feel at home. He had a wonderfully stocked memory, and although racing, and sports such as cricket and football, were among his special interests, he could talk on almost any subject, usually with quite forceful opinions - 'Surrey are a poor old side'. He had vivid memories of his time as a printer, recalling generations of undergraduates such as David Frost, who would arrive with last-minute copy for Granta maga-zine. He would recognize his customers from their voices - I always suspected from their footfalls in the street outside, or the sounds of their cars - and his knowledge extended to their family and friends, including people whom he might only encounter every few years. One friend of mine was quickly and for ever labelled 'old Chelsea' - Bob scarcely able to credit that an apparently sane person could support that then notorious club.

was fortunate to meet Bob before I came to live in Commercial End, having driven out to view, from the out-side, number 71: the estate agents had given me the particulars, but had not yet acquired a key. Bob soon

worked out the reason for my visit, and handed me the back-door key, saying he knew the owners would not mind - they always kept a spare key in the Oak., and he would tell them that evening. The Royal Oak was a true community pub, of the kind that scarcely exists any more, and Bob and Vera kept it fully alive. Bob was a remarkable man, who will be greatly missed, and long remembered. Luckily, many stories about him have been recorded by that superb chronicler of the fens, Michael Jeacock.

*Peter Raby*

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## NICODEMUS MERRIWEATHER PRESENTS SHAKESPEARE

### **Festival, Friday 26 June, St Mary's Church**

What were we going to see for the opening event of the SP Festival? We couldn't tell if it was going to be a lecture, a serious show or just a bit of fun at the Bard's expense, but it ended up as a bit of everything and we couldn't have enjoyed it more.

Nicodemus Merriweather, an imaginary actor in Shakespeare's London, recounted anecdotes about the theatre world, filled in the Elizabethan background for us and performed some well-known extracts from well-known plays. There were periods of drawn-out business that dragged a bit, but mainly the show ripped along with quick changes of hat, props and accent to enliven proceedings. My highlights were: one of the witch scenes from Macbeth performed with white mask and intriguing mime, and then a wheezy Sir John Falstaff, grand and self-pitying, majestic and pathetic.

This was a tour-de-force which was a surprising and satisfying start to the Festival.

**CW**



Batmobile

## Soap Box Challenge 2009

This year saw 8 different soap box entries being ridden by 10 different pilots.

The “Challenge” came in the form of intelligence! I know that it takes a certain kind of character to design, build & ride a soap box down a fairly steep hill, but you know you have got your work cut out when almost half of the entrants obviously could not count!

This lack of numeracy skills manifested itself as 3 teams turned up with soap boxes with 3 wheels when everyone knows that a soap box has 4.

But this minor technicality was easily overcome, as the organiser, (that’s me), used the get out clause at the bottom of the “Rules & Guidelines” that I had the right to change any of the rules without prior notice. So I did by running 2 separate classes – Trikes & Soap Boxes subdivided of course into age groups for the riders.

Over an hour and a half, the riders rumbled down the hill and sweated in the hot and humid conditions pushing their rides back up the hill.

The highlights for me were as follows:

- To see just how fast you could get down the hill with the superb machines built by Ted Hurst and Simon Jeacock.
- The innovation of the two man bob build by Peter Arksey, who let everyone he knew have a go in it.
- The daring of Andy Towers perched on the back behind his 9 year old son, Harry, counter balanced by a 56lb weight.



Toiletmobile



So which one are you entering then?

- To watch James Willmott gently roll down the hill in the comfort of his 3 Wheeled Cruiser regally waving to spectators.
- To wonder at the planning & design of Dave Jackson’s Toilet Chopper complete with loo roll and having a sweep stake on when a wheel would fall off – which of course one did.
- The Piece de Resistance of watching Robert Hollingsworth’s “Challenger” with 4 unequal size wheels, one of which was punctured before he started his one and only ill fated run, slowly descend the hill and having made it to the bottom, run out off





3-Wheeler in Blue Jeans



Pumfrey Special



Crazy Wheels Luke



Flat-tyre Robert



Jamesmobile



Little and Large



Peter on speed

*But one entrant was just too fast, so we only have him on video. Many thanks to our photographers, and we will enquire about posting videos on **Crier** site. Eds*

# SOAP BOX CHALLENGE

## Classification Team ID

Soap Box      Most Professionally Built

Soap Box      2 Man Special

Soap Box      Blue Wooden Box

Soap Box      Hot Wheels

Soap Box      Hot Wheels

Soap Box      Challenger

Trike      Toilet Chopper

Trike      Alarmed Speeder

Trike      Willmott Cruiser

Trike      Alarmed Speeder

## Main Rider

Luke Hurst  
Peter Arksey &  
Everybody who knew  
him!

Tom Pumfrey & Will  
Kingsmill

Harry Towers

Andy Towers

Robert Hollingsworth

Dave Jackson

Ben Jeacock

James Willmott

The Burwell Stig

## Results

Soap Box      Fastest Mini

Soap Box      Fastest Junior

Soap Box      Fastest Adult

Harry Towers

Kingsmill & Pumfrey

Luke Hurst

Trike      Fastest Junior

Trike      Fastest Adult

Ben Jeacock

The Burwell Stig

## Special Awards

Have a go Award

Comfiest Ride Award

Most Likely to get Injured Award

Back to the Drawing Board Award

Peter Arksey

James Willmott

Dave Jackson

Robert Hollingsworth



# RESULTS 2009

Age Group	Best Unassisted	Best Assisted	No. of Runs
Adult	11.1 secs	9.9 secs	7
Adult	13.9 secs	13.0 secs	9
Junior	15.1 secs	13.9 secs	5
Mini	14.1 secs	13.5 secs	3
Adult	No Time Recorded	12.7 secs	3
Adult	DNF		0
Adult	20.7 secs	15.5 secs	5
Junior	10.8 secs	10.3 secs	5
Adult	22.4 secs	15.9 secs	3
Adult	No Time Recorded	9.8 secs	4

momentum before getting to the Give Way line which should be now known as the Give Up Line!

## Finally some thanks to the following:

To all those who came along to watch.

To all those who entered.

Starter Marshall: Gerry King

Traffic Marshalls: Olly King & John Chalmers

First Aiders: Catherine Wrench & Barbara

Doe

Use of Barriers from Martin Mead (Mead Construction) & John Taylor (Newmarket Hat Hire – sounds odd but he runs the Fordham Car Boot Sales & Bank Holiday Markets)

To all the residents of Cage Hill & High Street.



Father & Son,  
note who's pushing

## Looking to 2010

Prepare for the following: **The traditional speed runs will continue but there will also be a new part to the event, a slalom.**

The results & timings table is detailed below, but these relatively irrelevant as the purpose of this event was to have fun. On the sheet the reference to assisted runs is that after two runs, the entrants asked the Starter Marshall if they could have running push starts rather than static push starts.

**Tim Doe**

*But Most Especial Thanks clearly go to.....TIM DOE! Eds*

# FESTIVAL 2009

The 2009 Festival opened with a performance by **Nicodemus Merriweather**, a jobbing actor and contemporary of Shakespeare who gave a fascinating insight into Shakespeare's life, style of working, and modesty. One of the audience said "I will never forget the Shakespeare journey", while a visiting American Professor of theatre studies thought it a "thrilling presentation" and an approach to the life of Shakespeare he had never seen before.

Saturday morning of 27 June witnessed Tim Doe's spectacular **Soap Box Challenge Run**. This year the entries had trebled and the range of machines made it more like a veteran car race. Anyone interested in cars should have been there. Brilliantly organised, with some cut-throat competition, this is an event which will grow and grow as its reputation spreads throughout the county. In spite of rumours Bernie Ecclestone was not there.

The rehearsal for a **Come-and Sing "Messiah"** was held on the afternoon of Saturday 27 June. Thirty disparate singers were brought together and in a couple of hours were hammered (or was it coaxed) into magnificent shape by Ian de Massini. The choir loved it, the early evening audience loved it, and Ian was in his element, conducting the choir, playing the harpsichord, directing the orchestra, and producing a wonderful rendition from his "eunuch flute" (he couldn't afford a trumpet).

On Sunday afternoon there was a **Twenty20 Cricket Match** against Swaffham Bulbeck. What a wonderful game. Bulbeck won in the last over with four balls to spare. Read all about it elsewhere in the *Crier* but the outstanding feature was the joyous atmosphere with the vociferous crowd cheering and sledging with the greatest humour. Almost certainly cricket will join the annual Boxing Day Hockey Match as a regular inter-village fixture and will occur on the Sunday nearest to June 26.

On the evening of the Sunday was held the big music event, with Cambridge



Voices singing in a **Maryloo Concert** in aid of toilet facilities to be installed in St Mary's Church. The first half was held in the acoustically glorious St Cyriac's and concentrated on music in honour of Mary, the Mother of Christ. After an interval everyone moved to St Mary's where Ian de Massini's mix of mischief and seriousness was displayed. He introduced the selection of Handel's



“commodious” pieces with the aid of a bass drum struck every time there was a saucy reference. And these were interspersed with the most beautiful music from Gabriel Faure’s *Missa Brevis*. As well as the wonderful Cambridge Voices the concert displayed the sheer brilliance of Ian – as a musician, as a composer/arranger, as a teacher, as the provider of the most full and interesting programme notes, and as an illustrator of the sheer joy and power to be found in music.



### Thus ended the first weekend.

The second weekend opened on Friday 3 July with the **Preview** of the **Art Exhibition**. Murray’s semi-final delayed the arrival of some to view the “superb array of pictures” which showed off the light and space offered by St. Cyriac’s. Of especial interest also, to celebrate the 200 years since the present church was built, was the historical exhibition illustrating the history of the church, its architecture and the people involved in its creation.

In the evening **Ian de Massini**, on a Boston Grand, gave a sparkling performance of **Bach’s Goldberg Variations** in candlelight. It may not be the most sophisticated musical criticism but “magic”, “pure magic”, were the only words on everyone’s lips when leaving. On the following two days Ian gave informal piano recitals which, including **French Impressionist Music** by Duruflé, Messiaen and Eric Satie, explored the full range of the Boston Grand, of Ian’s skill, and of the acoustics of St. Cyriac’s.

**The School Fête** was its usual day of fun and success. On Saturday evening **Rex Walford and Gabrielle Bell** entertained in the Village Hall. Even though their reputation goes before them, one is never sure what to expect if you’ve never seen them before. They were superb and did take us through the history of the British and American musical with Rex as a brilliant raconteur. The range of information was amazing. Wittgenstein, for



example, rushing off after his lectures to see his favourite film, *That Night in Rio*, with Carmen Miranda singing “I like you very much” – a number which Gabrielle then performed to perfection, using the most handsome man in the audience as a foil. On a more serious note we learned that during the Great Depression all the shows and songs were upbeat, joyful and hopeful – apart from two songs. One was “Buddy, can you spare a dime” and the other, of which Gabrielle gave a most poignant rendering, was “Darn that dream”.

And so we came to the end of the Festival. What more fitting conclusion to this celebration of 200 years of St Cyriac’s than **Compline in Plainchant**. This most peaceful of services was conducted by Roy Tricker, the very first Churches Conservation Trust officer involved with the Festival. There had been a brief rehearsal for Plainchant before the service during which those attending came as close as they are ever likely to become a Cistercian monk. Over thirty people enjoyed the experience in this beautiful simple church.

*Alastair Everitt*



## Can you help Swaffham Prior Cubs?

We are very lucky to have a thriving Cub Pack in the village, run by Cub Leader Anna South. There are 18 boys and girls aged 8-10½ who are really enjoying their various cub activities. Because of the success of the Pack and the growing waiting list, we are now looking for two (or more) volunteers to assist Anna in organizing and running our weekly meetings.

Any new assistants would be given full training from the District Scouting Organisation (see also [www.scoutbase.org.uk](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk)); you would also be supported by a strong committee and enthusiastic parents. Attendance every week would not be essential, any contribution that you are able to make would be very welcome.

If you feel you could help in any way, please contact Tim Doe (01638 743656) or Mandy Kingsmill (01638 742482).

# ***Bridge over Reach Lode***

## **A special meeting of the Parish Council to discuss the National Trust's Reach Lode Bridge Planning Application**

A special meeting of the Parish Council was called to discuss and express an opinion on a planning application by the National Trust for a bridge over Reach Lode. The application had apparently appeared in a bit of a rush, and there is a very close deadline for registering opinion with ECDC. Detailed plans of the proposed structure were on view, but no-one was available from the applicants to answer questions or promote their case.

The purpose of the bridge is (apparently) to provide a more direct route for walkers and cyclists (and therefore by legal requirement equestrians) between Anglesey Abbey and Wicken Fen. Much of the funding for it is coming from Sustrans (Sustainable Transport - an agency responsible for the distribution of government money to appropriate causes - in this case particularly the promotion of cycling).

The practicality of the design is a shallow steel arch rising some 20ft above the lode banks, met on each side by embankments which extend over a total width of nearly a quarter of a mile, providing a smooth arc over which one could drive at 40mph with no problem. And so they might, for the bridge is 3 metres wide (that's around the width of the room I'm sitting in as I write this), and the application mentions that it would be used for 'occasional farm traffic'.

Apparently another application is on the way for something similar across Burwell Lode - which could not be opposed if the present one is approved, on the principle of precedence; this titbit of information raised concerns about the whole bigger plan associated with the Fen Vision project.

The PC didn't like it at all. The consensus was that the need was not proven (er.. just how many people want to walk or ride from Anglesey Abbey to Wicken Fen?), and even if it were, the proposed design was ridiculously out of scale with what would serve the anticipated use, and be a major feature of the landscape for miles around.

It was also pointed out that the geological survey accompanying the application quoted data from 30-year-old reports, and went on to express concern that the necessary piling works (and the machine that did it) might damage irreparably the banks of the lode. Those present with any engineering opinions expressed doubts about the structural validity of the design, and laughed out of court the quoted budget of £300,000, and everyone disliked the materials and finish (galvanised steel).

In short, it appears to be a nonsense, and that is what the PC will tell the Council following a unanimous vote.

***John Chalmers***

## Strawberry Teas and Jazz on the Fen

Linda and Colin Evans hosted the inaugural Church Strawberry Tea at Commissioner's Farm on a beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon in July. Their hospitality and hard work certainly paid off with over 80 people coming to enjoy their lovely garden and the company of not just other "Fen folk" and villagers, but visitors from as far afield as Scotland and even Australia!!

The workers were kept busy as a constant stream of people arrived, all having managed to find their way down on the Fen, and the scones just held out. Wine for the adults and lollies for the littlies were also on offer and then all that was to be done was to sit back and relax to the wonderful soothing music of Combertones Jazz. Our very grateful thanks go to David Almond and Spearhead Marketing Group at Lord's Ground for so generously sponsoring the entertainment for the afternoon.

Two hours went far too quickly and I think the verdict from everyone that was there was that it was definitely an event worth repeating next year!

With a profit of £290.00 for St Mary's as well, it seems that everyone's a winner.

*Janet Willmott*







## Bulbeck Band



Please come and join an informal mother/toddler singing group in the School Hall at Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School. Sessions are weekly starting Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Sept from 10am (30 mins followed by drink/biscuit). Sessions are free. Any questions? Call Jun on 01223 813362.

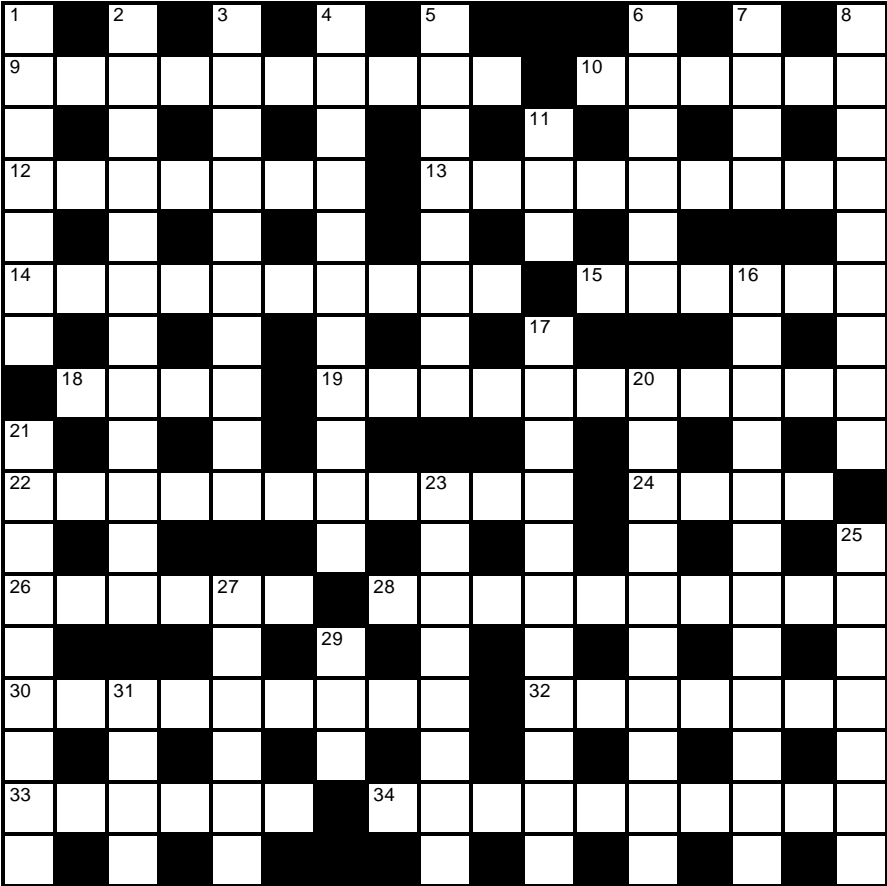
Crossword Number 64

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

Compiled by

**OUNCE**

This month’s puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18 September 2009. 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

- 9 Ages after little Henry is swallowed by humped beast, lizards appear (10)
- 10 Hot sausage found in waste disposal amid shredded greens (6)
- 12 Lawless youths, nastiness climaxing, horribly executed Daniel at first; killed illegally (7)
- 13 Putrid Ron wavering there and back (5-4)
- 14 Naive legumes? (5,5)
- 15 Fashionable company compiler put together for salary (6)
- 18 And fours for golf wear (4)
- 19 Hygiene close to divinity? (11)
- 22 Edgar licked cooked drop-scone (11)
- 24 Have a poor return? Finally, how to get 15A (4)
- 26 Monkey - blood relative? (6)
- 28 Continental relative? Tough advisor (5,5)
- 30 Embraced by Slav and Ali smearing graffiti on walls? (9)
- 32 Silica mix surrounds Muslim leader, following Qu'ran (7)
- 33 Dainty daughter with shilling for woollen suit (6)
- 34 Guts partly needed for exam in repeated directions (10)

## Down

- 1 Most leave cosmetology and go off to environmental study (7)

We congratulate Bill and Norma Paterson, the winners of last month's competition, who should collect their prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Bob and Julie Nunn.

- 2 Eliminate roe transported to French department (5-2-5)
- 3 Automated newspaperman follows me with tangled chains (10)
- 4 Principal death race he wrecked (11)
- 5 Bewitch door (8)
- 6 Plot in sugar Dennis sprinkled around (6)
- 7 Average bazaar? Just (4)
- 8 Dissatisfy Dale; spies flounder (9)
- 11 Strange drink (3)
- 16 Ornament Dick moved. Due to obsession? (3-5,4)
- 17 Pun deceiver worked out undetected (11)
- 20 Not 7D-ness, Ian quietly deployed (10)
- 21 Exacerbate egg avatar scrambled (9)
- 23 Masonry support enveloped Erica but men tumbled down (8)
- 25 Lunatic gynaecologists lose gosling as pot warmer (3-4)
- 27 Hug and a kiss in African destination (6)
- 29 Postcode, quick! (3)
- 31 Holiday as passed test, we hear? (4)

## Solution to crossword no. 63

H	I	G	H	S	E	A	S		E	J	E	C	T	S
I		O		E		L		B		A		U		I
C	O	R	A	L		L	A	U	N	C	H	P	A	D
C		B		F		T		Y		K		I		E
U	N	A	N	I	M	O	U	S		O	R	D	E	R
P		C		M		L		U		F				O
		S	H	A	P	E	D			P	I	A	N	O
S		E		O						L		R		D
C	O	V	E	R	E	D			S	O	L	A	C	E
H						T		U		O		T		A
M	E	C	C	A				B	O	Y	F	R	I	E
A		R		N				B		A		S		O
L	E	A	S	T	W	I	S	E		D	E	T	E	R
T		M		L		N		A		E		R		E
Z	E	P	H	Y	R			I	N	K	S	T	A	N



## Moveable Feast

THIS YEAR'S moveable feast is to be held on Saturday 19th September, 7.00pm start, and is as you know, for those of you who have been before, an event not to be missed.... three courses in three different places - sounds like madness but you have to be there. Venues yet to be confirmed but will of course, as in previous years, be spectacular!

If you haven't participated before make this year your first - there will be excellent food and warm hospitality to be had at each and every course - nothing scary I promise. Numbers are of course restricted and so it is on a first come first served basis and newcomers to the village are especially welcome. It is a wonderful way of meeting other village folk in relaxed and convivial surroundings.

Proceeds to St. Mary's Church, it is really good fun, where else do you get three courses, wine, exceptional company and all for £17.50 a head??

Waiting by the 'phone for your call to book a place!

**Janet Willmott**

01638 743472 / 07833 960678

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## BOTTISHAM PLAYERS UPDATE

Hello to you all from the Bottisham Players. Our May production *It's on, It's off* seems a distant spell away now. As part of this play I am still recovering from having to run round the sofa several times chased by sister.

*It's on, It's Off* saw Margaret Coles in her first full length principal role, and well done Margaret you did a fantastic job, along with Graham Radford & other members of the players in supporting roles. Val Quy was superb, keeping up her Australian accent & being sloshed for the whole play.

We hope you enjoyed this production & look forward to seeing you at the next one.

If you are interested in joining the Bottisham Players please visit our website to find out more [www.bottishamplayers.org.uk](http://www.bottishamplayers.org.uk). You do not have to be a performer; you may be interested in helping out back stage, front of house or with set construction.

**Dates for your diary, put it on the calendar now folks, our next production is a comedy called Party Piece by Richard Harris. This is to be directed by Rosemary Jolley who has put together a fantastic cast. The dates for this production are October 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> / 17<sup>th</sup> 2009. More on this next month.**

If you would like to advertise in our programmes please contact the publicity officer who can arrange this for you & discuss competitive rates.

**Alistair White**  
Publicity Officer



## VILLAGE GARDENERS

This summer we have enjoyed visits to three contrasting gardens.

The first on a sunny day in mid June, was to RHS Hyde Hall Gardens. In the old established garden as well as in the new developments, there was a lot to see but for me, two areas were outstanding. The Rose Garden, its formal beds and rope walk set in immaculate lawns, was a picture, full of flower and heavy with scent. Then a few steps away in the Dry Garden we entered another world. The planting is full of variety and colour but there are no lawns here. The sloping gravel paths wind through the garden, the plants tumbling informally over boulders and scree.

When we left Hyde Hall most of us still had unfinished business but three hours in the hot sun had been long enough for most.

Two weeks later we were in Lower End as guests of Judi and Mike Churcher. Theirs is a very young garden but developing apace. As we entered and looked down its length the evening sun was back-lighting the varied planting with very romantic effect. The garden has many original features but perhaps the most striking is the “flowery mead” where, with the help of an annual mulch, bold swathes of flowering plants and grasses are left to do their own thing. It’s easy to see why the garden was recently recruited to the NGS.

Our third was an evening visit to Trinity College gardens in July, where we were guided by George Thorpe, the Head Gardener. As well as viewing the magnificent formal gardens of the College, we also walked through corners among the buildings where the unusual microclimate allows specimen palms, banana and Dicksonia to grow.

The next meeting will see the start of the indoor programme on 20<sup>th</sup> October.

***Roger Connan***

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## LET'S DANCE

Come and join us dancing on Saturday evenings in the Main Hall at Bottisham Village College. We will have music for Ballroom, Latin American and popular Sequence dancing.

Dates: 5<sup>th</sup> September. 3<sup>th</sup> October, 7<sup>st</sup> November and 5<sup>th</sup> December.

Time: 7.30pm to 10.30pm.

The cost is £5 per person which includes interval tea/coffee. You are welcome to bring along your own refreshments.

For further information please contact: Frank and Sue Hancocks, 01638 741159



## John Norris Remembers: Searching the Records

The village charities set up many years ago, in the eighteen hundreds, have been managed by trustees appointed by the several village organisations. The Vicar is ex-officio, the Parish Council appoint three, and the County Council one. This group is responsible for the management of the properties owned by the charities, and to distribute any surplus monies to those in need.

When I was first appointed we, the charities, owned several properties in the village, now all pulled down. They were used especially for elderly women as retire homes, we poor men were expected to have passed away long before our devoted spouses.! There were four houses down the lane to Hall Farm, two at the corner of Rogers Road, and six at the Beeches. Sadly all gone.

These cottages were quite a draw on the finances, as they always seemed to be needing attention. But to-day all our assets are in land and thus require little running attention.

At our last half- yearly meeting we decided that the land should be registered with the Land Registry, to secure our ownership for the future. This has been quite a task, as there are no title deeds, and very little evidence of past transactions. The first document to help start this search is the Terrier. This is a record of the fields and their O.S. numbers compiled in 1803, and amended in 1904, together with a copy of the Ordnance Survey Map of the whole parish of Swaffham Prior. I have a quarter scale copy of this map and it shows the charity land as Swaffham Town.

Armed with all this information it was not too difficult to identify the various plots of real estate, until we noticed that there appeared to be one field missing. We have been collecting the rents for many years, but without reference to the Terrier, we all knew where the fields were, and who was the tenant. But because the terrier is part of the land registry requirements this anomaly turned up. The field in question was easily identified from my map, but who owns it now ,and from when?

I thought the Records Office in Cambridge should be the first point of call, as I had deposited all the surplus records there some ten years ago. We made arrangements to visit Shire Hall to search our records. The clerk and I had out all the documents they possessed, but they were very trivial, consisting of old cheques.( in impeccable writing, some dating back fifty years),and repair bills, but no minute books After drawing a blank there, I thought a visit to a former clerk would be helpful, which it was. Eric Day suggested we look for the last minute book, which was very tired; the covers having been lost a long time ago, but was complete as far as the records went.

Thankfully several of these volumes were found in a plastic bag stacked away carefully in an attic, not being of immediate use, but perhaps containing information useful in the future. A carefull; search was made through this old minute book, and low and behold, a record was found dated 1952 where a certain Mr Worrell had made an offer of £250 for the Ten Acre field. This was refused as being miserly, but an offer of £300 would be acceptable!

The problem solved, but the terrier remained unaltered. We shall bring our records up to date and proceed to register our assets. But more difficulties emerged as the ordnance numbers were so out of date, that I had to find copies of both the 1904, and the latest edition of the parish map to satisfy the registry that we did indeed own these properties, as the terrier is our best evidence of ownership.

This is as far as we have got at present, but I hope in the not too distant future to report success.. As a related subject, the spending of our income is I believe a little erratic, in that most of it goes in the Christmas handout. ... I have noticed recently how difficult shopping is for the elderly, and we could provide a mini bus service, specially for those who can walk about , but find the bus stop too far from their homes to carry the groceries. but not both! I have not costed this or even spoken about it to anyone, but through these columns if there is a need then it could be considered. It is done elsewhere, and does provide a helpful social way of doing the shopping.

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# THE HARVEST SHOW

## HARVEST TIME IS IN SEPTEMBER

### ON SATURDAY THE 12<sup>TH</sup>

THERE IS NO ENTRY FEE, you can enter as many classes as you like, and you do not have to live in the village to exhibit or join us for the show. There are no prizes (except for the children's class) but the prestige of showing your vegetables, fruits, flowers, jams and pickles, your cakes, bread, scones and 'vintage' wines in a friendly , yet competitive spirit is rewarding and **fun**.

It's all great fun so do come along and join the grand gathering of the village at Harvest Time.

With no September *Crier* the list and entry forms are not included in the magazine. Nearer the time we will give a list to all those who entered last year and to others we think may be interested.

**PLEASE PUT SATURDAY 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER IN  
YOUR DIARY**

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## Swaffham Prior Book Club

I've had a call from the library. Somebody hasn't returned their book - in fact **FOUR** somebodies! Three copies of "A 1000 Splendid Suns", and one of Edna O'Brien's "In the Forest" (which was ages ago!) are outstanding. Please check your shelves and return them or I'll have to go into hiding.

*Brenda Wilson*

*We had the 3000 Splendid Suns. Anyone got In the Forest? Eds*

## **News from the Fen**

IT WAS GREAT TO SEE PUPILS FROM SWAFFHAM PRIOR PRIMARY SCHOOL AT THE FEN IN EARLY JULY. The children enjoyed a range of activities throughout the day and although the weather could have been better they all appeared to enjoy themselves.

The Wicken Fen Dragonfly Centre and garden was opened by TV Naturalist and Wicken Fen Patron, Chris Packham on Sunday 26 July. The centre will be open at weekends during the summer and houses a range of displays on these unique and colourful insects. Knowledgeable enthusiasts will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. Development of the centre which is a joint initiative between the Trust, the British Dragonfly Society and the Dragonfly Project and has been assisted by a grant from the Rural Development Programme for England, a programme supported by the European Union and Department for the Environment and Rural Affairs and administered in Cambridgeshire and West Norfolk by the Fens Adventurers Local Action Group. We would also like to acknowledge the support of the Environment Agency and Anglian Water who have also contributed to the centre. Wicken Fen is one of the best places in East Anglia to see Dragonfly's with 21 species regularly seen on the Fen. Although there is a healthy dragonfly population at Wicken Fen, the loss of wetland habitat throughout Great Britain is having a major effect on the long term survival of many species, with a third of the 40 species regularly found in Britain under threat of extinction.

Development of the Wicken Fen Spine Route linking Wicken Fen to Anglesey Abbey continues. A planning application has recently been submitted to East Cambridgeshire District Council for the construction of a crossing over Reach Lode and cycleway across Burwell Fen. Once constructed the Reach Lode crossing will provide direct access for cyclists between Wicken and Anglesey with onward connections to Cambridge and Ely. The surface of the cycleway across Guinea Hall Fen, Nr Wicken has also been upgraded in recent weeks.

The summer holidays are here and this is the perfect time to head out to the countryside for a great family day out. If you are feeling artistic head to White Fen, near Lode on Tuesday 18 August where will be creating a series of large wildlife sculptures using natural materials such as willow, straw and mud! The fun starts at 1100 ... be prepared to get dirty.

A great way to get some healthy exercise whilst enjoying the beauty of Wicken Fen is to try the new sport of stand-up paddle boarding. Every Wednesday morning during the school holidays we will be running introductory paddle boarding sessions along Wicken Lode. Instruction and buoyancy aids will be provided. The Paddleboarding sessions are being run by the locally based Fen Paddle Company, and are a great example of the opportunities for local enterprise that will be created as the Wicken Fen Vision develops. If paddleboarding is a little to energetic for your liking, we will be running family boat trips on our traditional fen-lighter every Thursday, during the holidays. Making greater use of the local waterways has frequently been mentioned in our consultations in and around the Vision area.



We are also holding a host of fun activities at Wicken Fen throughout the summer. Use the Wicken treasure map to find a hidden fortune on **Fen Pirates Go Wild** (4-12 yrs) on Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> and Fri 21<sup>st</sup>, enjoy pony arts, crafts and quizzes at our **Pony Party** (4-12yrs) Wed 5<sup>th</sup>, learn to read the clues to see what's living in your garden on **Wildlife Detectives** (6-12 yrs) Fri 7<sup>th</sup>, find out about the insects which fly and crawl through the fen on **Bugs and Butterflies** (4-12yrs) Mon 10<sup>th</sup>, bring your favourite teddy for stories, craft and furry fun at our **Teddy Bears Picnic** (2-8 yrs) Wed 12<sup>th</sup>, complete our challenges, solve the riddles and crack the hidden codes on **Wicken Warriors** (6-12yrs) Fri 14<sup>th</sup>, try pond dipping and other watery activities on **Pond Pandemonium** Wed 19<sup>th</sup>, take inspiration from the natural world to create a masterpiece **Wild Art** (3-12 yrs) 26<sup>th</sup> and try **Minibeast Hunting for All** (12.30 - 3.30pm) Fri 28<sup>th</sup>. Activities start at 10.30 am and 2pm, advance booking is recommend as space is limited – please contact the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274 for further information and bookings.

Why not go wild and have a great day out at Wicken Fen this summer!

*Howard Cooper*



**FEEL GOOD!**  
BE PART OF THE WORLD'S  
**BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING**

WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT

BRING AND BUY  
LAKE STALL

RAFFLE

**Event Details**

**COFFEE MORNING**

**Ruth Scovil's house**  
**The Oaks, Manor Farm Court**  
**Lower End, Swaffham Prior**  
**Friday: 10.30 am - 12.00 noon**  
**25th September 2009**

**World's Biggest Coffee Morning**  
Every cup will help improve the lives of people living with cancer.

# Notes from the Parish Council Meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> July 2009

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

**Approval of Minutes - Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> June 2009:** These were agreed.

## **Reports:**

**CCC:** Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting.

**ECDC:** Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting.

## **Correspondence Received:**

### **CCC**

Karen Whymark – Rights of Way & PC Officer- P3 Grants 2009/10

### **ECDC**

Neighbourhood Panel Newsletter/details of next meetings.

Rachel Doyle – Community Litter Picking Live

## **General**

RoSPA – Play Area Inspection Report

Carillion WSP – A14 Junction (Newmarket) to Junction 36 (Six Mile Bottom):  
Repair Works

COPE – Newsletter No 56

School Summer Newsletter

Cambridgeshire ACRE – News Digest

**Approval of Application for Jointly Funded Minor Highways Improvements – 2010/11 Bidding Round:** An application was to be submitted for the following:

*“Ongoing Pedestrian Safety/Speeding Issues – B1102, Mill Hill, Swaffham Prior – enhancement of traffic calming measures already in place plus the lowering of the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph.”*

As part of the application, the contribution of £1 per elector towards the cost of the work was agreed.

**Village Bonfires:** The lighting of bonfires at inappropriate times and without taking neighbouring properties into consideration had been raised with the Parish Council. Although there is no strict regulation about bonfires, it was agreed that there are a number of ways to recycle garden waste and that the use of bonfires should be strongly discouraged particularly where there are nearby properties.

**The use of Bird Scarers:** As with the above, this was raised with the Parish Council. This was considered to be a seasonal issue and although it was agreed that bird scarers can sometimes go off at the wrong time, this was often an error with the timer and once made aware local Farmers were usually very helpful in rectifying any problem.

**Maintenance work to Village Hall Driveway:** Eric Day was to meet with a Team Leader from the Richmond Fellowship (a registered charity – for further info, please see [www.richmondfellowship.org.uk](http://www.richmondfellowship.org.uk)) to agree the cutting back work on the



driveway and possibly the outside edges of the car park.

**Problem of Dog Fouling and Purchase of Dog Bins:** As reported in last month's report, the purchase of dog bins was considered but it had been brought to the PC's attention that at a recent Neighbourhood Panel Meeting the high cost of purchasing dog bins was discussed with a view to looking at ways of reducing the cost to smaller parishes. In light of this it was agreed to delay any purchase until the outcome of the foregoing was known.

**Maintenance for The Pound, Cage Hill:** As advised by Rosie Burton, ECDC's Conservation Officer, a Structural Engineer was asked to visit the site and report on the condition of the surrounding wall. A copy of the report was to be sent to Rosie Burton for her consideration. An application for grant funding towards the remedial work was also to be submitted.

**Planning Applications Received including:**

Land adjacent to Water Tower, Mill Hill – *revisions to planning consent 07/01226/RMA, changes of dwelling types and minor alterations to site layout – Ref: 09/00449/RMA*). There were no objections but the Clerk was asked to confirm with ECDC Planning that closeboard fencing would be erected on boundaries as originally agreed to allow privacy for neighbouring properties.

**Accounts for Payment:** These were agreed.

**Clerk's Report:**

Village seats are in need of refurbishment.

Noticeboard in the bus shelter was looking very untidy with graffiti on the back board. *Steve Kent-Phillips agreed to look at this to see what could be done.*

*The Pound:* In addition to the work discussed above, general items were noted - the sign on the side of the Pound had come loose and needed refixing and the inner area needed weeding and tidying.

**Parish Councillors' Reports:**

Steve Kent-Phillips told meeting he had repaired 'anti-poop' strips on the swings in play area.

**Open Question Time:**

It was suggested that the refurbishment of the village seats be carried out by a working party and helpers.

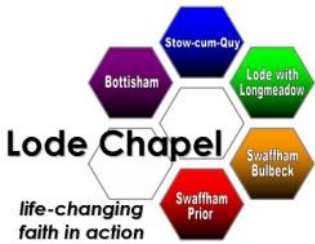
**There will be no August meeting unless called.**

**The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2009 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](mailto:karen.king5@bopenworld.com)**



## Sick and Tired?

I wonder if it possible to gauge the health of our society by looking into the eyes of its leaders? What do I mean? Well, I recently read an article which drew attention to Tony Blair's expression of 'wide-eyed optimism', noting that perhaps this summed up the feelings of the nation when he was elected in 1997.

On the hand, the article pointed out, people are now commenting on the bags that seem to have appeared around Gordon Brown's eyes. The suggestion, which wasn't party political in any way, was just that collectively the nation might also be feeling rather tired.

Indeed, the recession has increased the pressures upon many of us. Whether we are living in fear of losing our job or going into debt, anxious about the value of our home or our pension, or just working longer hours in order to bring in the same amount of money, the burdens can sometimes be a bit overwhelming. It is likely, however, that our exhaustion isn't just physical – perhaps our soul is tired too. I'm pretty sure the two are linked. When hope is removed, when the light at the end of the tunnel becomes much less bright, the energy and motivation that we need to keep on going seems to ebb away too.

The summer holiday (if we're fortunate enough to be able to afford one this year) may help by giving us a few weeks away from it all where we can forget about things, but we all know that after a couple of days back at work that wonderful vacation seems like a distant memory. Perhaps that's because we're only treating half of the problem – we might feel physically refreshed, but have you thought about also finding some refreshment for your soul?

As a Baptist minister you won't be surprised at me suggesting that paying attention to the spiritual side of life can help you – but many scientists agree with me. A number of studies agree on the fact that believers have a higher level of "life satisfaction" and are more able cope with life's challenges, such as job loss or divorce. The research shows that this isn't just due to a hope of life after death, but that faith actually gives us an increased sense of purpose in the here and now.

I don't want to suggest, however, that anything 'religious' is good for you – some religions (including, I'm sad to admit, some churches) seem to add to the pressures of life, rather than trying to relieve them. But when Christian communities are at their best, they can be a source of love, hope and joy, helping people to find meaning, purpose and value, even in the midst of the most difficult of times. Jesus doesn't promise us an easy life, but he does invite those whose hearts are weary to "Come to me... and find rest for your souls" (Matthew 11:28-29). My prayer for Lode Chapel is that we might be like Jesus – offering a spiritual oasis to our community, a place where tired souls can come and be refreshed.

**Simon Goddard**

*[Note: Please contact me if you would like a reference for the research I refer to in this article]*

We welcome you to any of our services or other midweek activities.  
In August we offer a family friendly service at Lode Chapel  
every Sunday at 10.30am.

**For more information please contact:** Rev. Simon Goddard.

**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)

## Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

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

## FREECYCLE

If you have any offers or wants, please contact me by the  
14<sup>th</sup> of each month on [jun.thompson@tiscali.co.uk](mailto: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. Should you be unsuccessful,  
please try your offers/wants on <http://freebiefreakz.org> or [http://groups.yahoo.com/  
group/cambridgefreecycle/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cambridgefreecycle/)



### Offers

- Small green chair (old nursing chair?). Sophie 01223 813063
- Young male chicken. His mates have made it clear he is not wanted, so it's either a new home or the pot! Sally 01223 813972 or [sallystorr@hotmail.com](mailto:sallystorr@hotmail.com)



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Lime Hawk-moths in the School Playground. These moths cannot be seen drinking nectar by day because they don't feed: they get all their sustenance as caterpillars and spend their adult life searching for a mate. This one seems to have found his.

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Dear Friends,

Over the six years that Pauline and I have served our five villages we have been very struck by the strong sense of community spirit that we have encountered within them. It was the desire to rediscover that strong sense of community spirit which prompted us to seek to return to rural ministry.



Community spirit is even more essential than ever in today's world, where we can often find ourselves in an environment where we are isolated from true face to face human contact, despite being in regular communication with scores of individuals on an electronic basis. Our world is becoming increasingly dehumanised, and yet human beings are essentially social creatures. That is why community activities are so important for us.

God created us to share together in community in order that we might support and encourage each other on our journey of life. God values and understands community so much because he is a community in himself – the Holy Trinity. The Russian Orthodox Church has an Icon that depicts the Holy Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It portrays three heavenly beings gathered around a table sharing a meal together. Sharing a meal has been, and always will be, a perfect example of togetherness and fellowship. The Icon, is laid out in such a way that there appears to be a fourth place set at the table, and the figures are so positioned that the person viewing the Icon is the one being invited to take that fourth place. The clear message

of the Icon is that God invites us to join him, in order that we too can share in all the joys and blessings that flow from the sense of community that he himself values and experiences.

There is a story of a king who had a son to whom he gave a yearly allowance, paying him the entire sum on the fixed date. It soon happened that the day on which the allowance was due was the only day of the year when the father ever saw his son. So the king changed his plan and gave his son each day that which was sufficient for the day; and then the son visited his father every morning. In this way the son discovered just how much he needed his father's unbroken love, companionship, wisdom and giving! That story is a lovely illustration of the kind of close loving relationship that God seeks to have with us. In rural communities we can understand more clearly that kind of relationship because we can encounter something like it in our everyday human lives. God is a community of love, and he wants so much for us to be part of his community

	<b>ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior</b>
<b>Sun 2</b>	<b>11:00am</b> Family Communion
<b>Sun 9</b>	<b>11:00am</b> Holy Communion
<b>Sun 18</b>	<b>8:00am</b> Holy Communion <b>11:00am</b> Family Service
<b>Sun 23</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Matins
<b>Sun 30</b>	<b>6.30pm</b> Evensong BCP

and to receive from him that which is sufficient for the day.

I believe that our village Churches should stand out as places where God's community spirit is most strongly felt and experienced, and you can be assured that Pauline and I will be working hard to help and encourage our five Churches to be just that. May God bless you all.

*David*



# HARVEST SUPPER

**Saturday, 17 October,  
starting at 6 PM  
In Swaffham Prior Village Hall**

**Food and entertainment included in ticket price  
£7 per adult, £6 concessions (OAPs/under 16s),  
£4 children under 11**

**Bar, Charity Raffle and Art Auction**

Don't miss your chance to buy tickets for this ever-popular annual event. The organizing team has planned a delicious repast, featuring local produce, and luxurious puddings. This will be followed by family friendly entertainment. All ages are welcome; an early start time has been set with families in mind. Wine and soft drinks will be on sale. There will be a raffle with superior prizes, and an original art piece by a local artist will be auctioned. Vegetarians gladly catered for. Newcomers to the village are especially welcome.

*Tickets available from  
Dee Noyes 743864  
from 27 September*

## ***Dates for Your Diary*** September 2009

Sat	5	Let's Dance, 7pm, BVC
Thu	10	PC Meeting, 7.30pm, VH
Sat	12	Harvest Show, 2pm Village Hall
Fri	18	Crier Copydate
Sat	19	Moveable Feast, 7pm
Fri	25	Macmillan Coffee Morning, The Oaks, Manor Farm Court, 10.30-12 noon.

<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	Jessica Shakeshaft	744266	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	Tim Doe	743656	Weds (term)	6:15-7:45pm	Village School
Village Gardeners	Margaret Joyce	744390	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues of month	8:00pm	Village Hall
WI	Pat Cook	742224	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***