



# The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXIII Number 4

March 2009



## Editorial

Many apologies for the very late arrival of this month's copy - but with James seriously ill in hospital and Caroline also ill and having to spend most of her time at the hospital it is not surprising that she has not been able to meet the deadline. From all our readers we wish a speedy recovery to our Editors who do a fantastic job every month on our behalf.

The advertising team have volunteered to help out and put the final pages in place. Please bear with us if things are not quite as usual. No attempt to provide a witty editorial but there is so much of interest in the following pages that you will not have time to worry about that.

Hopefully things will be back to normal next month. Spring will be here, the clocks will be forward one hour and we will be stockpiling our Easter eggs.

Happy Days ! Pat & Peter Cook



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**Cover Picture:** *Where have all the hares gone?* by John Wight



## Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

### **Easter Lilies**

As many of you will know we decorate our village church with lilies at Easter time. We are able to have plenty because so many of you are kind enough to make a donation towards them in memory of a loved one. Once again we will be arranging the flowers that you have enabled us to buy. Details of how and where to make your contribution are included elsewhere in the Crier under the heading 'Easter Lilies'.

I look forward to seeing the church decorated with lots of lilies at Easter time.

***Ruth Scovil***

Dear Editors,

### **Action for Children**

Once again the residents of Tothill Road have given generously to the house to house collection I recently did. A total of £25.41 was raised which has been forwarded to 'Action for Children' formally known as National Children's Home. Their contribution last year helped raise nearly £400,000 and is vital in helping the organisation reach out to the UK's most vulnerable children, young people and their families.

If you would like to organise a house to house collection next year please ring me on 01638742945 or ring direct to the Supporter Care team on 08457 626579 (9am-5pm Monday to Friday)

Thanks once again to Tothill Road residents for the support. Its only with your help that vulnerable children can be given the chance of a brighter future.

***Mary Cook***  
25 Tothill Road.

Dear Editors

### **The Gentle Touch**

The Hockey Report asked whether the "presence of the girls" made the last hockey match the cleanest ever. Of course it did.

Would the presence of more women on the boards of major banks have prevented the financial crisis? Of course it would.

Would women bishops help? Of course.

Was the BBC biased when it dumped Carol Thatcher and just ticked off the Ross and Clarkson boys? Of course it was.

Fortunately, we now have many promising women politicians. How refreshing to hear the calm sensible comments from Jacqui Smith, Hazel Blears, Harriet Harman, Yvette Cooper, Beverley Hughes, Caroline Flint, Tessa Jowell and many of their younger sisters.

Long may this advance continue.

***Annie***

# Emilia appeal

TEN-YEAR-OLD EMILIA HUBBARD and her family are appealing for bone marrow donors to come forward — and will host a special clinic in the village to help raise numbers.

Emilia has a rare blood disorder and needs a bone marrow transplant, but her medical team at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge has yet to find her a matched donor.

Her parents, Ann and Phil Hubbard and sister, Alice, of Lower End, have been raising awareness of the UK bone marrow registers — the Anthony Nolan Trust and the British Bone Marrow Registry, which is run by the National Blood Service.

They will host a local Anthony Nolan Trust donor clinic in the village where anyone aged 18-40 years can simply call in and register. There's no need to book — please just turn up:



**Swaffham Prior Village Hall**

**Tuesday, March 31st**

**6pm — 8.30pm**

An Anthony Nolan Trust adviser will answer any of your questions and help you fill in a form. A nurse will be on hand to take a small blood sample and enable you to join the register. It's as simple as that. The more people on the register, the greater the chance of finding a match for Emilia. What a precious gift that would be.

If you are older than 40 you can still help — the National Blood Service accepts bone marrow donors up to the age 50. You can register at any local blood donor session (it is advisable to make an appointment first). Call 0845 7 711 711 or visit [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk)

## Baby and Toddlers Award

Congratulations to Swaffham Prior Baby and Toddler group, who have just won a grant - *The Community Chest* from *Sure Start* (part of Cambridgeshire County Council) to purchase more toys and accessories for the group. This friendly group meets on Fridays at the Village Hall from 9.30-11.30 (see back page for details), and visitors and new members are always welcome.

## From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

IT WAS A GREAT MEETING . IT HAD EVERYTHING. IT REPRESENTED THE GREAT TAPESTRY OF HUMAN RICHNESS.

But first let's deal with the Factual. Hazel Williams packed her report with information. The Central Library in Cambridge is to open in May (they will have to hurry because it still has the desolate appearance of one of the few surviving buildings in Gaza); Park and Ride has hit the 4 million mark of passengers though if you buy your ticket on the bus it is now going to cost 30 pence more than buying it from the ticket machine; CABs, which had had its budget cut not so many months ago, is having increased funding as those losing jobs and houses are being directed CAB's way; and it seems the CCC budget discussions were endless and tortuous. In contrast we were told that when Geoffrey attended his first budget meeting in 1974 it only took 45 minutes – and Geoffrey admitted speaking several times. Room for thought there?



In Allen's report on ECDC affairs we were told that the Maltings will reopen in March, that the reduction in interest rates is losing ECDC one million pounds, and to save money all the reserves have been used to pay off the ECDC debt, making it a debt-free council. There had been a request from many motorists that there should be gritting on Heath Road Bulbeck as more and more drivers are using this route to avoid the traffic hold up at Quy. This Quy hold up is like one of those boils which are just fine unless you scratch it. The scratching in this case occurs every time you drive through Quy.

The person who perpetrated this horror ought to drive through it, and back, everyday with a feisty seventeen year old daughter as passenger. One can imagine the conversation. "Daddy, did you really do this?"; "Daddy did you ask the people in Quy?"; Daddy, I see another arrow sign has been knocked down"; "Daddy, are you proud of this?"; "Daddy, they look as they have been waiting for a very long time"; Daddy, how much did this cost?"; Daddy, do you think you have made a mistake?". And so on. Such a daily barrage would probably make him drive an alternative route. But would he recognize his error? All some of the people in Quy wanted was a 30mph restriction and this is what they (AND US) got.

In the general correspondence there were two letters from people living down the fen who had suffered a quite horrendous experience. And they came to the PC for help. Three PC members thought they would have to declare an interest because they lived in the area and may be affected. They even wondered if they should leave the room if there was a vote. Hazel Williams said this was only necessary if they had a "pecuniary" interest. Ho, Ho, why wasn't this pointed out when the PC was told a year ago that they had to declare all interests at the start of every meeting. Even though this is such a simple point the confusion has existed ever since it was introduced. Mind you it is not as bad as the total confusion about MPs' allowable expenses – let alone those of the Speaker. On the other hand Hazel's explanation regarding only pecuniary interests does leave a possible doubtful area. Suppose, during a discussion about traffic, someone on the PC advocated that the double

yellow lines outside their house should be left but that those outside all the neighbours should be removed. Should any declaration of interest be invoked even though there is no pecuniary gain?

This very serious problem down the fen occurred because the Environment Agency has done a magnificent job in tidying so much of the area and making accessible the tops of the flood defence banks. Unfortunately one result is that motor bikes, cars, and 4x4s now have access and are beginning to use it even though it is designated as a footpath only. The vehicle involved in one of the very nasty reported incidents was a **silver Isuzu Trooper 4x4, registration K116 CNB**. So what can the PC do? Having already discussed it with CCC (who have no money for gates), the PC followed David Almond's advice and will be approaching the Environment Agency to erect one locked gate to prevent illegal vehicles passing through, and also kissing gates for walkers. Fortunately John Covill just happens to have four kissing gates in his garden (as one does) awaiting to be erected somewhere. The PC realised this would inconvenience horse riders (one of whom is our chairman) but considered it was undoubtedly the better of two evils. How impressive our PC was. They did what any PC should do – dealt with it immediately and efficiently.

The other lively discussion concerned the proposed sign at the top of Station Road pointing the way to the football ground. Burwell Tigers, like many other sane people, thought an additional small sign could be attached to the lamppost under the large Upware sign. Not a bit of it. It seems one **has to have** Upware and Football Ground on the same sign. I don't know the exact wording but Geoffrey read out this regulation with some approval. The PC decided to ask for the smaller size letters (there is a choice). Geoffrey however wanted them to be as large as permissible because he maintained that his friends and relatives are "stupid" and "daft". He said this not once but many times and regretted that so few of his friends were able to find their way to Upware. There was much hilarious banter and the new sign will be erected in due course with the £175 cost being shared.

The rest of the meeting went smoothly. The annual subscription for the Wildlife Trust came up for renewal and the PC wondered why they subscribed, and thought in future all subscription should be carefully reviewed. A case was made for renewing it and Eric hoped that the Wildlife Trust wasn't looking after pheasants and woodpigeons as all the tops of his forty leeks had been bitten off.

In her report Karen mentioned a letter concerning the state of the path down Station Road after the hedge had been trimmed. There had been no attempt to collect up the branches and thorns and it was impossible to walk on the pathway. Another letter complained about the condition of the hedge alongside the footpath at the back of the school. A letter will be sent to the one owner who is responsible for both hedges. The Chairman, our illegal litter specialist, noted that some rubbish had been dumped on the road to Reach and saw this as a continuing hazard. John Jordan wondered if the £80 spent on the Speed Watch Scheme would have been better spent on litter control. He has a point.

*Alastair Everitt*

# Village Hall Takeover

SWAFFHAM PRIOR VILLAGE IS AN ABSOLUTE STAR AT THE MOMENT. Last Autumn there was a call for volunteers to take over some of the important parts of running the Village Hall. The result has been heart-warming. After the last Village Hall meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February everything now appears to be in place for a seamless takeover.

As from the 1<sup>st</sup> April Elisabeth Everitt will no longer be Bookings Clerk and Assistant Treasurer.

Please note this. From 1<sup>st</sup> April (this is no April Fool's Day message) you must contact the following:-

## **Booking Clerk and Key Controller**

This will be Mary Charlesworth of Manor Cottage on Mill Hill who will share the responsibility with her husband Mike. Telephone number 744575 and email [marycharlesworth@waitrose.com](mailto:marycharlesworth@waitrose.com).

Both have had invaluable experience in running Quy Village Hall. We can only benefit.

## **Assistant Treasurer**

This will be Chris Carrington (wife of our current Treasurer Mike Carrington) of 2 Heath Road, Swaffham Prior. Telephone number 741659 and email [chrisc@swaffham-prior.co.uk](mailto:chrisc@swaffham-prior.co.uk).



## Easter Lilies

EACH YEAR we have had lilies in St Mary's Church at Easter time and, recently, many people have contributed to these in memory of a loved one.

Donations can be made anonymously or with your name and the name of your loved one. A list will then be compiled and placed in church for Easter Sunday. As a guide, the Easter lilies cost £2.50 per stem last year. All contributions will be very welcome and will enable us to have a beautiful display.

If you would like to make a donation, please put it through Sue Rust's door at 23 Greenhead Rd, or Ruth Scovill's door at the Oaks, Manor Farm Court, Lower End (the letterbox is in the door at the back of the house!). Please include the name of your loved one and your own, unless, of course, you wish to make your gift anonymously.

*Ruth Scovill*

# Spuds in Buckets 2009

**14 March – 12 September**

OVER 100 PEOPLE of all ages took part in the first village “Spuds in Buckets” competition last year. The winner of the adult section – Andy Pumfrey – grew 2.782kg of potatoes from a single seed potato in his bucket, and Rhiannon Jordan took the children’s prize with 0.368kg of potatoes. Successful growers got to keep and eat their delicious potatoes, and the winners got a full Sunday roast or Saturday night supper to go with their spuds.



*Andy Pumfrey’s 2008 Winning yield — can you beat it?*

By popular demand we are running this competition again starting on Saturday 14 March. For a payment of just £5 a family or individual or group (Cubs, Youth Club?) will receive a bucket and seed potatoes. Can you beat Andy’s yield? Will the weather be kinder to us this year? Can you grow more potatoes than your neighbours? Will children do better than their parents?

Don’t miss out on Swaffham Prior’s great spud growing challenge! All proceeds go to the Maryloo Project, to provide toilet facilities for St Mary’s Church.

To order a bucket, please contact Dee Noyes:

**Telephone – 743864; Email – [noveshome@swaffham-prior.co.uk](mailto:noveshome@swaffham-prior.co.uk); Post – 1 Mill Hill, Swaffham Prior**

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## ART AND THE FESTIVAL

To accompany the display on the history of the church of St. Cyriac we are holding a related Art Exhibition to reflect people’s thoughts and feelings about the interior, the exterior, the surrounding churchyard, and views from the churchyard. It will, we hope, represent what this wonderful building means to people today.

If you enjoy painting, drawing, writing or photography please think about submitting something on the broad theme of St Cyriac’s Church. There will be a hanging committee, generally contributions will be restricted to two works per person, and the invitation is open to every body from school children to professionals. Contributions may be offered for sale (in which case we would take a 20% commission) or just for show if you have a favourite painting or print at home which you are prepared to display.

Please help if you can to celebrate St. Cyriac’s and its surroundings in paint or pencil or poetry. Variety and a personal angle are the order of the day.

To register your interest and to discover more details please contact Elisabeth Everitt on 01638 742974.

# THE FESTIVAL OF 2009



ON SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY, to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Churches Conservation Trust, the bells of St. Cyriac's rang out with a quarter peal of plain bob doubles. Swaffham Prior has special reasons for gratitude to the Trust because without it the main body of the church would have been demolished leaving just the mediaeval tower standing.

The Festival Committee, which was originally set up to raise funds for the restoration of the bells, has always had a close relationship with St Cyriac's. This year it is organising a summer festival (25 June – 5 July) to celebrate not only the Trust's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary but also **the two hundred years since the present church was built**. Any profits from the Festival events will be given to the Trust for work to be carried out at St. Cyriac's, especially towards reinstating the vandalised east end of the building and restoring the written texts behind the altar.

The events are varied and a full programme will be issued later. They will include Theatre - illustrating the life of Shakespeare as experienced by a contemporary actor; Music - Ian de Massini and Cambridge Voices will hold a huge sing-in of Handel's Messiah, as well as a "Waterloo" concert which will be flush with appropriate music and tunes. There will also be a documentary exhibition illustrating the history of St Cyriac's Church, and an Exhibition of related art (please see the separate announcement for details). At the Village Hall we plan a musical evening with Rex Walford and Gabrielle Bell, illustrating the history of both British and American Musicals. There will also be a hands-on Drumming Workshop.

All will be inter-larded with a Soapbox Race, a Festival Cricket Match against Swaffham Bulbeck, and the School Fair.

If you wish to know more before the next *Crier* please phone 01638 742974.



*Swaffham Prior*  
**JUMBLE SALE**  
*and Tombola*

*Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March*

*2.00 – 4.00 pm*

*The Village Hall*

*Bring your items to the Village Hall  
from 10.00 – 12.00 noon*

*Admission 50p*

*All proceeds to St. Mary's Church, Swaffham Prior*

**A daily forty steps up and forty steps down, not to mention absailing down the side of St Cyriac's—in this month's edition, John Norris tells us something about the Church Clock, who took care of it, and what a job it was.**

## **The Church Clock**

The first storey I heard about the clock, concerned a visit, by the then Vicar, Martin Thornton, in the small hours of the morning to Philip Sheldrick who lived in the Gate House of the Swaffham Prior Estate. His problem was that the clock had already struck twenty seven, and was still going strong, and could he do something about it. Of course he could; Philip had grown up with the apparatus and had learned most of the remedies, perhaps even from his father.

The problem was that the counting wheel had lost it's driving pin, and had stuck between the stopping notches, so that the brake could not be put on. I am not sure what happened next, as there were no lights in the tower, only Philips torch, but I guess he turned the counting wheel so that it was on stop, and went back to bed. Next day a new pin would have been fitted, and that most probably lasted until the great overhaul in 2001.

In those days the responsibility rested firmly with any village expertise, and we were lucky to have Philip. To-day we are discouraged from any temporary repair, as the Conservation Trust have their own man, so the present problem must wait for the expert

Back to the history. Early in nineteen sixty the clock dial had a face- lift. The numbers had largely left the wooden face, and telling the time was getting a matter of guesswork. Sidney Hewitt came to the rescue by making a new face, and numbers out of aluminium, so no more decay.. This new face was cut into four squares each thirty inch rectangles, so there was no need the mess about with a hole for the hands. Sidney was very brave and descended down from the top to the clock face on a "boson's chair" bringing the new pieces with him. These were screwed the existing face, and cheered up the clock no end

Many years went by with little trouble, Philip climbing up the stairs every other day to perform his winding duties. Forty steps up. and forty steps down. As if that was not enough, those steps were so worn that they were dangerous, and after the Great Repair in 1972 they were refurbished, and made safe, although the last twenty, up to the flag pole are still the original clunch. Back to the clock. The old system had weights that dropped right down to the ground, the going train, or in usual terms the clock, worked on a single rope, whilst the striking train had a pulley which made a double rope so that it could strike the two days worth, both night and

**"The pendulum needed repair at one time, and was fixed by using a strip of Meccano to replace the rusted original piece."**

day. It is a pity that it is silent at present, but this can be easily changed if circumstances require it.

Last Monday, after a large fire clearing up the rubbish in the Cemetery, we went up the tower to correct the time.. It is difficult to regulate the clock in this cold weather, as the pendulum is long enough to give only forty swings to the minute (most clocks have sixty swings per minute), so that a little contraction in this cold spell. upsets the time-keeping. It became clear on a final inspection, that the chain driving the striking mechanism was not on its sprocket. How it came off I do not know, but as it is attached to a very heavy weight, I am going to let the expert fix it. So for the time being there will be no striking clock. although the hands will show the correct time.

The present winding system is electrical, and the weights are wound up every twenty minutes or so, making the trip to the clock room less frequent than Philip used to make all those years ago. With electricity now available, the weights drop twelve inches and trigger a switch which starts a motor and winds them back up again. All very cleaver when it works, but I am assured that it will not be long before all is well again.

As a final comment, I hope pressure will be put on the East Cambs Council to trim the cedar tree which now prevents us from seeing this clock. I did have a conversation with the manager when they were trimming the yew trees, but the workers had left the site before they could be contacted. The offending one is a poor specimen, but it has grown too tall for our good.

*John Norris*

## **BOTTISHAM BOWLING CLUB**

# **EASTER FAIR**

**SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 11am TO 3pm**  
**AT**

**ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

\*\*\*\*\*

**A VARIETY OF STALLS FOR ALL THE FAMILY**  
**GUESS THE WEIGHT AND WIN A HOME-MADE EASTER SIMNAL CAKE**

\*\*\*\*\*

**NEARLY NEW JEWELLERY STALL \*\* BRIC-BRAC CRAFTS \*\* ART WORK ITEMS OF**  
**INTEREST \*\* LOVELY HAND MADE KNITTED ITEMS**

\*\*\*\*\*

**CAKE STALL**

\*\*\*\*\*

**TOMBOLA WITH EASTER EGGS INCLUDED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**REFRESHMENTS INCLUDING HOT X BUNS**

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**TO HIRE A STALL FOR THE DAY CONTACT**

**Julia Green 01223-811467**

**Cindy King 01223-811220**

# PAMPERING EVENING



**Friday 6th March 2009**

in Reach Village Hall 7.30 - 9.30 pm

£6 per ticket, includes glass of wine and mini treatment

*Limited spaces*

Please call 01638 742671 to reserve a ticket or for further information

All proceeds to Swaffham Prior School

## JUMBLE SALE and TOMBOLA

**14th March from 2.00-4.00 p.m.**

Items can be brought to the Village Hall from 10.00a.m.—12 noon.

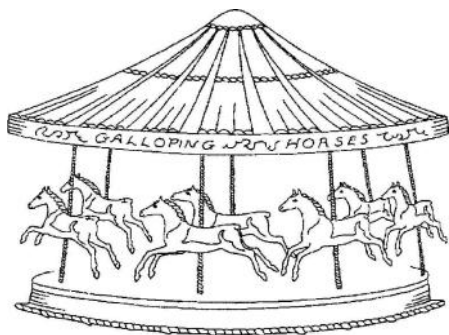
The following would be most welcome: clothes (in good clean condition) books, jewellery, shoes, toys, handbags, bric-a-brac and anything else you have surplus to requirements which you think some-one would be pleased to buy.

Janet Willmott has kindly offered to come and collect anything if for some reason you are unable to take it to the Village Hall at the appointed time, she can be contacted at 743472 from 9th-12th March.

Colin and Linda Evans (741437) would be pleased to receive items for the Tombola not later than 10th March or if more convenient they can be left with Kate (743983) 73 High Street.

We would be more than grateful for an army of helpers (a) to help sort from 10.00.a.m.-12 noon and (b) to help sell from 2.00-4.00p.m. we have some names already but the more the merrier, please ring Kate (743983) or Brenda Wilson (743937) if you are able to help.

Remember VILLAGE GARAGE SALES will be on 6th June, when you have the opportunity of selling from your drive or the meadow in the High Street.



# *Reach Fair*

Since 1201

## **Bank Holiday**

**Monday 4th May 2009 - 12 noon**

**Grand opening by the Mayor of Cambridge**

Traditional Fairground Rides

Music and Dancing / Country Crafts

Stalls / Arts and Crafts / Children's Entertainment

Local Archaeology / Raptor Foundation

Hog Roast / BBQ / Bar.....Plus lots more

Entrance and Car Park from Burwell Road £3.00 per car

**Registered Charity: 28060**

### **Donations!**

Many thanks to Walter Bradley for his very kind donation to the *Crier* this month. Walter moved to Yorkshire, but continues to keep in touch with a regular copy of the *Crier*.

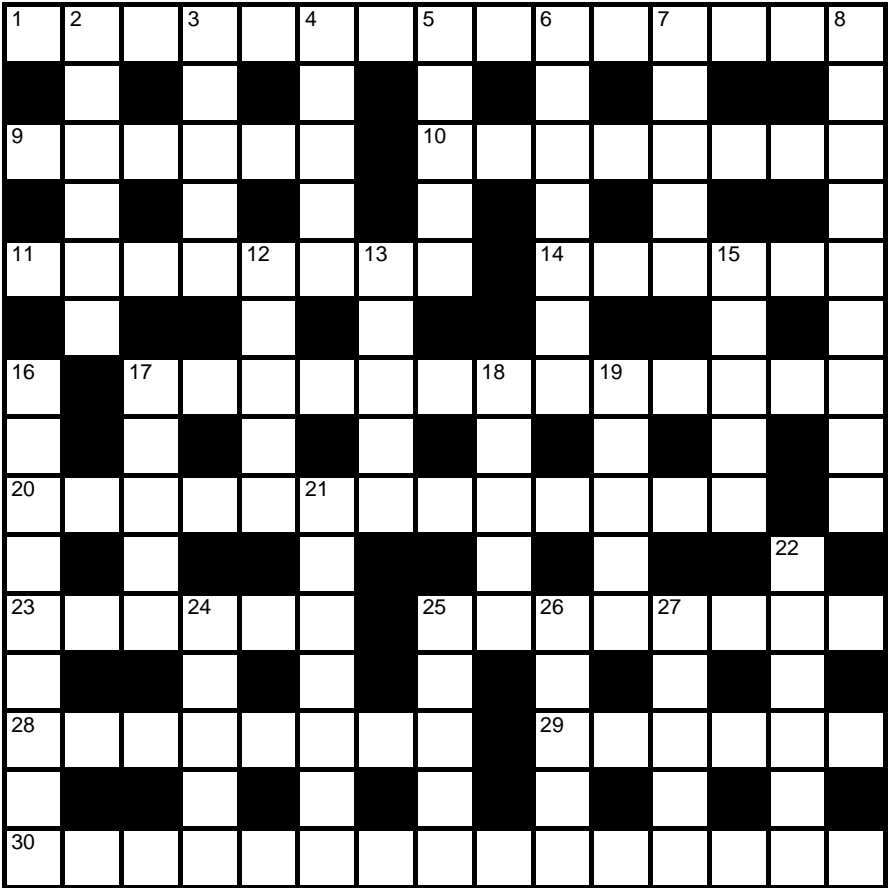
Crossword Number 60

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

**NIBOR**

This month’s puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18 March 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:.....		
Adress.....		
.....		Tel:.....

## Across

- 1 Shriveling knot I unravelled to reveal wallflower (9,6)
- 9 A first class pub back in the middle east (6)
- 10 New growth produced from one's palm (8)
- 11 Twist briar into a breathing tube (8)
- 14 Involve hospital department with trouble (6)
- 17 Find balance or rely, say, on people with little time (4,9)
- 20 Conservationists are strangely not naturalist (8,5)
- 23 Please stop organ (6)
- 25 Rules of conduct for semi-pro to collect are inside (8)
- 28 Chats about Chinese dynasty jokers (8)
- 29 Tired, but peels back the end of pasty (6)
- 30 Law officer may patrol in front of artist (6,9)

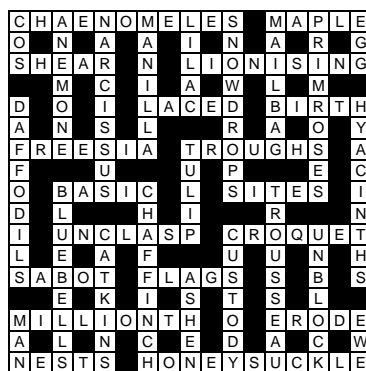
## Down

- 2 I wonder where Ingrid sheltered? Not out there (6)
- 3 Fix, then initially it might be easily done (5)
- 4 Colour of vehicle opener we hear (5)
- 5 Catholic maybe, nowadays (5)
- 6 Fierce new leader in purple clothing (7)
- 7 Grow lettuces inside flyer (5)
- 8 Office workers stay around late.

## They're models (9)

- 12 Play about post office worker (5)
- 13 Tapas maybe, or Italian food (5)
- 15 Spy is a short man (5)
- 16 500 to one this French pointed hat is a mark of disgrace (6,3)
- 17 Journalist goes on strike and is suspended (5)
- 18 A steroid that contains a flower (5)
- 19 Rejoice at having seen old flame last month (5)
- 21 Ran back to sneak, point and tell (7)
- 22 The Spanish go to Swaffham Prior first. It's the truth! (6)
- 24 Boredom of children; nuisance isn't it? (5)
- 25 Poets compose saucy stuff (5)
- 26 Haven from strange video nasties not evident (5)
- 27 Greek gets letter at last (5)

## Solution to crossword no. 59



We congratulate Trish Whitehead, the winner of last month's competition, who should collect her prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Mandy Kingsmill, Dainin O'Dowd and Jenny Brand.

# IMPORTANT PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE

Several complaints have been received about dog fouling and not just in one particular area but over the whole village!!

This is extremely unpleasant for everyone and a serious health risk to children playing ..... the sign stating “no dogs” in the play area is for a very good reason!

*Did you know .....*

It is an offence under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 if your dog fouls designated land and you do not immediately clean it up. Designated land includes parks, playing fields, cemeteries, footpaths, bridleways, access roads, passageways and grass verges. This means that anyone in charge of a dog will commit an offence if they do not clean up immediately after their dog leaves excrement on most public land. The person responsible can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice of £50 or they can be prosecuted in the Magistrates Court and if found guilty can be fined up to £1,000.

You know if you are guilty, please clean up after your dogs or if you see someone not doing so, please report to the Dog Warden at East Cambridgeshire District Council (01353 665555).

***Karen King - Clerk***

Eds Note: Well of course, it just might be that there are some extraordinarily exemplary children in the village who really *are* taking the dog for walks (“*We’ll take it for walks, Mummeeee, we will, we will, honest....!*”). Do we think so? Yes we do! And they definitely won’t want to be messing with doggy-dos, not the least because they might be forgiven for worrying about those serious health risks.....

Fortunately, we have something of a world-expert in this living in the village (Roger Connan), and he has very kindly agreed to write us an explanatory article about it for next month.

Meanwhile, if the problem is confined to village pavements and playing-ground, then the word-on-the-street is that it now should have now abated. On the other hand, if there is a difficulty with the far-flung Fen droves that Karen seems to be *designating*, then everyone is completely at a loss. They have absolutely no idea whose dog this could be.



## **The Mikado**

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre proudly presents "The Mikado (or the Town of Titipu)" by Gilbert and Sullivan on Wednesday - Saturday 3rd 4th 5th and 6th June 2009 at 7.30pm with a matinee on Saturday 6th June 2009 at 2.30pm.

Performances take place in The Barn, Downing Farm, Swaffham Bulbeck (6 miles north-east of Cambridge on the B1102) The barn has been adapted to create a theatre. There is a licensed bar. Toilet facilities (including disabled) are available and there is off-road parking.

### **Mobile Library**

#### **Dates for 2009**

Cage Hill: 3.15 - 3.50

Chapel : 3.55 - 4.15

March 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

April 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>th</sup>

Do feel welcome to use this marvellous service. Children's section, greetings cards and stamps for sale.

Videos & audio books to rent

***Use it or Lose it!***

#### **WELCOME TO....**

Claire Barclay and Duncan Morris, who moved into Swaffham Prior (up by the windmill) in December 2008

# **Cantilena Singers**

## **Sat 11th April 2009, St Mary's Church,**

### **Stow cum Quy 7:30 pm**

A concert of music and readings to celebrate the refurbishment of St Mary's church. This concert will coincide with the completion of the refurbishment of St Mary's Church. It will feature both traditional Easter music as well as a range of celebratory anthems.

Director Daniel Spreadbury

Programme to include:

- Hosanna to the son of David - Gibbons
- O Sing Joyfully - Batten
- Hail, Gladdening Light - Wood
- Tu Es Petrus - Palistrina
- Locus Iste - Bruckner
- Christus Factus Est - Bruckner
- My Spirit Sang All Day - Finzi
- Crucifixus a 8 - Lotti
- If Ye Love Me - Tallis
- Hear my Prayer O Lord - Purcell

Remember not, Lord our offences - Purcell

Tickets on the door. Details on our website [www.cantilena.info](http://www.cantilena.info) or ring 01223 812115





## St Mary's Church, Swaffham Prior

After their sell-out gig at the 2007 Swaffham Prior Festival and 2008 Australian tour, returning due to popular demand

# KEITH PEARSON'S COUP de GRASS

4-piece bluegrass band

Featuring ex-World Champion Harmonica player  
Swaffham Prior Village Hall on

## SATURDAY 28th MARCH

With support from local performers including Miss Helena Pumfrey, The Blue Room, Casper and others.

7.30pm start

Drinks at the bar

Tickets £7.50/£5 children. Parking at the rear

Tickets from: Andrew Noyes 01638 743864;  
[noyeshome@swaffham-prior.co.uk](mailto:noyeshome@swaffham-prior.co.uk)

*New CD - "After the Treacle"*

- now available: [www.keithpearson.co.uk](http://www.keithpearson.co.uk)



## WI Notes

At the meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> Our speaker was Anne Datsun who started by demonstrating the craft of serviette work. We heard that the craft is very popular in France where all the material is readily available in craft shops but in the UK it does not have the same following. It was fascinating to see the range of items that can be transformed using this method of decoration, from boxes and pottery to decorations for Christmas and Easter and even on cloth which made a plain napkin into something special. After showing us the technique it was hands on for the members to display their talents decorating a small plant pot - it was very rewarding to have a passable result even at the first attempt.

On March 16<sup>th</sup> we will be holding our Annual Meeting and after the business there will be a fish and chip supper (members not at the January meeting who would like supper please let Betty Fox know)

If you are interested in becoming a WI member then come along to our friendly group - or give me a ring on 01638 742224.

**Pat Cook**  
President



## VILLAGE GARDENERS

The site of the garden is idyllic: a hillside in northern Italy, overlooking Lago Maggiore and with the foothills of the Alps as a backdrop. However, as our January speaker Mr Collen, explained, when Captain McEacharn set out in 1931 to build the Botanical Gardens of Villa Taranto the hillside was clothed in robinia and chestnut scrub. It required a small army to clear the trees and to shape the contours to provide the varied habitat he needed for the plants he was to collect from around the world. Over the following 30 years the latter involved some 20,000 species and cultivars.

During many visits in recent years, Mr Collen has watched as the project approaches maturity. Through his slides we toured the many gardens which make up the whole. We looked down vistas created by the maturing trees, sometimes towards the distant mountains, sometimes to a well placed statue and again sometimes along a bank of flowering rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias. I am sure I was not the only person present thinking "Yes, I'd like to see those Gardens".

It is unfortunate that our monthly meeting comes a day or two after the Crier copy deadline so the next relevant meeting will be on 17<sup>th</sup> March when Richard Ayres (retired head gardener at Anglesey Abbey) will be speaking on "Fun with herbaceous plants".

## The Reading Group Reads....

### A BOOK (OR TWO) AT CHRISTMAS

After rather a fallow period our book club got going again in February with more of a social gathering. The book we'd intended reading was late coming from the library so we had a general discussion about books we'd enjoyed over the Christmas and New Year period, which was very enjoyable. It's good to have opportunity to just get together and talk sometimes. And as usual the chat was lively.

The book we are now reading for next time, is "A Thousand Splendid Suns" by Khaled Hosseini – he of The Kite Runner. I've ordered ten copies which I shall endeavour to get out in reasonable time for the next session which will be held at Caroline's place again, usual time 8 o'clock so do try and come along.

*Brenda Wilson*

**18 February 2009**

### Extra time to enjoy Anglesey Abbey's snowdrops

**If you haven't managed to get to the National Trust's Anglesey Abbey for a brightening glimpse of its famous snowdrops, fear not. The cold weather, which meant that the snowdrops made their latest appearance for ten years, also means they will be in full glory well into March.**

The stunning Winter Garden and Woodland Walk at Anglesey Abbey are some of the best places to see snowdrops in the country. The gardens will be open from Wednesdays to Sundays, 10.30am to 4.30pm. Although snowdrop season was due to end on 22nd February, nature had other plans. Hundreds of Galanthus varieties will be looking stunning until at least 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Head Gardener Richard Todd said: "To me, the Winter Garden is the loveliest part of the estate at Anglesey. There is always some sight or smell which gives me a thrill right through the darkest, coldest days. The fact that the snowdrops will be on show for a couple of extra weeks is an added bonus for me, and I hope for our visitors too. 90 per cent of our snowdrops are now in full bloom, and I expect that to be 100 per cent by the end of the week."



*Head Gardener Richard Todd inspects this year's crop*

Look out for the snowdrop information sheet which tells Anglesey Abbey's snowdrop story, complete with timeline and top growing tips from Richard. There are also digital displays in the Visitor Centre highlighting the differences in snowdrop varieties. Visitors arriving by public transport will enjoy a 10% discount on admission charges.

# Neighbourhood Panel News

## **Are the Neighbourhood Panels just “talking shops”? No, says Alan Willams, and here’s why....**

Speedwatch training has now taken place on January 17<sup>th</sup> for volunteers in the South Panel area. The team now have the Speedwatch equipment and will be soon using the device in our local area in 30 mph and 40 mph zones. By the end of February all areas within East Cambs will be operating the scheme. The aim is to reduce speeding through our village and in our area, with a view to the police being able to more effectively target their enforcement campaigns (leading to possible prosecutions and endorsements). If you could volunteer a few hours of your time on a regular basis, please contact Alan Williams (see contact details below).

In initial feedback from the pilot (Soham and East) area indicates that several local drivers are those who are ignoring the speed limits. So, please do take care as you drive around!

At the last South area Neighbourhood Panel meeting in Burwell the main items were:

Feedback on actions taken to address the priorities and issues of concern raised at the meeting in October. Please note that ALL priorities and issues were actioned, and this emphasises that the Panel meetings are all about listening, clarifying and taking improvement actions. These Panel meetings are *not* ‘talking shops’! Multi-agency working to combat anti-social behaviour (ASB) in Burwell has been demonstrably effective and needs to be sustained. Crime is down and ASB incidents have decreased. People and agencies are understanding the benefits of working together to bring about improvement.

Transport and Traffic Management – speed limits of (30 mph and over) are being reviewed by the County Highways team on all the A and B roads in the County until Outcomes of the reviews will be made available to local members and Parish Councils. 4 villages were concerned for there to be a review of the extent of the 40 mph zone close to the heart of their village, with a view to extending the 30mph zone, and 20 mph close to schools. A letter is being written to the County authority on behalf of the Panel to attempt to progress these issues.

Identification of issues of concern (from local residents and Panel members), and setting priorities for action.

The priorities for the next 3 months are

**For the police** (working in partnership with other agencies)

ASB in Burwell

ASB in Bottisham

**For the other agencies**

Review of the extent of 40 mph close to villages

Operation of Speedwatch scheme

Public meeting about the Wicken Fen Vision

Gritting of specific roads and paths

*Alan Williams*

For on-going **information about Neighbourhood Panels** - minutes from the meetings, Neighbourhood Profiles, Newsletters, Speedwatch; dates and venues for the Panel meetings in **2009** - please use the A-Z section of the East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC) website: [www.eastcambs.gov.uk](http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk) to access the '**Neighbourhood Panel**' webpage.

Or contact Alan Williams, the Neighbourhood Panel Coordinator at [alan.williams@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:alan.williams@eastcambs.gov.uk) or on 01353 - 616349

The next meetings of the South area Panel (all 7pm starts) in 2009 are

**Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> April at Kirtling Village Hall**

(inc dealing with the economic downturn)

**Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> June at The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth**

**Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> October at Burwell Village College**

Please come along, become involved and help to bring about improvements in your locality !

( On the basis of increasing success of multi-agency Panels, they are being introduced across the whole of Cambridgeshire)

If you are unable to attend, and have an issue to be raised with the Panel, please contact Andrew Camps– Parish Council representative or Allen Alderson on the South area Panel.

## MATHEMATICA

Möbius, at parties, would amuse his friends  
By taking a strip of paper and joining its ends.

Before joining them though, he would insist  
On giving the strip, one single twist.

His friends were then astounded to find  
They could imagine nothing of a similar kind,

For it now had one edge instead of a brace.  
And equally so, it had only one face.

*Ophir*





1. Cambridgeshire Police report road deaths have fallen in Cambridgeshire by 30 per cent in the past year.

2. A decision has been made to open the Guided Busway from Cambridge to St Ives in the late summer following a review over the New Year period. It is promised that all features of the scheme will be ready for passengers from the beginning.

3. Contractors are expected to hand over Central Library in February and subject to that, the Library will reopen in May.

4. Journeys on Cambridge's Park & Ride have exceeded four million for the first time. Stagecoach have been criticised for a rise in the price of park and ride ticket.

The cost of a weekly park and ride ticket has now risen from £9 to £10. Individual return tickets will cost £2.50 per person when bought on the bus, compared to £2.20 - the same as the current price - if purchased in advance from new machines being installed at park and ride sites.

5. Cambridgeshire Citizens' Advice Bureaus (CABs) are very busy with financial enquiries and have experienced a steep rise in employment queries. The county council is now directing more resources to the charity, which is working on the front line of those affected by the credit crunch.

6. CCC's Integrated Plan and budget for the next financial year are now published. Part of its 'protect and invest' strategy includes budget concentration on social care for adults and children; support for people during the recession and addressing items such as transport and road safety. The average council tax increase is 3.9% (for a band D property) or £38 per year.

The opposition budget proposes an increase of 2.45%.

7. The Transport Commission website ([www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk](http://www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk)) has been set up enable local people to give a picture of the transport and congestion problems in Cambridgeshire. Sir Brian Briscoe and Professor Tony Travers are not only looking at the TIF proposals but are able to make suggestions if they find other ways of helping improve the transport problems in Cambridgeshire. The website address is [www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk](http://www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk).

8. The Children's Centre is running from Bottisham with activities across the area, including the Swaffhams, Burwell and Reach, for families with under 5's. Activities include dads groups, health clinics, young parents support and messy play. I am chairing the partnership board (an advisory group).

9. The County Council Research group has won an award for the best piece of research undertaken by a local authority for its work on the Post Office Network Change Group.

10. Abington and Guyhurn are the only two schemes to be awarded money in the medium sized highways schemes.





**Fancy exploring a new area?**

**How about a 5-mile walk?**

**Join our 6th annual Crocus Walk..**

....and help us raise vital funds for Breakthrough Breast Cancer and The Arthur Rank Hospice.

**Cambridge 21st March 2009 Midday start  
Orwell Village**

All welcome, including children & dogs Refreshments afterwards For further information and application form please telephone 01763 208786 Registration required by 14th March.

*THE CROCUS WALKERS North Herts & South Cambs Breakthrough Support Group BREAKTHROUGH BREAST CANCER: Registered Charity Number 1062636*

**BOTTISHAM BOWLING CLUB  
QUIZ NIGHT**

**AT THE BRITISH LEGION**

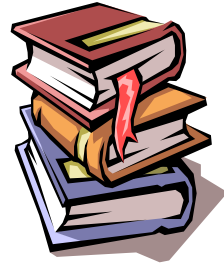
**SATURDAY 14th MARCH 7:30pm**

**COME ALONG AND STRETCH THOSE LITTLE GREY  
CELLS  
TEAMS OF UP TO 8 PLAYERS OR COME ALONE -ALL  
WILL BE MOST WELCOME**

**£3 per person**

**You are welcome to bring along your own  
snacks/ nibbles.**

**Drinks can be purchased at the bar.**



**CONTACT HILDA BUCHANAN 01223-811689 OR  
TED SKETCHLEY 01223-811582**

## Notes from the Parish Council Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> February 2009



The evening started with an Open Forum to allow members of the public to speak. Letters were presented to the meeting expressing serious concerns about the unauthorised use of the River Cam flood bank by drivers of vehicles, noting that one such vehicle had been stopped by the property owners who were then threatened. This together with the recent spate of burglaries in the area had caused much concern to those living along the river-side.

The Parish Council was to discuss the issues further in official meeting.

*Chairman John Covill chaired the meeting with 7 Parish Councillors and 1 member of the Public.*

**Minutes of Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> January 2009:** These were agreed.

This was reported to the meeting. Two letters were presented by a member of the public as above. The issues were discussed at length and it was explained that the unauthorised access had become an issue due to the recent works carried out by the Environment Agency in strengthening, re-profiling and reseeding the flood banks. Although it was accepted that these works were necessary the ‘smoothing’ out of the embankment had been taken advantage of by vehicles. It was agreed to speak with the Environment Agency in the first instance and discuss possible means of blocking access.

**Completion of Cemetery Maintenance:** Following further inspection by Andrew Camps and Peter Hart, they told the meeting that the remaining cutting back of trees on the inside boundary of the cemetery would be completed by themselves and that a contractor was not needed.

**Tothill Road Footpath – outstanding maintenance:** Paul Butcher of CCC had inspected the footpath and reported his findings. He confirmed to the Clerk that the repairs would be added to his list for future works but that due to continuing budgetary constraints work could not be carried out at this time.

**Fairview Grove–request for road maintenance:** The Clerk had contacted CCC Highways about the repair/resurfacing of the road. A reply was pending.

**Heath Road – passing place for vehicles:** A letter was received asking the Parish Council for their support for the installation of a passing place and to confirm this with CCC Highways. This was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Paul Butcher and confirm.

**Whiteway Drove – request for grit bin:** The purchase of a grit bin was agreed. The Clerk was to confirm with CCC Highways location and approval.

**Change to Upware Sign (additional info for Football Ground):** Amendments to the sign were agreed. The Clerk to confirm with CCC Highways.

**Parish Path Partnership – application for 2009/10:** Peter Hart agreed to complete and submit.

**Planning Approval Received:**

Zoar Baptist Church, Rogers Road – *change of use of Chapel and School Room to residential.*

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

**Clerk's Report:**

*Faulty streetlights* reported – Fairview Grove and High Street.

Further complaints about *dog fouling* in village. *See separate notice in Crier*

Concerns received about condition of *overgrown footpath* running from Village Car Park across the field to Station Road. Also where hedgerow has been cut on the field boundary with Station Road, cuttings have been left on the footpath making it very difficult to use.

Simon King confirmed that repair works to *village noticeboards* would be carried out as soon as the weather permitted.

The traffic calming works on Mill Hill had been held up due to the bad weather.

**Parish Councillors' Reports:**

David Almond told the meeting that *dumping of rubbish* on the field behind Pulpit Corner was unsightly. It was noted that some of the rubbish had been removed but that future dumping should be watched for.

John Covill reported that he had attended a *meeting of the National Trust* where one of the main issues was volume of traffic and parking arrangements as part of their Fen Vision project. He had stressed at the meeting that no traffic should be permitted through the villages. The National Trust confirmed that a team of consultants were in the process of reviewing these issues and due to report back in April

John Covill confirmed that there had been *further dumping in the Fen* consisting of old furniture and asbestos.

**Open Question Time:**

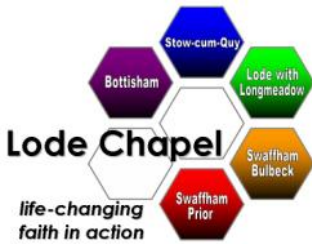
No questions.

**The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> March 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@btopenworld.com](mailto:karen.king5@btopenworld.com)**



# The ‘Go-Faster Pastor’

I wonder how many of you have seen me running around the local villages over the last few months – I’m the tall bearded chap, often wearing a blue running top and a black hat! For the last few years I’ve been applying for the London Marathon, and this year I was eventually allocated a place in the ballot.

I’m not quite sure why I wanted to run 26.2 miles – some sort of personal goal, I guess... Before I got a place, however, the marathon distance was a bit of an abstract idea – now, after many weeks of training, I am all too aware of the reality of the challenge.

I ran a half marathon back in 2002 – and it nearly killed me. On reflection, I think that might have had something to do with the fact that I didn’t do any training! This time I’m not going to make the same mistake twice, and ever since October, when I was told I had a place, I’ve been building up the mileage. My longest run so far is 18 miles – it took me three hours, left me completely exhausted, and its only two-thirds of the actual distance! But I’m getting there, and hopefully, on the day, I’ll at least manage to complete the marathon, one way or another.

When I’m on my training runs, one of the motivators that I use to keep me going is the fact that I’m raising money for a good cause. Zambesi Mission is a Christian charity which Lode Chapel has been supporting for a number of years. It is working with local partners in Malawi and Northern Mozambique, one of the poorest parts of Africa, to offer practical support to those in need. Amongst the areas it is involved in are education, health care, adult literacy, income generation projects, orphan care, community development and emergency food relief. The knowledge of the difference a few pounds of sponsorship makes (for example, £8 means one month’s day care for an orphan) really does keep me going when my legs are telling me to stop.

I’m aware that times are tough, and so I really am grateful to those who have sponsored me. If you haven’t already, and would like to, do give me a call (01223 812881) so that I can write your name on my form, or go to [www.everyclick.com/simonleighgoddard](http://www.everyclick.com/simonleighgoddard) where you can pledge your support online. Even if you’re not able to give financially, if you see me running as you drive past in your car, why not give me a toot on your horn. If I’m on a long run that sort of encouragement really does give me a spring in my step.

You may be aware that I don’t often wear a clerical collar, but [www.clergycollar.co.uk](http://www.clergycollar.co.uk) has supplied me with a special one that I can wear with my black running vest. So if you happen to be watching the television on marathon day, Sunday 26th April, look out for the ‘Go-Faster Pastor’ and give me (and the rest of the 30,000 runners) a cheer from your armchair!

***Simon Goddard***

We welcome you to any of our services or other midweek activities.

Morning Worship every Sunday at 10.30am with Sunday School

(except the 4th Sunday in the month).

**March RE:NEW dates...**

RE:NEW Bulbeck – 10.30am, Sunday 8th March

RE:NEW Bottisham – 10.30am, Sunday 22nd March

These events are held in Swaffham Bulbeck and Bottisham Primary School halls.

For more details about RE:NEW visit [www.re-new.me.uk](http://www.re-new.me.uk)

**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 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.

### **Offers**

Extending fireguard, bronze colour (Argos Cat No: 375/2393).

Baby Bjorn baby toilet seat. *Frank* 01223 812890

Teach Yourself Beginners Mandarin Chinese; coursebook and two audio CDs.

*Ken* 01223 812740

1 rechargeable battery driven ride-on JCB dumper truck. Suit 3-5 year old. *Mary-Lou* 01223 813922

Kenwood 2-slice toaster, white, like new. *Nic* 01223 812231 email: [nic.bawtree@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:nic.bawtree@tiscali.co.uk)

Set of 4 universal car mats. *Nic* 01223 812231 email: [nic.bawtree@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:nic.bawtree@tiscali.co.uk)

2 computer key boards (1 new/boxed). *Nic* 01223 812231 email: [nic.bawtree@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:nic.bawtree@tiscali.co.uk)

### **Wants**

Small pine bookcase (need it to be the Lovelace brand to match existing furniture). *Fleur* 01638 743992

Child-sized clothes hangars. *Jun* 01223 813362

Old but fully working fridge freezer, appearance immaterial. *Nic* 01223 812231 email: [nic.bawtree@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:nic.bawtree@tiscali.co.uk)



Dear Friends,

The fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally known in the Church as 'Mothering Sunday'. This year it falls on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Mothering Sunday shouldn't be confused with 'Mothers Day', which is celebrated in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Japan, Turkey and United States on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in May.



In this country we celebrate 'Mothers Day' on the same day as 'Mothering Sunday', which is where the confusion has crept in. Mothers Day celebrates motherhood and all the burdens and joys that mothers experience in bringing their children into the world; watching over them, bringing them up and helping them take their place in the world. In the United States it came into being as a direct result of the American Civil War, when so many mothers experienced the dreadful burden of the loss or the maiming of their sons who went off to war. Mothers were prayed for, and given presents to comfort them in their loss, and to bring a ray of sunshine into their lives.

Mothering Sunday is very different. Centuries ago the Church developed a tradition of encouraging worshippers to make an annual pilgrimage to their local Cathedral, or 'mother' Church on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent. This annual visit to the Cathedral became known as 'Refreshment Sunday', to reflect the refreshment of faith associated with visiting a great Cathedral. In those days daughters of poorer families often left home at an early age to work in service in the manor houses. Those in service were encouraged to take part in this festival day, and so those daughters would inevitably be re-united with their families at the Cathedral on 'Refreshment Sunday' at 'mother' Church – and so the Sunday became known as 'Mothering Sunday'.

On the journey to the Cathedral the girls would pick wild spring flowers from the hedgerows and woods to make a posy to give to their mothers when they met up with them.

Inevitably, the journey to the Cathedral would be tiring, and the weary travellers would require physical refreshment as well as spiritual refreshment, so the tradition grew up of the Cathedral giving every visitor a piece of cake. The cake was called a Simnel Cake, which is a fruit-cake with two layers of almond paste, one on top and one in the middle. The cake would be decorated with sugar icing and 11 marzipan balls representing the 11 disciples (Judas didn't count!).

	<b>ST MARY'S MARCH Services</b>
<b>Sun 1</b>	<b>11:00am</b> Family Communion
<b>Sun 8</b>	<b>11:00am</b> Holy Communion
<b>Sun 15</b>	<b>8:00am</b> Holy Communion (BCP) <b>11:00am</b> Mattins BCP
<b>Sun 22</b>	<b>11:00am</b> Family Service
<b>Sun 29</b>	<b>6:30pm</b> Evensong (BCP)

We maintain the traditions of Mothering Sunday in our Churches today. We give each child a posy for them to give to their mother, and some Churches also distribute Simnel cake.

Mothering Sunday is a lovely occasion to celebrate the blessings of family life, and to give thanks for the role that mother Church plays in being at the heart of those key moments in our lives – marriage, new birth and death. We try to make it a truly family occasion, and to engage both children and parents in thinking about the key part that God wants to play in family life through His Church. We also celebrate the crucial role that mothers play in giving life to and in sustaining their families, and above all we celebrate the crucial importance and meaning of love in our lives.

Do come along and share Mothering Sunday with us.

May God bless you all,

*David*

**THE ANGLESEY GROUP OF PARISHES  
ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE**

**A LADIES LUNCH**

**QUY VILLAGE HALL**

**TUESDAY 31st MARCH 12 noon for 12.15pm**

**GUEST SPEAKER**



**Rosemary Conley C.B.E.**  
**“How God Changed My Life”**

*DETAILS AND TICKETS (£7) FROM PAULINE LEWIS 01223 812367*

## ***Dates for Your Diary March 2009***

Mon	6	SP School Cake Stall, 3pm
Wed	8	PC Meeting, VH, 8pm
Sat	11	St Mary's Singers, Bulbeck St Mary's, 7.30pm
Sun	12	<b>Crier Copy Deadline</b>
Mon	13	SP School half-term starts
Tue	14	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:15-3:50pm Chapel 3:55-4:15
Mon	20	WI Waitrose Visit, 6.30pm, Waitrose Newmarket
Tue	21	Alpha Supper Village Gardeners, VH
Wed	22	SP School Book fair (continues until 28th)
Thu	23	Friends of St Cyriac's, VH Meeting Room, 7pm
Sat	25	Quiz Night, VH, 7.30pm
Tue	28	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm Re-cycling 7am

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
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	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	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***