



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXIII Number 10

October 2009



Editorial

October, and the *Crier* is back from its holidays ready to join in our latest controversy: *The Bridge Over Reach Lode*. Most impressively, a computer has already built this bridge, as readers will see on the Letters page, and the reasons why it's a bit on the *big* side are all carefully explained by the National Trust's Chris Soames.

Personally, I have never understood just why it is that when it comes to building projects of any sort, no expense is to be spared, but when it comes to anything-else, it's quite the opposite. Save of course for essential things like the new *Village Infrastructure Plan* (hang on, what happened to that previous Plan?) or the *Early Years Foundation Stage Plan*—yes, you can read all about these in *Our Reporter*.

Meanwhile, the big news is that the Red Lion

is up for sale. Oh rumour, rumour, who's made an offer, who will run our Pub? We'll have to see.

A very big welcome to our new Headmistress, Diane Hawkes, who introduces herself in this month's issue, and also to Chris Herring, our local PC, who will be sending a monthly crime report—we hope it's brief!

By contrast, this month's Neighbourhood Panel Report was so lacking in the brevity department that we've *censored* it — it'll be back in November, shorter.

Yes, *Crier* readers require more *précis*....

Goodbye Summer, where did it go? You can refresh their memories with our Summer Playscheme centrespread. See you Halloweening — I'll be the gorilla again!



Helena Pumfrey's children's Spuds entry weighed more than the adults'.

Regulars

Letters	2
Our Reporter	8
CROSSWORD	14
School News	19
WI	20
Burwell Flower Club	20
Book Club	20
Mothers' Union	21
Police Update	22
Ophir	23
Wicken Fen News	24
PC Report	26
Church Services	28
Simon Goddard	28
Freecycle	29
David Lewis	30
Diary	31

News, Views & Reviews

Spuds in Buckets	6
Moveable Feast	11
Summer Playscheme	16
E-cops	18

What's On

Folk Museum Memorial Lecture	11
Sing for St Cyriac's	12
Harvest Supper	13
Bulbeck Fireworks	18
Red2Greenhouse Open Day	25
Host UK	31

For Rent

Agricultural Land	10
Allotment	27

Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: Autumn Fare by David Gentleman



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors

Proposed Bridge over Reach Lode.

I would like to take this opportunity to address some of the points raised in the report of a special meeting of the parish council, in the last edition of the Swaffham Crier by John Chalmers, "Bridge over Reach Lode".

In Mr Chalmers opening paragraph he states, ...*"but no one was available from the applicants to answer questions or promote their case"* this seems a strange statement to make when no one from the National Trust was invited or even informed a meeting was actually taking place! Had we been asked to attend such an event we would have happily answered any questions the parish may have had and helped to clear up some of the points raised in the report.

The report then goes on to outline the purpose and description of the bridge, so it may be useful to provide some further and more accurate information. The bridge is intended to be part of the Wicken Fen Spine Route, a partnership project between the National Trust, Sustrans, Cambridgeshire County Council, the Environment Agency and Cambridgeshire Horizons. The bridge and cycleway are being funded by Cambridgeshire Horizons and Sustrans through their Connect2 programme. The Connect2 programme is being funded through the BIG Lottery and was voted for by the public on national television in 2007. Connect2 will enable 79 community projects, of which this is one, to create new sustainable transport links such as cycle ways which link previously separated communities. In this case the spine route is intended to complete the missing link in National Cycle Route 11. This would eventually create a new and safe cycle route through this part of the Fens linking up Cambridge in the South to Ely and Kings Lynn in the North.

The bridge has been carefully designed over the last 18 months to fulfil the needs of all its intended users as well as fit into its environment; hopefully this can be appreciated from the attached impression.

The main issues affecting the design are the need to retain navigation of the Lode which requires 3m headroom between the water and the bottom of the bridge, the requirements of equestrian users which dictates a 1.8m high parapet and the DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) which outlines the gradient of the approach ramps as 1 in 20. The other factors influencing the design has been the height of the existing Lode banks and the need to ensure their stability, on the this last point the Environment Agency who are responsible for the Lodes require the bridge to over fly the whole lode system so their can be no impact on the Lode banks.



The bridge is not designed for traffic and would be bollarded at either end to prevent vehicle access. Even taking on board all these issues the bridge is far smaller than the one described by Mr Chalmers; the bottom of the bridge is 2.10m above the Lode bank so there is no interference with the existing footpaths and the bridge itself a further 2m on top of that, significantly lower than the 20ft described. Similarly the total length of the bridge and ramps is 188m not the quarter of a mile outlined in Mr



Chalmers report.

The need for this route has identified by many organisations who are working to create new sustainable transport options as well as providing new opportunities for improved local recreation and investment in tourism in the Fens. The desire for it locally has certainly been expressed at many of the community events the Trust has attended this year.

The bridge has been designed by reputable qualified engineers and scrutinised by the National Trusts own Architectural Panel so we have confidence in both the stability of the design and the costings. Some of the design details are still being finalised such as the specification of the railings and the finish and the Trust are happy to take on board alternative suggestions if local people don't like a galvanised finish. It is intended that the top rails will be finished in oak.

I believe that far from being “a nonsense” this bridge would provide great benefit to local people and visitors to the area, greatly enhancing the rights of way system and opening up this wonderful area of the Fens to all users.

Chris Soans

Property Manager, National Trust Wicken Fen

Dear Editors,

More Fen Vision

I have been recently been under attack in several of our local newspapers. It appears that some people still can't understand the concerns of those of us who live in the Burwell, Reach and Swaffham Prior area regarding the National Trust's so-called 'Wicken Vision' and how it will, if implemented, impinge on all of our lives.

I am deeply worried by what we can already see. The fine food-producing farm land that the Trust has already taken over has become a jungle of ragwort, thistles and other weeds. The cattle that they are using to keep the rubbish in check are clearly incapable of doing so and the Trust has had to



resort to tractors and cutters to clear a way through. A visit to their 'Tubney Fen' below Reach or a drive down Hightown Drove will show any sceptics that I am right and that the Trust is in a big muddle. There is more of concern to Burwell down Hightown Drove, too, and I have drawn this to the attention of people higher up than I.

There were some who said that the so-called 'Wicken Vision' would never come to pass. Well, it is coming to pass, and it is now to be seen - water and weeds and all.

Attached is a picture of what is now very much at risk: the production of Fen food that our people and our country are increasingly going to depend upon. This must not be thrown away so lightly and without more thought.

If your readers would like to assist with our resistance to the scheme and are connected to the internet, please go to our on-line 'SaveOurFens' E-Petition at - <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/SaveOurFens/>

Geoffrey Woollard.

The picture is of Mr David Watts, of Percy Watts & Sons, in a field of Agria potatoes in Swaffham Prior Fen. This field is expected to yield around 20 tonnes of potatoes per acre.

"One of the most useful varieties available, Agria potatoes have an outstanding flavour and texture. Although recommended for chipping, roasting and mashing it is exceptionally good as an all round potato."

Dear Editors,

Lost Kite

I've lost my kite! On Sunday morning 23rd August I briefly flew my kite after walking the dog. The kite got stuck in a tree! I had to get back in a hurry to go and see my son in hospital and wasn't able to get back to the tree until late afternoon - by which time it had vanished!

If any one reading The Crier saved it could they give me a ring and I will come and collect it, please. Thanks. 01638 743864.

Andrew Noyes
1 Mill Hill

Dear Editors,

Those Birds Again

My last word, I hope, on this subject. Birdies are nice. I love all of them. But I admit I do like songbirds more than magpies because they and the other corvidae are aggressive and predatory and growing in numbers *to such an extent that you can see it*, while many of the smaller birds are declining at almost freefall rate (eg tree sparrows) *but they are so small that you pretty well don't notice* - two statements the RSPB would scarcely attempt to deny. Two plus two.

And it's a key sentence in Caroline's quote last issue which is most telling - *The British Trust for Ornithology found no evidence that increased numbers of magpies have caused declines...etc.* The key phrase is 'found no evidence'. This phrase doesn't mean IT IS NOT HAPPENING but WE CAN'T SEE IT HAPPENING SO WE CAN'T SAY IT IS, AND WE CAN'T SAY IT ISN'T. However, in politics especially it is more often used to say WHEN WE SAY THIS WE CAN SOUND INFORMED AND GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT IT'S NOT HAPPENING AT ALL AND THIS WAY NOBODY CAN CALL US LIARS LATER. I'm not accusing the BTO of being economical with the truth - they are a reputable lot as far as I can tell. But you get my drift. What the BTO does not deny is that there are *severe declines in many of our farmland species* - it's in Caroline's quote. There is equally no evidence for Caroline's assertion that 'it seems that the magpie only consumes the spares'. That's as much surmise as any other unsupported opinion, and I have never seen any evidence that there are self-regulatory predators who maintain numbers in balance. I wish she was right but I don't believe she is. The numbers continue to stack the wrong way for her to be right. But see how powerful that phrase '**I have never seen any evidence**' is? It makes me sound like a judge summing up. But all it is is my opinion.

Mark Lewinski

The BTO could find no (anti) correlation between magpie and song-bird density variation from place to place, as would be expected if magpies were affecting song-birds, and despite having trawled through many years' records to find one. Mark is quite right that "there is no scientific evidence for..." is a phrase also used when nobody's bothered to look for any. Ed

Spuds in Buckets 2009: The Result!

Despite fewer entries, competition was fiercer than ever for the 2009 Swaffham Prior Spuds in Buckets challenge. Entrants had from the middle of March until the middle of September to work their green-fingered magic on the single spud provided to produce the heaviest yield possible in their regulation bucket. The afternoon of the judging was hot – but it wasn't just the weather that brought sweat to fevered brows. The judges worked hard lifting laden buckets, sifting secret-formula soil, extracting and weighing the crop of precious potatoes. Thank you John Norris, Linda Evans, Kate Childs and Mandy Kingsmill for helping with this process.

Overall, yields were higher this year; Anita Lang won the adult's prize with 3.114kg of potatoes and Helena Pumfrey triumphed in the children's category with a massive 3.262kg crop! Anita won a Sunday lunch hamper – with a chicken, bottle of wine and wonderful selection of organic vegetables, kindly donated by Doreen and Paul Robinson at Waterland Organics in Lode, and Helena was awarded a Saturday evening supper box filled with goodies for a sausage and mash celebration.

Grateful thanks to all who participated – enjoy your spuds, whether you won or not! By popular request we will be running this competition again next year, so there is plenty of time between now and March to persuade the experts to reveal just some of their winning ways!

Dee Noyes

Adult Competition		
P	Name	Quantity of Potatoes (kg)
1	Anita Lang	3.114
2	Andy Pumfrey	2.720
3	Kate Child	2.614
4	Mandy Kingsmill	1.888
5	Marcia Miller	1.528
6	Marcia Miller	1.522
7	Ruth Scovill	1.448
8=	Mandy Kingsmill	1.390
8=	Linda Evans	1.390
10	Janet Willmott	1.052
Children's Competition		
P	Name	Quantity of Potatoes (kg)
1	Helena Pumfrey	3.262
2	Lucy & Tom Whiteside	2.264
3	Jenny's Grandchild	0.576
4	Emily Noyes	0.534



Winners Anita Lang and Helena Pumfrey with hampers.



**One potato, two potato,
three potato, four....**



From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

It had been three months since I had last attended a PC meeting. I used some of that time nudging up to an important member of Burwell Parish Council to find out how they serve a population of 6,500. It's not easy it appears. For a start the Burwell PC has 17 members and meets twice a month. Handling 17 members must at times be a nightmare, and it seems it is often difficult to come to a decision as people often find it impossible to attend every meeting, and then they come in and revise a decision already almost finalised. And as for their Parish Plan – the sentiment was “the longer that remains buried the better.”



To return to the point - just imagine our own PC doubled in size – **17 of them**. One can only shudder!

A further thought made me shudder even more. This was triggered by Anthony Thomas' excellent and sensitive TV programme about the existence of God which he discussed with important representatives from five religions. Our very own Archbishop of Canterbury was asked about his vision of Hell and whether it matched those vibrant graphic medieval representations in stained glass windows and paintings which show pink and light blue devils having the most enormous fun with the naughty people, both male and female, always naked and often with long blond hair, who had missed out on heaven. Well no, the Archbishop did not share that view. His idea of Hell was to be shut in for all eternity with his double. So what would it be like if the size of the PC was increased by adding a double of each member of the PC. Picking names out at random, would it be an absolute hell to have two Geoffrey Woollards, two Eric Days, two John Covills etc. on the Parish Council?

Having got rid of that little bit of self-indulgence, what did happen at the last meeting. Well, for a start, the meetings of Swaffham Prior PC are gaining such notoriety that a broader press is attending. We had the pleasure of Pat Kilbey, who is not only a Burwell PC member but is also the Editor of the *Burwell Bulletin*. She said she had come for some noteworthy news. Good luck to her!

The old favourites continue to arise and for this we must be grateful. A close eye continues to be kept on the arrival of travellers, the clearance of flytipping by ECDC is taking longer than hoped, the public footpath at the back of the school and adjourning Station Road is of constant concern and the Chairman wondered why people do not realise that hedges do not stop growing. Peter Hart, who appears to have taken up the mantle of Footpath Czar, will report back because this public footpath is now impassable. Something really does need to be done. Geoffrey thinks that the bridge on the way to Reach continues to sink and suggested it needed another examination. Being an all-or-nothing man he wants it to be demolished (the industrial archaeologists won't like that). The Chairman said it was often difficult for horses when meeting buses roaring over the bridge. Meeting a bus on that bridge always adds a moment of excitement no matter how you travel.

With the advent of email masses of information is now being pushed through to

the Clerk for distribution. It is just so easy to do. You don't even have to lick an envelope. Just bang it out. And as we have more and more quangos, public bodies, agencies, so the more information, questionnaires, can be sent out. If your job is to look into race relations, recycling, road safety, you will create work just to make sure your job is retained. Even better you will try to involve the public in ticking boxes, achieving targets, so that you have to employ more people analysing and at the same time preventing the real work being done, The NHS and

Schools already suffer from this and now just ordinary helpful people will be drawn into the new anti-paedophile database which will eventually include up to 11.3 million people. No wonder more than 600,000 public-sector jobs have been added between 1998 and 2007. The latest nonsense is the "Early Years Foundation Stage' (EYFS) which sets out **69 compulsory targets for under fives** that must be met by every state and private nursery, preschool and playgroup. Where is it going to stop? Have any of the people thinking up these schemes ever done a real days work?

So, why this tirade? It is because the PC has been sent a questionnaire on our village Infrastructure Plans so that some newly appointed consultants can decide on the District's infrastructure needs for the next 15 or so years. This was treated with scorn by the PC. More details of this "Infrastructure Investment Strategy" will be given in a later report. Meanwhile an announcement by ECDC shows just how advanced Cambridgeshire is, even beating the Chinese who are expected shortly to announce a swine flu nationwide vaccination programme. Cambridgeshire has got in there first with a letter to the PC informing it **"that a Multi Agency project team has been formed to plan for the mass vaccination of the population of Cambridgeshire"** and they want to know if there are buildings in the village which could be requisitioned for the exercise. So one day we will all be rounded up and made to stand in a long line outside the Village Hall awaiting our jab. .

A Salt/Grit Bin is to be purchased for the village Car Park and after much discussion they settled on a Slim Line Grit Bin. Geoffrey made a reference to Grytpype-Thynne of the Goon Show, but it fell on deaf ears and he could only conclude they were all too young. Though not in the case of Eric because it was revealed that, as Clerk, Karen now earns per hour exactly what Eric earned per annum when he was Clerk. Those who live in the

"As Clerk, Karen now earns per hour exactly what Eric earned per annum when he was Clerk "

lower part of Lower End are aware of the wonderful restoration by Jonathan Cook of the ancient road sign at the bottom of Rogers Road (who was Roger?). This has been inspected by CCC man Paul Butcher who revealed that the finger post indicating Rogers Road is 1.9 metres from the ground rather than the statutory minimum 2.2 metres. This is about twelve

"the 'Early Years Foundation Stage' (EYFS) sets out 69 compulsory targets for under fives...."

inches short and therefore cannot be approved. The matter will be discussed with Martin Mead to discover the best solution.

Now to the coppice Lime in the Churchyard which obscures the tower of St Cyriac's from the High Street. While not strictly a coppice it does have four extra trunks coming out of the base so it is not exactly a classic tree and would not have found a place in Constable's pictures. People would like to see more of St Cyriac's tower which is now obscured by this coppice lime. We were once known as Swaffham Two Churches. The Tree Officer (who has previously agreed to pruning the limes down the side of the Village Hall driveway and also to topping the trees on Town Close) refuses to have any trimming work on the churchyard lime because she thinks it will destroy the shape of the tree. Geoffrey thought only one person wanted to see the church. In Open Question Time I denied this and revealed that I had been putting together a village petition to see the tower. I reckoned that about 40 signatories were needed but, having obtained more than 20, I went off the boil even though many people agreed to sign if I tracked them down with the petition. Only 2 people refused – for entirely different reasons. I promised the Chairman that I would complete the petition by the next PC meeting. So knocking on your door I will be, unless you want to knock on mine.

Meanwhile Geoffrey, a very fair and open-minded man, asked to meet me in the churchyard as he had never really looked at the tree and had not realised so many people wished to see St Cyriac's tower. Details of our discussion are not newsworthy, though we both made the point that "a tree, just like hair, grows back". Prue Hines, who had joined the debate, looked at us, giggled, and said "I'm alright, but I'm not so sure about you two".

SWAFFHAM PRIOR PAROCHIAL CHARITIES

Vacant Agricultural Land

Situated Barston Drove, Reach.
 Mill Hill. Swaffham Prior

The above land has become available for rent.

Barston Drove	approx 1/2 acre
Mill Hill	approx 1/4 acre

Anyone who is interested should contact:

Pam Waters (clerk to the Trustees)
31 Tothill Rd, Swaffham Prior, Cambs, CB25 0JX
Tel 01638 741035

Cambridge Folk Museum Memorial Lecture

To honour the centenary of former curator Enid Porter

Featuring local farrier **Decker Murfitt**, who will talk about his life as a horseman living and working in the fens.

Swaffham Prior Village Hall,
Tuesday 3rd November at 7.00pm.

Moveable Feast 19th September



On a balmy evening 24 people, guided by balloons, found their way to Lord's Ground Farm where they received a warm welcome from Phil and Mandy Kingsmill. Wine and a very attractive tasty starter was enjoyed by all, some making the most of the evening by sitting out-side. We then split into two groups, 14 stopping off at Adventurer's Farm, for a scrumptious main course cooked by Janet, whilst James made a very efficient wine waiter. The other 10 proceeded to Underhill and were royally welcomed by Katrina and

David Greenfield, where they also enjoyed a super main course

Finally on to Tothill Road, where Jenny Brand welcomed us all for dessert course and coffee, by which time any thoughts of dieting had long been forgotten

It was interesting to note that a quarter of the diners had moved out of the village but came back for an opportunity to meet up again with Swaffham Prior friends, comments were heard about now living in dead villages with little community spirit where nothing like this ever happened.

Once again we are truly grateful to Janet Willmott for master minding the evening, liaising with the hostesses and some how managing to get all the diners in the right place at the right time.

All agreed it had been a memorable evening with good food, good wine and good conversations, with a bonus of making a profit of £331 for church expenses

Shortly the Social Working Group will be starting to plan 2010 social and fund-raising events and would really welcome any ideas which you would like included.

Kate Child 743983

Sing to Save Historic Cambridgeshire Churches!

- England Sings to Save Historic Churches At Risk -

- Vote for Which Song You Want To sing -

THREE CHURCHES in Cambridgeshire will be throwing open their doors and their history as they join with other historic churches at risk across England in a unique public singing event over the weekend of 3 – 4 October. The churches include:

St Cyriac & St Julitta, Swaffham Prior - two eccentric churches, sharing the same churchyard and elevated above the village street

All Saints, Conington - vital in the Second World War as a navigational aid to returning airmen from the UK and USA

All Saints, Cambridge - designed by the nationally recognized architect G F Bodley

Called Birthday Song, the weekend sees 40 choirs performing in 40 of the most nationally significant historic churches cared for by the Churches Conservation Trust, celebrating the charity's 40th birthday by providing local people with a unique opportunity to rediscover these magnificent buildings, including St Cyriac & St Julitta, All Saints, Conington and All Saints, Cambridge

Churches will be jumping to music as varied as songs from the shows, Barbershop, sing alongs and classics, providing opportunities for everyone. Most events are free and, leading up to Birthday Song, visitors can vote for which song they want to sing [details below].

The Churches Conservation Trust is the national charity protecting England's historic churches at risk. These are the most significant historic churches which are no longer needed for regular worship. Birthday Song enables people to discover the joy these ancient churches can bring and find out how they can be saved for future generations through contemporary community use.

St Cyriac & St Julitta, Swaffham Prior event and booking information


The Jubilee Ladies Choir from Stowmarket will give an afternoon concert in celebration of the history of St Cyriac & St Julitta. The Ladies will perform a variety of music from secular to modern.

Location: Churches of St Cyriac and St Julitta, High Street, Swaffham Prior, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB5 0LD

Date: Saturday 3rd October 2009

Time: 2.30pm

Entry details: Contact jill.geanev@btopenworld.com 01449 777955



*St. Mary's Church would like to invite
you to this year's*

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 an up and coming young local band. 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.

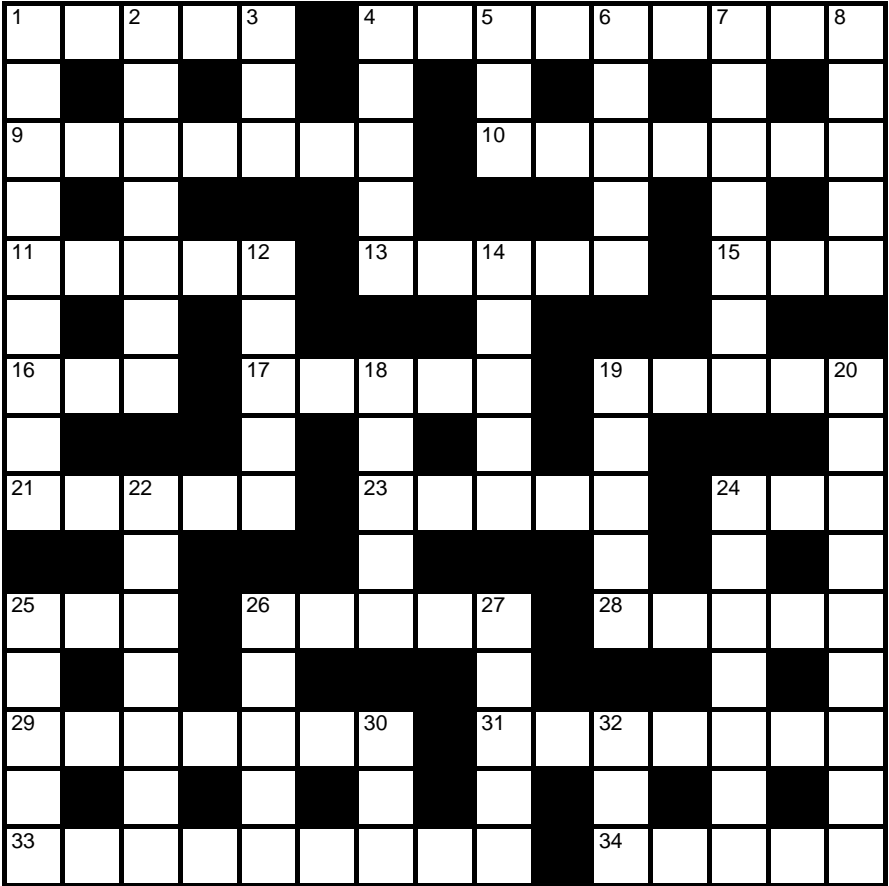
*Tickets available from
Dee Noyes 743864 or John Norris 741465
from 27 September*

Crossword Number 65

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

Compiled by
NIBOR

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

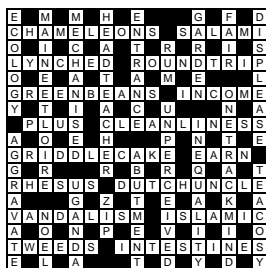
- 1 Play? Take a small drink first (5)
- 4 Wild wrens foul colourful bloomer (9)
- 9 Panel may admit foolish utterances (7)
- 10 Money is back in the warehouse (7)
- 11 Car for a nomad (5)
- 13 Blunder but first go and find fresh eggs (5)
- 15 Even soiled characters are ancient (3)
- 16 Still team leader is after you (3)
- 17 Fleshy stem sounds like euphonium (5)
- 19 Prank I can't adapt (5)
- 21 One in an expensive car is a fast driver (5)
- 23 Mother includes imam maybe (5)
- 24 Defect found in flipping sheep (3)
- 25 Rent permit (3)
- 26 Initially Cock Robin goes to East Street to get feathers (5)
- 28 Black one growing inside (5)
- 29 Rupert B Wild is upset (7)
- 31 Queen Victoria makes early morning start on newspapers (7)
- 33 sad player is injured and immobilised (9)
- 34 Pallid looking meat pie (5)

Down

- 1 Red oyster damaged by warship (9)
- 2 Drink water of life in Sweden perhaps (7)
- 3 Unusually fat behind (3)
- 4 Grips broken twig (5)
- 5 Don returned to give approval (3)
- 6 Inattention to circuit points (5)
- 7 Lack of success on a rainy day? (4,3)
- 8 Artist Edward followed is valued (5)
- 12 Armature going backwards and forwards (5)
- 14 Foreign Office has odd meeting (5)
- 18 Exploding dessert (5)
- 19 A profit is added once more (5)
- 20 Strangely, Lucy is our doctor (9)
- 22 King Edward and Queen Elizabeth follow Tom, the food provider (7)
- 24 Poles may be attracted to publications about fishing gear (7)
- 25 Lick friend (3,2)
- 26 Vicious ulcer mutation (5)
- 27 Team leader studied surface of tyre (5)
- 30 Transport a follower to America (3)
- 32 Did father listen to this kind of music? (3)

We congratulate Bob & Julie Nunn, the winners of last month's competition, who should collect their prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Margaret Beckley, Jenny Brand, Danin O'Dowd and Shirley Wilkins.

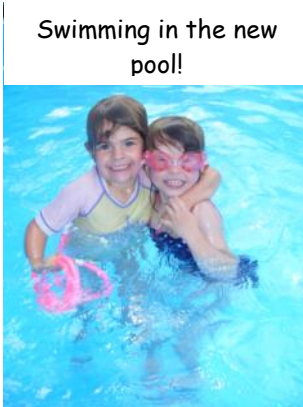
Solution to crossword no. 64



Swaffham Prior Summer Playscheme 2009



Brass Rubbing
in St. Mary's



Swimming in the new
pool!



Pottery



Learning
First Aid



Mad Scientists at work

Archery



Art
Attack



These are just some of the fun things children were able to do at this year's summer **Playscheme**. There were a total of 30 different activities spread out over 5 days from the 20th to the 24th of July

Climbing Mt. Swaffham Prior



Jetty the pony out for some exercise



Archaeology



Triathletes in action



Sugar
Craft



Crazy
golf



Ashes bound!



Nancy Pollini

E-COPS!



E-COPS is an email service from Cambridgeshire Constabulary which keeps you informed of local crime information, community news and policing activities in your neighbourhood. Once signed up, you will receive regular emails from your local policing team that give up-to-date information about what we're doing to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in your area.

And it's not going to cost you a penny - e-cops is completely free of charge!

The benefits of e-cops include;

- Providing direct and convenient access to your neighbourhood policing team
- Emails that are written personally by local officers, about issues affecting your neighbourhood
- Contact with your team to let them know what concerns or issues you have, where you live

Be informed, be involved, sign up to e-cops today. To register, complete the simple online registration form by visiting www.cambs-police.co.uk/signup/ecops/

Like the idea of e-cops? Why not encourage family members, friends and colleagues who live in Cambridgeshire to sign up too? More than 12,500 people across the county are benefiting from e-cops, and now is your chance to join them

Swaffham Bulbeck School PSA

Bonfire & Firework Party

Friday 6th November ,
Vicarage Field

Open: 6pm
(behind the church)



Adults: £3
Lite ropes for sale:

Children: £2
50p

Hot food & drinks available

"NO SPARKLERS PLEASE"

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

School News



Firstly may I introduce myself as the new head teacher at Swaffham Prior School: My name is Diane Hawkes and I was privileged to be appointed as Mrs Vincent's successor, last term. Everybody has made me very welcome and I already feel very much part of the Swaffham Prior Community!

The new school year has started exceptionally well – and is already very busy as usual. Our new Reception children have settled in very well and are fully involved in the life of the school. The Year Six children are enjoying their new responsibilities as the oldest pupils in the school.

The swimming pool is now closed for the season however the children and many of their families enjoyed its use throughout the summer period. I must add my thanks to FoSPS – our Friends' society – for having done such an amazing job with the fundraising for this lovely new pool.

The children have settled well in to their learning and have made excellent starts to their new contexts for learning – the younger children in Reception up to Year 2 have begun work based around "As I Grow Up", and our older children in Years 3 – 6 are looking at "The Blue Planet". The older children will be visiting the Zoology Museum in Cambridge in October which I am sure will really enhance their learning.

We are very pleased that we have been invited to attend the Ely Cathedral Schools' Day on October 14th. Neptune class, our Year 3 and year 4 children, will be going along to this event. It will be particularly exciting this year with the cathedral celebrating its 900 year anniversary. The children will be producing some work to take along and display at the event.

We will soon be celebrating Harvest and our Harvest Festival service will be held at St. Mary's on 15th October at 11am. Everybody is most welcome to attend - it would be lovely to have the chance to meet people from our village community.

We have decided to have a "bulb planting session" on Wednesday 7th October when we will be inviting parents in to help us plant as many bulbs as possible around the school grounds so that we will have a colourful display all around the school in Spring. If anyone has any "spare" bulbs that they could donate to this project we would be very grateful – hopefully our local community will also enjoy our anticipated flowers!

Diane Hawkes

RECEPTION ADMISSIONS 2010

We are now accepting applications for Reception places for September 2010. If you would like an admissions form or to have a visit to our school please contact us on 01638 741529 or just pop in to make an appointment.



WI Notes

Our next meeting will be on 19th October at 7:30 in the Village Hall when we will have a speaker from the Mary Wallace Cancer Support Centre to tell us about the work they do. Anyone considering joining us will be interested to know that October is a very good month to become a member as you get an extra couple of months FREE. Of course you can always come along as a guest and find out more. We rarely sing Jerusalem and Jam making is never on the agenda! In addition to a varied list of speakers and outings that we arrange locally there is a wide range of events available through the Cambridge Federation that we are able to enjoy. Did you know that WI has its own adult education college near Oxford? Denman College is a Georgian House set in 17 acres of lovely grounds and offers an impressive programme of short residential courses and some day schools.

Pat Cook

President 01638 742224

Burwell and District Flower Club

...meets at 7.15pm at Burwell Village College and we would be pleased to welcome new members and friends.

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 8 October. | Brenda Tubb will give a demonstration entitled "In the Lime Light" |
| 12 November | Nick Grounds will give a demonstration entitled "Christmas Carols" |
| 10 December. | Lee Berrill will give a demonstration entitled "When you wish upon a Star" |
-

Book Club

It's not easy getting started again is it? It's too short notice for a decent read for this month so we're getting together at Kent House (on the High St opposite the playground for new members) on the 7th October. We can use this for a general discussion about what we've been reading over the summer and then have a more purposeful discussion to decide what we're going to read for future meetings. If you want a delightful short read before the 7th, try Alan Bennett's "An Uncommon Reader" (done in a couple of hours for a slow reader like me). I look forward to seeing you again.



The Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

On a beautiful hot August day a coach full of ladies (and some husbands too!) set off on a day trip to Wroxham Barns in Norfolk followed by a Paddle Steamer trip from Horning after Lunch. It was a perfect day weather-wise and we all thoroughly enjoyed the chance to wander around the complex at Wroxham Barns and have our lunch there. Some of the men managed to discover a "Crazy Golf" Course which kept them amused while the ladies perused the shops! The trip on the Paddle Steamer was a delight – not only restful but also very interesting as we were filled in on local tales and knowledge by an experienced guide. We embarked at Horning, going down to Ranworth and back to Horning. All in all it was a very good day out and thoroughly enjoyed by all who went. We shall have to start thinking about a venue for next Summer's Outing!

At our September Meeting Tracy Grimster came to speak to us about "Newmarket Open Door" – how the project evolved, how it developed, and the role of Newmarket Open Door today. She was both fascinating and inspiring to listen to as she told us how this whole project to accommodate the homeless began at a Bible Study Group run by "Churches Together in Newmarket". It was formed in 1997 with the objects being "the advancement of the Christian faith and education including the relief of persons experiencing poverty, homelessness, physical and mental disability and the provision of accommodation and support". It has certainly fulfilled all those objectives and to date they have 3 houses in Newmarket High Street (Portland House, Cranworth House & Windsor House) and they run Rockfield House as a Hostel for homeless families on behalf of Forest Heath District Council. As well as this they run a Charity Shop in Old Station Road and a "Superstore" where furniture items and other large goods are on sale to the public and where young people are given training in woodworking skills.

Much support, advice and training is given to all those who find themselves in the care of Newmarket Open Door and many are helped to find employment as they step back into the world with a renewed sense of self worth.

It is a marvellous initiative and we do thank Tracy for coming to speak to us and enlighten us about the very worthwhile work that takes place within Newmarket Open Door – it is an admirable local Charity.

We also enrolled 2 new members to the Mothers' Union at the Meeting which was a joy and our membership now stands at 30.

Our next MU Meeting is on Thursday 15th October when we will be watching a short DVD on the work of the Mothers' Union abroad. They do such worthwhile work in housing people who live in areas of real poverty and need. We will also have a Bring & Buy Stall at this Meeting – a Stall on the theme of "Autumn". Please do come and join us – everyone is very welcome. Same time same place – Lode Chapel at 2.30pm!

Pauline Lewis

PC Chris Herring's

POLICE UPDATE FOR

AUGUST 2009



Welcome to my second monthly update (Sorry, the *Crier* missed the first one. Eds) happening in the area. However before I start telling you about crime I thought I'd update you on changes to our staffing. Inspector Alan Savill is leaving East Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood team to take up a more senior post at Parkside Police station in Cambridge and he will be missed by the team and residents alike. However do not panic as his replacement is Inspector Andrew Bartlett who has worked in the East Cambridgeshire Sector before as a Sergeant at various times over the last few years and so knows the area well and I'm sure will fit into the role with ease.

Finally, they're getting a new car....

I am sad to say we will also be losing one of our old police cars **BUT** it is to be replaced with a new all singing all dancing car fitted with ANPR. **"What is ANPR?"** I hear you say. Well it stands for Automatic number plate recognition. As you may have seen on television this will allow us to target groups and individuals who use the roads to travel to commit crime and also will help us target drivers with no insurance and no tax. However to make this system work for us we need information. The public already provide intelligence about people and their vehicles but this can often soon become out of date. So if you have information about criminals and their latest vehicles or people you believe are driving without licences, tax or insurance please tell us and we will target them.

Finally don't forget that it is the annual **Ely Police Station open day** on Sunday 27th September where there will be a number of emergency services present with displays and activities for all ages.

So what is happening in the areas?

BOTTISHAM and LODE

There were 4 house burglaries and 1 shed burglary where 3 pony riding saddles were stolen.

There were 3 criminal damages including 2 separate windows and a vehicle.

There were 3 Thefts. One was a ladder another was 250 litres of red diesel and the third was a large grass cutter.

There was 1 theft of a vehicle for which a person has been arrested and charged.

However there were some more unusual crimes that are worth noting:

A distinctive pedal cycle was stolen in Bottisham which the owner had customised and has not yet been found. It is painted gloss black and the front wheel is larger than the rear wheel and looks a bit like a penny farthing.

A red IFOR WILLIAMS horsebox trailer was also stolen and may still be in the area.

Finally a taxi driver collected a male from Cambridge who asked to go to another village via Bottisham. The male got out saying he was going to an address and then ran off without paying. He is described as a male of Asian appearance of a slim build with a London accent and seemed to know the village and used the name Nazeem. If anyone has any information about this male please contact me via the Police Service Centre telephone number 0345 4564564 or via crime stoppers on 0800 555 111

BURWELL

There were 2 thefts from cars one was a handbag and the other was plumbing items.

There was one house burglary where a male was detained by a member of the public until police could arrive and he has been charged in relation to this offence, he is on bail in relation to another.

There were two other non dwelling burglaries.

There were 3 domestic related incidents. Two people have been arrested and charged with various offences.

There were two thefts one of some patio lights and one from the Co-op in Burwell. One person has been arrested and charged in relation to the Co-op crime.

THE SWAFFHAMS and REACH

There were 6 thefts in the area. Two were lead stolen, one was money and the rest were agricultural and equine equipment.

Of the three other crimes reported 1 was a smashed car window, one was a male who had an item thrown at him by a passing car and the final and most despicable were some head stones pushed over in the Swaffham Bulbeck Cemetery.

PC 1642 Chris Herring

The Skye Boat Song

*If you want to be in the swim
You've got to own a boat.
You've got to air an expansive flair,
And wear it, like a coat.*

*You've got to own an **expensive** boat
And leave it, week by week
Marina bound, or run aground
Or moored in some old creek.*

*The important thing is that it's there
And friends soon get to know
That you've got lots of brass and
are upper class
And not one of the low.*

*In business deals, so you can rate
Exactly how you stand
You must swap notes on each
others' boats
To see which is more grand.*

*Some people find it hard enough
Just to stay afloat;
But if you want to be in the swim
You've simply GOT to own a boat.*

Ophir

(Our Skye Correspondent)



News from Wicken Fen

Development of the Wicken Fen Spine Route is progressing well with planning permission currently being sought for a bridge across Reach Lode which will link Burwell and Tubney Fen's. This will complete the crucial missing link in the Spine Route, which will eventually link Cambridge and neighbouring villages to Wicken Fen. Consultations are also on-going with users, local communities and statutory authorities to examine options for a new crossing over Burwell Lode. Thankfully the spine jangling ride along White Fen Drove is now a thing of the past thanks to our partners, Cambridge County Council who have resurfaced the Drove.

Since joining the Wicken team in May, Community Warden, Emma Shepherd has been busy working on the development of our new Dragonfly Centre and introducing standup paddleboarding to Wicken Fen, which is proving a big hit with our visitors. Emma is now planning to carry out an informal survey of horse riders throughout the Vision area to learn more about where they currently ride and how the Trust could work with them to enhance access. Emma will be visiting local stables and riding schools and would like to speak to as many riders as possible over the next few weeks. If you would like to speak or meet with Emma, she can be contacted at the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274 or e-mail emma.shepherd@nationaltrust.org.uk

Our team of Wardens and volunteers will be busy out on the wider Vision lands in the coming months. Oily Hall is to be fenced and we are now looking for local graziers interested in grazing the site, please contact Michelle Boliver on 01284 747523 e-mail michelle.boliver@nationaltrust.org.uk if you are interested. Since being acquired by the Trust in 2007, Oily Hall has been reverted from set aside and is now being entered into Higher Level Stewardship as a conservation grassland and provides a perfect example of land being brought back into agricultural production whilst at the same time providing a high quality habitat for wildlife. The Trust is also working with the Fenland Bridleway Association and the Internal Drainage Board to create a permissive horse riding route on the site.

A range of native broadleaved bushes, such as willow, hawthorn and field maple are to be planted on White Fen during the winter. This will eventually lead to creation of a mosaic of low level woodland and open grassland habitats. Volunteers to help with the planting would be greatly appreciated and further details will be published in the coming months.

The weather could have been better but it's been a great summer on the Fen with visitor numbers considerably higher than in previous years. Wildlife highlights include Avocets breeding on the reserve for the first time, together with Stonechats, Bearded Tit's and three pairs of Marsh Harriers all breeding on the fen. The arrival of a Squacco Heron and Collared Pratincole from warmer Southern climes created great excitement amongst 'twitchers'.

Our programme of summer Wild Child events continues until the schools return in early September. Why not start your adventure on the fen by collecting a Wild Child Trail from the Visitor Centre. We have pond dipping on Tuesdays,

Paddleboarding on Wednesdays and Boat Trips along beautiful Wicken Lode every on Thursday. Why not enjoy a **Fenman's Day (5 Sept)** with local eel catcher and working fenman, Peter Carter, see how to set eel traps and experience some harmless wildfowling including a rare chance to witness a punt gun in action. Learn how to make rush mats and baskets on a **Rush Weaving Workshop (19 Sept)** or enjoy an **Autumn Guided Walk (20 Sept)** with our Wardens. Please contact the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274 for information and bookings.

Hope to see you at the fen soon

Howard Cooper
Wicken Fen

Open Day

Red2Greenhouse

Saturday 24th October
10am—4pm



- **Winter Bedding**
- **Wide Selection of Perennials**
- **Fresh Fruit and Veg**
- **Tea, Coffee and Cakes**
- **Homemade jams and preserves**

We look forward to seeing you!

Red2Greenhouse ♦ Behind Bottisham Village College ♦ Lode Road ♦ Bottisham ♦ CB25 9DL ♦ Phone 01223 813650 ♦
red2greenhouse@red2green.org ♦ www.red2green.org

Notes from the Parish Council Meetings–13th August & 10th September 2009

John Covill chaired both meetings with 7 Parish Councillors and 2 members of the Public attending at each meeting.

Reports:

CCC: Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting (Aug/Sept)

ECDC: Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting (Aug)

Parish Council Vacancy: ECDC was informed of a vacancy following the resignation of John Jordan and after the statutory notice process, confirmed that no applications had been received and that the vacancy could now be filled by co-option.

If anyone is interested in becoming a Parish Councillor and would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk or speak with one of the Parish Councillors.

Repairs to the Pound, Cage Hill (Aug/Sept): Following further advice from Rosie Burton, Conservation Officer for ECDC, it was agreed to progress this to the next stage and ask the Structural Engineer who carried out the original inspection to put together a specification for the work with a view to obtaining quotations.

Removal of Cedar Tree in Churchyard (Aug/Sept): It was agreed to consult with villagers about this in partnership with the Parochial Church Council. Further details to follow.

Purchase of Salt/Grit Bin for Village Car Park (Sept): This was agreed.

Planning Matters including:

(August) Land adjacent to Water Tower, Mill Hill – *further 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.

(September) Tubney Fen, Little Fen Drove – construction of bird hide on Tubney Fen adjacent to the Mere.

Ref: 09/00524/FUL (for information). No objections.

The Manor House, 37 Lower End – erection of field shelter with feed room.

Ref: 09/00599/FUL. No objections.

Approval of Reserved Matters – *land adjacent to Water Tower, Mill Hill.*

Accounts for Payment: These were agreed.

Clerk's Report:

The new road sign at Rogers Road/Lower End is now in place. Following inspection by CCC Highways, an amendment is required to comply with height regulations. Once this has been done, the footpath will be reinstated and the area cleared.

Overhanging vegetation on the driveway to the village hall has now been cut



Not all potatoes turned out the same... See Spuds in Buckets, p 8.

back.

Dog fouling continues to be a problem.

Further supplies of 'poop' bags from ECDC are now available. Please contact the Clerk.

The noticeboard at the cemetery has been vandalised. This is to be repaired. The work to replace the fencing and gate to the rear of the play area has now been completed.

Letters have been sent to owners/tenants of land along the footpath from Pulpit Corner to Devils Dyke asking for their help to install kissing gates given to the Parish under CCC's Parish Paths Partnership scheme.

The footpath on Station Road has again failed in its bid for CCC funding to have it resurfaced but is to be edged and tidied. Anglian Water has cut back bushes, etc.,

that were overhanging the footpath in front of the Water Treatment Works.

Allotment: One of the allotments has recently become available for rent. If anyone from the village would like an allotment, please contact the Clerk.

Parish Councillors' Reports:

Steve Kent-Phillips reported that he had tidied the bus shelter noticeboard by reversing the back board to hide the graffiti.

Steve Kent-Phillips told the meeting that the Scouts would be helping with the refurbishment of the village seats and the cutting back of the young growth at the base of the Lime trees in the play area.

Peter Hart reported on the condition of the footpath from the Village Car Park to Station Road (FP11), noting that it was totally impassable inside the paddock. This was to be followed up with the owners of the Paddock.

Open Question Time:

General discussion.

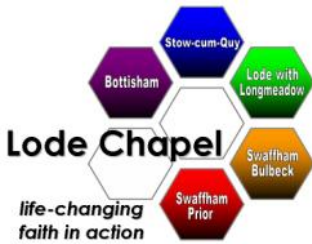
If anyone would like further information on any of the above items, please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 8th October 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



In Search of Wisdom

A record number of young people will be enjoying their first few weeks of university life this month. Our society, with the mantra “Education, education, education” ringing in our ears, rightly values the importance of learning and our quest for knowledge.

Indeed, we often hear commentators telling us that the solution to most of the world’s problems is better education. But is that really all that is necessary – surely it was educated people who created the atom bomb, and who continue to think up new and ingenious ways for us to destroy one another? Isn’t it possible to be, as the saying goes, “all dollars, but no sense”?

I want to suggest that an important aspect of knowledge is wisdom – but what does it mean to be ‘wise’? Each new generation faces a world with more choices and opportunities than ever before and, in my opinion, wisdom is the ability to choose what is right and good. Whilst some might suggest that a lack of education is the reason that some people choose a criminal lifestyle – doesn’t the case of Bernard Madoff (whose fraudulent investment schemes stole £33bn of people’s hard earned money) lead us to think that education just makes cleverer criminals?

When I went to university my grandmother gave me a Bible and wrote these words from Proverbs 3:5 inside the front cover: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding”. The Bible offers a different perspective on knowledge and tells us it’s not just *what* you know, but *who* you know that is important. Indeed, the Hebrew word used for ‘knowledge’ in the Old Testament is the same word that is used to describe the intimate relationship between husband and wife, and this is evident in the older translations which talk about Adam ‘knowing’ Eve. Our relationship with God and our respect for His ways is, the Bible says, the beginning of wisdom.

Of course there are those who have done terrible things ‘in the name of religion’ – but a relationship with God isn’t about being religious, or going through certain rituals. Those who really ‘know’ God realise that his heart beats to the rhythm of love, joy, peace and justice, and they seek to live their own lives in tune with the heartbeat of God. Even those who wouldn’t call themselves Christian acknowledge the wisdom in the teaching of Jesus. Perhaps his life, one lived in perfect harmony with God, should be our inspiration and guide as we seek real wisdom in the midst of the challenges that our modern life brings?

Simon Goddard

This Month’s Services (All 10.30am unless otherwise indicated)

4th – Creation Sunday (our harvest celebration – bring something for Jimmy’s Nightshelter)

4th – Sacred Space quiet and contemplative service (5.30pm, refreshments from 5pm)

11th – RE:NEW Kids Club at Bottisham Primary School with café for the adults (10.30am).

18th – Morning Worship with Communion (10.30am)

25th – Morning Worship (10.30am)

For more information please contact: Rev. Simon Goddard.

Tel: (01223) 812881

Email: simon.goddard@lodechapel.org.uk

Web: www.lodechapel.org.uk

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

Masses: Newmarket: Sat 1830; Sun 1030;

Kirtling: Sun 0900;

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

FREecycle

If you have any offers or wants, please contact me by the 14th of each month on jun.thompson@tiscali.co.uk, phone on 01223 813362, or drop a note through 23 Longmeadow. Everything is free and nothing is expected in return. Should you be unsuccessful, please try your offers/wants on <http://freebiefreakz.org> or <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cambridgefreecycle/>



Offers

- Electrolux upright vacuum cleaner; Wicker shopping basket; Plastic clothes horse; Plastic wine rack (20 bottles); Arabia coffee set, small cups, complete apart from sugar bowl; Glass fruit bowl; 5 brandy glasses; 5 champagne flutes; Samsonite suitcase (smallest size) with lock; Antler suitcase (smallest size) with padlock, softtop; Music stand (metal). Ken 01223 812740
- Drawing Board. Doreen, 01223 811622
- Mothercare wooden bed-guard. Jun 01223 813362

Dear Friends,

I love the season of autumn in England – that time of mellow fruitfulness. As James Thomson puts it:

"Thy bounty shines in autumn unconfined, and spreads a common feast for all that lives."

The Bible speaks of that 'common feast for all that lives' when Moses says, as he blesses the twelve tribes of Israel:

"May the LORD bless his land with the precious dew from heaven above and with the deep waters that lie below; with the best the sun brings forth and the finest the moon can yield; with the choicest gifts of the ancient mountains and the fruitfulness of the everlasting hills; with the best gifts of the earth and its fullness and the favour of him who dwelt in the burning bush." (Deuteronomy 33:13-16a)

Those words are an expression of what we all feel and hope for in our lives. In this season of autumn we become aware of that hope being fulfilled. As we see the fruitfulness all around us in the fields, the hedgerows, the woods and in our own gardens, we are indeed being blessed *'with the best gifts of the earth and its fullness.'*

In Hampton Court Palace, there is a grapevine under glass, and it is called 'The Great Vine'; it was first planted by Capability Brown, and is about 1,000 years old. It has a stem that is at least two feet thick, and some of its branches are 200 feet long. Because of skilful cutting and pruning, the vine produces several tons of grapes each year. Even though some of the smaller branches are 200 feet from the main stem, they bear much fruit because the life energy of the vine flows right through to them.

Pauline and I saw the Great Vine some years ago and I shall never forget its sheer scale and the enormous numbers of bunches of grapes growing on it. Outside the Conservatory where it lives is a patch of earth where nothing grows. It is there that the roots of the Great Vine run, and where they are fed with all the nutrients to enable it to support all those bunches of grapes on those long branches. When I noticed this plot of land I realised how much the fruitfulness of the Great Vine depends not only on the careful and diligent work of the gardeners who look after it, but also the life-giving energy of the nutrients which it is being fed.

The fruitfulness of our countryside depends so much on the careful and diligent work that we put into caring for it, and the responsible way that we look after the wonderful environment in which we have been set.

It seems to me that we will only truly act responsibly when we are truly thankful for the environment. And that thankfulness should be directed towards the person who has created it for us – God. It is about recognising that it is His 'life energy' that flows through our environment and sustains it, and that we owe a huge debt of gratitude to Him. So, fruitfulness is ultimately about being thankful, as this poem I have come across encourages us to be.



*I offer thanks for just familiar things--
 The ruddy glory of the sunset sky,
 The shine of firelight as the dusk draws nigh,
 The cheery song my little kettle sings,
 The woodland music of my giant pine,
 The last sweet tokens that my garden yields,
 The mellow tints upon the autumn fields,
 The far-off misty mountains' purple line,
 The sense of rest that home so surely brings,
 The books that wait my pleasure, true and fine,
 Old friendships that I joy to feel are mine.
 I offer thanks for just familiar things.*

So let us indeed be thankful, and, therefore, fruitful in our own lives. As Jesus Christ puts it: *'This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.'* (John 15:8)

May God bless you all.

	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior
Sun 4	11:00am Family Communion
Sun 11	11:00am Holy Communion
Sun 18	8:00am Holy Communion 11.00am
Sun 25	11:00am Matins

David Lewis



HOST UK

Are you thinking about who might come for Christmas this year? Perhaps you would like to make it a bit different. Some of the adults from overseas who are currently studying at UK

universities would love to spend a couple of days in a real home, rather than on a deserted campus. It is interesting to share Christmas with people for whom it is all quite new (many international students are from China, for example). HOST has been linking students with hospitable volunteers for 22 years, at Christmas and also one-off weekends throughout the year. HOST is a registered charity backed by the Foreign Office and many universities. It is not necessary for hosts to live near a university, as students are prepared to travel far for this unique experience! See www.hostuk.org or call HOST's voluntary regional organiser, Mandy Talbott, on 01472 851084. Thank you!

Dates for Your Diary October 2009

Sat	3	Sing for St Cyriac's, St Cyriac's, 2.30pm
Wed	7	Bookclub, 8pm, Kent House
Thu	8	Burwell Flower Club, 7.15, Burwell Village College PC Meeting, 7.30pm, VH
Thu	15	Mothers' Union, 2.15pm, Lode Chapel
Sat	17	Harvest Supper, 6pm VH
Sun	18	<i>Crier</i> Copy Deadline
Mon	19	WI, 7.30, VH
Sat	24	Red2Greenhouse Open Day, 10-4pm, behind Bottisham Village Col

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 nd 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	Tim Doe	743656	Weds (term)	6:00-7:30pm	Village School
Reading Group	Brenda Wilson	743937	1 st 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 rd Tues of month	8:00pm	Village Hall
WI	Pat Cook	742224	3 rd 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***