

The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXIV Number 2



Editorial

"Never pass a Gents without taking the opportunity to pay a visit!" Such was the good advice given by Henry Fitch to son James in his maturity (James Fitch is a sorely missed County Councillor) and there's few that would disagree with these wise words.

So yes, the *Crier* (late as ever, but we fervently hope not TOO late) is finally going to join the Mary-Loo debate now the *patrono* has at last decided what editorial policy should be. We're taking the Lautrec line: that's Twoloos Lautrec to readers: *both* churches need a loo.

Its not just the gentlemen of a certain age (or even *ladies*) that might



Possible fate of all those who ignore the Crier?! But where is this "gibbet" readers, and what's it really for?

be taken short in St Mary's, but what about all the children? And the gravel path up to the proposed St Cyriac's loo is far too steep and, um, *gravelly* to push wheelchairs and this is just not good enough.

Whereas for a small contribution to the Crier (well....not that small!) we will of course refrain from mentioning this person who suggested that the St Mary's problem was easily solved by cutting your standard Church Service to the bone, the current St Cyriac's "solution" doesn't seem to be much of a solution for St Cyriac's either. Freezing old St Cyriac's needs a loo because it is a Concert Hall. Or was might be the operative word, because of course it is because of its unique and totally sublime but now imminently threatened acoustics that people willingly agree to shiver in it.

Now, these here acoustics are a lot like chimneys in many ways. You can do all the

measurements and calculations you like when putting in a mod, but drat it, the wretched thing never works properly again. Not to mention *aesthetics* as well. Unlike St Mary's Loo, the proposed Cyriac's will chop an arm off, and this is *not good enough* either.

Some years ago, the Churches' Conservation Trust offered the village the opportunity to take the running of St Cyriac's into their own hands, which, forewarned, so to speak, the village wisely dodged. But this has meant that all the responsibility has fallen on the highly efficient but nevertheless highly overworked **PCC** who will not be thanking the Crier editors for this. um. untimely article! We should have said so before. Yes. but how, when we did not know—when was this Village Open Meeting we missed?

No *contents* this month sorry readers — you will just have to read through everything instead!

Caroline

Cover Picture: Where have all the flowers gone? by Claire Warren



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Winifred Theobalds

Friendly folk at the 'Red Lion' handed me a copy of the Swaffham Crier, and so here we go. I would like to find out a bit more about the sister of a great grandmother. According to our records Winifred Theobalds of Steeple Morden married a Joseph Burgess in London on 13 May 1825. They had 6 children and according to the 1841 Census Winifred was living at Horse Green, Swaffham Prior and a Publican. Any further information would be much appreciated. There is more background information on the website of Richard Burgess.

Stephen Taylor

Dear Editors.

Quy Traffic Calming

Thank you for your recent email concerning the above traffic scheme (see *Jan Crier. Eds*). I note the concerns being raised over traffic patterns which have been brought to our attention in the past.

The calming measures implemented in Quy village were the subject of a review last year and minor changes to the scheme were implemented. The concerns raised from other villages along the B1102 over the impact on traffic using the route were made known to Quy Parish Council at that time and the option of removing the measures has been considered on several occasions but rejected by the Parish Council.

Alternative measures have also been considered such as speed cushions but the costs involved would be considerable and funding is not available at this time.

More recently, officers visited the site with County Councillors Nick Clarke and David Brown, along with a Parish Council representative to consider the current situation and it was agreed to continue to monitor the accident record to assess the effect that the calming measures are having on safety in the village. Some minor measures to tidy up the signing for the scheme were also agreed.

Councillors Nick Clarke and David Brown will be kept informed of the monitoring and no doubt this information will be circulated to other parishes along the route in due course.

David Lines

David.Lines@cambridgeshire.gov.uk, Area Traffic Engineer, South Highways

And our reply.....

Dear David,

Thank you so much for this reply, which we will publish in February Swaffham Crier. It appears we will have to infiltrate the Quy Parish Council then. Alas, it is only we outsiders that are the guinea pigs accidentally participating in the accident measuring experiment proposed, because it is surely only once in a blue moon that any resident of Quy will be obliged to drive through the whole of it.

One of the things the guinea pigs can never understand though, and this applies to Swaffham Prior too, is why the speed limit is not simply reduced to 30mph. One potential counter-argument (that these disobedient speed-hog piglets would simply ignore it) surely fails on two counts. Firstly, there is now a different culture (doubtless in part brought about by speed measuring devices, especially the newer ones that say "Thank-you" — in our case, they always say this, of course) and secondly, that the other form of road-hogging, the "lane-hogging" mentioned in our previous email, must surely have far more disastrous consequences. Surely it is the *relative* speed that is important: with the current measures, 80mph.

Caroline Matheson

Perhaps some kind resident of Swaffham Prior might write a letter to Jackdaw Chatter (the Quy village magazine, email <u>billwatts@stowcumquy.co.uk</u>); they are always wanting more copy! Eds

Dear Editors,

Channel Swim — Sponsorship needed for MAGPAS

My name is Lloyd Clarke and I am in training to swim the English Channel, with my pilot boat booked for the 1^{st} - 10^{th} July 2010. I am swimming the Channel for two reasons; firstly it has always been a dream of mine since I was a boy, secondly I want to say thank you to M.A.G.P.A.S., who saved my life when I was a baby, and raise money for them.

When I was a few months old my Mother thought she heard a noise coming from my bedroom and raced upstairs. My Mother found me with a blue face and purple lips, so if I did make a noise I was doing pretty well! My Mother screamed and my Father came and gave me the kiss of life whilst my Mother called the Doctor. Dr Silverstone arrived, resuscitated me and I breathed again.

Dr Silverstone has built on his out of hours call outs and it is now an amazing organisation called M.A.G.P.A.S., helping thousands of people each year who without that rapid response help may well not be here, just like me.

So far my training has consisted of morning swims at Bottisham pool, coached evening sessions with Ed Williams (from Cambridge Swimming Academy who has swum the Channel himself, and is very helpful) and two open water swims.

My first open water swim was on the Isle of Wight which was 1.8 miles taking 54 minutes, my second was the Lynne Regis memorial swim, in Kings Lynne, which was 3 miles taking 1 hr 32 mins. This year I plan to step up my training with more open water swims, acclimatising myself to the temperature and distance involved. If you know of any local outdoor swims or swimmers please let me know.

This is a huge thing for me and I am honoured and grateful to be able to say thank you for my life by swimming the English Channel. If you are able to I, and lots of people throughout the region, would be very grateful if you were able to help the cause by sponsoring me for M.A.G.P.A.S.

All sponsorship monies are going directly to M.A.G.P.A.S., I am paying for training and swimming costs as it is my dream. I pay for the cost of the pilot boat etc through my work, which is Landscape Gardening. If you do need any help with your

garden please get in touch or have a look at my website, it also has details of the swim and some history of M.A.G.P.A.S.;

www.lloydsgardens.me.uk

There is a link on my website for sponsorship, or you can go straight to; http://www.justgiving.com/Lloydswimmingchannel

Also you can have a look at the M.A.G.P.A.S. website at;

www.magpas.org.uk

If you have a phobia of computers, as many do, there will be sponsorship forms at Bottisham Doctors surgery.

I hope to keep you informed with my progress over the next six (or by the time you read this five...(or possibly four! Eds)) months.

Lloyd Clarke 24 High Street, Lode, CB25 9EW

Dear Editors,

Thanks for the picture of Mary. She's just what I had in mind!

I'm sorry if this verse is too late, But I've only just seen Feb's Deadline Date. For we rely on the post And it's not their proud boast That 'Tomorrow, it'll be next to your plate'.

Ophir Catling
Skye

Capital?

Said the birds to the bees, "What's this we hear, About your knees?"
Said the bees to the birds, "Perhaps;
It's the same as we hear About sparrows' knee-caps".



Ophir

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

White, wooden cot (with transfers on). Can offer with the mattress if wanted. Margaret, c811230.

8 interior flush doors; white front NEFF oven to fit under work surface (8 yrs old). Mike $c811606\,$

Marshall's Landrover Freelander spare wheel cover, excellent condition; Free standing metal CD rack, 4 ft tall, designer; Black Orpington cockerel, 33 weeks old, smart chap who has run with hens and is used to children and dogs, free to very good free range home only. Clare or Ian c811786

19" Mitsubishi analogue colour TV with stand. Excellent condition and picture. Ian or Carole c811963

Wooden Cossato cot, drop side, very good condition; Wooden stair gate, brand new, unused.Christina c813631

Ice Skates (black), size 8. Janet c811643

Wanted

Greenhouse up to 8ft long. Will dismantle and take away; Post card display stand/rack; Any old light fittings, switches, lamps,lampholders.George 07895064727

As many radios as possible for an art project - any age, preferably working order but must at least make some sort of sound please! Robert, robertgood@aol.com

Bottisham Village College, Cambridgeshire

Counselling Training 2010

Introductory, Certificate, Diploma and Advanced Level Training in Adlerian/Integrative Approaches

Open Evening

Find out more about all the courses, meet the tutors and talk to current trainees

Wednesday, 17 March 2010 (7.30 pm to 9.00 pm)

Bottisham Village College, Lode Road, Bottisham, CB25 9DL

For more details contact Sue Tarasewicz on 01223 811372 or email starasewicz@bottishamvc.org/commed www.bottishamvc.org/commed

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

It was a damp night, there were puddles in the Village Hall drive, the bulb of the car park security light had blown, and it was dark, and in my mind were the words of many who often ask me "Why do you do it?" As I sat down I also wondered "Why am I here?"

But the PC members were in a buoyant mood, were cheerful and keen, and while not exactly like a cocktail party of the chattering classes they could certainly be compared to a bellowing of bullfinches, or, would a mob of kangaroos be more suitable. It was impossible not to be caught up in all this enthusiasm.

The effects of the worst snow storm for thirty years came in for some comment. Geoffrey was appalled by the state of some country roads. Always one for a good headline he even compared it with the Haiti situation. Steve, while not saying "Calm down, calm down dear" did gently point out that there was little comparison between the roads in Wicken and the Haiti earthquake. Geoffrey asked for a return to the time when farmers were issued with snow ploughs and used them – either with tractor or horse – to clear the way. He thought CCC should consider this. Never before has any of Geoffrey's requests to CCC been met with such alacrity. In the informative CCC leaflet on *Winter Gritting and Snow Clearing* it says "If snowfalls occur, or heavy snow is forecast, all available resources including the many farmers who have agreed to fix snow ploughs to their tractors, are mobilised." After reading this I an sure Geoffrey will be a very happy man.

The second snow complaint concerned the Waste Collection over the Christmas period. Paul Latchford discovered via the web that Veolia would not be making rubbish collections because of the road and pavement conditions. He was quite indignant that this was their only form of communication and thought that the Veolia contract should stipulate that Veolia would use two methods of communication in any emergency. He was especially concerned for those people who had put out their rubbish and gone away for the Christmas period. Apart from the web other forms of communication are 1) a letter through the post, 2) a hand-delivered letter, 3) a telephone call, 4) a van with a loud hailer, 5) a personal visit. Paul did not say which method he preferred (there may be others) but whatever was chosen would cost a little extra.

The third comment about the snow came from Michael Limb in Open Question Time. He said that at one period during the bad snow some buses refused to go through the village and just used the bypass. It was thought this was an Elf and Safety directive from Soham. The difficulty in finding a solution to this problem (such as a notice at the bus stops) is that it all depended on each individual driver. Some came through the village and some did not. Undoubtedly some passengers suffered badly. For example I had met one lady with arthritic knees who had been waiting in the cold for over an hour seeing three buses going one way and none the other.

At the December meeting Allen Alderson had mentioned a funding shortfall of

over £1.5 million over the next 3 years. A more recent ECDC press story (Newmarket Weekly News 21 January) declared a deficit of more than £1.6 million just for next year. CCC is also suffering budget cuts. Sandra Ginn asked if anyone else had been consulted by a consultancy team employed by CCC to try to decide which cuts we, the people, would prefer. The team came from up north and were being put up in hotels. Sandra, supported by David, wondered why we didn't use our own people. No one on the PC knew anything about this. Sandra said it had been a very long and complicated process and the lady interviewer regretted she could find no-one young to answer questions. It seems they have to interview a certain range and number of people in each village. The only other person I know to have been interviewed was Peter Whitely. Peter is a keen cyclist and when asked for his priority he stipulated cycle paths. Who else has been asked? Do let us know otherwise we will have to blame Peter and Sandra for all the shortfalls and cuts which will be occurring. Unless more were consulted we'll have the announcement that 50% of the village demanded more cycle paths. And if any of the keen cyclists in the village had been asked it might have been that 80% of the village wanted more cycle paths. If that had happened I am sure the figures would have been manipulated. Is this cynicism unjustifiable or is David Dimbleby correct when he says that "lack of trust" is a symbol of the current age?

It was explained that this expensive process is necessary because Central Government wishes to remain in control and insists on seeing that CCC has consulted the people. Of course this relatively random data, based on interviews with relatively few people, will be used by the consultancy firm to produce lots of charts and much complicated analysis which will then be boiled down to a simple statement like "the majority of people wished for"etc. Money well spent? How much would the nation save if the number of consultants was cut by half? And is it true that weak and incompetent management employs the greatest number of external consultants?

A lighter note was hit when the name of the new Water Tower housing site was being considered. Geoffrey thought this should be named after Eric Day as the Day family had once owned the site until it was taken away to provide a source of water for the village. He thought that "Eric Day Close" would be very appropriate or even "Day's Field" — with the apostrophe causing a possible problem. Eric said "Don't even contemplate it!", but even this stern reprimand did not halt the merriment and "Happy Day Close" and "Stolen Orchard" were amongst the suggestions. More seriously "Mill View" or "Miller's Close" were also proposed. Or, what about "The Water Tower"? "No 3 The Water Tower" could sound quite grand and even be equated to "Virginia Water"

The impending cutbacks at ECDC are bad news for the village. Having spent nearly £1,000 for a consultant to pronounce on the Pound Wall and to specify requirements for its repair, ECDC now says that it can only make a "percentage grant" towards the costs. The PC has two concerns – will ECDC reimburse the £1,000 already spent at the request of ECDC, and how will the village be able to afford the almost inevitable high repair costs. Of course everything is going to get worse before it gets better and there are rumours that the buses will be reduced to

one per hour and that plastic bottles may no longer be collected.

A brief note about some other items. The PCC (Parochial Church Council) has generously agreed to pay for the weedy cedar to be cut down – no-one at the meeting could explain this generosity. This of course will not solve the clock problem but in these hard times it is unlikely anything will ever happen to the main culprit – the coppice lime. Now winter is here we can all see what an unattractive tree it is – the result of neglect as nothing was done when the subject was first raised many years ago. The ECDC recycling specialist will be asked to make a presentation to the PC in February. At the time of writing it is not known whether he can come, but this will be of great interest to many of the avid village recyclers. The Neighbourhood Panel is still seeking volunteers to operate the speed check devices. Michael Limb thought it would be of greater benefit for all people to do something useful such as joining the "First Responder" scheme.

Alastair Everitt

What's on at Anglesey Abbey? March 2010

March

Extended Snowdrop Season

Garden open Mon – Sun, 10.30am - 5.30pm (last entry 5pm) With the recent cold weather keeping the snowdrops hidden, there will be extra time to enjoy this joyful flower. This late appearance means they will be in full glory well into March. Feel uplifted by their delicate charm with a visit to one of the most significant snowdrop collections in the country.

Sunday 14 March, 12noon – 2.30pm

Mother's Day Lunch

Enjoy this special day with a three-course, waitress served lunch in the Redwoods Restaurant.

£25 adult, £12.50 child, booking essential on 01223 810092

For details of all our events and opening times, please call in for a copy of our 2010 events leaflet or phone 01223 810080

Anglesey Abbey, Lode, Cambridge CB25 9EJ Telephone: 01223 810080 Fax: 01223 810088 Email:angleseyabbey@nationaltrust.org.ukwww.nationaltrust.org.uk/angleseyabbey Registered charity no. 205846

8

ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING HELD ON 20TH JANUARY AT ANGLESEY HOUSE

A very big THANK YOU to Rod and Anne Clayton for allowing us to hold this years coffee morning in their lovely home. A good number turned up, infact more than anticipated and all enjoyed the opportunity to meet and chat with friends old and new,buy a wide rande of goods, win raffle prizes and at the same time raise £300 for much needed church funds. Thank you also to those who were unable to come but sent a donation ,also to the helpers including Rod's parents.

STOP PRESS

2011 coffee morning will be on 18th January at 10, Station Road, by kind invitation of Mrs. Rosemary Riggs, How's that for forward planning!!

EVENTS 2010, it has been found necessary to slightly adjust some dates published in the January Crier, AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS IT IS AS FOLLOWS

6th MARCH
20th MARCH
23rd MARCH
9th MAY
19th JUNE
27th JUNE
20th MARCH
Pancake Evening.
Rogation Sunday.
Coup de Grass
Strawberry Teas

SEPTEMBER [tbc]
18th SEPTEMBER
16th OCTOBER
13 NOVEMBER
20 NOVEMBER
MARKET

Dog Show
Moveable Feast
Harvest Supper
Quiz Night
CHRISTMAS

Who's going to WIN, then who's going to win....

Eds' DOG

Congratulations to those who spotted last months deliberate mistake, we were just testing to see who really read thier Crier

Kate Child

Bon Mot

A Robin Redbreast in a Cage Puts All Heaven in a Rage But Crow or Magpie? There's a thing! The trouble is, they JUST CAN'T SING.

W B Yeats (not)

SPECIAL FILM EVENING

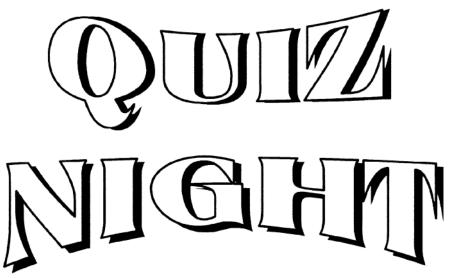


Saturday 20th March 7.00 pm in the Village Hall

Featuring a set of amazing short films, all of which were shot in and about Swaffham Prior.

Come and learn something about the history of the village.

Entry £7.50 includes a glass of wine.



Swaffham Prior Village Hall 7.30 pm ♥ Saturday Sat 6th March 2010

Tickets: £5 each ♥ To book a table contact

Jenny Brand (01638) 742161

Lynne Rand **(01638)** 741960 Jacket Potato Supper ♥ Raffle

Bring your own drinks and glasses

Proceeds in aid of St Mary's Church, Swaffham Prior

Saving Lode Mill

A major building project is underway to save Anglesey Abbey's Lode Mill, which is threatened by water damage, as water seeps into areas of the mill that should be dry.

The work, which will last six weeks, means the Lode will be dammed, the water in the mill drained and silt removed before engineers and builders can properly assess the extent of the damage on the historic mill.

Lode Mill was built during the 1700's to mill grain for the local area and has stood the test of time very well, until staff began to notice water seeping into the dry-well, which houses the massive pitwheel. Under normal circumstances this area should remain bone dry.

When a large fish appeared in the pit well, the pit housing the pitwheel scale of the problem began to dawn.



"Dorothea" Restoration in the dry

Andrew Durham is the Mill Steward at Anglesey Abbey

"The Mill is over 260 years old and is an important piece of our industrial heritage. But it became clear that water is getting in where it shouldn't and these leaks threaten the milling machinery - some of which has been shifted out of position by the flooded foundations. We began to realise the scale of the problems when I unblocked a drain and water came rushing in faster than we could drain it out!

"Over time, water from the lode has scoured away some of the mortar in the foundation walls and dislodged some of the bricks, making holes in the walls separating the waterwheel and pitwheel, so water is just pouring through at the moment. There's also a sluice gate that helps control water levels which is worn out, so the water's not being controlled in the right way.

"It's a big project, but once it's done it will mean we can have the mill running more for people to come and experience us milling Anglesey's own flour."

Ouy Water has been temporarily dammed and work has now begun to clear out the remaining silt. There is no effect on the flow of Quy Water to the Lode as the Mill's by-pass channel is unaffected.

It's a big, dirty job and must be done with care to prevent further damage to the fragile brickwork.

Colin Thompson is the project manager from T Butler and Sons, the local building company tasked with making the mill dry again. "The first priority is to stop the water getting in where it shouldn't and then after that we'll be able to get underneath the mill and see what's really going on. We're working very closely with the building team from the National Trust and a specialist mill restoration firm, Dorothea Restoration, to make sure everything's being done to the highest standards

and in the best interest of this lovely old building. You never know quite what you're going to find when you're getting into places that have been completely out of view for hundreds of years, so there might be some surprises yet!"

It is hoped the work will be done by March 2010, when the mill will grind into life once more. In the meantime, the mill is closed for visitors but people walking past will be able to see a hive of activity as the work on Lode Mill continues.

MEDIA INVITATION

A chance to see the work in progress, the inner workings of the mill, and to talk to Colin and Andrew about the project.

Tuesday 9 Feb, 11am-1pm, Lode Mill Anglesey Abbey.

For more information, and to confirm attendance, please contact Rachel Stock, Interpretation and Marketing Officer, Anglesey Abbey, on 01223 810090 or rachel.stock@nationaltrust.org.uk

SWAT'EM Bulbeck!!

Rare victory for the Beck's in three goal thriller By Damian Thryce-Knightley

Bit of luck, don't you know! I'd travelled up to Cambridgeshire in the hope of covering some fen racing, only to find the ice wasn't thick enough, so I took the opportunity to drop in on the annual Boxing Day battle between two ancient rivals, the adjoining villages of Swaffham Prior and Swaffham Bulbeck.

Rumour has it the feuding between the two Swaffhams goes back centuries to the time when every village fattened its flock of geese for Christmas in the days before turkeys. Bands of rustlers from either village would try to steal the valuable birds and so deprive their neighbours of a Christmas feast. At some point the practice died out but the sense of rivalry did not and is today represented on Boxing Day by a kind of hockey match played on a (usually) muddy, sloping recreation ground.

The game, full of passion and all-out commitment, is recognisable as hockey, though it would not be difficult to imagine the villagers wielding clubs rather than sticks and the head of some hapless mutual enemy rather than a ball. Neither sex nor age appears to be any bar. If you're up for risking life and limb you're likely to get a game.

Bulbeck in shirts of motley hew, looked the heavier and more mature. By contrast, the white shirted Priors seemed, for the most part, more youthful and agile, swans rather than geese you might say. Despite any difference in physique or experience, honours were even in the first half. With the aid of the slope the Priors kept Bulbeck at bay and even made forays into enemy territory. In the second half, the hard-hitting Becks, now with the slope in their favour, drove the Priors into often desperate defence. Time was running out. A draw looked inevitable. Then the Beck's finally broke through Priors' valiant rearguard and scored twice in quick

succession. But it was not quite over. Drawing deep on their dwindling reserves, Prior created a flowing move in the dying seconds which ended with a fine shot to narrow the margin. The match had barely restarted before the umpire's final whistle brought the struggle to an end for yet another year.

Bulbeck just about deserved to cook Prior's goose!

If you're in the vicinity of the Swaffhams next Christmas why not join the band of enthusiastic supporters on the touchline (dogs welcome) and sample the mulled wine and spicy sausages. Then retire for a pint in one of the local hostelries and enjoy the post-mortem.

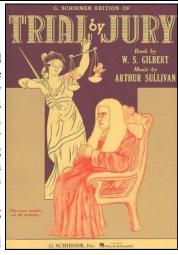
Next week I'll be reporting on the annual grave-hopping competition from Deepdown-under- Sod in Dorset.

The Sun Sports' Editor writes:

Damian joins us from his part-time job on the Maidenhead Examiner as our Special Reporter on rare sports. We can look forward to lively accounts of dwoil flinging, welly hurling, cheese rolling and pancake tossing. Quite a change from the posturing of the prima-donnas of the Premiership! Damian was educated at Eton and Oxford (a half-blue at boules) and his appointment is entirely consistent with the Sun's decision to back the Tory toffs. In similar vein, a girl now needs an A and two B's to have any chance of appearing on page three.

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre are proud to present a double bill of operetta; "The Zoo" (music by Sir Arthur Sullivan and libretto by Bolton Rowe) followed by Gilbert and Sullivan's ever-popular "Trial by Jury". The show will run for four days from Wednesday 9th to Saturday 12th June 2010; there will be performances daily at 7:30 and a matinée on Saturday at 2:30. The venue, as in the last three years, will be Downing Farm, Swaffham Bulbeck. licensed bar is available performances and tea is provided at the matinee. Ticket prices and Box Office details will be available from early April.



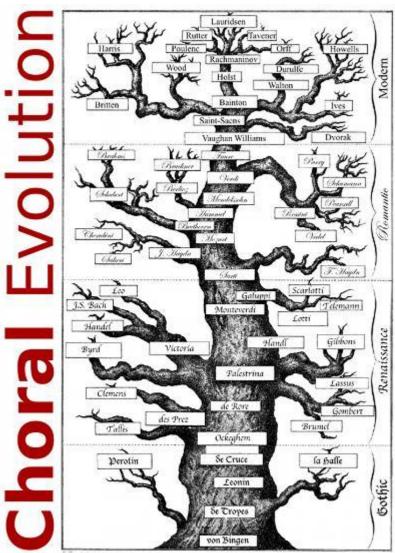
SBST is an not for profit charitable organisation of amateur performers which has been providing entertainment in the area since 1982. If you would like further information or are interested in joining please contact Ruth Dennis on 01638 508171 or e-mail info@sbstgands.co.uk

We look forward to seeing you and are sure that you will enjoy the show!

Sat 27th March 2010, St Mary's Church, Swaffham Bulbeck, 7:30pm

• The Cantilena Singers - director Daniel Spreadbury

A concert featuring a range of pieces covering the full development of sacred music from the earliest recorded choral works to the current day.



Tickets £7.50 available on the door or in advance from Margaret Roberts (01223 811772) or Johanna Barber (01223 811879).

Crossword Number 68

Compiled by

Sponsored by The Red Lion

OUNCE

Send your answers to the editors by 18 February 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. Cheers!

	1		2			3	4		5	6	7	
0									0			
8									9			
		10		11			12					
	13					14						
15				16			17	18			19	
10				10			.,	10			13	
	20			21			22		23			
24					25		26					
			27	28		29	30		31	32		
						33						
34	35						36					
											37	
											· ·	
38						39						

Name:	
Adress	
	.Tel:

Across

- **8/1** Peter Pan takes quiet time for herbal drink (10,3)
 - Like including maize for ingredients of (alternative to 40A) drink (6)
- Drink befogging FBI, lost and confused (6)
- A violent combination for bedtime drink (8)
- German horse escapes 10A but takes a very long time (3)
- Made a large toddy, originally by fermenting cereal (4)
- **16** Exclude legal body with the exception of drink counter (3)
- 17 19D and 23D say, green, ripe and picked early to begin with (5)
- Cecil takes directions unhappily for drinks permit (7)
- 22 Celebration? Remove oil before mixing drink (8)
- Drink medical man took with part of 8A (2, 6)
- Gangster company on vacation with constituent of many drinks (7)
- Dices topped and tailed drinks coolers? (5)
- 28A poisoning gives rise to 500 targets, no great shakes (3)
- Drink containers found in African savannah (4)
- Speak softly in Puerto Rico or Cuba (3)
- Teratoma dreadful outcome of mixing drink? (8)
- Amber drink canister is gone, crushed (6)
- Drink Charlie takes over when

Candy loses time (6)

Cocktail Charlotte Russe lost, lost drink (10)

Down

- 1 See 8 Across
- 2 Pigs to make plug for barrel (6)
- 3 Drink another on grotesque grebe? Hesitation follows(6,4)
- **4** Powerful (drink) good man with another, good (6)
- Country of dry drinks? (6)
- 6 Body odour preceding abstainer before the French store drink (6)
- 7 Unknown in a little while (4)
- Core of cake returned (3)
- Lager and rye combined for noble beverage (4,4)
- At start, river in abundance drowned valley (3)
- 19 One lingers unusually over 17A drink (8)
- 21 Pinch a small drink (3)
- 17A from discomposed composer with single 9A (10)
- 23 Auntie primarily buys big clothes (3)
- Optic first person heard (3)
- RAF Ace smashed decanter (6)
- 28 Drink for the twisted? (6)
- Foil drink (6)
- Short time for moderately dry (drink) (3)
- 32 Girl with cat's tail for drink (6)
- Illegal drink loses radiance giving rise to rude display! (4)
- Request 100 to leave barrel (3)

News from Wicken Fen

There have been numerous sightings of Bittern, one of Britain's most elusive and endangered wetland species at the fen in recent weeks. Although we have Bitterns at the fen it is believed that some of the birds have most probably migrated from mainland Europe to escape the harsh conditions being experienced there this winter.



Our highland cattle and konik ponies thrived in the recent arctic conditions, including the latest arrivals, Auyara, a konik pony foal born on 9 December, and Norman, a highland calf born on 17 December. The highland calf was only hours old when the temperatures plunged as the first snows of winter arrived on 17 December. The mother hid the calf in the undergrowth to protect it from the freezing temperatures and biting winds and he is now doing well and roaming with the rest of the herd.

Admission to Wicken Fen will be free on Tuesday 2 February as we mark World Wetlands Day with a joint celebration with the Great Fen Project, near Peterborough. The programme of free activities include Bird Ringing Demonstration (1000 -1200) guided walks around Adventurer's Fen (1100) Sedge Fen (1430), talks on the Wicken Fen Vision (1100), Great Fen Project (1145) and the Wicken Fen / Great Fen monitoring project being conducted by Anglia Ruskin University (1330) and Hen Harriers at dusk (1600 onwards)

We are holding a series of Community Tree Planting Days on White Fen, near Lode, on Sundays 31 January, 28 February and 28 March (1000 – 1400). The plan is to create a woodland habitat of native species such as hawthorn and field maple. All you need to bring is some stout shoes or wellies and gloves, we will provide tools and instruction and most importantly trees. White Fen can easily be reached on foot or bike from Lode via Fen Road and White Fen Droveway or from the North on foot or bike via the new Swaffham Bulbeck Lode Bridge. Limited parking is available on site. For further information please call Community Warden, Emma Shepherd on 01353 720274.

We have a number of activities over the forthcoming February half term holidays. **Make a Natural Birdfeeder** on Mon / Tues 15 & 16 (drop-in anytime from 1200 -1500) £1.75 per feeder; **Arty Party** Wed 17th 1030 or 1400 £4.50 and **Messy Monsters** Fri 19th 1030 or 1400 £4.50. Tickets and information available from the Wicken Fen Visitor Centre on 01353 720274. Please book early as spaces are limited.

If you're visiting the fen, February onwards is normally a good time to see grey herons nesting. The heronry is located in trees and bushes close to the mere and can easily be seen from the Tower Hide alongside Wicken Lode.

Howard Cooper
National Trust Wicken Fen

WI Notes



A new year and new beginnings - the first meeting of The Swaffhams WI (formerly Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior) was held on 18th January in Swaffham Prior Village Hall. It was a lovely evening, starting appropriately with a champagne toast to our new enlarged institute. The speaker was Bev Briggs who told us about her work as a personal shopper. We also

learned of her other areas of expertise in sorting out wardrobes to make the best use of the clothes you have as well as what to buy to suit shape and colour. It gave us all a lot to think about. The committee are busy planning the speakers and events for the forthcoming year and still to come in this year's programme - our next meeting is on February 15th at 7:30pm when we will hear about Dogs for the disabled from Andy Lee and Henry. New members are always welcome to our friendly group.

Pat Cook

President, 01638 742224

Neighbourhood Panels preparing for further development in 2010

At the South area Neighbourhood Panel meeting took place at Burwell Village College on Tuesday, 5th January. Cllr Carl Poole confirmed that, as ever, **actions had been taken to address ALL the issues of concern raised by local residents** at the last Panel meeting (in October).

Full details of the 'Update on actions' can be accessed from the Neighbourhood Panel webpage via the A-Z section of the District Council's website www.eastcambs.gov.uk (together with the minutes, Profile and all other NP information)

A joint Panel meeting (with the Soham and East Panel) will be held at Bottisham Village College on Wednesday, 7^{th} July 7.00-9.00pm to update local residents on the **Wicken Fen Vision**.

Further letters will be written to senior officers at the County Council and Highways Agency about the impact of the **traffic-calming measure at Quy**, the A14/A142 junction and the increasing number of HCVs using villages, parishes having made their views known.

Kevin Evans, Secretary of the East Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Watch Association, outlined the structure of the voluntary organization and the influence which can be utilized in each locality. More volunteer schemes and local coordinators are needed, if you are interested in finding out more or volunteering your help then please contact Kevin by e-mail kevin.g.evans@ntlworld.com

Inspector Andy Bartlett, our Sector Inspector, referring to the **Neighbourhood Profile** (January, 2010) outlined actions taken by the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) to deal with

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in Bottisham ASB in Burwell

The multi-agency ASB Action Groups in Bottisham and Burwell have worked with a true partnership approach and with an emphasis on engaging young people.

Total crime figures for the Panel area have declined, though acquisitive crimes (inc thefts from cars) have increased.

Recorded incidents of ASB have also shown a significant decrease.

Inspector Bartlett also summarised emerging trends in each of the 5 wards in the Panel area – details can be seen on pp.11/12 of the Southern area Profile.

A summary presentation about the **Speedwatch** scheme was given, emphasising the educative focus of the scheme – with the police retaining their work in enforcement, having issued 21 Fixed Penalty Notices in the Panel area in the previous 3 months.

<u>Please keep your speed within speed limit guidelines, as excessive speed kills!</u>

More volunteers are needed, please contact
Tony Jolley <u>jolley@bottishampc.org.uk</u> or
Mathew Shuter Mathew.Shuter@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



The predator-prey "food-chain" in action. This tiger-mother's cubs all died, and so they got some new-born piglets and..... But hang-on, what happened to Mummy *Pig*??

Notes from the Parish Council Meetings

10th December 2009 & 14th January 2010

John Covill chaired both meetings with 8 Parish Councillors and members of the Public in attendance (one 10/12/09 & two 14/01/10).

Public Participation: No matters were raised for either meeting.

Reports:

CCC: Cllr David Brown reported December & January meetings.

ECDC: Cllr Allen Alderson reported December meeting.

Correspondence Received:

CCC

Traffic Management Team - Countywide Advisory Freight Map - Concerns were raised about the implications of the proposals for the B1102 to be included on the map as a local route for HCV traffic. With hazards such as double bends and traffic calming measures in villages on the B1102 it was strongly felt that this route should not be included as either a local or strategic route.

Andrew Carauna – Jointly Funded Minor Highway Improvements Programme – 2010/11. Successful bids Lode, Soham, Cheveley, Littleport & Witcham.

ECDC

Cathy White, Trees Officer – approval for tree works at Well House, 50 High Street

Cathy White, Trees Officer – approval for tree works at St Cyriac's Church

Cathy White, Tree Officer – approval for treeworks at Old Barn House, 25 High Street.

Street Naming – residential development, land adj Water Tower, Mill Hill.

 $\label{eq:consultation} A \ \text{New Plan for the District (Local Development Framework)} - \textit{consultation document}.$

New Project to create permanent Woodlands across the District – A letter was received from ECDC asking if the PC wished to take part in this scheme. Initially the project involved identifying land within East Cambridgeshire that could be used to develop and implement a tree-planting scheme. It was suggested at the PC meeting that the land to the rear of Pulpit Corner might be a suitable area but this would require liaison with CCC/County Farms as landowners.

Alan Williams, NHP Co-ordinator – details of meetings for 2010 & newsletter.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes (for information only)

There were no matters arising.

Repairs to the Pound, Cage Hill: Rosie Burton, Conservation Officer for ECDC, had informed the Clerk that all grant aid had been frozen by ECDC but that she was happy to receive copies of invoices paid and estimates for the work to hold on file. The Clerk was to reply to Rosie Burton expressing the PC's concern about the withdrawal of funding stating that costs had already been incurred with the understanding that they would form part of a grant application to ECDC and a refunded at the completion of the work.

At the January meeting the Clerk reported that she had received an email from Rosie Burton confirming that grant funding was frozen for this year and that she did not know if there would be a budget for next year. Once this had been clarified, Rosie would add the costs of the professional services and the estimates for the work and provide a percentage grant. It

was originally understood that the grant would be a full grant, not a percentage. The Clerk was to clarify.

Parish Path Partnership Application for 2010/2011: The application forms, etc., were passed to Peter Hart for his action and review.

Consideration of Planning Application for 60 High Street – remove two garden sheds to replace with two new sheds/utilities buildings under one roof. Ref: 09/00757/FUL: There were no objections but the PC commented that they considered it unfortunate that this was a retrospective application.

Final Approval of Precept for 2010-11 for submission to ECDC: This was agreed at £14,500.

Red2Green – donation request: A £100 donation was agreed.

Accounts for Payment: These were agreed.

Clerk's Report:

Footpath No.6 – Pulpit Corner to Devils Dyke: The installation of kissing gates continues to be reviewed with Karen Whymark of CCC.

Allotments: Following requests for allotments, it was suggested that an area of land on the B1102 could be split into sections to provide additional allotments. The Clerk was to look into this further.

Dog Bins: Purchase of dog bins to be considered at February meeting.

Parish Councillors' Reports:

(December meeting)

Peter Hart confirmed that the bus stop sign at the top of Rogers Road had been repaired and also a timetable added.

Peter Hart reported that FP11 from village car park was now fully open although still in current position. Cutting had made it passable and the hedge along the pavement on Station Road had also been cut. There just remained a small stretch before the sewage works that needed cutting. The meeting recorded their thanks to Mr & Mrs Cazenove for their assistance.

Peter Hart reported to the meeting rubbish behind houses at Pulpit Corner/Mill Hill.

Potholes on driveway to village car park were reported.

(January meeting)

Geoffrey Woollard said that we were very fortunate to have two Swaffham Prior parishioners recently recognised in the New Year Honours List and asked that a letter of congratulations be sent to:

Sir Michael Marshall for his knighthood awarded for services to business, charity and the community, and;

Mrs Marcia Miller MBE for her fundraising work with the Red Cross.

Andrew Camps reported that he had received a request for an additional small grit bin at the bottom of Fairview Grove. Clerk was to action.

Andrew Camps reported that at the last Neighbourhood Panel Meeting there was a request for additional volunteers to join the Speedwatch Scheme. Another set of equipment was now available for use by volunteers. *If anyone is interested in joining or would like further information, please contact Andrew for contact details.*

Open Question Time:

It was noted that some buses did not come through the village during the recent bad weather due to the condition of the roads particularly Cage Hill and this caused problems for people waiting for buses in the village that did not arrive. It was suggested that bus routes should be given preferential treatment and salt/grit spread so that buses could keep to their regular routes.

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, 11th February 2010 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

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 Road or Ruth Scovil'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 Scovil



Lode Chapel – Celebrating the Present

The second of a three part story... Past, Present and Future!

Last month I told you a bit about our history, noting that 2010 marks 200 years since the purchase of the land upon which Lode

Chapel is built. Although it is a listed building and of historic interest, the life of Lode Chapel is not, however, confined to the history books – the believers who meet there continue to communicate their Christian faith in ways which are relevant to the twenty-first century. Sunday services are family friendly every week with a crèche and activities for children of primary and secondary school ages. There is also a thriving weekly youth group, *TGI Fridays*, and the young people make a valuable contribution to the life of the church. As well as leading a special service every couple of months or so, some of them are involved in leading worship each week by playing drums, guitar, bass and saxophone as vital members of the music team. Others are involved in puppet ministry or in assisting with the technology, like helping to project songs and videos onto the big screen.

Although the majority of attenders are families with children, the congregation is also blessed by its older members too, and the age of those in attendance ranges from 2 all the way up to 92. The church also has an active involvement in Queens Court, the residential nursing home in Bottisham, holding services there and providing pastoral support through chaplaincy.

One of the regular activities in Lode Chapel's diary has been the Summer Holiday Bible Club held at Bottisham Primary School. Since 2006, we've also been holding a monthly Sunday morning 'holiday club' style event at the school – now known as *RE:NEW Kids Club* – with up to 90 people in attendance. This and other RE:NEW events, such as *RE:NEW Café*, and trips to the beach and IKEA, have come out of our close working relationship with the Anglicans. The contemporary journey of faith now has a fresh and creative feel – long gone are the days of the division between 'chapel' and 'church' – Christians are now working in partnership as we seek to serve the communities of which we are part!

We'd like to tell you more about what's happening at Lode Chapel

and invite you to be part of our bicentenary commemorations. We'd particularly like to invite you to a special celebration service we're holding at the Chapel on Sunday 14th February at 5.30pm. You'll be welcome if you just turn up, but as we're planning to make some tea and cake available after the service, it would be helpful if you could let me know if you intend to come (contact details below). In next month's article, the final part of this series, we'll focus on the exciting plans for the future that are going to be presented as part of the celebrations on the 14th February. I look forward to seeing you then.

Simon Goddard

Special Services This Month

7th – 'Sacred Space' Contemplative Service (5.30pm)
 14th – RE:NEW Kids Club at Bottisham Primary School with RE:NEW Café for the adults (10.30am-12noon)
 14th – Bicentenary Celebration Event (5.30pm) followed by refreshments.

For more information please contact: Rev. Simon Goddard.

Tel: (01223) 812881

Email: simon.goddard@lodechapel.org.uk **Web:** www.lodechapel.org.uk
and www.re-new.me.uk

Weekend Accommodation Wanted - August

Seeking accommodation in the village for two professional couples who will be visiting this summer on the weekend of 13-15 August. Self-catering or B&B. would be fine. If you have space that would suit either two or four people, please give me a call.

Mark Lewinski 744062

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

Masses: Newmarket: Sat 1830; Sun 1030;

Kirtling: Sun 0900;

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

PASTORAL LETTER, February 2010

Bottisham Vicarage

Dear Friends,

February is always remembered as the month of love because of Valentine's Day. According to legend, the valentine takes its name from a young Christian who once lived in ancient Rome. The Roman soldiers did not want to leave their homes to fight the emperor's wars. Emperor Claudius II ordered the young men not to marry. He thought that if they did not have homes, they would be willing to



go away and fight. Valentine felt sorry for the unhappy young men and their sweethearts and so he married many of them secretly.

Like so many of the early Christians, Valentine was imprisoned because of his faith. Legend tells us that just outside his cell window grew a cluster of violets. He picked some of the heart-shaped leaves and pierced them to spell the words, "Remember your Valentine," then sent them off by a friendly dove, to assure his loved ones of his well-being and his love. On the next day and the next, he sent more messages that simply said, "I love you." Thus the valentine had its beginning. On Valentine's Day, people of all ages remember those they love by sending valentines.

God invented love, and, in the love that couples share in their relationship, they get a glimpse of His love for them. The Bible tells us that 'God is love, and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them' (1 John 4:16). That statement says a great deal about the role of God in marriage.

I find that Couples are often very unclear in their minds about the legal position of getting married in a parish Church. As a Church of England Vicar I am in the very privileged and responsible position of being appointed both the Minister presiding over a marriage ceremony and the Registrar making a legal record of the marriage. This is because the Church of England is still legally recognised as the established Church of our country.

One of the happy implications of being the established Church is that couples needn't be baptised members to be married in their parish Church, they simply have to meet the residential qualifications. Normally the legality of the marriage is established by the reading of banns for three consecutive Sundays, but it can also be established by the issuing of a licence or a special licence (although in the case of a special licence at least one of the parties needs to be baptised). During 2008 the Church of England agreed that many more couples can avoid the necessity of applying for a Special Licence if they can demonstrate a strong personal or family connection with a particular Church, even if they no longer live in the parish. The banns are read in the normal way with the addition of the statement that the person/persons have a 'qualifying connection' with the Church.

In recent years the Church of England has softened its approach to the

remarriage of divorced persons in Church. It is still regarded as the exception rather than the norm, but, if a couple can demonstrate that their relationship is free from the burdens of past mistakes and not the cause of the divorce, then we are happy to welcome the remarriage of divorced persons in Church. We recognise that God is about well as love. forgiveness as understands our failures and weaknesses and wants to help us to come to terms with the burdens of the past. He wants to help us to rebuild our lives and to find new happiness and the loving companionship of a new relationship.

My task in helping a couple prepare for their wedding day is to guide them through the proposed ceremony, and to help them make it a truly memorable and special occasion. This means making the service personal for them by helping them choose readings, music and hymns that are special to them, advising them on the role of friends and family in the ceremony and helping them to prepare the order of the service. I also help them to understand the full implications of what they are entering into, and we often have lively discussions on the issues of

	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior February 2010				
Sun 7	11:00am Family Communion				
Sun 14	11:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Ash Wednesday Holy Communion 7.30pm Ditto, Bulbeck				
Wed 17					
Sun 21	8pm Holy Communion 11:00am Holy Communion				
Sun 28	11:00am Matins BCP				

communication in marriage, sharing decision making, dealing with money and coping with conflict and disagreements.

The liturgy of the Church of England provides for a standard form of vows to be said by the couple. This is the focal point of the service, and represents a public declaration of the love that the bride and groom have for each other. These days the majority of couples exchange rings, reminding them of the equality that exists in the marriage relationship today, and this is also emphasised by the bride no longer being required to 'obey' her husband.

Getting married in Church is surprisingly inexpensive by comparison with all the other costs often associated with weddings, and with the setting of a wonderful mediaeval building, the bells, the music and the flowers there cannot be a more perfect setting for a marriage ceremony. So, if you are considering getting married, talk to me about the possibility of getting married in your local parish Church.

May God bless you all,

David

Dates for Your Diary Feb/Mar 2010

Tue	9	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:15-3:50pm Chapel 3:55-4:15
Mon	15	WI, 7.30pm VH
Tue	23	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:15-3:50pm Chapel 3:55-4:15
Sat	6	Quiz Night, 7.30pm, VH
Tue	16	Village Gardeners, VH
Wed	17	BVC Open Evening
Sat	20	Swaffham Prior Film Night, 7pm, VH
Sat	27	Cantilena Singers, 7.30pm, St Mary's, Bulbeck

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 Thurs	7-8:30pm 7-10:00pm	Youth Club Hut	

Village
Clubs
&
Societies