

The Swaffham Crier

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Editorial

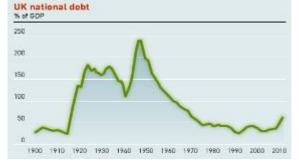
APRIL, and the editors are feeling very *depressed* this month, and much in need of the cheering up we hope the forthcoming village celebrations will bring.

As you can read in our STOP PRESS, ECDC is not prepared to step in and save our much-needed Newmarket tip, and at the same time (*Letters* pages), the first of an anticipated *tsunami* of local government redundancies has already happened.

As any reader old enough to remember previous Tina (there-is-no-alternative) efforts, the trouble with swingeing cuts is that they often cost *more* money than they save, typically hit the useful jobs while burgeoning a bureaucracy who decide where they land, and most of all, bring confusion and despair.

Well, but when we celebrate this forthcoming Royal Wedding, at least we can look back to post-war days where despite a *really huge* national debt (see chart) governments nevertheless found a path to create and sustain the precious infrastructure we have all grown up with and which is now under so much threat.

In this issue. the redoubtable Heath Road Traveller's Site committee are asking for more contributions to cover costs (see Letters), and don't forget forthcoming May 5 local elections-the Crier would like to invite all candidates to send us a contribution (a page or less?) to tell us how they will represent us. Also, don't forget this is the April edition, find the spoofs! Although these days, it can be a bit difficult to tell...



Cover Picture: Band of Brothers by Clive Riggs

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Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Quiz Night

Well done everyone, you helped to raise a record \pounds 525 for St. Mary's Church. Thank you for supporting the quiz, we hope you all enjoyed yourselves.

Thank you once again to Andrew, our quiz master and to his daughter Emily, who helped to collect the answer papers. A big thank you to the ladies and man in the kitchen, Cate, Shirley, Betty and husband Ron. Also a big thank you to the people who donated raffle prizes and to Pru and Clifton for the hamper yet again. Congratulations to our winners Densa.

To avoid disappointment, we do urge people to book a table in advance as this helps with the catering and setting out of the tables. We hope to see you all at the next quiz which is on the 15th October.

Lynne and Jenny

Dear Editors,

Proposed closure of Newmarket recycling tip -

Only a government on the verge of insanity would *permit* closure of recycling facilities, let alone make it necessary to consider doing so. Three-quarters of what goes in my bin goes to Newmarket - plastic, glass, metal, cardboard, light bulbs, batteries, old electrical items. In Switzerland, by contrast, recycling is *the citizen's responsibility* with bins at the bottom of every road (and if you can't be bothered, expect a fine if recylables turn up in your household bags).

Only Britain would allow this. *Cutting recycling is not a saving.* It's literally costing the earth to continue consuming and dumping instead of reusing the world's resources. A 20-mile round-trip to Milton, a place I never go, would be more wasteful consumption. I recycle in Newmarket when I'm going there anyway.

Mark Lewinski

Dear Editors,

Neighbourhood Panels

I am leaving ECDC today (Monday, 28th March).

Julie Cornwell [julie.comrwell@eastcambs.gov.uk, 01353 - 616352] is the person to contact about Neighbourhood Panels from here onwards and it would be good if you could confirm your 'copy deadlines' to her, please.

ECDC will be represented at the Panel meetings by senior officers, [the excellent] Julie Cornwell (Partnerships Officer) and by Tom Hickson, Dan Schumann, Nick Ball and members of the Democratic Services team - all are very good people and I wish them all the best. Julie will have major responsibility for the Panels and the further development of Panel processes.

Having coordinated and 'driven' the establishment and development of the Panels together with all our partners for the past 3 years, I am disappointed and frustrated that, due to budget cuts, I am unable to continue this work - having been made redundant. However, I am pleased that the Panels are able to continue and that Julie, officers from the partner agencies and you will ensure that our simple effective model continues to inform and engage and deliver local improvement actions, the impact of which impress local residents in the District.

I have enjoyed working with you (as an editor of a parish magazine) and have been gratified by the development of trusting relationships between all the partner agencies. I hope that continued commitment to working in true partnership will continue (as part of the Localism agenda) and that the Panels go on to further fulfil their undoubted potential in an exciting future.

Thanks for all that you have done, all that you do and your future work in informing and supporting the development of your community.

Alan Williams Neighbourhood Panel Coordinator

Dear Editors,

Roger and his Wren and John and his Ivy

Roger Connon's careful and sensitive justification of Ivy also admitted "there is no doubting that it [Ivy] can be destructive of trees and built structures." This is the very point John was making in his original letter. He was not advocating the destruction of all Ivy but just that threatening trees. Apart from being a threat it is often very ugly. Does the tiny wren really need so much Ivy? Would the little chap occasionally think of using a hedge or a conifer?

Roger's argument could also be used for preserving all Nettles. Nettles offer exclusive larval food for the Peacock Butterfly and the Small Tortoiseshell as well for a multitude of moths including the Mouse Moth and the popular Grey Pug. Does this mean we should allow our gardens to become overgrown with Nettles? Of course not. Man has always needed to and will always need to attempt to restrain some of the exuberance of nature.

But Roger need fear not. There was a very limited response to the invitation to become part of the exclusive Ivy Club, and there still remain plenty of vacancies for new members.

Alastair Everitt

Dear Editors,

Jason Webster

A very big Thank You' to both those who came to Jason's talk at Topping's bookshop in Ely, and those who, unable to attend, requested I obtain copies of his book for them. It was a very successful evening and your support was much appreciated.

Karole Webster

Dear Editors,

Heath Road Site Costs

It seems ages ago that a Meeting was held in the Village Hall to discuss East Cambridgeshire District Councils (ECDC) Consultation Documents regarding the Local Development Plan, a section of which proposed 6 extended pitches for Gypsy and Travelling Showpeople on Heath Road. As you are aware the response from Swaffham Prior was absolutely amazing, resulting in the proposal being withdrawn at the ECDC Strategic Development Meeting on the 9th November. In addition a proposal was tabled and carried for there to be no development of this kind in Swaffham Prior in the future due to the level of response and public feeling.

Having attended subsequent Meetings to ensure the Minutes were adopted, it's now possible for the Committee to draw a line under the exercise and the expenditure incurred. An incredible amount of effort went in to the overall campaign and many costs were covered by individuals and/or their Company's but there is the inevitable shortfall, that being $\pm 3,486.19$. By far the largest is the cost of the Legal Advisor at $\pm 2,937.50$ and with the short time scale given for the Consultation Period we also needed to use third parties, for leaflet printing and signage.

At and following the Village Meeting a number of Villagers and Residents / Businesses of Heath Road offered support in the form of a contribution to a 'war chest'. With Heath Road Residents & Businesses having the most to loose and now gain, the Committee approached them in the first instance. Pledges have been identified covering over 62%, leaving just £1,325.00 of the outstanding expenditure from those Swaffham Prior Residents who offered their financial help.

For those Villagers now willing to make a contribution, please send me a reply so I can discuss further details with you.

David Greenfield

Dear Editors,

Dr E. A. R. Ennion

In October I will be publishing *Bird Man's River*, the book Eric Ennion wrote in the late 1930's when he was a doctor at Burwell. It recounts his pre-war birdwatching adventures: in Burwell Fen and the Brecks, elsewhere in Britain, and in Holland and Iceland.

In addition to the illustrations which Eric Ennion prepared specially for the book, I am including a selection of his 1930's watercolours and other drawings, many of which have never been published before. If anyone owns a painting or drawing by Eric Ennion which they would be willing to have reproduced in the book, I would be delighted to hear from them. Dr Ennion tried several times to have *Bird Man's River* published during his lifetime and it was a great disappointment that this was not possible. I am keen to make it a worthy tribute to him. I am also working on a book covering his whole life and work. If anyone has any memories from the Burwell years, again I would be delighted to hear from them.

I can be contacted at 106 Benton Street, Hadleigh, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP7 5AY (tel: 01473 827080) or by email via the website <u>www.ericennion.com</u> where there is more information about the project. **Bob Walthew**

Dear Editors

Lode Traffic Lights

We are disappointed with your Parish Council Reports which criticise the new traffic lights at the Lode crossroads. All Lode residents wanted these as there are times when people have to wait a few minutes to cross the road. The fact that they are rarely used does not decrease their value. We are a proud village, we are an increasingly green village, and these traffic lights are a symbol of our conviction. We do not need offensive remarks from an obviously over-churched village.

The Lode Community Harriers

! STOP PRESS ! ECDC LETS US DOWN

It has just come to light that Suffolk asked ECDC if it would make a contribution towards keeping open the Newmarket Tip which is due to close in early May.

ECDC SAID NO.

This tip is a vital resource for Burwell. Reach, the Swaffhams, Bottisham etc including all ECDC villages south of Soham. *Yet ECDC*, with so much of its development money focussed on Ely, *only offers us Grunty Fen*.

Is this what we pay our rates for? Is this what we expect from our elected councillors?

At the time of writing Allen Alderson was unaware of the ECDC refusal and will be asking questions. Time unfortunately is too short for us to ask questions of the candidates in the forthcoming district elections. But memories will be long on this particular issue as we put out more waste to be collected from the kerbside or make a long drive to dispose of rubbish.

For far too long ECDC has been able to duck the need for a tip for people living south of Soham because of Suffolk's Newmarket Tip. To have replied positively to Suffolk's request would have provided a solution on the cheap. Do we no longer matter?

Alastair Everitt

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

With 5 people in the public gallery and 2 guest speakers it was quite a full house in the Village Hall Meeting Room. 'Public Participation' began with Graham Jackson leading the charge against the alleged planning infringements by the Chemical Factory. Photographic evidence was produced together with a large A1 matrix/chart covered with red, yellow, blue and green squares. The three red squares detailed approximately 10 planning breaches, the more numerous yellow squares detailed when more work is necessary, while, I suppose, the relatively few blue and green squares indicated that all was well.

There was a long detailed discussion which got nowhere. Allen tried to handle

this as best he could, being caught between Control Officer Alan Dover and Graham Jackson. Then he had an inspired idea – he offered to bring the two together. And this will now happen and my advice to Allen is to introduce the pair, let these two heavyweights touch gloves, and then to hasten off for a well earned coffee. This is certainly not a match to try to referee.

Katie Child (ECDC Principal Forward Planning Officer) and her assistant Abigail Taylor then gave a presentation about the 'Localism Bill' and the possibility of working together with ECDC to manage future growth. The bill has yet to be passed but its aim is to abandon top down targets and to take more account of local input. This was welcomed by the PC who will be asked to draw up a list of what we want to preserve, what we would like, and to consider local housing needs especially low cost housing.

It was a an excellent presentation which seamlessly moved on to the Dencora field and the letter from Sir Michael Marshall on behalf of the three owners of the field who had bought it to avoid commercial exploitation. The request was whether the three owners could recoup some of their costs with some limited development. This will be discussed and reported in more detail over the following months but essentially the proposed development would cover 3 of the 15 acres, with ideally 8 affordable and 16 market houses, though possibly 5/6 affordable and 10/12 market houses. And it would only go ahead if the village gave its general approval.

Allen was encouraged by the PC's interest in Katie Child's presentation and said that we could tell her there was widespread support for low cost housing. "You can't say that" said Andrew Camps, "we don't know what the village thinks." Peter Hart supported this and asked about the ACRE Survey which had been approved at the January meeting. Karen has been pressing ACRE for the survey but it has yet to be prepared. The matter will be raised at the Annual Village Assembly in May by which time the PC hoped that the village survey regarding low cost housing would have been completed. Any discussion will include some of the points raised at the meeting, such as, will the school be able to cope, what will a 10% increase do to the village, can we ensure only villagers move in to the low cost housing, etc. John Covill thanked the ECDC representatives and said what a change to have ECDC come and ask the PC's opinion rather than just telling it.

One change at the County Council is the introduction of Highway Wardens so that there is a better understanding between Highways and Parish Councils. Steve was anxious to be our warden and wondered if we would have fared better in Mill Hill with one. It's hard to say but both Quy and Lode managed very well without one. And talking of Lode I did see the traffic lights at Red the other day, but the button had been pressed by a lady jogger and she had crossed and was down the road before the car had stopped. Seeing the light at Red is rarer than a win on Premium Bonds.

The Village Notice Board is to be repaired and moved toward the fence for a cost of £360. So everyone is happy and our Clerk will now be safe. Betty and Ron Prime had written a letter saying that they had walked all round the lower part of the village picking up litter and had filled a black bin bag. They were quite shocked at

the amount of rubbish and wondered whether something could be arranged on a more regular basis even if it cost a little money. The PC agreed that recently there had been an increase of litter especially in parts of the High Street. For example there had been broken glass left against the churchyard wall for quite a number of days. No-one bothered to clear it up. The Big Society? The PC will be having a word where appropriate.

At the meeting there was a subdued hum of excitement about the forthcoming Street Party to celebrate the Royal Wedding and most approved the £100 donation towards the costs. But not Geoffrey. He visibly winced when this was passed and expressed his anti-monarchy views. Previously during the meeting he had twice mentioned his hostility towards the Tories. Wow! Any rabid Left Wing Republican now has a fine Leader and Champion in Geoffrey. Is this the birth of a new vibrant local party?

Alastair Everitt



A touch of the tropical



While over-wintered broad beans and early-sown pea shoots are emerging on allotments everywhere and Wisteria vines are clothing brick walls in blue or white drapes, a quite different member of the vast and economically important Fabaceae plant family is the showstopper in the Botanic Garden's Glasshouse Range this month.

The Jade Vine (*Strongylodon macrobotrys*) is a tropical, climbing relative of garden favourites in the Fabaceae (or pea) family, which include beans, peas, sweet peas, Wisteria and Laburnum. It has formed a dense lattice of branches in the canopy of the Glasshouse Range from which up to 100 racemes extend down and form a thick curtain that visitors must (carefully) push through to continue on their journey through the Cambridge tropics! We have one of the best-flowering specimens in UK cultivation, with each purple raceme stem supporting many cartwheels of the sensational, almost neon, blue-green flowers that give rise to the common name of Jade Vine.

In its native Philippines, the Jade Vine reaches more than 20 metres in height and is pollinated by bats! It is thought the bats are attracted by the luminosity of the flowers in the tropical twilight, and they hang upside down on the raceme stalks to gorge on the vast quantities of nectar in the flowers. With the flowers dangling down to eye level in the Glasshouse Range, the rich sticky nectar can be easily seen and a close-up inspection of the claw-like flowers reveals the floral similarity between this spectacular tropical liana and the peas and beans we are more familiar with.

In the wild, the Jade Vine is considered vulnerable to extinction due to extensive deforestation, so do come and enjoy this extraordinary plant at its flowering peak this month.

Juliet Day, Development Officer,

Cambridge University Botanic Garden



Street Party Timetable

8.30am	Decorating and set up group meet			
9.00am	Road closes			
9.00am to 10.30am	Decorate the road and set out the tables			
11.00am	Watch wedding at home			
12.30pm to 1pm	Bells ring out across the village and table decorating			
1.00pm	Party starts			
2.15pm	Judging of the tables/headwear/invitations and awarding of prizes			
2.30pm	Village photo – everyone welcome			
2.45pm onwards	Ceilidh (High Street) and football kick about on the field behind the playground			
3.00pm to 4.30pm	Cream Teas at the Village Hall			
5.30pm	Clear the road			
6.00pm	Road reopens			
6.00pm onwards	"Family Favourites for a Fiver" at the Red Lion			

Watch the village notice boards for updates and further information!



Here's what they look like, readers.

Where's William (and Kate) Competition

In the month running up to their big day, William and Kate will be visiting the village stopping off at fifteen different locations. The person who correctly spots the most locations the lifesize cardboard cutout visits around the village wins a prize. Answers on a postcard with your name and address to 14 Cage Hill by 28th April ... happy hunting!

Emma Fletcher

Mobile Library Cage Hill : 2.45—3.15pm Chapel: 3.20pm — 4.00pm

April 19 May 17 June21

Online requests can be delivered to the mobile. Book Club requests welcome.



BOTTISHAM BOWLING CLUB EASTER FAIR SATURDAY 9TH APRIL 10.30 AM TO 3.00 PM AT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

A VARIETY OF STALLS FOR ALL THE FAMILY

GUESS THE WEIGHT AND WIN A HOME-MADE EASTER SIMNEL CAKE JEWELLERY STALL-GREETING CARDS-BRIC-A-BRAC-CRAFTS ITEMS OF INTEREST RAFFLE-CAKE STALL-TOMBOLA-REFRESHMENTS VEGETABLES AND PLANTS FURTHER INFORMATION AND ANYONE WISHING TO HIRE A TABLE CONTACT CINDY KING 01223-811220

COULD YOU BE THE FACE OF THE CAMBRIDGE?

The newly refreshed Cambridge Building Society is giving people in and around Cambridgeshire, existing customers and non customers alike, the opportunity to become the new face of the Society.

The campaign, running 24^{th} March – 30^{th} April 2011, will aim to find 'real people' in the area who want to win the opportunity to have a makeover, photo shoot and appear on Society leaflets and posters later in the year.

During the campaign, a giant cardboard cut out will be touring local branches and other notable landmarks in the area. People can simply insert their head, take a picture and submit by texting CAMBS to 88600 or by emailing the image to photos@cambridgebs.co.uk *

After a highly successful brand re-launch, The Cambridge is now offering customers a more vibrant and appealing experience when they go into branch or visit on-line. With an array of competitive products and services, the new branding aims to make it easier for customers to find the most appropriate solution to their own particular financial needs and circumstances.

Mark Smitheringale, Head of Sales and Marketing says: "We are looking to find



people to appear on all of our new literature which will be positioned in all 19 branches and on our website. Whilst this is a new and exciting era for The Cambridge, we are still committed to keeping the local personal service that people have come to love so much and what better way than using local Cambridge people to appear on all of our marketing literature."

The new corporate identity will be rolled out across the Society on marketing literature to all 19 branches throughout the course of the year. A re-vamped website went live on Thursday 24th March 2011, which will also make it easier for customers to review the range of products and services available.

The cardboard cut out will appear in Burwell on Saturday 9th April 2011

Advance Warning!



Swaffham Prior Feast

will be back on

Saturday 4th June

Put the date in your diary

All the usual favourites

+ plus +

new attractions

If you would like to help, either with the planning

or on the day, email: mcarrington@me.com

Donations!

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Many thanks to Lode Chapel and James Fitch for their very kind donations to the *Crier* this month., which was very much appreciated.

MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL A Celebration of Flowers and Gardens 24th – 26th June

In the March number of the Crier we gave early warning of this year's Festival. Plans are evolving, and it will now include: Sale of Plants and Garden Items; Books; Bric-a-brac; Cards, Paintings and Drawings.

There will be a two-part Concert with something for everyone, a Revue, a Garden Visit and Strawberry Teas.

Please would you look in your gardens, sheds, larders and bookcases to see if you can contribute any of the following for a stall:

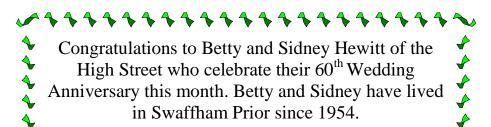
BOOKS on gardening, flowers, garden guides, e.g.to Anglesey Abbey etc.

PLANTS and cuttings, seedlings, trugs, furniture, boots, gloves or any other

PRODUCE including jams, marmalade, honey, cakes, tarts, parsley, rhubarb, gooseberries etc.

PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS, CARDS for sale (we would take a 15% commission).

If anyone would like to become involved selling on a stall, serving behind the coffee bar, moving chairs, publicising the weekend or in any other way please contact Francis Reeks (01638-743693) or Elisabeth Everitt (01638-742974).



Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

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



Royal Wedding Street Party – Friday 29 April High Street, Swaffham Prior

Just in case you had forgotten - WE ARE HAVING A STREET PARTY !!!

Less than 5 weeks to go until an extra bank holiday and a fantastic way to meet your neighbours and enjoy the royal festivities. By the time The Crier goes to press Will and Kate (the life-sized cardboard cut out version) will hopefully have started their visit to the village -15 different locations to try and spot over the next month.

Sincere thanks are due to the Swaffham Prior Parochial Charities, Sir Michael Marshall, Henry Hurrell, the Parish Council and Village Hall Committee for enabling us to host this event.

So far we have over 20 tables reserved for lunch and room for many more. Please join in all or any part of the day – its free and there'll be lots going on!

The High Street will close between Station Road and Cage Hill at 9am to allow us to decorate the road and run back home to watch the wedding at 11am. Festivities will start from 12.30pm onwards marked by the ringing of the church bells. Lunch will formally start at 1pm.

At 2.15pm Sir Michael Marshall kindly will be judging and awarding prizes for the best decorated table, adult headware, children's crown and tiaras, Where's Will and Kate competition and school children's wedding invitations.

This will be followed by the cutting of the village wedding cake, a village photo, ceilidh on the High Street (courtesy of Andrew Noyes' band who are already practising feverishly for our enjoyment) and cream teas from 3pm in the village hall.

There will also be a real ale bar, face painting, royal quiz, a know your neighbour wedding photo competition and football kick about.

We will provide the tables (seating up to 8) and you are cordially invited to bring your own chairs, picnic and to decorate your table – there is an excellent prize for the most outrageous design! You do not need to book a whole table – we want



everyone to come who wants to attend so we can make up tables as required. Similarly if you need a lift or any other help to come to the party just let us know.

All we ask is for a $\pounds 5$ deposit to secure your table or $\pounds 1$ for a place which will be returned when you attend just so we know how many tables to set out. We would obviously be delighted if you decide to donate this fee towards the costs of running the event.

So invite your neighbours and book your place now by posting your deposit in the envelopes provided (in the porch) at 14 Cage Hill or contact Emma Fletcher on tel. 743426 or email:

emmalindseyfletcher@googlemail.com

We still need help.....

If you bake a mean scone for the cream teas please contact Pam Cook tel. 742224.



If you fancy helping run the bar please contact Emma Fletcher tel. 743426.

We also kindly request your wedding



photos for our competition before the street party which we will copy and return to



you – please deliver (or we can collect) to Ann Kiddy at 32 Cage Hill tel. 742383.

Any further questions - please contact Emma at the telephone number above.

If the weather is wet we still intend to continue in the village hall for lunch and at St Cyriac's for the ceilidh.

Swaffham Prior Royal Wedding Street Party Committee

BON MOT NUMBER THIRTEEN

"Writing free verse is like playing tennis without a net." *Robert Frost.*

A fund raising event for taking young Dramawise students to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival with the new Musical "Pollyanna"

An International clairvoyant Donna Fallon has offered to present a psychic evening on 9th April at the Whittlesford memorial Hall 7.30pm. Donna is featured in 'Spirit and Destiny Magazine' and is well known for her tarot card reading. This is a one night only performance. If you have never been to one of these evenings, now is the time. Tickets are only £15 & obtainable from Frances on 01223 529541 or email frances @skybluetheatre.com.

Mothers' Union

At our recent meeting Roz Wright talked to us about Queens Court where she is the home manager. She has, in fact, been there for the last twenty-one years and she originally started as a care assistant.

Roz gave us an insight into the many benefits Queens Court has to offer and of the excellent facilities provided in such a comfortable and caring environment. Oueens Court is divided into five units (called flats), each of which



has its own TV lounge and dining areas; these provide very sociable and popular meeting places for the residents. The Day centre runs for four days a week and provides many activities for day visitors as well as for the residents.

The purpose of Queens Court is to improve the quality of life for older people, to meet their spiritual and other needs; to respect everyone as a unique individual and treat each person with dignity

and care. We are certainly very fortunate to have in Bottisham such a great facility as Queens Court with its dedicated staff.

Our Mothers' Union meets in Lode Chapel on the third Thursday of each month at 2.30 p.m. and you would be most welcome to join us. In April our speaker will be Wendy Lovell who will be talking to us about 'Being a Magistrate'.

A. Phoenix

Targeting Working Infrastructure Towards Sustainability Street-Lighting Intermittency Pilot Study

Targeting Working Infrastructure Towards Sustainability is a Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) set up to review current infrastructure provision in collaboration with consumer/provider stake-holders in order to assess how more sustainable greener strategies incorporating critical efficiency savings impact on local communities. As part of this review, a pilot street lighting intermittency program will be introduced in parts of East Cambridgeshire with particular emphasis on regions where high-energy consuming lighting appropriate in heavy-traffic motorway conditions has been employed in less critical residential areas. The pilot will commence from the 31st of this month and in the initial phase will maintain current hours of illumination but in which 50% energy savings will be introduced by an intermittency program limiting illumination to half-second periods, the remaining time the lights to be switched off Details of areas to be affected can be found on our website at <u>http://eastcambs.gov.uk/twits/slips</u>, and photographs of the new lighting in operation at <u>http://www.flickr.com</u>. We fully anticipate that this strategy which combines residential needs for adequate street illumination encompassing all the hours of darkness and greener energy-savings will meet current expectations.

April Prime

Community Liaison Office (Trainee)

ANGLESEY ABBEY NEWS

Hello, all. We've some lovely and interesting events coming up which I hope our neighbours will be able to enjoy. Also, Mothering Sunday will soon be upon us and we're saying, 'don't leave it too late to plan for this very special day!'

"We should do it every day - but many of us only remember to do it once a year - make our mother feel special!

Most mothers love flowers, most love gardens, and many

love traditional afternoon tea so Anglesey Abbey offers the perfect place to treat mothers and grandmothers on Mothering Sunday. Spring will be in the air with bright flowers everywhere, and trees bursting into leaf - just what you need to lift the spirits after a long winter.

This year, our light-filled Redwoods restaurant will be offering afternoon tea and a selection of gorgeous home-made cakes from 12noon through til **4.30pm.** For those who want a little more, self-serve lunches will be available. This year we've broken with tradition and you don't need to book in advance. If the weather is mild, you can sit out on the deck with views of the Pinetum.

You can make your special visit even longer if you call at the house with all its treasures, and pop along to Lode Mill. Spot the water wheel turning the gears, or the flour pouring down into sacks – ready to go to the restaurant to be made into scones (though we do save some in bags so you can buy a souvenir). And, as usual, our Plant Centre will be full of varieties grown here, as well as gardening gifts.

All in all, a great way to treat mothers on their special day." Sunday 3rd April.

MORE FOR APRIL

Focus on Craft, Wednesday 13 April, 11-4pm

Explore your creative side with Purl Alpaca as they demonstrate traditional craft techniques – fleece-sorting, hand knitting, spinning, weaving, felting and more. Be inspired by this free event, full of ideas to try at home, and inspiration to learn a new craft.



Eggtastic Easter, Sat 23, Sun 24, 11am – 4pm

Join in the hunt for clues around the stunning gardens; solve the puzzle and then claim a chocolate prize! Child $\pounds 1.50$, plus garden admission.

The Great Lode Egg-raft Race, Sat 23, Sunday 24, 11am – 4pm

On your marks, egg-set, go....Come along to create your own mini-raft, decorate and egg then try your hand at sailing it down the Lode. Eggstra special prize for all brave designers!

Child £2, plus garden admission.

Jan Reynolds



In March we held the annual meeting and congratulations to Pat Airey who agreed to accept her nomination for President for the coming year. Having completed the business section of the evening we then enjoyed wine and cheese and were entertained by Hilary Almond with poetry and songs on the theme of

WI Notes

childhood - which we all enjoyed.

The next meeting is on April 18th at 7:30 in the Village Hall when the speaker will talk to us about making chocolate and demonstrate her skills - hopefully with tasters - sounds like our sort of evening!

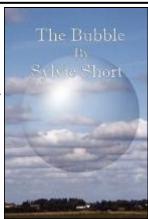
New members and occasional visitors are always welcome. Come along to a meeting and see if you would like to join our friendly group.

Pat Cook - 01638 742224

The Reading Group Reads: THE BUBBLE By Sylivie Short

The book group had an interesting discussion on "The Bubble"—a novel by Sylvie Short (as I'm sure many of you know, a local writer, currently researching the history of Swaffham Prior)—and as a result of the story line, *evil*. We decided that two of the protagonists who lived in a small community, angelic Jack and the wicked Goolightly were not living around here, so we could all keep our clear consciences and sleep easy in our beds!

As it was the week of the amazing World Book Night Giveaway, Brenda (who'd met a man in Cambridge-



seemed a bit mysterious), had a copy of "One Day" by David Nicholls to give to each of us. Great excitement. So that of course that will be our read for April. You never know-you might have the book passed on to you, as the idea of the giveaway is that the books are shared with as many people as possible.

We very much welcome new members to the group,

Margaret Joyce



VILLAGE GARDENERS

At our March meeting Mr Peter Walker took us on a journey through four gardens of Devon and Somerset, each illustrated with his own interesting and sometimes stunningly beautiful photographs.

We first visited Rosemoor in Devon which was given to the RHS in 1988. A garden of forty acres it includes, among others, formal gardens incorporating two hundred varieties of roses, colour themed gardens, a winter garden and woodland. Since the garden is in a frost pocket and averages one metre of rain a year, gardening here is something of a challenge!

We then moved on to Marwood Hill Garden near Barnstaple – twenty acres of often terraced areas including five hundred different varieties of plants and which holds the National Collection of camellias in a large glasshouse – a sight to behold in the spring I imagine.

Knightshayes National Trust garden near Tiverton came next, where we saw herbaceous borders, a Victorian walled kitchen garden and a wooded area with magnolias, rhododendrons and hydrangeas.

Lastly we paid a visit to Hestercombe Gardens over the county border near Taunton in Somerset. Here the hard landscaping was designed by Sir Edward Lutyens at his best, complemented by the softer planting of Gertrude Jekyll.

The evening provided an interesting introduction to gardens which were, I think, new to many of us.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 19 April at 8pm in the Village Hall when Peter Jackson, from Scotsdales, will be talking on 'Trees for Modern Gardens'.

The Village Gardeners' annual coach outing this year will be on Saturday 18 June to Barnsdale Gardens near Oakham. These gardens were immortalised by Geoff Hamilton on 'Gardeners' World' and are now run by his son and daughter-in-law. Non-members are very welcome to join us on this outing. If you would like to add your name to the list or for more information please contact Roger Connan 742182 or Mary Hart 741681.

Mary Hart

Crier Clerihew

The well-known poet, Thomas Gray; Knew that 'the curfew tolled the knell of parting day'. And said so, as befits a bard; In a poem, called, 'Elegy in a country churchyard'.

Ophir

Personalised approach to social care means *It's all about us!*

For people in need of social care, Self-Directed Support gives them choice over when and how they are supported to live their lives. Following assessment, individuals eligible for support are allocated a Personal Budget. This is an upfront sum of money for them to plan the support they need to meet their assessed needs. It means that if they want to people can choose to manage their own support through a Direct Payment, or they can ask someone to manage it for them. In some cases they may still be expected to make a contribution – subject to financial resources – to the



cost of their support.

But Self-Directed Support is not just about how an individual's support is managed. It really can change lives as demonstrated by a new film *It's all about us!*

Made by a group of individuals who use services, their carers and social care professionals together with Stories Projects Film and in Cambridgeshire County

Council, the film shows how Self-Directed Support is enabling Tim, Annie, Darren, Fran, Ushka, Steve, Malcolm and Mick to live independently, stay healthy, exercise choice and control over their own lives, be part of their communities and to do the things that are important to them. It demonstrates how despite age, disability or ill health, Self-Directed Support enables people to lead a life as fulfilled as possible.

"It's quite unbelievable really," says Mick, "the things that I can do now I never even dreamed of I'd be able to do again. It's like being back before I was ill. It's given me a new lease of life."

The film was premiered to an invited audience at the Arts Picturehouse in Cambridge who provided their facilities free of charge through the Cambridge Film Trust.

You can loan a copy of *It's all about us!* from your local library. The stories featured are also available on the County Council website at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/social/selfdirectedsupport/

If you think you may be eligible for social care support you should phone Cambridgeshire Direct on 0345 045 5202, or if you have a mental health need speak to your GP.

News from the Fen

Spring is breaking out all over the fen – many of our over-wintering birds have left and we await the arrival of our summer visitors. Hopefully one of the first will be the cuckoo which normally arrives in the middle of the month. A documentary on the cuckoo recorded by the BBC Natural History Unit at Wicken Fen is scheduled to be broadcast on BBC Radio 4 on Tuesday 5 April at 11.02 and repeated on Thursday 7 April at 21.02

Planting has begun on the Lode with Longmeadow Community Woodland on White Fen, near Lode. On a recent tree planting day volunteers managed to plant over 800 trees in a day. The woodland is one of five being created as part of the Planting Parishes initiative organised by East Cambs District Council and the Woodland Trust aimed at eventually increasing tree cover in East Cambridgeshire by 5-10%.

Easter is fast approaching and we have a range of fun activities and events planned for the holidays. The Great Wicken Fen Easter Trail runs from Good Friday to Easter Monday, 10am -5pm each day. Follow the Easter trail around the Boardwalk to claim your delicious chocolate Egghead –there will also be free face painting on Easter Sunday and Monday. The trail costs £1.50 per child (normal admission applies). Other fun events for the school holidays include **Fairies and Pixies** - discover the magical secrets of the fen, Mon 11 April 10.30 or 2pm; **Pond Dipping for All** - a 30 minute pond dipping session £1.50 with optional minibeast hunt 75p, Tues 12 & 19 April from 12.00; **Springtime Arts and Crafts**, Wed 13 & 20 April 10.30 or 2pm, **Mud Glorious Mud** – the perfect chance to get really mucky!, muddy art, construction and games, Fri 15 April 10.30 or 2pm and **Wicken Warriors** – Tracks & trails, wildlife detection and wild skills, Mon 18 April at 10.30 or 2pm. Tickets for children's events are £4.50 – advance booking is essential.

Additional events during April include, **Willow Birds Workshop** on Sat 2 April 10am-4pm £55; **Spring Walk with the Wardens** on Sun 10 April 2pm £6.50 includes tea and a slice of cake. Don't forget its Mothering Sunday on 2 April – why not treat your mum to a delicious high tea at Wicken Fen. Information/Tickets for all events available on 01353 720274

Burwell and District Flower Club

We are having a special Open evening and you would be warmly welcomed.

Ann Horsley from Stratford upon Avon will be giving a demonstration entitled "The Eye of the Beholder" Refreshments at 6.45pm and the demonstration at 7.30pm prompt.

Tickets are £12 from Angela tel. 01638 601545 or Pauliane 01638 741059

Notes from the Parish Council Meeting - Thursday, 10th March 2011

John Covill chaired the meeting with 7 Parish Councillors in attendance + 5 members of the public present. The following items were discussed:

Public Participation: The meeting was given an up date on the concerns associated with business premises on Green Head Road, firstly with reference to parking problems caused by number of vehicles visiting the premises and, secondly, the delivery/disposal of substances used at the premises.

The outcome was that Cllr Alderson agreed to arrange a meeting between interested parties and Alan Dover, ECDC's Principal Development Control Officer with reference to planning issues raised.

The problem of odours and the use of chemicals substances were currently being resolved through the regulatory bodies.

Reports:

CCC - Cllr David Brown - apologies received. Written report circulated.

ECDC – Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting.

Review of East Cambs Core Strategy – *Katie Child, ECDC Principal Forward Planning Officer and Abigail Taylor, Forward Planning Officer* attended the meeting to give a presentation on "Recognising Swaffham Prior's needs in the Core Strategy", taking into consideration recent Government changes and its Localism Bill. Katie Child explained that this was an opportunity for the District Council and Parish Council to work closely together to look at the needs of the Parish within the Core Strategy, e.g., change/growth, local housing needs, protection of key facilities or services, new/improved infrastructure and services. It was suggested that this should be an agenda item for the Annual Village Meeting to give residents the opportunity to discuss. Katie Child said she was happy to attend this meeting.

Possible Affordable Housing for the Village – *request for Parish Council views:* To tie in with the above presentation, this item was moved up the agenda.

A letter was received on behalf of the owners of land at Lower End ('Dencora' field) seeking the views of the Parish about the proposal to build some affordable or possibly shared equity homes for the benefit of the village plus some market value housing.

The meeting was reminded that currently no market value housing would be allowed on the site but it was considered that this might alter with the recent Government changes to the Planning Laws, etc.

As reported previously Cambridgeshire ACRE/ ECDC are to carry out a 'Housing Needs' Survey of the parish and it was agreed that it was important to look firstly at the results of the survey. The Clerk was to check on timescale for the survey.

Subject to the above, the Parish Council noted its support in principle for the proposals by the land owners. This was with particular interest in the provision of affordable housing for local people. It was also noted that there would need to be full

consultation with village residents and consideration of detailed proposals as they became available.

Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration:

CCC-*Highway Wardens scheme*. Summary of success of pilot schemes focusing on relationships between Highways Depots and their local town and parish councils with an invitation to appoint someone to be a Highway Warden for Swaffham Prior. Steve Kent-Phillips said he would be happy to take on the role.

CCC – Cambridgeshire Library Service Review: The details were noted.

Repair Works to the Pound Wall: The repair works have been completed. It was suggested that the wall should not be whitewashed as had been the case in the past as this could lead to future water ingress and damage to the brickwork. The Clerk was to confirm with Lorraine King, Conservation Officer for ECDC.

Repairs needed to the rear of the Pound Wall were agreed and Kim Sheldrick Building Services was to be asked to carry out this work.

Repairs to Village Hall Driveway: The repair of potholes, etc., was discussed and it was agreed to ask Martin Mead of Mead Construction for advice on a more permanent surfacing solution.

Repairs to Parish Noticeboard: Rather than replace the noticeboard it was agreed to carry out repairs and reposition the board nearer to the path to make it easier for people to view.

Clerk's Report:

Litter in the Village: A letter was received asking if something could be done to clear litter from village areas. This was prompted by a recent walk over several parts of the village which ended with a large plastic bag full to overflowing with cans, plastic bottles, sweet wrappers, crisp packets, etc. The Clerk said she would contact ECDC to see if they still provided free-of-charge litter pickers, gloves, etc. with a view to setting up a weekly rota of volunteer litter pickers. <u>Volunteer litter pickers needed – can you help? Please contact the Clerk.</u>

Cutting back of hedges, shrubs, etc. As Spring approaches, it is time to check whether any hedges, shrubs, etc need trimming back from pathways and footpaths. Thank you for your help.

Dog fouling: Despite the provision of extra dog bins and constant reminders, complaints are still being received about dogs fouling on footpaths, verges, etc. This is an offence and can incur a fine. Dog owners please clear up after your pets!

Notices on telegraph poles/street lighting columns: Complaints have been received about the number of posters, etc displayed on poles/columns but not taken down when finished with. This can lead to an 'overloading' of posters and an untidy appearance. Posters about village events, etc., can be displayed in the Parish noticeboard by contacting the Clerk.

Parish Councillor Reports:

Whiteway Drove: Concerns were raised about the large dip in the road surface. The Clerk was to contact CCC Highways about repairs.

Accounts for Payment: These were agreed. Following discussion at the last

meeting and receipt of further details, a donation of £100 towards the costs of putting on Royal Wedding Street Party was agreed.

Open Question Time:

Litter bins - discussion about condition of some of the litter bins.

School noticeboard – it was noted that this was looking a little untidy. The Clerk was to contact the School.

Village map – request for the map to be cleaned up.

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

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday, 14th April 2011, starting 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



Count Me In!

By the time you read this article you should have completed your census forms and returned them to the authorities. It's compulsory that we do it – although this year we did have a choice between using pen and ink or entering our details online. For centuries people have been counted by their leaders – and there are examples of censuses taking place in the Bible. Most

people will remember the one that caused Joseph and Mary to be in Bethlehem when Jesus was born, but did you know that the book of Numbers actually gets its name from a census that was taken by Moses just after the people of Israel escaped from Egypt?

As we approach Easter later this month we are reminded of the events that led to the death of Jesus on the cross – the cheering crowd at his entry to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, and the jeering crowd shouting "Crucify Him!" at the trial where he was condemned. When the time came for those closest to Jesus to 'stand up and be counted' it turned out that Judas betrayed him and Peter denied even knowing him. Thankfully for Peter the cross was not the end – the risen Jesus forgave and reinstated him and he became a key figure in the early church.

In the census, when it came to the "What is your religion?" box, we too had an opportunity to stand up and be counted. The trouble is its easy just to tick a box – and ten years ago more than 70% of us said that we were 'Christian'. With only 7% of the population regularly attending Sunday worship it leaves me genuinely asking what the church is doing wrong for people who are happy to categorise themselves as believers to choose not to associate with other Christians week by week. Please do contact me, my details are below and I look forward to hearing from you.

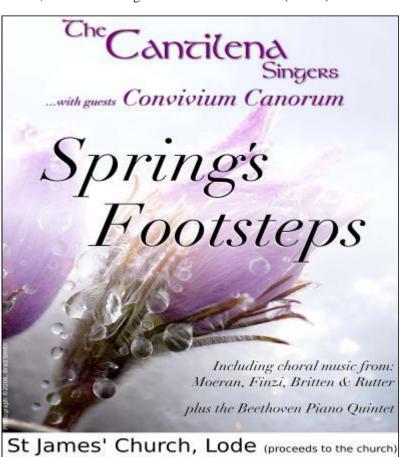
Louis Armstrong once sung about heaven with the words "Oh Lord I want to be

in that number when the saints go marching in!" If you ticked the 'Christian' box why not join with other believers to celebrate the event at the heart of our faith, and the basis for our hope of life after death – the resurrection of Jesus Christ. You'll be welcome at any of the local churches, including our all-age RE:NEW service on Easter Sunday (with an egg hunt for the children).

Services in April

Simon Goddard

Sun 3rd, 11.00am – Joint Mothers' Day Service (Holy Trinity) Sun 3rd, 5.30pm – 'Sacred Space' Contemplative Service (Chapel) Sun 10th, 10.30am – RE:NEW Kids Club and Café (School) Sun 17th, 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (Bottisham Primary School) Sun 17th, 5.30pm – 'Healing Space' (Chapel) Sun 24th, 10.30am – All-age RE:NEW Easter Service (School)



St James' Church, Lode (proceeds to the church) Saturday 16th April, 7:30pm Tickets £5 available on the door, or from the Post Office

PASTORAL LETTER April 2011

Bottisham Vicarage

Dear Friends,

Twas Easter Sunday. The full-blossomed trees Filled all the air with fragrance and with joy. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)

April is one of my most favourite months, a month full of new life and new hope, with buds on the trees, spring flowers, and the sights sounds and smells of spring. Our faith is a faith of hope, a hope that is summed up in the glory of the resurrection.



In a cemetery in Hanover, Germany, is a grave on which were placed huge slabs of granite and marble cemented together and fastened with heavy steel clasps. It belongs to a woman who did not believe in the resurrection of the dead. Yet strangely, she directed in her will that her grave be made so secure that if there were a resurrection, it could not reach her. On the marker were inscribed these words:

	St Mary's Swaffham Prior January 2011
Sun	11:00am
3	Family Service
Sun	11:00am
10	Holy Communion
Sun	11:00am
17	Matins BCP
Sun	11:00am
24	Holy Communion

"This burial place must never be opened." In time, a seed, covered over by the stones, began to grow. Slowly it pushed its way through the soil and out from beneath them. As the trunk enlarged, the great slabs were gradually shifted so that the steel clasps were wrenched from their sockets. A tiny seed had become a tree that had pushed aside the stones.

The dynamic life force contained in that little seed is a faint reflection of the tremendous power of God's creative word that someday will call to life the bodies of all who are in their graves. He will also bring back every person drowned at sea, cremated, or destroyed in some other way. This is no problem to the One who made something out of nothing when He spoke the universe into existence. Unbelief cannot deter the resurrection. But faith in the risen Christ opens the door to blessings that His resurrection guarantees -- a glorious new spiritual body and a home in heaven. In new bodies we will be reunited with saved loved ones to live with Jesus throughout all eternity. That is the hope that all Christians share. So, as we greet the Easter dawn once again, let us fill our hearts with joy and thanksgiving at the wonderful truth of the resurrection and what it

means for us. Let us rejoice in faith and hope, full of the knowledge that, as the

ancient Easter greeting proclaims: "CHRIST IS RISEN!" HE IS RISEN INDEED!"

I wish you all a very happy Easter.

May God bless you all

David

FREECYCLE

If you have any offers or wants, please contact me by the 14th of each month: <u>jun.thompson@tiscali.co.uk</u>, or 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 <u>http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cambridgefreecycle/</u>. Please can you contact the offers after the 1^{st} of the month to make it a little fairer.

Offers

Canon <u>film</u> camera EOS 300, with lens, vgc; Coin sorter - battery operated; Small size electric food processor (chopper, liquidiser etc), suitable for small table tops/ processing small quantities, or grinding beans or nuts. Jacqui, c811190 after 11am.

Parker Knoll arm chair in need of complete re-upholstering, Val c812173

Black ash computer/printer trolley. Good condition. Ian c811169

Several Teak-veneered chipboard shelves [real teak veneer!!] varying in length up to 6':00" and widths from 6" to 12". The shelves are in excellent condition. David or Marilyn c811888

Single bed in excellent condition (was occasionally used as a guest bed). Gerry c812706.

Lots of goldfish of varying size and colour. Joy or Joff c811132.

Single hanging wardrobe with cupboards covered in natural calico. Katie 01638 742545

Wanted

Your old light fittings, brown bakelite switches, iron conduit and switches, bulb holders and holders. Sheets and bits of bakelite. Postcard rack (carousel if possible). George 07895064727.

Toys suitable for 3-4 year old boy. Katie 01638 742545

Male mannequins for displaying uniforms at Bottisham Airfield Museum. Mark c813310

Small bedroom armchair, small chest of drawers to furnish the cottage of an elderly couple (if you have something suitable, please can you help with transport?). Bel c811070.

Dates for Your Diary April 2011

Wed	6	Reading Group, 8pm, Kent House				
Sat	9	Bottisham Bowling Club Easter Fair, 9 April, 10.30am—3pm Phschic Evening, Whittlesford Memorial Hall, 7.30pm				
Wed	13	Anglesey Abbey Focus on Craft, 11-4pm				
Thu	14	PC Meeting, 7.30pm, VH				
Sat	16	Cantilena Singers, 7.30pm, St James Church, Lode				
Sun	17	Crier Copy Deadline				
Mon	18	WI, WH, 7.30pm				
Tue	19	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2.45-3.15pm Chapel 3.20pm-4.00pm Village Gardeners, VH, 8pm				
Thu	21	Mothers' Union, Lod Chapel, 2.30pm				
Sat	23	Anglesey Abbey Eggtastic Easter, 11—4pm (to 24th) Anglesey Abbey Great Lode Eggcraft Race, 11-4pm				
Fri	29	STREET PARTY, 1—6pm, High Street Family Favourites for a Fiver, Red Lion, 6pm				
Sat	30	Midnight Special, Red Lion, 8.30pm				
Sun	31	Outside Disco + Barbeque, 7pm, Red Lion				

Club FOSPS	Contact Clare Freeman	Tel. 741316	Date 2 nd Mon of Term	Time 8pm	Place Village School	
Baby & Toddlers	Jessica Shakeshaft	744266	Fri	9:30- 11:30am	Village Hall	Village Clubs
Jamsing	Jo Pumfrey	741376	Tues (term)	9.20-12	Village Hall	&
Cubs	Tim Doe	743656	Weds (term)	6:00- 7:30pm	Village School	Societies
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	