



The Swaffham Crier

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Editorial

NOW, the thing about digital cameras and modern photography is oh so much easier, isn't it? Auto-focus, the click of a button, immediate feed-back, no films, no development, no paper, the only snag being.....

No pictures either! No, the thing is, you have to get them *off* that magical digital camera—where's that adapter thingy and don't I need a whatsit — OK, well, who's borrowed that then?! Consequently, despite the fact that lots of very kind people took wonderful snaps of the DOG SHOW, the HARVEST SUPPER and the SHOW, only two arrived in the hands of the *Crier*, many thanks Sue Wade!

But we have the solution: step forward Zoe Nunn and Rachel Marsh who have extremely kindly offered to be the Crier's very own photographers, a so from now on...

The Harvest Show was a lovely event (with scrummy cream teas but more of us could have showed up) and the Dog Show was great (with loads of attendees but no cream teas — solution, these two

events go together next year!). With 26 canine contenders, this was brilliantly organised and advertised — many congratulations, Ann Zeid & Co. Best of all was the agility class — running through tunnels, jumping through hoops, that sort of thing. Since a great many *deprived* Swaffham Prior dogs were unfamiliar with this . most of them looked on bemused while their owners frantically *did the course themselves* (we want to win, we want to *win...*). Rosettes for owners as well next year?

Word has it that BOULE is coming back, Petanque. Some readers will remember when we had a jolly good time a few years ago playing this game is the village hall car-park., and now, even better, it's going to be held in the PUB yard! Dusting off the boule set as we write....

Caroline Matheson

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Cover Picture: *Come to the Autumn Show next year. Or Else!!* by J-H-M-M



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors

Harvest Supper

Sue and I would like to thank everyone who made the Harvest Supper on Saturday 17th September such a success.

We are very grateful to everyone who cooked up the delicious casseroles and made the lovely puddings and to the Kingsmills for supplying the potatoes. Thanks also to Mark Lewinski for running the bar and Dee and Andrew Noyes and their band for the fabulous music. Thank you to Mary Charlesworth for the flower arrangements on the windowsills and all the donors to the raffle, which raised £175 for the Disasters Emergency Committee for East African Famine.

Thanks to everyone who helped set up and clear away, particularly Tom and Nathan Wade, Phil Routley and Andrew Noyes for shifting all the tables. Thanks to Lode Chapel for the loan of some of these. All the washing up seemed to melt away and every tea cup went back to the right church - thanks to those who took the trouble to do that - I saw Linda Evans, Betty Prime and Shirley Wilkins particularly, but know there were others too - thank you.

Thanks to the teenagers who cheerfully served drinks and food and supervised the children's activity corner, especially Emma Wade who made a huge amount of casserole and Hayley Green who peeled all the potatoes. Thank you to Kate Child for helping to sell tickets and round up 'volunteers', and our very best wishes to her for a speedy recovery from her broken wrist - we were really sorry she had to miss the evening.

We bought superb meat from Hurrells and delicious bread rolls from Lane's, both in Burwell and both very helpful indeed. Brenda Wilson ably commenced proceedings with a grace and Janet Wilmott made thankyou's on the night and announced the band – thank you both for doing the 'up front' bit for us!

Our apologies if we have missed anyone out - it was such a good team effort and every contribution was much appreciated. We hope everyone who came had a really good evening and look forward to doing it all again next year!

Fleur Routley and Sue Wade

And we think the biggest thank-you should go to Fleur and Sue, for a really lovely occasion!

WANTED

Toy Figurines

I want to buy toy figurines for wooden castle — knights, dragons, horses etc.

Tel: 01638 742545

Dear Editors,

Friends of Swaffham Prior School – Cereal “box-top” tokens

Swaffham Prior school has just signed up to the Nestle cereal “box-tops” collection scheme, this scheme enables the school to claim 10p in cash or 15p in books for each token that is collected.

If you have cereal with these tokens on then please drop them into the school – if you don’t have children at the school yourself then you probably live very near to someone who does, and I am sure they would be happy for you to pass on the tokens for them to bring into school.

The current promotion runs until 31 March 2012, at which point the school can then “cash-in” the tokens for books or money, so there is plenty of time for us to collect lots of tokens.

Thank you in advance if you are able to collect and donate any tokens – the Friends of Swaffham Prior School are always grateful for the support of the community in our fundraising activities.

Catherine Gould
FoSPS Treasurer

Dear Friends,

Thank-you

When you read this Pauline and I will be settling into our new home in Devon and life in The Anglesey Benefice will be carrying on as normal but without us. We would like to say thank you from the bottom of our hearts to all those who came to our farewell service at Holy Trinity Bottisham on the 28th August and who helped to make it such a wonderful occasion. It is one which we will never forget. We have memories of a Church that was full to the brim and there being a wonderful atmosphere in the Service which was especially uplifted by a very large Benefice Choir. Thank you so much to all those who joined us and all those who organised the superb lunch at the British Legion afterwards. To everybody who contributed towards the marvellous farewell gifts and cards, and the very generous cheque that was presented to us, we say a huge thank you. One thing we will be buying with that much appreciated cheque is some furniture for the Conservatory in our house. Each time we sit in there enjoying the warmth of the sunshine we shall think of you all!

There are so many “thank you’s” to be said as very many people showed such thoughtfulness towards us sending us cards, expressing many kind thoughts about the eight years of our ministry in the five villages, and offering us many good wishes for the future. You have all been so kind and your generosity to us has been overwhelming. Pauline and I will always treasure the memory of our Farewell Service and as we settle into a new life of retirement in Devon, we do so with hearts full of fond and grateful memories of our ministry amongst you all during the last eight years.

So very many thanks to you all, and we wish you every blessing in the future.

David and Pauline Lewis

Dear Comrade Eds!

Другого письма Марко

I thought I was joking in the last issue about Stalinist tendencies around the Parish Council. Then I read Mr Everitt's September report:

"For years the PC has been...ensuring that never more than nine candidates stand and therefore not requiring an election. If there are ten candidates they have a member in reserve who resigns so the candidates are kept down to nine".

This apparently has in the past avoided election expenditure. (well yes, not having elections is usually cheaper than having them). Mr Everitt adds that the PCC are 'a bit miffed' that they have been fined £100 for this, ie rigging numbers to avoid any election. If there is *any truth at all* in this account, the PCC have filled Parish Council seats exactly as Soviet Uncle Joe would have done. No joke intended.

I note also that Mr Everitt does not say by whom the fine was imposed and whether there is any instruction to hold a proper election and by when; there is also no reference to this issue that I can find in the Clerk's notes for the same meeting, nor that any penalty has been levied or instruction made to end this totally undemocratic practice. Comrade Stalin would have been most happy with these omissions from publication also.

On this premise Jim Paice MP could equally say he will probably win next time, same as last, so we would benefit and save money by shooining him in next time is that ok? No of course it's not. **Nobody should sit in any seat which by law requires an election by the community and to represent the community by arranging the number of candidates standing in order to avoid a selection process.**

On the other hand, perhaps there is no other reference I can see in the September *Crier* because Mr Everitt's account is not correct? We do know fact can be a bit of a moveable around the PCC, but Mr Everitt has to his credit attempted to nail that one recently: *comment is free but facts are sacred* is a good motto. Assuming for the moment that he does speak truth: then start with that good thought, run a course in basic democratic principles by the PCC next, give it time to sink in and then maybe they'll have their heads round it before next spring. (ie best propaganda season to denote a fresh start).

Forward with the re-education of the PCC - let local democracy blossom, comrades!

Mark Lewinski

(PS entirely by coincidence and almost by accident since the last I wrote, I have acquired an actual Soviet Communist party card and a 40 years' Red Army service medal. Ok, they've not got my name on but how would you know? It's all written in Russian, comrades)



HALLOWEEN

FANCY DRESS



At The

RED LION

Swaffham Prior

ON FRIDAY 28TH OCTOBER

STARTING AT 7.30PM ONWARDS



**PRIZE FOR BEST-
DRESSED, FREE BUFFET
AND MUSIC**



From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

There was a full complement of PC Members, but no Clerk, no CCC Councillor, and no ECDC Councillor. Without these the meeting rattled along and at 8.21 all the business had been completed. No PC member had anything to report so the meeting was closed. It was left to the three citizens in the public gallery to try to extend the meeting in Open Question Time. They tried hard, though at times the PC were reluctant to co-operate. Even Geoffrey was unwilling to give his latest thoughts on the sale of CCC farmland, maybe as I later learned, because the whole question is up for discussion in the CCC.. But with admirable tenacity they kept the meeting open until 8.29. Possibly for the first time ever the PC exited the building before that happy band from Slimming World.



No reporter had attended the August meeting but points of interest taken from the usual full immaculate minutes were the following. 1) The business at No 30 Greenhead Road is relocating. 2) The phone box in the High Street has been beautifully repainted by BT. BT obviously didn't think much of the efforts of that amateur bunch of painters who had spruced it up for the Street Party. To rub it in BT even painted the crowns gold. 3) Chairman John Covill remarked on the amount of litter being left on the National Trust Cycle Route. He said he contacted the NT and asked for litter bins but they were reluctant to supply these as they would need someone to empty them.

SO, what happened at the September meeting. After the usual preliminaries a short report from David Brown was read out, the most newsworthy point being that the Guided Bus has been a great success.

Steve, as acting Clerk, went through the correspondence. Buses 9,10,11 and 12 will have some changes which will improve the reliability of the services. This sounds like those rail companies which have added 10 minutes to the time table so that trains are less likely to be late. The CCC is offering support for tree and hedge planting to celebrate and record the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee. There wasn't much enthusiasm for the proposal. Andrew Camps had noticed the same lack of enthusiasm many years ago when he was tree officer. He was so dismayed then that he lost interest. I remember that meeting and Eric Day's memorable words which must be scorched on the mind of everyone who has a large tree in their garden – **"Trees Grow."** Geoffrey wondered whether trees could be planted down the fen to replace those which had been eaten and killed by the travellers' horses. Steve suggested a "memorial hedge". That was immediately shot down because of the maintenance problems; so he suggested a fence instead.

Following the efforts of Serge Raja and Roger Connan it was announced that our host Steve at The Red Lion and Bateman's have saved the day by proposing to have a petanque court at the top of the beer garden. This will be such a wonderful new asset for the village and everyone should raise a glass to Steve and Bateman's – preferably in The Red Lion. It can then be discussed whether it be boules or petanque.

Footpath 11 behind the School and partly along Station Road is now collecting quite a paper trail as attempts are being made to cut the grass and the trim the overhanging hedges. Steve read out all the various letters and all I could conclude from the views and statements of the various parties is that almost certainly something will be done – even possibly before the birds begin nesting anew.

The PC received an excellent letter from Laura Davey, Catherine Child, the Mitchell family and the Cook family regarding the difficulty they have in exiting the lane between nos. 67 and 73a when cars are parked on the opposite side. The problem is that the road to the left is obscured by the hedge and house of no. 73. The request is that there should be double yellow lines on the opposite side of the road. The PC was a little divided in its response. How often do cars park opposite – funerals, weddings, concerts, occasionally bellringers. So, not much. Are more yellow lines a good thing? Peter Hart who was sympathetic to the cause wanted the matter referred to the traffic authorities for a solution. Geoffrey thought this over the top. Paul Latchford, who lives in the area, said that everyone had to be very careful with passing traffic and that some other houses may be worse off. What about Ingleside one might ask. The PC will say that have “noted their concerns and will monitor the situation”. They rather liked this as it was like something from *Yes Minister*. Someone foolishly asked how they intended to monitor it, but I didn’t catch the answer.

Some members were more concerned with speeding and with cars parked in the road though many thought these a good thing and very much better than speed bumps – and cheaper. Andrew said he was “shocked” that people delivering to the Autumn Show parked in the High Street rather than going into the car park. There you are – traffic brings out the best in us and it is local problems like this which keep Neighbourhood Panels going. Look at their latest report – how much should have been handled by Parish Councils?

This led on to the very strong possibility that Mill Hill could become a 30mph stretch. Geoffrey and Peter Hart have been discussing the matter with a Mr Cobb who told them it is really up to “you guys” to make the decision providing you are willing to pay for it. Geoffrey had never been addressed before as “you guys”, and he seemed to have enjoyed it. Having earlier in the meeting been complimented on the style of his shirt there were times when he was in quite a tizzy. Mr Cobb had stressed that it was essential the proposal had the support of David Brown.

Is this one of the good results of the Localism Bill which has yet to become law? A few doubts are arising about the change and *The Daily Telegraph* is running a campaign to “save our countryside”, quoting the situation in Ireland as a warning. On the same day *The Times* ran its own campaign to “improve our catheters”, the design of which it appears has not changed since the 1930s.

Steve was at his indignant best when he told the meeting that the auditors had returned his accounts with two queries (which had already been answered if they had bothered to turn over the page) and also a request that it should be made clear whether the ticks in certain boxes were in the same handwriting as Mike Malster’s signature, Mike being Steve’s internal auditor. The forms were returned with Mike’s

signature on anything that moved. Steve was convinced it was just a way to make more work and to charge more money and he was insisting on an itemised bill. Still, times are hard and everyone must earn a crust as best they can. But it may be a bit much that motor insurer Admiral should earn 5-6% of its profits by selling details of accidents to what are called those “ambulance chasing no-win-no-fee social parasites pretending to be honest lawyers.” How many other insurers sell accident information?

Alastair Everitt

Autumn Show 2011

The Autumn Show was held on a sunny Saturday early in September, and celebrated the beginning of the end of another fruit-, flower- and vegetable-growing season. Once again, the weather had conspired to cause problems, with the lack of rain early in the year slowing germination and stunting growth. Despite this, Swaffham Prior gardeners presented a wide range of impressive produce for our judge, Peter Whiteley, to sort into order of merit. As in the previous year, there were over a hundred entries brought in during the morning, and displayed in the Hall.

Ruth Dalton was the undoubted champion of the vegetable section, with six first prizes, and an equal number of seconds. Chris Carrington managed five firsts, with a range of vegetables, flowers and cakes. Julian Luttrell and Alastair Everitt each had more than one first, Julian entering some very tasty pink fir potatoes and an amazing head of garlic, Alastair providing what appeared to be the only unbolted lettuce in the Village.

In the children's section, Tom Whiteside had an outstanding day, winning in the main section with his marrow and giant sunflowers, in addition to getting the accolade of “Best in Show” for his atmospheric miniature garden. Lucy Whiteside and the junior members of the Wrench family also provided successful entries.

We were pleased to see that the return of the Victoria sponge category caused feverish baking in kitchens throughout Swaffham Prior, and was one of the most competitive categories, with Ruth Dalton demonstrating that her skills do not lie solely in the garden.

A few categories were under-represented, with M. Arksey winning the egg section for the second year in a row. However she was rather disappointed as the competition had been much stiffer last year, with five or six entries. Surprisingly, there were no courgettes entered - those hoping for a first prize next year take note.

The auction of the produce donated by many of the entrants (thank you one and all), raised a useful £65 for the Village Hall funds, due to some very impressive persuasion from our regular gavel-wielder, Alastair Everitt. Bidders were encouraged to stay by the availability of delicious - and excellent value - clotted cream teas, courtesy of Chris Carrington, Catherine Wrench and Clare Freeman.

Mike Carrington



This year's Harvest Supper in St Cyriac's.

ST MARY'S, SWAFFHAM PRIOR

Village Variety Show

Primary School Hall
Saturday 19 November
from 7pm

All acts welcome!

Tickets £5/£3
Licensed Bar
Call 01638 743864 to book

Second Hand Sale

If you have a baby or children 5 years and under you'll be only too aware of the cost of clothes, toys and equipment for your little ones... Why not save money by coming to our Second Hand Sale of high quality clothing, toys, equipment, maternity items, games and more.? You'll be surprised at the amount of great bargains to be had. The sale is run by local baby/toddler group Burwell Happy Tots and will be on Saturday 29th October from 10.30-12.00 at the Gardiner Memorial Hall, High Street, Burwell CB25 0HD. Entry to the sale is 50p which supports Burwell Happy Tots. For more information including how to be a seller, please contact Nicola Yorke 01638 742499 or e-mail

burwellhappytots@hotmail.co.uk



QUIZ NIGHT

Swaffham Prior Village Hall

7.30 pm ♣ Saturday

SATURDAY 15TH OCT 2011

Tickets: £6 each ♣ To book a table contact

Jenny Brand ☎ (01638) 742161

or

Lynne Rand ☎ (01638) 741960

Jacket Potato Supper ♣ Raffle

Bring your own drinks and glasses

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

John Norris Remembers: Pea growing

In the days before the Green Pea harvesters were developed, the system for growing and harvesting peas was very primitive. The crop had to be mature, and the peas fairly dry before any attempt to harvest could be made. The pods get very tender when ripe, so that the contents easily fall out; not exactly what we want. So a compromise has to be reached where the crop will stay in the pods, and that the contents will be dry enough to store without going mouldy.

Today pea growing is chiefly in an area where the crop is harvested green, and processed within two hours. The peas full of moisture will not keep any longer without being cooled, sterilised, and put into cans. The whole operation is done with military precision, and would have been impossible without the aid of the mobile phone. Very few vining peas are grown in this area as we are too far from the factories.

In order to get the benefit of growing a legume as a break crop, we have to go the route of the old dry pea growers, and try to harvest mature dry peas. Fifty years ago many acres were harvested by hand, cutting the vines with a scythe and letting the bundles of peas dry in the sun. If it should rain they could be turned carefully to continue the drying process. Very few peas were lost by this method, but it was costly, and hard work.

The next step towards mechanisation was to cut the peas with a standard mowing machine. The idea was sound, but the difficulties were many. Where would the tractor go to avoid running on the crop? The only solution was to move the pea crop over to make a path for the tractor doing the next cut. This could be done with a side delivery rake, but it gave the crop harsh treatment, and many peas were shaken out on to the ground.

It is a pity that I did not take more photographs of the way we did things, as a picture replaces many words. After the crop was cut it could be turned easily with this rake as the pea straw was in rows and detached from the ground, but losses occurred at every manoeuvre. When the peas were dry they could be threshed directly from the field, or stored in stack for threshing at a later date.

The next innovation in harvesting this crop was the use of Tri-pods. These were actually four poles joined by a thick wire at the top making a square pyramid some eight feet high. Four more poles were used near the ground hung on the former poles, and horizontal, so that the pea crop could be lodged on them and are clear of the ground. These tripods would hold a lot of peas, and being off the ground, and with a sloping outer surface kept the crop fairly dry even in heavy rain. The main advantage was that the wind could blow through and under the crop, hastening the drying process.

So far so good. These tripods were the picked up by a tractor with a front loader and a rear carrier, and brought to the stack or threshing machine two at a time. My first attempt was to engage Mr Badcock and his threshing drum to process the peas and put them into two and a half hundredweight sacks. Tons of hand labour, but it resulted in a saleable crop. I well remember all those tripods, the getting them

out of storage, erecting, and covering them with peas, and finally the dusty threshing.

As time does not stand still, improvements in the cutting of the crop were on the cards. Again, a photo would be helpful, but as I do not have one a description will have to suffice. The Leverton Pea cutter was the best solution, as the crop did not have to be turned before either putting it on tripods, or if the weather was exceptionally kind, combining.

On the front of a three- wheeled tractor, cones were pushed through the crop pulling the peas apart so that the wheels would run on the ground cleared. These “torpedoes” had small wheels underneath at the front so that they did not dig into the ground, and could be lifted at the end of each row. On the back of the tractor were three sets of blades running parallel with the ground, and an inch or so below the surface. These blades in the form of a large arrow either cut the pea vines, or pushed them to one side. The pillar which carried these blades ran in the path cleared by the torpedoes.

If all went well this arrangement could travel at a good speed, and cut the crop so that it could dry in the sun, and no peas were lost. Again the final harvesting was a matter of choice. We could either hope for a dry spell, and combine direct: or put the crop on to tripods, and then through the combine.

This system lasted several years but was finally defeated by the huge pigeon problem. Pea growing provided food for these birds from the moment the seeds emerged from the ground to the day they were harvested. Guns, kites, twizzling things, even narcotics did not control this pest, so we eventually gave up, and grew grass-seed crops instead.

John Norris

More news from the Bottisham Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

The Bottisham PPG Committee met in August and September to plan its contribution to the Bottisham Practice’s 10th anniversary coffee morning on 24th September. Our aim was to provide an opportunity for Practice patients to meet Committee members and discuss the PPG’s role. The meetings also discussed other activities for the future and some important improvements to the Practice, including its new computer system. This will go live next January after testing and staff training. Please be patient if this results in minor delays in the coming weeks.

The Practice will shortly upload patient records to the new national Summary Care Records database. This will be done unless you have told the Practice that you do not want your records uploaded. (It is not too late to do this by confirming your decision IN WRITING to the Practice). The advantage of having your records on the database is that if, for example, you need hospital treatment in another part of England, doctors there will be able to check if you are being treated for a medical condition. This could prevent errors being made.

The Practice is also improving the way its dispensary works. The aim is to reduce the number of visits patients have to make to the surgery by issuing all repeat prescriptions once a month. So please order all your medicines once a month (even if you still have some tablets left) using the prescription order slips or through the Practice's website (www.bottishammedicalpractice.nhs.uk). The Practice dispensary will continue to provide medicines to all its patients and this service will not be affected by the new pharmacy which is due to open in Bottisham.

Finally, with autumn approaching fast, the flu season will shortly be upon us. Do check the Practice's website to see when flu jabs will be available. They really do provide protection, especially for the elderly and vulnerable, and are well worth having. The jabs are free if you are over 65 or in one of the other entitled categories.

Bottisham PPG Committee

Bonfire & Firework Party

Friday 4th November
Gates Open at 6pm

Vicarage Field
(behind St Mary's Church, Swaffham Bulbeck)

Adults: £3 Children: £2
Group (of four, max two adults): £8
Glow sticks for sale

NO SPARKLERS PLEASE
Your children are your responsibility.
Please keep away from the firework display sites



Wicken Fen & Anglesey Abbey Events

Events taking place during October include; **Basket Making Workshop** – WF Fri 7th 9.45am -5.30pm £60; **Mucky Pups Do..Creepy Crawlies** – Trails and craft all about bugs for pre-schoolers, WF Wed 19th 10.30 -12 noon £3.75; **Murder Mystery Evening** – AA Fri 21st 7-11pm £50/30 adult / child includes 3 course meal and wine/canapés on arrival; **Autumn Adventure** – Learn how the changing season affects plants and animals, WF Tues 25th 10.30 or 2pm £4.50; **From Cover to Cover** – Join the Trust's Libraries Curator as he opens the cover on the spectacular books in Anglesey's Library collection , AA Tues 25th 10am-1pm £15; **Batty Halloween** – WF Fri 28th at 10.30 or 2pm £4.50; **Freaky Friday- Wild about Cooking** –Get creative and messy making spooky cookies, AA Fri 28th 2.30-4pm child £5 and finally don't miss Wicken's spine chilling **Ghost Walk** on Sat 29 start time between 6.30-7.30pm £5.25 per person.

Pre-Moving Clearout!!

GARAGE SALE

**The Abbey
Swaffham Bulbeck
Saturday 8th October
10am - 1pm**

**All proceeds will go to St.Mary's
Church, Swaffham Bulbeck and
The Mark Towriss Bursary Fund
for training family doctors in
Kenya**

Admission £1 to include coffee

Everyone welcome

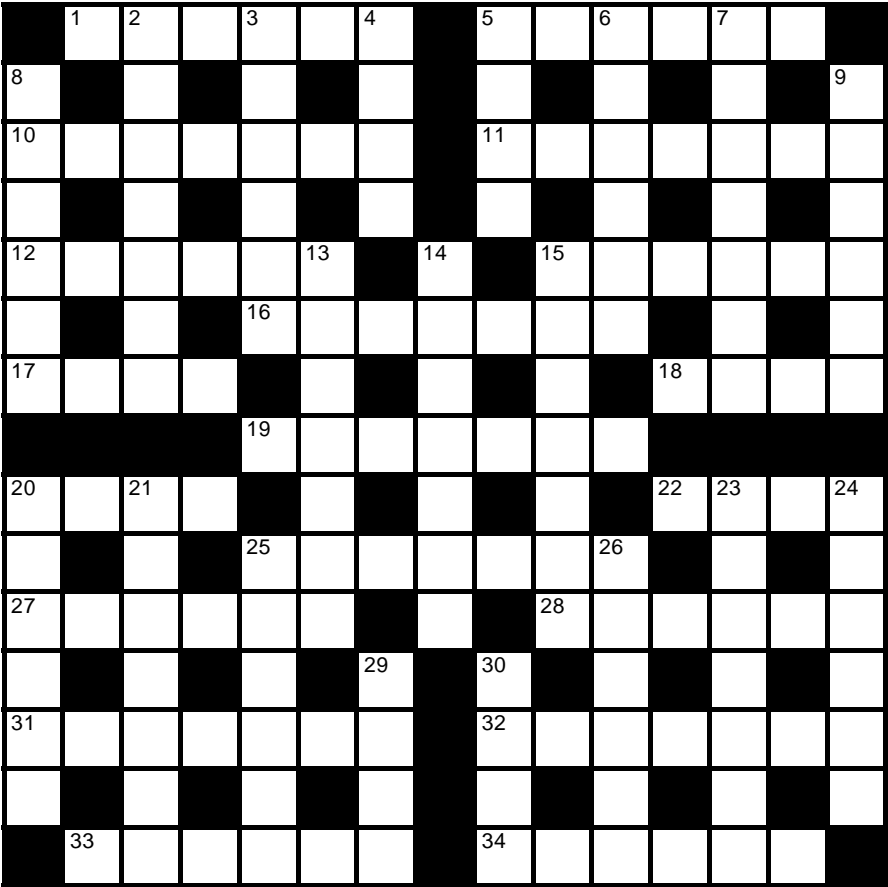
Crossword Number 82

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

NIBOR

This month's puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18 October 2011. The first correct solution out of the hat will win a free meal for two at the Red Lion—See the Manager at the pub for full details.



Name:.....
Adress.....
.....Tel:.....

Across

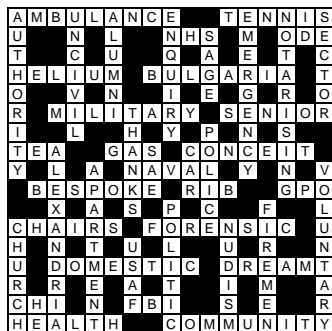
- 1 Little publicity is now green (6)
- 5 Elaborate style of fabulous bird with no company (7)
- 10 Get fruit from wine joint (7)
- 11 Room for our standard letterhead first (7)
- 12 Unusual apocalypse losing sole pontificate (6)
- 15 Fellow with locker is an ass (6)
- 16 Eventually found in troublesome daydreams (7)
- 17 Touch down on the ground (4)
- 18 Not working when acid leaks inside (4)
- 19 The power of Libya? it is broken (7)
- 20 Throw out in furious tantrum (4)
- 22 Find hostel first in Yucatan, Mexico; change afterwards (4)
- 25 Wave to doctor; am I nuts? (7)
- 27 Tangle of men she upset (6)
- 28 Cultural point in morality (6)
- 31 Agueweed found by a short man; a man from Scotland (7)
- 32 Do this when the sun shines or wear it when it rains (7)
- 33 Drunk and disorderly globetrotters with no regrets (6)
- 34 Happens to dogs following commander (6)

Down

- 2 Break down, stand up and find cleaning aid (7)
- 3 Itches badly for a sense of morality (6)
- 4 Excellent blouses perhaps (4)
- 5 Transported in contraption (4)
- 6 Large bottle for young chauffeur? (6)

- 7 Bent journalist is after criminal (7)
- 8 Drive forward with the Spanish following (6)
- 9 Scottish diamonds in gravy boat (6)
- 13 Uncouth hobby is abnormal (7)
- 14 Relax about conservative policy (7)
- 15 Diet may change when the sun shines (7)
- 20 Nervous near the border (2,4)
- 21 Influential males in trouble (7)
- 23 Name sounds like girl's name (6)
- 24 Rise of a small amount of money (6)
- 25 Team leader has garment; informal garment (1-5)
- 26 Leaning to the right he bit a licorice filling (6)
- 29 Keen on holding badminton match (4)
- 30 oy, oy, get back toy (2-2)

Solution to crossword no. 81



We congratulate Steve Kent Phillips, the winner of last month's competition, who should collect his prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Robert Nunn and Shirley Wilkins.

News from Anglesey Abbey and Wicken Fen

Many readers will be aware that the Government recently published a draft revision of the National Planning Policy Framework. For decades the planning system has protected our much loved local places from harmful development. The Trust along with many other conservation organisations are deeply concerned that the Government's proposals allows financial considerations to dominate, which could result in a green light for poor quality or development in the wrong place, threatening local places valued by you, while failing to deliver wider benefits for the community. The Trust has started a nationwide petition asking for the Government to reconsider its proposals – copies of the petition can be signed at Wicken Fen or Anglesey Abbey or on-line by following the links from the National Trust website www.nationaltrust.org.uk Please hurry if you wish to sign as the closing date for signatures is Sunday 9 October.

Do you have an interest in local history and enjoy meeting people? Visitors to Wicken Fen are enthralled by historic Fen Cottage and the lives of the people who lived and worked on the Fen. If you have a few hours to spare each week or month you might consider joining our team of volunteer room guides. Over the coming winter we are organising a series of training and story swapping days where you can meet fellow guides and learn all about the fascinating history of the cottage. If you are interested in volunteering please get in touch with Isabel Sedgwick at the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274 or e-mail Isabel.sedgwick@nationaltrust.org.uk

This autumn the National Trust is holding its first ever Walking Festival from 22 -30 October to encourage people to get out outdoors and closer to nature. We are organising a series of exciting walks ranging from Little Amble's, Jolly Ramble's to Big Challenges. Highlights include: **Five Miles from Anywhere Walk** (Wicken Fen, Sat 22 Oct, 11am – 3pm); **Children's Garden Discovery Walk** (Anglesey Abbey, Mon 24 Oct, 11am, 1pm & 2.30pm); **Seasonal Garden Highlights** (Anglesey Abbey, Wed 26 Oct, 11.30am & 2pm) **Statues of Anglesey Abbey** (Anglesey Abbey, Fri 28 Oct, 11.30 & 2pm). The highlight of the festival will be the **Lodes Way Walk** – a 16 mile guided walk along the Lodes Way from Anglesey Abbey to Wicken Fen and back on Sunday 30 Oct departing at 9am. Tickets cost £8, which includes lunch at Wicken Fen. Don't worry if you can't manage the entire 16 miles as transport from Wicken Fen back to Anglesey Abbey will be available for a small donation. Details of all walks in Cambridgeshire and further afield can be found at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/gonewalking

Talking of walking, local instructor Oliver Gynn will be offering Nordic walks at Wicken Fen on Thursday 13 Oct, 3 & 17 Nov and 1 & 15 December. Oliver will be offering two sessions each day - a restricted mobility walk at 1pm and a faster walking group at 2pm. To book a place (£5 per session including pole hire) please telephone Oliver on 01638 742003 or e-mail info@nordicwellbeing.co.uk

This summer we introduced canoe adventures to Wicken Fen which proved so popular we are extending the programme into the autumn. The adventure involves a 15 minute cycle ride to our launch point on Burwell Lode followed by a one hour canoe lesson with Slip Stream Canoe Guides. The canoe adventure costs £20 for the

first person and £10 for additional people in the party (under 5's free). Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

**FIRST SESSION
FREE!**



At Swaffham Prior village hall

Monday @9.45-10.45am

Thursday @1.00 – 2.00pm

Open to all ages and levels of fitness

***Modern style yoga combining fitness
moves with traditional yoga postures**

Only £5 per class or £20 for 5 classes

Please bring a mat!

**For more information contact Jo
07747115381 jofit@jmilne.com**

The chemistry of autumn

When we marvel at oranges, reds, yellows and even purples of autumn foliage, we are in fact celebrating decay and chemical change! During the growing season, the green colour of leaves is due to the light-absorbing pigment, chlorophyll, which is very abundant in most leaves. In early autumn, the chlorophyll in deciduous leaves starts to break down and other colours are revealed.

The yellow and orange shades which come to the fore are due to carotenoids, the same pigment that makes a carrot orange. The Birch collection at the Garden is particularly rich as the leaves become gold and warm apricot, often perfectly offset by bright white or shiny lacquer-red bark.

The red colours are due to another group of pigments, the anthocyanins. These pigments are produced by trees from sugar left over in the leaves – a sort of technicolour supernova! One of the most vivid autumn sights is the American Sweetgum, *Liquidambar styraciflua* 'Worplesdon'. It has formed a tear-drop shape and the foliage floods deep wine-red in early autumn, against which burst cerise, red, orange and apricot tones through the following weeks. The tree is a mesmerising sight at the height of its autumn colour, ingeniously placed at intersecting sight lines and throwing a spectacular reflection into the millpond surface of the Lake. For a few weeks of the year, the Sweetgum becomes the fiery fulcrum about which the whole Botanic Garden seems to revolve.



The Botanic Garden is open 10am – 5pm from October-November, and is open 10am-4pm through the winter. Admission is £4 (£3.50) or join the Friends & help the Garden grow! To discover this week's Plant Picks from the Head of Horticulture, please visit the website at www.botanic.cam.ac.uk

BON MOT NUMBER FIFTEEN

“The enemy of my enemy is my friend”
Old Arab Proverb?

South East Cambridgeshire Conservative Association
THE SWAFFHAMS AND REACH BRANCH

Invites you to enjoy

SUPERB SAUSAGES
and
MARVELLOUS MASH

Baldwin Manor, Swaffham Prior

Sunday 6th November 2011, 12.00 noon

Lunch £20 each

Guests: James and Ava Paice

Please reply to:

Mrs Marcia Miller
Baldwin Manor, Swaffham Prior
CB25 0LD Tel: 01638 741141

Mal Mot?

Absolutely!

Another

Bumptious

Speech

Obsession.

Latest.

Uttered often

To

Excess ---

Let's just hear,

"Yes".

Ophir.

The County Council Cabinet met twice in September. At the first meeting, as well as the budget monitoring report which is considered at every cabinet meeting we took decisions regarding the establishment of the shadow health and well-being Board and also, in light of widespread public opposition, a decision that we would not proceed with any development of windfarms on land owned by the County Council. I also presented a paper to cabinet regarding changes being made to the Social Work – Working for Families restructuring following a widespread consultation exercise.

At the second meeting we considered a number of agenda items including: a proposed new library service; the road safety strategy; establishing an approved trader scheme through our Trading Standards department; responses to various planning consultation documents; and proposals to build a new Pupil Referral Unit in Wisbech.

Cabinet and Senior Management team also had a workshop to consider emerging budget ideas. I attended a termly meeting of ‘Voices Matter’, where our Looked after Children have an opportunity to voice their opinions on the Council as corporate parents (and they do). I also attended a corporate parenting training workshop.

I chaired meetings of the Eastern Region Portfolio Holders for Children and Education and also of the County Child Poverty Champions Group, which is finalising a strategy for the County. I also chaired a seminar for all members of the Council regarding our new model for delivering Children and Young People’s Services.

I spent a half-day with the South Cambs and City Child Protection team and a further half day observing a panel meeting considering care needs of individual children. I was very impressed with the professionalism and enthusiasm of all involved. I also met with our new Head of Adoption Service.

I have been appointed to the Temporary Governing Body for a new County Special School, which met to progress a number of issues.

The Local Safeguarding Children Board met for a quarterly update and I attended a financial training event.

At the more local level there was also a number of meetings. Following criticism of changes to signage on local rights of way I attended a meeting involving Burwell, Reach and Swaffham Prior Parish Councils with officers from the County and District Councils. Hopefully we are making progress. A meeting is being arranged to consider car parking issues at the playing ground in Swaffham Bulbeck. The Burwell Masterplan Working Party held its second meeting and I also went along to the drop-in event at the Gardiner Memorial Hall

Finally, and very enjoyably, I was asked to help present certificates and medals to some of the 77 children who successfully completed the Circus Stars reading challenge at Burwell Library.



WI Notes

The speaker at our September meeting was Pat Wells who came to talk about and demonstrate Circle Dancing. Pat first told us that circle dancing is an ancient tradition common to many cultures. It is used to mark special occasions and fosters togetherness in communities and is found throughout the world.

As we watched a number of demonstration dances, Pat showed how the mood of different cultures was reflected in the rhythms of the national dances. We then joined in some simple dances which we all enjoyed - we certainly earned our refreshments that followed!

Our next meeting is on October 17th in the Village Hall, when Mary Ellis will share her experiences running a B & B with a talk entitled 'Sheets and Sausages'.

New members and occasional visitors are always welcome. Regular meetings are on the third Monday of the month in the village hall at 7:30 so come along and see if you would like to join our friendly group.

....And from August

After our summer garden party in June and the river cruise and lunch in July, we were back in the village hall for our August meeting. Our speaker was Arthur Brookes, who gave a very interesting and moving talk on the American War Cemetery at Madingley.

It is the only American World War 2 permanent burial ground in England. Funded by the American Battle Monuments Commission, it pays tribute to American servicemen and women who died in the war. Arthur showed us pictures of the beautiful grounds including the Great Mall with its reflecting pools which stretch from the flag standard to the memorial building with the wall of 'tablets of the missing' inscribed with 5000 names of those who died in service but whose remains were never recovered. We also saw the headstones marking the graves of the 3812 military dead who are buried there. Within the Memorial building the mosaic ceiling, by American artist, Francis Scott Bradford, is a memorial to those Americans who gave their lives while serving in the U.S. Army Air Force. The ghostly aircraft, accompanied by mourning angels, make their final flight toward the Glory.

We also saw pictures of some named personnel, supplied by their families on visits to the cemetery and heard details of the bravery of these people who gave their lives in the service of their country. We hope to arrange a follow up visit to Madingley and a escorted tour of this important monument.

Our next meeting is on September 19th in the Village Hall, when Pat Wells will talk to us about Circle Dancing, with audience participation of course!

New members and occasional visitors are always welcome. Regular meetings are on the third Monday of the month in the village hall at 7:30 so come along and see if you would like to join our friendly group.

Pat Cook
01638 742224

Notes from the Parish Council September Meeting

The meeting was chaired by John Covill with 8 Parish Councillors and 3 members of the Public. The Clerk was on holiday so the minutes were taken by Steve Kent-Phillips.

Items discussed included:

Matters Arising:

Great Drove/High Fen Road, SP Fen: Paul Butcher of CCC Highways confirmed that funding for “machine patching” was now available and they would be looking to mark out in the near future along Great Drove, Harrisons Drove and Whiteway Drove as the work will involve a road closure and he was expecting the work to be programmed for the New Year.

Petanque Pitch: Steve Kent-Phillips reported that the Red Lion had undertaken to provide a Petanque Pitch.

Play Area repairs: Steve Kent-Phillips carried out repairs to the climbing frame and swings.

Correspondence Received:

CCC Passenger Services – *changes to bus services.* These were noted.

CCC – *Commemorative Tree and Hedge Planting – Diamond Jubilee.* Details of funding for tree and fruit hedge planting schemes. Carried forward as an agenda item for October meeting.

Concerns raised about High Street Parking: A letter was received from residents expressing their concerns about current parking arrangements in the High Street opposite house numbers 67-73. At present parking is permitted on both sides of the road and for vehicles entering onto the High Street (east side) it is difficult to see vehicles approaching from the left particularly if they are overtaking cars parked on the opposite side. *It was suggested that part of the problem might be the speed of traffic coming into the village plus the bend in the road beyond No.73. It was proposed to monitor the situation for a month and discuss further at the October meeting.*

Reduction of Speed Limit on Mill Hill: Following receipt of information about CCC’s adoption of a more flexible speed limit policy, a site meeting was held between Parish Councillors Geoffrey Woollard and Peter Hart and Adam Cobb of CCC to look at the possibility of reducing the speed limit on Mill Hill from 40 to 30mph. Mr Cobb foresaw few problems with a speed reduction but as required under the new policy this would be subject to there being no objections from residents and the Parish Council paying for the work. This is to be further discussed once costings are received from CCC.

Reports:

CCC – Cllr David Brown was unable to attend but provided a written report.

ECDC – Cllr Allen Alderson did not attend meeting.

Accounts for Payment: These were agreed.

Open Question Time:

General discussion on above items.

Additional items for information:

ECDC's Village Vision Questionnaire: Questionnaires received are currently being processed and Abigail Taylor, Forward Planning Officer for ECDC, has requested to attend the Parish Council November meeting to present and discuss the results.

Housing Needs Survey by Cambridgeshire ACRE: Following receipt of completed questionnaires, it is hoped a report will be available for October Parish Council meeting.

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, 13th October 2011, starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

All are welcome to attend.

Karen King – Clerk to the Parish Council

CONSULTATION ON REVIEW OF THE DECISION TO REMOVE ALL SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICE FUNDING

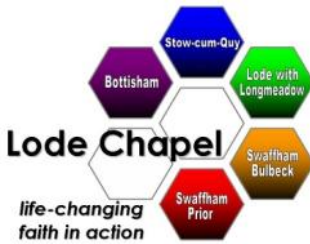
Cambridgeshire County Council wants to hear your views on changes and reductions being proposed to bus services which are supported by financial contributions from Council funds. This will help us decide on how we implement the financial savings and where possible find local solutions.

A questionnaire has been compiled to gather your views, which can be accessed at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/busreview. If you do not wish to complete this questionnaire online, paper copies are available by contacting us using one of the following means.

By email: bus.tenders@cambridgeshire.gov.uk By telephone: 0345 045 0675
By post: Cambridgeshire County Council, CC1301, Castle Court, Shire Hall, Cambridge, CB3 0AP

The closing date for responses to the questionnaire is 16:00 on Friday 9 December 2011. If you represent a group of people we would be grateful if you could distribute the above details to your members.

Passenger Transport Services
Cambridgeshire County Council



Our Daily Bread...

On Sunday 2nd October RE:NEW will be joining with Holy Trinity in Bottisham for an all-age harvest celebration. We'll have representatives from the local charity, Red2Green, and pupils from the Eco-Council at Bottisham Primary School. Both will be sharing with us their experiences of sowing seeds, watching the plants grow, and then reaping the fully grown produce at harvest time.

Throughout the year I often enjoy looking out of my window and watching the farmer tend his crops of wheat, barley or sugar beet. Sometimes, however, it's only when we see the price of a loaf of bread going up, and hear on the news that this is the consequence of a poor wheat harvest, that we are reminded of the processes that put our food on the table. Yet, in so many places around the world, people are acutely aware of how dependent we are upon the land, and on the rain that waters it.

We were pleased to send a donation to the East Africa Famine Appeal after the 'Cruising with Noah' musical staged at our holiday club in July. I want to thank the 40 children who performed, as well as the families and friends who enjoyed the performance and contributed to the offering which was sent to Tearfund. We had a great time on the day of the performance and many of the families stayed afterwards for a picnic, and a bounce on the bouncy castle.

One of the acts at the centre of the Christian experience is the breaking and sharing of bread. Whilst in our churches we celebrate the Eucharist, or Holy Communion, with liturgy and ceremony, the Bible warns us that such religion is worthless if it doesn't cause us to 'share our bread' in more practical ways. In the Bible, when God's people pretended to be pious, and yet were neglecting the needs of the poor, He told them: *'I hate your religious festivals; stop your noisy songs; instead, let justice roll like a river, and righteousness like a stream that never runs dry.'* (Amos 5, 21 – 24)

Harvest is not only a time for us to thank God for providing us with our daily bread, it is also an opportunity for us to share that bread with others. We hope you'll be able to join us for our all-age harvest service, or at the school for one of our other services during the month.

Simon Goddard

Services in October

Sun 2nd Oct, 11.00am – All-Age Harvest Service (Holy Trinity)

Sun 2nd Oct, 5.30pm – Contemplative Service (Chapel)

Sun 9th Oct, 10.30am – RE:NEW Kids Club and Café (School)

Sun 16th Oct, 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (School)

Sun 16th Oct, 5.30pm – 'Healing Space' (Chapel)

Sun 23rd Oct, 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (School)

Sun 30th Oct, 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (School)

For more information please contact: Rev. Simon Goddard.

Tel: (01223) 812881

Email: simon.goddard@re-new.me.uk

Web: www.lodechapel.org.uk and www.re-new.me.uk

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

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

FREECYCLE



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

Offers

Child's bicycle: 12 inch wheel (metallic blue with stabilizers). Jane c811592

Variable height bike stabilisers; Jun c 813362.

Rotary washing line with ground spike; Jet master fire (used); Wooden/canvas baby swing for outdoor use; Brabantia bin - 20 ltr slimline (cream/used). Lucy c811192

Wooden circular table 40inches in diameter; Sofa with drop ends, 60ins long, 40ins deep (has wheels and cushions); Elna Press for flatbed ironing. Patrick and Diana c811946

4-drawer metal filing cabinet, white-painted front. Loder/Julia c 812777

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.

My garden still looks like a lunar landscape so if your osteospermum is overpowering or your alyssum has attitude, I would be happy to have any spare cuttings or corms, rhizomes or runners, stolons or seedlings you make have. Edible or decorative all welcome. Jane c811592

Someone to teach me the basics of patchwork quilting. Lucy c811192

Dates for Your Diary October 2011

Wed	5	Reading Group, Kent House, 8pm
Sat	8	Garage Sale, The Abbey, Swaffham Bulbeck, 10am
Thu	13	PC Meeting, 7.30pm, VH
Sat	15	Ely Apple Festival, Ely Quiz Night, VH, 7.30pm
Tue	18	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2.45-3.15pm Chapel 3.20pm-4.00pm Crier Copy Deadline Village Gardeners, 8pm, VH
Wed	19	WI, VH, 7.30pm
Fri	28	Halloween Fancy Dress Party, Red Lion, 7.30pm
Sat	29	Second-hand Sale, 10.30am, Gardiner Memorial Hall, Burwell
November		
Fri	4	Bulbeck Fireworks, 6pm, Vicarage Field, S. Bulbeck
Sun	6	Sausage & Mash Lunch, Baldwin Manor, 12 noon
Sat	19	Village Variety Show

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 nd Mon of Term	8pm	Village School
Baby & Toddlers	Jessica Shakeshaft	744266	Fri	9:30-11:30am	Village Hall
Jamsing	Jo Pumfrey	741376	Tues (term)	9.20-12	Village Hall
Cubs	Tim Doe	743656	Weds (term)	6:00-7:30pm	Village School
Reading Group	Brenda Wilson	743937	1 st Weds of month	8:00pm	(See Crier)
Scouts	Tim Doe	743656	Weds (term)	6:15-7:45pm	Village School
Village Gardeners	Margaret Joyce	744390	3 rd Tues of month	8:00pm	Village Hall
WI	Pat Cook	742224	3 rd Mon of month	7.30 pm	Village Hall
Youth Club	Alan Badcock	742228	Tues	7-8:30pm	Youth Club Hut
			Thurs	7-10:00pm	

**Village
Clubs
&
Societies**