



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXVI Number 4

April 2012



Editorial

A minimalist Crier this month I'm afraid because Caroline is ill and I've had to put this issue together in rather a hurry at the last minute to try to get it to you before Easter. And particular apologies to anyone

who has sent in copy which I've not found or was waiting before sending something in for a reply from Caroline which never came. I very much hope that normal service will be resumed next month.

But it is just the editorial bits which have suffered. As usual our contributors have done us proud so there's plenty to read though rather less of the additional pictorial content which Caroline normally adds. It's only when you have to do it yourself that you realise just how much effort goes into putting the Crier together properly.

Amongst the various interesting articles, there are a number this time about crime and the police, unfortunately topical given the recent rise in thefts locally. One (p3) provides details of an open meeting on Wednesday 4 April to discuss the problem. Others announce: the phasing out of the old individual police station numbers to be replaced by 101; the reorganisation of local policing; and the alternative service offered by Crimestoppers if

you want to report something confidentially. John Norris also picks up the theme of theft in the latest of his memories.

The section in the Parish Council Notes (p22) on "Consideration of Additional Footpaths for the Parish" particularly caught my eye. It may be that the grass is always greener elsewhere but, when we walk the dog in other villages, there do seem to be more public footpaths and particularly more providing circular walks. So, if you feel the same, please let the Parish Council know that you do.

And as a special Easter treat (?) there's a special DIY "Dates for Your Diary".

Happy Easter!

James Matheson

Cover Picture: *Tree sparrow*- mezzotint engraving by **Clive Riggs**



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Mrs Jean Day (1st May, 1947 — 10th February, 2012)

On behalf of my father Eric and the family I would like to say a most sincere thank you to everyone for the cards and messages of sympathy we have received since Mum's passing. Your best wishes and condolences were very much appreciated by us all. Thank you to everyone who attended the Service at St. Mary's Church and for your generous donations to Burwell Surgery in Mum's Memory.

I would also like to thank Mr. Reeks, Andrew Camps and Karen King for their assistance to us at this sad time. Their help was very much appreciated.

Thank you all so much.

Hilary Marsh (Jean's daughter)

Moveable Feast

What a fabulous evening we all had on Saturday 24th March, starting off at Marcia Miller's house, who was assisted by Kate Child, 23 of us enjoyed a tasty dish of chorizo, roasted red peppers, baby new potatoes on a bed of rocket salad with a delicious dressing, fresh crusty bread and a glass of "fizz". Folk then moved off to three separate venues, and my thanks go to Pam and Martin Mead and Jill and John Jordan who were two of the main course hosts whilst James and I hosted the third main meal. The final venue, at the home of Ruth and Robin Scovil, provided an amazing selection of mouth watering desserts - it was difficult to chose what to start with! Newcomers to the village, Pippa and Tom Bourne, who joined us for the first time, thoroughly enjoyed the whole evening. Pippa said , "Everything about the Moveable Feast was enjoyable - venues, company and food! We had such a good evening and it was so relaxed and comfortable - I came away feeling I had laughed alot which is always a nice feeling! We aren't new to the area but are relatively new to living in this village and so it really was wonderful to have the opportunity to meet such lovely people - and hopefully make some new friends! Thank you to everyone who made it such a good night." So with that brilliant feedback, and the fact that we made £300 for St. Mary's Church, a good result all round. Looking forward to next year.

*Janet Willmott
07833 960678*

Donations!

Many thanks to John Chalmers and Mrs Moore for their very kind donations to the *Crier* this month.

You may be aware that there has recently been a sharp increase in theft related crime in our area, particularly in Swaffham Prior. A number of concerned villagers have got together and arranged a meeting with the Police and Countryside Watch to discuss ideas and ways of reducing crime locally. This promises to be a most informative and productive meeting and we hope to see you there!

**Cambridgeshire Countryside Watch
invites you to meet
Inspector Ormerod of Cambridgeshire
Constabulary**

on

**Wednesday 4th April at 7.30pm
at Swaffham Prior Village Hall**

We will be discussing what the Constabulary and the Community can do together to reduce the crime in our area. There will be new and innovative Security Equipment on show and I hope as many people as possible will support the Inspector and Countryside Watch in this initiative to fighting crime in your area.

BON MOT NUMBER TWENTY ONE

“Book collecting, I would have you know, is a full-time occupation, and one wouldn’t get far if one took time off for frivolities like reading.”

A.N.L.Munby

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

Before the meeting formally began Helen Randall gave a very fine presentation on Care Network Cambridgeshire which aims to serve the older and isolated members of society by providing a transport service. Full details will be revealed later but Helen said that each scheme could be fine tuned to the requirements and wishes of each village or of each area depending on how ambitious people wish to be. The minimum would be to provide a car service to the doctor. Volunteers would be paid 45 pence a mile with the individual paying 30 pence and CCC contributing the additional 15p. David Brown said that CCC were very supportive of the scheme and would like to see it expanded throughout the county. CCC would also pay for the required CRB checks (goodness me!) and said that a person could earn up to £4500 tax free under the scheme. The PC generally welcomed the scheme and especially the fact that Janet Willmott (“that’s a real live wire” said Geoffrey) being already involved meant it could not be in better hands.



Next came David Brown’s CCC report. He was probably very mindful of his mauling at the last meeting and set out the CCC’s strategy. These aren’t his exact words but he said something along the lines that “the CCC believes it should help the county drive the economic growth when we come out of recession and that we must invest in this now”. Who can object? We are a very favoured county compared with some parts of Britain, and we must be optimistic and forward looking. He went on to elaborate the CCC’s plans and why it needed to make the rate rise. Peter Hart found it to be a more acceptable explanation.

David then revealed that the 2.5% offered by Pickles was not worth £3.5 million but £7.5 million. To have accepted this would have left CCC short in next years budget of £7.5 million, which together with the extra £1 million from this year’s rates rise, would make it difficult to have a four year plan. Geoffrey had been very upset by the rejection of Pickles’ £3.5 million grant. He was almost apoplectic when he heard the true figure was £7.5 million. David Almond supported him and thought CCC could easily make another £1 million cuts. Geoffrey and David Almond are obviously of the “look after the short term, and the long term will take care of itself” brigade. Both David Brown and Allen had both stressed that they had to plan for a four year period in order to be responsible for both CCC and ECDC residents, and they both mentioned the major cuts/savings which had already been made by both councils.

No-one else joined the debate and it was noticeable that Steve, the PC’s very efficient and experienced financial wizard, made no comment while all this wrangling was going on, when such statements as “a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush” were made – just like Ed Balls would say.

The car parked on the verge of Fairview Grove is still upsetting Mark Lewinski (ML). In his December letter to the PC he reminded them that he had “written to the Parish Council on previous occasions” regarding the matter. The PC had looked into this again and had written to Mr Lewinski with its findings, as reported in the last

Crier. In response ML emailed the PC saying that as “the law is so ineffective in this area, this should be what a parish council is for – to look after its village.” Mr and Mrs Woolnough, the number 5 residents, had also written to the PC saying they had lived in the house for more than 30 years and that they have often asked Hereward for parking facilities without success. Someone wondered whether they felt persecuted by ML, as probably also does the PC at times as it has received its own battering from this well known *Guardian* correspondent.

The PC will write to Hereward supporting Mr and Mrs Woolnough’s request. When asked why they were supporting the objection of perhaps the only person in the village who does object, they said they were doing this for Mr and Mrs W and not for ML. How lucky Rogers Road residents are that ML does not live there as I notice some commit the same villainous sin.

Jonathan Cook of the Windmill wrote supporting an increase in the number of footpaths in the village. His suggestion for a path through Ivy Farm was considered to be out of the question but there are two other possible “permissive paths”. Peter Hart, our P3 man, is very happy to explore these but he needs to know there is a public demand. So, if you are interested in new permissive footpaths please let Peter know either by email pandmhart@btinternet.com or by phone – 741681. It will be a long process but he will do his best. Geoffrey thought it a “waste of time.”

The vegetation waste being left at the side of Cage Hill is still of concern and the culprit has yet to be caught. There was debate whether he (it was assumed it was a man) would wheel his barrow up the hill, or down. It was generally agreed the hill could be a deterrent and concluded that he probably lived up the hill. It was suggested a letter should be put through the doors of nearby houses, and then proposed that a letter should be sent to the *Crier*. I am not sure what final action was agreed but in Open Question Time David Greenfield thought this totally inadequate and will be suggesting tougher action.

Alastair Everitt

Important Notice

Annual Village Assembly May 2012

The date and agenda for the Annual Village Assembly is to be discussed at the April Parish Council meeting.

This meeting is organised by the Parish Council but is not a Parish Council meeting! It is the opportunity for all residents to come and find out more about their village and express any concerns or views they might have. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for items they would like to see on the agenda, please contact the Clerk.

It’s your village so have your say!!!



101 - New Non-Emergency Number for the Police

FROM Sunday (April 1), Cambridgeshire police can only be contacted on 101 for all non-emergency calls.

The old 0345 number will be switched off and a recorded message will tell people to call 101. The old number has remained in use alongside 101 for the past year to allow people time to get used to the new number.

For the first time, everyone calling the police for non-emergency matters will know exactly how much it will cost them and it will be the same no matter what time of day or the duration of the call. The number change is part of a national scheme to make 101 the single non-emergency number in England and Wales. The change has been introduced so residents will have one, easy-to-remember way to contact local police, wherever they are.

The system has been designed to recognise where the caller is dialling from and connect them with the local police service. If a caller does not want to speak to their local force they will be given the option to be connected to different one. The number change does not affect the way that calls are handled and non-emergency calls will continue 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

People should continue to call 999 when an immediate response is needed, for example if a crime is happening, someone suspected of a crime is nearby, or someone is in danger.

Your Local Neighbourhood Policing Team

Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre

proudly presents

'Iolanthe' by Gilbert and Sullivan

Wednesday 13th – Saturday 16th June 2012

Evening performances at 7.30pm and a Saturday matinée at 2.30pm

Downing Farm, Station Road, Swaffham Bulbeck, Cambridge CB25 0NB

Ticket prices Wednesday and Thursday £9, Friday and Saturday £10, matinée £6. All via our website www.sbst.uk.com or from Kari Karolia 01638 745490; e-mail kari.karolia@gmail.com

On-site parking; facilities for wheelchair users; licensed bar

For further information contact Ruth Dennis on 01638 508171 or info@sbsummertheatre.com

BUS SUBSIDIES - WHAT YOU MAY LIKE TO KNOW

Around 80 per cent of public transport in Cambridgeshire is run commercially with the remaining 20 per cent being subsidised by the County Council, at a cost of around £2.7 million per year. Work is already underway with operators to see if changes to routes and timetables could make some marginal subsidised journeys commercially viable and therefore reduce this financial commitment.

The Council has also reviewed the way subsidies are currently paid and has started a phased three year change programme. Over the next three years the Council will be transforming how these subsidised services are delivered, resulting in an annual investment of £1.5 million.

Before any subsidy is removed it is planned to carry out consultation to find out people's public transport needs. Everyone will be invited to contribute and work together to find the best and most cost effective way of meeting that need.

The results will vary across the County and one size will not fit all. Solutions may include local operators, smaller vehicles, links to commercial hubs, such as the Busway or Park and Ride as well as direct routes to certain destinations and flexible dial a ride type services. If there is enough demand it could lead to more travel opportunities, not less. If the best solution to deliver an essential service is to retain the current form of subsidy, then that will still be an option.

The new initiatives will be rolled out under the banner of Cambridgeshire Future Transport starting from April 2012. Subsidised services have been grouped into 13 geographical areas which have transport links within them and these areas will be reviewed in three tranches over the next three years. This is so that the services can be looked at as a whole and alternatives explored.

Cambridgeshire County Council Passenger Transport Service

Bottisham Players proudly present,

Jubilee Jubilations

17th 18th & 19th May 2012

**Celebrating the Queens Jubilee
with songs and sketches**

stretching the length of the Queens Reign.

put the date in your diary now tickets available mid April.

John Norris Remembers Thieves

I had not been living here long when the Parish Chest was stolen from out of the Church. This ancient item was not in very good repair, but was an interesting artefact. It had three locks on the front so that it was only when the Vicar and his two wardens were present together that it could be opened.

I do not remember what was inside, other than hymnbooks and old documents. These things should have been sent to the Diocesan Archive as information of repairs done in 1902, and other events were most likely stored there. We shall never know what we are missing as the chest was never found

. At one time, in the sixties, there used to be a sword and Sam Brown under a window in the Chancel. These were part of the uniform of a member of the army who had lost his life in war. They must have been there for many years, only the brackets on which they hung are left.

Recently we have had the lead from off the south isle roof stolen, again with no trace of who or when it was removed. Indeed it was only the onset of a heavy rainfall that caused us to enquire how so much water could enter the church. On looking up at the ceiling, light could be seen, and on further inspection, the lead roof was found to have been taken away.

There was no trace of how the robbers got their ill-gotten gains to their vehicle, or any signs of ladders or wheelbarrows. This may of course be because it could have been three weeks earlier, they're being no rain for a long period. Andrew mopped up the water lying on the floor of the south isle, but the damage had started to appear. I was surprised at this, as the varnish applied some ten years ago should have protected it and prevented the seepage into the cracks. It is always difficult to oversee work done by contractors, and this was not their best.

The next business is to set about the repair, as more rain can be expected. At present there are twenty or so buckets the catch the drips from between the ceiling boards. Why should this be the case, ten weeks after the event? If it was our own homes the work would have been put in hand immediately, but the church wardens are hampered by bureaucracy.

Sadly many churches have had lead stolen from their roofs, and many Parochial Church Councils have sought advice. If the roof is not visible from the ground, the colour and structure of the repair can be done in the best materials available. The many bodies, may I say quangoes, who oversee all our activities, surely know the best solution, having had so much information from architects and other government advisors. This could be readily available when other buildings have their lead stolen.

The delay in putting the work in hand is in my opinion unnecessary, and frustrating for those responsible for the upkeep of our church. It is all very well to say put a tarpaulin sheet over the area, but any temporary repair like this is bound to leak in time, due to the difficulties in connecting it to the surrounding structure. Let us hope that all these groups, English Heritage, Listed buildings committee, the Archdeacon, and anyone else in control, get off their bikes, and let us get the roofers on with the job.

Having made my conscience clear on church matters, I can report that I am feeling much better now that I have regular blood transfusions to control my Leukaemia. This had, unknown to me, been reducing my energies for several months, but now thanks to the expertise at Addenbrookes Hospital, and the care and attention of my doctor I shall eventually die with it, rather than of it !!

BOTTISHAM BOWLING CLUB

QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 21ST APRIL 7.30PM

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

TEAMS OF UP TO 8 PEOPLE

£3.00 PER PERSON

TO BOOK YOUR TABLE CONTACT
HILDA BUCHANAN ON 01223-811689



“Gardening is a question of attitude”,
Is a possibly accurate platitude,
Which has often been said,
By someone in a shed,
Demonstrating an extreme form of lassitude.

Ophir.

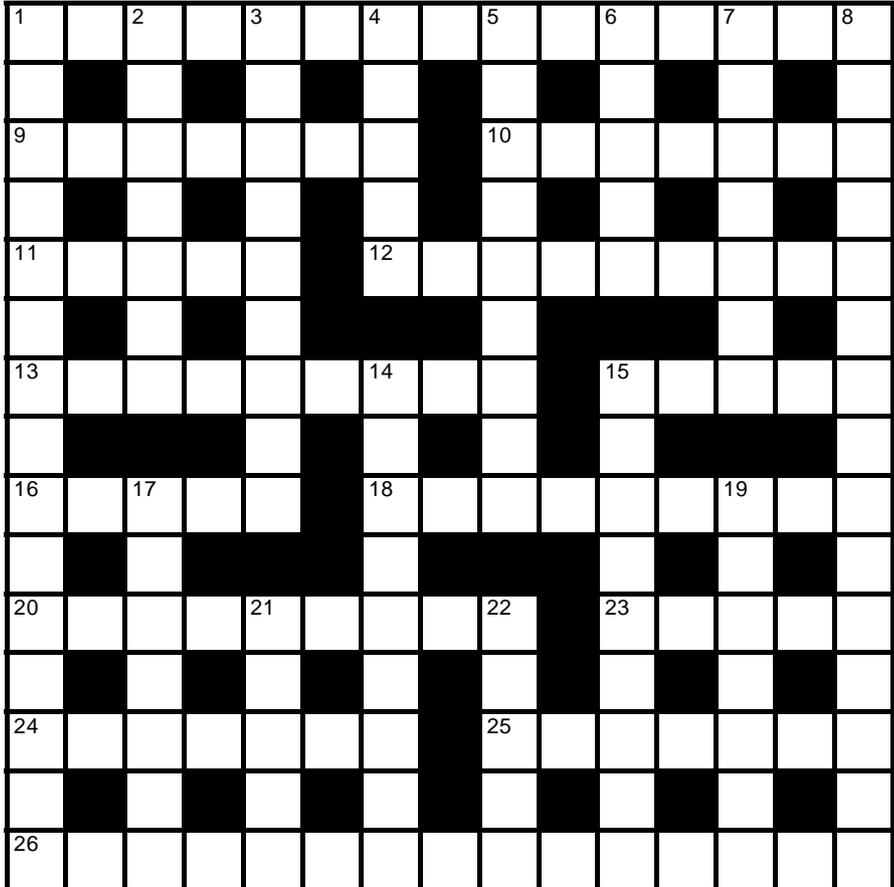
Crossword Number 88

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 April 2012. The first correct solution out of the hat will win a free meal for two at the Red Lion—See the Manager at the pub for full details.



Name:.....
Address:.....
.....Tel:.....

Across

- 1 Legs used to find seasonal gifts (8,7)
- 9 Beautiful Gabriel followed by one hundred (7)
- 10 First North American missionaries in Brazil, India and an African country (7)
- 11 Spear clan leader found in road (5)
- 12 Arabs get a spy in trouble (9)
- 13 In Cuba tortillas may be found in an egg box (9)
- 15 Many bend and wash (5)
- 16 Dig into buried elves housing (5)
- 18 Employer calls for identifiers (9)
- 20 Dance cups made into conical hat (6,3)
- 23 Keen middlemen given silver by queen (5)
- 24 Elusive vase I've broken (7)
- 25 Type of computer and what to put it on (7)
- 26 At which gamekeepers' daughters might marry in haste? (7,8)

Down

- 1 Pea-brained head has narrow outlook (5-10)
- 2 I can start to follow my nose perhaps; it's natural (7)
- 3 Dangerous insect ran amok like rebel (6,3)
- 4 Opening in tunic hem (5)
- 5 Decorated and at liberty but not committed (5-4)
- 6 Threshold I'm fired up about (5)
- 7 Hug eastern military leader and

support the church (7)

- 8 Old Glory found in the heavens and bars (5,3,7)
- 14 Club for luncheon; no starter, tasty rolls first instead (9)
- 15 Spoke opposing deputy head (9)
- 17 Mid morning heave in toilet, but not recently (4-3)
- 19 Boy missing from Montego Bay arranged big bang (7)
- 21 Looking at hidden key ingredients (5)
- 22 Father could end in dock (5)

Solution to crossword no. 87

E	R		S		S	O	D		O									
N	O	U	G	H	T	S	A	N	D	C	R	O	S	S	E	S		
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M	A	H	J	O	N	G		C	R	A	N	I	U	M	R			
E					E	K		V	N	O					E			
R	O	U	L	E	T	T	E		M	O	N	O	P	O	L	Y		
A	R				A	S									N	S		
T	A	G			A	R	T	I	C	U	L	A	T	E		S		
E		E	L				O				R			R		T		
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O					W		S		E		O					M		S

We congratulate Trish Whitehead, the winner of last month's competition, who should collect her prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Mandy Kingsmill, Robert Nunn and Shirley Wilkins.

An update from Bottisham Patient Participation Group

PPG Annual General Meeting 26th April 2012

The Bottisham Medical Practice Patient Participation Group will hold its second AGM in the surgery at 7.00 pm on Thursday 26th April. Whether or not you are currently a patient, the Practice is essential to all of us who live in the village and those in the surrounding area. This is your chance to hear from Dr Jonathan Higham about the Practice, how it works, the many services it provides and the challenges and changes it faces. He will describe the specialist skills and interests of its doctors and nurses, and how those skills are used to look after you and your families.

At the AGM you will also hear about what the PPG has been doing in its first year and about its plans for the next few months. And you will have the opportunity to join the PPG's Committee and to elect its office holders (anybody registered at the Practice can vote).

So do come. Whether or not you are currently a patient, the Practice is essential to Bottisham and the villages in the surrounding area, and to all of us who live here. We are sure you will learn a great deal and the PPG Committee wants to hear from you. Your views about the Practice and its place in the life of your village matter. The AGM will be an opportunity to have your say.

Health treatment while abroad

With faint hints of spring in the air, many of us are beginning to think about the summer holidays. If you plan to cross the Channel, now is the time to apply for a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). This gives you access to state-provided healthcare in EU countries and Switzerland. The EHIC cards are free and can be applied for on line at www.ehic.org.uk (but beware commercial websites which offer the card - they will charge you a fee). If you have problems getting through on the website or do not have a computer ring 0845 6062030. The card is valid for five years so if you already have one, check if it's still valid. It covers medical treatment for illness and accidents (though do not rely on the card to cover skiing accidents or to fly you back to the UK). Some European countries require you to pay upfront and claim back refundable costs, so be sure to keep all bills and receipts.

If you plan to travel further afield, do ask your doctor about vaccinations. This is obviously the case if you are going to Asia, Africa or South America. But even if you are visiting countries in the eastern Mediterranean or camping in the forest areas of Austria you may need a polio booster or vaccination against tick-borne encephalitis. The commoner vaccinations are usually free on the NHS and five minutes with a doctor or nurse may save you from a ruined holiday, or worse.

Mobile phones

If you regularly use a mobile phone, the Practice staff would like you to register your number with them so that they can text you reminders about, e.g. appointment times, repeat prescriptions, and test results.

Bottisham PPG Committee



LODE RUNNERS 10k FUN RUN

SUNDAY 6th MAY 2012

Starts at 10.30 a.m. from Lode Social Club, Lode, Cambridgeshire.

Entry by Post and entries before the day must be received by 1st May 2012

Entry On-the-Day starts at 9.30 a.m. (subject to numbers – numbers limited to 200)

Free Parking available

Entry Prices are: £10 Unaffiliated entry fee; £8 Affiliated entry fee; £2 extra is charged for all “On-the-Day” entries

Entry Forms – can be downloaded from our website www.loderunners.co.uk (under Events)

Trophies will be awarded to the best female and best male runner in the following age-groups: Up to 30 years; 31-50 years; 51 years and over

For further information contact Tessa Shrubbs – telephone 01223 811812 or email lodefarm@aol.com

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Our 2nd Half Marathon will be on Sunday 4th November 2012. Proceeds this year will be donated to East Anglian Childrens Hospice and Lode Social Club. Spaces are limited so to avoid disappointment sign up now by downloading an entry form at: www.loderunners.co.uk (under Events).

GEAR 2012.

Please join us on Sunday 6th May 2012 at 10.30am ~ Tuesday Market Place, King’s Lynn for the **Grand East Anglia Run** ~ 10k run in support of local charities.

FREE t-shirt and refreshments for every runner, a great atmosphere and lots of fun for the whole family. Minimum age 16 years, and for the kids there is Mini GEAR Fun Run – 1.2 mile run, minimum age 6 years, starting at 10.35am – see the GEAR website for details.

<http://www.grandeastangliarun.co.uk>

Please contact Amanda Standen ~ amanda.standen@norfolkospice.org.uk for a sponsor form and when registering on the GEAR website don’t forget to add whom you are representing to qualify for your FREE t-shirt!!!!

Good luck with the training!!!

Wicken Fen / Anglesey Abbey

As Spring approaches its all systems go as we prepare for the new season.

The snow and ice in February delayed construction of our new wild camping site at a secret location out on the wider reserve. Now the weather has improved construction of the camping pods is nearing completion and we are set for an Easter launch. The campsite consists of four basic rustic shelters which will protect you from the elements and sleeping eight children or five adults, a fire pit and eco-toilet. Access to the site is on foot or bicycle and you will need to self sufficient carrying your own food, water and fuel (and taking you rubbish away of course). It's £25 per night to hire the site, so if you fancy a night under the stars please phone the Visitor Centre or e-mail wickenwildcamping@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Construction of our authentic Fenman's Workshop is due to commence in the next couple of weeks. The workshop will house two traditional gun punts, tools, artefacts and will stage demonstrations of traditional crafts practised by generations of fenlanders. Following previous appeals we have plenty of building materials so now we would like to appeal for the donation or loan of any pre 1940's wildfowling, eel catching or fishing equipment, hands tools and general bric-a-brac. We are also on the look out for volunteers to help bring this exciting project to life- could you help restore the punts? –or demonstrate crafts such as willow weaving, green woodworking, net making or would you like to learn these skills to demonstrate to our visitors. If you would like to donate or loan any items or volunteer please contact Assistant Warden, Tim Fisher at the Visitor Centre or e-mail tim.fisher@nationaltrust.org.uk

We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our new passenger boat which successfully passed its sea trials at the beginning of March. We're running a small competition to help us choose a name for the boat. To enter please e-mail your suggested name to wickenfen@nationaltrust.org.uk by Monday 9 April. The prize is a private three hour cruise for you and up to 10 of your family and friends. A draw will be held in the event that more than one entry suggests the winning name.

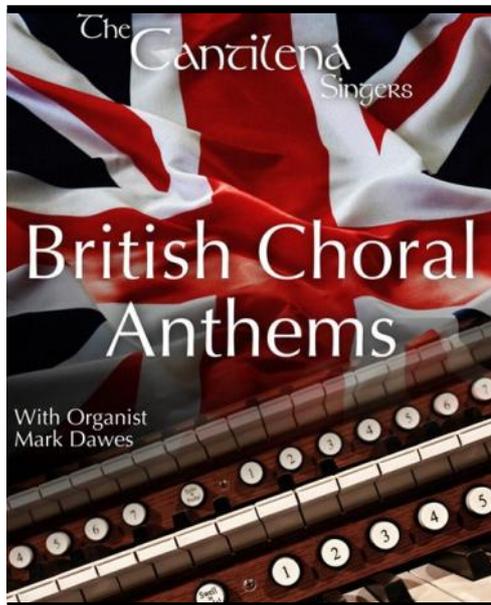
Down at Anglesey Abbey, the house has re-opened to visitors following its winter closure. This year the house will be open 7 days a week with guided tours operating on Monday's and Tuesdays. The tours will focus on a 'Day in the Life of Lord Fairhaven' and will provide a unique insight into the man who renovated the house and created the gardens from scratch. Tours depart at 12noon, 1&2pm and are free to National Trust members or £3 for non-members plus standard garden admission.

We have a fantastic range of activities for the Easter Holidays – our famous **Easter Egg Trail** runs from Friday 6 –Monday 9 April – follow the trail, solve the clues and earn yourself a yummy Cadbury's chocolate egghead – the Easter Trail costs £1.50 at Wicken Fen or £2 at Anglesey Abbey plus normal admission. The **Anglesey Abbey Lode Raft Race** takes place on Easter Sunday and Monday –build a raft, decorate and egg and sail it down the Lode £2.50 per child. Back at Wicken

we have **Pond Dipping and Bug Hunt** on Tuesday's 3 & 10 April £1.75 plus 50p for optional bug hunt; discover the mystical tales of the fen on **Myths and Magic**-Wednesday 4 April, **Springtime Arts and Crafts** - Thursday 5 April, **Wild Boutique** on Wednesday 11 April, and **Wicken Warriors** on Thursday 12 April. Each activity costs £4.50 and offers two sessions, 10.30 -12.30pm or 2-4pm.

Advance booking essential for all events except Easter Egg Trail and Anglesey Abbey Lode Raft Race. Tickets/further information available from the Wicken Fen Visitor Centre on 01353 720274.

Howard Cooper
National Trust –Anglesey Abbey & Wicken Fen



Friday 20th April 2011, Bassingbourn Parish Church North End, Bassingbourn, SG8 5NW 8pm

Saturday 21st April 2011, Emmanuel United Reformed Church, Trumpington St, Cambridge, CB2 1RR 7:30pm

Tickets £8 on the door

An evening celebrating the best British Choral Anthems from the last 400 years. Programme to include:

- Sing Joyfully - Byrd
- Bring us, O Lord God - Harris
- Hail, Gladdening Light - Wood
- If ye love me - Tallis
- Hear my prayer, O Lord - Purcell
- I sat down under his shadow - Bairstow

Mitchell Lodge Bowls Club

Swaffham Bulbeck

We are approaching a new bowling season and we would like to invite new members to come along. We are a small but friendly club. Don't be put off if you haven't bowled before, everyone will be welcome.

Why not join us for a friendly roll-up after a short meeting - bowls provided. Meeting to be held at Mitchell Lodge Bowls Club Pavilion in Quarry Lane on Monday 16 April 2012 at 7:00pm.

Ring Reg Webb on 01223 813401 for details.

Midsummer at St. Cyriac's

Once again we are having
A Two Day Midsummer Market in
St. Cyriac's Church on June 16 & 17

This is an early call for plants.

Last year there was a huge magnificent display
provided by so many in the village.

Please bear this in mind this year when
taking cuttings or planting seeds,

If any questions ask Elisabeth Everitt (742974)

And this is also an early call for Bric à Brac.

If you are clearing out any cupboards,
moving house, or just rationalising,
please contact Alastair Everitt
who will be happy to help.

You are invited to the RE:NEW

Community Ceilidh



Music
provided by
The Cyriacs

7.30pm, Saturday 12th May

Bottisham Primary School,

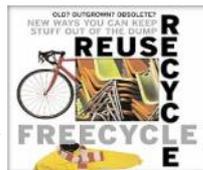
Beechwood Avenue, CB25 9BE.

Nibbles available. Children welcome.

Paid bar, with proceeds to the school PTA.

RSVP: 01223 812881 or simon.goddard@re-new.me.uk

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

Three seater sofa and two armchairs all in Sanderson fabric.

Peter-John on C 811211(evenings)

Child's sand/water pit. (Clam shell type; Argos 365/0691).

Serviceable, but could do with a good clean. Frank on C.812890

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 on 07895064727.

Violin or similar stringed instrument. Need not be in good order or working condition! Sue on C 813635

Bottisham Village College Adult and Community Learning

Win a free 10 week course of your choice, worth up to £90!

We are always looking for new and exciting courses to offer, and would like to hear your views. Why not take a look at our website www.bottishamvc.org/commed to see what we already offer and if the course you are looking for is not there, please let us have your suggestions by 27th April 2012. You will then be entered into our free prize draw.

Would you like more arts and crafts, languages, health and fitness, ICT, or anything else? *Please give as much detail as possible so that we can help.* Do you like evening classes or Saturday day schools? Do you like 5 week or 10 week courses?

You can email us on commed@bottishamvc.org, or telephone (01223) 811372.

We'd love to hear from you and we'll do our best to put on the best suggestions in our September programme.



New force structure (East Cambs)

FROM April the force is embarking on a new structure for local policing, abolishing the current three divisions for six district areas in line with local authority boundaries. This change will allow police to work closer with partner agencies and deliver a much more locally-focused policing service.

The priority remains frontline services and the force's commitment to bringing offenders to justice and keeping people safe. The structure was developed to maintain and enhance the level of operational policing tailored to local needs. It is part of the operation to redesign the whole structure of the force and ensure we reduce costs and maintain the level of service the public receive.

Each district will have a team of officers and staff who currently perform neighbourhood policing, response and local crime investigation functions. East Cambridgeshire will be run by Area Commander Chief Inspector Russell Waterston. Inspector Robin Sissons has moved to a new position within the Fenland command area and has been replaced by Inspector Paul Ormerod who has previously been a neighbourhood policing sergeant in Ely.

A team of sergeants, PCs and PCSOs will continue to cover the area. The changes will see the number of PCs covering East Cambs increasing from 34 to 42, the number of sergeants will rise by two to 10 and the area will have a dedicated crime manager Detective Inspector Donna Wass. Most of the officers are already in post ready for the official changeover.

Crimestoppers

Crimestoppers is an independent charity helping to find criminals and solve crimes. We run the anonymous 0800 555 111 phone number which allows members of the public to pass on information about crime 100% anonymously. People can also pass us information anonymously via a secure online form at www.crimestoppers-uk.org. Anonymous means that your name is not known or made public.

We know that our guarantee to never ask for your name or record your call is vitally important to you. It makes it easier for you to come forward, breaking the silence around criminal activity and removing your fear.

What we mean by anonymous:

- You will never be asked for your name
- Your call will not be recorded
- Your call or online form will not be traced
- You will not have to make a statement to the police
- You will not appear in court.

We create a report from the information you give us. Our call handlers will check that this report contains no information that might identify you, e.g. if the call is

about your neighbour we will not mention this. We don't even make a note of your gender. If the identity of one of our callers was made known it would destroy trust in Crimestoppers and no one would contact us. This is another reason why it is so important to us that we can guarantee your anonymity. This promise has not been broken in 23 years. The report is sent to the relevant authority, who will deal with the information. This could be your local police force or an agency such as Customs or Immigration. They have the legal responsibility to investigate crimes, make arrests and charge people in order to bring them to justice.

You can contact Crimestoppers anonymously about any crime or criminal activity that you know about. We know there are times when you might not feel able to talk to the police directly. That's why Crimestoppers exists - to provide you with an anonymous route to give information about crime. Crimestoppers is not a replacement for 999 because we're not an emergency service.

We take information on many issues such as drug dealing, sexual assault, possession of weapons, robbery, criminal damage, wanted individuals, immigration offences, theft, burglary, murder, arson, fraud..... A full list can be found on the Crimestoppers website.

Crimestoppers pay cash rewards of up to £1,000 if the information you give to Crimestoppers leads to one or more people being arrested and charged. You can get further information about how this is done online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

The police have to thoroughly research the information you give us in order to act on it. This ensures that information is correct and not given to us maliciously in order to set someone up. The police cannot get a search warrant or make an arrest based solely on anonymous information – there needs to be other intelligence that supports Crimestoppers' information. The research they do on Crimestoppers' information means they can use it with confidence. Once the information has been researched, the police will allocate this to an appropriate officer or team to deal with. This could mean more research or action may be taken.

Volunteers are integral to the success of the charity Crimestoppers. The hard work and talent of our 450+ volunteers is helping to take criminals out of communities up and down the country. If you would like to get involved or learn more please contact Ann Scott on ann.scott@crimestoppers-uk.org

Jolly Jingle Number Four

Does any man of common sense
Think ham and eggs give God offence?
Or that a herring has a charm
The Almighty's anger to disarm?
Wrapped in his Majesty divine
Do you think he cares on what we dine?

Dean Swift

(on being reproached for eating a “full English” on a Friday)



VILLAGE GARDENERS

We could not have had a more topical subject for our March meeting. With the prospect of a forthcoming hosepipe ban, Peter Jackson from Scotsdales Garden Centre spoke to us about Drought Resistant Plants. Peter gave us valuable general advice on the subject, such as how important it is to put saucers under containers and to use compost containing moisture retaining agents. Watering should be done early morning and in the evening in order to reduce evaporation. Above all, his message was that plants recommended for their drought tolerance are precisely that only when they are well established – these plants, like any other, need nurturing at first. Herbaceous plants need to be purchased when relatively small and planted carefully so that they will become established more easily and faster. To do this, Peter mentioned the benefit of incorporating the recently introduced mycorrhizal fungi into the soil at planting time – this will enhance root growth.

Peter also showed us slides of many drought resistant plants from annuals such as the beautiful California Poppy and Cosmos (now available in double forms) to perennials including the Rock Rose, Lavender, Sedum, Agapanthus and Achillea, all of which would be happy in our chalky soil. We may all have to adapt our gardens to the possibility of a drier future.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 17 April at 8pm in the Village Hall when Joe Sharman from Monksilver Nursery in Cottenham will be talking on Primroses. He will also be bringing plants (drought resistant?) for sale. Everyone is welcome.

Mary Hart

Tough and Technicolour species Tulips

Tulips are perhaps one of the most recognisable garden plants, and have been cultivated since the 13th century for their showy flowers.

The National Collection of *Tulipa* (species only) at the Botanic Garden is believed to be the only survivor from the Ministry of Agriculture's special collection scheme that was introduced after the Second World War. The origins of the collection, however, go much further back and lie in a tragedy. William Dykes, master of Charterhouse School, keen amateur gardener, botanist and Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), was a passionate collector of both tulips and iris. But sadly, in November 1925, only a week after receiving the Victoria Medal of Honour from the RHS, Dykes was killed in a motoring accident.

The Botanic Garden's archive contains a letter inviting the then Director, Humphrey Gilbert-Carter, to purchase 1/12 syndicate share in the late Mr Dyke's tulip collection, urging that 'It seems to me a pity that these rare and uncommon bulbs should be sold outside this country'. Duly secured, Gilbert-Carter writes in 1927, 'Dyke's Tulips make the finest show I have seen in the Garden. I put a short notice in the 'Review' about them, and great numbers of people come to admire them'.

The collection is grown in terracotta pots housed in the behind-the-scenes Alpine Yard, but as they come into flower, they are plunged into the *Mountains* display of the Glasshouse Range, where they make a wonderful display from February through to late May. Many also grow well on the Limestone Rock Garden, including the lady tulip, *Tulipa clusiana* and *Tulipa orphanidea*, and we have recently established a patch of bright yellow *Tulipa sylvestris* in the long grass under the Magnolias as part of the spring bulb belt.

Juliet Day, Development Officer, Cambridge University Botanic Garden

The Botanic Garden is open 10am – 6pm from April - September. Admission is £4.50 (Giftaid admission £4.95) or join the Friends, get free admission & help the Garden grow! For news and events, detailed information about the Garden or to discover this week's Plant Picks from the Head of Horticulture, please visit the website at www.botanic.cam.ac.uk



WI Notes

The W.I meeting on 19th March was chaired by Mrs Betty Fox, Vice Chairman, as the Chairman was on holiday in Japan.

During the meeting it was announced that the programme for 2012-2013 had been arranged, and a card of congratulations would be sent to Mrs. Penny Walkinshaw on her appointment as High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire.

Then followed the A.G.M. The By-laws were read by the Secretary and the Treasurer then presented her Annual Report, and she informed the meeting that Christopher Mason had agreed to continue as auditor. Betty Fox proposed and Jeannie King seconded the motion that the report be adopted. Then followed the Committee's report and the President's address, both of which were proposed, seconded and adopted.

There was no change in the offices of President and Committee so no ballot was necessary. The two Tellers from Burwell were thanked for attending the meeting and were given presents.

The business part of the meeting over, the members were able to relax and enjoy cheese and biscuits and glasses of wine.

We were joined by Helen Randall from Care Network who spoke to us about starting a Community Car Scheme. She explained how it works and had been in touch with Janet Willmott who was interested in getting such a scheme started in Swaffham Prior.

The evening ended on a note of hilarity when Shirley Wilkins organised a Duck Drive, like a Beetle Drive but we had to draw ducks. This was great fun. Betty Fox was the overall winner and was presented with one large and two small chocolate ducks!

Betty Prime.

Notes from Parish Council Meeting – 8th March 2012

The meeting was chaired by John Covill with 7 Parish Councillors and 3 members of the Public in attendance.

Public Participation:

No items raised.

Presentation on Transport for Older and Isolated People in the Swaffhams by Helen Randall, *East Cambridgeshire Development Officer for Care Network Cambridgeshire:*

Helen explained that the Care Network was a Charity to help groups set up community car schemes where public or private transport may not be available. It was suggested that the Swaffhams may well benefit from such a scheme. Helen also told the meeting of Care Network's "Help at Home" scheme and provided copies of a leaflet explaining the service and asked everyone to promote this. *If anyone would like a copy, please contact the Clerk.* Helen was to speak with other interested parties in the village.

Reports:

CCC – Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting.

ECDC – Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes (*for information only*):

Parking at Fairview Grove: A letter was received in reply to the complaints about parking on the grass verge at the top of Fairview Grove. This explained that it was not always residents of Fairview Grove that parked on the grass but on occasion visitors to the windmill and others. Following further discussion, the Clerk was asked to contact Sanctuary Hereward to ask if they would consider installing a driveway to provide alternative parking.

Dumping of vegetation – Cage Hill: Further complaints have been received about the continuing dumping of hedge cuttings, etc on Cage Hill (opposite Green Head Road junction). The Parish Council would very much appreciate the assistance of residents in disposing of their garden waste appropriately.

Correspondence for Consideration/Circulation:

ECDC – East Cambridgeshire Local Plan – consultation on strategic issues: Consultation period to run from 5/3 – 26/3/12. Poster with details on village noticeboard.

Consideration of Planning Application for The Bungalow, Upware Road, Upware – *replacement dwelling, along with associated parking and all other necessary site works:* There were no objections to this application.

Consideration of Donation towards cost of New Fencing on School/Village Hall Boundary: Following consideration of the quotes received for new fencing, it was agreed to pay a contribution of £500. The School and Village Hall Management Committee were also to contribute towards the costs.

Consideration of Donation to The Swaffham Crier: Following a request received from the Crier, a donation of £100 was agreed.

Consideration of Additional Footpaths for Parish: It was reported that there is some support in the village for the idea of creating new footpaths. One suggestion was a footpath linking Barston Drove with Station Road. Peter Hart said that other circular routes had also been suggested and explained that if there was sufficient support for a new footpath, the next step would be, in partnership with CCC, to approach landowners to gain their support. It was accepted that this would take time to develop and would be an ongoing project.

Accounts for Payment: These were agreed.

Clerk's Report:

Planning approval received for 6 High Street.

Parish Councillors' Reports:

Steve Kent-Phillips reported that the damage to the verge on Station Road was mainly caused by one of CCC's highway maintenance teams and they would be returning once the weather had improved to put right. Peter Hart asked about the repairs to the footpath on Station Road and Steve Kent-Phillips said this was still to be carried out.

John Covill told the meeting about the National Trust Consultation - connecting extensive grazing areas at Wicken Fen, Harrisons Drove with its reference to the use of cattle grids. *To be discussed further at April meeting.*

Open Question Time:

General clarification on items of the agenda.

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, 12th April 2012, 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**



For the first time Cabinet met in Wisbech on 6 March. To make best use of time Cabinet Members had a full day, starting with a breakfast meeting with local business leaders. Following the formal Cabinet meeting, we then met with civic leaders over lunch and that was followed by a number of visits to witness activities including a Children's Centre and the Children's Social Care Team. The experiment was successful and it is intended to hold some future Cabinet meetings outside Cambridge. Cabinet also met with NHS Cambridgeshire Directors to discuss issues of common interest.

Full Council met on 27th March. A number of motions were debated and agreed including motions supporting safer cycling across the County and the need for the County Council to work with others to take action regarding the drought conditions. Council also saw a debate on the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel into members' allowances, which recommended no increase to current allowances. This was agreed virtually unanimously.

I chair the East of England group of portfolio holders for children and education. The meeting received presentations on restorative justice approaches being used by Norfolk County Council and also a presentation from the Strategic Health Authority.

Over 100 Governors attended the annual Cambridgeshire School Governors Conference held at Hinchingsbrooke on 3rd March, including Governors from Burwell, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior schools. This was a very worthwhile Conference and gave me an opportunity to thank Governors, on behalf of the County Council, for all the work they do for our children and young people.

The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee met to discuss a number of items, including the SEN Education Placement Strategy, Early Years Outcomes and future arrangements for the Children's Trust.

The South Neighbourhood Panel met in Kirtling. Presentations were received regarding East Cambs District Council consultation on a tenancy strategy, the potential role of Community Land Trusts, metal thefts and traffic management issues. The next Neighbourhood Panel will take place in Stetchworth on 20th June.

I also attended briefing meetings with officers on a number of policy issues as well as getting involved in a number of cases on behalf of individual residents.

Finally, I had the pleasure of presenting certificates to individuals who had completed their induction programme for our re-modeled Children's Social Work service.

West Norfolk Mind's Therapeutic Allotment Project

A recovery story

Mr F went to the Job Centre feeling depressed and anxious as he did most days. In addition he suffered from OCD. The Job Centre couldn't offer him anything in the way of employment but pointed him the direction of a job employment worker at West Norfolk Mind who supported people at their new therapeutic allotment scheme. They needed gardeners and it's something he had previously enjoyed so he decided to get involved.

Mr F said "At that time I was not getting out of bed some days, nor leaving the house and had lost all my confidence. After my first day on the allotment that night my arms and back ached but instead of spending the night feeling depressed with suicidal thoughts I realised I had something to look forward to. Although I was quiet when I was there I felt I done something useful, helped some other people and felt healthier for the exercise and fresh air."

Mr F was a service user for 4 or 5 months and progressed so well that he was asked if he would like to become a volunteer. He told me that this felt like such an achievement which enabled him to help other people who initially felt as he had a few months ago.

Several months later two paid positions arose at the allotments and a West Norfolk staff member asked if he would be interested in applying. Mr F said "Although I loved working at the allotment without that encouragement I would not have had the confidence to apply. Suffering from depression sometimes means it is hard to break the habit of thinking negatively about your abilities".

Mr F was successful in securing the Therapeutic Allotment Worker post and 4 years later is very happy to help and support service users to the stage where they gain/or regain their confidence, increase self esteem and encourage them to get as much out of life as possible.

Although there is no longer a job employment worker at West Norfolk Mind the allotment is a fantastic project and so may people benefit from it and not only from the produce! As with many charities the funding for projects is scarce and the allotment could be in jeopardy this year if we do not secure more funds. If anyone belongs to any philanthropic groups or works for a company who may like to support this project please contact Zena Penty, Volunteer Co-ordinator 07585279215.

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

Masses: Newmarket: Sat 1830; Sun 1030;

Kirtling: Sun 0900;

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

What is RE:NEW? (Part 2)

Last month I described to you the five core values of RE:NEW – our hope and desire to be **Relevant**, **Ecumenical**, **Nurturing**, **Empowering** and **Welcoming**. Well this month, as we celebrate Easter, I felt inspired to write something a bit more creative. If you've ever seen any of our publicity you will know that it often has a spring feel to it. There's a good reason for this – this time of year really sums up what we are about!

Like the first flowers of spring,
Fountains of colour bursting through
The black and white of earth and snow.

Life, in all its fullness,
In all its glory,
Renewed, refreshed, reawakened.
Light, washing away the darkness;
Hope, chasing away the despair.

Individuals, each one unique, gifted and loved:
Finding their place in the family of God,
Walking together on a journey of faith.
Sharing as one,
Their sorrow and joys,
Their laughter and tears.
Trusting always in God,
And His goodness.

Again and again,
Recalling the news:
Of a hill with a cross,
And a tomb left empty;
Of life conquering death,
And of love's eternal victory.

Simon Goddard

Services in April

Sun 1st Apr, 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (School)

Fri 6th Apr, 10am – Good Friday Service (Bottisham Triangle)

Sun 8th Apr, 10.30am – RE:NEW All-Age Service followed by Easter Egg Hunt (School)

Sun 8th Apr, 6.20pm – Traditional Easter Service (Lode Chapel)

Sun 15th Apr, 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (School)

Sun 22nd Apr, 10.00am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (School)

Sun 22nd Apr, 6.20pm – Traditional Service (Great Wilbraham Chapel)

Sun 29th Apr, 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

St Mary's Services for April

Sunday 1 April, Palm Sunday

11am Holy Communion (CW1T)

Thursday 5 April, Maundy Thursday

7pm Agape Meal, Lode Chapel

Friday 6 April Good Friday

10am Children's Workshop, St Mary's, Swaffham Bulbeck

10.30am Open-air Service, The Triangle, Bottisham

12 noon All Age Service, Swaffham Bulbeck

Sunday 8 April Easter Day

11am Holy Communion (CW1T)
Led by Archdeacon John Beer

Sunday 15 April

11am Family Service with Communion

Sunday 22 April

10am Benefice Service with Communion

Sunday 29 April

8am Holy Communion (BCP)
6pm Evensong

