



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXVII Number 1

January 2013



Editorial

A Very Short Crier this month, but congratulations to the Select Few who nevertheless managed to get in their copy in for our very early copy date (we have to go to press before Christmas, it's a tight squeeze). Top of the list is the Swaffham Prior Community Car Scheme who have hit the ground with

engines racing and clocked up an amazing 100 miles in December. They are looking for more volunteers (see page 6) so if you'd like to help, get in touch. Close second is *Our Reporter*, albeit he cheated by writing his report before the meeting took place.

Now this is always a dangerous thing to do, as many a national reviewer has found to their cost when their carefully pre-cooked remarks are almost invariably gainsaid by the fact that the theatre burnt down on the night. So we hope the Parish Council did not explode on Thursday night and would be fairly confident this were not the case, save for the explosive subject of the dreaded WHEELIE BINS! They *are* coming, read all about it in this issue.

This is the time of year when our advertising pages are updated, and the time we'd also like a big thank-you to all our advertisers, old and new, without which this magazine would not be possible. At the same we hope it's a great deal all round: it does pay to advertise in the Crier, it's the first place anyone looks!

Lastly, what did Mona Lisa say to Leonardo Da Vinci when she saw her picture? Did she say (like everyone-else) "My goodness, the most beautiful woman in the world"? Or even "That's very nice, dear"? No, what she said was "Where-are-my-eyebrows-that-is-my-wrong-side-I-look-fat-and-I-am-never-speaking-to-you-again". How does the Crier Cover Department know this? Well...

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Happy New Year
All!

Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: *A very fine drawing. Of whom? By whom?*



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Gardening Gloves

As we didn't open our gardens last year in Fulbourn, although my father John Norris did in Swaffham Prior, this is just a gentle reminder that we still sell the Atlas gardening gloves in aid of MAGPAS in all colours and all sizes (S-XL).

For those of us mad keen gardeners who never actually stop we also have very durable insulated gloves which are really tough and do keep your mits warm even on the coldest of days. Fantastic for gutter, leaf/ debris clearing and getting the wood in etc.

These are such useful gifts and very affordable at £4.99 per pair. My supplier has held this price for me for years as all profit goes to MAGPAS and it is impossible to get them anywhere else at this price!

Anyone interested please call Kate and Charles Comins on 01223 882907.

Go on, treat yourself to a belated Christmas present! Many thanks.

Kate & Charles Comins

Dear Editors,

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

A big thank you to everyone who attended the Advent by Candlelight concert at the start of December . As a result Cambridge Voices were able to send a cheque for £523 to Emmaus to support their work for the underprivileged in the area .

THANK YOU

Francis Reeks

And a big thank-you to Cambridge Voices and Veronica Henderson's gorgeous playing Cello playing — a truly beautiful ethereal event, we enjoyed immensely. Eds

Dear Editor,

Swaffham Prior Community Car Service

I occasionally used a similar service near Comberton when my Dad was frail but still living in his own home. We had help with lifts to the doctor, dentist and local shop. It was so helpful as the driver would help David in and out of the house and lock the house too. I do hope the Swaffham Prior Scheme is a success too. Many thanks to the volunteers.

Sue Wade

CALENDAR OF ST MARY'S 2013 SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING EVENTS

23 January	Annual coffee morning
2 March	Quiz Night
23 March	Ceilidh
27 April	Moveable Feast.
5 May	Rogation Sunday
30 June	Strawberry Teas
14 September	Dog/Autumn Show
5 October	Harvest Supper
19 October	Quiz Night
1 December	Advent By Candlelight

This calendar of events is purposely included in the January issue, not only so that you can make a note of the dates in your new diary but also so that those thinking of arranging other events will hopefully avoid any clashes, these dates have been carefully decided bearing in mind school and half term holidays. Prior to each event details will be in The Crier, on village notice boards, road-side boards and telegraph poles.

Kate Child

Bottisham Players Wants YOU!

Are you interested in the theatre? Do you like to be in front of the crowds or behind the scenes? We have a place for all who are interested! Come along and join us!

Bottisham Players is a well established Amateur Dramatics Group and have put on many plays, both comedies and drama over the years. We are also well known for our Pantomime each January. At this time we are in the throes of rehearsals for the Pantomime which is taking place on 24/25/26 January 2013. The Panto this year is Aladdin (oh no it's not; oh yes it is!) We perform each evening at 7:30 and a Saturday matinee at 2:30. Tickets are £7.50 with concessions for some performances at \$5.50. The show is full of music and laughter!

Tickets are available from Tina's in Burwell.

If you are interested in joining our group, look for us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/BottishamPlayers> or ring/text Anita at 07788312373. Or, go to our Website which is <http://www.bottishamplayers.org.uk>.



From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

With the Copy Date being 10th December and the PC Meeting being on the 13th there was no alternative but to write a report before the meeting. And this sometimes is no bad thing as it allows time to take a breath and review trends or events over the year.

So I will deal with a question, which has occasionally interested me, and sometimes even a few others. And this is the accuracy not only of the *Crier* Reports but also that of the official Minutes. Nothing I say is in any way a criticism of the Clerk who does an amazing job in writing the Minutes in such detail and length. This is only partially represented by the shortened version, which appears in the *Crier*. The full version is always worth reading on the village notice board should you choose not to attend a meeting.



A perfect example of what concerns me occurred during the November meeting at which I was just an observer. Occasionally the Minutes are tweaked just a bit as members ask for slight changes and the corrections are made before the Minutes are finally approved. In November Geoffrey opened the batting (as he often does) by objecting to the way one of his comments had been reported. The Minute said that, having been to the *Code of Conduct Training Session*, “Geoffrey said this had been very useful”. Geoffrey, jumping up and down a bit, maintained he had not used the word “useful”, but “informative and helpful.” He said that while he had to put up with inaccuracies from the *Crier* he did not expect this from the Minutes. As “useful” is a very fair rendering of “informative and helpful” I couldn’t see what Geoffrey was getting at. Maybe it had just been a bad night.

His complaint against the *Crier* was more justified. I admit he did not say that the Training Session was “amazingly interesting”. Unlike the time allotted to Geoffrey, reports and minutes do not have all the space and time in the world and do have to be compressed. I ought to have written “...and, amazingly, Geoffrey said it had been interesting or informative or useful and he recommended that others should attend etc.” So why did I use the word amazingly?

Geoffrey is well known for his scorn and derision of Neighbourhood Panels, as has been reported and supported in the *Crier* reports. His opinion of the Code of Conduct (if I am correct) is equally sceptical, as is his view (if I am correct) of the *Code Training Sessions*. For him to recommend the *Training Sessions* to other Members was amazing, as also was his claim to have found them “helpful” or whatever. If he really believed in his recommendation I apologise. Otherwise I suggest he was not being strictly truthful.

With Leveson being so prominently in the news we are slightly nervous back at the *Crier*, and this will probably be more so when Caroline signs up to the new Charter or whatever she will have to sign. Having already been threatened with a possible letter from Geoffrey’s solicitor I probably must expect more in the future. Meanwhile anyone familiar with *Three Men in a Boat* might have picked up the reference and the attempted humour of my last sentence.

So that was a demand for one level of accuracy in the Minutes, which cannot be justified at any level. There is also a demand for accuracy whenever a decision has been incorrectly reported. It was minuted that Janet Willmott's Community Car Scheme should receive £250 per annum from the PC as proposed by Geoffrey. Peter Hart had countered with a proposal that it should be a one off payment, and then see how it goes, and this was approved. Peter asked for the change. Geoffrey, this stickler for accuracy, suggested much to my surprise that the minute could remain without change, as the donation would need to be reviewed each year anyway. Geoffrey wanted this even though it would have been an inaccurate minute. I repeat that I was surprised, and could even go further, and say that I was again amazed.

The dispute about what was said, and who said what, is not new. Years ago Ron Prime suggested that the minutes should be taped so that the details could be verified. My heart sinks at this suggestion. Anyone who has sat through, whether partaking or not, a meeting of an hour or two, and then has to listen to it again would blanch and I suspect resign. It would be like introducing a 20mph limit on Mill Road, which would be like having a tractor constantly driving through. Local residents would never get out onto the main road.

I remind you this is about the accuracy of reporting and I sincerely hope that no one sees this any kind of criticism of Geoffrey. He is a high profile character who probably contributes about 20% or so to all PC discussions. He has his finger on what happens in Ely and often draws attention to what is happening in ECDC that may concern us. In Prior we are out on a limb and understandably the PC and the village are not over-concerned with what happens in Ely. It is Geoffrey who warns the PC, it was Geoffrey who alerted us to the Wheelie Bin proposal, and who keeps us aware of other ECDC affairs. It is Geoffrey who also keeps his eye on the CCC, and who advises us about the character and efficiency levels of some county or district officials. And it is Geoffrey who often extends the range of concerns being discussed.

In fact I can honestly say that Geoffrey, on any council, is worth his weight in Gold. Nay, I will go further than this. Not many people know that one gram of Gold costs £35 whereas one gram of Viagra costs £235. I think therefore that Geoffrey is worth his weight in Viagra, and we should all raise our festive glasses to him

Alastair Everitt

BON MOT NUMBER TWENTY NINE

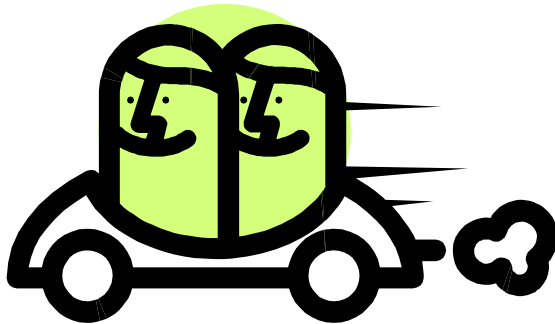
**"Husbands are like fires: they go out
if unattended."**

ZsaZsa Gabor

Swaffham Prior Community Car Scheme

**We travelled over 100 miles in December
2012!**

DRIVERS WANTED



**Call Janet on 07900
351742**

spccs@adventurersfarm.co.uk

A voluntary car service for residents of
Swaffham Prior for all essential medical
appointments and trips to the Day Centres at
Bottisham & Burwell



David Wade (98), the first passenger on the Swaffham Prior Community Taxi scheme. Josh Wilmot is driving him over to the Day Centre in Burwell.



Cage Hill Clangers

After their much acclaimed first outing at the Carol Service, Cage Hill Clangers are now recruiting. Hand-bell ringing is great fun, would you like to have a go? Get in touch with Sharyn Robinson, Tel: 01638 745247 or Mobile: 07740171917.

News from Bottisham Players.

This years pantomime rehearsals are now in full swing and I am sure it is going to be a wonderful show packed with singing, dancing and lots of silliness, this years noda Pantomime is Aladdin written by Keith Marsden and Geoffrey Rundle, you will see some regular faces (oh yes you will), as well as some new faces in our production, tickets available now for Thursday 24th January, Friday 25th or Saturday 26th with an afternoon performance at 2.30 on the Saturday. As usual we will be performing at Bottisham Village College Main hall and tickets are available from Chris Clarke Hairdressing Tina's of Burwell and The Post Office in Bottisham along with a new box office number of 01353 725927.

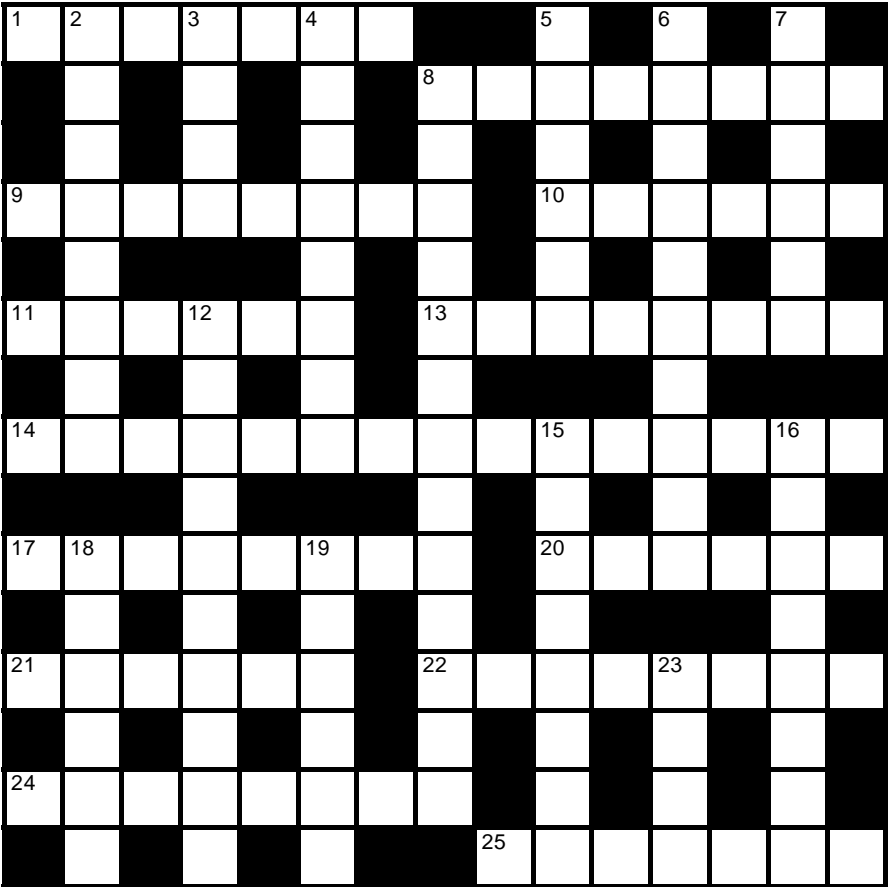
Crossword Number 96

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

OUNCE

This month's puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18 January 2013. 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 Teach electrical engineer to swallow old coin (7)
- 8 Sloth image, we hear, on head (8)
- 9 Organise a debt he'd redeem in last place? (8)
- 10 Engine on plane carrying sheep? (6)
- 11 Hello John, we're commandeering this vehicle! (6)
- 13 Stewed meals fed to Sugar for example (4-4)
- 14 Used a dear touring car to cover retreat (9,6)
- 17 Wild bears on globe suck up again (8)
- 20 Confirm Her Majesty follows five, condition unknown (6)
- 21 Group drunkenly exterminates lost marine (6)
- 22 Hubbub reported: drink and laughter (8)
- 24 Can cruet make cough medicine for example? (8)
- 25 Virginia? What a crawler! (7)

Down

- 2 Eat? Admits already eaten fifty, opposite prime meridian (8)
- 3 In Zurich, athletes reveal gossip (4)
- 4 Rice, Bishop, United Kingdom, and you French, make for African city (8)
- 5 Fall or flounder in Wogan's dance? (6)
- 6 Monet and me are tangled in wind gauge (10)
- 7 First, attach safety cleats, ensuring no disasters, then climb (6)
- 8 No words for this? (13)
- 12 Basic actor contortions? (10)

- 15 Gangster comes and goes over mess of air sacs (8)
- 16 Ring, very loud, for playwright, we hear, at sea (8)
- 18 Sadly yield English organ cover (6)
- 19 Not at home, right? Foreign one was beaten in race (6)
- 23 Optimistically expect Bob (4)

Solution to crossword no. 95

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

The winners of the December 2012 (no. 95) and January 2013 (no. 96) crossword competitions will be published in the February 2013 edition of the Crier. Solutions to this month's competition must be received by 18th December 2012.

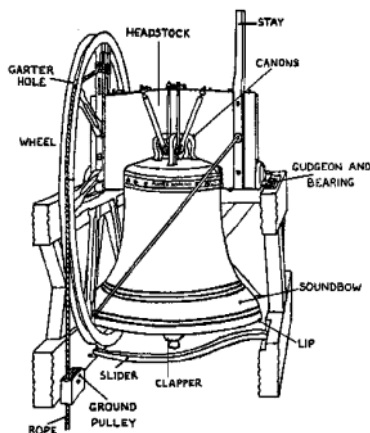
NIBOR would like to thank the Crier editors for the continuing high standard of their work, the crossword compilers for their excellent contributions, and all those readers who have participated in the competition.

LET THE BELLS RING OUT

On Sunday, 2nd December, Swaffham Prior was treated to perhaps the finest striking of the bells of St Cyriac's that the village is likely to hear for many years. We were visited by a crack team of ringers selected from the whole of Devon. They meet together and practice once a month and then each year arrange a winter tour. This year East Anglia had been chosen.

They visited an impressive collection of towers. These were St Peter Mancroft in Norwich (14 bells), Bury St Edmunds Norman Tower (12 bells), Long Melford (8 bells), Lavenham (8 bells), Wymondham Abbey (10 bells), Great St Mary's Cambridge (12 bells). These are all major and outstanding towers and it is a surprise and a privilege they also chose our own St Cyriac's (a mere 6 bells).

They came to us because of the unusual setting. Having come they were thrilled and admired the melodious tone of the bells. A short video is being made of the ringing in our tower but they have already made a short one of them ringing in Great St Mary's in Cambridge. If you wish you can see this on www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQBle980K6E.



Alastair Everitt



WI Notes

The December meeting was our Christmas Party when members enjoyed a bring and share supper with delicious savoury finger buffet and mulled wine. This was followed by some very boozy sherry trifles and home made mince pies and cream. A lively social time followed with a number of games and of course the raffle prizes drawn. Our next meeting is on 21st January when we are having a members evening. This means some volunteers have agreed to organise the evening's programme and it will be a surprise for the rest of us. Visitors are welcome to join us as usual for this meeting - see below

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



ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING



10.30 – 12.00 Noon

Wednesday
23rd January 2013
5 Lower End
(the Everitt's)



*Cake &
Produce Stall*

*Bring & Buy
Jewelry & Raffle*



All proceeds to St. Mary's Church

THE WHEELIE BINS ARE COMING

Following two PC meetings which had raged against the suggestion of Wheelie Bins (WBs) in the village, Councillor Richard Hobbs, Chairman of the Community Services Committee for ECDC and Dave White, Waste Strategy Team Leader, attended the December meeting to outline the bin proposal and to answer questions. The Editor very kindly delayed going to press to include this report.

Richard Hobb (RH) explained that ECDC was part of RECAP which lumps together all Cambridgeshire's recycling figures. All other districts are doing well and all other districts have bins. With its mere 37% recycling ECDC is dragging down the overall Cambridgeshire figure. Also the current Veolia very favourable contract has to be renegotiated in 2015 and the increased costs could be so high fortnightly collections would need to be considered.

A future crisis was foreseeable,. Then the Govt made its offer for funding either the reintroduction of weekly collections or increased recycling. At this point Dave White (DW) took over as he had masterminded the application for the £5 million funding and also the consultation document

Only 347 had responded to the Consultation exercise and he was disappointed in this. He partly blamed his very limited promotion budget and regretted he could not have done more to have circulated it. From the floor came the question why the PC had not promoted it as they had been told about it, and especially as one member had completed it. So we did know, or could have known. It was observed that no decision could possibly be taken on such a low response and one sympathises with this. As my sister-in-law always says "They didn't ask me". And for that matter Hacked Off are perfectly happy to quote that a mere 2846 represented 78% of the **whole population** in favour of independent press regulation backed by statute.

Then the meeting was open to questions. Geoffrey was first off the starting block. Addressing RH, he said "this is nothing personal" but he though RH had made a big mistake in going ahead without consulting Prior which he gathered was generally very opposed to WBs. He was dismayed that it appeared to be a fait accompli, even before the consultation was held. He therefore thought it was a waste of time their coming to the meeting because nothing would be changed. He went on to say that WBs "don't look nice" and that Prior, being "the prettiest village" in the area, would suffer.

RH explained again that something had to be done about the collection service and recycling, the govt offer of money came up, it was discussed in May, a procedure was agreed, and DW worked day and night to submit a proposal, and then to conduct the consultation. He explained they had to move very fast, and this they appear to have done.

Peter Hart asked how they knew it would increase recycling. DW explained that one bin would contain paper, glass, cans, plastic, tetrapak and cardboard, and the other bin would contain garden and food waste. Peter appeared to accept that would be an improvement.



He also asked whether the current black bags are sorted with the recyclable being removed. DW said that recyclable material is very often contaminated with food waste, nappies etc and cannot be recycled. In fact a whole shipload of plastics was recently refused by China as the plastics were contaminated.

David Greenfield, who had also completed the questionnaire, thought it had been slanted by the first question asking whether ECDC should increase its recycling. DW admitted this but said that is generally how all questionnaires are framed, and to this David agreed. On the other hand 5% of those who answered thought ECDC should not increase its recycling. I wonder who these were. David then related his experience with Bins in Cambridge and his concern mainly concerned those who lived in narrow streets, RH said he lived in such a narrow street in Ely and a solution does need to be found. They are working on it and this is one of the reasons they are buying narrower lorries, especially as new developments have increasingly narrow roads.

GW returned to the fray asking whether the decision had been put to the Full Committee. RH said “no”, because that’s not how things are done these days. Geoffrey expressed surprise that only 9 of the 39 councillors had had any say in the decision. Geoffrey then asked RH whether he would reconsider his decision if he has to endure “such a difficult time as here” when addressing other PCs. RH just smiled and said, “This isn’t a difficult time”.

It was a long meeting and many other points were raised which cannot be covered, some of which were fine tuning details on which ECDC are still working, DW did at one stage said that not every household need accept a WB. Sharyn Robinson jumped on this and asked whether any one can refuse to have them. Certainly, said DW, and you take your own recycling to the tip.

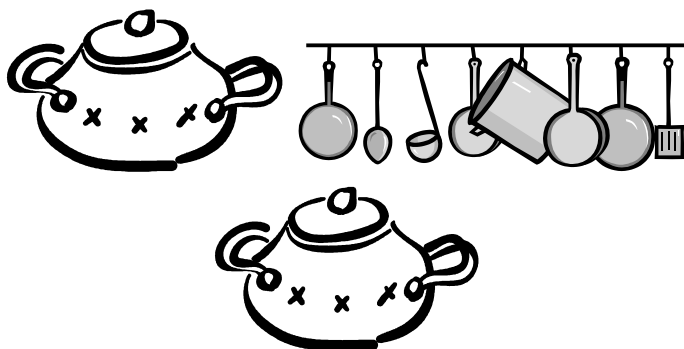
One big question that was not raised is what to do about people who currently put all recyclables in the black bag, and may continue to do so even when the new system begins. There are some households who never appear to put out recyclables.

The upshot is that under the new system we will continue to have a weekly black bag collection (only guaranteed for the next five years) and a fortnightly collection of bins. Incidentally in Cambridge City they have a fortnightly collection of a Recyclable bin and also a General Waste bin, together with an alternative fortnightly collection of Green Waste in paper sacks. Did ECDC consider this option? Of course they would have done, but they couldn’t have adopted it because of the electoral promise to maintain our weekly black bag service.

At the end of this exceptionally long meeting I expressed my personal disappointment. Being vehemently opposed to WBs I was disappointed that many in the village to whom I spoke thought bins would be a good idea. So the majority it seems are not as opposed as had been supposed, which may be why so very few attended the meeting. This being the case I think ECDC can be congratulated for having acted so quickly and so effectively in dealing with a problem just around the corner.



Alastair Everitt



**BOTTISHAM BOWLING CLUB
TABLETOP SALE
TO BE HELD IN THE BRITISH LEGION
SATURDAY 23RD FEBRUARY
10:30am to 1:30pm**

**HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SELL THOSE SURPLUS
ITEMS - PRESENTS – BOOKS
BRIC-A-BRAC - ANY ITEMS NO LONGER REQUIRED
YOU ARE INVITED TO HIRE A TABLE FOR £5
CONTACT TED SKETCHLEY 01223-811582
OR CINDY KING 01223-811220**

A very happy New Year to you and yours...

Best wishes and thanks
Mary Hart

VILLAGE GARDENERS

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on Tuesday 15 January, as usual in the Village Hall at 8pm. Topic to be announced nearer the time and everyone is very welcome.

DEAR SANTA.....

FOR MOST children in Cambridgeshire Christmas is a special time filled with joy and happiness. But for some it's a time to dread as they are forced to watch the abuse against their parent or guardian continue.

Today (Monday December 10) the force launches its 'Dear Santa' campaign to encourage victims to come forward, as part of the 31 day Christmas campaign. Det Insp Alan Page said: "It's not just the victims of domestic abuse who suffer: for their children it is just as traumatic.

"Often at Christmas we see an increase in incidents of abuse and for the children living within those households it's a time to fear.

"Every child has the right to feel safe and happy and for some children all they will want this Christmas is for the hurt to stop.

"I would urge anyone who is a victim of abuse not to suffer in silence and take that first step towards seeking support.

"The force has a Domestic Abuse Investigations and Safeguarding Unit (DAISU) which investigates all domestic abuse crimes, meaning victims deal with specially trained officers."

As part of the campaign the force has issued a poster which features a letter to Santa from a child whose mother is a victim of domestic abuse. The poster will be displayed at key locations, such as doctors' surgeries and hospitals. It will be supported by a radio campaign from a child's perspective.

Det Insp Page added: "The force is committed to reducing domestic abuse and providing support to victims and their families through our partner agencies.

"We hope that by highlighting the impact abuse has on children more victims will feel empowered to come forward."

For more information about the campaign visit – www.getclosetochristmas.org

Useful contact numbers:

Cambridgeshire Constabulary – 101

Childline – 0800 11 11

NSPCC – www.nspcc.org.uk

National Domestic Violence Hotline - 0808 2000 247

Women's Aid and Refuge; National Helpline 0808 2000 247;

Men's Advice Line: 0808 801 0327 : 0808 801 0327 www.mensadvice.org.uk

Everyman Project: 0207 263 8884 www.everymanproject.co.uk

Ashiana Project: 0208 539 0427. Advice and support and safe housing for South Asian, Turkish and Iranian women fleeing domestic abuse or forced marriage.



**EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

From our District
Councillor
Allen Alderson

Ash die back

East Cambridgeshire District Council is taking the following action:

Recording and inspecting ash trees reported directly to the council. To date we have found no trees showing the distinctive symptoms.

Advising the public where to find information and how to report any suspected cases via the Council's website.

Following the advice and instruction from Government and the Forestry Commission, to ensure we are keeping up to date with the current information.

The council is not planting any ash trees in the Council's tree planting programme this year and we are also checking that no landscape schemes (submitted with current planning applications) include ash trees. We are inspecting the ash trees on land owned/managed by the Council and will also target inspections of landscape schemes where possible, which have been planted in the district in the last five years.

We would ask the public to be vigilant and report any suspected cases of deceased ash trees.



Recycling and waste collection bid

The District Council has successfully won it's £5 million bid from Central Government to fund a new recycling service and retain weekly waste collections. The funding means residents will find it easier to recycle more of their waste with the new service being introduced in late 2013 or early 2014. The current brown sack and black box collection system will be replaced with:

A new wheeled bin recycling collection, including paper, glass, metal, cans, plastics, cartons and cardboard. This will be collected fortnightly.

A new wheeled bin for organics to include food and garden waste. This will also be collected fortnightly.

A fleet of new vehicles for the new services as well as a rescheduling of rounds to reduce carbon emissions.

The weekly waste collections would be retained and collected via black sacks.

The work to put in place the new system will include a survey of all households in the district to identify anyone whose property would not be suitable for the new service. These homes would retain the current system.

Car parking charges in Ely

The proposals are:

A daily charging policy broken down as follows:

Short Stay Car Parks -

1 hour	Free
2 hours	70p
3 hours	£1.00
4 hours	£1.50

Long Stay Car Parks (Excl Angel Drove)

All Day	£2.50
Weekly Ticket	£5.00

Evening (6pm-8am) Free parking on all car parks (Excl Angel Drove)

A guarantee that any excess income above a 'break even' figure of £314,000 on the 2012/13 budget – subject to an annual review – would be reinvested in the following:

Projects to benefit Ely Centre (20% of any excess income)

Consider any proposals to reduce the cost of car parking charges

Increasing car park capacity in the City

Investment in on and off street car parking enforcement.

A guarantee of no increase in car parking charges for the full term of this council (May 2015)

There will now be a formal 12 week public consultation on these proposals.

Committee meetings

During the last month I have attended:

Two meetings of the Development and Transport committee

Community and Environment committee

Licensing committee

Personal committee

A seminar on the Ely Station Gateway. This is a long term proposal to totally revamp and improve the area around Ely station to make it more in keeping with the cathedral city of Ely.



Mothers' Union

Our programme for the New Year begins with a service of Holy Communion to be held in Lode Chapel on Thursday, 17th January 2013 at 2.30 p.m. and you would be most welcome to join us.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDENS

Colour for a winter garden

We are lucky enough at the Botanic Garden to have a one-acre Winter Garden, a masterclass in combining foliage, flower, scent and texture for winter interest and designed to entice even the most committed armchair gardener, tucked up with seed catalogues and dreaming of the June border, out into the icy air for an invigorating walk.



There is a structural underpinning of evergreens, formally clipped into enclosing hedges, to provide a dark-toned background against which a kaleidoscopic palette of vibrant colour shines out - the horticultural equivalent of a Caravaggio painting. A great variety of bare winter stems of dogwoods and willows provide the warp threads of the garden in red, lime green, yellow, black, coral and even bright orange. Most are cut right to the ground in March or April to encourage fresh growth for the next year, but the spectacular willow, *Salix alba* 'Chermesina', is instead pollarded back to a handful of trunks standing between 2-3 ft high. This reveals the clever handling of light, crucial to a garden in winter. Our whole site has been excavated a little to allow the low sun to flood in, lighting the swathes of stems and coming to rest on the stunning fan of the Chermesina willow, elevated by its pollarded treatment.

As winter eases its grip a little, the weft threads are provided by pools of electric blue scilla, golden aconite, pink cyclamen and pearly snowdrops that weave through the dogwood and willow stems. Embellishments come from scarlet cotoneaster berries, the crimson baubles of *Malus* 'Red Sentinel' fruits and white spheres of snowberry, but there is flower too – candy pink viburnums, lemon yellow mahonia, brassy yellow winter jasmine, rusty orange witchhazel, and the lovely, large pale pink, semi-double flowers of the Japanese apricot, *Prunus mume* 'Omoi no mama'.

Although few will have a spare one acre to devote to a winter garden, it is definitely worth tucking one or two of these combinations into the back of that June border or even a pot by the front door for a shot of colour in the darker months.

The Garden is open daily through the winter months from 10am-4pm except when the Garden is closed for the Christmas break from 24 December to 1 January 2013 inclusive. Adult 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

News from Bottisham Patients' Group

The Group's committee met on 22nd November and said good bye to Bruce Cleghorn who is moving from Bottisham to live in Suffolk. Bruce was instrumental in getting the Patients' Group started in 2011 and we will miss his untiring support and wise counsel. The Carers' Support Group was launched on 8th November at Downing Court Community Room with a get together for carers, Patients' Group members and Medical Practice staff. Mandy Brine from Crossroads Care Cambridgeshire led an informal discussion about how the Group might develop. Everyone agreed to meet on a bi-monthly basis to share concerns and information as well as tea, coffee and cakes. The next meeting will be at Downing Court on Thursday 10th January at 11.00 am when someone from Care Network Cambridgeshire will join the group. The Health Walking Group has had several walks now, usually on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday morning. There are more details on the surgery notice board and the Patients' Group pages of the Practice's website. The first walk in January will be on Friday 11th January at 11.00 am.

Prescription delivery service

Some patients have asked whether the Practice's dispensary could provide a repeat prescription delivery service. The dispensary already does this for patients who are housebound and have no one to collect their medication for them. The arrangements are made on an individual basis so anyone who needs the service should contact the dispensary personally.

Virtual Patients' Group

We are keen to have more people involved in patient participation activities as the current committee is not truly representative of the Practice's patient profile, especially its age profile! In addition to the Patients' Group itself the Practice has a 'Virtual Patients' Group' to which people can sign up to be contacted by email or text for their views on aspects of patient care. If you are someone who is interested in influencing health care – your own and other people's – but doesn't have time to get involved with activities, please sign up at www.bottishammedicalpractice.nhs.uk/ppg.aspx (click on Patients' Group and you'll find the sign up tab).

Winter Choose Well Campaign

The National Association for Patient Participation (NAPP), the NHS and the national Self Care Forum are now partners in a campaign that aims to encourage people to self-care. Did you know that nationally:

51.4 million GP consultations are for minor ailments, which would clear up by themselves, or with a little help from an over-the-counter remedy; this is 18 per cent of the GP workload?

Nearly half of these consultations are generated by people aged 16–59 years?

Up to 40,000 GP visits per year are for dandruff; 20,000 go to their local surgery for travel-sickness and 5.2 million with blocked noses?

The estimated cost of treating people who go to A&E but who could have either self-treated or gone else where, is £136 million a year; this is equivalent to the cost

of 6,500 nurses? (source: NAPP)

Winter means a rise in heart-attacks, strokes and breathing problems. You can help by keeping NHS services free to treat emergency cases such as these. For advice on common complaints such as upset stomachs, colds, flu and general aches and pains talk to your pharmacist or look on line at **www.nhs.uk**. If you are living with a health condition such as diabetes, heart disease, lung disease; if you are a carer of someone with health problems; or looking after someone recovering after a stay in hospital; there is a free on-line resource that you can use to organise care and support among friends, family members and neighbours – go to www.rallyroundme.com.

If you are interested in more details of the Patients' Group's activities or would like to be involved in the committee, go to www.bottishammedicalpractice.nhs.uk/ppg.aspx, or phone 01223 810030.

Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year from the **Bottisham** Patients' Group Committee

RE:NEW PEOPLE #5

First of all I'd like to wish you a Happy New Year, and to invite you to three special services entitled '**Detox your life!**'. Many of us make resolutions at the beginning of each year, but so often the past seems to quickly catch up with us and our good intentions come to nothing. If that sounds familiar then why not join us during January and February when we'll be exploring how to detox our lives – past, present and future! And now, for the next instalment of stories from people at RE:NEW, is a bit about myself...

As a child I went to a Methodist Sunday School, but when the minister told my parents that my crying baby sister wasn't welcome, my whole family stopped going to church and started going to car boot sales on Sunday mornings instead! At the age of 19, however, in my first term at University, I went along to church with a friend, and was challenged by what I heard. In childhood I'd never really thought about what I really believed, but suddenly all sorts of deep questions surfaced in my mind.

With a chap named Paul, I began studying the Bible that my Nan had given me as I headed off to Uni. Some things started to make sense, but I still wasn't convinced – if God was real he would have to show me! And so, almost out of desperation, I prayed a short prayer asking God to do just that – and He did! In a packed church that Sunday evening I had such an overwhelming experience of God's presence that it caused me to believe in His reality, despite still having a list of unanswered questions.

Some of those questions remain to this day – but there is no doubt in my mind that meeting Jesus is an experience that changed my life. I used to be someone with very low self-esteem – I'd find it hard to say anything if there were more than two people in the room! But a dramatic transformation took place when I realised how much God loved and valued me. I became active in the Student Union, began writing and submitting articles for publication, became a deacon and preacher at

Zion Baptist Church where I helped set up Jimmy's Nightshelter and other charitable projects. After subsequently being ordained as a Baptist Minister I now lead the RE:NEW church community and have recently co-authored a book. I put all of this down to God – and now I do all I can to help others have their own life-changing encounter with Him too!

Simon Goddard

Services in January

Sun 6th Jan, 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (School)

Sun 13th Jan, 10.30am – RE:NEW Café & Kids Club (School)

Sun 13th Jan, 6.20pm – Traditional Service (Lode Chapel)

Sun 20th Jan, 10.30am – Detox Your Life (School)

[Detox series continues on 3rd and 17th February]

Sun 20th Jan, 5.30pm – Contemplative Service (Lode Chapel)

Sun 27th Jan, 10.30am – Unity Service with the Benefice (School)

Sun 27th Jan, 6.20pm – Carol Service (Great Wilbraham Chapel)

For more information please contact: Rev. Simon Goddard.

Tel: (01223) 812881

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

Web: www.re-new.me.uk **Twitter:** @renewchurch

FREECYCLE



If you have any offers or wants, please contact me by the 14th of each month: jun.thompson@tiscali.co.uk, or c813362, or drop a note through 23 Longmeadow. Everything is free and nothing is expected in return. Please can you contact the offers after the 1st of the month to make it a little fairer.

Offers

A coir spring mattress (700mm x 1400mm) to fit toddler bed. Good condition. Emma c812793.

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.

Dear Friends,

As the year changes to 2013 so people turn their thoughts to making changes in their lives. Those who have enjoyed the Christmas season rather too much may decide it's time to lose some weight. Others might decide it's time to take up a sport or get more exercise or spend more time with family and friends. People who had a sad or difficult year last year will be hoping for better things in the year to come.



	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior January 2013
Wed 2	8:00pm Compline by Candlelight Bottisham
Sun 6	11:00am Baptism
Sun 13	11:00am Holy Communion
Sun 20	11:00am Family Service
Sun 27	8am BCP Holy Communion (Swaffham Bulbeck) 10.30am Service with Renew to mark week of prayer for Christian Unity at Bottisham Primary School. Please note new time.

Whatever the circumstances it is good to have a time when we can draw a line under what has gone before and resolve to live life in a new way. The very act of looking for change and making the decision to do something about it gives people a certain momentum at the beginning of a new year.

The Christian faith is all about new beginnings too. Throughout Scripture there are people who long for change, sometimes it is a nation in exile looking for a way home and a new beginning, sometimes it is an individual who wants to put past mistakes behind them and begin again. And God delights in giving people a fresh start, and a chance to change and improve on what has gone before. It's as if new beginnings are written into his relationship with his people. The difficulty is that we are far more ready to rejoice in the opportunity to make a fresh start than we are to give that opportunity to others.

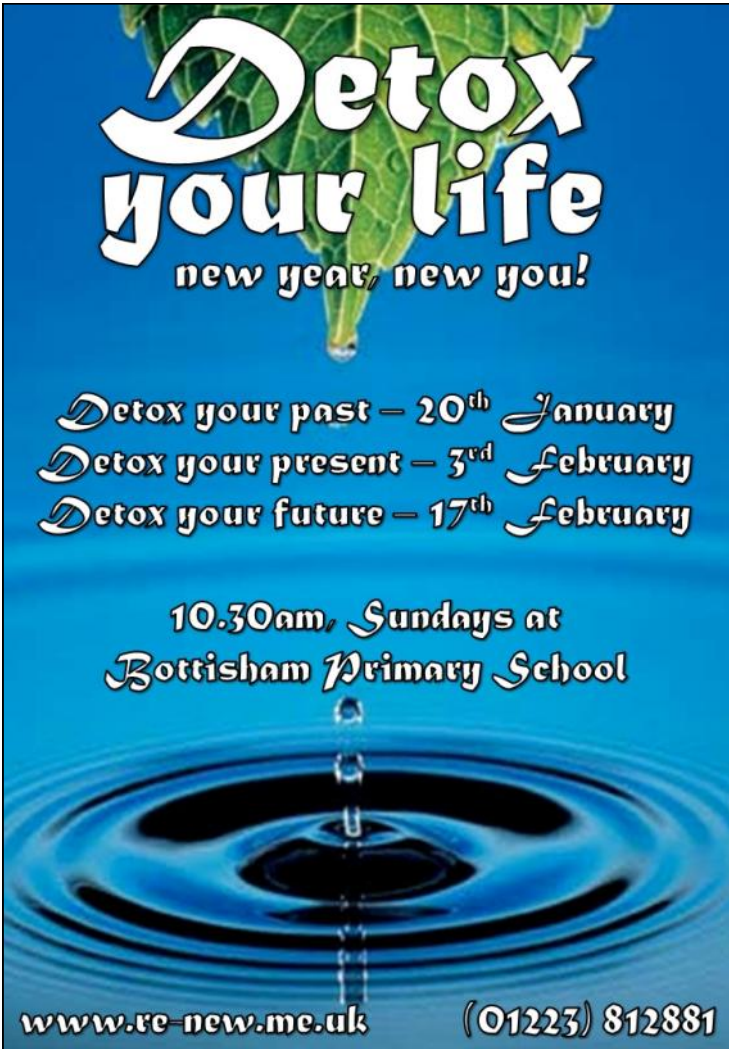
When someone comes out of prison their past is written large and it can be very difficult for them to put that to one side and begin again. When a person makes a mistake the consequences are often there before them for the rest of their lives. And in relationships between nations it can be very difficult to leave war or bitter disputes in the past and move on. The more we hold on to the past the harder it can sometimes be to make changes and create a better future. God in his wisdom understood that new beginnings and a clean sheet are an essential part of a new future and we need to find the right balance between remembering what has gone before and being

ready to let go of the mistakes and patterns of the past in order to create a better future. As a society and as individuals we need to work at creating an environment which enables people to move on from crimes they have committed or mistakes they have made. Communities have to ready to support those who are working to change the way they live. We need to extend to those around us the same opportunities to make a clean start that we ourselves appreciate at the beginning of a new year.

May God bless you in your new beginnings this year.

With best wishes,

Sue



Detox
your life
new year, new you!

Detox your past – 20th January
Detox your present – 3rd February
Detox your future – 17th February

10.30am, Sundays at
Bottisham Primary School

www.re-new.me.uk **(01223) 812881**

Dates for Your Diary January 2013

Tue	15	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2.45-3.15pm Chapel 3.20pm-4.00pm Village Gardeners, VH, 8pm
Wed	16	
Thu	17	Mothers' Union, Lode Chapel, 2.30pm
Fri	18	Crier Copy Deadline
Sat	19	
Sun	20	
Mon	21	WI, 7.30pm, VH
Tue	22	
Wed	23	Coffee Morning, 10.30-12.30, 5 Lower End
Thu	24	Bottisham Panto 7.30pm, BVC Main Hall
Fri	25	Bottisham Panto 7.30pm, BVC Main Hall
Sat	26	Bottisham Panto (Saturday Matinee 2.30)

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 nd Mon of Term	8pm	Village School
Baby & Toddlers	Kelly Mead	741069	Fri	9:30- 11:30am	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