



# The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXVIII Number 8&9

August/September 2014



## Editorial

The Crier is a bit like those buses this month, you know the ones, you wait for ages and then two come together - so enjoy your bumper double issue and apologies for the delay.

There has been a lot happening in the Village over the last couple of months and it's good that so many enjoyed the Heritage Walk, the Strawberry Teas and that a number of reports were submitted, together with photos, which are always appreciated. The John Norris Memorial Seat is now installed on Coopers Green for us all to enjoy and perhaps have a few moments of reflection on the Norris family and the huge contribution they made to the village over their years here.

So now the school holidays are upon us, boo or cheer as appropriate! However help is at hand. Details of the Cromwell Museum (p10) and Summer at the museums (p26) may well inspire you to organise some days out with the children.

There will be number of village events to look forward to over the next two months including the pop up tea shop in St Cyriac's, Laying the Lily event also in St Cyriac's and

of course the Autumn Show and Dog show on Saturday 13th September. The more entries the better so get gardening and cooking. Later in September there is the Harvest Supper to be enjoyed on 20th and if you are seeking other activities there are details of courses at Bottisham Village College and our own Village Hall to inspire you.

As this is a double issue, the next Crier will be the October edition so please make sure you send in your items for inclusion by 18th September.

Caroline, we do hope your Temporal Arteritis proves to be very Temporary, we need you back in the driving seat and all wish you a speedy recovery.

Meanwhile apologies for mistakes and omissions, have a good summer

Pat & Peter Cook

### Regulars

Letters	2
Our Reporter	16
Ophir	9
Mothers Union	30
PC Meeting	34
Botanic Gardens	29
Renew	36
Freecycle	39
Sue Giles	38
Diary and Clubs	40

### News, Views & Reviews

SP Names and Nicknames	6
Laying the Lily	5
Strawberry Teas	18
Heritage walk	20
John Norris Seat	24

### What's On

Harvest Supper	28
Autumn Show	33
Dog Show	32
Pop up Tea Shop	14

### Wanted

Deliverers for the Crier	2
Milling Assistant	3

**Cover Picture:** Cromwell Museum web site (see p 10 )



## Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors .....

### **The Swaffham Prior Festival Committee**

wish to extend their grateful thanks to all who supported our Midsummer Market in June. As a result of your generosity we raised £1100 to continue to maintain, enhance and conserve our special village heritage -The Church of St Cyriac & St Julitta. Our Thanks

***Francis Reeks***

### **Extra Crier Delivery Team Helpers Required**

Ruth Stinton would like to hear from any volunteers to help with the village distribution of the Crier

**Tel: Ruth on 01638 742641 or**

**Email: [j.stinton104@btinternet.com](mailto:j.stinton104@btinternet.com)**

### **Wedding Announcement**

Robert and Ann Hollingsworth are pleased announce the marriage of their daughter Victoria to Adam Campbell

Saturday 30th August 2014 at 1230:  
St Mary's Church, Swaffham Prior

### **Donations to The Crier**

Our many thanks to The Swaffham Prior Festival Committee for your generous donation to the overheads of producing the Crier.

## ***Art History Courses***

Exciting new courses for the Autumn

### *The story of Women Artists*

at Swaffham Prior V.H. on *Tuesday mornings*... With the same course repeated at the *Fulbourn Centre on Friday mornings*  
Starting September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> .

A chance to discover the women missing from the history of art – those who succeeded despite social opposition in carving their names into history and some that didn't.

*The French Revolution in Art: The Birth of the Modern World* on *Wednesday mornings* at S.P.V.H. follows the legacies of the three Post Impressionists, Cezanne, Gauguin and Van Gogh into the 20<sup>th</sup> century with the styles of Cubism, Fauvism and Expressionism – an explosion of colour, line and form that defines the modern age.

Starts Sept 24th

Email tutor: [deborah.monteiro@btinternet.com](mailto:deborah.monteiro@btinternet.com) for full details

## **WANTED – MILLING ASSISTANT**

We are looking to recruit a Milling Assistant to work 1 day per week and to help out on our regular 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday open days. Crier readers may recall we advertised for an Assistant in the Autumn of 2013. We were delighted with the response and from that advert hired John Cook who lives in the village. John has been a great asset to the team and we were very sorry to learn that he has decided to return to full time work and thus cannot continue to assist at the mill.

The job involves working 1 day per week serving customers, bagging up flour, preparing mail orders and palletised loads, assisting in the mill, cleaning and general maintenance tasks. You will need to be physically fit as the job requires lifting of sacks, ideally have some experience dealing with customers and be prepared to be trained to work in a food production environment. We can be flexible with the days / hours of work

If you are interested, please email [jon@fostersmill.co.uk](mailto:jon@fostersmill.co.uk) or call 07796 696091.

# THE LAST DAY OF PEACE FAMILY EVENT



## PERFORMANCES AND MUSIC OF THE PERIOD TO RE-CREATE THE SPIRIT OF 1914

- ★ Exhibitions, Displays, Expert Advice on Family History
- ★ Vintage Cycles, Veteran Vehicles, Shire Horse Display
- ★ There will also be light refreshments on sale.
- ★ 3 August 2014, 1-5pm, Hinchingsbrooke House, Huntingdon, PE29 3BN
- ★ For more information contact: Sally-Ann Greensmith: 01223 715613
- ★ or visit: [www.great-war.ccan.co.uk](http://www.great-war.ccan.co.uk)



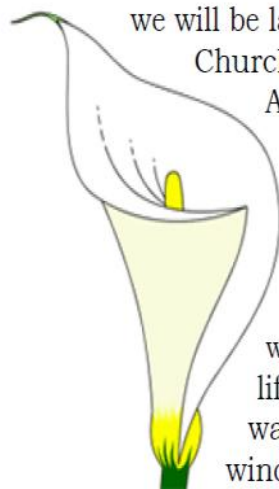
100+  
GREAT  
WAR  
14-18

[www.greatwar1418.eu](http://www.greatwar1418.eu)



# LEST WE FORGET

As in all churches of the Churches Conservation Trust  
we will be laying a lily on the altar of St Cyriac's  
Church at **11:00 on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August.**



After a moment of reflection and a  
reading of a poem there will be  
the offer of refreshments while  
listening to a BBC programme made  
in 1995. In this, villagers recount  
their memories of why people went to  
war, their experiences and village  
life during the war, village life after the  
war, the making of the remarkable war  
windows in St Mary's, the Squire, the  
Reverend Fisher and chapel and church life

So please join us - everyone welcome

**St Cyriac's Church, Swaffham Prior**  
*with the Churches Conservation Trust*

*Please make a note in your diary*

## **News from Bottisham Patients' Group**

For many of us July and August are months for maintaining or even improving our health and wellbeing by going on holiday, so there's little to report about the Group's activities since our July article. However, there is just this one plea from the Medical Practice:

### **Water, water, everywhere!**

No, this has nothing to do with the weather. Our nurses are being inundated with specimens - particularly urine specimens – left in the specimen box on the reception desk, with no indication of why they are there or which doctor asked for them.

Some don't even have the patient's name! If you have been asked to bring in a specimen, please write your name and date of birth on it, and the name of the doctor or nurse who requested it. If you have decided for yourself that you should have a specimen tested, make sure your details are clearly shown and why you need a test, so we can ask the lab what to look for. We have some forms to accompany specimens, which are in the red collection box at reception. Please complete one and put it with your specimen in the plastic bag.

### **Walking Group**

The PG's August walks will be led by Steve Gilson, our accredited walk leader, on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> starting from the surgery car park at 11.00 am. Anglesey Abbey walks continue weekly on Thursdays at 13.30 from the Visitors' Centre. All patients are welcome on all these walks.

### **Another 'Heart Start' session**

Our session in February was oversubscribed so we are planning to offer another one of these highly entertaining and useful first-aid mornings. Would you know what to do if your partner, child, or friend needed emergency life support?

Learn what to do at **The British Heart Foundation's HEART START** session on a Saturday morning soon from 9.30 am to 12 noon at the Surgery. Watch this space for the date, then you can book your free place by emailing [patientsgroup@outlook.com](mailto:patientsgroup@outlook.com) or phoning 01223 811770.

***Bottisham Patients' Group Committee***

## REMEMBERING TRICIA

Tricia Harrison, who died in May, will be missed and remembered by many people in many different ways. Quietly, and without fuss she befriended newcomers and old-timers alike, and understood our interests, our needs and our circumstances.

When our family first came to the village she was perhaps the second person who spoke to me, when out walking the dog. I was quickly able to find coffee, chat and friendship at her kitchen table in Goodwin Manor. As the years went by we shared the dissection of school and family life and the worries and enjoyment of teenage children. We both had daughters, who both had horses (not cuddly ponies, note) and I shall always remember the sight of Tricia, arms above her head, being escorted up the lane by a snorting dark bay steed.

Tricia was a great reader of the newspapers as well as books. Frequently through our letter box came a cutting that she knew I would like, often accompanied by a message in her unmistakable hand on a “recycled” cut out card. The telephone was seldom resorted to – far too extravagant.

Tricia and John and their family of three (Rachel, Philippa and Joe) had lived in this village for more years than I know, and before that in Swaffham Bulbeck. As the children grew up and married and presented her with grandchildren to look after (as happens) she would sometimes bring the youngest generation to church. On one occasion when I shared a pew, she led a child carefully through the intricacies of the Book of Common Prayer. (Well you would, wouldn't you if, like Tricia, you had been reared on the Catholic Mass).

Tricia often spoke of her North London childhood in her medical father's big (and not always very warm) house. She herself trained as a nurse. She was birdlike in her small alertness and displayed the dark Celtic looks she had inherited from the Welsh ancestry, of which she was seemingly proud.

*Elisabeth Everitt*



## **The Wrap Around Club Holiday Club available from Summer 2014**

The Wrap Around Club Holiday Club will be held at Trinity Church, High St, Burwell.

The holiday club will be open from July 2014 and will be held at Trinity Church, Burwell, we will run throughout the summer and every further holiday from school when there is the demand for it. We will offer set booked days or adhoc days for parents that don't need full-time cover and are just looking for the odd day. We will be offering care for 4-11 year olds and will ensure that costs are competitive.

The children will find a warm and welcoming place to spend their time during the holidays. We aim to create an environment that makes them feel as happy and safe as if they are at home. With a relaxed atmosphere we plan to include various activities and games for all ages and will provide homemade snacks.

We request that children coming over lunch time to bring their own packed lunch. Please do not hesitate to contact us :

[enquiries@thewraparoundclub.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thewraparoundclub.co.uk) Tel: 01638 601399 or Mob: 07867548621 for more info see:

**[www.thewraparoundclub.co.uk](http://www.thewraparoundclub.co.uk)**

Andrea Carmichael and Caroline Earl



## Something for the people attending the 'Poetry Workshop'

(June Crier p30)

### Surrounded by Verse.

"I think I'll write a poem today ,  
When I've decided what I have to say.  
I'll settle the metre, form and foot ;  
Then turn my attention to the subject, but  
Will it be elegiac, or perhaps a lay?  
Hmm, I think that's quite enough today.  
Tomorrow I will start again;  
Perhaps it might be a quatrain.

But then it could have a pastoral theme,  
And written as though I'm in a dream;  
With a leaning towards the metaphysical  
Hinting it might be absurdly quizzical.  
Or will it be a triolet?  
How can I tell? I haven't started yet;

An elegiac theme - - just - - might- - - ?  
But I'll think about it overnight.  
With a madrigal I could get in deep;  
But first of all I must get some sleep.  
Better yet; I'll go modern; use irregular rows,  
And just write something,  
in disjointed prose."

**Ophir.**

### ***Birthday on the Beach***

At another year  
I would not boggle,  
Except that when I jog  
I joggle.

***Ogden Nash***

# Oliver Cromwell & Swaffham Prior

Oliver Cromwell was born in Huntingdon in April 1599 and he lived there and then briefly in St Ives until he inherited the attractive house on the green in front of Ely Cathedral from his uncle in 1636 (now the Tourist Information Centre and small museum) and he lived there, so far as his parliamentary duties (1640+) and military duties (1642+) permitted, until at least 1647. He was then almost always on campaign or in London (as Lord Protector from 1653) until his death in 1658. He certainly never visited Cambridge or Ely, let alone Swaffham Prior, after taking a leading role in the trial and execution of Charles I in January 1649.

But he must have passed through Swaffham Prior many times between 1636 and 1647. He was a preacher in an underground illegal conventicle in the late 1630s and many of its members came out from Cambridge to hear him. It is unlikely he did not return their visits. In the late winter of 1639/40 they had him made a freeman of Cambridge, eligible to stand for Parliament. He was elected.

The A10 did not exist in the 1630s and the road from Ely to Cambridge followed the fen edge (for the fen was flooded for several months of the year) and Swaffham Prior would have been just over halfway along a 3-4 hour horse ride, just the place to stop for refreshment (though alas Burwell is more likely!). And certainly he must have been constantly up and down that road in 1644 and early 1645 when he was Governor of the Isle of Ely and regularly attending the committee at Cambridge which was responsible for resourcing the parliamentarian war effort in East Anglia.

He would have been pressing the Committee to collect war taxes on property ('assessment') and (for the first time in English History) on internal trade (especially a 50% excise on ale and beer!). He was not responsible (as he has too often been said to have been) for the destruction of 'monuments of idolatry and superstition' from our churches. That was the work of William Dowsing, a dour puritan farmer from the Stour Valley, who answered not to Cromwell but directly to the Earl of Manchester, Cromwell's regional boss. That said, I would put my shirt on Cromwell passing through Swaffham Prior 20-30 times in the period 1636-47.

He then had a greater influence on Swaffham Prior as head of state. The drainage of the fens in our villages was intensified in the early 1650s and large numbers of Dutch prisoners of war (the Commonwealth engaged in naval war over trade with the Dutch between 1651 and 1654) were put to work to build drainage ditches and dykes.

The draining of the fens threatened the livelihoods of many less well off villagers in Burwell, the Swaffhams, Bottisham and Quy (the fens were common land, a source of income for the poor from sedge/thatch cutting in summer and fishing and fowling in winter). .....

.....The drainage benefited the freeholders who could now grow rich from the top-quality grain production on drained land. Disgruntled residents undid by night what the Dutch created by day, and we have in the State Papers evidence of persistent intervention by Cromwell to send in troops to protect the drainage works and to punish those involved in the ‘riots’. One harassed commander on the ground even recommended that 100 men from the Swaffhams be conscripted into the Navy as a warning to others.

Cromwell had no doubt that improved land meant better food for more people than were adversely affected by the ending of their rights on the commons. He was not, they might have thought, quite the friend of the poor he claimed to be. Uneasy lies the head, Lord General Cromwell could have replied, is the man who wears the helmet.

**John Morrill**

**Learn more about Oliver Cromwell**

John Morrill reminds all readers how much they would enjoy a visit to the Cromwell Museum in the heart of Huntingdon (in the room in the market square where Cromwell went to school in around 1605-12), a museum he and others are campaigning to save from the closure planned by the Council from early 2016. It is currently open every day except Monday from 1030-1230 and 1330-1630.

**Bottisham Players.....**

.....are well into rehearsals for “Ding Dong”, a confusing and hilarious story where Bernard discovers his wife is having an affair, he decides to confront Robert and give him two options to compensate for the affair, either Bernard sleeps with Roberts wife or Bernard will have him killed! You can see what happens at one of three evening performances starting Thursday 16th October to Saturday 18th October, tickets will be available from our usual places, Tina’s of Burwell, Chris Clarke hairdressing and Bottisham Post office.

At the end of October we will also be auditioning for next years pantomime, watch out for more details.

April Cook



## **Adult Support Drop-in Events – late Summer and early Autumn dates**

A series of popular drop-in events for anyone who is:

living with a long-term illness or disability  
providing unpaid support to adult family members or friends who could not  
Manage without this help  
struggling with an age-related condition

are continuing through the late Summer and early Autumn. They include drop-ins being held at Cambridge Central Library on 27<sup>th</sup> August and 29<sup>th</sup> October and Ely Library on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 20<sup>th</sup> August and 18<sup>th</sup> September.

Drop-in at any time between 10.00am and 12.00 noon, for a cup of tea and a chat.

Full details are available on [Cambridgeshire.net](http://Cambridgeshire.net) (search “Adult Support Drop-in”), or by phoning Gemma Whitehouse on 01480 377616 or Leigh Hornsby on 01480 373220. Email [Drop.InSessionsAsc@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Drop.InSessionsAsc@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or [CarersSupport-Team@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:CarersSupport-Team@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) .

### **Each drop-in event will include:**

Information and advice about the support that may be available  
An opportunity for carers to book a one-to-one advice session and/or  
A carers assessment;  
Guest speakers providing information  
and activities to take part in;

A chance for service users and carers to share their stories and experiences.

The option to talk in confidence with someone from the Carers Support Team or Physical Disability Services Team.

# Are you caring for someone?

A carer is a person of any age - adult or child - who provides unpaid support to a partner, child, relative or friend who could not manage to live independently or whose health or wellbeing would deteriorate without this help. Those receiving this care may need help due to frailty, disability or a serious health condition, mental ill health or substance misuse.

## Carers Away Day



Friday 3 October 2014

10am - 4pm

Huntingdon Marriott Hotel

Kingfisher Way, Hinchbrook Business Park, Huntingdon PE29 6FL

### Expert Speakers will host small informal discussion groups:

- The Mental Capacity Act
- Lasting Power of Attorney
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults
- Welfare Benefits
- finding good quality support
- Carers Trust Cambridgeshire.

### Free buffet lunch followed by:

- Opportunities to meet other Carers, relax and get creative including Yoga, Swimming, Gym and other activities.
- Information and advice stands
- Unlimited tea and coffee throughout the day

**Places are limited, please book early to avoid disappointment.**

Tel: 01480 377616 Email: [CarersSupportTeam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:CarersSupportTeam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

There may be support for carers to attend the event so please do not hesitate to ask for any assistance you might need to enable you to come.



# St Cyriac's Church

with the Churches Conservation Trust

## Pop Up Afternoon Tea Shop

Open 2pm to 5pm

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September

Pop along for tea and cake



## Village book club – June meeting

This month seven of us met at Kent House to discuss Donna Tartt's *The Goldfinch*. Over wine and delicious nibbles we considered the merits and weaknesses of this third, seven-hundred-page novel by the American author.

As is often the case opinions ranged widely, although this was due in part to some members being only part way through the book. The group felt conflicted about the character of Theo Decker, the protagonist, with many of us finding his drug-fuelled misdeeds rather unpalatable. We struggled to agree on whether the reader is meant to feel sympathy for Decker, who at thirteen loses his mother in a terrorist bombing, and who is shuttled from family friend to estranged father, and onwards.

It is impossible not to talk about wrongdoing in a novel that centres on the theft of a priceless work of art. The bombing that kills Decker's mother takes place in the Metropolitan Museum in New York. Whilst the event is fictional, the painting itself is real - *The Goldfinch* by Carel Fabritius. Persuaded to take the painting by a dying man he comforts in the aftermath of the disaster, Decker is apparently unable to act on his oft-voiced intention to return it. As time passes Decker's feelings about the diminutive picture become bound up with the guilt he feels about his mother's death, and with his emerging self-identity.

The general feeling was that the novel is slow to start, fantastic in parts, and overall a little baggy. There are some exquisite descriptions of people and places (particularly Las Vegas) and at times it is obvious why Tartt won the Pulitzer Prize for this book. However, most of us could also point out sections where we lost patience with the author, and interest in the plot. We were unanimous in our opinion that Tartt would have benefited from some reigning-in on this novel, and agreed it could have been written in more like five-hundred words with no loss to the reader experience.

Many of us felt that, despite Decker's immorality, it was still possible to care about his fate. The cast of characters is small but each is beautifully formed, with the wonderfully devilish Boris and big-hearted Hobie standing out. The final section of the story surprised a number of the group, which seems to suggest an effective twist. We were divided about the conclusion of the novel with some of us feeling that outright philosophical exposition wasn't necessary.

In summary, *The Goldfinch* is an excellent read if you don't mind your hero rather more anti-. Be prepared to skim the slow sections and consider buying the Kindle edition if you want to avoid aching arms.

Annie Neild

## PC REPORT

It was almost a full house. After the usual preamble Allen Alderson reported how pleased ECDC continued to be with the introduction of wheelie bins. But, to make more money, they prefer all bottles be washed and hard plastic tops removed. I suppose this washing also applies to tins, wine bottles etc. A job for one of the increasing numbers of statistical wallahs would be to work out just how much water will be used by so doing.

Paul made an interesting point about planning applications. Living in a conservation area he has to apply for permission to build a wall to his front garden. He paid the money, applied, only to discover that ECDC no longer accepts Land Registry (LR) plans, and insists on Ordnance Survey (OS) plans. He paid another fee for the OS plan, only to find that it gives him more land than he actually owns. He will now send in the OS plan, amended by the more up to date LR plan, in the hope that this alteration to OS is not illegal, and will be accepted by ECDC. Allen is keen to look into this meaty question, but maybe Paul should also write to our MP, possibly to raise in Parliament. Or is this something which could only happen to Paul?

The memorial seat for John Norris has now arrived and is sitting in Steve's garage, waiting to be erected on Coopers Green. Ill kempt hedges are still partially blocking the back paths. Karen had taken nine pictures illustrating the offensive hedges, but was reluctant to hand them to the *Crier* reporter. But, you all know who you are!!

By email PC members had received from Dearbhla (this is not a misprint) Lawson a CCC *Consultation on transport strategy in Cambridgeshire*, and asked for comments. It seems it is very long, with many links, and I'm not sure how many members read it. Steve thought it might just say "There is going to be a lot more traffic".

Two letters had been sent to the PC about the proposed Scooter Ramp, but you have to read the report on the Village Annual Assembly for the story so far. The new gravel laid around the Pound is growing a disappointingly large number of weeds. There was general dismay as the work had only been completed in March; to be explored further.

Now that the water leak in the cemetery has been fixed the PC receives regular refunds from Anglia Water. Finally, and with enormous glee, Geoffrey announced that Wicken Fen now has a Poet in Residence. Steve suggested we ought to have one for Swaffham Prior. Volunteers?

**Alastair Everitt**



## ANNUAL VILLAGE ASSEMBLY

28th MAY at 7.30pm

If you want to know how quite a large part of the village works you should come to this Assembly. Not so many attended this year, probably about eighteen.

Andy Hill of the Hill Group made an excellent presentation on the development of the Dencora field, off Rogers Road. A previous presentation was reported in some detail in the *Crier* some time ago, so only additional information is now reported. To show his credentials samples of various Hill buildings were shown, including a £2.5 million house, which to me seemed to be quite good value

Mr Hill was at pains to show that the development had been designed to be as pleasing as possible, modelling it on the style of houses already existing in the village. Up came a picture of Eric Day's house, then the four cottages opposite Anglesey House, followed by the gatehouse of Swaffham Prior House, on which the two low cost bungalows are based. Exactly the same materials and building quality will be used for both the affordable houses and the private houses. The solar panels will be "quite sensitive" and this was illustrated with a picture which suggested a tiny panel on a large roof. Certainly the most discreet I have ever seen. Later I heard that every new development needs to contain 10% renewable energy capacity. Rather than lumping this on to just a few houses it has been distributed over the whole development. Enough, as someone said, for each house to "boil a kettle". If this is wrong perhaps someone would provide the correct information.

Questions concerned the exact position of the development and who was going to control the quality of the residents in the affordable section. All were answered satisfactorily. Building will begin in October this year, the first residents should be in by next Summer, and the whole project will probably have a fifteen month build period.

Next came the request for a scooter ramp, with a presentation by four bright lads, with Steve White in the background. The ramp would be ten by four metres, rather high off the ground, on Town Close running along the driveway; the cost would be £13,000, could be erected in 6-8 weeks, and would last about twenty years. Some concern was expressed by nearby residents. They will go and view a ramp in South Wootton. Steve White made the point that it was "not sufficiently important to upset people."

MEANWHILE things appear have moved forward and even before I had written my report last month's *Crier*'s Editorial announced that the £13,000 had already been raised, and posed further questions. What happens if the scooter fashion changes? What happens when the four lads become a little older? The PC at its last meeting had received two letters on the subject, but, knowing discussions were still happening, decided to defer any discussion. Roz Chalmers presented a School report with the news that some overcrowding may be expected after the Dencora development is completed. She also mentioned that £85,000 is needed to reroof the School, and they only have a £5,000 building allocation .....>

>..... She had been hoping to have had access to some of the old Section 106 money which was levied on developers and used for local purposes. This is the money that enabled Swaffham Bulbeck to acquire and develop as a fine local amenity the neglected wood at the edge of Bulbeck on the way to Cambridge. But last October ECDC had changed the rules and every penny now goes in to a general Communities Facilities Fund to support schemes throughout the whole District. The School may hope to receive something from this new Fund, though it may be less assured than under the old scheme.

Many reports of societies were presented or read but you will need to come next year to hear a full account and to share some of the excitement and concerns. Probably this year people were exhausted through having to select, only the week before, from the nine parties in the European Parliament elections.

The list of parties was amazing and, apart from the main parties, introduced “An Independence From Europe”, “Christian People’s Alliance”, “The English Democrats”, and “No2EU” (how can anyone vote for a party which uses ‘2’ in this way?).

*Alastair Everitt*

## **STRAWBERRY TEAS, 13TH JULY AT BALDWIN MANOR.**

All morning blood pressures were going up and down like yo-yos according to the ferocity of the rainfall and sunny bright spells, however the rain stopped half an hour before opening time and a decision was made to hold the event inside, as it was rather damp outside.

Our hostess Marcia Miller generously invited us in to use the whole ground floor of her lovely Manor House (some of us had learnt a little of the history recently on the Village Heritage Walk) for which we were so grateful. Everyone who came enjoyed the opportunity of chatting with old acquaintances as well as meeting new folk. enabling some who had lived in the village for several years to put names to faces. Thanks to Janet Willmott, generous sized scones, strawberries and this year clotted cream and numerous cups of tea were served and enjoyed by all. We really appreciated those who told us they were coming as this helps enormously with catering, thus saving food waste. Special thanks must given to Emily Noyes and Bella Lewinski whose help was invaluable, especially with the washing up.

So the unpredictable British weather was a real bonus and added to the success of the afternoon, on top of which £180 was given to the up-keep of St.Mary's Church, are you aware it costs in the region of £60 a day in running costs.?

*Kate Childs*

## **2 More reports on the popular Strawberry Teas ....**

A lovely afternoon was had by all who turned out for the St Mary's Strawberry Teas on the first Sunday afternoon in July. The weather forecast wasn't promising, but only one shower interrupted an otherwise splendid afternoon. The beautiful setting was provided by Linda and Colin Evans at Commissioners' Farm with tables and chairs laid out on the lawn to accommodate the visitors allowing them to enjoy their strawberries, cream and scones and listen to the delightful music provided by The Cyriac's Folk Group. Despite the distance of the venue from the village folk arrived by horse, bike (including a tandem), JCB loader, car and on foot - although I think back up was called in when they realised how far it was!

The fantastic sum of £212.50 was raised for Church funds and my very grateful thanks for all their hard work goes to Linda and Colin; James and Miriam Willmott; Shirley Wilkins and her team; Lindsey and Elisa Raja; Dee Noyes; Andrew, Richard, Phil, Ed and Yvette who made up The Cyriac's and of course Jill and John Jordan for once again so generously giving us the use of their home.

***Janet Willmott***

On a slightly soggy Sunday 13th July, we decided to take a walk through the village to the beautiful Baldwin Manor to sample the delights of the Strawberry Teas, we were not disappointed, at the gate we were welcomed by Brenda Wilson and inside the welcome was just as warming from Janet Willmott, Kate, Emily and Bella.

With our strawberry tea in our hands we joined a group already enjoying their scone covered in cream and fresh strawberries. Now I happen to be fussy about my tea, it has to be strong with a bold flavour, well ladies you got it right maybe that's why I had another cup and so did Paul. The conversation around the table was very pleasant catching up on how everyone was and what they are doing but as there were at least 3 avid football fans at the table of course the conversation did manage to dribble over into the World Cup, ( I at one point during the World Cup thought we had something wrong with our television as every time I went home a football match was being aired!).

Anyway I can't speak for everyone but I certainly enjoyed my afternoon at Baldwin Manor and just before we left we had a walk around the immaculate garden surrounding the manor, the peace and tranquillity tucked away there is amazing, the sun by this point was shining again as we meandered back home. Thank you to all involved, I will look forward to next year.

***April Cook***

## Swaffham Prior Heritage Walk 2014

### 2 reports and photographs -

If ever you come across adverts in this magazine for a Heritage Walk in the village do not hesitate to book!

Twenty five of us enjoyed a fascinating, sell out tour under the gentle and good humoured guidance of Blue Badge guide and village resident, Elisabeth Everitt. Focusing on the ancient manors along the spring line we enjoyed privileged access to the grounds – and in two cases



the interiors - of Swaffham Prior House, Baldwin Manor, Goodwin Manor, Swaffham Prior Hall and the Manor House. We visited the “neat house”, the Old Vicarage, and marvelled at the stunning modern conversion of the Zoar Chapel on Roger’s Road. So much interesting information was imparted; some memorable snippets included the route of the old road into Cambridge, the culinary ability of MP Shirley Williams’ in law and the intriguing significance of dovecots! For homework we were left to consider why Town Close is so called.

Tea and cake in Orchard House on Mill Hill – thank you Sharyn and Janet - was much appreciated and we all left wanting more. More tours of the village, that is! The windmills, the pound, the churches, the chapel in the fen; there is so much material in this small area.

Grateful thanks to Elisabeth for her dedicated research and patient explanations and to all the householders who kindly allowed us into their homes and/or gardens. It was a memorable afternoon.

**Dee Noyes**

### **BON MOT NUMBER FORTY SIX**

“There are three roads to ruin; women, gambling and technicians.  
the most pleasant is with women, the quickest is with gambling,  
but the surest is with technicians.”

**Georges Pompidou (1911-1974)**

## SWAFFHAM PRIOR HERITAGE WALK

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> was quite a rainy day but we had booked to go on the Heritage Walk so with Macs and umbrellas we went to the meeting place (St. Mary's steps) at 2 p.m. to find a group of over twenty residents ready for a walk and talk relating to this lovely village we live in. It was certainly much more than we had expected and the history of the five great manors and halls of the village were brought to life by Elisabeth Everitt. We were lucky to have her, as she is an expert in relating facts and stories from the past, making it all come to life and really firing the imagination.



Colin and I have only lived here for three and a half years and although we knew there were some wonderful buildings in the village, we had only seen one or two.

We knew about the Roman and Saxon connection but were not aware of the Norman Knights and 'Huguenot' French Protestant background.

Elisabeth, our guide was very knowledgeable about the area and the walk followed the line of the spring that linked the old village manor farms. We learned that the word 'manor' came from the French word manoir whereas the word 'hall' was a Saxon word for much the same thing. The gentle exercise and historical interest was enhanced by being with some equally interesting and friendly people with a shared desire to gain background knowledge about our fascinating village.

Thank you so much to those who allowed us to invade their private land to see their lovely homes – all kept and maintained so well with some amazing gardens. The next time I walk through the village, I will look at it with very different eyes. Thank you also to Sharyn for opening her home with a lovely end to the day and the provision of tea and cakes made by kind people who can bake a lot better than I can! Thanks also to Janet Willmott for organizing the day and inviting us. What about a history society in the village? I am sure there would be many who would love to take part.

***Chrissie and Colin Fordham***

And a wee 21<sup>st</sup> Century Nursery Rhyme for Peter Wells; (June Crier Page 36)

“Here’s the church, And there’s the steeple. The doors are open - - But where are the people?”

***Ophir.***

**Swaffham Crier** (August/Sept 2014)

## **Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club**

Looking forward to September 2014, Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club will be staging their Welcome Back evening on 9 September 2014 7:30 - 9:30 pm at their normal venue Lode Chapel **CB25 9EW**. The club was founded in 1973 and still has founder members participating.

There is now a diverse selection of digital cameras available and some of you may be interested in developing your knowledge further. You are welcome to join the club, or attend any meeting as a guest – see below.

At the Welcome Back evening, members/visitors are invited to bring 3 prints (visitors any size) or 3 digital images on a USB stick (ideally sized as 1400 X 1050 sRGB) of photographs taken during the summer. Members who were competition winners last season are also invited to display some of their prints/images

We congratulate Daphne Hanson, Hon. Secretary to the club for many years, who has been awarded the prestigious 'Distinction in Awards for Photographic Merit' - DPAGB by The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain. In addition, in February 2014 at the AGM of the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies (EAF) Daphne was elected President Elect of the Society and will take up her post as President in 2016. Daphne previously served as President from 1998 – 2000.

### **Dates for your Diary**

**Tuesday 9 September 2014** / Welcome Back: See above

**Tuesday 16 September 2014** / 'An Eye in the Wind: Kite Aerial Photography of Cambridge and environs' by Bill Blake, Heritage Surveyor & Kite Photographer. Guests are welcome to attend any meeting at our venue, Lode Chapel CB25 9EW from 7:30 to 9:30pm. Fee: £3.00, including refreshments, refunded on joining.

Annual subscriptions: Adult: £40.00, Joint Membership: £67.00, Student: £16.00. Refreshments 50p.

Barry Coles

Publicity Officer

For further details contact: **Mrs Daphne Hanson** DPAGB APAGB

T: 01638 741106

**[www.bottburpc.org](http://www.bottburpc.org)**

Swaffham Prior is a lovely place to live:

.....small, rural, picturesque. And, in pride of place, adding to its beauty and interest, are its two churches.

Both have served the community faithfully over the centuries, the one an asset to the village for special occasions; the other still a regular place of worship by the few, but called into service by the wider community for weddings, baptisms and funerals.

And herein lies its problem: with a much diminished congregation, there isn't sufficient income from them, despite ever more enterprising fundraising, to maintain and run the church. At the last count it cost over £65 per day to run and keep in good repair, and that without major repair.

As stewards of the church, we have put into effect schemes to address the care and maintenance of its fabric, to ensure that we can pass it on to future generations in good repair, as it has been passed on to us. Goodhearted people in the village, many of whom are not worshippers, contribute on a regular basis to its fabric, (not its running costs) for the benefit of their offspring and to pass on its heritage to future generations.

We are very grateful to them: without them the church would fall into disrepair, and be beyond the means of its congregation to repair.

Costs rise, and investments don't give the returns they did. If you value the place the church plays in village life, please consider whether you can make a contribution to its upkeep.

*Brenda Wilson  
Roderick Clayton  
Churchwardens*

## John Norris Memorial Seat

On behalf of the Swaffham Prior Parochial Charities, I would like to thank everyone who came on Saturday 12th July to the unveiling the John Norris Memorial seat.

*Pam Waters (Clerk to Trustees)*



Kate Cummins (left) John's daughter helped to unveil the seat



Now available for all to enjoy the view on Coopers Green, Greenhead Road.



## Changes to Local Bus Services

### July 2014 service changes

Service	Route	Days of Operation	Date of change	Description of change
Stagecoach 9	Chatteris – Ely- Cambridge	Mon - Sat	20 July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16:15 Chatteris – Cambridge, 17:16 Ely – Cambridge, 17:10 Littleport – Ely, 17:15 Chatteris – Cambridge and 18:15 Chatteris – Ely journeys now operate 15 minutes later</li> </ul>
Stagecoach 11	Bury St Edmunds – Newmarket – Cambridge	Mon - Sat	20 July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18:20 journey between Cambridge and Bury St Edmunds now operates 15 minutes later</li> <li>19:30 journey between Bury St Edmunds and Cambridge now operates 15 minutes later</li> </ul>
Stagecoach 12	Ely – Newmarket – Cambridge	Mon - Sat	20 July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17:45 journey between Ely and Newmarket now operates 15 minutes later</li> </ul>
First X1	Peterborough – Wisbech – King's Lynn – Norwich – Gt Yarmouth – Lowestoft	Daily	27 July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing route split into two sections, Lowestoft – Norwich; Norwich – Peterborough</li> <li>Amended departure times</li> </ul>
Stagecoach X5	Cambridge – Bedford – Milton Keynes – Oxford	Daily	27 July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>07:20 and 07:50 journeys between rail station and Coachway in Milton Keynes operate 10 minutes later (Saturday)</li> <li>All journeys on Monday to Friday, journeys after the 7am departure from Cambridge on Saturday, and all journeys on Sunday between Cambridge and Oxford now operate 10 minutes later</li> </ul>

# Summer at the Museums 2014

**Hands-on family fun in Cambridge and beyond  
24 July – 3 September 2014**

*This summer, family fun and adventure are just around the corner as museums in Cambridge and beyond offer a jam-packed programme of creative activities. With 20 local venues presenting an exciting mix of drop-in and bookable things to do.*

From taking part in a night time bat walk at Cambridge University Botanic Garden, building rockets at Cambridge Museum of Technology or meeting a Stone Age man at the Norris Museum, this year's *Summer at the Museums* Calendar is full of events and activities to keep everyone entertained. Whatever's happening, the amazing collections across our local museums make them the perfect place to visit at any time. For fun tips and activities while you are exploring,

**FREE Calendars and Scrapbooks are available from all participating museums and collections, or can be downloaded from our Web site :**

**[www.cam.ac.uk/museums/summer](http://www.cam.ac.uk/museums/summer)**

Cambridge venues: Cambridge Museum of Technology  
Cambridge Science Centre  
Cambridge University Botanic Garden  
Fitzwilliam Museum; Kettle's Yard  
Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology  
Museum of Cambridge, Museum of Classical Archaeology  
The Polar Museum, Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences  
Whipple Museum of the History of Science

Further afield: Burwell Museum & Windmill; plus more (web)



# **Bottisham Village College**

## **Adult and Community Learning**

**Enrol now for courses starting in September!**

Although the Community Office is closed during the school holiday, you can visit our website for enrolment details, leave a telephone message or email us.

Alternatively, come along to the Community Office to enrol on Tuesday, 9 September, 7 – 9 pm

### **New Courses include:**

Ballroom Dancing for Beginners

Guitar for Beginners

Bollywood *or* Oriental Belly Dancing

Makeover your Home

Cook Simple Meals with Gill (for those who are 60+) (Free\*)

Great British Baking (January)

Maths GCSE in one year (Adults) (Free\*)

Maths in the Workplace (Free\*)

Stained Glass Making

Learn to Draw

Painting in Acrylics

### **Saturday Workshops include:**

Computing – Learn the Basics (Free\*)

MS Word and Excel

Get that Job! (Free\*)

Free\* - subject to meeting eligibility criteria; otherwise, a fee applies.

For further details visit: [www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning](http://www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning)

or contact the Community Office on 01223 811372

email: [adultlearning@bottishamvc.org](mailto:adultlearning@bottishamvc.org)

Facebook: BottishamAdultCommunityLearning or Twitter: @CommunityEdBott

# VILLAGE HARVEST SUPPER

## SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER



**6–9pm**

**By candlelight in St Cyriac's, Swaffham Prior**

**Supper with scrumptious puddings**

**Bar serving wine and soft drinks**

**Entertainment**

**Raffle for Fair Trade hampers**

**In aid of St Mary's Church and**

**Projects in Mara, Tanzania**

**Please remember your own plate,  
bowl and cutlery**

**Tickets – prices held from last year:**

**Adult – £8; over 65/under 16 – £7;**

**under 11 – £5**

**Newcomers to the village especially welcome**



**From Kate Child – 743983**

**Dee Noyes – 743864**

**Village Harvest Festival**

**St Mary's Church**

**11am, Sunday 21 September**

# CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDENS

## Lavender Love and Purple Haze

Many of the plantings in the Botanic Garden highlight the importance of flowers and their pollinators. Chief amongst these are the Bee Borders, a demonstration of plants that are particularly good nectar sources for insects. Alternatively, take a walk around the Systematic Beds and watch the bees picking out the flowers that are at their best and producing plenty of nectar - at this time of year the *Compositae* or daisy family beds are particularly good. When planting to attract insects, providing a diversity of flower structures and flowering times is key and a visit to the Garden can help inform your choices.

Lavenders are well known and recommended for attracting insects but one particular cultivar stands apart and is often commented on by visitors to the Garden. This special plant is a type of Lavandin, *Lavandula x intermedia* 'Sussex', one of the larger-growing hybrids reaching about 1-1.2 m high and blooming from July through to the end of August. Walk around the lavender hedge that encircles the Rose Garden and 'Sussex' is the one literally buzzing with honeybees, bumblebees, butterflies, hoverflies and even day-flying moths. When in full flower, it's the favourite of favourites in the Bee Border for nectar-feeding insects.

So why is it so much better than others? The large flower spikes bear fresh flowers over many weeks giving longevity of flowering and hence nectar supply. The flower colour is attractive but not spectacular and is unlikely to be a significant factor in why 'Sussex' is the top destination. We suspect it simply produces more nectar than other cultivars and it is this that attracts so many insects.

Another plant in this colour spectrum and indeed the same plant family (Lamiaceae), is the tall and transparent *Verbena bonariensis*, which can self-seed freely in our county's generally free draining soils to create a purple haze that is the perfect foil for the late summer flowering reds and oranges of dahlias and montbretias. Throughout August, the pompoms of tiny tubular, intensely violet flowers wave in the slightest breeze and are the perfect landing platforms for all sorts of insects – comma butterflies are often attracted, but it is the small tortoiseshells that seem to love this plant. As *Verbena bonariensis* has become a more and more popular garden plant in recent years, so the populations of small tortoiseshells have increased - could there perhaps be a virtuous circle developing? Certainly, judicious choice of plants for our own gardens can do much to improve the situation for our insect pollinators.

The Botanic Garden is open 10am-6pm through July–September (Wednesdays in July until 8pm). Admission is £4.50, Gift aid admission £4.95 or join the Friends, get free admission and 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](http://www.botanic.cam.ac.uk)



Our meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of each month starting at 2.30pm in Lode Chapel.

On July 17th we are looking forward to the Rev. Simon Goddard speaking to us about 'Man on a Mission', In June, Arwen Folkes gave us an outstanding talk

on her training at Westcott House. We are lucky to have her with us in the Anglesey Benefice. Westcott House is an Anglican theological college in Cambridge which prepares men and women from Britain and around the world for Ordination.

The chapel and prayer are at the heart of the students' lives. The students eat together and carry out the day-to-day tasks of running the House. This helps them both to understand each other and how to live in a community. Their life is enriched by their ecumenical training. You are most welcome to come along and join us.

*Jill Jenyns*

**14/11/14**

Please keep the date: **Friday 14 November 2014**

To commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War we will be holding an event to study the unique war memorial windows in St Mary's. Professor Jolyon Mitchell from Edinburgh University will put the windows into local, national and international historical context and provide insight into the fears, hopes, and heartbreaks of 1914-1919.

Funds raised from this event will be used to produce information about the windows in various forms to allow them to be more widely understood by villagers and visitors alike. We will also support the work of the Royal British Legion and St Mary's, Swaffham Prior.

More details in The Crier in due course.



## WI Notes

The speaker at the June meeting was Sarah Lindsell who came to tell us about the Rotary's international 'End Polio Now' campaign which has been hugely successful for some years and has seen India declared Polio free just this year.

This has been achieved by a programme of national immunisation days targeting all children under five years of age across the country. Sarah had visited Delhi and assisted in one of these days and had some very interesting photographs to show us of how the immunisation booths worked. Sadly three countries in the world still suffer from polio, Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan and efforts are now focused on those places so that in a few years the disease will be eradicated from the whole world. We also enjoyed a video taken during the Delhi visit showing the part the volunteers, many of them local students, played in the immunisation programme.

Just as Sarah was finishing her talk we had the second power cut of the day but managed to enjoy our refreshments despite this setback! Some members have been busy knitting miniature cycling jerseys, to be made into bunting to decorate the route of the Tour de France through Cambridge on the 7<sup>th</sup> July, along with many other WIs and craft groups throughout Cambridgeshire so look out for them on the big day!

The July meeting will be our summer garden party on 21<sup>st</sup> July so fingers crossed for good weather. On August 18<sup>th</sup> we are back in Swaffham Prior Village Hall (if we can crack the door code) to hear about Jewish Life from Shoshana Goldhill - hope to see you there. New members and occasional visitors are always welcome so come along and see if you would like to join our friendly group or telephone if you would like more information.

***Pat Cook - President Tel: 01638 742224***

# *Swaffham Prior Dog* *Show*

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2014**



**Village Hall, 2pm, in conjunction with the  
Village Harvest Show**

**Six Classes, to include Fancy Dress, Most  
Obedient and Musical Sit**

**Classes £1 each or £5 for all six classes**

**Entries on the day, enquires in advance to**

**Mandy Kingsmill on 01638 742482 or**

**Janet Willmott on 01638 743472**

**Prizes and rosettes for first place and  
a gift for the runner up in each category**

**Generously supported by Alan's Ark at Soham**



**All proceeds to St Mary's Church**



# Grow for the Autumn Show

English village community life has been hit by pub and post office closures, a reduction in public transport and an increase in the time people spend at work.

The Autumn Show will be held this year on:

★ **Saturday 13th September**

Use this opportunity to meet other Swaffham Priorites and keep our village life vibrant by taking an active part in community events.

Compete with your neighbours to grow the best flowers and vegetables, bake the tastiest bread and cakes, capture the most interesting photographic images.

Look at the wide range of categories below, and try your hand at something new.

## CHILDREN'S CATEGORIES

Model challenge	Giant vegetable	Sunflower
Decorated cup cake	Miniature garden	Vegetable animal

## PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

The themes for this year's photo entries are:

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| • Up to 10 years | Transport         |
| • 11 to 16 years | Light and Weather |
| • Over 16 years  | Windows and Doors |

## BAKING and PRESERVES

Bread	Fruit cake	Alcoholic drink or wine
Pickle/chutney	Victoria sponge	Jam or jelly

## FLOWERS

Roses	Mixed flowers	Pot plant
Flower arrangement		

## VEGETABLES

Beans	Herbs	Mixed veg	Peas
	Squash		
Beetroot	Leeks	Onions	Potatoes
	Tomatoes		
Carrots	Lettuce	Parsnips	Shallots

## FRUIT

Apples	Pears	Soft fruit	Stone fruit
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**Entry forms and photography competition rules, will be circulated and also made available from the Village Hall website:**

★ **[www.swaffhampriorvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.swaffhampriorvillagehall.co.uk)**

## **Notes from Parish Council Meeting – 12<sup>th</sup> June 2014**

John Covill chaired the meeting with 7 Parish Councillors and 3 members of the public in attendance.

**Members' Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda + Requests for Dispensation:** None.

**Public Participation:**

No items raised.

**Reports:**

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

**ECDC** – Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting.

**Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

*Memorial Seat:* Steve Kent-Phillips told the meeting that the seat had been delivered and the Parochial Charities were arranging for the it to be erected on Coopers Green.

*Heath Road – 'No Through Road' Sign:* Steve Kent-Phillips spoke with Jason Tyrrell of CCC Highways and on inspection it was found that there was a sign but it could not be seen because of overgrown vegetation. Jason was to arrange for hedges, etc., to be cut back.

*Village grass-cutting:* It was noted that the footpath running from The Beeches through to Coopers Green had not been cut back by the contractors and other grass areas had been left untidy. The Clerk had contacted the contractors and they were to inspect and carry out the work needed. The current invoice was held for payment until work was completed to the standard expected.

**Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration:**

CCC: Local Highway Improvement Initiative - East Cambridgeshire. *Invitation to submit application for next bidding round (2015-16). This was carried forward to next meeting for further discussion.*

CCC: Consultation on Transport Strategy in Cambridgeshire. *Consultation period of 5/6-11/7 noted. Full details can be viewed through CCC's web-site.*

ECDC: Forward Planning – Local Plan (notification of further hearing sessions). *Displayed on village notice board*

*Additional correspondence:* General: Proposal for Scooter Park. *Following presentation and discussions at the Annual Village Assembly on the request by young people for a scooter ramp on Town Close, a letter was received noting the concerns of a number of .....*

.....village residents regarding the likely negative impact of such a facility and asking to be kept informed of any alternative proposals that might be put forward following further consideration including type of facility and location.

Planning Permission - Goodwin Manor, 1 Station Road – Ref: 14/00214/FUL.

Planning Permission – 5 Rogers Road – Ref: 14/00235/FUL.

Planning Permission – 17 Mill Hill – Ref: 14/00294/FUL.

Planning Refusal – 26 Green Head Road – Ref: 14/00402/FUL.

Planning Refusal – 43 Lower End – Ref: 14/00292/FUL.

### **Annual Inspection of Play Area by RoSPA:**

Following review of inspection report, minor repairs were carried out on 'cargo net' to climbing frame. It was suggested that this was replaced at some point. Other items required painting. The Clerk obtained a quote for this work but due to the costs involved, additional quotes were required. Carried forward to July meeting.

### **Passing Place, Station Road – additional contribution to costs for work:**

The original cost of the work was £5,000 with a Parish Council contribution of £500. Due to contractors requiring an extra day to complete the work the costs had risen to £5,500 and as a consequence the Parish Council's contribution was £550. This was agreed.

### **Accounts for Payment:**

These were agreed.

### **Clerk's Reports:**

*Village seats:* Estimate for work received. Consideration of this was carried forward to July meeting.

*The Pound:* It was reported that despite the recent clearance and addition of terram and new stone, weeds, etc., were growing through.

### **Parish Councillors' Reports:**

*Rubbish bin:* Peter Hart reported that the bin inside the play area had not been emptied. Clerk to follow up with EDC/Veolia.

### **Open Question Time:**

Further discussion on cutting back of hedges, trees, etc., from footpaths.

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, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2014 starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

### **Future meeting dates:**

14<sup>th</sup> August (if called), 11<sup>th</sup> September, 9<sup>th</sup> October, 13<sup>th</sup> November, 11<sup>th</sup> December.

### **All are welcome to attend.**

Karen King – Clerk to the Parish Council. Tel: 01638 742358.

Email: [karen.king@swaffham-prior.co.uk](mailto:karen.king@swaffham-prior.co.uk)



## Do you recognise my voice?

A few weeks ago I received a telephone call and a man said, ‘Do you recognise my voice?’ I didn’t! Thinking it might be a ‘cold call’ I was on the verge of hanging up when he said ‘I used to live next door but one to you.’ After a bit more puzzling I realised that I was speaking to my childhood best friend, with whom I had grown up, and whom I hadn’t seen or spoken to for forty years.

I arranged for us to visit him and his wife at their home in Rutland, where we spent a very happy afternoon recalling all the escapades and adventures of our youth, and catching up on the missing years. We parted determined to keep in touch now that contact has been restored.

As I pondered on that meeting it made me think of my own journey of faith. I had been involved with Sunday School and church for most of the time my friend, Dave, and I were friends together, but then I lost contact with God and wandered far away, forming new attachments, making new commitments, so that God and Jesus were no longer a part of my life. In fact I no longer believed in them at all. But then there came a time when I was surprised by God in much the same way that my friend’s phone call took me by surprise. Through various circumstances it seemed as though God was saying to me – ‘Do you recognise my voice?’ And I did. Contact was restored and the missing years were caught up, and I now have a Friend who I am in touch with every day and who has transformed my life.

Jesus spoke about being a Good Shepherd. In Jesus’ times a shepherd didn’t drive his sheep with dogs, he led them and called to them and spoke to them. Each flock of sheep recognised the voice of their own individual shepherd and would only follow him. At night all the different little flocks would be brought into a common sheepfold for safety and the shepherds would sleep in the gateway to prevent the sheep straying. In the morning each shepherd would stand by the gate, call out his own sheep and lead them away to pasture.

Jesus said, *'The shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.'* [John's Gospel, Chapter 10, verses 3-4]

Perhaps there is someone reading this who has strayed away and lost contact with God. Maybe he is there saying, 'Do you recognise my voice?' Perhaps he is calling you. Perhaps now is the time to get in touch again. At RE:NEW there are many people who have had similar experiences. Why not come and see if this is the time and place where you can hear what God wants to say to you – and maybe to make some new friends too?

*Peter Wells*

**RE:NEW Services in August 2014.**

*3 August 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture  
(Bottisham Primary School)*

*With Holy Communion*

*10 August 10.30am – RE:NEW Café style (at the School)*

*10 August 6.20pm – Traditional service. (Lode Chapel)*

*17 August 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)*

*24 August 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)*

*24 August 6.20pm – Traditional service. (Great Wilbraham  
Chapel)*

*31 August 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)*

## PASTORAL LETTER, July 2014 / Bottisham Vicarage

Dear Friends



The summer is often a time for travelling. The sun beckons us out into the garden, the countryside and across the world to discover new places and to enjoy the world we live in. Our travelling can be a way to keep fit, to meet new people or to experience other cultures. For some, the journey might also be a pilgrimage, a journey where a person is seeking spiritual insights or refreshment.

Typically pilgrimages are to a place that is regarded as holy or significant to a person's faith, but it is not just the destination that is important: the act of travelling is important as well. Going on a pilgrimage allows participants to put a distance between themselves and their normal life. It can help to create a new perspective on worries or problems. It creates a distance that might allow attitudes to change. The pattern of a pilgrimage usually means that the traveller's lifestyle has also changed and they are passing through new and unfamiliar places. All these factors, put together, mean that a person on pilgrimage has opened themselves to experiences that could generate new insights, spiritual growth and changed thinking.

Too often we develop ideas about life and adopt beliefs, which then become quite fixed in our minds. In spite of new experiences and new information it can be very difficult for us to change the way we think about things; and the longer we have held certain attitudes and beliefs the harder it may be to discard or adjust them.

The act of walking, (or cycling as many present day pilgrims travel) allows the mind to travel across many thoughts and feelings and sometimes to appreciate them anew, or see them in a new light. As the pilgrim's feet walk the miles so their mind is free to wander over ideas and experiences. At other times walking with people and sharing their stories provides new ideas and alternative approaches to life; these can also expand a travellers horizons and understanding.

On Thursday July 24<sup>th</sup> the Anglesey benefice will be hosting some pilgrims on their song-cycle pilgrimage. They are a small group of musicians who will be cycling their pilgrimage route and they will give a concert in the places where they stay. There will be many opportunities for them to share with others on their journey and in return they will enrich the places they visit with their music. Do come and meet them and hear their music. They are also keen to promote the benefits and pleasure of cycling. In conjunction with the campaign for a safe cycle route between Lode and Stow-cum-Quy we would like to invite anyone who enjoys cycling to meet the pilgrims towards the end of this leg of the journey (Ely to Bottisham) and to accompany them along the cycle path to Bottisham church where we will share refreshments and a concert, followed by Compline for those who would like to stay for worship. Please see posters and the Anglesey Churches website for more information when it becomes available. I hope that whatever journeys you make this summer they will refresh and renew you and perhaps give you food for thought and blessings too. With best wishes

*Sue*

## IMPORTANT NOTICE!

AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL COMPLAINTS ABOUT VEGETATION OVERHANGING VILLAGE FOOTPATHS AND PAVEMENTS.

IF YOUR PROPERTY HAS A PUBLIC FOOTPATH OR PAVEMENT ON ITS BOUNDARY, PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL TREES, HEDGES, ETC., ARE KEPT CUT BACK TO ALLOW PEOPLE TO USE WITHOUT OBSTRUCTION. THIS IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT ON ALL HOUSEHOLDS! ..

*Karen King - Clerk*

# FREECYCLE



If you have any offers or wants, please contact me by the 14<sup>th</sup> of each month by phone (c813362), e-mail ([jun.thompson@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jun.thompson@tiscali.co.uk)) or drop a note through the letter box (23 Longmeadow). Please let me know if you would like anything repeating in subsequent issues. Everything is free and nothing is expected in return. Please can you contact the offers after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month to make it a little fairer.

## Offered

White bedside cabinet - with shelf & cupboard; Safety GATE for stairs of doorway - adjustable for width - pine wood, nearly new. Geoffery/ Anne Datson, [datson@btconnect.com](mailto:datson@btconnect.com).

Large quantity of high quality mineral and organic house insulation - left-over from new build house. Tim/Jane c811592 or 0770 2505256

4 young drakes (call ducks): 3 brown and one white/black, born this May. Jun/Andy c813362.

## Wanted

An African or Bongo Drum, Nicole 812363

Old-fashioned cider/beer bottles with internal coarse screw thread, and jam jars with non-screw tops. John c812120

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.

## Dates for Your Diary ???

Mon	4	Laying the Lily, St Cyriac's, 11am
Sat	9	Pop up Tea Shop, St Cyriac's 2 - 5pm
Sat	11	St Mary's Singers, Bulbeck St Mary's, 7.30pm
Tue	12	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:15-3:50pm Chapel 3:55-4:15
Mon	18	WI Village Hall, 7.30
Tue	26	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm Re-cycling 7am
Sat	23	Pop up Tea Shop, St Cyriac's 2 - 5pm
		<b>September</b>
Sat	6	Pop up Tea Shop, St Cyriac's 2 - 5pm
Sat	13	Autumn show and dog show, Village Hall
Sat	20	Harvest Supper, St Cyriac's, 6 - 9pm

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon of Term	8pm	Village School
Cubs	Tim Doe	743656	Weds (term)	6:00-7:30pm	Village School
Reading Group	Brenda Wilson	743937	1 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> Tues of month	8:00pm	Village Hall
WI	Pat Cook	742224	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon of month	7.30 pm	Village Hall
Youth Club	Alan Badcock	742228	Tues	7-8:30pm	Youth Club Hut Hut
			Thurs	7-10:00pm	