



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXIX Number 6

June 2015



SO HERE COMES JUNE, and with it everything at once, so whatever you do, don't miss it! The Heritage Walk, the Midsummer Teas, the concerts, and particularly the Solstice Feast. Those new to the village won't know what a big event this used to be. This is the year in which we are trying to restore it to some of its former glory, starting with an Extremely Impressive (well, it's up to you, any age welcome!) Fancy Dress Parade, and continuing with a great many fun things, see our centre spread. I myself am on the Lucky Dip, and if you have any little toys/gifts to donate for this purpose, please drop them in.

Village Royalists will have been delighted to note that the village flag was flying to celebrate the birth of Princess Charlotte. It's great to have this flag back, and now everyone can enjoy musing what occasion it can be celebrating, although this month, even the most committed royalists might be hard-pressed to guess (see p. 21)...

Many apologies for last month's crossword (missing a clue) and congratulations to those resourceful readers who nevertheless found out what it was. We are having problems with our transfer software at the moment.

Lastly, the wanted section. More drivers please, for the SP driver scheme, and also CHAMPER assistance! Last month we heard all about the first champers to camp in St Cyriac's, and now the Conservation Trust are advertising for someone to help prepare and then clean up the church afterwards —fun job maybe?

See you at the Solstice !

Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: *Thinking about the Election* by Tina Jost

Regulars

Letters	2
Our Reporter	4
Did you know	11
Bon Mot	15
CROSSWORD	18
David Brown	23
Bottisham Patients	24
Burwell Photo Club	26
Anglesey Abbey News	27
Mothers' Union	28
Village Gardeners	29
Wulsin	30
Book Club	31
Ophir	30
CU Botanical Gardens	32
PC Report	31
Pewter Wells	36
Freecycle	37
Sue Giles	38
Church Services	39
Diary & Clubs	40

News, Views & Reviews

One Morning in May	8
War Detectives	14
Flying the Flag	21

What's On

Heritage Walk	6
Midsummer Market	7, 12, 17
Strawberry Teas	10
Children's Workshops	11
Sew La Tea	13
The Gondoliers	15
Solstice Feast	20
Pop-up Afternoon Tea	22
Lode Half Marathon	24
Newmarket Cycling	25

For Hire

Tables & Chairs	9
-----------------	---

Wanted

Champing Cleaners!	22
More Drivers Needed!	16



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Dog Walking Needed

Hello friends & neighbours in Swaffham Prior My name is Charlie, I am a miniature poodle & I may have to leave home & be adopted My human Mum is not well enough to give me long walks & if I can't find anyone to help me out I will have to go away forever....oh no!

I often see happy, healthy people out walking, if you would like my company on your walks, please let me know, I will do my best to entertain you by bouncing around when I am allowed off the lead, but I am also very good on it and also happy to walk in a pack with another dog (well there's always an exception to the rule)

Failing that, would anyone in the village like to adopt me? That is the last resort, but it may come

In return for a walk I will give you big cuddles & mum says she would be very happy to take you shopping in her car if you want to get to a shop that's hard to get to on the bus Or, she could also teach you how to use a computer for some of the basics, she's very patient & once taught a lady of 85 how to e mail

Please text me on her mobile as I can't talk, but I can read! Lol.

Many Thanks. Charlie & Heather

07741 242524

Dear Editors,

Swaffham Prior's two Churches

Our village is renowned for its two churches within the same church wall, and rightly so. They are very beautiful and bring many visitors to the village: we had a coach load from Hertfordshire only last Saturday. St Cyriac's is maintained by the Churches Conservation Trust, with local support. St Mary's has only local support: no big backer. It's down to us to make sure that it can be handed down to future generations in good condition.

Many villagers give generously and regularly to a **Fabric Fund** set up a few years ago to ensure that the building itself can be kept in good repair. They don't necessarily attend church services but want the church to be there for weddings, christenings, funerals and the like. We continue to be very grateful to those people who give their support in this way.

But inflation and wear and tear stop for no man and the regular external report into the state of the building has highlighted several areas that need work running to several thousands of pounds. The Fabric Fund has built up reserves to deal with some of these works but unfortunately, not all. So we're asking for help. Hoping for a large donation to cover all the work is in the realms of fantasy. Much more realistic and perhaps more effective in the long term, would be smaller donations from a lot of people. Can you help? A one off cheque, a standing order, made out to St Mary's Church, Fabric Fund would be very welcome. Thank you.

Brenda Wilson, Rod Clayton

Churchwardens

Dear Editors

Proud of Prior

A big thank you goes to all those that joined the first POP (Proud of Prior) event last month, when headway was made in de-mossing and weeding in the churchyard of St Mary's. There is still masses to be done but the cleaned steps and front wall are looking good as is the lower part of the wall on the lefthand side of the Church. The Scouts, over the coming months, will tackle the ivy that is running rampant over trees, gravestones and walls, and we are extremely grateful for their contribution and enthusiasm. Further working parties will be organised, but if anyone would like to tackle one of the two benches that are in great need of cleaning and treating please do contact me.

The next event is a litter pick on Wednesday 17th June, see advert elsewhere in Crier for details, looking forward to seeing you then.

Janet Willmott
07833 960678

Dear Editors,

Verges!

Am just wondering what is happening to the verges in the village. Cage Hill is scene of devastation. It looks as though a bunch of pre-schoolers have been out on scissor practise.

I did have half a dozen Holyhocks tucked up against my fence- but no more. Further down the hill the cow parsley remains waist high. Clearly the contractors are very good with machinery, but know absolutely nothing about what they are destroying.

A pretty fed up
Margaret Joyce

Dear Editors,

Macmillan Coffee Morning 2015

I have heard from the organisers of the Macmillan Coffee Morning that the total amount raised at last year's Coffee Morning was £25 million! That is an incredible amount and we all contributed to it so well done to everybody who helped in some way.

The Macmillan Coffee Morning this year will be on Friday, 25th September and it will, as usual, be at our house - The Oaks, Manor Farm Court, Lower End, Swaffham Prior. I hope that lots of you will be able to drop in for a coffee and a chat.

In the meantime I'm hoping for a lovely warm summer in which to enjoy the many other Village events!

Best wishes,

Ruth Scovil

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council has done it yet again. It has saved us several hundred pounds by yet again arranging that no more than nine stood for election, thereby avoiding the costs of an election. I was looking forward to seeing the affect of two new members and the new Clerk. This was not quite as dramatic as hoped because one new member failed to turn up. But we do have two David members so one becomes David A, and the new David Greenfield become David G. There are also two Pauls, so one becomes Paul L and the new Clerk Paul Catling becomes Paul C.



Alan Alderson had nothing to report but the recent election has left the current ECDC in “a very peculiar situation”. Previously there had been 23 Conservatives, 10 Liberals, and 6 Independents. After the election there are 36 Conservatives, 2 Liberals, and 1 Independent. Allen’s view is that this is not a good situation for any council to be in. He said ECDC would need to be even more transparent with all committees now being controlled by Conservatives. He mentioned the ECDC “Calling” system whereby if any 5 members disagree with a committee’s decision it can be called to go before another committee or full council. In an attempt to be fair the “Calling” number has been reduced from 5 to 3. Allen said it was early days and no one knew how it would work out.

John thought the concern of the ECDC was “reassuring”. On the other hand Paul said the ECDC “had every right to do what it liked” following the over whelming public mandate, and he wondered why they should “try to be the opposition”. Maybe Alan just likes a bit of cricket. These were the only two comments made on Alan’s report.

A new dog bin had been installed on Coopers Green and the PC had received a complaint. Unfortunately the letter was not read out but I gather it was very strongly worded, and possibly vitriolic, because the bin was too high for easy use. Once the discussion about the problem of the diminishing size of dogs had been got out of the way it was concluded the problem would be solved after the new lamppost had been installed. There had also been complaints about a couple of hedges blocking footpaths. Our new Clerk had already got on to this and had achieved “a good result”.

Steve reported that the Annual Accounts were “spot on” and that there was a profit of £1932 for the year. He was advised to use the word “surplus” instead of “profit”. This “surplus” was later explained by including an extraordinary “£1000 for burials”. Karen, who had attended this meeting, was able to explain this. She reminded the meeting they needed to discuss whether burial fees should be increased, because we are the bargain provider at the moment. With Bottisham now full up we could easily make an extra pound or two with all the extra space we have available.

Steve also mentioned the very healthy state of our reserve funds and thought this should be reduced. There then followed the ‘Annual Comedy of Ayes’ when the PC members agree that all the financial safeguards are agreed and conformed to. Steve reads them out in turn, and all that the members of the PC have to do is to say “Aye”, clearly and loudly. And this they did for the 8 or 9 safeguards, though they did flag a bit with the last three when the “Ayes” certainly lacked any enthusiasm or zeal. Gosh, they do get bored so easily.

Steve also revealed that the Safety Inspection Report of the play area was the best ever with only one minor action required. He really must be applauded for all his work on the play area, and every parent and child should be grateful. Maybe one day they will show their gratitude.

There is no further information about the Heritage lamppost in the High Street but it has been revealed that for years we have been paying CCC for the maintenance of 14 lampposts whereas we only own 10. A rough calculation suggested this could be as much as £90 a year. This figure may be inaccurate. Paul C had already got on to this and by return had received a credit note – which was blank. I am not sure how hopeful the PC is to get money out of the CCC.

All PC records have been moved from Karen’s house to that of our new Clerk. During this it was discovered there are old Parish Records going back to the 1880s. It has been decided to give these to the County Record Office on permanent loan once the move of the Record Office to Ely has been completed. Before this happens it is to be hoped the Records will be made available to interested local historians. What a local treasure chest this may be.

The only disappointing part of the meeting is that there was no mention or discussion of the Annual Village Assembly. This village in the past has always attracted more members of the public than any other village in the area. And in the past the PC has always made an attempt to provide a matter of interest to the village. This year there is nothing in the published programme to encourage people to go. There is no mention of the first presentation for many years of the Gay Bulleid Award; this is an Award which alerts people that there are many in the Village who do care and do work on behalf of others. More disappointing is that there is to be no organised discussion, with a transport expert from CCC, to discuss the Mill Hill traffic question. A lot of people in the village are very concerned about this as shown by the various letters to the PC, and also those sent to the *Crier*. This seems to be such a sad and depressing waste of an opportunity to give the village a voice, and to make what would have been such a lively and worthwhile meeting. People may even have come to a decision about a question that has been rumbling on for years. A shame. Still, let’s be optimistic – there will be another opportunity in 2016.

This is written before the AVA meeting takes place; maybe it will be a great success and I will need to eat my words.

Alastair Everitt



Followed by 21st Century
Afternoon Tea & Cake

Sunday 14th June 2015
2.00pm – 4.00pm

Meet at the junction of Cage Hill the High Street and Lower End, by the Village Sign
(above)

Adults £7.50, Family ticket £24.00
to include refreshments

Contact Elisabeth 742974
Limited numbers, all tickets to be booked in advance

A walk around and talk about village life in earlier times: the law, the poor, work and
play



St Cyriac's Church, Swaffham Prior
in association with
The Churches Conservation Trust

MIDSUMMER MARKET

Saturday & Sunday 20th & 21st June
11.00am-5.00pm Entrance free

**Books; Bric-a-Brac; Furniture; Crafts, Local Produce;
Plants; Toys; Teas**

(Donations for stalls: see separate advert)

Exhibition of Children's Art:
The Great War Through Our Windows

SATURDAY CONCERT: 6.00-7.00PM

Echoes from the Western Front

Ian de Massini (pianist); Jennifer Bastable (vocalist)
Doors open 5.30pm; Refreshments available

SUNDAY ENTERTAINMENT: 2.30-3.00PM

Anglesey Gospel Choir

ONE MORNING IN MAY

I was just pulling out of my drive and looking to the right when my passenger, my friend Gisela, said "There is a lady coming over to see you".

I glanced to the left and saw someone, whom I didn't know, approaching the car. When I got out to speak to her she was in quite an agitated state and holding out a brightly coloured pink wallet towards me. "Do you live here?" she asked. When I said I did she continued "I am a visitor and just went in to look at the church. Then I sat down to say a little prayer and when I put my hand on the seat of the pew I found this wallet tucked away in a corner towards the back. As I don't live here and we are on our way home to another part of the country I wonder if you could find the owner and return it to them? I have looked inside and found the name Jean Durrant - do you know her?" I said the name did not ring any bells but then I didn't know everyone who lived in the village but I would make enquiries. The lady then left. And left me holding a bulging pink wallet and wondering what to do with it.

My first thought was Kate. Kate Child lives near me and is a regular churchgoer so I thought she might know the owner of the wallet. As we were already on our way out, I drove along to Kate's but there was no one home. Wanting to sort the problem out as quickly as I could I turned the car around and drove down to the Everitt's house. Surely Alistair or Elizabeth would know who this person was. Again though, no one home. So I got back in the car and said to Gisela that we should perhaps look in the wallet to see if we could find an address. And there amongst the many cards and money etc I found a prescription form with Jean Durrant's name and an address in Hurst Park Avenue, Cambridge.

As it was a warm and sunny day the plan that morning had been to take my friend Gisela, who was over on a visit from Spain, into Cambridge, where we would go punting on the Cam then visit The Orchard in Granchester for one of their famous cream teas. However, I did not feel I could begin to do any of these things until I had returned the wallet to its rightful owner. By this time, on glancing through some of the wallet's contents, I had ascertained that the owner was an elderly lady (the prescription gave her age as 86) - who would probably be in a very worried state over the loss.

We arrived at the address in Hurst Park Avenue to find no one home (was everyone out that particular morning?!). So I hunted round for a piece of paper on which to write a note (all my good intentions of leaving a notebook in the car for such occasions having come to nothing) and scribbled a message which included my name and mobile phone number. Then Gisela I drove off to enjoy the sights of Cambridge.

Just as we were being punted past Kings College my mobile beeped - it was a text message from Jean Durrant - thanking me for the note and explaining that as she was profoundly deaf it was easier to send a message than phone. Also that she would be at home from then on. What did not come across in her message was a sense of relief that the wallet had been found or any urgency for it to be returned - and this slightly puzzled me. So I texted back telling her where we were and of our plans for the day - so would it be alright if we called round on our way home? To

which she was perfectly agreeable.

After an enjoyable time on the river and a delicious tea at The Orchard - though I was surprised to find you now have to pay to park there as well! - Gisela and I made our way to Hurst Park Avenue. Jean Durrant turned out to be a delightful, white haired, cheerful old lady, who quite matched her bright pink wallet. When I asked how she came to be in Swaffham Prior she told us she had been on a Church Crawl - which I took to be the religious equivalent of a Pub Crawl - and they had visited three churches that day. Whilst in St Mary's, Swaffham Prior, for some reason I didn't fully understand, she had taken her wallet out of her bag because it was too big and heavy, and placed it down. At some later point when she realised it was missing a friend phoned and made enquiries to the churches they had visited but was told nothing had been found. What made me prick up my ears though was that she kept mentioning the Bank Holiday. "When did you go to Swaffham Prior?" I asked, "On Bank Holiday Monday" was Jean's reply. "But that means it has been missing for a week" I said. "Yes, I have had to get all my cards replaced, it has been quite a job" answered Jean, but telling us she was still grateful for having the wallet returned

Then , after refusing to accept the banknotes Jean pulled from the bulging wallet to offer us as a 'reward', Gisela and I drove home.

I have pondered much on this event since - that a shocking pink coloured wallet full of money, credit cards etc could have lain in St Mary's Church for a whole week without anyone noticing it. Do so few people go in there or was it just very well hidden? Whatever, it was the honesty of a complete stranger that made it possible to return it to the owner. And, I never thought to ask the lady who found it for her name. Perhaps she put it in the church visitors' book? I shall have to look.

Karole Webster

Organising an event and don't have enough tables and chairs? We can solve the problem!

For Hire: Grey hard plastic stacking chairs, black metal legs, can be used indoors and out, sturdy metal legged trestle tables, hirer collects and returns, deposit required, 50p per chair £1.00 per table per hire. Contact Janet 07833 960678.

Strawberry Teas!

Sunday 5 July, 3-5pm
Anglesey House, Swaffham Prior
(next to the church;
by kind permission of Anne and Rod Clayton)

**Tickets: £5 adult/£3 children
in advance, please, from
Kate 01638 743983 or
Janet 07833 960678**

**All welcome
Will go ahead whatever the weather!
In aid of St Mary's, Swaffham Prior**



Across the Summer holidays in Swaffham Bulbeck

The following events are not to be missed!

There are only 36 places on each workshop so you are advised to book early to save disappointment.

There are three exciting events on the Denny during the school summer holiday.

The events are run by a professional children's sports provider fully DBS checked. The organisation provide community sports programmes for schools and community groups and events for Cambridgeshire County Council.

We are fortunate that they are able to accept our invitation to provide fun and healthy wellbeing events in a rural setting.

So on.....

27th July 1000-1200 **Workshop 1** for Children aged 4-6's & 7-12's a morning of Multi sports fun

17th August 1300-1500 **Workshop 2** for Children 7-12 & teens a morning of Multi sports fun

29th August 0900-15.30 **Workshop 3** a Multi sport fun day for **all the family** adults and children (bring your own lunch!)

For all of the workshops there is a limit of 36 places and that includes workshop 3.

These events will be open to surrounding villages, and as there are limited places for 36, bookings will be taken on a first come first served basis -you are strongly advised to book and pay as soon as you can to avoid disappointment.

The total cost for the three workshops is £755.

Assuming there will be 36 children on the workshops the price has been fixed by the Parish Council at £3.00 per child to offer the fun experience to as many families as possible.

Income from the children will not cover costs so donations are requested in order that this can be an exciting celebration of fitness fun for families in the area.

Cheques for donations made out to Swaffham Bulbeck Parish Council should be sent or delivered to 4 Station Road Swaffham Bulbeck CB25 0NB

Full details will be provided to those who book on the events.

DID YOU KNOW

THAT because 38% of people now listen to digital radio this is considered justification for the government to proceed to 100% digital as soon as possible.



**On Midsummer weekend
SWAFFHAM PRIOR**
can't promise an encounter with Oberon...

...or a tryst with Titania



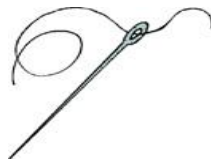
...or even a Bottom with ass's ears,
but...

21 AND 22 JUNE WILL BE...

With feasting and festivities at
the Village Hall and....



Markets, Music and teas at St Cyriac and
St Julitta's Church



Sew La Tea!

Bring your sewing, knitting, or other craft project and join us at some of the Pop up Afternoon Tea Shops for tea, cake, chat, inspiration and company.
Large tables available for working on.

13th June, 27th June
8th August, 5th September
2pm to 5pm

Fleur Routley
01638 743992

St Cyriac's Church
with the Churches Conservation Trust





War Detectives – World War 2 FASH- ION

Red2Green held its 5th and last Community Learning Day on World War 2 FASHION on 14th May 2015. This involved students from Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School, and Bottisham Village College coming together with the learners from Red2Green and local residents to explore fashion in World War 2.

We held a fashion show for those who came in WW2 fashion and shared some make up tips using many of the short cuts of the time such as burnt cork for mascara, beetroot juice for blusher or lip-

stick, lard as a substitute for Brylcream, and gravy browning in preference to thick cotton stockings with a seam drawn up the back of the leg with eyebrow pencil. We also made and tried out headscarfs and hats and different hairdos. We also had a selection of wedding photos lent to us by local residents showing off the fashion of the day and hands-on opportunity to try out some 'make do and mend' activities.

Both the Red2Green Options clients and Primary School children created their own fashion designs using cardboard templates, as well as see how they could manage on the restricted clothing ration.

World War Two 70th Anniversary Commemoration event on 10th June

We have been running a number of WAR DETECTIVE activities and events over the last 12 months that ends with a Commemoration event on the 10th June – in Swaffham Bulbeck.

The day will start at Red2Green for lunch and then move to Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School where we will be joined by the High Sherriff of Cambridgeshire and Andy Hamilton (Red2Green Patron). This will include showing 7 short films of local

residents sharing their experiences of life in World War 2, and the filling of a time capsule which we will bury next to the War Memorial. The time capsule will contain the stories and experiences of the War Detectives who have taken part and of the project itself.

We invite local people to join the 'time capsule burying' ceremony at the War Memorial in Swaffham Bulbeck from 2.30pm.

BON MOT NUMBER FIFTY FIVE

**"It is never difficult to distinguish between a Scotsman
with a grievance and a ray of sunshine"**

P.G.Wodehouse (1881-1975)

SWAFFHAM BULBECK SUMMER THEATRE

proudly presents

'THE GONDOLIERS'

by Gilbert and Sullivan

Wednesday 10th – Saturday 13th June 2015

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

Doors open 45' before each performance

**Downing Farm, Station Road, Swaffham Bulbeck, Cam-
bridge CB25 0NW**

Ticket prices Wednesday and Thursday £9, Friday and Saturday £10, matinée £6,

via our website www.sbsummertheatre.com

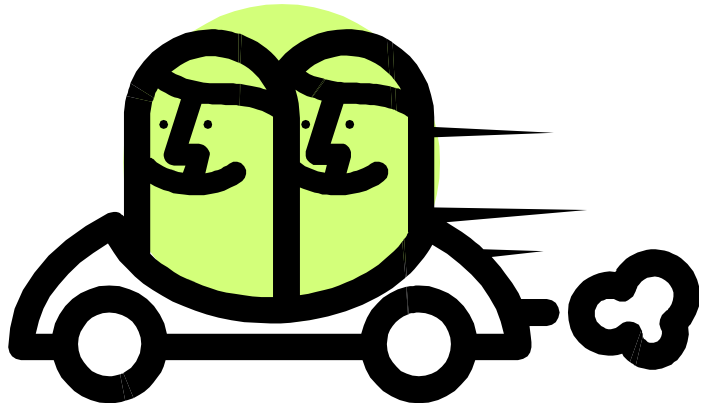
or from Caille Peri 07541 554845; e-mail sbst.tickets@gmail.com

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

For further information contact Ruth Dennis on 01638 508171 or

info@sbsummertheatre.com

Swaffham Prior Community Car Scheme (SPCCS) MORE DRIVERS NEEDED!



A voluntary community car scheme for residents of Swaffham Prior providing door-to-door transport for those who do not have the use of a car and are unable to use conventional public transport to cover essential trips eg medical, dental, chiropody, or visits to Burwell or Bottisham Day Centres

If you would like to use this service or **volunteer as a driver** please contact Janet Willmott
07900 351742

preferably between 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday
Supported and Subsidised by Swaffham Prior Parish
Council

St



Cyriac's Church, in association with
The Churches Conservation Trust

CONCERT: *ECHOES FROM THE WESTERN FRONT*

Featuring music by Ravel, Messiaen, Poulenc and others

Ian de Massini (pianist); Jennifer Bastable (vocalist)

Saturday 20th June : 6.00-7.00pm
Doors open 5.30pm; Refreshments available
£5 per ticket at the door

In support of the Church and the Trust



St Cyriac's Church, 20th & 21st June

MIDSUMMER MARKET

We are seeking donations for the following stalls:

**BOOKS; BRIC-A-BRAC ; TOYS ; PLANTS ; LOCAL PRODUCE ;
FURNITURE**

Please contact Elisabeth on 01638 742974

OR

Sharyn on 07740 171 917

We are happy to collect contributions

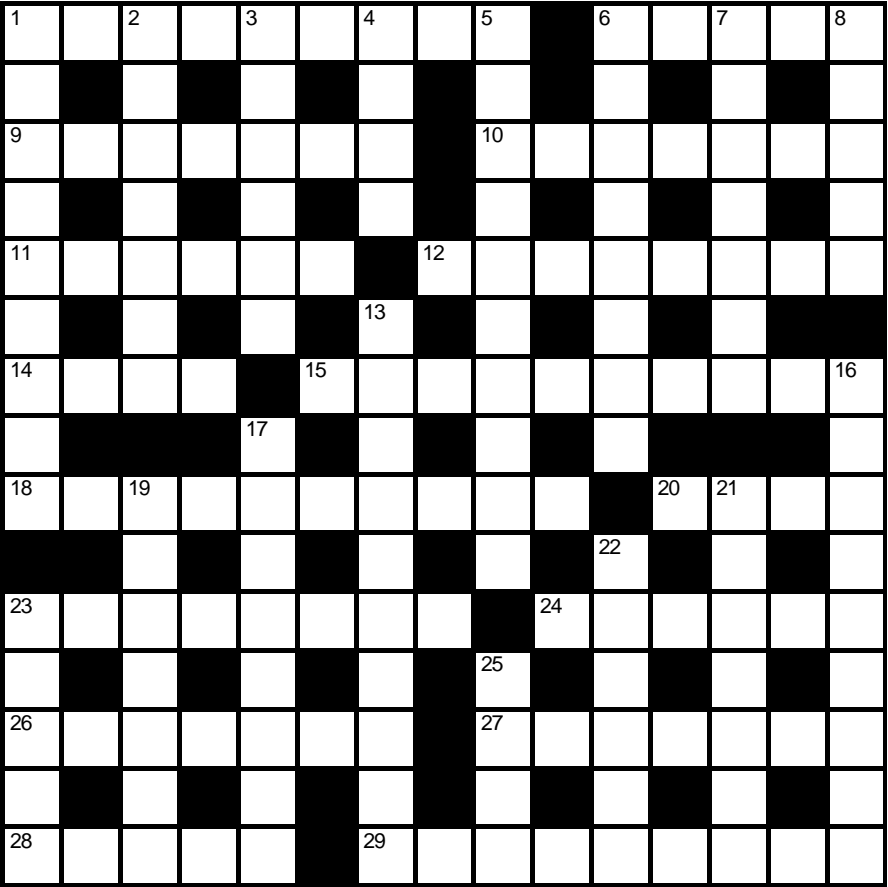
Crossword Number 121

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

NIBOR

This month's puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18 June 2015. 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 Peacemakers are known to be unthinkable (7-2)
- 6 Postulate that I'm in a job (5)
- 9 Depressed as membership fee is payable on 1st December (7)
- 10 Redhead leaves family member in bliss (7)
- 11 Martin's losing right to morning service (6)
- 12 Last minute departure from telecommunications mix-up is commercial (8)
- 14 Just exclude every racist first then mock (4)
- 15 Sort Rachel out with big band sound (10)
- 18 Store agent meets opposition leader and then is back to the Conservatives (10)
- 20 Yob takes tea at five (4)
- 23 Dream run broken by low ball (8)
- 24 Cloud unable to be broken up (6)
- 26 Greek character is against Italian wine (7)
- 27 East German wealthy bird (7)
- 28 Got back when old clothes were found (5)
- 29 Badly lines up ox for removal (9)

Down

- 1 Sir John is after flustered nursemaid, removes denim and produces big dipper (4,5)
- 2 Regular has a part in the shade (7)
- 3 Old girl makes manual adjustment (6)
- 4 Dead bird found in pseudo doctrine (4)
- 5 European klaxon made into brass

instrument (6,4)

- 6 Simplest planet is in disarray (8)
- 7 Quiet! I'm next to the sea in France and see a flicker of light (7)
- 8 Not back in charge but get a boost (5)
- 13 Fire astern haphazardly then get together (10)
- 16 Converted male chauvinist lacks music; what a monster! (9)
- 17 Very little clothing for violinists after midnight (1-7)
- 19 Get a cushion for a theologian engulfed by shrill noise (7)
- 21 He famously escaped and told originally how old unicorns die if not idolised (7)
- 22 Pulse coming from fallen tiles (6)
- 23 A French crop is complete (5)
- 25 Ring head office before going to work (4)

Solution to crossword no. 120

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

We congratulate Chris and Mike Carrington, the winners of last month's competition, who should collect their prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Andrew Houston, Bob Nunn and Julie Nunn.

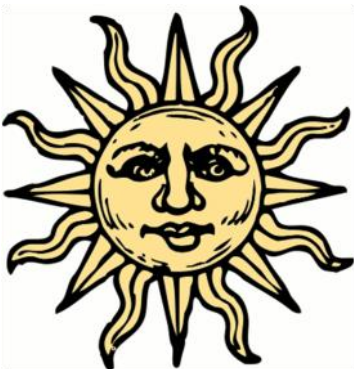
Summer Solstice Celebration

It's coming: Saturday 20th June at
12 noon

The **Village Feast** and **Midsummer Market**, all in one action-packed weekend!

The Feast will start this year with a Children's **FANCY DRESS** Parade at 12.30 at the school. **Prizes** will be awarded for the best costumes, so start planning now.

BARBECUE: run by the scouts, will provide food from 12 noon at the Village Hall. Cream teas, cakes, plus non-alcoholic and alcoholic drinks will be available during the afternoon.



TREASURE HUNT: will run throughout the afternoon, so you can test your observational skills and local knowledge.

WET SPONGES, and **WATER BALLOONS**, **FLYING BEARS**, a shiny brand-new **BOWLING** game and a host of other popular games.

For the first time, traditional East Anglian **MOLLY DANCING** will feature at the Feast, with thanks to the children and staff of the Primary School.

As usual, we will round the afternoon off with the Swaffham Prior **EGG THROWING CHAMPIONSHIP**. Be first to get your name engraved on the new trophy.

This years' Feast will herald the start of our fundraising efforts to make significant improvements to the fabric of the Village Hall: our proposed changes will be on display in the Hall. We look forward to hearing your comments and suggestions.

We expect to have a huge range of activities for all ages, and would be most grateful for assistance with cake-baking, plant-growing, stall-manning, and the myriad of other things that go into making this an enjoyable and memorable weekend.

If you can spare an hour or two of your time, or if you have ideas for even more exciting new events, please contact us by email at mcarrington@me.com, or by phone on 01638 741659.

The flag will fly this month from the mast on St Cyriac's Church on 10th June to celebrate the birthday of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, Earl of Merioneth and Baron Greenwich, who was born Prince of Greece and Denmark in Corfu in 1921. It will also be aloft on 16th June to commemorate the Feast Day of St. Cyriac.





Cleaner required for Champing breaks at The Church of St Cyriac and St Julitta, Swaffham Prior

The Churches Conservation Trust (CCT) is the national charity protecting historic churches at risk and The Church of St Cyriac and St Julitta, Swaffham Prior is one of 347 churches across England that falls under our care.

As well as being open to the public, we have recently started a new venture called 'Champing' (church camping) in order to raise funds for our charity. We are looking for someone to help clean and set up the church for our champing breaks, which are

currently being advertised for weekends throughout the summer.

This will involve approx. 2 hours work per event, and will be paid £20 per event. This includes cleaning and setting up camp beds in the church and would be ad hoc weekends throughout the summer. Full training will be given. This would ideally suit someone located within easy walking distance of the church.

Please contact Chana James on 0782 5178 961 / cjames@thecct.org.uk for more information.



From our Local County Councillor
David Brown

At the Annual Meeting of Council, Cllr Sebastian Kindersley (LD) was elected as Chairman for the coming year with Cllr Mandy Smith (Con) as vice-Chairman. Cllr Steve Count was re-elected as Leader of the Council. I had the honour of being re-elected as vice-Chairman of the Children and Young People Committee. I was also appointed to the General Purposes Committee, the Constitution and Ethics Committee and the Staffing Appeals Committee.

General Purposes Committee met and considered the usual range of financial reports. It was also agreed to proceed with the financial case to build a solar farm on council owned land near Soham and to make more money available to fund loans for energy investments in publicly owned properties.

The Children and Young People Committee discussed secondary provision in Huntingdonshire and approved the next phase of the Together for Families initiative. The Committee also appointed me to chair the Corporate Parenting Board. I also attended meetings of the Social Care Improvement Board; CYP spokes; a workshop with senior officers to start the business planning process for next year; and a meeting to short list potential contractors to build a new secondary school at Hampton Gardens (jointly with Peterborough City Council).

The Local Government Boundary Commission has published a consultation paper seeking views on reducing the number of County Council Divisions from 69 to 61. The proposals would see the current Soham and Fordham Villages Division split in two and the Burwell Division being merged with part of Soham together with Fordham, Isleham and other villages. The consultation is open to the public to comment and can be found at www.lgbce.gov.uk.

News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

At their AGM on 23 April Chairman Sylvia Thomson gave her report on the year's activities, this will be on the Practice website. She then presented Dr Higham with an Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitor purchased by a grateful patient following the fund raising initiative carried out by the Patients Group. Further equipment will be purchased with the Red Bucket money.

Dr Rashid then gave an enthusiastic presentation to those present on "The Mediterranean Diet – could it help you live longer". This diet is based on the way Mediterranean villagers ate in the 1950s and 1960s and not on modern day Italian dishes. Research has proved that incidence of heart disease, stroke, cancer, Parkinsons Disease and Alzheimers is reduced in those following the diet. Fish, olive oil, pulses, nuts, wholegrains, using herbs and spices instead of salt, lots of fruit and vegetables and also enjoying meals together are the basis of this diet. Website "How to Follow the Mediterranean Diet" www.patient.co.uk/health/how-to-follow-the-mediterranean-diet provides useful information.

Uniting Care Partnership: Andrea Grosbois gave a talk on the NHS Uniting Care Partnership (UCP) (made up of Addenbrooke's Hospital and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust) which is now responsible for providing all older people's healthcare and adult community services throughout Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

This means that care in the community will be delivered by integrated teams of mental health, physical health and community health professionals working together for one organization. The aim is to treat older people in their own homes as much as possible and avoid unnecessary hospital admissions. There will be a smooth transition and new services include a 24/7 helpline and community emergency teams. These will respond within two hours and can provide overnight support if necessary. The care will be organized around Neighbourhood Teams based on groupings of GP practices so the community teams can more easily get to know the needs of the people they are caring for and can co-ordinate more effectively with health and social care colleagues. You can contact UCP on unitingcare@cpft.nhs.uk or 01223 726774. Leaflets are also available in Bottisham Surgery.

As Sylvia Thomson then retired from the committee a new chairman, Steve Gilson was elected. She was thanked for her hard work over the last 3 years. There were no other changes on the committee, full details of which will be on the Practice's website (<http://www.bottishammedicalpractice.nhs.uk>) as soon as possible. The members of the committee are your representatives and are there to help you, so please do not hesitate to contact them if you want to raise an issue. The present committee would welcome new members, especially those who could represent the younger generation, however any patient of the Bottisham Practice is eligible. The committee meets every two months, normally on the last Thursday of the month at 6.30pm at Downing Court Swaffham Bulbeck. Contact Steve on 01223 811021 or email patientsgroup@outlook.com if you are interested.

Healthy Walking Group: There will be 2 Patients' Group walks in June led by

Steve Gilson, our accredited walk leader, on Wednesday 10th and Friday 26th starting from the surgery car park at 11am. Anglesey Abbey walks continue on Thursdays from the Visitor Centre starting at 10am. All patients welcome on these walks.

Bottisham Patients' Group Committee.

LODE HALF MARATHON & 3 MILE FAMILY FUN RUN (AFC Race Permit No. 15/294) ** NEW FOR 2015 HALF MARATHON – ONLINE ENTRY & CHIP TIMING **

The 5TH Lode Half Marathon is fast approaching and this year our charity is the National Kidney Federation (charity no. 1106735). Over the last 4 years we have had great support and raised over £11000 for charity and local causes.

ENTRY is now open so if you are a runner please get your entry in as soon as possible. If you are not a runner but would like to help with **stewarding** please get in touch.

It is being held on **Sunday 1st November 2015** at 10 a.m. - our race HQ is the Passage Hall in Lode. The Family Fun Run will start at 10.15 a.m.

The course is flat and takes you from Lode village, along the “Lodes Way” to Wicken Fen and back, with water stations along the way. Trophies will be awarded and each runner who completes the course will receive a medal.

(see our website for further details - www.loderunners.co.uk or contact Tessa Shrubbs on 01223 811812 or email: lodefarm@aol.com)

Many thanks to the following companies who are sponsoring this year's event:
Mead Construction & Plant Hire from Swaffham Prior, **Iceni Water** from Duxford and Sab (saint andrews bureau) the property specialists.

NEWMARKET CYCLING & TRIATHLON CLUB

Invites all cyclists and non-cyclists of all ages, male or female to come and try our indoor cycling on rollers;
also on our grass track on Lode Passage sports ground.

We have bikes to suit all ages

Sunday 7 June, 10am to 12.30pm, Passage Hall, Lode

For more details contact Dave Peck (davehpeck@btinternet.com)



Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club

Our last meeting was on 5 May 2015, when The Roger Human Trophy Competition (print) was held. This was followed by our social evening dinner on Friday 15 May, when the cups & trophies for the year were presented.

During the summer the annual club outing is to The Black Country Museum, Dudley, West Midlands, on Saturday 4 July. Just to give you an idea of the timing on the day, the coach will depart Burwell at 8.30 am and return from Dudley at 5 pm. The coach cost is £17.50, entry is £14.50 Ea. (Group rate), concessions £11.00. Anyone who may be interested in joining the club next year and would like to accompany us, please contact our Secretary Daphne Hanson (see below) to see if space is available. There is obviously only a short window in which to enquire.

The club is now on summer break and will commence our 43rd year on 8 September 2015 at 7:30pm at Lode Chapel CB25 9EW. This evening, as with all our meetings, new members are welcome to attend. The current members will be bringing 3 prints/digital images that they have taken during the summer for viewing. Last year's award winning prints will also be displayed.

Our programme for the year 2015/16 is wide and varied which is always our aim. The programme will be:

Tuesday 8 September

See above.

Tuesday 15 September

Permajet Colour Management Presentation by Ian Windebank from The Imaging Warehouse, Stratford-upon-Avon. During this evening, monitor and printer profiling will be discussed along with Permajet papers and their uses.

Tuesday 22 September

'Taken on the Club Outing'. A new competition for this year - "The Metcalfe Trophy" donated by Gerry Metcalfe who has been Chairman for the past ten years. The competition is to consist of four projected digital images taken on the day of the annual club outing.

Our Hon. Secretary for many years: **Daphne Hanson** DPAGB APAGB was earlier in the year elected as president-elect of the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies (EAF) and will take up her Presidency next February to serve for two years. Daphne previously served as President from 1998 – 2000. The EAF is the umbrella organisation for all the photographic clubs in East Anglia and was founded in 1910, with 127 current member clubs.

Further details of our programme can be viewed on our website, see below.

The club welcomes guests to any meeting at our venue, Lode Chapel **CB25 9EW** from 7:30 – 9:30pm. Fee £3.00 including refreshments, refunded on joining.

Annual subscriptions: Adult: £40.00, Joint Membership: £67.00, Student: £21.00. Refreshments 50p.

For further details contact: Hon. Secretary. **Mrs Daphne Hanson** DPAGB APAGB, T: 01638 741106 , www.bottburpc.org

News from Anglesey Abbey and Wicken Fen

This month marks the 800th anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta by King John. At Anglesey Abbey we are holding a LiberTeas event on Sunday 14 June at 1.30pm to mark this important date in our nation's history. The event will include a talk on the 'Great Charter' by our Regional Director, Ben Cowell, who is a Magna Carta expert, followed by Q&A's and a delicious cream tea. Tickets £8.50 are available from Visitor Reception or on 01223 810086. We will also be running an activity for families, where you can write your own 'Magna Carta' and have your picture taken in period costume. There is a strong link between the Fairhaven family and the Magna Carta, as the land at Runnymede, where the Treaty was sealed was donated by the family to the National Trust in 1931.

This year we are holding a new event 'Roses, Racing and Royalty' from 1 June - 19 July. At this time of year Lord Fairhaven's diary was very much focused on flat racing at Newmarket, plus entertaining his racing guests, including the Queen Mother. Throughout the festival there will be displays in the Rose Garden and House, both factual and floral to celebrate these important features of his life.

At Wicken, the Fen is a hive of activity as nature gets on with the important job of raising the next generation. As I write we've just had confirmation that Chris Packham and the Spring Watch cameras are heading to the Fen to film our cuckoos for the forthcoming series.

Work is expected to start in late July on construction of a new bridge over Harrison's Drove linking Baker's Fen with Harrison's Farm. The bridge will enable our herds of Konik's, Highland cattle, and wildlife such as deer, to move freely between the two areas, an essential feature of our extensive grazing programme. Our ambition in the longer term is to link Adventurers' Fen and Burwell Fen via a new crossing over Burwell Lode, which will also form part of the Lodes Way. The bridge



over Harrison's Drove will be a wooden construction with clearance of 3.7 metres (required as the Drove is designated as a highway). Access to the drove will remain open at all times and Banksmen will ensure safe access for all users when contractors are at work. The small car-park at the end of Factory Road, will be closed during construction to house the contractor's compound. Whilst construction is taking place, we will also be installing a new elevated wildlife hide which will provide magnificent views across Baker's Fen.

Unfortunately, there have been numerous incidences of anti-social activity on Burwell Fen in recent months. Starting with the rave in November, there has been vandalism to fences and gateways, reports of motorcyclists riding over the Fen and reports of people illegally hunting with dogs, with five deer carcasses discovered. The local Crime Reduction Officer has advised that people should dial 999 if they see an illegal activity taking place anywhere on the wider reserve, or contact Cambridgeshire Police using the 101 number to report an event that has taken place. Please also report any incidents to the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274.

If you're feeling creative, award winning weaver, Nadine Anderson, will be leading a Rush Weaving Workshop on Saturday 6 June, 10am – 4pm, where you can learn how to make traditional rush mats and baskets. Tickets £60 are available from the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274.

Finally, if you fancy a quick break without having to travel too far, why not head over to our campsite at Houghton Mill on the banks of the River Ouse. The site caters for caravans, motorhomes and tents and is open until 2 November. Further information / bookings can be made online at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/houghton-mill or by calling 01480 466716.



Mothers' Union

In April we were shown a beautiful video of the Ely Cathedral Flower Festival, which took place in June 2013. As a number of members had been unable to go to the Flower Festival, this was much appreciated.

You may remember that Rita Lane and Pam Harper came to speak to us in February last year about Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. They brought along two puppies they were socialising called Theo and Bailey. Rita has been in touch to let us know that Theo has been placed with a gentleman in Leeds, who has retired in his 50's due to disability; Bailey has been placed with a client in Scotland.

Our meetings take place on the third Thursday of each month in Lode Chapel at 2.30 p.m. All are welcome.

Jill Jenyns



VILLAGE GARDENERS

Our May topic was Herbs. We had a brilliant talk from John Webster of "Herbal Haven"- a nursery near Saffron Walden. The small hall was very cosy, as what little space was left from rows of gardeners, was filled with an extraordinary selection of herbs that John had brought with him.

We had chosen as our topics- Herbs in Folk Law and Legend and Herbs in general. Our chosen herbs were rather predictable- Parsley, Sage Rosemary and Thyme! However their history was certainly not.

Parsley (Devil's Oatmeal) we were told, had arrived on this Island with the Romans- along with about 400 other plants and had mainly been grown in the south and Midlands. Tons of this herb are exported to Scotland every year. (I wonder if Nicola Sturgeon knows about this?).

The Greeks and Romans associated it with death and it was used in funeral wreaths. In the Middle Ages it was associated with the devil and its old name indicates why they thought it took so long to germinate- it had to go down seven times to check on the devil! It also had to be planted on Good Friday and in a household where it grew well, the woman wore the trousers!

Rosemary (Rose of the Sea) was associated with fairies and exorcism. It is reckoned to strengthen the brain and aid memory of the deceased. In the Middle Ages it was seen as healing and in French hospitals they burnt it, as inhaling the vapour was seen as protective. Along with other herbs it is often included in bridal bouquets.

Sage (Salvia) -there are about 400 varieties of this herb and was seen by the Romans as medicinal. Sage tea was given to barren women and was taken to avoid the plague. It was valued very highly and in the Middle Ages was exchanged for China tea.

Thyme (Mother Thyme) - there are again over 100 varieties of this herb and it is seen as the herb of warriors and courage; it makes them brave, strong and invigorates their souls. It was also used as a cold remedy.

We then had an excellent slide show of every day and more unusual herbs- we had to name them and did quite well! To mention a few- Archimedes and Ajuga, Basil and Borage, Marigold and Myrtle, Thyme and Tarragon, Sweet Cecily and Stevia- a new one to us- a plant whose leaves makes a sugar substitute and comes from South America.

For the summer months we are out and about on various garden visits. Please contact Mary Hart-741681 if you'd like to join us.

Our AGM will be on October 20th in the Village Hall.

Margaret Joyce

Houghton Mill

At this shrine to static violence
Only the river -
Furious at fluming, cabined,
Cribbed, channelled - moves on, bludg-
eoning
Overshot buckets, savaging the sluice
And ripping weir-wards.

Inboard, iron shaft turns great teeth:
Iron against wood, wood against iron,
Spark-thwarting, crown and spur.
Baroque might
Of mediaeval engineering bent
In fulfilment of solemn vow and ritual:
John Barleycorn must die.

Hoist on a gibbet to be
Raked by Archimedean screw
To inverse alchemy:
Awn, grain and pale
Have small life left as one.
Falling, falling, horse
To hopper, to tun, to
Chattering damsel, to
Flinty lands and furrows,
Glume is flayed in gloom and
Gold ground to powder.

The miller's thumb alone,
Crafty, practised, proverbial,
Plundering, detects, too late,
An intact escapee:
The resurrection and the life.

Wulsin

Ground work? The sequel?

First line borrowed from R, Burns
I'm now arrived - thanks to the gods -
- I came with many others
My Vital Energy's in the queue
With parents, sisters, brothers.
Not that to look at them
You can tell which one is which;
All Energies look alike 'round here
We all have the same niche.

We have to wait till a window's free-
- The scribes call us by name;;
They can recognise
us
And know from whence we
came..
My queuing at the Post Office
Back in the days of yore
Stands me in good stead; I feel
I've done all this before.

I'm bound to say, "What I see here
Fills me with admiration";
"No earth-words can describe the place
It exceeds my expectation".
"But what they have in mind for me
As yet I have no clue".
Energies, when processed, hurry off
As though they know just what to do.

And it's all so quiet, no chitchat,
No noise of any sort.
The scribes appear to know it all
As they file their report.
I think I may just like it here
If I'm allowed to stay
But that depends, I understand
On what happened ---- yesterday?.

Ophir

The Reading Group Reads.....

H is for Hawk

by Helen Macdonald

One of benefits of a book club is that you get to extend the scope of your normal reading matter, and the advantage of doing so is that you can add to your own life experience. That happens with this book. Not many of us know much about falconry, let alone about training a wild animal to come to your call. This could have been a dry technical manual about learning a particular skill. But it isn't! It's a joy to read.

Helen Macdonald had been interested in hawks since childhood, (there's a fascinating glimpse into what it must be like for a parent to bring up a highly intelligent, precocious child) and when her father died she turned to that passion to get her through the devastation she felt.

She doesn't appear to have anything other than an academic knowledge of training hawks when she embarks on her course of action, and uses the troubled writings of T H White, (for some, a little too much) to inform her own training. But from the moment she meets the man who is selling her the goshawk and persuades him to sell her the other one that he has brought for somebody else, you enter into her passion, and the special relationship she has with this bird she calls Mabel. It's to her writing credit that she draws you into her story; you feel her passion, her concern, her hurt (even the thorns that scratch at her legs when she worries she has lost her) and her pleasure when the goshawk joins in a game with scraps of screwed up paper.

Helen Macdonald is a local woman; the fields where she takes her goshawk, are in the Gog Magog hills. It's a beautifully written book, with some profound moments, that carry you into another person's emotional experience, and gives you the opportunity to learn from other people's lives.



Brenda Wilson

Next month's book is ***The Little Stranger*** by Sarah Waters

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDENS

WILDLIFE IN THE GARDEN

The Botanic Garden is a habitat that has been actively managed for wildlife for over a century, making us a great place in the City for spotting wildlife from snakes to sparrowhawks, bats to butterflies. Our wildlife-friendly approach also ensures that the Garden has an army of birds, insects and amphibians to help control pests and diseases. Key to this is cultivating a great variety of habitats within our 40-acre site; the tree collection includes many veteran specimens, some of which support their own whole ecosystem from fungi through to predators at the top of the food chain; the long meadow areas support a great variety of insect life, dance all summer with moths and butterflies and provide cover for young fledglings; the log piles support beetles and other insects, grass snakes, newts, toads and frogs.

This month, we will be attempting a 24 hour audit of the Garden's wildlife resident or passing through, as the Museum of Zoology brings it annual Bioblitz to the Garden. Beginning at 5pm on Friday 12 June, we invite you to become citizen scientists for the 24-hour period and join forces with the experts to locate, identify and log the wildlife of the Botanic Garden!

Wildlife lovers young and old can pre-book to join one of the many free, expert led surveys and forays including twilight bat walks using ultrasound detectors, midnight moth-trapping, bee identification workshops and early bird walks. Drop-in activities are available throughout the Bioblitz Saturday: meet the experts from conservation partners across the region, help identify moths, butterflies, dragonflies, aquatic animals, small mammals, grass snakes and amphibia, birds, plants and slugs and snails (hopefully not on the plants!). Have a go at owl pellet dissection and try putting the skeleton prey back together, discover the best habitats for mini-beasts, go spider spotting, pond-dipping, and join one of the wildflower walks.

You don't need to be an expert to take part, and the more eyes and ears we have surveying the better, so just come along and join in to discover the wildlife on your doorstep. Bioblitz runs from 5pm on Friday 12 June – 5pm on Saturday 13 June.

Admission to the Garden will be free for those who have pre-booked onto a walk or workshop during the 24-hour Bioblitz. Normal Garden admission applies otherwise. To book onto Bioblitz please visit <http://museum.zoo.cam.ac.uk/events/bioblitz.cambridge.2015> and for further details on the Botanic Garden please visit www.botanic.cam.ac.uk



Notes from Annual Parish Council Meeting

14th May 2015

The Clerk took the meeting for apologies and the first agenda item. There were 8 Parish Councillors and 2 members of the public in attendance.

Election of Chairman: Following the formalities, John Covill was elected as Chairman. This was agreed unanimously. The Chairman took the remainder of the meeting.

Election of Vice-Chairman: Peter Hart was elected as Vice-Chairman. Unanimously agreed.

Confirmation of Parish Council Representatives for Village Committees/Groups: Village Hall Management Committee: Paul Latchford said that he would like to stand down. Steve Kent-Phillips proposed Mark Lewinski, seconded by Paul Latchford. Unanimously agreed.

Parochial Charities: John Covill, & Andrew Camps agreed to continue to represent the Parish Council. Unanimously agreed.

Sports & Recreation Committee: Steve Kent-Phillips to continue as Parish Council representative. Unanimously agreed.

Community Land Trust: Karen King suggested she was happy to carry on, especially as it involved director status. Unanimously agreed.

Confirmation of RFO (Responsible Financial Officer) and PCRF (Parish Councillor Responsible for Finance): RFO – the Clerk – Paul Catling and PCRF – Steve Kent-Phillips. Unanimously agreed.

Notes from Parish Council Meeting – 14th May 2015

John Covill chaired the meeting with 7 Parish Councillors and 2 members of the public in attendance. The meeting started at 7.30pm.

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

Public Participation: No items raised.

Reports:

CCC: *Cllr David Brown's report had not been received.*

ECDC: *Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting:*

PL asked the proportion was in recent election, AA said that he did not have the proportions but the winning numbers were large. AA also mentioned that Charlotte Cane's vote was closer to AA's than last year. He congratulated CC. PL congratulated AA on his win. JC thanked AA for clearing the fly tipping in the fen.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

Alan Alderson mentioned the passing place at Lords Ground was clear but he had not checked Headlake Drove. JC said that it seems to be clear. He also reported the damaged High Street sign had been reported to CCC who contacted Jason Little-boy who said it would be dealt with. *Street Lighting:* There is a metal street lamp in

Fairview grove in need of attention. Paul Latchford said he had a full report which he would present to the PC later. He proposed that we discuss electrical testing at the next meeting. He also said we did have 1 lamp with a “Green” status in Adams Road – so no action needed with that lamp. Kier and Balfour Beatty will be asked to quote for repair to the lamp in Fairview Grove. SKP mentioned that, surprisingly, the concrete lamp was OK. It was suggested we could consider removing lamps, rather than repairing them, as they are an on-going cost for future generations. Steve Kent-Phillips said that the original Swaffham Prior sign was now in the pound. He also reported that the new dog bin on Coopers Green had now been move to face the green. PL asked if there was a recommended height for dog bins. DA suggested reviewing the bin after the lamp replacement had been completed.

Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration:

General:

The Clerk read out a Resident’s letter regarding hedge in Lower End. SKP reported that he had logged the path obstruction on Highways’ Website and that it was being rectified.

The Clerk read out a Resident’s letter regarding hedge in Adams Road and a question about the construction at the Old Dairy as to whether it had or should have had planning permission. The Clerk reported that the hedge was being resolved and offered to investigate the planning status for the Old Dairy and report back.

Meeting with ECDC Regarding Improvements to Footpath in Churchyard:

Andrew Camps reported that we were waiting for a response following the meeting. PH suggested that the Clerk chase if there was no reply before next meeting.

Annual Play Area Safety Inspection Report:

Steve Kent-Phillips said the report was good news. Of the 2 items raised, the bird spikes had been replaced and new hinges for the gate were on order. Whilst replacing the bird spikes he and the Clerk had also emptied the waste bin.

Approval of Annual Audit Return and Governance Statement 2014-15:

Steve Kent-Phillips circulated copies of spread sheets and confirmed detail of Annual Audit Return Including Governance Statement. These were agreed for submission. SKP also proposed that we review the financial Risk assessment at the next meeting. He added that if we publish the asset register, we should not need to do the Annual Audit.

Confirmation of CCC/Parish owned Street Lighting Units and Payment of Outstanding Invoice to Balfour Beatty:

Steve Kent-Phillips pointed out that we should get credit for the years that we only had 10 street lamps rather than the 14 we have paid for. The Clerk reported that Peta Crawshaw of Balfour Beatty had not yet sent a credit note and that Ed Baldwin who took over from Keele Russell, was chasing both the credit note and written confirmation of the lamp ownership.

Accounts for Payment:

These were agreed with the exception of invoices from Balfour Beatty and CGM. The latter was agreed as not all areas under “village verges” had been cut.

Clerk's Reports: The bench seat in the graveyard location had been agreed and Andrew Camps mentioned the tree overhanging the location. SKP asked the Clerk to write to the owner requesting that it be cut back. PC mentioned the ECDC Facilities Improvement Grant to be considered at a later meeting.

Parish Councillors' Reports:

Sandra Gynn said she had nominations for the Gay Bulleid award and there is a winner.

Paul Latchford asked about state of the footpaths other than the church. John Covill said we were waiting for the results of the church paths before looking into other paths.

Peter Hart suggested that there were other paths with hedges in need of attention. The Clerk will contact the residents.

Steve Kent-Phillips said that whilst moving the Parish files, it was noticed that some go back to 1880 and that County Records Office would look after them for no charge. No action can be taken until CRO have completed their move in Ely. Steve Kent-Phillips also said that the School Governors post was not official but Sandra Gynn had agreed to be on the Board of Governors.

David Almond commented that we should make as much communication electronic as possible. Steve Kent-Phillips said that the summons may need to be signed and delivered on paper. Steve Kent-Phillips asked if the Clerk could check what documents are allowed to be electronic.

Open Question Time:

Michael Limb welcomed David Greenfield to the Parish Council. He also said that the way local government was going weekly black bag collections may be at risk. If residents wanted the weekly black bag collections could the PC apply pressure to keep them weekly. Paul Latchford asked what the money had been spent on when the wheeled bins were brought in: Andrew Camps suggested mostly lorry upgrades and bins.

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, 11th June 2015 starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Future meeting dates:

9th July, 13th August (if called) 2015. *All are welcome to attend.*

Paul Catling – Clerk to the Parish Council. Tel: 07040 908743 (Voice Mail).
Email: clerk@swaffham-prior.co.uk

Website: <http://www.swaffham-prior.co.uk/pc/>



Don't talk about religion or politics!

I am writing this just after the General Election. The result has been a shock to almost everyone. Some people are jubilant, others are devastated. The full implications of what has happened will take time to become clear.

Mark Twain wrote: *"Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect."*

Our hope must be that all our politicians and the parties they represent will take that time to pause and reflect. But also that we will all take time to reflect on what has happened, and what it is going to mean for our future. As many commentators have said, the political map of the UK has dramatically changed.

There is a passage in one of Paul's letters in the New Testament which reads: *'I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour...'* [1 Timothy 2:1-3]

I take this to mean that as Christians we should be praying for justice, truth, fairness, respect and integrity from our political leaders, not for a quiet, undisturbed life for ourselves. We *should* be disturbed whenever we come across injustice, poverty, corruption, abuse and all the other things which are a blight on our society today. It is worth remembering that Paul wrote those words whilst living under the brutal military dictatorship of the Roman Caesars, at a time when Christians were experiencing severe persecution, and only three or four years before he himself was beheaded in Rome during the reign of the Emperor Nero.

Jesus himself often disturbed people. He challenged the status quo. He was angered by the hypocrisy and complacency he saw in the religious leaders of his day. His call to his followers was to help establish a different kind of society, based on righteousness, justice, love and compassion. He called it the kingdom of God, but it was meant to be established here in the world.

Bishop Desmond Tutu once famously stated: *"When people say that the Bible and politics don't mix, I ask them which Bible they are reading"*.

The Jesus manifesto is a manifesto for change. A change of attitude, a changed way of life, a changed way of thinking, a changed way of looking at the world. If we are going to change society, we can't just leave it to the politicians! The changes we need to see won't come about through laws and Acts of Parliament. It is hearts, minds and lives that have to be changed. One by one, person by person. Caring for one another; helping those less fortunate than ourselves; loving our neighbours; giving and forgiving. Christians, the church, need to be modelling this

transformed way life, this new society. Looking outward, not inward. Sadly, if we're honest, we don't always succeed, but we continue to try, and with God's help we will one day see His kingdom come.

At RE:NEW we are trying to build that loving, caring community right here. If you are disillusioned with politics and society in general, why not give church a try? Come along on a Sunday morning and find out more. We'd love to see you! Together we can make a difference!

Peter Wells.

RE:NEW Services in June 2015.

We have activities for children and young people at all our morning services, and a crèche is available if required. All are welcome.

7th June. 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (Bottisham Primary School) With Holy Communion

*14th June. 10.30am – RE:NEW Café style
(at the School)*

Come and talk to us at our stall at Lode Village Fete.

*14th June. 6.20pm – Traditional service.
(Lode Chapel)*

FREecycle



If you have any offers or wants, please contact me by the 14th of each month by phone (c813362), e-mail (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 1st of the month to make it a little fairer.

Offered

3m x 6m Wonderwall (protects plants from animals + birds), green plastic tunnel – fine netting over the top (as opposed to polythene). Full construction info and all parts in good working order. Lorely c812975.

Two bar and convection electric stove, free standing in wooden frame; 10 litres of Magnolia emulsion, by Homebase. Bought this year, now surplus. Robin c811632

Two 4-drawer metal filing cabinets. Loder Bevington c812777

Ikea floor lamp; Men's golf clubs: a Cobra 3 and 5 wood and putter. Ann c811620

Wanted

Dressmaker's dummy. Fay 07973 665993 TEXT ONLY

Window Roller Blind (any colour) at least 48 inches (1.2 metres) wide, any length, Susan/Peter C.811584

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 07895 064727.

Dear Friends,

Cambridge is a city where there is so much going on that it is easy to miss things of interest amidst the plethora of posters. Wesley Methodist church hosts a monthly series of talks called "Faith Meets Science". Over the course of the year we have heard scientists, well known and respected in their own fields, talk about their area of science and how their studies inform and challenge their faith.



There is a commonly held public perception that science and faith oppose each other and are mutually exclusive. How can a person embrace the origin of the universe in the big bang and also embrace the story of creation as told in Genesis? Children from very early on in their schooling often think that they cannot be a serious scientist or mathematician and believe in God and so they chose to be people of fact and proof and empirical evidence and abandon the truths and views of faith.

The Faith meets Science talks demonstrate very clearly that it is possible to believe in God both as Creator and Saviour whilst also researching the physical workings of the universe. Many of the facts and theories that are central to science have gradually been adjusted as new findings show them to be inadequate or even wrong. The facts that we know and trust which shape the science of today may be obsolete in years to come as new information comes to light and our knowledge grows.

Part of the tension between science and faith is that they seek to answer different questions. Science looks at why things happen or behave as they do. It does this by researching the physical laws at work in the universe. Scientists are looking for explanations for why things are the way they are. Faith also looks at why things happen but it does this in terms of purpose with reference to a loving creator. It is possible to ask both sets of questions at the same time. As some of the great certainties of science have been called into question scientists have to acknowledge that even seeming absolutes can be wrong. People of faith have to acknowledge with humility that we can never fully know or understand our great God. That is perhaps where we are on common ground, for both scientists and people of faith recognise there is always more to discover. Neither can claim to have the whole truth.

Sue Giles

St Mary's, Swaffham Prior is part of the Anglesey Group of Parishes comprising Bottisham, Lode, Quy, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior, and a range of groups and activities are on offer throughout the benefice to which everyone is welcome:

Bible Study and Prayer Groups:

Monday Evening, **Weekly Men's Group**, Bottisham - Peter Wells 812388

Tuesday Evening, **Weekly Ladies' Group**, Bottisham - Lesley 07402 939791

Second Wednesday morning, **Monthly Bible Study**, Swaffham Bulbeck - Mike Procter 813963

2nd/4th weeks Wednesday Evening, **Bible Study**, Swaffham Bulbeck - Liz Butler 811726

Wednesday Evening, **Fortnightly Ladies' Group**, Lode - Iris Stannet 811897

Wednesday Evening, **Ladies' Group**, Swaffham Prior/Burwell - Fleur 01638 743992

Each Thursday, **Morning Prayer**, Holy Trinity, Bottisham, 8.30am, *followed by breakfast at Vicarage*

Contemplative Services:

Compline by Candlelight - first Wednesday of every month, Holy Trinity, Bottisham, 8-9pm

Especially for Families/Children/Young People:

Family @ Five, First Sundays in the month, Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School, 5pm

Toddler Praise and Play, Fridays in term time, St James', Lode, 9.30am

Gospel Choir, Tuesdays, Swaffham Bulbeck School, 3.30-4.15pm; for children from Year 2 and parents/carers - enjoy singing in the fun style of Gospel Choirs!

Family and All Age Services – please see noticesheet for dates/times

RE:NEW - Sundays, Bottisham Primary School – with activities for different age groups, 10.30am

Social and Support:

Weekly Coffee Mornings, 10.30-12 noon

Tuesdays - Village Hall Annex, Quay

Wednesdays – Poppy Room, RBL, Bottisham; Lode Chapel, Lode

CHURCH SERVICES FOR JUNE 2015

Sunday 7 June, First Sunday after Trinity

11am

Matins

5pm

Families@Five, Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School

Sunday 14 June, Second Sunday after Trinity

10am

Benefice Service – Holy Communion (CW1T)

Sunday 21 June, Third Sunday after Trinity

11am

Family Service

Sunday 28 June, Fourth Sunday after Trinity

10am

Benefice Service – Holy Communion (CW1), Bottisham

*Would you like a lift to a service in Swaffham Prior or elsewhere in the Benefice?
It makes sense to share cars and can be reassuring to go into church with someone
else. Please be in touch and we will do our best to arrange a free lift: 07553*

151585

Dates for Your Diary June 2015

Wed	3	Book Club, 8pm, Kent House, High Street
Sun	7	Newmarket Cycling, 10am-12.30pm, Passage Hall, Lode
Wed	10	The Gondoliers, 7.30 (Sat Mat 2.30). Downing Farm, Swaffham Bulbeck. Until the 13th..
Thu	11	PC Me3eting, 7.30pm, VH
Sat	13	Sew La Tea, 2-5pm, St Cyriac's Pop-up afternoon Tea, 2-5pm, St Cyriac's
Sun	14	Heritage Walk, 2-4pm, Junction of Cage Hill, High St & Lower End
Tue	16	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2.45-3.15pm Chapel 3.20pm-4.00pm 3rd Tues
Thu	18	Crier Copy Deadline Mothers' Union, Lode Chapel, 2.30pm
Sat	20	Solstice Feast, VH, 12 noon Midsummer Market, 11-5pm, St Cyriacs Saturday Concert, 6-7pm
Sun	21	Sunday Entertainment, 2.30-3pm, 5.30pm, St Cyriac's
Sat	27	Sew La Tea, 2-5pm, St Cyriac's

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 nd Mon of Term	8pm	Village School
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 Hut
			Thurs	7-10:00pm	