



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXIX Number 5

May 2015



Editorial

ANYONE WHO LIKE US regrets the unfortunate absence of a handy None of the Above box at the bottom of our voting slips can now cheer up at once. Our District Councillors will also be up for election, and here is something completely different.

For a start, we can safely set party allegiances aside (perhaps even if it says SNP, Wulsin! Read his poem this month....) because as everyone knows, when it comes to stopping THEM messing up US, such irrelevances don't come into it., it's good people we need.

Now, we have some excellent candidates for your choice. Our current incumbent Allen Alderson: anyone who has ever asked Allen for help knows he will bend over backwards to give it and how effective he is; our New Blood, Mark Lewinski, who "has the welfare of people at heart, is committed to fairness and democracy" and a lot of other good things — who said this? Well, Alastair Everitt in April's Crier, and anyone who recalls their past exchanges in these pages should take careful note! And lastly, a big favourite of the Crier in the past, Reach's own Nippie Sweetie, (well, but we're not *exactly* sure what that means, but she was very impressive anyway) Charlotte Cane who was our DC for many years and did a great job. Both Charlotte and Allen are working very hard at the minute (Allen says: in their different ways!) to get some much needed loot for our school, and generally speaking, DCs do work hard all the time for us for very little reward. Drat it, we need an All of the Above box now!

Sad goodbyes to Karen King, our much valued Clerk, who is going to be a very hard act to follow (although we see Paul has already set to work with a

vengeance) as equally our **60 year** councillor Eris Day (happy retirement, Eric!) and of course Geoffrey Woollard, who's off to pastures new in Soham.. Apologies to our Skye poet Ophir, who was accused of living in the Orkneys by Alastair last month (same difference to a Sassenach) and see you at the first of a great many forthcoming events: May 9, Tea at St Cyriac's.

Caroline

Cover Picture: *The Joys of May* by **Edward Bawden**

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Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

All the Way from Skye

The content of the 'Bottisham Vicarage' page (30) in April's issue, gives me the opportunity to offer the pertinent poem opposite. Incidentally, since 2001, you have received 137 of my verses, to date.

And could someone please gently explain to Alastair; vide the 'Gay Bullied Award' page (8), that I live on the Isle of Skye; approximately 130 miles West and 130 miles South of The Orkneys. (*many apologies Ophir, it was the editors who should have spotted this. Eds*)

Still too far from the Prior! The pictures are from a walk along the North shore 'footpath' (so-called) of Loch Sligachan, looking back towards the Cuillin hills, that I did with a group from the Skye U3A. One shows the river which we had to cross in several places via stones. It feeds the Loch; and the other one of the wider places of the 'footpath' and the loch. Very rough going; the footpath is well above the shore!!

Ophir

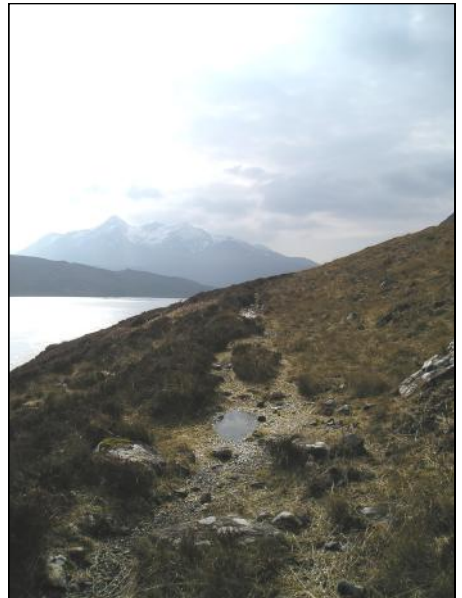


Annual Village Assembly 27th May, Village Hall, 7.30pm

This is the opportunity to catch up on what has been happening during the past year in the village! There will be plenty of opportunity to put your views and ask questions.

If there is an item you would like to see on the agenda or you would like to give a report, please contact the Clerk.

EVERYONE WELCOME
SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE!



Groundwork?

I like to think that when I go
Across to the 'Other Side';
There'll be no screaming siren,
Proclaiming my injured pride.
Instead; a blanket 'round my knees,
For I'll be sitting in my favourite chair;
Without my grieving family,
Nor group of friends to stare.
I'll go because the body
I inhabit is too old;
I'll leave my mug of cocoa,
Not tasted, getting cold.

• O ° . o
: **And soon my Vital Energy** *
. **Will arrive in a different place:** . *
. **Mayhap not on this planet** *
• **But one in far-flung space.** .

° .Ö . • . °

But if It should meet someone I knew,
Who had gone ahead
Whom It didn't recognise;
It might just cut them, dead.

Ophir

Delivery of the Crier

If you , or you know of anyone who does not get their copy of the Crier regularly each month, please let me know.

We have a loyal team of just over 20 helpers who voluntarily deliver your copy each month at their own expense, but we are all only human and sometimes someone does slip the net.

Ruth Stinton

01638 742641, j.stinton104@btinternet.com

Dear Editors,

Reach Community Solar Farm

The share offer for the community solar farm managed to raise over £160,000 in just five weeks - which is good going! We'd really like to thank those who have invested. Thanks to you we hope we'll soon be feeding clean, renewable energy into the power line that supplies the village, and raising money for the community fund.

With hindsight, however, it was rather ambitious to try to raise the full amount we need of over £300,000 in such a short time, so we've extended the deadline for the share offer until the end of May. We do have the offer of a loan to make up some of the shortfall if we are still short then, but we'd rather as much as possible of the scheme is owned by local people. So if you didn't manage to get in before the deadline but would still like to invest - there is still time! We had some good news from HMRC that we should have a few more months to benefit from the EIS tax relief scheme, which should mean that those who invest will be able to reclaim 30% of the cost of the shares off their tax bill. There are more details on the reachsolarfarm.co.uk website, where you can also sign up for our occasional email newsletter.

We hope to have a stand at Reach Fair on 4 May, so do come and chat to us then!

Charlotte Cane

Auld Lang Syne

May 2015

Should auld Culloden be forgot
And never brought to mind
The SNP will guarantee
Tae rake up auld lang syne.

Our leader is a drasty chiel
An' pays in nine-bob notes,
But we shall hae the earth an' mair
Whan we gie him our votes.

And if ye be a teuchter born,
Tho' thick as twa short planks
Ye'll study free an' pay nae fee
While England bails our banks.

But if ye be of Southron stock
And mean tae study here
Although ye scribe like Heisenberg
We'll mak' ye pay richt dear.

And fear ye not auld heiland lass
Wham age has in his sway,
Your care will ne'er a bawbee cost
The Sassenach will pay.

Our Thanes will sit in Westminster
A carvin' o' the realm
A nippy sweetie minds the shop -
Wee Sturgeon's at the helm,

Sae here's a vote my trusty friend,
And gie's a cross o' thine,
Spier Alex whan it gangs agley
Wi's dashy cantraips fine.

Wulsin

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

So its goodbye to two of our most dapper councillors, Eric Day and Geoffrey Woollard.

Eric was absent from the meeting but had sent a letter of resignation. He has served on the Parish Council for over 60 years, including 17 as Clerk, which is an astounding record. Members of the council and public expressed thanks for his longevity and great service to the community.

Geoffrey, by virtue of where he currently resides, can no longer stand for election here in Prior but is hoping to be elected onto Soham Town Council. He was heartily thanked by the meeting for his huge commitment and enthusiastic contribution over the years. Hear hear! Never one to sit on the fence, Geoffrey has certainly provided some excellent entertainment making this prestigious job of Reporter even better.

We soon too have to say 'adios' to our long standing Clerk but in the meantime she will act as Supporting Clerk until our new Clerk has completed his online training and feels happy to fly solo. His first test will be to see if his minutes of this meeting come up to the usual copybook standard.

Times change, people change and, as we had a uncontested election, next month we can look forward to two new faces on the Council, David Greenfield and Mark Lewinski. Congratulations boys, may you enjoy the next four, or maybe more, years.

LG



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

Summer Solstice Celebration

Keep Satur-
day 20th June
free!

Plans are well underway to develop the Annual Village Feast into a weekend of fun and festivities. In the last few years, the Autumn Show has been rejuvenated by its amalgamation with the dog show, so we now bring you the **Village Feast** and **Midsummer Market** in one action-packed weekend!

The Feast will start this year with a Children's Fancy Dress Parade - there is no specific theme, but extra marks will be awarded for links to the Summer Solstice. **Prizes** will be awarded, so start planning your costumes now.

Highlights of the afternoon will include a Village Treasure Hunt, wet sponges and water balloons, flying and falling-with-style bears, a shiny brand-new bowling game and a host of other time-honoured and popular games. We are also hoping to bring, for the first time, traditional East Anglian Molly dancing to the Feast, courtesy of the Primary School.

Hot food will be available, and there will be drinks, cream teas and ice creams, so you can spend the whole day with friends and family. As usual, we will round the afternoon off with the Swaffham Prior Egg Throwing Championship.

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.



St Cyriac's Church
with the Churches Conservation Trust

Pop Up Afternoon Tea Shop
Open 2pm to 5pm

Saturday 9th May
Saturday 13th June
Saturday 27th June

Pop along for tea and cake





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

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION ST CYRIACS 9TH AND 10TH MAY

in association with the Churches Conservation
Trust

Local photographer, David Boughey, is holding a photographic exhibition and sale, show-casing a variety of subjects as diverse as steam railways, exotic plants, wildlife, local scenes and architecture. It will also include a display of wedding photography.

In recent years David has had a career change from the international hi-tech arena in pursuit of his life-time passion for photography. His images have been used for publicity and PR purposes by numerous businesses and organisations including The Environment Agency, Rowing and Regatta magazine, British Equine Veterinary Association, the Aeronautical Society and the National Youth Jazz Orchestra.

The exhibition will be held at St Cyriacs on two days; Saturday, 9th May between 11am and 6pm and on Sunday, 10th May between 11am and 5pm. Admission is free and all are welcome.

For further information, please email david@dbphotographic.biz or call David on 01638-744399.



CHAMPING

Apparently, there's a new Extreme Sport called "Champing", which means going and camping out in a disused church, which you have previously booked for the purpose. According to Radio 4's *You and Yours*, St Cyriac's was on the list this month, and they were there with their recording equipment when a merry party dully laid down their sleeping bags on that nice warm soft floor and headed off to the *Lion* for the evening. Whence they returned the following morning for egg and bacon butties. Many thanks to Mark Lewinski, who seems to be one of the few villagers who heard this program.



CM

News from Bottisham Patients' Group

The Patients' Group held its AGM on 23rd April at Bottisham Village College. This was before this article went to print so readers will have to wait until the June edition of village magazines for a full report of the proceedings, including Dr Rashid's talk on the Mediterranean Diet – will it really help you to live longer? Sylvia Thomson stood down as Chair, having served three years in the role, so there will be a new Chair and hopefully a more numerous committee with some fresh faces among those who volunteered to continue serving the Group. If you would like to be involved with the Group, in whatever capacity, please contact our Secretary by emailing patientsgroup@outlook.com or asking for details at Reception in Bottisham surgery.

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, Cambridge 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



Cambridge Open Studios 2015

Cambridge Open Studios (COS) is thrilled to announce that its membership numbers for 2015 have grown by over 10%, continuing its excellent record of year on year expansion.

The artists' network, which is one of the oldest Open Studios programmes in the country, has seen steady growth since it began over 50 years ago and represents a flourishing community of artists, craftspeople and designer-makers throughout Cambridge-shire.

This July, 323 Cambridge Open Studio artists will be taking part in 219 different locations. There will be a wide range of artistic media to see, including painters, sculptors, jewellers, photographers, illustrators, furniture makers and many more. 112 new artists have joined for 2015, promising an even greater variety of art and events for the public to enjoy.

Over the weekends of July 4/5, 11/12, 18/19, 25/26, artists will open their doors free of charge, welcoming the public to view their work, learn how it's created and even in some cases, try your hand. Covering the whole county, the Open Studios initiative includes many outlying towns and villages as well as Cambridge city itself.

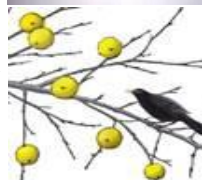
COS aims to bring artists together with the public, making studios and workshops accessible at certain times of the year. Working to demystify art and spread the word about the enormous amount of talent we have living and working in our county today, the annual summer Open Studios initiative sees hundreds of artists opening their workshops and studios to the public to share their craft.

The organisation promotes the making of original works of art and craft, and works to forge a lasting relationship between local people and local makers. Participating studios will be open from 11am – 6pm though it is worth pointing out not all studios are open on all of the weekends, so do check the website www.camopenstudios.co.uk for opening dates or refer to the free Guide Book which lists all artists and groups participating.

It really is a wonderful day out. Pick up your Guide Book, plan yourself a route and why not take in a pub lunch along the way. And remember to look out for the synonymous yellow flags that will be flying outside the 'open' studios.

Entry: FREE

To find out more visit www.camopenstudios.co.uk.



The Reading Group Reads.....

Elizabeth is Missing



The Book group met this month to discuss "Elizabeth is Missing". Unusually, we all agreed that it was an extremely good read and on that basis, we decided it was a good idea to "lift" a review from the *Indepenant*, that I'd read a few weeks earlier. It had to be streets better than anything I could produce.

So using the idea from *The Novel Cure*-literary prescriptions for modern ailments, by Ella Berthoud and Susan Elderkin, the review began.....

Ailment: Impatience with the Elderly
Cure: Elizabeth is Missing by Emma Healy

Most of us don't find it too hard to be patient with a meandering toddler, who gets in our way. It's not their fault they're slow and unsteady, after all. But stuck behind a grey-haired driver doing 20 on an empty road or ...on an empty road or held up at the till by an old dear fumbling in her purse for 96p, we tend to be less accommodating. If the incapacities of the superannuated get your goat, quash your ungenerous feelings with Emma Healy's first novel. It will awaken your sympathies for those in the Autumn of their lives - and give you the chance to set a good example before you become one of their number yourself.

Maud, aged 82, still lives in her own house, but increasingly poses a danger to herself. She forgets to turn off the gas, can't remember why she came to the corner shop and is niggled by disturbing memories that have her phoning neighbours at 4am. She writes endless notes to remind herself what she's doing, then stuffs them in

her pocket and forgets them. And all the while she becomes anxious about the whereabouts of her friend Elizabeth, whose empty house she keeps revisiting. Maud's long suffering daughter, Helen is exasperated by her mother's insistence that something sinister is going on: but this doesn't stop Maud reporting Elizabeth's absence - repeatedly- to the police.

Just as we-along with Helen and the neighbours--have just about had enough, a darker side to Maud's ramblings rises to the surface. Something happened 70 years ago which may resonate with Elizabeth's disappearance. As the author weaves past and present together, we realise that Maud's community should perhaps be listening to her after all. By the end you'll have a permanent place in your heart for Maud. Make room there for the other venerables too. And when it's your turn to stand in the corner shop wondering what you came in for, there might be a friendly face ready to help .

The next two books we're going to discuss are Sarah Water's "Little Stranger" and "H is for Hawk " by Helen McDonald?

New members are always welcome

Margaret Joyce



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

News from Anglesey Abbey and Wicken Fen

We were delighted to welcome back an old friend to Anglesey Abbey recently, one that has been sadly missed by staff, volunteers and visitors alike – our magnificent Pagoda Clock.

In 2012, the clock was sent away to West Dean College in Sussex for a major clean and inspection, led by expert horologist, Matthew Read. A detailed examination of the clock revealed that a main spring could have snapped at any moment, causing irreparable damage to the clock. Putting the long term conservation concerns of the clock uppermost, we decided to retire and replace the mechanism with an electronic drive and digital recording of the chimes - this is ground breaking conservation as this is the first clock in the country to have been conserved this way. After much painstaking work the clock is now back home and delighting everyone with its magical chimes at 12noon and 3pm daily.

Head Gardener (and Lode resident), Richard Todd, has been working at Anglesey Abbey for over 40 years – and we are delighted that he has recently been appointed Gardens Consultant for the Trust covering the East and South East of England. Richard's vision and dedication is evident wherever you look in the garden and we are delighted that this passion will be shared across a broad range of amazing National Trust gardens – good luck Richard.

Our very own Lode Mill will be taking part in **National Mills Weekend** (9 & 10 May) as we celebrate our nation's milling heritage. Throughout the weekend there will be an exciting range of children's craft activities, mill tours and bread and cake making demonstrations.

As I write this copy we are hoping to hear the distinctive call of the cuckoo at Wicken Fen any day now. World expert on Cuckoos, Dr Nick Davies, of Cambridge University, will be at the Visitor Centre on Saturday / Sunday 2 & 3 May, signing copies of his book much acclaimed book **'Cuckoo –Cheating by Nature'** and leading a series of guided walks. Please call the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274 if you would like to book a place on a walk.

Over the May Bank holiday weekend, we also have a photographic exhibition by award winning local Wildlife Photographer, Richard Nicoll. He will also be giving an illustrated talk on how to photograph Wicken's amazing wildlife on Sunday 3 May at 10am (free event).

Over the last decade or so, Wicken's herds of Konik ponies have become an iconic feature of the Fen. They do look cute and many visitors come just to see them



-but we should not under estimate the in-valuable work they are doing (alongside our Highland cattle) in creating new habitats for the ever increasing list of species that now reside at Wicken, including some of our nation's most endangered species. We are introducing a **Konik Sponsorship Scheme** for people who would like to contribute to the cost of looking after the herd, which is around £5,000 per annum. For £25 a year, sponsors will get a certificate, information booklet, regular newsletters and the exclusive chance to join our Grazing Rangers on walks to see the ponies. We are holding a launch weekend on 9 -10 May, when our Grazing Rangers will be in the Visitor Centre to answer questions and lead walks – so please pop along or e-mail wicken.koniks@nationaltrust.org.uk to find out more.

Go The Extra Mile-on Swaffham Bulbeck Denny

748 million people worldwide live without safe water

2.5billion people worldwide live without a toilet

WaterAid (the national charity) believe that everyone everywhere must have clean water and toilets. They want to make this happen by 2030.

I am hoping to run the Great North Run for this charity, health permitting. As a starter to raise funds please join me for the Denny event.

May 23rd on the Denny at 1000hrs.

There will be an opportunity for you to play your part.

There is a measured mile around the Denny so you can do 1 mile or 2.

The event is open to **all ages** for:

Those who will walk

Those who will push buggies, pushchairs, or wheelchairs

Those who will walk with walking aids

Those who will travel in motor buggies

Those who will jog or race

All you do is turn up at the Pavilion for a 1000hrs start, pay £1.

Refreshments are available at the end.



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 and...
Tarot Reader Medium Mel

(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

Anglessey Gospel Choir



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...

A MIDSUMMER DAY'S DREAM

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



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

War Detectives – World War 2 FASHION

Please come to the FASHION day at Red2Green on 14th May 2015 between 10.30am and 2.30pm. We are based at Harvey's Barn, Park End, Swaffham Bulbeck, CB25 0NA.

- Come dressed up in 1940s fashion or uniform and wear your hair as they used to.
- We're running a charity shoe shine so bring your black and brown shoes for us to shine like they've never been cleaned before!
- Also – if you have any wedding photos from World War 2 that show the fashion of the time please bring them along and share them with us.

You are welcome to stay for lunch (12noon to 1pm) but please let us know in advance so we can plan our catering – by emailing nigel.fenner@red2green.org or phoning: 01223 811662



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 3pm.

We would also appreciate it if car drivers could take the long way round the War Memorial ‘triangle’ by using the road beside The Black Horse Inn (- in Swaffham Bulbeck) between 3pm and 3.45pm on the 10th June. Thank you.

Newmarket Cycling & Triathlon Club

Calling young cyclists

Come along to the regular free sessions of the Indoor Cycling System supervised by David Peck

It's a great way for learners to gain confidence and more experienced young cyclists to practise grass track racing.
Please bring your own bike

Saturday 2 May (amended date) and Saturday 7 June
10am to 12.30pm at the Fassage Hall, Lode

Please contact Dave on davehpeck@btinternet.com for further information



WI Notes

At the April Meeting our speaker Paula Dolan entertained us with her observations on what can go wrong on holiday, mostly from her own experiences! A very talented speaker, Paula also read a number of her own poems, some memories of childhood holidays and some cautionary verses on vacation mishaps.

Our next meeting on 18th May in Swaffham Prior Village Hall is our resolutions meeting. Each year at the Annual Meeting (this year it takes place at the Albert Hall in London in June) all WIs have a vote on the proposed resolution. This is discussed beforehand at the May meetings and the delegate attending is instructed on how the members want her to vote. This year the resolution is to call on HM Government to remove the distinction between nursing care and personal care in the assessment of the needs of individuals, in order to advance health and wellbeing. As always the WI has a high profile campaigning for important national issues. Our speaker will be Anne Datson talking about Gilbert and Sullivan, perfect timing before the June production in Swaffham Bulbeck.

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



From our Local County Councillor
David Brown

Full Council met on 24th March. The main items for consideration centred around recommendations from the Constitution and Ethics Committee (which I also sit on) about the new committee system. These included agreement to reduce the number of members on committees from 17 to 13, which will reduce the cost of the system. A number of motions tabled for debate were referred back to the relevant committees.

General Purposes Committee met to consider the usual range of financial reports. An issue of local interest at GPC involved the renewal of the lease for Burwell Community Sports Centre. Following some debate it was agreed unanimously to offer a new lease for 25 years at £1 p.a. – a very pleasing result. I also had a meeting of the Children and Young People Committee in March. The recent consultation on the early help offer was the main item, and it was agreed in light of significant responses to the consultation to not restructure the sensory support services, a good example of members listening to the views of those concerned.

Other meetings attended included: the next steps improvement board; seminars regarding mental health, building a new care home, and the role of CCC in developing housing; a joint CCC/ECDC planning and transport committee; and briefing meetings with Directors for Children's Services. I also chaired a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.



VILLAGE GARDENERS

We really needed perfumed pictures at our April meeting when Radio Cambridgeshire gardener, Barry Gayton, spoke to us on the Scented Garden and Greenhouse. We just had to do our best to imagine the perfume coming from the many slides that he showed us. We were reminded that scent in plants can come from not only the flowers but the foliage and even stems and roots.

Barry thought that scent in the garden is most treasured in the Winter when there are fewer plants in flower. Wintersweet, *chimonanthus praecox*, is a large shrub with creamy, strongly scented flowers, which blooms from January to March. The viburnums are also winter-flowering shrubs with large, strongly-scented flowers. *Daphne mizerium*, another winter flowering shrub, has possibly the best scented flowers of all. Another plant to remember for winter perfume (though you have to get down on your knees to appreciate this one!) is the delightful tiny *Iris danfordiae*. Later in the year, of course, come beautifully scented wallflowers, *dianthus*, *philadelphus*, night-scented stocks and roses, among others.

We were utterly amazed to hear that Barry has 50,000 different varieties of cacti and succulents, many of which produce flowers. He told us that, since the age of seven, he has been growing cacti from seed and he must live to be 300 to see them all produce flowers! Some of these have a wonderful perfume and some have a smell not quite so appealing!

Barry's garden at Santon Downham is in the Yellow Book for Norfolk and is next open to the public on Sunday 5 July.

Our next meeting will be at 8pm in the Village Hall as usual when two speakers from Herbal Haven will be talking to us on 'Herbs' and 'Herbs in Folklore and Legend'.

Mary Hart



Mothers' Union

Kay Coe came to speak to us in March about hymns and hymn writers. Her interest in hymns started as a child when an aunt gave her a book called 'Lead Kindly Light'. This opened her eyes to the wonderful choral music, including hymns used in Cathedrals and Churches all over the world. Most of us do not notice the names of hymn writers and Kay's talk gave us an insight into their lives: John Milton, DK Chesterton and George Herbert were all students at Trinity College Cambridge, some were written by women who were mostly daughters of clergy. We all remembered our favorite hymns.

Our meetings take place on the third Thursday of each month in Lode Chapel at 2.30. On June 18th Dr. Mike Young's talk is entitled 'Surrounded as we are by so great a cloud of witness: John Argentein.' All are welcome.

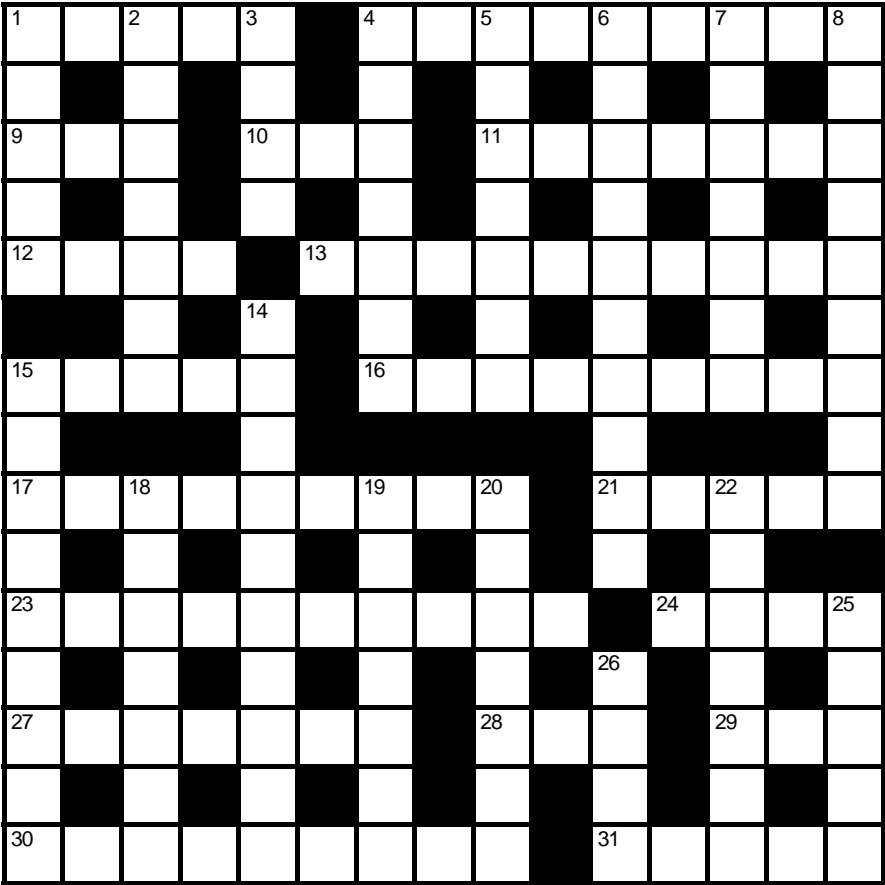
Jill Jenyns

Crossword Number 120

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

Compiled by
BYWELL

Swaffham Prior Stands Alone! This claim is refuted by six of the solutions, which are not otherwise defined. Send your answers to the editors by 18 May 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 The 'Morning After' note (5)
- 4 Advanced instruction mid-morning, and again mid-evening (3,6)
- 9 A strong Tory leader at the back (3)
- 10 Perpendicular over hypotenuse could be deadly (3)
- 11 Harpsichord company takes blame inadvertently (7)
- 12 In favour of softly pushing the boat out? (4)
- 13 Spell on duty consuming a beer cocktail (10)
- 15 Fish ordered to start with the lowest form of singing (5)
- 16 Ivan leaves environmental chaos, adding to the list (9)
- 17 Half-decent refrain from toreador king enters the rankings (9)
- 21 The sound of tiny pieces helping one to look better (5)
- 23 Turbine ran erratically between two cities (10)
- 24 Could be Phil, by the sound of it (4)
- 27 Steps over fence after a bit of a laugh, this is not friendly (7)
- 28 Tango at entrance to hole (3)
- 29 Part of bakery experiment? (3)
- 30 Make poor use of simple cooking in a Highland village (9)
- 31 Insincere letter, possibly last part the other way round (5)

Down

- 1 Points to current in the marsh (5)
- 2 Food for sweaty boxers, perhaps (3,4)
- 3 Food for pigs when in hilly surroundings (4)
- 4 Could be a naffer composition (7)

- 5 Greek character caught king in the Atomic Centre (7)
- 6 Hold fast! I'm on the phone protecting lives (10)
- 7 Often toasted drink to Dundee maybe (7)
- 8 Learners see python wriggling (9)
- 14 Hothead king dressed in gold coat can be terrifying (6,4)
- 15 Personal characteristic, having nothing to do with alcohol, leads one to a false conclusion (9)
- 18 Officers in possession of crumpled suit play old guitars maybe (7)
- 19 The new LBW rule (7)
- 20 Just force out Labour leader by end of May (7)
- 22 Sweetheart obtained final tribute to show off (3,4)
- 25 Opposition force reform in Yemen (5)

Solution to crossword no. 119

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

We congratulate Julie Nunn, the winner of last month's competition, who should collect her prize certificate from the editors. An honourable mention goes to Robert Nunn.



ELY DISTRICT COUNCIL

From our District
Councillor
Allen Alderson

ECDC Local Plan

The government inspector finally passed the District Council's Local Plan.

The last stage is for the plan to be ratified at Full Council on 21st April.

The plan runs to 2030 and identifies areas for employment, retail and housing developments. Once approved it will be harder for developers to propose applications that do not fit with the plan.

On April 1st the District Council's planning committee approved proposals for a new cinema at the Ely by-pass/Downham Road junction in Ely. The £16 million complex will have a six screen Cineworld Cinema, four restaurants plus further stand alone restaurants, including two drive-throughs. There will be a new underpass under the A10 providing access for cyclists and pedestrians.

Community Land Trust Houses

This is our Conservative group's flagship policy to provide affordable housing for local people. The first site is at Stretham, with further sites at Swaffham Prior, Soham and Wilburton.

I recently visited the site at Rogers Road, Swaffham Prior to check on progress. I was shown round by the site agent for the developers. The first two show houses are being built. Of the twenty houses, eight will be for the Community Land Trust. These should be ready from early next year onwards.

Allen Alderson



BON MOT NUMBER FIFTY FOUR

A Canadian study found "that people act less altruistically and are more likely to cheat and steal after purchasing green products."

*Psychological Science, April
2010*

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY
BOTANIC GARDENS
TRAPPING THE LIGHT
FANTASTIC

The mind-boggling ability of plants to capture the energy of the sun through photosynthesis has fuelled human development and growth from the first campfire to the powerplants of the industrialised world today which re-release the sun's energy stored in the ancient

fossilised forests as coal. At the individual level, all the food we eat to gain energy is either directly or indirectly plant- or, if you like, sun-derived.

Scientists today continue to be inspired by plants to develop new ways to harness energy. At the Botanic Garden, we are hosting a new low-impact experimental hub, the P2P, which has been developed by a collaboration of University of Cambridge researchers and eco-companies to generate electrical current from pure plant power. The prototype structure combines green wall technology and semi-transparent solar panels to generate electricity; the vertical green walls have further been adapted to utilise the naturally-occurring electrons produced in the soil through bacterial metabolic activity. It is the brainchild of Professor Christopher Howe and Dr Paolo Bombelli of the Department of Biochemistry at Cambridge. Their previous experiments resulted in a device able to power a radio using the current generated by moss.

When a plant photosynthesises, energy from the sun is used to convert carbon dioxide into organic compounds that the plant needs to grow. Some of the compounds – such as carbohydrates, proteins and lipids – are leached into the soil where they are broken down by bacteria, which in turn release by-products, including electrons which can be harvested and recombined to generate electricity. The long-term aim of the P2P solar hub research is to develop a range of self-powered sustainable buildings for multi-purpose use all over the world, from bus stops to refugee shelters.

You can explore this living experiment into sustainable solutions at the Garden's Festival of Plants this May, a day dedicated to bringing plants into focus with pop-up plant science, talking plants with the experts, specialist tours of the Garden, and a Plant Prom of plant nurseries making sure your garden will be full of plant power this summer!

Festival of Plants runs from 10am – 5pm on Saturday 16 May 2015. Admission is adult £5.00, adult Gift aid £5.50 (£4.50 concession, Gift aid concession £4.95) and accompanied children 16 and under are admitted free of charge. For further visitor information please call 01223 336265 or visit www.botanic.cam.ac.uk



Notes from Parish Council Meeting – 9th April 2015

John Covill chaired the meeting with 5 Parish Councillors and 3 members of the public in attendance. The meeting started at 7.30pm.

The Chairman started the meeting with a welcome to our new Parish Clerk, Paul Catling.

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

Public Participation:

No items raised.

Reports:

CCC – Cllr David Brown report was presented via email.

ECDC – Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting. The District Council's Local Plan had finally been passed by the Government. The last stage of the plan is to be ratified at Full Council on 21st April. More fly tipping was mentioned; JC reported more in the fen, that the tipping included all sorts and a 'fridge and some reported in November near Lord's Ground Farm. AA added some black sacks at entrance to village from Swaffham Bulbeck end.

Cllr Alderson gave an explanation of the cause of the poor state of the fen roads in some places being bog oaks used as the base. Cllr Alderson thanked the Parish Council explaining that during his 11 years as our District Councillor he has been very impressed with the work done by the 3 Parish Councils in his ward. Cllr Alderson ended his report offering to investigate the fen tipping that was on his way home.

John Covill on behalf of the Parish Council thanked Cllr Alderson for his hard work and support.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

The High Street sign: The sign at the end of the village (Swaffham Bulbeck end) has been reported as damaged to ECDC who are looking into the matter. Cllr Alderson agreed to follow it up.

Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration:

CCC – Commissioners Drain 1 – Structure Replacement: notification was received that the work would be complete by the 24th April.

Eric Day: John Covill informed the meeting that a letter of resignation was received from Eric Day. Everyone agreed that Eric must be complimented on his long and fine service on the Parish Council and previously as Parish Clerk.

CIL – Regulation 123 Projects List: It was noted that the School Governors should be copied in on correspondence and that some delay has been caused by CCC not confirming that they are not providing the funding so that ECDC could get involved.

It was reported that the schemes applied for had come under the required benchmark. It was also mentioned that the school could benefit for new classrooms but not repairs. The fund was reported as being in the region of £200,000.

Further Consideration of Improvements to Footpath in Churchyard:

Emails from Spencer Clark of ECDC were read out saying that ECDC are not responsible for the maintenance of the footpath but the council needs to make sure the Churchyard, like any other area of open space is safe and in a usable condition. It was agreed to arrange a meeting with Spencer Clark, the PC and the treasurer of the PCC if possible.

Approval of Training Expenditure for New Parish Clerk

The cost of a SLCC online training programme for the new Clerk was agreed. As a member of the SLCC this would be at a discounted cost. It was also agreed that the Clerk should be paid for the time spent completing the course.

Accounts for Payment:

These were agreed with the exception of an invoice from Balfour Beatty that did not correctly account for the work done.

Clerk's Reports:

New Dog Bin: Karen reported that the bin had arrived and SKP or the New Clerk will supervise ECDC installing.

Parish Councillors' Reports:

Geoffrey Woollard agreed to attend the meeting with Mr Spencer Clark, of East Cambridgeshire District Council to discuss Footpath in the churchyard. AC also agreed to attend.

David Almond thanked Geoffrey Woollard for all his support and service and wished him all the best. All agreed with DA.

Andrew Camps mentioned the sign that had been left off the bus stop and a faulty lamp that has been reported to Balfour Beatty in Roger's Road which they said would be looked at in 4 days.

Open Question Time:

David Greenfield reinforced DA's comments to GW and Eric's long and valuable work and help as Parish Councillor and that he was probably speaking for the whole village in what he said. All agreed.

Karen mentioned that she had the original 'Swaffham Prior' sign and SKP agreed to take it to the Pound.

DA asked if we were going to have an election. KK reported that we would know the following day when ECDC reported the nominations.

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, 14th May 2015 starting at 7.00pm with the Annual Parish Council Meeting in the Village Hall.

Future meeting dates:

11th June, 9th July 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/>

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

Repeat entry as I got the wrong phone number in - Camping Stove (2 burners, grill). Marian, c812010

Child's rectangular rigid paddling pool (2.5ft x 3.5ft); child's small, red plastic table and 2 chairs. Sally c812402

Assorted hanging baskets, one bracket, length of black worktop, toilet roll holder. Clare & Steve c811693

Ornamental pot plant (I think it is called 'Dragon tree'), approx 1m high. Would suit hallway, lobby, office or similar largish space. Jacqui c811190

7 x A4 Ring Binders, 70 mm (3 inch) spines, in good condition. Sylvia c811770

Garden shredder – needs attention; Quantity of unused green garden netting; Green plastic dustbin, sound; Two kiddies folding garden chairs. suit 3 – 5 yrs. Fay, 07973 665993 (text only please).

Slide Projector (Rank Hylite Moth) with 4 slide boxes holding 36 slides. Jun, c813362

Wanted

Your old light fittings, brown Bakelite switches, iron conduit and switches, bulb holders and holders. Sheets and bits of bakelite. Postcard rack (carousel if possible). George 07895 064727.

Cat feeding tray with automatic timer. Fay, 07973 665993 (text only please).

FRIENDS OF BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE PRESENT



SATURDAY 27TH JUNE

7PM - MIDNIGHT

**LIVE MUSIC FROM 'SOUL KITCHEN'
BLACK TIE ♦ WELCOME DRINK ♦ AUCTION
FOUR COURSE MEAL ♦ MAGICIAN**

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Enquiries?

**01223
723115**

Church Services May 2015

Sunday 3 May, Fifth Sunday of Easter

11am Matins
5pm Families@Five, Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School

Sunday 10 May, Rogation Sunday

11am Open Air Service, Swaffham Prior Primary School
A short service for all ages to bless the fields; coffee after

Thursday 14 May, Ascension Day

7.30pm Benefice Service, St Cyriac's

Sunday 17 May, Seventh Sunday of Easter

11am Holy Communion (CW1T)

Sunday 24 May, Pentecost

10am Benefice Service – Holy Communion (CW1), Swaffham Bulbeck

Sunday 31 May, Trinity Sunday

8am Holy Communion (BCP)
6pm Evensong

*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*

*Mary's, Swaffham Prior is part of the Anglesey Group of Parishes comprising
Bottisham, Lode, Quay, 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 Vicar-age*

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

Dates for Your Diary May 2015

Fri	1	
Sat	2	Newmarket Cycling, 10am—12.30pm, Fassage Hall, Lode
Wed	6	Book Club, Kent House, High St, 8pm
Sat	9	Afternoon Tea Shop, St Cyriac's, 2-5pm Photographic Exhibition, 11am-6pm
Sun	10	Photographic Exhibition, 11am-5pm
Thu	14	PC Meeting, 7pm, VH
Mon	18	Crier Copy Deadline WI, 7.30pm, VH
Tue	19	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2.45-3.15pm Chapel 3.20pm-4.00pm Village Gardeners, 8pm VH
Thu	21	Mothers' Union, 2.30pm, Lode Chapel
Fri	22	
Sat	23	Denny Run, 10am, Bu7lbeck Denny
Wed	27	Annual Village Assembly, VH, 7pm

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	