



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XL Number 4

April 2016



Editorial

Finally! The *Crier* Website has at last been revamped, is up-to-date and we'll be trying to keep it that way. Issues (now in a boring and unoriginal page order of 1 coming before 2 before 3....don't ask) go back to 2010, with 2000 the target for next month. We're now also including current adverts.

So do take a look at www.swaffham-crier.co.uk, with the immediate purpose (since we're not telling you) of checking that your favoured candidate for the Gay Bulleid Award *hasn't won before*, that being against the rules. Don't forget, readers, your votes are essential and need to be in for the end of this month. But we will just mention that Janet Willmott (she of the truly delicious Simnel Cakes, not to mention the odd few other things some of which you might read about in this issue) won *last* year, so....

Meanwhile, the Village Feast is back in its original spot at the end of May (Saturday 21st this year) and due to the great many extra attractions it is presenting, urgently needs **more helpers**. Don't worry if you've never done anything like this before, you could be such a help, just contact Mike Carrington (see p. 16).

Lastly, our increasingly popular *Crier* has just increased its circulation by **6%**. Yes, a big welcome to all our new families in Rogers Road. And possibly in the Churchyard as well where an innovative New Build has managed to evade usual planning constraints and is now seeking first-time buyers of a feathered persuasion. Many thanks to got to Peter Rand, and Mr & Mrs Tawny Owl, we Happy April, everyone!

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await your approval.

Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: *You can't beat a good nut* by Tina Jost



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors

Allotments

According to Alastair's report "There is only one allotment holder at present....." on the "Lower Allotments". In fact there are three and apparently one prospective resident of Swaffham Prior has enquired about allotments. Managing an allotment is hard work, time consuming, can be expensive and is immensely satisfying. The provision of a standpipe on the "Lower Allotments" would benefit both existing and future allotment holders. The sum in question is relatively small in relation to the amount for which we were asked to offer suggestions and would be a genuine asset of the community.

May I respectfully request the PC to reconsider its decision in the light of the above.

Mike Malster (aka "kindly resident")

28 Fairview Grove

THE GAYBULLEID AWARD

Last year, for the first time for 4 years, the Gay Bulleid Award was awarded: to Janet Willmott. Those wishing to know more about the history of this award should see the revamped Crier website, page 8 of the April 2015 issue.

Briefly, the award acknowledges the value and worth of any person who has made a community contribution to the village, whether in a major or in a minor way. There are only two rules – the person must live in the village, and it cannot be awarded twice to the same person within five years. **It is also a reminder to everyone of the need to contribute, if possible, in some way or other to the village community.**

Just think, and look around you. Is it someone from the Scouts which now supports more than 70 boys and girls, from the Parish Council which probably has more public exposure than any other local committee, or from the Village Hall Committee with its silent heroes who keep the Hall open for all to use, or from the Youth Club, the Red Lion – one could go on and on.

The award is a kind of local Oscar, but you don't have to perform. It is a democratic choice by village residents. The person with the greatest number of votes receives the award.

All suggestions must be submitted in writing to Sandra Gynn by 30 April. Her address is 30 High Street, Swaffham Prior.

The winner will receive for one year, an original painting of the windmill, by Ophir Catling, our resident poet, who just happens to live in the Isle of Skye. The award will be presented at the Annual Village Assembly on Wednesday 25 May.

A list of previous winners is to be found on the Village Notice Board.

Alastair Everitt

ANNUAL VILLAGE ASSEMBLY

Date: Wednesday, 18th May 2018

Venue: Village Hall, High Street

Start time: 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.

There will be a discussion on the possible projects afforded by the **CIL Monies**

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!



Moveable Feast

THIS YEAR'S moveable feast is to be held on Saturday 16th April, 7.00pm start, and is as you know, for those of you who have been before, an event not to be missed....

Three courses in three different places - sounds like madness but you have to be there. Venues yet to be confirmed but will of course, as in previous years, be spectacular! If you haven't participated before make this year your first - there will be excellent food and warm hospitality to be had at each and every course. Numbers are of course restricted and so it is on a first come first served basis and newcomers to the village are especially welcome. It is a wonderful way of meeting other village folk in relaxed and convivial surroundings. Proceeds to St. Mary's Church, it is really good fun, where else do you get three courses, wine, exceptional company and all for £17.50 a head?? Price held for the SEVENTH year running!!

Waiting by the 'phone (07833 960678) for your call to reserve a place and for offers to host a course! Last bookings taken on 10th April - don't miss out.

Janet Willmott

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

There was a bumper Agenda for the last meeting, and the Public Gallery matched this – with 18 village citizens in it. Before the actual PC meeting began, JLL made yet another presentation about the development it hoped for in the field opposite Fairview Grove. This was JLL's third presentation, albeit the one last month only lasted a few minutes. This one took up 40 minutes.

People had a lot to say and this is a very slimmed down report. "Does the Parish have any concerns?" JLL asked. Indeed there were, and they came through thick and fast. Firstly, the proposed access to the site. The JLL photographs had not shown the "blind bend". "Ah, thank you", said JLL, "we are always pleased to hear things like this". They were told "the road is potentially a great danger". JLL explained that that was why it had been consulting a Highways Engineer, a specialist. "What were his recommendations?" After much prodding JLL revealed that the best option was "road narrowing". That caused a very hearty response. Inevitably the continuing Mill Hill traffic problems were raised, something which has been discussed for the last twenty years; and also, inevitably, the occasional reference was made to the Quay situation.



Jonathan Cook briefly, to a great cheer, mentioned the importance of "unfettered wind " for the village historic mill. "Are they going to be big houses?" JLL explained that everything was at a very early stage and no decision had been made about the size. JLL also had no idea of all the other developments in the area and, as one person said, it "had not done its homework". The PC was asked why it had not made any comment. It was explained that the PC could only do so once a planning application has been made. JLL will not provide any affordable housing, and it would like some of the CIL money to help provide the two tennis courts it would offer.

The public had made its opinion known, JLL left, followed by about 11 people from the public gallery. The PC meeting began at 8.10.

The formalities were completed fairly quickly. David Brown's report, in his absence, was read out and his report appears elsewhere. It seems that oral questions are to be replaced by written questions. One wonders why. Allen Alderson, also to be read elsewhere, was again pleased with his balanced budget and said that ECDC had been given a £120,000 Rural Service Grant to be divided between 42 small parishes, giving each nearly £3,000. This will not be given directly to the PC's, but will be managed by ECDC and awarded for "a cause". Alan didn't know whether the Grant was distributed throughout all England, or the reason for the generosity of central government.

Moving swiftly forward we reached Station Road parking. As Mr Rigney had not come up with a proposal there was nothing to discuss. Two more members of the public peeled off. CIL monies was next on the Agenda, and this did take longer. Steve had established the costs for a tennis court. It would require £28,000 up front with a further £18,000 during the following 10 years for maintenance. The surface

would be damaged by 5-a-side football and therefore the tennis court could not be multi-functional. Mark asked whether Reach was so much wealthier than us, as they have many facilities. Alan explained that Reach Fair always makes a major contribution towards amenities. The tennis court option was rejected unanimously. All the options will be listed in the *Crier* prior to discussion at the Annual Village Assembly on Wednesday 27th May.

In the middle of the meeting something occurred which I have never witnessed before. A mobile phone rang. It went on a bit, and from where I was sitting, I could not see anyone dealing with it and the discussion just continued with no change of expression on anyone's face. It stopped. The discussion continued as if nothing had happened and then came the tap, tap, tap as a text was being sent. Again, there was no halt in the discussion, nobody took any notice, and the meeting just continued. Very strange. Maybe I was sitting in the wrong place.

David Greenfield had attended the Parish Conference arranged by ECDC to discuss the Local Plan Review. He gave an excellent summary and appraisal of the discussion, which left the PC with much to ponder. Changes may be afoot. Prior and Bulbeck have been upgraded from being small to medium size villages. He urged the PC to respond to the Consultation Document by 24 March. I gather this will be done.

Then on to street lighting. As no documentation was available there was nothing to discuss. The new Play Area Gates also passed through quickly as all that is needed to meet all safety standards is a "one inch rubber stop". The new cheque book has arrived –hurrah!– and the Clerk can now be paid. John reckoned he must have spent about an hour and a half on the phone to get this chequebook.

The Clerk had received letters concerning a hedge blocking a footpath; another concerning a hedge which had been trimmed so that the twigs were at the ideal height for removing an eyeball; and one from a person who for some time has conscientiously been collecting poo from the same dog (not hers), and who will name and shame should the owner ever be discovered.

Towards the end of the meeting Paul spoke, whether with tongue in his cheek I knoweth not. He said there had been an error in the last *Crier* when the Flag Flying on 14 March was recorded as being for Commonwealth Day, rather than Empire Day. If printed correctly this would have caused quite a stir, even though people of a certain age will remember with affection the old Empire Day celebrations when the world had a more simple and understandable unity. Today, however, there is the risk of an influx of mortally wounded, spiritually hurt, seriously offended, absolutely correct, highly principled, young undergraduates from down the road in Cambridge, coming to storm the editorial offices of the *Crier*.

Alastair Everitt

Eds Note: For once the *Crier* got it right! Much along the lines suggested by Alastair's final sentence, Wikipedia notes: "In 1958 Empire Day was renamed Commonwealth Day, in accordance with the new post-colonial relationship between the nations of the former empire".



Join POP (Proud of Prior)

for another

COMMUNITY LITTER PICK!

**Meet at the bottom of Cage Hill
Under the Village Sign**

**Saturday 16th April, 2016
10.00am**

**Accompanied Children Welcome
Hi Vis Jackets provided
You participate at your own risk
Your Safety is YOUR responsibility**



**Please bring your own gloves if you wish
All other equipment provided**

**Come and join friends and
Neighbours on this tidy up**

Look forward to seeing the results!



TEAM QUIZ NIGHT

Swaffham Prior
Village Hall

7.30 pm Sat 9th April

Tickets £6 each.

To book a table, contact

Jenny Brand (01638) 742161

Lynne Rand (01638) 741960

*Jacket Potato Supper
Bring your own drinks and
glasses !!*



Proceeds in aid of St. Mary's Church, Swaffham Prior

SWAFFHAM PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

POSSIBLE CIL PROJECTS

Upon getting the advice that some £69,000 of CIL and open space monies were due to the Parish Council over the next three years, the PC decided to set up a small sub-committee to consider suitable projects. Suggestions were obtained from parish residents (where every parishioner had a chance to respond); these were compared against some criteria set by the sub-committee last December. The criteria were that each project must be in Swaffham Prior parish and had not to be covered by existing or proposed works; there had to be a clear objective and the project had to be achievable within a reasonable timeframe; the project did not incur significant ongoing maintenance costs; the project had to be for everyone in the Parish, or at least not for a very narrow, specific group of people, but always for people from the Parish and not outside; and the project did not involve any land purchases. Individual reasons for including or discounting each and every potential project were recorded and are available on request from the clerk.

The full Parish Council then reviewed the selections, and a final decision was taken on 10/3/2016. The ones that have passed final selection are presented below, plus a summary of rejections for reference.

- 1: Add a tilting roundabout to the play area
- 2: The Youth Club Hut: Refurbish inside
 Add a baseball net & two picnic benches
 Add an outside table tennis set
- 3: Refurbish the path on Station Road from the school to the football field
- 4: Refurbish the path from St. Cyriac's to be back gate
- 5: Remove the cemetery spoil heap
- 6: Replace the seven existing yellow street lamps with white lights
- 7: Purchase and refurbish the telephone box

Summary of rejections

The following possible projects were rejected as being already in progress or being available under existing funding (e. g. the annual maintenance budget):

Replace the daffodils planted by the WI	Refurbish the Village Sign
Remove the vegetation on the cemetery spoil heap	Replace the Play Area gates
Replace the Play Area Cargo Net	

The following possible projects were rejected as involving the purchase of land:

Improve the Deal Hole	Build a wood
Built a 20 acre sports field next to the school	Build a pond with seating
Build a fishing lake	Build a camp site
New paths: from Heath Road to Devils Dyke, from the new Rogers Road houses to Mill Hill and at Lower End past the pink house	

The following possible projects were rejected as being ineligible:

Widen the pavement at the pub	(commercial enterprise)
Cycle way to Lode	(outside the parish)
Bring gas into the village	(commercial enterprise)
Improve the fen roads	(Highways responsibility)
Cage Hill roundabout	(cost)
Fairview Grove roundabout	(cost)
Pedestrian crossing at Mill Hill	(cost)
Pedestrian crossing by school	(cost)
Electronic bus boards	(commercial enterprise)
Change the Swaffham Prior signs	(Highways responsibility)
Trim Cherry Tree in Lower End	(Highways responsibility)
Trim trees at rear of Fairview Grove	(Owner's responsibility)
Built a tennis club clubhouse	(cost)

The following projects were rejected under sustainability (ongoing maintenance)

Fence off Coopers Green	Build a scooter park
Picnic benches around the village play area	Build a wooden fort in the play area
Build a climbing frame with slide in the play area	Build a tennis court
Erect a fence the road side of the play area	

The Tennis Court was rejected by the Parish Council at the last moment when it emerged that the likely cost was £28, 000 plus £18, 000 over ten years maintenance; not including any repair costs. Also, the tennis court could only be used for tennis and netball, making it not usable for five-a-side football, therefore failing the inclusivity criteria.

It is important to remember that the Parish Council will not get all the money all at once; it is not like we have a huge pot of money to spend right away. The proposals will be discussed in full at the Annual Village Assembly on Wednesday, May 18, where full costing estimates will be available. The decision the village has to make is whether to go for one big, flagship project, complete all the small projects from the cheapest upwards, or try to mix and match.

Steve Kent-Phillips
SPPC

BON MOT NUMBER SIXTY FOUR

“Human blunders, usually, do more to shape history
than human wickedness.”

A.J.P.Taylor (1906-1990)

**‘Alzheimers’
The Prayer of a Partner Carer.**

Help me to know how I can cope;
When the pain’s too much to bear.
Help me to know how to endure,
When I’m the nearest one to care.

I need to know how to survive
When my spirit’s broken;
When words no longer signify,
And thoughts, cannot be spoken.

When speech and actions are bizarre;
Or perplexing anger flares;
When recognition disappears - - -
And I’m the one who cares.

Help me to know how I can deal
With --- just another day;

And then the next one, after that,
---But that’s too far away.

Ophir

You are invited to celebrate with us
the launch of our new project

Exploring All Saints’

Friday 29th April 2016 from 5.30 – 7.00pm

Please join us at 5.30pm for a welcome from the team, followed by the opportunity to preview our new visitor experience, offering new ways to enjoy this fascinating church.

At All Saints’ Church, Jesus Lane, Cambridge, CB5 8BP

Please RSVP by 4th April to:
southeast@thecct.org.uk/ 01223 324 442


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Flag Flying Days this Month from the Tower of St Cyriac

21st April Queen's 90th Birthday



23rd April St George's Day



A Home Fit for an Owl

Many thanks go to Peter Rand for the construction of this magnificent owl box which was recently erected in the churchyard of St. Mary's.

The design is hoped to encourage a pair of tawny owls to come and nest and hopefully breed, with any luck this season.

Look out for updates in the Crier on any progress.



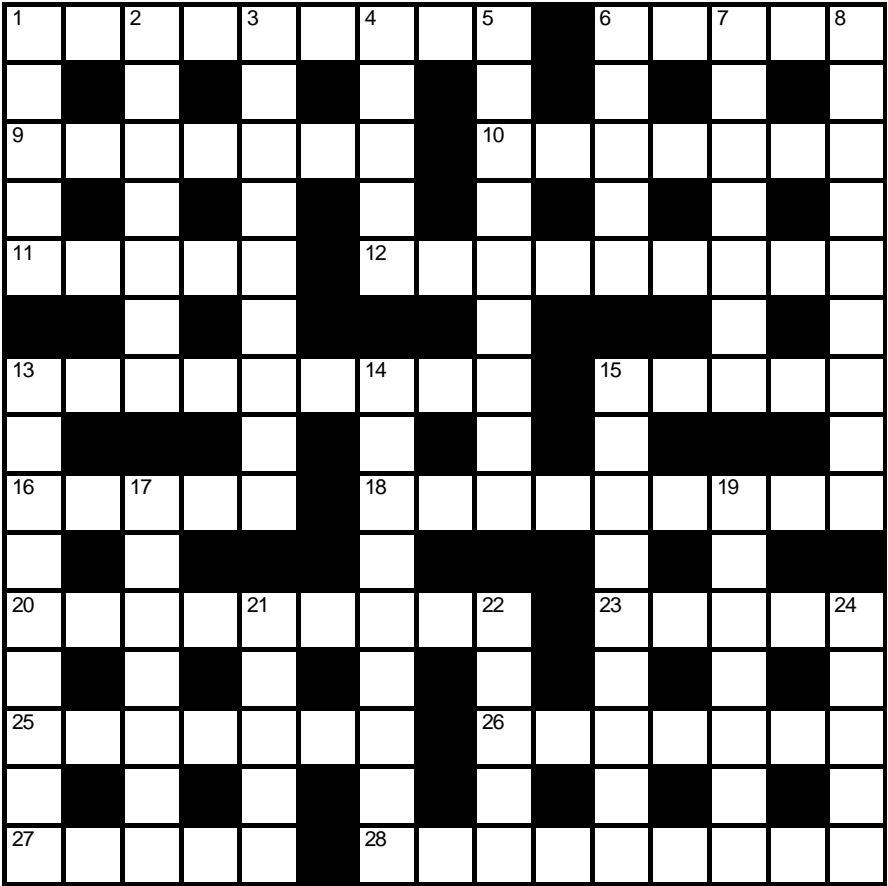
Crossword Number 130

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

NIBOR

This month’s puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18 April 2016. 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 It may help you to see a small onion for example (9)
- 6 Conservative 4 in charge of a town (5)
- 9 Bad luck Ken, it's a joint (7)
- 10 Broken double chin he'd removed from young cat (4,3)
- 11 Curtains held by dizzy blonde at home (5)
- 12 David and Yvonne start to go back for a train ticket (3,6)
- 13 Learns in authentic surroundings for practice (9)
- 15 Burst and battered ovals (5)
- 16 Crew had lunch we hear (5)
- 18 Peacemakers disrupt purple passage and pull plug (9)
- 20 Heavy weapons could produce a 15a (9)
- 23 Type of grease a worker might put on a joint (5)
- 25 Criticize when I sound like a horse around mid-Devon (7)
- 26 Perhaps Luther and I might meet for a drink (7)
- 27 Peer with ponytail arrives too soon (5)
- 28 First two pharaohs had French name; confine hothead in city (5,4)

Down

- 1 Enjoyed first love in Kansas every day (5)
- 2 Laugh so excitedly at spicy stew (7)
- 3 Encourage cardiology surgeon's first job (4,5)
- 4 Turn over unopened letters but leave one out (5)

- 5 ring at end of the day and collapse into awful dive (5-4)
- 6 Selected internal psychoses (5)
- 7 Food for convict ending with unusually antisocial language up front (7)
- 8 Young sailors take taxi to trendy buoys we hear (5,4)
- 13 Look again at soldier with old flame beside a pit (2-7)
- 14 Places joint in cosmic travellers' vehicle (9)
- 15 Caught the spirit in the rhythm section (5,4)
- 17 Recovered tog (3,4)
- 19 Going out? I bet bed was made (7)
- 21 No clergy in revolutionary Italy (5)
- 22 An Arab country for you old chaps (5)
- 24 What person sounds like an old hag (5)

Solution to crossword no. 129

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

We congratulate Steve Kent-Philips, the winner of last month's competition, who should collect his prize certificate from the editors. An honourable mention goes to Trish Whitehead.

[illegible]

or email specials@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Call: 101
Textphone: 1800 101
Visit: www.cambs.police.uk
Follow:      CambsCops
Subscribe: @Cops.org.uk



Frugal Lunches 2016

Soup-and-a-roll lunches held at three village venues during Lent have raised £320 in aid of Practical Action's Pumpkins Against Poverty campaign. These funds will be used to provide seed and know-how for people in Bangladesh who experience regular flooding. Speedily growing pumpkins, planted in the barren river banks left behind after the floods, provide food and cash crops for the poorest in these areas.

Grateful thanks to our hospitable hosts: Jess, Kate and Betty. The soup was delicious and your welcome equally warming. Thanks to everyone who turned out in mid-winter to support this great cause and donated very generously. Thank you also to Janet and Kate from St Mary's Social and Fundraising Working Group for organising these convivial occasions.

It is obviously a winning formula – we already have three volunteers to host next year's frugal lunches! More details in The Crier nearer the time.

Dee Noyes





On the occasion of the 90th birthday of
her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
the team that brought you the Swaffham Prior Street Party
would like to invite you all to

Picnic & Proms in the Park

to be held on the approach to Baldwin Manor, 80 High
Street on **Saturday, 11th June, 2016** from 3pm to 6pm
followed by a post-proms party at The Red Lion.

Booking (together with a voluntary £5
donation) will be open from 9th April
c/o Well House, 50 High Street

Dress: Crowns, tiaras,
red/white/blue.



Affordable Owl Box under
construction (see p. 11)

Swaffham Prior Feast 2016



This year's Feast will be on Saturday 21st May

We want to make this year's Feast bigger and more fun than ever - and would love to have your support to make sure that the day is a resounding success.

You can help us by:

- Taking a turn at manning a stall during the afternoon

- Baking a cake for the Cake stall

- Sorting out used books and other items for the Book stall and Bric-a-Brac

- Potting up some seedlings for the Plant stall

- Providing a bottle, can or carton for the Bottle stall

- Giving us ideas for new attractions

- Providing prizes for the afternoon's events

- Suggesting a local business which might like to hire a stall at the Feast

If you can help in these, or any other way, please get in touch; we would love to hear from you.

Most importantly, please support our village community by bringing the whole family to the Feast

The organising committee are:

April Cook, Caroline Matheson, Jenny Brand, Mike Carrington (01638 741659 or mcarrington@me.com) and **Peter Rand** (01638 741960 or perand@btinternet.com)

You can contact us at the phone numbers and email addresses above, or by contacting April at the School.

If you have any items for the Bookstall or Bric-a-Brac, please contact Alastair and Elisabeth Everitt on 01638 742974

The Swaffhams WI News

To mark the Centenary of the WI movement we decided to have a special copy of our village book printed to give to Swaffham Prior Primary School so the children would have a record of what the Village was like and how things have changed over the years.

At our annual meeting on March 21st we were delighted to welcome the



Headmistress, Hannah Curtiss and children from the school, Bethany and Emmett Thacker together with their mother Sarah so the book could be handed over. We are very fortunate to have such an excellent school in the Village and we hope they enjoy browsing through the photographic history of the area. The WI copy of the book is kept by Betty Prime and can be borrowed by anyone interested.

We then moved on the business of electing a president for the next year and I am very pleased to say I have another year in office. Our speaker Geoff Hales gave us an animated description of a year he spent in Tonga teaching English at the University. His arrival was marked on campus with a 'small gathering and a bit of food' which turned out to be about 150 people and roast pigs and chickens and tables laden with all sorts of delicious food. His accommodation was a rather modest windowless building with 2 bedrooms which he shared with a local who had been employed to cook for him and a dog Bowser that quickly adopted him and moved in. Lack of understanding of the local language found him enthusiastically asking for rat for breakfast (the cook did not follow this request) and mistakenly enthusing over some food which might just have been dog, but Bowser was not there to witness this! Geoff has a very dry sense of humour and we were kept very amused by this very talented one-man theatre and his South Sea Adventure. The evening ended as usual with delicious refreshments and a raffle.





New members and visitors are always welcome at our meetings so do come along and be part of this great organisation.

Pat Cook
President
Tel: 01638 742224

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

- Large dog basket (dark greenish colour) – suitable for Labrador-sized dog. John/Jill 01223 813810
- Sharp silver microwave oven; Old but perfectly usable Pacific DVD player. 01223 813852
- White double futon/sofa (wooden frame). David 01223 811105.

Wanted

- Wanted any old (or new, lol) computers or laptops or monitors to build a computer for my son. Anything at all even an old laser printer or Atari or even an Amiga and Sinclair spectrum. Also old software of ANY sort. Joseph, 07341971330
- Old tools, garage items and anything classic car related. Ray 01223 813117.
- 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.



VILLAGE GARDENERS

The speaker at our March meeting, was Veronica Bennett, a National Trust volunteer and a member of the East of England Talk Team- her topic- "Gardens and the National Trust".

Their gardens, which now number 300, date from the 15th century till now. They must be acquired - some derelict some complete, conserved, restored and maintained- perhaps a good moment to mention their 3000 volunteers, without whom, none of this could happen.

The properties vary from the mighty Stowe in Buckinghamshire to cottages- such as Hilltop, in Cumbria, the home of Beatrix Potter. Two are World Heritage Sites- Studley Royal in Yorkshire and Avebury in Wiltshire. Lord Clark said that they all were the biggest contribution to our culture, along with parliamentary democracy. Scotland has its own NT.

The Trust was formed in 1895 and originally acquired coastal areas that were under threat. Its first house was Barrington Court, in Somerset, given by a well wisher and the garden re- designed by Gertrude Jekyll. In 1937, under statute, the Trust could use endowments for conservation and to acquire new properties- one of the first being Blickling in Norfolk, where the three century old property and its garden had to be kept in historic balance.

In 1947, many neglected gardens were acquired and the Trust started the National Gardens Scheme to train gardeners. One of the first properties to benefit from this was Hidcote in Gloucestershire. The Trust considers it of the greatest importance, to retain the individuality of a property and its spirit, to which end it uses surveys, archive searches and employs expert horticulturists and advisors- all trained in heritage gardening.

Our speaker chose a few jewels in the Trust's crown, to elaborate on - Stowe, an 18th century house- arguably their finest property-which was the birthplace of landscape gardening; Studley Royal - a green paradise with spectacular water gardens- and not a flower to be seen- well only very pale rhododendrons; then of course, Anglesey Abbey- one of the most important 20th century houses to be acquired, with its many acres of lawns and the largest collection of statues in the country; the riverside Peckover House in Wisbech, with its 300 year old orangery and oranges that still taste very good and Wimpole Hall, with its large kitchen garden, playing its part in the trust's interest in conserving old and threatened varieties of fruit and vegetables.

The Trust has 31 national collections of plants- the most fragrant probably being at Mottisfont in Hampshire, with its collection of pre 19th century roses and now has an Academy, running one and two year courses, to train their gardeners.

Their environmental policy is stringently adhered to- water storage, recycling, using peat free compost etc and it continues to survey and replant trees and plants. They have a huge centre in Devon(no public access) where threatened species are propagated - all their work, as Veronice said, aimed at saving beautiful places for

future generations.

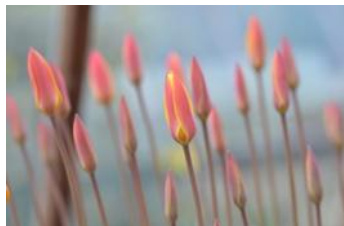
It was an inspiring talk.

Our next meeting is on April 19th, when Lois Baker will be talking about "Wicken Fen- Past, Present and Future". All welcome.

Margaret Joyce

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDENS

Spring again.....



At the mere mention of tulips, many immediately conjure up images of Dutch bulb fields awash with a rash of intense, brilliant colour. This popular and easy bulb brings a splash of spring colour to the spring garden, and is equally at home in both a formal garden setting and a cottage garden.

For the tulip enthusiast the genus offers far more than familiar favourites such as 'Apeldoorn' or 'Queen of Night.' Cambridge University Botanic Garden holds the National Collection of species tulips, which have given rise to the hybrids and cultivars popular today. The collection has its origins in the 1920's when William Rickatson Dykes, Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society, determined to understand more about the origins of the garden tulip and the diversity of the genus. Over subsequent years his collection grew, and was gifted to the Botanic Garden in 1948.

Today the collection comprises species which naturally occur in a range extending from western Europe to eastern Asia, and numbers approximately 80 in total. Given their natural distribution, it is no coincidence that their cultivation increased in the Ottoman Empire, and this in turn gave rise to the phenomenon of Tulipmania in the 1630's. The collection is diverse in colour, form and flowering time. The season begins with the diminutive, white *Tulipa cretica*, which starts the show in February. Flowering is rounded off in May or June by the tall, elegant scarlet *Tulipa sprengeri*.

Upon flowering, each pot of bulbs is displayed in our Alpine House and the collection provides a succession of interest from February through to May. Though incomparable with the vast acres of tulips in Holland, our small collection is invaluable in demonstrating the natural diversity of this genus, and the origin of one of our most familiar garden plants.



Sally Pettit

News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

The NHS and, in particular, General Practice appears as a news item in the media, almost on a daily basis. A question that has been posed recently is this: "Is General Practice value for money?" General Practice receives less than 9% of the NHS budget to care for patients and their families, yet over 90% of all contacts with the NHS occur in general practice. Recent figures demonstrate that GP services are delivering comprehensive care for a whole year with funding of approx. £136 per person.

So what else could you get for £136 per year? Mobile phone usage for 6 months, Sky family bundle for 5 months, 11 months pet insurance, coffee on your way to work for 3 months or a few tanks of petrol for an Astra car.

However for £136, a patient has unlimited access to GP appointments – now more than six visits per year on average – as well as home visits and care for house-bound vulnerable patients, immunisation programmes, cervical screening, chronic disease management and many other services.

Bottisham Medical Practice knows that most patients value their local GPs despite what the media suggests. Please work with Bottisham Medical Practice and the Patients' Group to help deliver the best level of care for patients. Your voice is important.

Patients' Group: The Patients' Group would be delighted to hear from you – please see the notice board in the waiting room for details, speak to the receptionist or look at the practice's website for further information <http://www.mysurgerywebsite.co.uk/ppg.aspx?p=D81055> and see what your Patients' Group has achieved.

Walks for Health: The next walks with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson start at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on 8th and 27th April, 13th and 25th May, 10th and 22nd June. Anglesey Abbey walks continue on Thursdays at 10am from the reception area.

AGM

Thursday 28 April 2016, 7.00 pm at Bottisham Village College

All patients are invited to hear a talk on

Carer Support and Dementia

Next Meeting after the AGM: Patients' Group will meet on 26th May at 6.30pm at the surgery. Come along to learn more about your Patient Group or if you would like to join us.

Bottisham Patients' Group

The Legacy of Wandering Aengus

**On the centenary of the Easter Rising
with acknowledgements and apologies to W B Yeats**

He went out to the thronging streets,
Because a fire was in his head,
And every image in his dream
Was leaping flame and whistling lead;
And as he dialled the fatal call,
With phone clenched in black leather
glove,
Those that were slain, he did not hate;
Those that were spared, he did not love.

That he has laid a city waste
And all the centre is a-flame,
And many bleeding on the floor,
And many crying out a name,
Let him be cursed with wandering
Through hollow lands and hilly lands;
Let us find out where he has gone
And hunt him down and bind his hands;

Invoke the spirits of Wolfe Tone,
Fitzgerald, Collins and Parnell
To curse his name and shame his sons
And damn his rotten soul to hell,
And not forget the mottled past,
Pluck out, till time and times are done
The crimson horror of the bomb,
The leaden terror of the gun.

Wulsin

**QUIZ
NIGHT**

FRIDAY 6th MAY

**7.30pm in the Swaffham
Bulbeck SCHOOL HALL**

entry includes
FREE glass of
wine

only £5 entry
per person (six per team)

licensed bar for drinks & nibbles

SWAFFHAM BULBECK PRIMARY SCHOOL PSA

March 2016

Full Council met on 22nd March. As has been widely reported, the longest debate surrounded the offer of a devolution deal from Government to Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Norfolk and Suffolk. Following a lengthy debate a motion indicating that CCC found the deal on offer was unacceptable and should be rejected pending further discussions. This was agreed with 64 votes in favour and 1 abstention. Two other motions were also agreed, one highlighting the need for work to tackle deprivation in parts of the County, and the other calling on Government to come up with a system for intervening in failing academies. Council also agreed to change the process for oral questions at Council meetings so that in future they can be directed towards any member of Council holding a position of responsibility.

The Children and Young People Committee met on 8th March. A new strategy for Looked after Children was agreed. Following news that Greenwood Dale Trust was withdrawing from sponsoring the new secondary and special schools in Littleport, the Committee agreed to name Active Learning Trust as our preferred sponsor for these 2 new schools.

General Purposes Committee also met in March.. Amongst other issues, the Committee agreed to start a Total Transport Pilot, bringing together the various public-funded transports around Ely. The Committee also agreed to defer a paper regarding IT provision for members and agreed a land transfer with Sawston Village College to enable a community hub to be built.

I also attended a meeting regarding the proposed expansion of Bottisham Village College.

David Brown



THE EXCAVATION OF ANGLO SAXON GRAVES, EXNING

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

7.15pm for 7.30pm Tuesday 5th April 2016

Reach Village Centre

Adults £7.50 including a glass of wine

Children (under 16 years) £2.50 including soft drinks

Ticket/s: Hilary Fielding (01638 741853) or Claire Halpin (01638 743330)

Or Liz Tabecki (01638 741864)

Notes from Parish Council Meeting 14th January 2016

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: None

Reports:

CCC Matters: Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting, including a comment on the street lighting situation. Ben Jakes had replied to say that he had no authority to issue a license for Electrical Testing to work on CCC street lights but suggested another contact in the legal department. John Covill asked if David Brown could report to highways the frequent breaking up of the road to the fen. This included the road into Reach, pot-holes which David Brown suggested had already been reported. Steve Kent-Phillips asked with regard to the Station Road discussion, if he knew James Rigney, David Brown said he did and that he is based in Witchford. John Covill asked if CCC had a list or directory of names and where was it.

ECDC Matters: Cllr Allen Alderson was unable to attend. His report was read to the meeting by The Clerk. Steve Kent-Phillips pointed out, regarding the 5-year plan, they had discussed the next 5-years before agreeing the current. David Brown pointed out that the plan had been appealed as the housing inspector disagreed with it. Parish Council plans for CIL were discussed but David Brown pointed out that they are not easy to do, Sutton were working on one and possibly Fordham but a referendum would be needed to complete one. Burwell had completed a master plan so they would not be doing one. David Brown's conclusion was a Parish Neighbourhood plan would need careful consideration.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

Steve Kent-Phillips reported that the notice board had been repaired and the cemetery water had been turned off. David Greenfield asked David Brown where the plan and report from James Rigney was, as it was suggested that it would be made available to the PC. The results of which would be of serious interest to the village. It was asked if James Rigney could be contacted through his superior.

Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration

ECDC: Parish Conference on the Local Plan - 18 Feb – noted.

ECDC: Guidance note for Parish and Town Councils on receiving and using CIL funds – noted.

SP School: Letter / email from Mr. Thomas Wood, Parent Governor, Chair - Premises Committee – David Almond commented that the funds should come from government. John Covill suggested it may be different if it were for new classrooms or facilities. David Brown pointed out that there were schemes for mobilising local investment for renewable energy, especially for schools, which some schools had already been successful with. Steve Kent-Phillips asked David Brown to forward the details on such schemes or funds. There was a discussion about who benefits, if solar energy saves money and if it were possible for the children to experience working examples of renewable energy in action elsewhere. John Covill suggested that we

send them the information on European mobilising money scheme – Steve Kent-Phillips agreed to coordinate. David Greenfield offered to go to the PC conference on the Local Plan.

Consideration of planning applications

30 Green Head Road – extension into two dwellings with two storey rear extension: no objections were raised. There were no objections.

Station Road – consider parking restrictions

There was no discussion as the PC did not have the report and planning proposal from James Rigney.

Ring Fence CIL Monies

Peter Hart noted that the committee had done well. Steve Kent-Phillips reported the results of the committee meeting attended by Steve Kent-Phillips, Sandra Gynn, Paul Latchford and David Almond at which The Clerk took informal minutes. The results were categorised into groups; how many requested and the criteria: eligible, viable – achievable, sustainable and inclusive. The latter was banded into age groups of 5-11, 12-17 and older. All the items considered to have met 2 of these at least but not including purchase of land. Some were classified as “do it now” as may be covered by the maintenance budget, so no need for additional funding. Clearing the cemetery spoil heap and replacing the daffodils around the village, for instance, were in progress or being done in any case. The remainder were narrowed down to 10 items. Some items were costed and some not but reasons for rejection were also included in the report. Out of the remaining 10 items possible, not all 10 can be achieved with the funds available. David Almond suggested there was enough there for the village to consider. The tennis court was discussed as it required support to be sustainable therefore this kind of project required consultation with the village. Paul Latchford agreed with taking the suggestions to a village meeting and making the process inclusive. Steve Kent-Phillips suggested that the PC should now consider the options and present to the Annual Village Assembly. He also agreed to investigate the cost and possibilities for the proposed tennis court. Peter Hart suggested the PC agreed options by the AVA and publish, John Covill and Steve Kent-Phillips suggested in the April Crier.

Street Lighting

Paul Latchford suggested that David Brown had moved the process on.

Play Area:

It was agreed to approve the funds to replace the cargo net. A quote for new gates was presented from Borley Brothers, kindly arranged by a local resident that was a fraction of the previous quote from Wicksteeds. BB quote was for £1850 (+VAT). Paul Latchford asked about the safety of rising hinge closers. Steve Kent-Phillips suggested RoSPA would not have a problem with them. David Almond asked if we could check. Steve Kent-Phillips pointed out that Wicksteeds’ had spring closers and RoSPA asked for spring closers on the back gate. Peter Hart requested that we ask RoSPA and defer the decision to the next meeting.

Accounts for payment

These were all agreed.

Clerk’s Report

The Clerk noted that Peter Rand had been in touch regarding progress of the village sign renovation. He reported the drying process was taking a long time and that he was away for 6 weeks, so would report back after his return. Martin Mead had sent an email explaining the situation with his assistance offered to remove the speed bumps in Quy, which was read out to the meeting. The correct person to contact regarding traffic on Mill Hill had been established and an email would be sent. It was noted that PoP had asked for help in further Community Litter Pick. The poster was circulated.

Parish Councillors' Reports

Andrew Camps reported that the resident of Sheldrick's Cottage had cleared the ditch and bank adjoining his property, whereas the remaining part of up to the Beeches, had not. The Clerk would contact the resident responsible. He also reported that someone had put beech trimmings on the spoil heap – “using as their own dump”. Paul Latchford said he had also had a report. Andrew Camps noted that the plastic barriers had been left on Coopers Green, Steve Kent-Phillips said they were probably there as the work to replace the street light head was not complete. Steve Kent-Phillips mentioned the village events suggested by Janet Willmott were now on the village Website under news and events (/news.html). Paul Latchford noted that we had won the hockey and that he was now the joint eldest in the team. David Greenfield said that he had had complaints about Sanctuary Hereward not taking action regarding a dumped car and that he would contact SH. John Covill reported some recent travellers had set up camp and he would contact Cllr Allen Alderson to have words. Paul Latchford reported a dumped fridge in Deal Hole and asked for it to be added to the report.

Open Question Time

Michael Limb asked what the date of the AVA was. Steve Kent-Phillips said it was normally the Wednesday after the May PC meeting, so it would be May 18th, if the village hall was available.

Paul Catling – Clerk to the Parish Council

Notes from Parish Council Meeting 11th February 2016

John Covill chaired the meeting with 7 Parish Councillors and 4 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: None

Reports:

CCC Matters: Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting, including that he had progressed the Balfour Beatty licence to access the UK power network. That the Boundary Commission public findings where Swaffham Prior and Reach will join a larger CC district, will probably be passed. Steve Kent-Phillips asked if that would mean that David Brown would no longer be our councillor. David Brown was not sure. Paul Latchford pointed out that Electrical Testing had said they would honour their quote to repair the street lights but needed the UK Power licence, it seems there

was some confusion and Balfour Beatty were CCC's Lighting "department" and the licence was in their hands. Paul Latchford asked about the A14 queues and why traffic management was in place where no work was taking place. There was a discussion about temporary speed limits and the possibility of being fined and the £5K fine for not taking away traffic calming or temporary limits. David Brown said that he had asked and the reason was incomplete safety barriers. He had escalated the issue. Paul Latchford suggested it should be a clear road. Mark Lewinski asked if the speed cameras were reporting 40 or 70 mph. David Brown said it was changed from 70 to 40. Mark Lewinski asked if the average cameras also used this speed. David Greenfield – yes. David Brown said that he did not see the problem with the barriers, hence escalating the issue. John Covill asked about the pot holes in Reach and having been reported, even on the Web site, there had been no action. David Brown said that he would chase it if the log number was provided. Mark Lewinski pointed out as a motor-cyclist these pot holes could be deadly.

ECDC Matters: Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting, including the new cinema in Ely, which could end up as a niche cinema. He also noted that pot holes on margins on small roads were more of a problem. Paul Latchford pointed out that a mattress had been dumped in Station Road. Allen Alderson said he had reported that and the Heath Road one. John Covill pointed out that the travellers up by Headlake Drove had put out black bins but they had not been taken away. Allen Alderson noted this and said he had had the same in Weirs Drove and that they **had** been taken.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

Steve Kent-Phillips reported passing on the European Mobilising Money scheme information to the school – thanks to David Brown. He also reported RoSPA's requirements would be passed on to Borley Brothers so they could comment on compliance. He said that a resident had offered to remove the beach trimmings from the cemetery spoil heap and the dumped car had been removed. David Greenfield agreed that the car had been removed.

Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration

Additional Water for upper allotments: It was agreed not to pursue this due to the cost of maintenance. The Archived records receipt from CCC would be safely filed and a copy put on the Web site.

Consideration of planning applications

There were no planning applications.

Station Road – consider parking restrictions

James Rigney's response was discussed. Paul Latchford suggested a lot of time had been spent with no conclusion and it seemed from the response there was no critical safety issue. Steve Kent-Phillips pointed out a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) and the procedure to attain one, would still be required to even paint double yellow lines. There was some discussion regarding the question of the response suggesting it was or was not a critical safety issue. It was agreed that the response was not the recommendations expected from CCC and that an offer of a Traffic Regulation Order did not answer the questions. Due to budget constraints, CCC cannot fund new TROs and the PC and/or third parties need to fund the £1,500

required was discussed. The possibility of funding one with PC money and the possibility of some residents assisting with this was also discussed. It was suggested that the solution was the problem not the funding. It was agreed to get back to James Rigney and ask for recommendations.

Ring Fence CIL Monies

Steve Kent-Phillips explained the accounts and that the CIL money would be ring fenced in the postal account. Paul Latchford suggested that the fen path may attract match funding, John Covill agreed and that by Slade Farm was cycle path as well. Steve Kent-Phillips reported that he had talked to Martin Mead and Highways may help fund and Mr Mead offered to get contact details the next time he was in touch. John Covill pointed out that "Park & Cycle" was recently getting news coverage. Peter Hart suggested that if the AVA and CIL money discussion was to be in the April Crier, the PC needed to discuss the options at the March meeting. The Clerk had received the tennis court files kindly provided by David Parr from when Reach set up their tennis courts. It was also agreed to have a draft agenda for the AVA/CIL and David Almond asked if we could publish / distribute a list of dates for the year.

Street Lighting

Paul Latchford said he was waiting on David Brown, and that we should decide at the March meeting.

Accounts for payment

These were all agreed.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported a request from ECDC asking if Swaffham Prior were going to have a beacon for the Queen's birthday. It was said that Reach were having snow machines. Steve Kent-Phillips pointed out that we had proposed planting / replanting daffodils around the village. Mark Lewinski said there was a meeting on the 24th regarding the Queen's Birthday arrangements and possibly it was best to ask Janet Willmott. The Clerk also reported an email from ECDC regarding the Local Authority Trading Company (LATC) and that there was a seminar on March 3rd to explain what it was. Allen Alderson explained that is was to help the District Council to make money and that the first project was to build houses in Barton Road. There were no offers to attend the seminar.

Parish Councillors' Reports

There were no reports.

If anyone would like further information on any of the above items, please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk.

Future meeting dates:

14 April, 12 May 2016. All are welcome to attend.

Paul Catling – **Clerk to the Parish Council:**

Tel: 07040 908743 (Voice Mail only).

Email: clerk@swaffham-prior.co.uk

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

Church Services in April

at St Mary's, Swaffham Prior
unless otherwise indicated



Sunday 3 April, Second Sunday of Easter

11am Holy Communion (CWIT)

Sunday 10 April, Third Sunday of Easter

9.30am Benefice Service - Holy Communion (CW1), Swaffham Bulbeck

11am Benefice All Age Service

Sunday 17 April, Fourth Sunday of Easter

11am Family Service

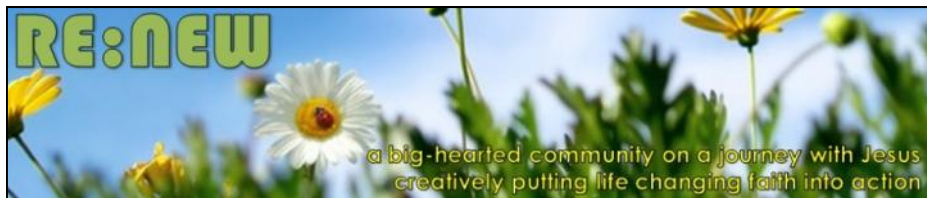
Sunday 24 April, Fifth Sunday of Easter

9.30am Benefice Service - Holy Communion (CWIT), Bottisham

11am Benefice All Age Service, Lode

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



RE:NEW Church Family

Be Vigi-lent ...

Lessons I have learned through Lent this year transcend the observance of a 40 day fast.

I spent Ash Wednesday in Manchester city centre on an 'Urban Retreat' - taking time to be still and attentive in the extreme busyness. Stopping; not just to look, but to notice; asking, "Where is God?" and experiencing Him and others in a deeper way. During this exercise I realised how much I have adapted to rural Cambridgeshire, as I struggled to be attentive and find peace amidst the constant noise of buses, trams, people rushing from A to B and the almost constant sound of sirens.

As hard as it was to retreat in this environment, I did indeed see God.

For me, this is what Lent has been about - Taking time out to look for God; hence, *vigi-lent!* I noticed God in the creativity and beauty of an outstanding female guitarist & vocalist, talented enough to be signed to a label and touring the

world - busking in Piccadilly Gardens with only a dozen people taking the time to watch and listen.

I felt genuine compassion for the homeless men and women, and those who appeared to be in pain. I felt confusion and frustration at the vast numbers of people out 'together' but not engaging with one another. Friends, family members, couples, gazing at small screens rather than at the faces of those they were with; present, but not *fully* present.

I smiled at the joy, grace and kindness of people giving 'free hugs' and white roses to passers-by.

Much of the beauty I noticed and the experiences I had that day were momentary, there one moment and gone the next. I was challenged to be attentive and make every moment count, to recognise opportunities to experience God in the beauty of my surroundings and the people I share them with.

I hope to continue to be vigi-lent, beyond Lent. I want to go beyond the surface, beyond the book cover, beyond first impressions, beyond my current experience of something or someone - to see situations and people as God sees them, indeed to see God *in* them. Will you join me?

May you see God today.

Alan.

RE:NEW Services in April 2016.

We have activities for children and young people at all our morning services.

A crèche is available if required. All are welcome.

*3rd April. 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture. With Communion
(Bottisham Primary School)*

10th April. 10.30am – RE:NEW Café style (at the School)

10th April. 6.20pm – Traditional service. (Lode Chapel)

17th April. 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)

24th April. 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)

24th April. 6.20 pm – Traditional service. (Lode Chapel)

*For more information about any of the activities of RE:NEW
please contact:*

Rev. Alan Brand on C.812558. Email: alanbrand77@icloud.com

or Peter Wells on C.812388. Email: pandawells@cheerful.com

Or visit our website at www.re-new.me.uk

Dates for Your Diary April 2016

Tue	5	Anglo Saxon Graves Talk, Reach Village Centre, 7:15pm
Sat	9	Team Quiz Night, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Thu	14	Parish Council, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Sat	16	POP Community Litter Pick, 10:00am Moveable Feast, 7:00pm
Sun	17	Fosters Mill Open Afternoon
Mon	18	Crier Copy Deadline WI, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Tue	19	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2.45-3.15pm Chapel 3.20-4.00pm Village Gardeners, Village Hall, 8:00pm
Thu	28	Bottisham Patients Group AGM, BVC, 7:00pm
Fri	29	Exploring All Saints, Jesus Lane, Cambridge, 5:30pm

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	