



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XL Number 6

June 2016



Editorial

AND FINALLY, IT'S THE QUEEN'S 90TH CELEBRATION! **June 11th**, and if you've not booked your spot yet, then do so now, this promises to be an unforgettable do if the Royal Wedding Street Party was anything to go by, same Maestro gang in charge...

Meanwhile, overheard at the Village Feast Egg Throwing "This is brilliant!"; "Why have we never been before?"; "Nobody told *us*. etc. etc." *communal thinks....then*: "I BLAME MY MOTHER!". Parents of Swaffham Prior take note, as you'll see from a modest portion of this month's issue and cover page, the Feast is very much up and running again, so don't forget to alert any teenage offspring next year, you may not be forgiven. Meanwhile, all readers can help us judge the 2010 Gurning Competition. Last year, people couldn't decide and wanted to distribute votes, so this year the editors are magnanimously awarding **3 votes** each, three for one, or 2 for one and 1 to another, or just 1 each for three, all very simple really, um,...

Moving on, the Village Assembly was great (see *Our Reporter at the AVA*), so impressive what goes on in this village but also concerning what might happen in the way of more housing. And we voted on how the CIL money was to be awarded. And that was fine, but the "Open Space" money is in compensation for missing communal space on the new estate (there's none, all gone to Parking) and afterwards (too late, as ever) I thought, hang on, it's a long way from there to the children's playground, and how come every single village round here bar *us* has got a tennis court. And a wood. Boo. Well it seems that this sort of stuff is all very impractical and not policy, since they'd need more land.

But whereas improvements to the "path" (thicket) by the side of Station Rd were also rejected (too expensive by half), residents will have noted that mysterious upgrades are happening there anyway. Yes, a line of brand new stately posts and of course, yet more grazing horses. See you at the Royal Birthday Do.

Caroline Matheson

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Cover Picture: *Disqualified from the Gurning*, photo by **Peter Rand**



Letters to the Editors



Dear Eds,

Shakespeare

It was pointed out to me that the worn old myth that someone else had written Shakespeare's plays has been unearthed and put in the pages of the Crier again, with veiled references to me. I had to laugh. It's about sixteen years since this first came up: my almost grown up daughter now reading this to me aloud was about two first time round. When the meaning of the article was explained to her, she said 'you've been beefed, dad' - which made me laugh even more.

I recalled that last year Richard the Third was dug up too, from his car park grave in Leicester: there was astonishment that his remains pretty well matched the historical accounts from the time, as if somehow folk in the past were not capable of seeing and understanding what was happening in front of them. People today seem to think that people then couldn't write it down and if they did they would get it wrong. But actually, the records tend to match the evidence.

We had some discussion then about why a car park was/was not a good choice of burial place. Doubtless there is someone out there with a cogent argument for why he was put under tarmac. After all, he is where he is. Or was. The location speaks for itself, and the historical records match the evidence. There are obvious logical objections but there's ways round those, perhaps.

The thing about the theatre is it's pretty difficult to keep secrets in that world. People live in each other's pockets, they work together pretty solidly day in, day out with not much privacy. So the idea that someone who was acting in professional theatre was supposed to have been writing nearly forty of the world's greatest plays over many years and was performing in those plays with that same theatre company they were being written for, and even reworked for the stage at times, when actually he hadn't written them at all, but still somehow he managed to convince everyone there that they were his plays - well, it may be entertaining to a modern audience but actually, he'd've been outed in no time as a fraud.

Theatre is full of gossip, everyone knows everyone else's business, and playwrights trawl for anything scandalous they can get out there to the public - as has been passed down to us in great plots from all the plays of that time. And guess what? None of those plays is about a playwright who didn't write the plays everyone else wished they had written. Just a couple of snide remarks about who had the better classical education - yes, they were all well drilled in Latin and Greek, that's what came out of the grammar schools set up after Henry VIII broke up the fantastically wealthy monasteries and gave the money to his friends - they set up the schools which meant quickly a well-read middle class appeared, and Shakespeare was one of them. All the classics were known, and those European works too. Only after he and his generation were long dead and no-one was left who could contradict, did the delightfully barking idea come into fashion that because Mr S wasn't London aristocracy he couldn't have written them so someone else did.

Sure, it's entertaining enough as an idea, in these times when everything gets

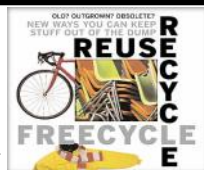
looked at twice over and recycled, telly programmes are made about people watching telly, and we delight in endless almost untangleable conspiracies running in tv series for months at a time. So I wouldn't want to deny anyone the pleasure of believing in this one; dig it up, walk it round the park again.

I've never seen this point raised in literary circles. If not, it's my personal contribution; if it has, I thought it independently. If there is one clue in the lack of documents in Shakespeare's hand - there is his will, actually, and unsurprisingly - it suggests a man deliberately not leaving anything behind that people could analyse. He was easily clever enough to guess how people would use such relics. It could be he intended the lack of documents to drive some to madness in a speculative frenzy. I leave it to the speculators to consider how to feel about that.

Mark Lewinski

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

- Sofa bed (fold-out double~88x70x162cm) on rolling wheels – metal framed, ~5cm deep foam mattress, Cushions (2 back, 2 side and 2 sitting) – slightly faded, russet-patterned removable covers. Flame-retardant label missing. David 01223 811105
- Dunlop Chest waders Ladies size 6 (39). Jacqui 01223 811190 (Afternoon or evening)
- Large plastic dog basket (dark greenish colour) – suitable for Labrador-sized dog. John/Jill 01223 813810
- IKEA double bed frame with headboard & side table, all in Birch immaculate condition. No mattress. David 01223 811888

Wanted

- Computer keyboard with PS/2 connector (small + round connector). Martin 01223 811703
- Redundant (could be dysfunctional) Ladders. Nicole 01223 812363
- 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.

Saturday, 11th June, 2016



By kind permission of
Mrs Marcia Miller and Prof. Desmond McConnell
you are cordially invited to

Picnic & Proms in the Park

to celebrate the occasion of the 90th birthday of
her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
on Baldwin Manor Field, 80 High Street from 3 to 6pm followed by
jazz and hog roast from 6:30pm at The Red Lion

Booking forms (together with a
voluntary £5 donation) can be
collected c/o Well House, 50 High
Street

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

Timetable for the Proms in the Park:

10am	Volunteers to help put up bunting/decorate the field
11am to 2pm	Deliver your tables, chairs, picnic blankets and gazebos
2.30pm	Church bells will start to ring
3pm	Arrive at the field
3.15pm	Music & dancing from The Cyriacs
4pm	Cake Judging
4.15pm	Swaffham Prior & Swaffham Bullbeck Gospel Choir
4.30pm	Proms Sing-a-long
6pm	Finish
6.30pm	Jazz and hog roast at The Red Lion

There is a cake competition (royal theme) – prizes for kids and adults, a Pimms Tent, Tea Tent, free bouncy castle, dancing, singing and socialising. So pack your posh hamper and settle into an afternoon of Pimms, Proms and Pageantry!

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

Once a year the PC holds its Annual Meeting when it elects the Chairman and all other officers. Last year it took 12 minutes and this year only 11 minutes. There is then a period of twiddling the thumbs until the main meeting begins at 7.30, with Peter Hart as acting chairman for the night.

David Brown was away. Allen Alderson triumphantly opened his report, announcing the caterers who have now signed up for the new Cineworld complex. He intends to provide a full report at the Annual Village Assembly, and this alone should be a good draw to pull the crowds in. I'll just reveal some of the good news, which is that McDonalds and Costa Coffee have already signed though I can't remember whether KFC were on the list. Allen also gave the latest news on the proposed East Anglia Devolution. A long almost overwhelming list of possible schemes was read out. Paul wondered if there was a priority order in the list and Peter asked if the people were to be consulted. Allen was not sure though he did proposed improving the A10 as one priority he would like. But, "there is still a long way to go" as some councils are still not in favour of the scheme. More information is certainly needed. Who will provide it?



Steve reported on the annual Play Area Safety Inspection report, most of which it seems could be ignored apart from one missing paling in the fence, and the dropped hinges on the gates which are already scheduled to be replaced. Paul brought everyone up to date with the Street Lighting, especially that in Fairview Grove. He continued to struggle for information from the CCC until he asked whether he needed to ask his MP for the information. Contact was made within 20 minutes and now Balfour Beattie (already behind with their work) have agreed to take it on. So progress has shot forward, and something may be happening at last – but Paul has been here many time before.

Item 11 was to "Agree action relating to Station Road parking restrictions". I will not follow the usual custom of naming who said what. On this rare occasion I will call people A,B,C, etc. The challenge, without asking PC members, is to guess who said what. I will give you a clue or two. John Covill and Mark Lewinski had sent their apologies, Peter Hart made no comment, there were two members of the public, and also a wild card. Please address your answer to the Editor. The responses were certainly more extensive and eloquent than the summaries given below. Here we go.

- A. Double yellow lines are not what we want, especially as it is only a problem for an hour twice a day. Also it would be unenforceable.
- B. The only accident at this point occurred in February 2005 when the road was clear, a car came up Station Road far too fast, the road had a bit of ice on it, and my brand new car was written off. Turning it into a potential clearway is not an answer. If the PC did approve any action there would need to a public consultation, which would result in a free-for-all because there are so many views, and he with the loudest voice may win. In any case it would just push the problem down the road.

- C. Did not think there is a problem now, because it has been very much diminished. The School appears to be controlling it better. More control of the lorries is needed.
- D. It is a management issue. Does not support double yellow lines but does support more management.
- E. Very worried about the huge lorries that have drivers who are “foreigners”. Thought them a real problem. C) suggested working closely with Lords Farm so that lorries avoided peak times.
- F. If any child is dropped off by car near the school, then that child should be banned from the school.
- G. A clearway could lead to speeding and a request for speed controls as in Quy. Needs to be thought through to appreciate unintended consequences.
- H. Anyone with any experience of lorry drivers should know that it is impossible to control them, even when they leave Lords Farm. The Highway Code already declares it illegal if people park too closely to a junction, but this appears to matter not in the village.

This does not include any comments from the acting chairman of the day. Peter summed it up by saying that the PC recommends no action, that the efforts of the School have been good and that they must be encouraged, with one member suggesting the School should give a regular refresher course as it is so easy for parents to slip back into bad habits.

With this out of the way Steve reported that the PC made a profit of £5054.91 last year. “Hush, don’t use that word” many cried, “The Press is here”. I think some would have preferred “under budget”. As it happens Steve showed this was a bit of an over simplification as everything could be explained in a way acceptable to the auditors. Overall we have very good reserves, some ring-fenced for quite specific emergencies.

BUT, and this is a big but, I have never seen accounts for payment being so suspiciously so neat. £400 for Clerk’s salary, and £100 for the Inland Revenue, making a lovely round £500. Remarkable.

The Clerk said that Burwell Museum asked whether we would give them our lovely wooden fire engine which they currently have on loan. “No” was the answer. The Public Gallery raised a question about the line of plastic poles that suddenly appeared in Station Road. Only one member was aware of them, which raised the question whether any one, or any body, can put these up without consulting, or informing, the PC. This also applies to the one on the middle of the corner pavement near the School. Steve, as our traffic officer, was asked to explore.

Alastair Everitt

Village Mowing

The grass at the cemetery, Coopers Green, the Village Hall and on the verges will be cut during the week of Monday 23 May and then every other week to the 24th of October.

The Village Feast: did you feel the buzz?

Aperitif

Thanks to everyone who helped to make 2016's Village Feast such a special event.

Over the last two years, a number of new helpers have transformed the Feast from a rather tired event into something that the whole village can enjoy, and - with your help - we intend to keep it improving.

Starter

This year's entertainments got under way with some enthusiastic Maypole Dancing by children from the school under the direction of Gordon Godfrey, who is, sadly, leaving us for wetter, Welsh climes. The set included a new dance, Helter-Skelter, which was particularly impressive.

Soon after the barbecue had been set up and lit, and fragrant smoke permeated the air, the fire brigade arrived at the front of the Hall - but these events were apparently unrelated. Children were allowed aboard the fire engine, until the firemen were forced to turn on their flashing lights and head off on an emergency call, returning later for a repeat show. We will be expressing our gratitude by contributing to the Fire Fighters' Charity.

Main Course

Many of the regular stalls were kept busy throughout the event, with increased footfall for the football competition (won by Harry Fairbairn and Joe), Splat-the-Rat, Stocks and the children's Tombola. There was a very welcome return for the Bric-a-Brac and Book stalls, organised and (wo)manned brilliantly by the indefatigable Alastair and Elisabeth Everitt.

The multitude of competitions were hotly contested - the school children appeared to have been strongly motivated by the announcement of CASH PRIZES! Spiderman (James Downing), Robin Hood (David Griffiths) and a Princess (Francesca Griffiths) contested the fancy dress, the colouring competition was won by Rory Shakeshaft and Lily Steed, the Family Cake Challenge had many entries and some pictures of the family efforts can be seen in the collage of images, taken by Peter Rand. Finally, the Football Team quiz was won by Milly Parry (with a little help from her friends, I believe). You can check your answers to this quiz in this month's Crier.

Cheese Course

Throughout the afternoon, the weather remained good - despite dire warnings from the Met Office - and the Bar, Barbecue, Plant Stall, Cream Teas and Extreme Bears all profited, selling out of their respective wares. The committee have taken note, and will have increased quantities of cream and beer next year.

One stall that was affected by the weather was the Can Shy, which was reported to have had problems with the wind; heavier cans have been ordered for 2017. Meanwhile, next door to the Can Shy, the competition to become this year's Luttrell Bowls champion was characteristically fierce.

The Village Feast 2016





**SWAFFHAM PRIOR
GURNING COMPETITION
2016
VOTE FOR YOUR
FAVOURITE**



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46

See over

Please send your votes for the winners of the Gurning to the Editors either by email (editors@swaffham-crier.co.uk) or paper votes through our letter box. Every voter has **3 votes**, and can award these between one, two or three people, as desired.

Meanwhile at the egg throwing ...



... and the winners were James Willmott and Charlie Fletcher.

... contd. from page 7

Molly dancing was carried out with great gusto during the afternoon by the school children, again under the expert guidance of Mr Godfrey.

The gurning competition attracted an even larger number of entrants than last year, and it is now up to the members of the Village to crown the new champion (see the related article and pictures in the Crier). Get your votes in promptly - the winner will be announced at the Autumn Show in September. Harry (see Editorial) didn't get the idea that you aren't meant to look cute with your head in a toilet seat.

Dessert

After completion of the gurning and the draw for the raffle, everyone headed to the road for the Annual Egg Throwing Competition. There was a short delay while cars were (mostly) moved. It was agreed that the throwing would go ahead despite one remaining car - which turned out to be the car that I had borrowed from my son and not recognised! After a series of exciting and messy preliminary rounds, James Wilmott and Charlie Fletcher put up an excellent show in the final to come in clear winners: their names will be engraved on the newly instated trophy which will be displayed in the Village Hall. My favourite memory is of the nameless contestant who made an excellent and completely successful catch, only to then drop the egg (I almost felt an emoji coming on then).

After-Dinner Speeches

I would like to thank April Cook for her wonderful work with the microphone and advertising the event, Peter Rand (and friends) for music, signs, and much more, Jenny Brand for organising and running the Raffle, Steve White and his family for manning the Barbecue (and donating all profits to the Village Hall), Griff Hunt for lending us his equipment. the WI for running the Treasure Hunt, Martin Mead for the Egg Throwing, Caroline and James Matheson for the Bar, Jill Bourne for the Tombola, and to all the new and long-term helpers who made the event a success. I hope that you all enjoyed the afternoon and will be ready to help out again on Saturday May 20th 2017!

Mike Carrington

Answers to the “Name the English Football Team” Quiz

Cloudless above and pushed Britain poetically
Fastens shire
Chemically regular and large official structure
Add coal to conurbation
Hepatic pond
Devouring book
Cook meadow midweek
Boat structure in riding (east) to large town
Inter the shakers
Seamen and an old princess
East-ender's hair - playing in the (bee) hive

Brighton and Hove Albion
Notts County
Crystal Palace
Stoke City
Liverpool
Reading
Sheffield Wednesday
Hull City
Bury
Crewe Alexandra
Barnet

Abbey joined, but later renamed	Cambridge United
Those looking after Kensington Gardens, for example	Queens Park Rangers
Holloway weaponry	Arsenal
Add-on aimlessly	Bolton Wanderers
Left the Dell	Port Vale
Long-in-the-tooth actor, but still good at sport	Oldham Athletic
Revolting Tyler at river crossing	Watford
They never arrive early, coming from the far east	Leyton Orient
Wander about in front of barrier	Millwall

From our Reporter at the Annual Village Assembly

Never believe what people tell you without checking it out first. I was assured that reporting the Annual Village Assembly is a doddle. How wrong that is - even with much gratefully received help from our Chief Reporter at the Parish Council (but not Village Assembly). The meeting went on until after 10.00pm and it was packed with reports and discussion from the floor. What follows are the heavily edited highlights gleaned from pages of notes.



David Brown wasn't there so there was no **CCC report**. Allen Alderson presented his **ECDC annual report** (there's a copy in this month's *Crier*) but this was all familiar stuff to those who read his monthly reports and was received without comment. Things started to liven up when, almost as an afterthought, he talked about the **Local Plan**. This raises a very important issue for the village: the Government is demanding a large number of new houses in the area and also the selection of land suitable for these. All stop lines have been abolished for the moment which means we are vulnerable to anyone with land who makes a building proposal. Dave Jackson asked why the PC had not completed a Neighbourhood Plan which he said would be legally binding, and would protect the village. Answer from the Chair: because it would take up to two years of concentrated work, would cost about £20,000, and could be ignored or outdated, as had happened previously to Burwell and Bulbeck despite their Neighbourhood Plans, following a precedent set at Witchford. In the meantime the PC had registered our stop lines and open spaces. Emma Fletcher offered some useful suggestions. More will be known after an ECDC meeting for Parish Councillors on 2nd June which David Greenfield will be attending for us. Meanwhile there is a rumour that a list of possible building proposals will very shortly appear somewhere on the ECDC website.

John Covill gave the **Parish Council report** which, like Allen's, covered everything you have already read about in the *Crier*, as also the report by Steve Kent Phillips on the accounts. Someone raised a question about pot holes and the appalling CCC repair history and James Willmott revealed the rubbishy nature of the repairs: a lorry draws up, the hole is scratched around a bit, not even swept, a bit of wet tarmac is thrown in, the lorry runs over it a couple of times, and then it drives off to the next

hole. James asked why the hole was not filled properly and was told - money.

Then the presentation of the **Gay Bulleid award** was made. This year two people had an equal number of votes: Shirley Wilkins and Andrew Camps, and they will each have the Ophir Catling picture for six months. Shirley was chosen because she has been such a good neighbour to those who need help, and has also consistently contributed to the needs of the Church. And Andrew, because he has always been such a helpful, unassuming, uncomplaining, and loyal person in the village being on both the PC and the PCC, and offering invaluable service as Verger to the Church.

Emma Fletcher gave the latest news on the Rogers Road development. All the Community Land Trust tenants are extremely happy, only three houses remain unsold, and all work will be completed quite soon. She said it is surprising how the number of single people in need has increased over the last two years. Alex Kirby proposed that more low cost housing was needed, and it was also proposed that the whole of the field should be developed. This was challenged because the overwhelming majority of the village had fought hard over the years against the various plans of developers for just this. It was thought that the current owners of the field are unlikely to welcome more houses. Finally, Mike Phillips suggested that the Rogers Road residents deserved some recognition of all the disturbance they have suffered.

Charlotte Cane, Chair of the School Governors, gave an excellent presentation for the School. We've requested a copy of her report so you can read it in full in this month's *Crier* and she will also arrange that the monthly report from the school reappears from next month. There were two main items which received discussion. Firstly the School has been allocated about half a million pounds for refurbishment. Most of this will take place during the summer holidays, so the pool will have to be closed during the summer. Secondly, the School appears to have handled the Sats Tests very well, getting a sensible balance between the children achieving good marks but without causing them undue worry and stress or disrupting their general education. Charlotte was asked whether a selected Stats paper or two could be reproduced in the *Crier* (she will check) or, which some thought might be more fun and demanding, whether a number of people could attempt a test or two as an exam in a classroom. Not everyone agreed that this would be fun.

Steve White gave a lengthy report on the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts; lengthy because there was lots to say and they've been very successful. He started on a sad note for them, and the village as a whole, with the death of Francis Reeks who had been a stalwart for many years. There are between 65 and 70 children, split roughly equally between the three age groups and coming mainly from Prior and Reach but with a few from further afield. The Field, their main base, has seen significant development: flushing WCs (a bucket flush), a kitchen in a container and another for storage. Loads of events ranging from Remembrance day in the village to a trip the Danish fjords, and including sleepless nights in Mepal, many miles hiked and the sale of 800 burgers at Reach Fair along the way.

We then moved on to **THE BIG ONE**. How do we spend the CIL monies which need to be spent and everything completed within three years. In due course there

will be about £69k. Steve gave a superb presentation. The first choice was: do we spend it all on one big project or spread it out over a number of smaller ones. The first big project suggestion was the improvement of the footpath leading to the football ground. This was rejected because not enough people would use it. The second suggestion was the refurbishment of the Youth Club hut. This was also rejected, but more on this later. It had been noted along the way that the Scouts might be able to use it but development of their own facilities and the availability of the School Hall make this a lower priority than it might have been.

If my notes are correct, this then left the following smaller projects: a roundabout for the play area (£7k), the St Cyriac's footpath (£2k), removal of the spoil heap in the cemetery (up to £10k), replacing the remaining old street lights for which the PC are responsible (£5k), and the purchase and restoration of the phone box (£2k). The suggestion was then made that we should add a structural survey of the Youth Club hut to this list as no decision could be made about its repair until it is known what state it is in. After a vote, an objection to this, and another vote or two, the hut survey was added to the list and all these smaller projects were agreed for recommendation to the PC. An approach will be made to the owners of the hut, the Parochial Church Charities, and to the Youth Club Leader, Mr Badcock. Some monies will be left, and in due course the PC will ask for further possible ideas, and costings, if possible.

Peter Rand brought us up to date with the Village Hall and proudly showed off the pristine condition of the building following its £8k refurbishment. Last year's income was £14k, the expenses £18k, which meant they were down £4.7k for the year but this included the refurbishment and bookings continue to hold up and the Hall remains popular.

There were then a final set of shortish reports. The Parochial Charities has a £14k balance and has not been heavily used recently. The Community Car Scheme has 7 drivers (more volunteers would be welcome) and all bar two requests have been satisfied, mainly for hospital visits. PoP has done excellent work around the village removing litter and, with the help of the Scouts, tidying up the churchyard.

And finally to Open Question Time. Dee Noyes raised the condition of some of our footpaths and this was supported by Caroline Matheson who was especially incensed about the footpath which leads from Pulpit Corner across the field leading to the Dyke. The new iron gate sticks so you have to climb over it and the farmer has ploughed over the path beyond making it hard to use. It was suggested that she writes to Peter Hart, our footpath officer, who is red hot on footpath transgressions, and who knows the very strict rules which apply when farmers plough over paths. There was a request for another passing place down the fen, a query about the Deal Hole and whether this would be a good place for a tennis court, and concern was expressed about the ponies grazing on the grass just down the fen.

Despite the late hour, there was a general air of satisfaction that it had been as useful, lively and interesting meeting.

James Matheson

Postscript 1 - New Houses

Following the meeting and during the celebratory drink in the Red Lion we learned that Bulbeck had a plan for **35 houses**. It seems that an application has been put in and this was to have been discussed at Bulbeck's Annual Village Assembly which had taken place the night before ours. About 100 people turned up to express their concern. But it could not be discussed because "it is not on the Agenda". Neither could it be raised at the end because "Open Question Time is not on the Agenda." Result some unhappy Bulbeckians and it may be worth reading the *Bulbeck Beacon* next month.

Postscript 2 - More New Houses

On the Friday following the meetings, Our Chief Reporter found that ECDC had made available on line its *Call for Sites Report May 2016*. This revealed that 5 sites in Bulbeck had been offered with the possibility of **219 houses**. In Prior 4 sites have been offered including the nearly completed Rogers Road development. The other three are: i) possibly near Paul's allotment - 3 houses, ii) opposite Professor Alexander Goehr and Lorraine Ison - 9 houses, and iii) the horses field next to the cemetery - 15 houses. No sites were offered in Reach. ECDC says about each site "The inclusion of this site does not represent any decision by the Council and does not provide the site with any kind of planning status".

SWAFFHAM PRIOR PAROCHIAL CHARITIES

As most people in the village will be aware the above charity helps pensioners and anyone who considers themselves in need of assistance at Christmastime. This help is not only at this time of year the charity is always happy to listen if you need help at any other time of the year.

We are also wondering if there are any students who may wish help with any educational needs reference books etc.

If you wish to discuss further please do not hesitate to contact me,

Pam Waters

Clerk to the Trustees Tel 01638 741035

The Referendum

Those who are still torn with doubt about whether they are going to vote "remain" or "out", might like to reflect on Hilaire Belloc's advice to poor Henry who was consumed by a lion at the zoo:

"Always keep a-hold of Nurse
For fear of finding something worse."

EE

A Royal Visitor to Bottisham Village College

Last month Bottisham Village College had a very special visitor. As part of the Diamond Celebrations of the Duke of Edinburgh's award, Bottisham Village College was selected for a visit from HRH Edward, The Earl of Wessex.



Bottisham was selected as the school, because it has so many participants taking part in the Award at Bronze and Silver levels, approximately 150 this year alone. This is the second largest centre in Cambridgeshire for numbers.

HRH was welcomed on the front lawn by an enthusiastic party of BVC students as well as a group of the school musicians. He then met students involved in both the Bronze and Silver awards from several Cambridgeshire schools, also staff involved in the awards, as well as local

dignitaries.

Schools from across Cambridgeshire were invited to attend the 'Diamond Challenge', celebrating 60 years of DoFE, each team completing the 20 challenges, having collected sponsorship.

Challenges had to be completed within 2 minutes and for example, included;

1. *Unfold and refold an OS map*
2. *Dress in and remove waterproofs*
3. *Match 10 OS map symbols to their meanings*

Prince Edward showed he was no slouch, by joining in some of the activities, and then after a brief tour, presented long service certificates to specially-invited



leaders who have given 10, 20 or more years' service to the Duke of Edinburgh Award as trainers, assessors or adjudicators.

However, for many of the students (and possibly staff), there was an even greater attraction on the day than HRH! Philip Schofield and a film crew were at BVC filming the proceedings. He was filmed interviewing HRH for a documentary about 60 years of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, to be televised later this year.

After more photo opportunities and cutting of a celebratory cake, The Earl of Wessex left by the Queen's flight helicopter for another engagement in Cambridge.

Peter Walker

Editor, The Cresset Magazine



Ophir - Snippets of Village History

The following are some extracts from emails between Ophir Catling (our poet no longer in residence) and the Editors which we thought would be of interest to others as well.

Hassocks

A leaflet was produced (which I just found) about the project which was initiated by Christine Jackson in 1989. Marion and John Norris commissioned two. Then 17 members of the W.I., under the presidency of Betty Prime, took over the project. They funded and produced a further 43 hassocks, which were dedicated in 1995. Hilary Mengham then took over and an additional 24 for the choir stalls, 4 for weddings (our dog, 'Suki' was on one), and 4 to commemorate the millennium, by 1999.

Apart from the above mentioned, the following were involved: Edna Catling; Kate Child; Sue Hilling; Liz Kent; George Lamberty; Jutta Reeks; Ruth Scovill; Shirley Wilkins and June Wolfendon.

Some W.I. members thought the standard designs 'too ordinary', and this is where I came in. (You were beginning to wonder?) I produced designs (painting them on the individual canvas' with Acrylics), for the patterns of: the Cross; the Windmill; the Daffodil; the Two Churches; and the Village Sign; and our then dog, 'Suki'. Also two in the choir stalls: featuring the first lines of the hymns:- 'Thine be the Glory' and 'O Praise Ye The Lord'.

There's more information in the Hassocks leaflet. (Might be worth an article by itself?)

The Catlings



We arrived in Swaffham Prior and were first in the new development called 'The Stables' in 1964 Oct 23. Left there and went to Burwell: 'Oak Farm'. 12 North St. in 1968 Aug 02. Had the barn, part of the adjacent appurtenances, developed into 'Swan Barn', 12a North Street, and stayed there until 1984 Sept 6. Then we returned to Swaffham Prior, to 'The Heights', 10, Adam's Road, in 1996 until 1998 when my son, Paul, took over the bungalow.

We came to the Isle of Skye in August 2003. The photograph was taken in the garden there on Edna's 90th Birthday. The flower is an orchid, from son Paul.

I started work at Taylorcraft Aeroplanes, Rearsby, Leicester in 1941. Had a brief time at Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Coventry. Followed that with a season at Scottish Aviation, Prestwick.

Then I joined Marshall's as a 'Full Scale Layout Draughtsman' (Lofting); from 1956 until 1992, becoming Chief Loftsmen there, working, (among many minor aircraft) on the Concorde nose with its retracting visor; and instigating the installa-

tion of early C.A.D. This C.A.D. improvement was necessary in order to expedite the production of tool drawings for the C.130 Tankers, (Falklands shindig), and the later Tristars. These latter were too large for manual lofting anyway, 'Lofting' is a term from shipbuilding, where the only place large enough to 'draw the lay-out for plates', etc. was the loft.

Verses

According to my list, I have sent at least 148 verses to the Crier since 1995. I may not have been recording them before then.

Ophir Catling

The Alzheimer Story. No 8

A Staff member's View.

'Monotony'?

We Care Workers meet the residents
And correlate with what we find;
Smiles unforeseen; surprising words,
Often enhance the daily grind.

We may glimpse a sense of humour,
And the passion that once was
there;
And are privileged if we discover,
Something --- besides a vacant stare.

Some time ago one couldn't have guessed,
Their lives would go this way;
But whilst they're here, we do our best
Each Day, -- by Day, -- by Day.

Ophir

From Helen's notes.

SWAFFHAM BULBECK SUMMER THEATRE

'THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE'

Wednesday 15th – Saturday 18th 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

See last month's *Crier* or www.sbsummertheatre.com for fuller details

The Fellowship of St Cyriac and St Julitta

It is probably reasonably well understood in the village that the Church of St Cyriac and St Julitta is owned by and in the overall care of the Churches Conservation Trust, who insure it, take responsibility for its maintenance and derive their income either from donations or from the whole or a proportion of any hire charges for their properties. Their latest venture in this regard, “Champing” has attracted some attention in this magazine.

What is probably less well known is that the local community’s interest in St Cyriac’s and the best interests of St Cyriac’s as a village community resource are looked after by a committee of local volunteers.

That this committee had hitherto rejoiced in the title of the “Swaffham Prior Festival Committee” is undoubtedly less well known still, for the very good reason that only those with a very long memory will remember the last time Swaffham Prior had a festival. [*Eds note: 2009! Some of us can just about remember 7 years ago. Maybe we’re getting old.*]

After mature consideration and lengthy reflection, the committee has concluded that the 21st century seems likely to be here for the foreseeable future and has decided to change its name to **The Fellowship of St Cyriac and St Julitta** whilst also revising its constitution, the better to reflect what it actually does, which is slightly broader than it once was.

The principal Aims and Objectives are as follows:

- to encourage and support cultural, artistic and community activities in Swaffham Prior generally.
- to encourage, support and organise such activities in, and in connection with, the Church of St Cyriac and St Julitta in particular.
- to act in the capacity of an official “Friends Group” in support of the Churches Conservation Trust which is the owner of the church.

The committee members are Sharyn Robinson (Chair), Elizabeth Everitt, Robin Mathieson (Treasurer), Andrew Grant (CTT keyholder) and Janet Willmott.

They are very happy to hear from anyone with an interest in or ideas for the Church of St Cyriac and St Julitta.

Andrew Grant

Good Old Will Shakespeare

Good Old Will is going to have a rest this month as there are far more important matters to consider, such as the Referendum and the Queen’s birthday. But there is no hurry, because Good Old Will has raised questions ever since he missed being hanged by the neck in 1598. This was for hoarding grain when famine struck parts of England. He and his fellow hoarders were condemned as “wicked people” ... “more like wolves and cormorants than natural men.” Makes you think?

Meantime, enjoy *Upstart Crow* on BBC2, Monday Nights.

Alastair Everitt

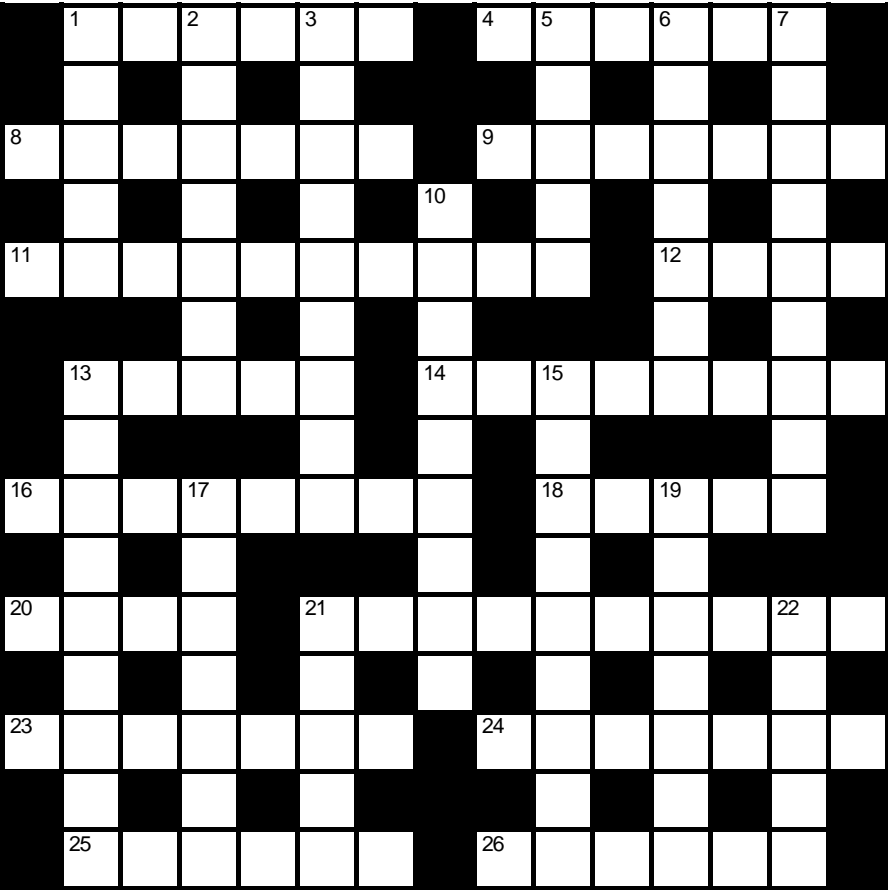
Crossword Number 132

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

BYWELL

Starred clues refer to characters featuring in a discussion over tea. They contain no definition. Send your answers to the editors by 18 June 2016. The first correct solution out of the hat will win a free Sunday lunch main course for two next month at the Red Lion (generously donated by the pub management). See full terms and conditions on the Crier web site.



Name:.....		
Address:.....		
.....		Tel:.....

Across

- 1 Opinion is these days against one, these days (6)
- 4 * See 17 Down
- 8 Help to capture rebels surrounding their leader at Pearl Harbour say (3,4)
- 9 At the cutting edge of puzzles? (7)
- 11 Orinoco banker may be regulated with uneven zeal (10)
- 12 Couplings after that first piggy-back (4)
- 13/20 * Half-laughing in regulated walk-about (5,4)
- 14 * River beds the other way round (8)
- 16 Enough lichen reported after little publicity (8)
- 18 Fatima slims to gain title of priest's (5)
- 20 * See 13
- 21 Sea slug not to be cooked as crustaceans (10)
- 23 Pagans once converted from endless itchininess (7)
- 24 Average Parisian is most miserly (7)
- 25 Edward I and II chasing sandpiper, as were Mary and Elizabeth (6)
- 26 * Plough second and third fields (6)

Down

- 1 * Celia is upset (5)
- 2 Painter turn's round euro's predecessor (7)
- 3 Barker's character is to repeatedly laugh out of turn (9)
- 5 French water is unaffected coming up (5)
- 6 Dish from Cagliari's Ottolenghi heartland (7)

- 7 Wash roses another way on trestles (9)
- 10 Nudge lobs cunningly to create smashes (9)
- 13 * Interpretation of that dream (3,6)
- 15 Horn makers teaching the bible to commander in the river (9)
- 17/4 * Request of a hen for free-range treatment (5,2,6)
- 19 Topless bars on the way up round depot (7)
- 21 * Celia is upset again (5)
- 22 * Lives up in the Spanish quarter (5)

Solution to crossword no. 131

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

We congratulate Andrew Houston, the winner of last month's competition, who will receive his prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Mackie Goddard, Trish Whitehead and Shirley Wilkins.

School News

Report to the Annual Village Assembly



There are 114 pupils at the school from Swaffham Prior, Reach and the surrounding area. The pupils and staff have been active throughout the year adapting to the new curriculum and the new attainment targets. The government expectation for our pupils is challenging and the staff work hard to help them meet the challenge and develop the wider social skills which they will need throughout life without becoming anxious about their SATs.

The school continues to be engaged in the community, with the traditional Maypole dancing at Reach Fair and the Swaffham Feast and Molly dancing. For several years the pupils have been researching the local history of the two world wars. Last year they received a Lottery grant to write a play based on this research. The pupils wrote, directed and performed the play and the grant allowed them to employ professional help to mentor them in the writing and production. The play was called 'War Through our Windows' and was performed in Swaffham Prior Church. It was a very moving play, and showed a deep understanding of the impact of the First World War on local people.

There have been some temporary staffing changes, with three teachers on or shortly to start maternity leave. It has been challenging to find good quality teachers with relevant experience to join the staff temporarily and the Head Teacher stepped in to teach Reception and Year 1 children part-time for half a term in the run up to Easter. To help with the training of new teachers, the school has hosted trainee teachers from Homerton College. We have had some very good trainees through this programme.

Sandra Gynn has joined us as an Associate Governor. As well as representing the Parish Council, she brings a wealth of experience to help the school and is making a strong contribution to the work of the Governors.

Mr Godfrey has handed in his notice and will be leaving us at the end of this term. He has been an excellent class teacher and Assistant Head teacher and will be much missed by pupils, staff and governors. We have advertised the vacancy and hope to recruit in time for a new teacher to start in September. Mr Godfrey has done a great deal for the school as a class teacher and Assistant Head teacher. I would pick out his support and encouragement to the pupils for their local history research and their play 'War Through our Windows'. We wish Mr Godfrey and his family well in their new home in Wales.

The County Council is carrying out major refurbishment works to the school. I would like to thank the Parish Council and local residents who helped raise the profile of the school's repair needs last Spring. We are getting a fully repaired and insulated roof; replacement of rotting windows and doors; re-flooring throughout the school, including removal of old floor tiles which contain asbestos; a new boiler and a refurbished boiler room, with the asbestos removed; better heating controls; a new fire alarm system; a new cold water tank; improvements to the drainage; repairs to

the boundary wall; and various other minor repairs. The contractors will also refurbish the toilets at the school's cost. Work will start during half term and should finish two weeks before the new school year, allowing staff to set up their classrooms for the start of term. There will be some weekend and evening work, but most work will be during the week during normal working hours. The school and contractors will do our best to minimise disruption to our neighbours, but we ask you to bear with us over the next few months. We hope you will agree in September that the school environment has been significantly improved.

Charlotte Cane, Chair of Governors
chair@swaffhamprior.cambs.sch.uk



The Swaffhams WI News

At the May meeting we were very pleased to welcome Tim Hayward and his wife Alison, owners of the wonderful Fitzbillies shop and restaurant in Cambridge, who had come along to talk about the history of the shop and their experiences since taking over the business. The shop was first opened by the Mason brothers in 1921 and their names are still in pride of place under the front window. After a number of owners, the company sadly went into receivership in 2011 and was brought to Alison's attention by a comment on twitter by Stephen Fry 'No No! say it ain't so – not Fitzbillies....' and so their adventure began. Now five years later their business is doing well with a restaurant serving food all day from breakfast, which is very popular and often sees the tables full soon after 9am! The good news is that another shop, Fitzbillies Bridge Street is opening next week so even more opportunity to indulge. When the talk finished we were presented with two large cake boxes brimming with the famous Chelsea buns for us to enjoy with our cups of tea. 'Delicious' everyone agreed as they settled down to the business part of the meeting, although I do think the sugar rush made the members rather restless! More food and drink on 20th June as we hold our annual garden party for members and guests. In July we will be back in the village hall on 18th when Geoff Lambert will be talking to us about Medical Dogs – should be a very interesting evening.

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

Email: patcook6@btinternet.com

BON MOT NUMBER SIXTY SIX

"There are three intolerable things in life – cold coffee, lukewarm champagne, and overexcited women."

Orson Welles (1915-1985)

News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

AGM: This was held at Bottisham Village College on 28th April and it was sad to see so few patients attend this meeting to support your Group and the two speakers, Sue Evans and Janet Parker of Burwell. They run a very successful Carer Support Group and gave a very interesting and helpful presentation about carers, a role which may at any time be required of any one of us.

There were no changes to the volunteers who serve our Group and it would be good to have some new people to help us. Our details are on the surgery notice board.

Carers: It is often very difficult for people who are in the position of caring for some-one to recognise themselves as carers. When new carers are discovered, carers are coded on to the Practice computer system. If you care for someone, please ensure the surgery knows. There is a lot of carer information on the Practice website. As there isn't a support group in our Practice we are considering setting one up. Carers Week is 6 – 12 June and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust are holding a Carers Day on 7th June 10.30 am – 4.30pm at The C3 Centre, 2 Brooks Road, Cambridge CB1 3HR.

Ideas: It would be helpful to know what you would like our Group to arrange, such as talks on particular health matters. Please give us some suggestions so we can engage more fully with those who use our Medical Practice.

Red Bucket Appeal: We are still several hundred pounds short of our target to purchase a second Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitor and hope to raise more funds with tombola stalls at summer events in the villages. There will be one at the Lode Fete on 19 June. Items for the tombola would be very welcome and can be left at the surgery.

Medication and Holidays: Don't forget to order your medication in good time before you go away on holiday.

Walks for Health: The next walks with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson start at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on 10th and 22nd June, 8th and 20th July, 5th and 24th August. Anglesey Abbey walks continue on Thursdays at 10am from the reception area.

Next Meeting: Patients' Group will meet next on 28th July 2016 6.30pm at the surgery. Come along to learn more about the Patient Group or if you would like to join us.

Bottisham Patients' Group



Cambridge Open Studios

Summer Event Dates

Cambridge Open Studios will run on the weekends of July 2/3, 9/10, 16/17 and 23/24. More next month and on the COS website (www.camopenstudios.co.uk) .

Bountiful roses



For many, the flower which conjures up summer more than any other is the rose, and it is no surprise that this quintessentially English flower frequently tops the list as the nation's favourite bloom. With a plethora of species and hybrids from which to choose, the gardener is spoilt for choice when selecting the ideal rose for their own garden. Not only are we faced with a range of colours from white and cream through to deep burgundy and shades of blue, but also with a choice of forms, ranging from vigorous bush to carpeting and climbing; scented; species or hybrid; traditional or modern; and fruit bearing or not.

There are many gardens which incorporate roses, all of which act as a source of inspiration for the gardener.

While soaking up the spectacle and heady aroma of a rose garden, how many of us pause to consider the origin of this popular flower? In our own Rose Garden here at the Botanic Garden, the display is arranged to present the complex history of the garden rose.

Much of the history and development of the rose was carried out here in the Garden by Charles Hurst the 1930's. The Rose Garden was subsequently designed in the 1980's by the renowned horticulturist, Graham Stuart Thomas, to demonstrate Hurst's work. Starting with ancestral European roses, the beds chart the history of extensive hybridisation of European and Chinese species roses. These have given rise to many of the garden roses with which we are now so familiar.



Our Garden includes a diverse range of plants, from the European species such as *Rosa gallica*, through to Chinese introductions such as the impressive, mound-forming *R. soulieana*. *R. 'Burgundy Ice'* is a selection of a modern floribunda; *'Felicite et Perpetue'*, among others, represents the climbing roses; and *'Graham Thomas'*, provides an example of the modern English Rose. The Rose Garden, with its history, diversity of form, colour and season of interest, combined with herbaceous underplantings and heady scent, brings a reminder not only of the typical English country garden, but also of the valuable role of research and hybridisation in our gardens. Whatever your reason for including roses in the garden, now is the time to enjoy them at their best.

Sally Pettit



Annual Report – 2016

The Council's Budget

The 16/17 Budget is balanced without a council tax increase. The 17/18 budget will be balanced, and the 18/19 budget is close to being balanced. We are the only Council in Cambridgeshire able to say this.

Ely's new Cineworld Leisure Complex

Work has now started on the site of the new six screen cinema on the Ely by-pass by the Downham Road junction. Leases have also been signed for several eateries including McDonalds, KFC, Costa Coffee and Frankie & Benny's. There will also be a 'Hungry Horse' pub operated by Greene King.

When it is eventually joined by the District Council's Sports Centre that will include a six lane swimming pool, learners pool, fitness suite and an all weather sports pitch. It will provide facilities for most leisure tastes. It will also include free parking for 380 cars.

Tourism

Last year Ely had 230,000 visitors, generating an income of over £4 million. We are hoping for an increase in this figure this year.

Recycling

In 2012 before the introduction of our new service we recycled 34% of our waste, this last year we recycled 57%. Also, of amount recycled in 2012 we sat at 286th position of local authorities, we are now at 26th position. This is a reflection of the achievement of Dave White, our recycling manager.

Community Land Trust Housing CLTs

These are first and foremost housing for people local to the area for rent. The houses are excluded from the Governments 'Right to Buy' legislation so remain in the rental sector. The houses being built at Streatham will be at 60% of market rent. It is our ambition to build 250 CLT affordable homes over the next 5 years.

£122,000 Rural Grant

East Cambs District Council has been awarded this grant by Central Government. It will be administered by the Council's Commercial Services Committee. Its details are as follows-

- Not Burwell, Soham, Ely, Littleport who already receive Section 106 monies.
- It will be divided equally between 42 Parishes giving each Parish £2904.00.
- The Rural Services Grant can only be spent on initiatives that benefit the community and each Parish Council will be required to submit an annual



report to the District Council to demonstrate how this grant has been spent.

- If a group of Parish Councils wanted to join together to spend this money on a large project, it would have the approval of the District Council.
- The spending of this grant is not time related. The District Council is still waiting to hear when we will be receiving this grant.

Other Matters

I currently serve on the Commercial Services Committee and sit on the Swaffham Interval Drainage Board. I have been involved in several local issues, particularly planning issues and I count it an honour to work on behalf of the residents of the Swaffhams Ward.

Allen Alderson



**From our Local County Councillor
David Brown**

May 2016

Full Council met on 10th May for the Annual Meeting. I have been appointed to the Children and Young People Committee, the General Purposes Committee, the Constitution and Ethics Committee and as a substitute member on the Staffing and Appeals Committee.

Cllr S Count (Conservative) was elected Chairman of the General Purposes Committee with Cllr Roger Hickford (Conservative) as vice-Chairman. This also means that they are Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council respectively. I had the honour of being elected vice-Chairman of the Children and Young People Committee, with Cllr Joan Whitehead (Labour) elected as Chairwoman. Cllr S Kindersley (Lib Dem) was elected Chairman of the Council for the coming year.

The ongoing discussions regarding devolution have seen a number of meetings during May. The latest position is that Government has now offered a deal for a Cambridgeshire/Peterborough deal, combined with a separate deal for Norfolk and Suffolk. At the time of writing the full details of how such a deal might work are still being discussed and seem to change on a daily basis.

During May I chaired a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board; attended the inaugural meeting of a new Board to consider how the educational improvement, particularly of disadvantaged groups can be improved across Cambridgeshire: Children and Young People Committee met and considered the process for setting up new Free Schools, linkages between Children's Centres and health workers and financial performance amongst other issues. I also attended a meeting of the General Purposes Committee and a workshop with Senior Management Team to consider transformation work and business planning for the coming year.

On the less formal side I joined the Mayor of Cambridge to distribute pennies at Reach Fair.

David Brown

Notes from Parish Council April Meeting

John Covill chaired the meeting with 7 Parish Councillors and 3 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

Peter Rand presented an update on the work to restore the village sign. The sign has suffered from water getting into the 3 wooded sections, which it seems (Steve Kent-Phillips pointed out) are railway sleepers. The water getting in and re-joining the 3 sections has caused progress to be slow. Epoxy will be used to cover the sign and photographs taken after the last restoration will be provided to maintain the original colour scheme. Rot has removed some detail which will require some work and the St Mary's tower will need replacing. Steve Kent-Phillips agreed to provide the 'photos and reported Elston Decorators were to start on the post in the near future. Peter Hart thanked Peter for rising to the greater challenge. Peter Rand asked if the Parish Council could address the problem of pot holes in the village hall driveway and car park. Steve Kent-Phillips said he would contact Martin Mead for a quotation.

Reports

CCC Matters: Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting including: questions in meetings can now be addressed to anyone in the meeting, not just the chair. Sandra Gynn asked if there was any change in catchment areas for schools. David Brown said no change or any proposed. There was more discussion about catchment areas including Mark Lewinski asked about widening. Sandra Gynn asked about Bottisham being oversubscribed. David Brown said that they had been asking for expansion for some time. Paul Latchford asked about the land transfer for a community hub in Sawston. David Brown reported the transfer was in fact an exchange of buildings allowing the build of the community hub but giving the College more relevant space. There was also a discussion regarding the Europe vote in or out message.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

David Greenfield pointed out the reply regarding Station Road from James Rigney was effectively a suggestion of an installation of a Traffic Regulation Order in the form of double yellow lines in the vicinity of the junction. The email from James Rigney was read to the meeting. As CCC could not fund a TRO, the PC, and / or third parties, possibly including improvement grants could fund it. Paul Latchford suggested circulating the emails for consideration as an agenda item at the next meeting.

David Greenfield reported completing the Local Plan Review forms from the Parish Conference held 18/02/2016. Paul Latchford asked if that included the allotments. David Greenfield confirmed that it did not, the 4 sections went is as agreed.

Paul Latchford asked David Brown if he had received any more on the Street Light situation, which he had not. PL agreed to continue chasing Balfour Beaty.

Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration

All correspondence was noted except:

Mark Lewinski asked if the Community Transport could help fund school transport as it seems Bottisham are proposing to charge. It was agreed it would only apply to existing transport schemes and the details had already been forwarded to the SP Community Car Scheme.

Consideration of planning applications

1 Orchard Close proposed loft conversion – 16/00014/FUL – no other objections were proposed to this amended application discussed at the March meeting.

Queen's Birthday Party – consider support

Peter Hart asked what size and level of support there was from the village. Sandra Gynn suggested Emma Fletcher had details in a file on her doorstep. Paul Latchford asked when the Queen's real birthday was as a flag would be raised. Steve Kent-Phillips suggested £350 would cover insurance costs. This was agreed.

Street Lighting—Agree Contractor and Action for Fairview Grove:

Paul Latchford said (as covered in matters arising) he would chase BB again!

Approval to ring fence CIL Monies

It was agreed to transfer £24 028.10 into the ns&i. (National Savings & Investment, high interest) account.

Councillor Vacancy

Steve Kent-Phillips proposed a letter of thanks to David Almond and advertising the vacancy in the Crier. We need to allow 28 days' notice. There was a discussion about the process if more than 10 people applied. It was decided the rules only required a vote if 10 people asked for it. The PC would interview applicants and vote. Steve Kent-Phillips suggested the interviews and vote could therefore not happen before the June meeting. It was agreed to put notices on the notice board and Web site in addition to the Crier. The Clerk read an email from a resident expressing an interest .

Accounts for payment

These were all agreed.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported a resident's concern about a car parked near the Mill Hill / Cage Hill junction. Steve Kent-Phillips had investigated, including with the Police and found, as it was legally parked, taxed and insured, not much could be done.

Parish Councillors' Reports

Steve Kent-Phillips and Sandra Gynn mentioned and there was some discussion regarding the cemetery tap being turned off. They reported that Andrew Camps had turned it on but in needed a tap (you have to hit it) for it to work. Steve Kent-Phillips agreed to investigate. Sandra Gynn asked if only dog bins were available for dog owners to use or could they use ordinary bins. Steve Kent-Phillips suggested they could use ordinary bins. Steve Kent-Phillips reported on the moss situation on paths and that current work by ECDC would deal with moss and that their High-Ways on-line site had a moss spraying request facility. John Covill mentioned and Mark Lewinski reported on a pony tethered on a grass verge in the fen and that it was legally parked. John Covill suggested sometimes it was possible to report such

things but the RSPCA will not act if it is healthy and looked after. John Covill reported the usual pot-holes and that Karen Champion (CCC Public Rights of Way Officer) had sent him a letter saying they have repaired some. It was noted they did the work when it was wet. Peter Hart added that the large pot-holes by the church in Burwell had been attended to but were now back.

Open Question Time

Mark Lewinski asked further regarding the PC vacancy and if the date (28 days) would run from the publication date of the Crier. Steve Kent-Phillips suggested the date would be from when it was on the notice board and Web site. Peter Rand asked if it should be copied to the Swaffham Prior facebook page. Steve Kent-Phillips agreed to add the notice to the fb page.

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

Future meeting dates: June 9th, 14th July 2016. All are welcome to attend.

Clerk to the Parish Council: Paul Catling

Tel: 07040 908743 (Voice Mail only).

Email: clerk@swaffham-prior.co.uk

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

Grass Cutting (recent The Clerk news...)

The contractor responsible for cutting the grass has recovered from an early season problem and is now expecting to be cutting regularly, every two weeks, from the week beginning May 9th, 23rd, June 6th, 20th etc. The actual work may be any day in that week depending on weather and other factors. They have apologised for the mistake and resultant “untidy” look to the village.



Church Family

For the past year I have had a deep sense of compassion for those men, women, boys and girls fleeing from their war torn countries and seeing refuge in Europe. I don't presume to speak for anyone else, I speak for myself in the light of my faith, experience and interpretation of what the Bible says.

“Give justice to the poor and the orphan; uphold the rights of the oppressed and the destitute. Rescue the poor and helpless; deliver them from the grasp of evil people.” (Psalm 82.3-4)

I have been praying for and pursuing justice for the marginalised wherever I

come across them - the poor and hungry in Teesside, the migrants in Calais, the Roma in Romania, the homeless in Mexico, those around me who are lonely, suffering abuse - or through whatever circumstances find themselves involuntarily prevented from accessing the productive activity upon which society is built. God's heart is for such people, Jesus would speak for them and as one of His followers, I will speak up for them too.

Justice is not only about punishing wrongdoing, it is also about bringing the world back into balance. So, in feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, accompanying the lonely, standing with the refugee, supporting the abused through to freedom, I can be part of the redressing of the balance, as indeed can you with whatever opportunities you are given.

I believe Jesus will judge me based on how I have treated the marginalised in the world, He personalises it in the Bible when He says, *"I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home."* (Matthew 25.35) When his disciples didn't understand what He meant, He clarified that, whenever we meet the needs of others, it is as if we are doing it for Him directly, such is His closeness to, and heart for, the marginalised.

How blessed I was, to have visited the 'Jungle', Calais on May 1st to stand with the Orthodox Christians and worship with them on Orthodox Easter Day; they fed me, they gave me a drink, they invited me in; and my country remains largely closed to them.

Please check out **care4calais.org** or their Facebook page, please help. I've spent time with the people in desperate need, heard their stories; this is not an issue to be resolved, they are people to be rescued. They have names, are precious and deserve justice. Some folk from RENEW will be returning to Calais to help in our small way, get in touch if you'd like to support us. We'd love to welcome you to one of our services. Please check out our new website at www.re-new.me.uk

RENEW Church Services in June 2016.

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

A crèche is available if required. All are welcome.

*5th June. 10.30am – RENEW The Bigger Picture. With Communion
(Bottisham Primary School)*

12th June. 10.30am – RENEW Café style (at the School)

12th June. 6.20pm – Traditional service. (Lode Chapel)

19th June. 10.30am – RENEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)

26th June. 10.30am – RENEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)

26th June. 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

St Cyriac's Church

with the Churches Conservation Trust

Pop Up Afternoon Tea Shop

Open 2pm to 5pm

Saturday 4th June

Saturday 18th June

Pop in for tea and cake



In Memory of Edward Thomas and Dr Beeching

Beneath my wheels the greenway threads an aisle
Of sycamores that vault a sketchy track
In gloomy green self-seeded peristyle
Edging a faceless sixties cul de sac.
Bluebottles fret the air round lager cans
And coils of dog turd fringing tangled briar,
And crisp packets bloom in the nettle stands
That shroud a glimpse of concrete post and wire.
Nuggets of granite judder ancient track-
Bed ballast remnants through the handlebars
And Ozymandian monuments of black
Brick carry stillness over hurrying cars.
A baffling megalith of grey concrete
One metre high by fifty long, with swags
Of willow herb and grass and meadowsweet,
A shopping trolley and black refuse bags,
The forlorn platform weaves a song of all
The wasps of Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire -

And I remember Adlestrop, a small,
Obscure, halt that now seems a lost Frontier-
Post of a golden time before the Fall,
Before the Somme had reconfigured all,
Between that other country where they do
Things differently, and now, and here;
A place where an express train once, unwonted, stopped
Between the long lost innocence we've dropped
From and the terminus we're heading to.

Wulsin

Church Services in June

at St Mary's, Swaffham Prior
unless otherwise indicated



Sunday 5 June, Second Sunday after Trinity

11am Holy Communion (CW1T)

Sunday 12 June, Third Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Benefice Service - Holy Communion (CW1), *Lode*

11am Benefice All Age Service, *Quy*

Sunday 19 June, Fourth Sunday after Trinity

11am Family Service

Sunday 26 June, Fifth Sunday after Trinity

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

11am Benefice All Age Service

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

Compline by Candlelight

Have you ever felt the need to sit quietly, away from distraction, and concentrate on something deep inside you - on your soul, for want of a better word? Some would call it a need to sort one's thoughts, others might call it meditation, others a form of deep prayer. Everyone, from time to time, needs a moment of silence for contemplation, for spiritual succour.

Compline by Candlelight, or C by C, is held here in our own Anglesey Benefice on the first Wednesday of every month, in a candlelit Bottisham Church. People arrive at 8pm to get to know each other a little, perhaps over a glass of something soft, and the service starts at about 8.15pm, lasting no more than 45 minutes. It is inspired by prayers used for centuries by monastic communities at the end of their day and incorporates periods of silence for reflection.

But as well as spiritual contemplation, there's another extremely powerful element to Bottisham C by C. There have been miraculous answers to prayer. People come not only for spiritual renewal, but in desperation: with news of a devastating medical diagnosis, the dread and panic felt after a sudden development in life, the sense of helplessness in the face of world tragedies. The extraordinarily powerful effects of combined meditative prayer have often been seen and felt at Bottisham C by C.

Sarah Maxwell has run Bottisham C by C for eight years, and each month puts together an inspirational yet contemplative 45 minutes. Everyone is welcome.

Lucinda Collison

Dates for Your Diary June 2016

Sat	4	Pop-Up Tea, St Cyriac's, 2-5pm
Thu	9	PC Meeting, VH, 7:30pm
Fri	10	Walk for Health, Bottisham Surgery, 11am
Sat	11	Picnic & Proms in the Park (see p4 for times) Summer BBQ & Jazz Evening, Red Lion, 6pm
Tue	14	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:45-3:15pm, Chapel 3:20-4:00pm Village Gardeners, Village Hall, 8:00pm
Wed	15	Pirates of Penzance, Downing Farm SB, 7:30pm
Thu	16	Pirates of Penzance, Downing Farm SB, 7:30pm
Fri	17	Pirates of Penzance, Downing Farm SB, 7:30pm
Sat	18	Crier Copy Deadline Pop-Up Tea, St Cyriac's, 2-5pm Pirates of Penzance, Downing Farm SB, 2:30pm & 7:30pm
Mon	20	WI Annual Garden Party
Wed	22	Walk for Health, Bottisham Surgery, 11am
Sun	26	Red Lion Quiz Night, 8:00pm

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	