



The Swaffham Crier

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March 2016



Editorial

A Windless Windmill? Well, we hope not, but this is the fate that may await our own Foster's Mill if a proposed new housing development goes ahead.

See Jonathan Cook's article in this month's edition which explains that the problem is that development around the Mill reduces the wind supply, that this has already happened with other Mill Hill development and that no more can be afforded. Having a working mill in the village which produces flour from local grain is a privilege we surely do not want to lose. Readers, read this article, and if you agree, we all need to get objecting.

Priorites who are regular commuters to Cambridge will know that the most convenient place to gather provisions on the way home is of course the Swaffham Bulbeck Country Stores and Post Office. Many congratulation to Kamal and Bal whose dedicated hard work over many years (20?) has made such a success of it and who last month held a Grand Opening Ceremony to celebrate the refurbishment and extension of their premises. If you've not been recently, do pop in, they have vastly extending their range and it's well worth a regular stop.

On the way back, that is, because on the way there, you won't have time for such frippery. What with the 40mph A14 and the ludicrous road blocks at Quay, you may think you should have set out the day before. HOWEVER, immediately after the Crier called instead for a Quay 30mph limit last month, it happened! Well, the road blacks are still there, sort of rubble heaps surrounded by cones, but you never know...

Congratulations, Margaret Joyce, whose Elizabeth Coteman Coffee Morning raised a staggering £800, and meanwhile... why make things difficult for parents delivering children to school? Exactly who thinks we should? No-one who's ever had to drive their kids to school, surely, and since this probably includes all the outlying farms with the megaton vehicles are they objecting, asks Our Reporter? See you next month!

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Cover Picture: *Beach Huts at Midnight* by Lorraine Izon



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Elizabeth Coteman Fund coffee morning

Thank you so much to every one that came to the coffee morning for the Elizabeth Coteman Fund. Everyone was so generous and the final total raised will be in the region of £800. Every one that came was assured a weekend of delicious cake eating!

Margaret Joyce.

BON MOT NUMBER SIXTY THREE

"If God is unknowable, it's very difficult to know that something which is unknowable doesn't exist."

Sir Paul Nurse (1949-)



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.

Alzheimer's. No 2

Little Bo-Peep says she's lost her sheep
And doesn't know where to find them
But she's not a liar; though they're in the byre
And her partner's in there to mind them.

It's really her mind that is being unkind
She is missing her basic cognition
For she has Alzheimers, as it's not just 'old-timers'
Who get this debasing condition.

She can't do a lot, she is more than somewhat
Just like a wee child again
And although she takes pills, a cure for most ills
Thankfully, she is not truly in pain.

What the end's likely to be, we must just 'wait and see'
There's not a lot more one can do
It's a cross they must bear, and try hard to share
The struggle to just 'see it through'.

Ophir

Easter Lilies

Each year we have had lilies in St Mary's Church at Easter time and, recently, many people have contributed to these in memory of a loved one.

Donations can be made anonymously or with your name and the name of your loved one. A list will then be compiled and placed in church for Easter Sunday. As a guide the Easter lilies will cost £2.75 per stem this year. All contributions will be *very* welcome and will enable us to have a beautiful display.

If you would like to make a donation please put it through Sue Rust's door at 23 Greenhead Road or Ruth Scovil's door at The Oaks, Manor Farm Court, Lower End (the letterbox is in the door at the back of the house!). Please include the name of your loved one and your own unless, of course, you wish to make your gift anonymously.



Ruth Scovil

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

SANITY PREVAILS. The *Crier* has done it again. Within two weeks of the exclusive publication of Martin Meade's letter revealing the "unreasonable" behaviour of CCC in Quy, all has been put to rights. Suddenly, without even a roadside notice, the CCC has introduced a 30mph restriction in Quy.

But, questions remain. Will the contentious traffic calming measures be now removed? Will they now be kept in good repair? Or will they remain as they are, an eyesore, and also an additional hazard in their dishevelled state?



Now to the business of the night, a fair amount of which was concerned with roads and traffic. During the formalities apologies were presented from Andrew Camps and Sandra Gynn,

Moving quickly onto the CCC report, David Brown said there was to be a budget meeting on the following Tuesday when it would be decided how CCC would make fairly large savings, and balance the budget. He foresaw it lasting into the small hours as there are three quite distinct factions – one wants no rate increase, another wants 2%, and the third proposes 4%. Meantime he has at last achieved a result with "Ben Jakes" who had just informed David that the piece of paper has now been signed, and has been passed to Balfour Beatty who will eventually pass it on to the PC's chosen contractor. So, we are not quite there yet, and it was hoped that Balfour Beatty would not sit on it.

Paul then raised with David the seemingly ever-present 40mph signs on the A14 and wondered whether people were collecting fines for speeding on a clear road. David had already raised this with some traffic authority, had received no response, and had passed it on to MP Lucy Frazer. Paul thought a £5000 a day fine was to be given to contractors who did not remove restrictions when no work is being carried out. The explanatory notice on the roadside puts it down to safety barrier problems. All members confirmed they had not seen anyone working for a long time and that the safety barriers appeared in good order because they had had plenty of time looking at them. Mark asked whether the average speed cameras still used a 70mph benchmark. David Greenfield, a wizard with gismos, said he had a "system" in his car which monitored every speed trap in existence, and that the cameras had been adjusted down to 40mph.

After this, John's concern with potholes on the road to Reach appeared to be small beer. But once the PC had made a mind shift it agreed there was a real problem not only with those in the middle of the road but especially with those on the edges of the road that are difficult to avoid in the dark. These could be especially lethal for cyclists.

During his ECDC report Alan said that building Ely's new six screen cinema complex had just started and that it will be completed by the end of this year. The future of the much-loved Maltings will be left in the hands of ADEC.

The Clerk read out a letter from what he called "a kindly resident". This kindly

resident had an allotment near the cemetery and he thought it would be a nice idea if the allotments on the other side of the bypass, known as the Lower Allotments, had a standpipe. With his letter he enclosed the six-page application form for the PC to complete. Anglia Water estimated the cost at £954, plus £408 for temporary lights on the bypass, plus a new meter, plus Vat. There is only one allotment holder at present, paying £5 per annum, and a beekeeper. The PC decided against the idea.

Hooray, at last James Rigney had sent in his proposal for Station Road parking. Jeff Randle once reported on a Margaret Hodge speech and said “To describe her performance as miserable would embellish its impact.” Mr Rigney’s proposal was a sort of damp squib. His proposal is to implement parking restrictions along Station Road for a distance of approximately 22m from its junction with the High street. The cost could be in the region of £1,500, which the village would have to pay. Some comments:- “he took a long time to come to no conclusion”; “wasted a couple of months”; “not a proposal”; “so woolly”; “has thrown it back into our court”. And perhaps this is what he very wisely has done, probably from his experience with the inevitable problems of all school arrival times.

Mr Rigney explained that if a proposal for single or double yellow lines is put forward the following procedure must be followed – a) a notice of the proposal must appear in a local newspaper b) potential objectors are given a minimum of 21 days to comment c) consultations must be carried out with various organisations including the police, the highway authority, the Parish Council, members of the public, and emergency services. There was not much for the PC to discuss and they would like a more detailed proposal from Mr Rigney. Meantime there are interesting questions to answer – why are parents able to park on the school bus slot, has Lords Ground Farm made any complaint, has any thought been given to the consequences if you shift the problem elsewhere, and many others of a similar nature.

A new cheque book has yet to arrive. The PC is becoming desperate. The last five cheques have been used for essentials, and the Clerk has not been paid for two months. BACS is not working well, and Barclays now appear to have so many problems that they cannot spare the time or staff to issue the new cheque book. And, contrary to what many of us think, it is no longer possible to go into your bank and ask for the use of a single cheque.

Alastair Everitt

Reach Cricket Club are Recruiting

Reach Cricket Club is looking to beef up its team with a few more regular players. We are a small, friendly club with our own new ground off Burwell Road in Reach. We play around 10 friendly fixtures on Sundays throughout the season against local teams and touring sides. We would very much welcome players from Swaffham Prior of any standard.

Anyone interested please contact Ross Clark at rossjclark@aol.com or 01638 743725

Forty Years on: if The Eagles had been local lads...

For Glenn Frey 6.11.48 – 18.01.16

On a flat Fenland highway, cool wind through the door
Damp smell of the carpets, seeping up from the floor
Up ahead in the distance, I saw a shimmering light
My head grew heavy and my sight grew dim
- Had too many last night.
There she stood in the moonlight;
I heard King's Chapel bell
And I was thinking to myself,
"What is that God- awful smell?"
Then the rad boiled right over, I pulled off the highway
There were voices far out in the fog,
I thought I heard them say...

Welcome to the Cambridge University
Such a lovely place (Such a lovely place)
Such a lovely space
Plenty of toffs at the Cambridge University
If your dad's a peer (If your dad's a peer)
You'll be OK here.....

Your mind gets Trinity-twisted, you get the Peterhouse bends
You see a lot of pretty, pretty boys that the Dean calls friends
How they dance in the courtyard's sweet summer mist.
Some dance to be trendy; some dance 'cos they're pissed.

So I called up the porter,
"Please bring me my wine"
He said, "We haven't had that vintage here since eighteen fifty nine"
And still those voices are calling from far away,
Wake you up in the middle of the night
Just to hear them say...

Welcome to the Cambridge University
Such a lovely place (Such a lovely place)
Such a lovely space
Not many girls at the Cambridge University
All you need are Guys (All you need are Guys)
When recruiting spies.....

Cobwebs on the ceiling,
Bathroom full of lice
He said: "We are all just prisoners here, of the Dons' device"
And in the Master's chambers,
They gathered for the feast
They stab him with their steely knives,
But they just can't kill the beast

Last thing I remember, I was
Running for the gate.
I had to find the passage back -
And the Guest Hours finished late.
"Relax," said the porter,
"We are programmed to stand guard.
You can get out any time you like,
It's climbing in that's hard! "

.....Interminable self-indulgent riff on Fender lute

Wulsin



Flag Flying Days this Month from the Tower of St Cyriac

14th March

Commonwealth Day



This year's theme celebrates the diversity of the Commonwealth, which is made up of more than two billion people. Every one of them is different, and each of them has something unique to offer. The Commonwealth Charter asserts that everyone is equal and deserves to be treated fairly, whether they are rich or poor, without regard to their race, age, gender, belief or other identity. The Commonwealth builds a better world by including and respecting everybody and the richness of their personalities. The theme informs events organised by governments, schools, community groups and individuals to celebrate Commonwealth Day, and helps to guide activities by Commonwealth organisations throughout the year.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Kamalesh Sharma said: "An Inclusive Commonwealth refers to the values of tolerance, respect and understanding, as well as equity and fairness, set out in the Commonwealth Charter, and the richness of the Commonwealth as a family of nations in which each member state is valued equally and has an equal voice. In changing times, the need for the Commonwealth to act as an inclusive network for mutual support, development and growth of opportunity and rights for all is as great as ever."

27th March

Easter Sunday



Proposed Housing Development on Mill Hill risks future of Fosters Mill



Eager readers of The Crier will be aware that a housing developer is proposing a development of ten new houses on land adjacent to Mill Hill opposite Fairview Grove. The purpose of this article is to raise awareness of the potential impact this development will have on the wind supply to Fosters Mill and to ask residents to consider objecting to the development when a formal planning application is made.

Fosters Mill is a commercial working windmill producing organic flour which is sold direct to customers, to bakeries, shops and nationally to the general public through our mail order business. We presently grind 20 – 25 tonnes of flour per annum. The Grade 2* listed building contributes to the local economy and forms a focal point for local tourism. To do this, the mill requires access to a turbulence-free supply of wind.

So what's the problem with the proposed development?

The fundamental problem is that the proposed development will reduce the flow of wind to the mill which in turn reduces the days on which the mill can work. The proposed two storey houses will create a barrier to wind flow causing the wind to rise up over the houses and over the windmill (in the process causing wind turbulence) which reduces the power of the wind available to the mill.

The proposed development of 10 detached and semi-detached two storey houses is situated in what is currently open fields to the east of Mill Hill, open fields that facilitate an unrestricted wind supply across Swaffham Heath towards the mill when the wind is from the East North East to the East South East. The topology of the land which gently slopes up to the mill enables the wind to accelerate giving a first-rate wind for flour milling. Of all the wind directions, the wind from this quadrant is by

far the best for flour milling as it is free of turbulence which is created by buildings and trees (of which there are none at present). Up until the 1930s, the windmills stood alone on an open hillside free of trees and buildings. Sadly, since 1930 by which time the Smock Mill was not in use and Fosters Mill was in decline, when it was assumed the mill did not have a future, development was permitted on the hill. First, the semi-detached houses on Mill Hill were built, then the Water Tower and then Fairview Grove. All these developments have reduced the flow of wind to the mill resulting in a loss of wind supply. Even the recent development on the Water Tower site has had a further negative impact, something we did not fully anticipate given the already significant impact the large mass of the Water Tower has on blocking the wind from the South West.

The development is the first development proposed on green-field land on Mill Hill since the mill was returned to working order. We as present owners of the mill are custodians of the mill for future generations and we take that responsibility very seriously. We want to ensure it has a long term future. This development will reduce the availability of wind to the mill permanently, we will never get it back, something that will result in there being fewer days when we can mill flour using wind power. We cannot allow this to happen as this, and any future similar development, erodes the potential for the mill to earn its living and thus the building to be protected for the future.

Swaffham Prior's unique status with two mills:

Not only will the development reduce the availability of wind, it will impact the setting of the two windmills, impeding views of the mills everyone enjoys as you walk, cycle or drive between Burwell and Swaffham Prior. Swaffham Prior is one of only a handful of villages in the whole of the UK which still has two windmills and the only village where one of those windmills is a commercially working mill. Planners have an obligation to ensure that new development does not negatively impact the setting of listed buildings. Here in Swaffham Prior there is a clear relationship between the two mills as they stand proud on the landscape; building around them in the way that is proposed will significantly reduce their visual impact and the enjoyment people gain from viewing them. In 2013, a Sandtex Survey voted the windmill Britain's favourite building! Will you stand by and let this development happen?

How can you help?

If you believe, as I do that this development will be detrimental to our village landscape and to the operation of **our** village mill, please join me in objecting to the proposed development by making your views known to the Parish Council and making a formal objection at the point a planning application is made. We have created an information page on the mill website – www.priorsflour.co.uk. We will post new information including information on the planning application as soon as it is available. Register your interest to receive updates by sending a message to us through the mill website.

Jonathan Cook
Miller, Fosters Mill

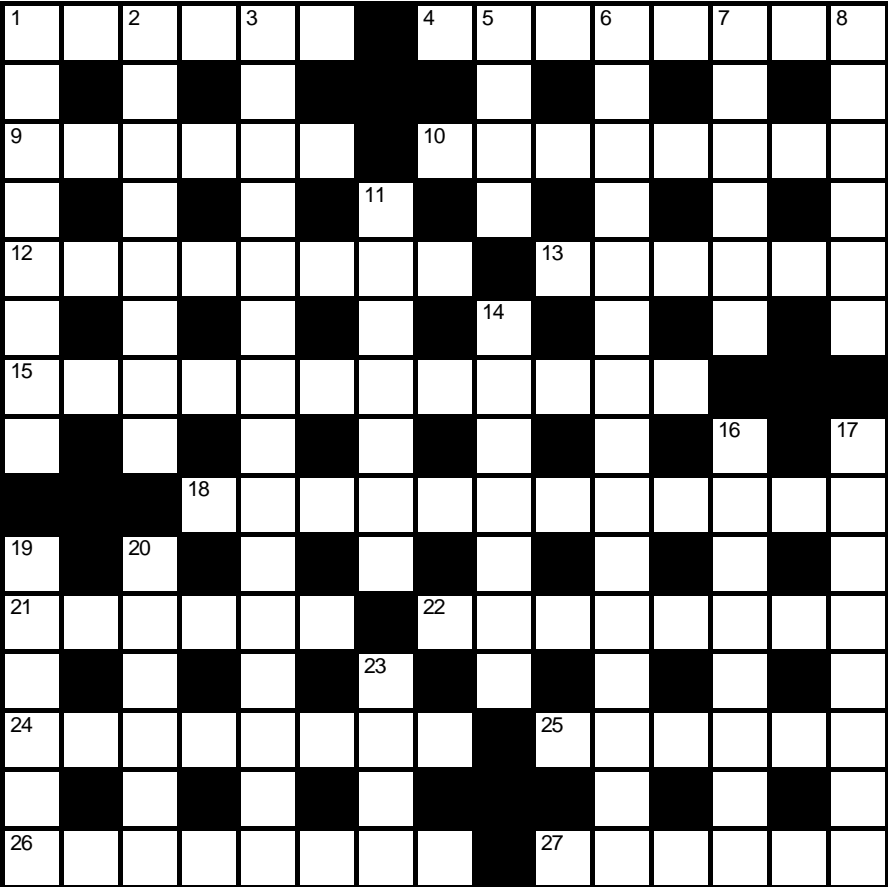
Crossword Number 129

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

Bywell

This month, eight clues have no definition and, although they may grow on you, they may not be to everyone's taste. Send your answers to the editors by 18 March 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 An open companion (6)
- 4 Car reverses between local river and end of bridge (8)
- 9 Encompassed by first person to be interrogating policeman at last (6)
- 10 Football club crossing the wild Urals (8)
- 12 Officer fled mountain, retreating on the same flat surface (8)
- 13 Identity check found in valuable rocks (6)
- 15 Nostalgic end in rescheduling of some lorry-drivers (4-8)
- 18 Imaginative elasticity of springier net (12)
- 21 Each encrusted object in the care of expert (6)
- 22 Learned group air title unexpectedly (8)
- 24 Recruit me first after massage (8)
- 25 Midwives encircled after retreat from the beginnin. (2,4)
- 26 Maybe tick it after troops first examination (8)
- 27 Lose flexibility or suppleness, sitting in frozen yoghurt starter (6)

Down

- 1 Hardly frightening being pierced by Creole oddities (8)
- 2 Conveying the small, cool sound of sonar (8)
- 3 Mrs Tan cures Dad's malady (7,3,5)
- 5 Lean on brass on the way up (4)
- 6 Unhelpful trait beaten out of subservient Scot (15)

- 7 Old European that doesn't stand up straight (6)
- 8 New head chases schoolboy in French team (6)
- 11 Standard time-line (7)
- 14 How Louis XIV began as head of household in unpaid debauchery (7)
- 16 Italian underwriting capital's tube instantiation (8)
- 17 Lip in great pain (8)
- 19 Scandinavian eats tomato skin to make a big Mac perhaps (6)
- 20 Fabulously announced the fairest on the wall-paper (6)
- 23 Revelry that's partly unpatriotic (4)

Solution to crossword no. 128

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

We congratulate David Unitt, the winner of last month's competition, who should collect his prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Robert Nunn and S Richards.



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

CALLING ALL CRAFTS PEOPLE AND ARTISANS



Reach Festival is taking bookings for stalls

**Reach Festival, Fair Green, Reach
Saturday 24th Sept 2016
10.30am – 4.30pm**

Reach Festival will showcase local genuine
handmade crafts and local produce
(food and drink).

In addition there will be displays of crafts including potting, coin
making, wool spinning and flint knapping.

The charges for pitches are:
£20 for 5m x 3m or £30 for 5m x 5m

For Pitch Enquiries and Booking Forms contact:

Claire Halpin on 07834 740881

David Parr on 07887 563720

claire.halpin@ascontracts.co.uk
reacheventsteam@btinternet.com

Lent Lunch



What could be a better way to spend a cold February afternoon than enjoying a bowl of hot soup in heart warming company? That is what several of us did on the Wednesday of half term when we gathered at the Shakeshaft home for the first of the Lent frugal lunches. Jess Shakeshaft served us delicious homemade soup with rolls as we took the opportunity to catch up with friends. There was also a chance for all the children to play before and after the meal. Donations were collected for Pumpkins Against Poverty supporting Practical Action with its campaign in North West Bangladesh, helping embankment dwellers to survive using barren land left behind by flood waters to grow food - Pumpkins.

Two more lunches will be held one on 2nd March at 12 noon, hosted by Ruth Scovill at The Oaks, Lower End and the other on 12th March again at 12 noon hosted by Betty Prime at 1 Adams Road. No charge for lunch, just a donation towards the Pumpkins Against Poverty charity.

To help with catering kindly ring 01638 743983 to reserve a place.

Anne Clayton

To find out more visit www.practicalaction.org/fundraise



Kamal and Bal at Swaffham Bulbeck's Post Office and Country Stores organised a grand opening ceremony on 13 February to celebrate their store's refit and expansion. Michael Marshall cut the ribbon to mark the event.



Mitchell Lodge Bowls Club
Quarry Lane Swaffham Bulbeck
OPEN DAY Sunday 24th April 2016

You are invited to attend our Open Day on the 24th April starting at 2.00pm, everyone is welcome beginners or experienced Bowlers, all you need is a flat pair of shoes (Bowls will be provided).

The club was started in 1983 by the late Frank Turner who wanted to provide a local amenity for the village. Frank loved playing Bowls and encouraged his friends and neighbours to join in and enjoy a sociable and friendly game. So if you want some gentle exercise and relaxation why not join us.

You will find us a friendly group and made to feel most welcome. Just turn up on the day, or contact Reg Web (Tel 01223 813401) or Maurice Beeton (Tel 01223 234123).



**THE EXCAVATION OF
ANGLO SAXON GRAVES,
EXNING**

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

7.15pm for 7.30pm Tuesday 5th April 2016
Reach Village Centre

An opportunity to hear about the excavation of
some exceptional Anglo-Saxon graves in Exning.

Also bring along any items from your garden,
local walks etc for identification

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)

All proceeds to the Reach Riders Group (24Acres Project)



Bottisham Village College Adult and Community Learning

**Learn something new at one of our
Saturday Workshops on 21st May**

Choose from:

Copperfoiled Stained Glass Day

Italian Cookery

Make a Beach Bag in a Day

Summer Flowers for the Home or Gifts

Upholstery and Chair Caning

Willow Weaving – Plant Climbers & Garden Structures

Woodturning

Workshops run from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

**Why not come along with a group of friends
and enjoy the day together?**

**To enrol, see our website: www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning
or contact the Community Office Tel: 01223 811372**

email: adultlearning@bottishamvc.org

**Facebook: BottishamAdultCommunityLearning
or Twitter: @CommunityEdBott**



John Norris Remembers

A Court Experience

It is almost a quarter of a century since I started Magisterial duties at the Bottisham Court. The first Lord Fairhaven and Noel Newman had recently retired, and I was appointed along with Mr Took to fill the vacancy. In those days the Court House in the High Street was one of the remaining Victorian buildings constructed especially for the purpose.

The main court room was flanked by a retiring room for the Justices, and two prison cells for the wrong doers, and behind accommodation for the caretaker. Our village hall, formerly the Reading Room, had a similar arrangement with a house for the caretaker built

as one building. The court house at Caxton is of the same design as the one at Bottisham, identical in every way, and like its sister now converted into a dwelling.

Shortly after finishing my training, I well remember an Australian motorist, who was summoned to appear because of a bald tyre on his car. It is not often one remembers a particular case, as we hear so many, but a special few do remain in the memory.

After the court had started at ten o'clock, and several cases had been dealt with, it was the turn of this Australian, who had remained outside the court building in the sunshine. The clerk called his name, and in he came, six feet something, with a broad brimmed hat (no corks round the edges though), and two car tyres, one under each arm. These he banged down onto the large table in front of the Bench, scattering the clerks papers in all directions.

This was his first wrong move, as Patrick Halnan, now Judge Halnan, very properly put him in his place, and ordered the tyres to be placed on the floor.

In those days the police prosecuted those arrested for wrong doing, usually a week or so after the event; so Sgt Cross stood up and told us how it was reported that an old Rolls Royce, white in colour was parked near Anglesey Abbey with an illegal tyre on one wheel. The charge was admitted, and then began a most devious, though fallacious argument. He first held up the bald tyre, and it was very bald! Not a trace of tread anywhere. This tyre he said had travelled over thirty thousand miles, the case was sound and reliable, and there is no visible damage. It had never been punctured, or given him any cause for concern, in short completely reliable.

At this point he carefully put down the offending tyre, and produced a new one. Now the tyres on such a prestigious car are very large and fat, so picking one up requires some degree of strength. He was strong enough, but in the excitement, no doubt thinking he was doing a good job in convincing the Bench to let him off, he dropped the tyre, and again the papers flew everywhere, much to the amusement of those awaiting their trials, but not to Mr Halnan.

Contempt of Court, unruly behaviour, and any other charge he could think of was threatened.

Now this new tyre was untried, it might disintegrate in the first few miles, the cords in the rim may be weak or frayed and cause an accident of other trouble beyond his control, in fact he dared not fit it to his car, as the balance with the others would make the vehicle undriveable.

So ran his argument, much longer than I have recalled, to try and convince us of his wrongful charge. We did not need to deliberate long to reach the unanimous conclusion that he was guilty of the offence. After we had imposed a fine and told him he could go, a young policeman approached the Bench, and wanted to make a charge. Mr Halnan told him to go into the witness box when he said "Your Worships, there is a White Rolls-Royce outside the Court House with three bald tyres, could you deal with the matter to-day, as the owner is in court already. After his previous performance, we managed to fit him in very promptly.

Simmel Cakes for Sale

Traditionally, Simmel Cake has been enjoyed on both Mothering and Easter Sunday. This year you can serve up a delicious homemade offering with no more effort other than parting with some cash and all for the benefit of St. Mary's Church.

Orders can be placed by contacting Janet, 01638 743472, 07833 960678 or janet@adventurersfarm.co.uk.

For just £12.50 your teatime guests will be in for a treat! Cakes to be collected from Adventurers Farm in time for Mothering Sunday (6th March) or Easter Sunday (27th March).



Janet Willmott

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

- 1 large floor cushion – dark blue cover; Computer monitor, LG 17". Jacqui, 01223 811190 afternoon or evening.

Wanted

- Any unwanted remote controlled vehicles with the remote control units (for a Scout Family Camp activity). Jun/Andy 01223 813362
- 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.

News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

10,500: That is the number of items dispensed by the Practice Dispensary in the 19 working days up to Christmas. In order to make the system more manageable and to avoid lunchtime closing so as to cope with capacity, please ensure that you get your repeat prescriptions into the dispensary in good time. If your prescription is due over Easter, between 25th and 28th March, please order between the 1st and 11th March and certainly before 16th March. It helps if you request all your items together just once a month and please remember to allow 2 working days for your repeat prescription to be prepared. If you are going away or into hospital then more than 1 month's supply of medication can be arranged.

CQC: The Care Quality Commission visited the Practice on 25th January, which went well. The report will be published on the Practice website when it is received.

Closure: The Practice will be closed for Clinical Governance in the afternoon of 17th March 2016.

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 11th and 30th March, 8th and 27th April, 13th and 25th May, 10th and 22nd June. Anglesey Abbey walks continue on Thursdays at 10am from the reception area.

Next Meeting: Patients' Group will meet on 17th March 2016 6.30pm at the surgery. Come along to learn more about the Patient Group or if you would like to join us. The AGM will be held at Bottisham Village College on 28th April at 7pm.

Bottisham Patients' Group



The Swaffhams WI News

Our Speaker at the February meeting was Sue Elliot who came to talk to us about care of the elderly with dementia. Sue started by introducing us to the Alzheimer's Society which was established in 1979 to support both sufferers and carers and to support research into the causes of dementia with the aim of finding treatments. A brain bank was also set up to collect brain tissue donation at the time of death both from those with dementia and from healthy volunteers to assist with future research. Members of the Society include carers, medical and research professionals as well as those with dementia.

Sue was keen that the evening should not just be a talk, but an interactive exchange of ideas. So after a brief explanation of brain development before and after birth and current thoughts on what goes wrong, with the formation of plaques and tangles preventing normal cell function, she then engaged members to share any experiences they had in dealing with relatives and strategies they had for caring. We had a very interesting evening and definitely felt more informed on the whole subject of dementia. Although there are no miracle cures on the horizon, there is a lot of promising research happening that may lead to better treatments in the future. What is obvious is that with an ageing population, the need for proper care and support is increasing and the cost of funding this needs to be addressed.

On March 21st we have our annual meeting. Following the business our speaker will be Geoff Hales, a one-man company, travelling theatre, on a year in Tonga. A very talented gentleman and I think we can look forward to a very entertaining 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



VILLAGE GARDENERS

At our February meeting we discovered the subtle difference between a 'lower maintenance' garden and a 'low maintenance' one! The latter might be paving slabs and astroturf and the former a garden that most of our members would appreciate, with trees, shrubs, perennials, and the inevitable lawn area.

Our speaker, Hilary Thomas (formerly Head of the School of Garden Design at Capel Manor) guided us through the necessary changes from high to lower maintenance. Possibly we could replace some lawn with a paved or decked area, or use gravel enclosed by paving. In a large garden areas could be left to long grass with mown or bark and timber paths woven through. Hilary suggested placing seats and containers on slabs so they need not be moved for mowing.

As far as beds and borders are concerned, Hilary suggested careful plant selection - she stressed how important it is to know your soil type and also to know where a plant originates so the two can be matched. In other words, 'right plant, right place'. She also recommended taking advantage of the aspect - where the plant will grow best - lavender in a sunny, dry spot for example. It is also a good idea to cover the soil with plants or mulch so there is no space for weeds to grow!

Hilary stressed the importance of placing structural, evergreen trees and shrubs around the perimeter of a garden to look good all year with very little maintenance. Some clematis will scramble through shrubs, giving colour but with very little work; similarly some shrub roses need little or no care.

Hilary gave us many detailed examples of attractive plants which need little care and we all came away with new ideas and enthusiasm.

Please remember to mark Sunday 3 July in your new diaries as this is the date of our coach outing to Houghton Hall in Norfolk

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 15 March as usual at 8pm in the Village Hall, when Veronica Bennett will talk to us on Gardens of the National Trust. All welcome.

Mary Hart

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDENS

Chocolate unwrapped

With Easter fast approaching, so to is the opportunity to indulge in a chocolate egg or two. Chocolate is a such a familiar part of our diets, that it seems surprising to think that its origins lie many thousands of miles away in the tropical forests of Mexico and the Amazon basin. Chocolate is made from the roasted and ground seeds of *Theobroma cacao*, an understory tree, domesticated by the meso-americans as early as 1900 BC. Originally it would have been consumed as a bitter, fermented beverage, rather than the sweet solid we are familiar with today.



At the Garden, *Theobroma cacao* can be found in the Main Tropics, a two metre shrub in the shady understorey of the canopy. If you look carefully you will see tiny flowers, borne directly from its woody stems. These are pollinated by midges. From this they develop into large ribbed pods, which contain many seeds surrounded by a white pulp. The plant in the Garden's Glasshouse is yet to produce a mature pod, having only achieved a number of aborted attempts to date. However, a couple of young specimens have been planted alongside it recently for cross pollination, so look out for chocolate pods in the coming years.

While the University is not actively involved in research on this species at the moment, the Garden continually seeks to expand its collection of crop species and their wild relatives to increase the research potential of the collections for the future. They are also key to our public education programmes, to introduce the source of many foods and commodities. So when reading the ingredients on the back of your chocolate egg, why not explore some of these further with a trip to the Botanic Garden this Easter?

The Cambridge University Botanic Garden is open from 10am – 5pm in March, 10am – 6pm April – September. The Glasshouses and Café close 30 minutes before the Garden and the Botanic Garden Shop at Brookside closes 15 minutes before the Garden. Please check the website at www.botanic.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 336265 for details about opening times, admission charges, tours, courses and special events.

Alex Summers
Glasshouse Supervisor



ELY DISTRICT COUNCIL

From our District
Councillor
Allen Alderson

New Ely cinema

The construction of Ely's new six-screen cinema commenced on February 1st. It has an eleven month build programme so should be completed by the end of 2016.

Tourism

Cambridge has 5.3 million visitors a year, generating an income of £583 millions. Now visit 'Cambridge and beyond' has been set up to encourage visitors to the rest of the region, including Ely. Last year Ely has 230,000 visitors generating an income of over £4 million. We are hoping to increase those figures this year.



Potholes

This winters wet weather has increased the number of potholes on our local roads. We have to try to make sure they are repaired.

Burwell School Recycling Site

This site has now been closed, as the School needed the area for extra car parking. The recycling site had been very popular and well used. I am working with our officers to try to find a replacement. There are paper and plastic bottles collection facilities at bottisham Junior School, Beechwood Avenue.

Swaffham Bullbeck Post Office and Village Stores

Kamal and Bal have made a success of running the stores. They have now extended it increasing its floor area by another 200 sqft to 1500 sqft. There by being able to stock more products and give their customers an even better service. They had an opening ceremony of their new entrance doors on Saturday February 13th . It was well attended.

Allen Alderson



From our Local County Councillor
David Brown

February 2016

Full Council met on 16th February to consider a number of items. The first substantive are being the budget for the coming year. The day started with group meetings at 09.30, with Council starting at 10.30. The Business Plan/Budget debate started at 10.50, with the various political groups stating their positions. The Conservative Group proposed the balanced budget which had been drawn up over recent months through the cross-party Committee system, predicated on a 1.99% Council Tax increase. Labour, Lib Dems and Independent groups proposed a 4% increase and UKIP proposed a Council Tax freeze. No position reached a majority vote, so the Chairman adjourned the meeting and negotiations commenced. To cut a (very) long story short, at 21.45 a majority position was agreed with the Conservative and Independent Groups (and 2 members of UKIP) securing a majority for a 2% Council Tax increase dedicated to Adult Social Care.

The Children and Young People Committee met and agreed a policy that CCC should welcome applications from all potential sponsors to run new schools in the County, including from Faith Groups. Other items agreed included: further work to mutualise the work of the Multi-Systemic Therapy Service; agree a new policy regarding provision of early years education and childcare; pursue negotiations for the provision of a new Secondary School in Wisbech; and a new strategy regarding Early Help services.

Constitution and Ethics Committee also met in February. Amongst other issues,

the Committee agreed to change the timing for Full Council meetings, so that they start at 13.30 in future; and agreed that the current practice of oral questions at Council should be replaced with written questions.

I also chaired a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board and attended a meeting regarding the commissioning of health services for 0-19 year olds in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England published the final recommendations for County Council divisions for the 2017 elections. This will see Burwell, Reach, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior merge into a 2 Member division with Fordham villages and Soham South.

David Brown

SATURDAY 19TH MARCH at 7.30 pm

St. Mary's Church, Church Lane, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 0HP

The Cantilena Singers

Lux aeterna: Renaissance and Romantics

An evening of unaccompanied choral music, sacred and secular, on the theme of eternal light, from the Renaissance to the Romantics, and beyond. Proceeds to the Church

Director Daniel Spreadbury

Tickets £10 (free admission for under 18s)

Available from Janet Ramsay-Helie Phone: 01638 603489

Email: ramsayhelie@ntlworld.com. or on the door

www.cantilenasingers.org

Spring Jumble Sale in Lode

Saturday 19th March

2-4 at the Fassage Hall

The spring Jumble sale will take place on Saturday 19th March at the Fassage Hall. We do hope you will turn out your cupboards, and sheds and bring us stuff that we can sell. We think we will use it to put towards something for the village say some outdoor equipment, which is very popular in the other villages. It is surprising how much money has been raised from these twice yearly events and the importance of recycling in our very wasteful society, so please come and join us and enjoy buying a good book, a useful bowl, good quality clothes, pictures, you name it, and we will no doubt have it! At the end, anything that is left is sorted and redistributed or recycled. Very little is thrown away. Thank you

Fran Platten

Church Services in March

at St Mary's, Swaffham Prior
unless otherwise indicated



Sunday 6 March, Mothering Sunday

11am Mothering Sunday Family Communion - flowers for all ladies!

Sunday 13 March, fifth Sunday of Lent

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

11am Benefice All Age Service, Quy

Sunday 20 March, Palm Sunday

11am Family Service

Thursday 24 March, Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Benefice Service, Lode

Friday 25 March, Good Friday

10am Good Friday Workshop and Family Service, Swaffham Bulbeck

7pm Good Friday Reflection, Bottisham

Sunday 27 March, Easter Sunday

11am Holy Communion (CW1T)

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

Radiators and Drains ...

Ten years ago, I worked within the Church of England in Sheffield. I remember the then Bishop saying in a sermon, "There are two types of people in the world, Radiators and Drains ... are you a Radiator or a Drain?"

There are people, who we sit next to, spend time with, and they radiate a warmth

through their attitudes, words or actions; they encourage us, make us feel good, bring out the best in us.

There are also those, who we sit next to, spend time with, and they drain us; maybe through their negativity, criticism, selfish attitude.

I believe we can all be radiators and drains at different times to different people.

Throughout life we cross paths with many different people, some for a brief moment, others for many years; we will not always naturally get on with everyone, our personalities may clash with others', different life experiences may highlight how little we have in common with some people; at times, patience and perseverance are required. It is a good thing to have people in our lives who we need to work harder to understand and get on with.

The Bible says, "*As far as it is possible, as much as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone*" (Romans 12.18)

I want to be a radiator! I want people to leave after spending time with me feeling refreshed, encouraged, with a spring in their step and a smile on their face.

How can you be a radiator to someone today? Take a moment to think about the last time someone said something that encouraged you, or the last time you spent time with someone and left feeling, 'warm'. Why not let that person know what an impact they've had on you.

We continue to be blessed at RE:NEW by new people joining us and discovering a place where they are welcome, valued, and can move forward on their journey of faith - some have come as a direct result of reading these articles - if you're reading this thinking, 'I'd like to see what RE:NEW is like', why not, 'come and see!'"

Alan Brand

RE:NEW Services in March 2016.

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

6th March. 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture

(Bottisham Primary School)

13th March. 10.30am – RE:NEW Café style (at the School)

13th March. 6.20pm – Traditional service. (Lode Chapel)

20th March. 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)

27th March. 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)

27th March. 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 - March

Tue	1	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:15-3:50pm Chapel 3:55-4:15
Wed	2	Lent Lunch 12:00 noon
Fri	4	Friday Coffee Morning 10:00-12:00
Sat	5	Table Top Sale, Bulbeck School, 10:00am-1:00pm Jesus Lane Concert 6:00pm
Tue	8	Burwell Photographic Club 7:30-9:30pm
Sat	12	Lent Lunch 12:00
Mon	14	Crier Copy Deadline
Tue	15	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:15-3:50pm Chapel 3:55-4:15 Village Gardeners 8:00pm Burwell Photographic Club 7:30-9:30pm
Fri	18	Friday Coffee Morning 10:00-12:00
Sat	19	Spring Jumble Sale, Lode Cantilena Concert 7:30pm
Mon	21	WI AGM
Fri	25	Good Friday
Sun	27	Easter Sunday
Tue	28	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 nd Mon of Term	8pm	Village School
Beavers, Cubs & Scouts	Tim Doe	01223 861083	Weds (term)	Activity dependent	School Hall
Reading Group	Brenda Wilson	743937	1 st Weds of month	8:00pm	Kent House
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	