



# The Swaffham Crier

Volume XL Number 11

November 2016



## Editorial

“WHAT USE IS PUCE?” So went an immortal line of a certain Anonymous Ode that we republish in this month’s edition (see Letters) by special request of the current incumbents of Oak Cottage, who had heard rumours about this ditty, and may now want the right of reply! Everyone remembered it, but no-one quite knew where it was, and even the author (step forward Hilary Sage) had lost the original. But then comes the Use of Puce. It turns out that in all of the *Crier*’s XL years of editions, “puce” has only ever been mentioned twice....

Short-Eared Owls, Golden Plovers, Marsh Harriers—the car park was jammed at the Cockup Bridge this weekend by migrating flocks of Twitchers at the start of their annual winter visits. Innocent dog-walkers had no warning whatsoever, and this was in no small part because the *Crier*, since the excellent James Chesterman, has never had another Nature Correspondent. Who will be our Nature Correspondent? It is in the traditions of this magazine that if people don’t volunteer they are instead volunteered, so please get in touch if you think you could do the job/know someone-else who might.

This month’s edition is graced by two much loved and much missed member of our village community, the artist Barbara Ives (see Cover) who was responsible for many *Crier* covers in her time, and John Norris, whose comments on the early days of farm chemicals still have much resonance today, especially, we might add, among footpath walkers, who all too often get showered by more modern versions of this stuff, doubtless similarly to be banned in a few years much as their 1950’s counterparts that John tells us about.

But John would be very pleased to see how the some of the CIL money has been spent — on replacing the path at the back of St Cyriac’s. Provided, that is, that it too gets an attractive gravel topcoat over the unsightly tarmac (so much more in keeping, as everybody quickly pointed out before) just as the new path he financed at the front did! Happy Guy Fawkes Night....

*Caroline Matheson*

**Cover Picture: A Village Scene by Barbara Ives**

### Regulars

Letters	2-5
Church Opening Times	3
Our Reporter	6
Bon Mot	8
Flag Flying	11
Wulsin	17
Ophir	17
CROSSWORD	18
School News	24
Bottisham Patients	25
Burwell Surgery	28
WI	28
David Brown	30
The way things were	30
Botanical Gardens	31
PC Report	32
Re:New	38
Freecycle	37
Church Services	39

### News, Views & Reviews

Gurning Winner	10
Your Village Needs YOU	10
Village Hall News	12
Swaffham Prior in Bloom	13
Independent Living	16
Harvest Supper	20
John Norris Remembers	22
2016 Autumn Show	26

### What’s On

Advent by Candlelight	9
Bonfire Party	14
Bulbeck Christmas Fair	15
Burwell Print Christmas	
Fayre	29
WI Millennium Tower	11



## Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors

### Harvest Supper

Being a relative newcomer to the village (May 2014), I attended the Harvest Supper with my Mum in tow as my Husband was working in an effort to meet some more of the lovely residents of Swaffham Prior.

We both wanted to extend our thanks to Janet, Dee and the rest of the team for organising such a wonderful, family friendly event. The food (especially the puddings) and entertainment were enjoyed by all and we thank everyone for their warm welcome.

Kind regards

***Kim Quiggin (Lower End)***

PS Many thanks for the work you all do to produce such a brilliant village publication each month. I am not sure people realise just how much work goes into producing such a well edited, informative publication :)

*Eds note: there are pictures from the Harvest Supper on pps ?? - and thanks for the thanks!*

---

Dear Editors,

### Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning 2016

Thank you to everybody who helped to raise the amazing amount of **£752!** It was an incredible result and I am so grateful to you all. Everybody played their part by donations, making or buying cakes, supporting the raffle, and paying to guess where the coffee bean was hidden. It all added up to a very successful and enjoyable morning. Even the weather obliged and we had a warm, dry day which tempted some people outside!

I would also like to say special thanks to my helpers - Kate and Jutta on the cake stall and Robin selling the raffle tickets. I couldn't manage without your help.

I rather think that next year is my 25th year of running the Macmillan Coffee Morning so will have to see if we can't make it even bigger and better and raise a bumper amount. So no pressure then!

In the meantime a huge thank you to all of you for your generosity.

***Ruth Scovil***

### CHURCH OPENING TIMES

From November 2016, the Churches of St Mary's and St Cyriac's will be open from 10am in the morning until dusk in the winter months.

Dear Editors,

## **QUIZ NIGHT**

Thank you to everyone who came to our quiz, another one over also for another year. Jenny and I are always pleased to see everybody and hope you enjoyed yourselves. A big thank you to Janet who stepped up again to fill the shoes of Andrew, and a good job well done and much appreciated. Thanks again to Shirley, Betty, Linda, Sheila and Jo who worked in the kitchen, organised and served the food. Another thank you goes to those of you who donated raffle prizes and thanks to April who organises it. Congratulations go to Densa who the quiz.

You helped raise £320 for St. Mary's Church so thank you very much. No date for the next quiz yet, but check the *Crier*, it should be in the next one, but keep checking otherwise.

I know it's a bit early, but Jenny and I wish everybody a Happy Christmas.

*Lynne and Jenny*

---

Dear Editors,

## **List of Vicars**

Does anyone read the list of Vicars in the base of the bell tower in the Church? I'm sure visitors do and for several years the last Vicar named was the Rev. Mark Howarth. Now thanks to the hard work of Janet Willmott and Dee Noyes it has been brought up to date with both David Lewis and our Sue on the list. Thank you, thank you Janet and Dee, you have done a grand job.

*Betty Prime*

---

Dear Editors,

## **Overgrown Footpaths and Cemetery Incinerator**

On behalf of the Parrish Council may I ask residents to check that the growth from their plants and hedges is not obstructing pavements and footpaths. As the dark nights approach this can be particularly inconvenient and in some cases hazardous. It would be appreciated if residents would cut back any such obstructions.

May I also ask if visitors to the cemetery do not put plastic or foam waste into the incinerator. Periodically the contents are burned and such items cause unpleasant smoke. If visitors are unable to dispose of this type of waste themselves, please leave it by the incinerator.

Yours faithfully

*Mike Malster*  
28 Fairview Grove

Dear Editors

### **Letters in the *Crier***

The letters page of the *Crier* has always been a rich source for the exchange of opinions, appreciation, complaints or just information and news. Having time on my hands I occasionally skim through the letters pages of some of the national press just to make the comparison.

And what do I find but a letter in the *Guardian* from our very own Mark Lewinski. I quote: -

“All my life I’ve been telling people my name is pronounced with a V, not a W. Could Barbra Streisand start phoning the heads of global corporations for me and others who live with a similar affliction to make them get it right.”

Though it is not the same it does remind me of Charles Pooter in his *Diary of a Nobody* after his invitation to the Mansion House Ball. It seems that the *Blackfriars Bi-weekly News* omitted the Pooter name from the long list of guests attending the Ball. Pooter wrote to the paper pointing out the omission. The next issue of the *Blackfriars Bi-weekly News* gave a short list of the names omitted “but the stupid people had mentioned our names as Mr. and Mrs. C. Porter. Most annoying! Wrote again and I took particular care to write our names in capital letters, POOTER, so there should be no possible mistake this time.”

“May 16. Absolutely disgusted on opening the *Blackfriars Bi-weekly News* of to-day to find the following paragraph: -

‘We have received two letters from Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pewter, requesting us to announce the important fact that they were at the Mansion House Ball.’

I tore up the paper and threw it in the waste-paper basket. My time is too valuable to bother with such trifles.”

***Alastair Everitt***

---

Dear Editors,

### **Lost Cardigan**

*(A thank-you from a visiting lady who lost her much-loved cardy on a walk in the countryside around Swaffham Prior)*

Just to let you know we did manage to find my cardigan. It had been picked up and folded and placed across a fallen branch. Just inside the woods about a mile from where we had left our car. I was so glad that I had found although it is quite old but hand knitted by me. I do hate to lose anything. Many thanks to the person who found it.

***Brenda Donald***

Dear Editors,

## **SWAFFHAM PRIOR PAROCHIAL CHARITIES**

Once again the time has come to remind anyone who considers themselves eligible for our Christmas Grant.

I would ask that you reply as soon as possible.

The majority of applicants come from our pensioners in particular those who have to manage on the state pension.

If however you are in particular need or know of someone who may be in difficulty but are unlikely to apply on their own behalf the Trustees will always be happy to consider requests for assistance.

Applications should be sent to me or to any Trustee and may I stress that assistance is available at all times not only at Christmas.

***Mrs Pam Waters***  
Clerk to the Trustees  
31 Tothill Road,  
Swaffham Prior,  
Cambridge, CB25 0JX  
Tel 01638741035

---

(Republished from the 2006 December Crier by special request  
of the new owners of Oak Cottage)

Dear Editors,

### **Repaint Ye....**

The folk of Prior hurry by  
Their eyes fixed on the wintry sky,  
Their sensibilities abused,  
Their facers sternly unamused  
"What use is puce?" they seem to say,  
"What's wrong with cream and beige and grey?"  
We love our gentle village street  
The quiet tones, restrained, discrete,  
Who didn't think that pink and brown,  
Might drag our cheery spirits down?  
So listen, please, to our complaint  
And - is it too late to repaint?

***Anon***  
***(aka Hilary Sage)***

## From our Reporter at the September Parish Council Meeting

September's meeting started with some confusion when approving last month's minutes. A member of the public queried a comment attributed to him. Not one but three Parish Councillors confirmed yes, he definitely did make that comment which caused him to be somewhat discombobulated. Obviously feeling the puzzlement coming from the back of the room, the true originator of said comment, a Parish Councillor, with the same initials, owned up. Ah, the power of sketchy collective memory and abbrev.



David Brown reported that, following the Local Government Boundary Commission review of electoral arrangements, Swaffham Prior will be part of a ward to be named Burwell. Allen Alderson in his report confirmed that the world of the district council revolves around Ely although of course he is too polite to actually say so.

How to spend the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Open Spaces monies was voted upon. The refurbishment of the Youth Club hut was voted off the list. At the very minimum it needs a new roof and although definite costings have not been sought, it is likely to be very costly to repair. As it is believed to be privately owned and the scouts are not desperate to use it again, the consensus from the council was it is unworthy pursuing as a project.

The installation of a concrete table tennis table near to the Youth Club Hut however was voted in but the proposal to install a standpipe in the lower allotments field was voted out because it does not meet the criteria for CIL or Open Spaces. But good news, the parish council will fund it directly under its own powers.

Paying a contractor to clear vegetation from footpaths was voted out but the planting of one metric tonne of daffodil bulbs to plant on verges to improve the village was voted in. Marvellous.

The meeting closed with another marvellous thing – the village sign which Peter Rand is currently restoring. After months of drying out the wood, replacing and re-carving rotten areas, Peter is looking forward to repainting it. Well done Peter.

*Sharyn Robinson*

---

## ....And from October

What a joy it was, in October, to walk in to the PC meeting room and see a house full of good people intent on doing their best for the whole community, with as much dignity and honesty as they could muster. And I personally needed this having seen the Trump/Clinton debate, which was unbelievable, but also wonderful entertainment, now that (at the time of writing) Trump is unlikely to win. There is no show quite like it.

Certainly not the Tory Party Conference this side of the water. It is all very well being shocked and amused by Trump's racist comments but when Tory speaker

after speaker echoed the same xenophobic outlook it was more difficult to take. And no one can explain it away by saying it was locker room chat. They appeared to have picked up Trump's anti-immigrant rhetoric. The theme was, and is - let's get rid of Johnny Foreigner, and ignore all financial and economic concerns, because, as Am Drams say, it will be all right on the night.

**Reach Residents have long had the reputation for being reckless drivers, probably because some still claim to be a separate independent kingdom.....**

This is why I admire our Parish Council which that night represented responsible power and concern. The Clerk now writes such detailed and extensive minutes that PC member after PC member was able to pick tiny holes in it, such as spelling "from" as "forms". There were also a few points to clarify. David Brown gave his usual excellent CCC report which you may read at the end of this *Crier*, and Alan Alderson for the ECDC reported that fly tipping was increasing and extolled the benefits of the Witchford Recycling Centre which he claimed was superior to the Milton Road site. This prompted Paul to ask whether Witchford accepted black bags. He went on to explain that he had missed the black bag collection one week, took them all to Milton Road who refused to accept them. After Paul had vigorously challenged them, and after a lengthy altercation, he said with a triumphant smile, that they did eventually back down. As far as I remember we never did learn whether Witchford accepts black bags.

Several points were raised in "Matters Arising" from the draft minutes. One member had been handed a letter in the Red Lion about the need for some traffic calming in Rogers Road. After a short discussion the writer of the letter was identified. It was concluded that the villains may be early morning commuters from Reach. Whether true or not, Reach Residents have long had the reputation for being reckless drivers, probably because some still claim to be a separate independent kingdom above the laws of the rest of the United Kingdom. The Reach question encouraged others to mention traffic problems in other parts of the village – as if it was all new. Steve summed it up by saying that a complaint from one person is insufficient, and also that the person should write formally to the PC and provide evidence. It seems the Charities have agreed to pay for a survey of the Youth Club Hut; and Mr Rigby continues to ignore the PC request for an explanation of the bollards in Station Road. Some members appeared to be quietly seething.

At this point Emma Fletcher arrived accompanied by two lovely bairns. This added quite a lyrical Victorian flavour to the already crowded room and three more chairs had to be fetched from *Slimming World* in the main hall. Emma had come to support Mike Barker, a resident in Cage Hill, in raising the possibility of a Community District Heating System. Mike is employed by a Danish company which specialises in a heating system used by 85% of Danish villages. Our government is providing money, which has to be spent by the end of 2016, for "initial scoping surveys". Emma, Mike, with James Willmont in support, wanted to know if the PC had

any objection to the group putting together a feasibility report – with no cost to the village. Before this the PC had shown off its colours by asking all the right, and many acute, questions which Mike and Emma fielded splendidly. That is except one, which they could not answer - “What is the future of fracking?”

The PC had no objection to the feasibility study, which should be ready in two months, and on which Mark and Emma will give a full report. How lucky we are in this village that there are young people, with knowledge and experience, willing to undertake this. This of course applies to many others in the village, some not so young.

Various planning applications were considered and some reservations were expressed on the dangers of cars exiting safely from the proposed new dwelling at 9 Cage Hill.

All CIL and Open Spaces projects are moving ahead and Steve gave a full report. The new school swimming pool hut will go up with the additional help of grandparents and parents. Volunteers have snapped up the one tonne of daffodil bulbs for planting out. One tonne was considered quite sufficient when one member suggested another tonne might go down well. A top of the range outdoor table tennis table will be erected near the Youth Club.

And then we moved on to a new very exciting project – the production of an accurate map and record of the cemetery. This came to light when Neville Ling wished to know where his great uncle was buried. It was discovered that no one knew. In fact there is great uncertainty about where any older people in the village had been buried because the records are poor, and what records do exist are inconsistent or are contradicted by other records. As plots are bought for 100 years the PC does need to have an accurate record so that some of the older graves can be reused. The creation of such a record and map seems to be an enormous and incredibly difficult task which Andrew Noyes has gladly taken it on. But quite a lot of specialised help needs to be employed and Andrew reckons this may cost no more than £5,000. I mentioned this to someone outside the village who thought it a bargain if it could be done for this. Such a map and record will be a superb asset for the village, especially now that our burial fees have been increased to the average, and villages such as Bulbeck have run out of space. In a few years it could be quite an earner. And once again we are lucky that a local experienced surveyor and photographer is happy to mastermind it all.

*Alastair Everitt*

## **BON MOT NUMBER SEVENTY**

“It is going well. But the world is a big place.”

*Boris Johnson (1964 - -)*



# **Advent by Candlelight**

**The traditional Advent by Candlelight concert will held on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November.**

**It will take place in both churches, starting with St Mary's at 4.00pm, and then moving to St. Cyriac's for the second half, before returning to St Mary's for mulled wine and mince pies.**

**Music will provided by Ian de Massini and the Cambridge Voices, with readers from the parish presenting the poetry and prose.**

**The windows from the south aisle will be flood lit externally and the pews will be turned 90 degrees to face the windows, thereby creating the same dramatic effect as when the World War One windows were lit two years ago.**

**The theme of the concert will be "God's Creation" and the *Benedicite* windows. The music will include a new edition of Bach's motet for two choirs, "singet dem Herrn", in which the final movement is set to the complete text of the *Benedicite*. Other anthems and madrigals will refer to the various creatures, seasons and weather conditions mentioned in the text, and illustrated in the windows. The readings will further illustrate the theme and the music.**

**The new version of the Bach motet is dedicated to Barbara Ives, a remarkable and greatly loved lady of the village, who also happened to be a fine painter. Some of her paintings will be displayed throughout the church, and these can be enjoyed with a glass of excellent mulled wine in hand.**

**Tickets at £10 are available at the door and they include the mulled wine and mince pies.**

**(Proceeds are shared by Cambridge Voices and Emmaus)**

**(Please wear something warm for St Cyriac's)**



**Many congratulation to Lara Spencer, the winner of the 2016 Swaffham Prior Gurning Competition, and who was presented with the Gurning Cup at the Harvest Show.**

## **Your Village Needs You!**

### **MINCE PIES**

It seems strange as I write this in October to be thinking about MINCE PIES, but ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT on 27th NOVEMBER at 4.00P.M is fast approaching . This is when we traditionally serve mulled wine and mince pies and once again I am asking generous villagers to let me know not later than Friday 25th November how many they can let me have .

***Kate Child 743983***

### **CHURCH CLEANING**

Many visitors to the village from far and wide remark on how clean our church is kept, this is due to a valiant group of volunteers who take it in turn to sweep and dust, some of whom are not in the first bloom of youth . Please let me know if you can offer about an hour every couple of months so that your name can be added to the rota which begins in 2017, you don't have to be a church-goer, just someone with a bit of public spirit , you can fit it in whenever it suits you on a Friday or Saturday

***Kate Child 743983***

### **CHURCH OPENING**

We are one of the few churches who keep the door open during daylight hours enabling visitors to come inside. We are desperate for volunteers to help as Key holders for a week at a time, all that is involved is to open St. Cyriac's and St. Mary's by 10.00am and lockup by dusk, you don't have to be a church-goer, maybe you are a dog walker who enjoys walking through the church grounds. Please let either Jan Pattinson 743866 or Kate Child 843983 know if you would like your name added to the rota which begins in 2017.

***Jan and Kate***

# **Bury St Edmunds Cathedral Millennium Tower Project**



The November Meeting  
of the Swaffhams WI  
will be a talk on the building of  
the magnificent 150ft  
Gothic Lantern Tower  
by the Project Manager  
**Horry Parsons.**

**Swaffham Prior Village Hall  
November 21<sup>st</sup> 2016 at 7:30pm  
Non-members £3.50 on the night.**

This meeting is open to anyone interested in this landmark addition to the Cathedral.



# Village Hall News



Over the last few years, the Village Hall Management Committee has been responsible for having the Village Hall fully redecorated twice, the kitchen has been refitted, the lighting in the main halls upgraded to energy-efficient LEDs and the wooden floor sanded and resealed. In addition, many small, but important improvements have been carried out to keep the hall in excellent condition and extremely popular with hirers.

Now, almost 150 years after it was built for the use of Swaffham Prior residents, we are looking for new committee members to join the current team.

After six years in the post, Nathan Wrench is standing down as Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee. We are extremely sad to see him go, but fully understand that his hectic work schedule, which takes him out of the country on a regular basis, and his move from Swaffham Prior to Burwell into a house with no plumbing, mean that he is unable to continue to put in the time that he would like to help run the Hall.

If you would like to help to keep the Village Hall as a vibrant and well-maintained hub for village activities, such as the Village Feast in the Summer, and the Autumn Show please contact us.

If you are a member of a local group that meets at the Hall, and would like to represent them, get in touch.

Want more information about what we do: email [mcarrington@me.com](mailto:mcarrington@me.com) or ask the committee - Clare Freeman, Chris Carrington, Peter Rand, Jenny Brand or April Cook



*Mike Carrington*

# SWAFFHAM PRIOR IN BLOOM 2017

## Volunteer planters needed!!

The Parish Council has kindly donated 1 tonne of daffodil bulbs to be planted in the village this October. Volunteer planters will be given 50 bulbs to plant in the village and 50 to plant in their own gardens.

The bulbs need to be planted as soon as possible:  
to choose your area for planting in the village  
(and receive the bulbs for your garden)  
please contact:

**Janet Willmott – 07833 960678**  
**Mandy Kingsmill – 07796 091855**



Thank you!

Swaffham Bulbeck School PSA

# Bonfire & Firework Party

**Friday 4th November**

**Gate opens 6pm Display starts 6.45pm**

Vicarage Field (behind St Mary's Church, Swaffham Bulbeck)

**Adults: £3.50 Children: £2.50**

**Group (1 Adult & 3 Children or 2 Adults & 2 Children): £10**

**Hot Dogs & Mulled Wine for sale from 6pm**

**NO SPARKLERS PLEASE – Glow bling for sale**



Your children are  
your responsibility.

Please keep away from  
the firework display site.





## VITAL FUNDRAISING

This year will be the third **Swaffham Bulbeck Christmas Fair** Christopher and I have hosted, with Penny Harvey-Samuel. It requires much hard work, commitment and inspiration, but is so worthwhile when we see the incredible good that has come from the funds raised.

The last two Christmas Fairs successfully raised money to provide clean water in Karukekere, our twin village in the diocese of Mara in Tanzania. Since 2011, our fundraising, along with other initiatives in the Anglesey Benefice, has paid for three wells in Karakukere. This is a tremendous success story and should be heartwarming to everyone who has supported fundraising efforts in the Benefice.

While the need for wells continues, this year we want to put the funds we raise from the Christmas Fair into a different area of Mara: the Girls Secondary Boarding School in Bunda (written about last month by our Vicar). Young girls are still expected to spend their time on domestic chores, not school work. It costs £500 a year to sponsor a girl at the boarding school.

Some of you may remember Heather Johnstone of the Church Mission Society who came and spoke to us of her work at the Rehema Cafe and Craftshop in Mara. The Rehema Project puts all profits from the shop and cafe into an assistance programme, which helps women who suffer poverty and abuse. Heather is now there and contacted us a few months ago for urgent help. Two ladies who make crafts for the shop had terrible experiences: Esta had all her possessions stolen, and Eliza's

house was completely destroyed in an arson attack, all that remains are the mud walls.

Heather asked us to buy crafts in advance so that the Rehema Project could provide Esta and Eliza with essentials. We did this and you will be able to buy their beautiful crafts at our Christmas Fair.

Please come and support our Christmas Fair – you'll find fantastic things to buy and you'll be helping raise vital funds. Saturday 3rd December, 10.30am-2.30pm.

**Lucinda Collison**  
The Old Vicarage  
Swaffham Bulbeck

---

## **Do you want to have a say in improving services from Health or Social Care?**

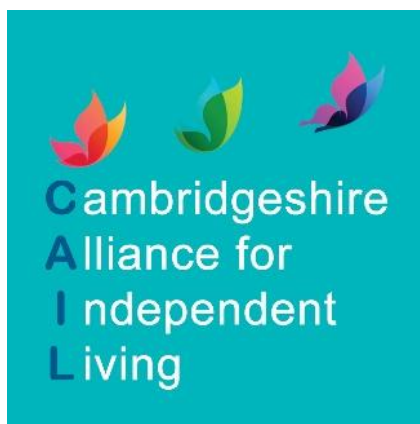
Cambridgeshire Alliance for Independent Living is a local independent charity that works to improve services by raising the voice of people living with all disabilities.

One of the ways we do this is by bringing people with all disabilities and carers (called Independent Members), Health and Social Care teams, and voluntary sector organisations (such as Age UK, Voice Ability, Cam Sight and the Carer's Trust) together at 'Partnership Board' meetings.

The Partnership Boards are opportunities for you to have your say about what is good about Health and Social Care services, such as home care and day centres, and what you would like to improve or where you would like to see changes. Recent activities by the Partnership Boards include raising concerns about Home Care, which are now being examined closely by the County Council, involvement in helping to develop a new Carers Strategy and involvement in the process for choosing organisations to run Carers Services.

Interested in getting involved? We are looking for new Independent Members to join our boards. We offer full training and support, out of pocket expenses and reimbursement of travel. If you think this could be you, please contact Leisha O'Brien, Development Officer at Cambridgeshire Alliance for Independent Living by phoning 0300 111 2301 or email [leisha@cambridgeshirealliance.org.uk](mailto:leisha@cambridgeshirealliance.org.uk)

To find out more, take a look at Partnership Board pages on our website [www.cambridgeshirealliance.org.uk](http://www.cambridgeshirealliance.org.uk)





# Rosetta and the Stone

*A Love Sonnet* 30.09.2016

Across the glittering void you called to me  
But did not know that I was made for you,  
That I would come five billion miles to see  
Your face; to bring about our union of two  
For all eternity; and I am yours  
And you are mine till time shall be no more,  
Re-casting poetry of metaphors  
In literal and scientific law.  
Your shapeless ugliness did not repel  
Me, gently yielding to your cold embrace  
And, sleeping now, I have no voice to tell  
The metaphysical conceits of space  
That know no romance; measure out no rhyme,  
Although there be both world enough and time.

**Wulsin**

## To the fast driver on the B 1102

Oh, why do you drive past the village so fast  
Making so much of a noise?  
Oh, much too fast driver whom nobody loves,  
Why don't you stay home with your toys?

The speed limit's there to protect you and me  
From drivers who think they're so butch  
They imagine they're appearing as guests on Top Gear;  
How can you be so out of touch?

And what will you do with the minutes you 'save'?  
Will you do something constructive?  
Or will you, uncaring, rush down the road,  
Until you do something destructive?

Oh, why do you drive by the village so fast,  
And where, do you think, this will end?  
Oh, much too fast driver, whom nobody loves,  
*Are you sure you know what's round the bend?*

***Ophir***

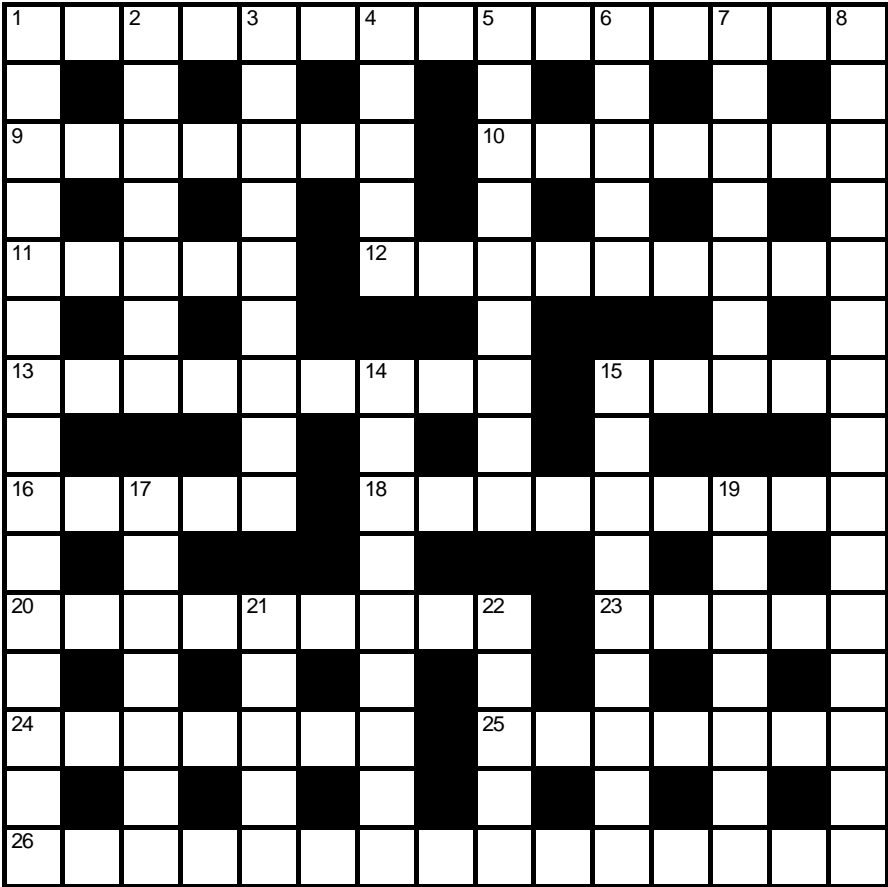
# Crossword Number 136

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

**NIBOR**

This month's puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18 November2016. 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 Ten pills Terence mixed up might keep mosquitoes away (6,9)
- 9 Lycra she's included and packs up (7)
- 10 Single payment to Mum, plus adjustment (4,3)
- 11 Not a direct information resource initially; in fact it's the pits (5)
- 12 African National Park; greenest I developed (9)
- 13 Old pots I've assembled are wide (9)
- 15 Capital city in which to find admin skills (5)
- 16 Unreasonable, uneducated and disorganised when cadet leaves (5)
- 18 Straight to one on course (9)
- 20 Yearning for NATO gal is bizarre (9)
- 23 Profundity found in an abyss (5)
- 24 Jim in Iowa upset about Pacific island (3,4)
- 25 Head right after circular fen to find sweetheart (7)
- 26 filthy ale, lovely brew, pretty flower (4,2,3,6)

## Down

- 1 Alien conquest in disarray but it's unimportant (15)
- 2 Type of comic used to hold water (5-2)
- 3 Officer present with new leader at church produces harmony (9)
- 4 Running in snow, keep slipping, starts to show dangers (5)
- 5 Animal is cold and naked we hear (5,4)
- 6 Leonard lets the doctor in for some fruit (5)

- 7 End of June when seabird arrives from the Orient (7)
- 8 Everyone sees Jones, Tracey and Prince (3,4,3,5)
- 14 Popular search for grandma with team leader getting angry (9)
- 15 Road surface I come to before a tree in Australia (9)
- 17 Desmond finds a little money to lubricate and plunder (7)
- 19 I'm a fairy with money and menace (7)
- 21 Am I going to include a friend? (5)
- 22 A low down chorister we hear is humble (5)

## Solution to crossword no. 135

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

We congratulate Robert Nunn, the winner of last month's competition, who will receive his prize certificate from the editors. An honourable

## Harvest supper

Thanks to Janet Willmott and Dee Noyes and everyone else involved for making the harvest supper happen and to Peter Rand and Janet for these photos.





## Another in our occasional series of articles from the late and much missed John Norris



### Farm Chemicals 1950

My first recollection of chemicals in the business of growing food was the use of Lime Sulphur to control pests on fruit trees, especially those trees in my grandfathers fruit farm near Wisbech. It was in early spring that the trees were sprayed with this white liquid in an attempt to produce apples plumbs and pears free from blotches and holes. Even to-day these blotches will be present unless the perpetrators of the damage can be eliminated, or at least drastically reduced in numbers, so that by careful grading, a perfect sample may be obtained.

We seem to be obsessed to-day with perfection in natural products. A worthy objective, but fraught with dangers from the use and abuse of very sophisticated, and often dangerous chemicals.

The first time I had anything to do with these things, was to try and control a little, (and aren't they all little), pest called the elephant bug which attacks strawberry plants. The name derives from it's long nose, and not it's size. This small creature had the job of succession well mapped out, for it would lay it's eggs in the flower bud, so that the hatched grub could feed on the pollen until it could fend for itself on a less energetic diet. In order that this pollen supply would be available when the grub hatched out, the horrid little thing bored a hole behind the flower to stop any further growth. This was very effective, but meant we did not have any strawberries to pick on that plant.

At this time, about 1950, the method of control was to gas the rows with a nicotine smoke and choke the blighters to death, and the operator too unless great care was taken. The apparatus for this job was a sort of wheelbarrow to pull between the rows, with a pot containing a roll of corrugated paper soaked in nicotine and saltpetre. Attached to the wheel was a crank which drove a pair of bellows, so that when the roll of nicotine was lighted a cloud of smoke emerged which was directed under a long sheet, pulled by the wheelbarrow, and over the strawberry plants, gassing the elephant bugs as it was pulled along.

During 1950 the first hormone weed killer came onto the market. As with most of these chemicals it had an imposing name of meta-chloro-phenoxy-acetic acid, or M.C.P.A for short, and convenience. This was a truly revolutionary product for the control of Docks, Thistles, and Charlock which had

hitherto run to riot over fields, were easily and effectively controlled. The first formulation of this product was a white powder applied through a fertiliser spreader as the now familiar farm sprayers had not been invented. Once this chemical breakthrough had occurred, many other weed control products followed, most of them banned from use to-day.

One particular chemical, Simazine, was so persistent that where an extra dose had been applied, perhaps while waiting for the sprayer to fill all the jets with the chemical, nothing grew there for years. It was always a concern of mine that year after year these persistent chemicals would build up and make the land useless. This does not seem to have happened as yields have been increasing gradually over the past twenty years, leading to the over production we experience to-day.

It is not only in the production of arable crops that chemicals have had an impact. It is not so long ago that most of the animal hides from our home-bred cattle were spoiled by the holes made by the Warble Fly. This quirk of nature lays it's eggs on the grass pasture, and is eaten by the cattle. Once inside the animal, and after hatching, it eats it's way through the meat until it reaches the back bone. Here it makes a place to grow just under the skin (hide), and eats an air hole so that it can now breathe properly. This can easily be seen as a large lump on the animal's back; Often as many as twenty would appear during the summer.

The old treatment was to brush derris powder into the hole in the hope that it would kill the grub, which would grow to the size of your little finger before eating it's way out and falling onto the floor to pupate. Now this little horror has been eliminated by the use of more effective drugs which are easy to apply, just pour it along the cows back, and it is absorbed and does it's duty.

To return to opening thought of what is "green". Nature has and will continue to find troubles, whether of animal, insect, or fungal kinds, and we nearly always able to reject their invasion of the product we are trying to grow. The idea that wholesome foods can be grown to the standards we require without help to combat the wide range of pests, of which I have only mentioned a few, is false. A stall of truly "green" produce ought to show some of the blotches and holes, otherwise I am sure that some form of treatment has been used. It could be that much of the crop had been rejected to appease the discriminating buyer.

My last comment on this matter is to hope that the regulating bodies of the government will continue to monitor the progress of these chemicals, and to halt the price increases charged for so called "green" products, when no indication is given or proved as to the use of chemicals in their production. And this applies especially to imported products where the regulation of pesticides may be less regulated, and quality is of utmost importance if a journey of several hundreds of miles is contemplated.

**Once this chemical breakthrough had occurred, many other weed control products followed, most of them banned from use to-day.**

*John Norris*

## School News



We have had a very good start to the Autumn Term and it has been wonderful to see the children once more and hear about their summer adventures. The reception children are settling well and we have also welcomed some new members of staff. Mrs Sarah Deeks is working in Neptune Class with Years 3 and 4 and Miss Jasmine Davies is working in Mercury Class with reception and Year 1 children. They are both covering maternity leave. We also have a brand new Assistant Head teacher, Ms Deborah Nicholas. She is teaching Years 5 and 6 in Saturn Class.

We said 'Farewell' to Mr Gordon Godfrey who left us at the end of last term to take up a new post of Deputy Head teacher in Wales. We wish him and his family well.

Over the summer holidays the school has been refurbished and we have returned to find a school that looks new and bright. Some of the work includes a new roof, new flooring and decoration throughout the school, a new fire alarm system and lighting, and new boilers. There are still some jobs to finish, including repairing the boundary wall and putting in some new windows and doors. We are very much enjoying the changes!

Swaffham Prior Parish Council has very generously offered to pay to refurbish the changing rooms for the swimming pool. We hope that work will be completed in time for the pool to re-open in Summer 2017.

The children have started their new topics. Saturn and Neptune Classes are finding out about 'Space' and last week, Neptune Class found what looked like parts of a space rocket on the school field. How intriguing! Mercury and Mars Classes are starting a topic called 'Grab Your Brollies!' They will be learning about weather in the UK and different locations around the world.

On Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> September, we celebrated 100 years since the birth of one of the world's best storytellers, Roald Dahl. The children were invited to come to school dressed as their favourite Roald Dahl character and we saw some fantastic costumes. There were Willy Wonkas and Wonka bars, Enormous crocodiles, Matildas, a Miss Honey, witches, James and his giant peach, Fantastic Mr Foxes and others dressed in yellow (which was Roald Dahl's favourite colour). We had a super day – Thank you Mrs Quilter for organising it!

There are many more things to look forward to including, Cathedral Day, our Harvest Celebration and a Pumpkin Parade. The learning journey at Swaffham Prior School has begun again...

**Charlotte Cane**  
Chair of Governors



Roald Dahl Day  
Lily Steed with her 'Golden Ticket'!



## News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

**Community Nurses:** Further to our news last month regarding the issue of moving these nurses away from the surgery, the Chief Executive of the Trust has offered to come and speak to us. **This meeting will be at 7pm on 17 November at the surgery.** All patients and interested parties are invited and we hope to have a good attendance for this. **PLEASE COME TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT.** Meanwhile signatures are still being collected for the petition to the Trust. If you wish to add your name to those who have already signed, there will be a sheet in the waiting room at the surgery.

**Macmillan Coffee Morning:** This was held in the surgery during the 'flu clinic on 1 October and so far £100 has been raised. We hope to have added to this total by the time this article is published.

**Patients' Car Service:** Following the donations from drivers to Magpas, the charity invited them to visit their helicopter base and this took place on a windy day in September. It was a very interesting visit and we were able to talk to the flight crew and medics before they were called away to an emergency when we watched the helicopter take off. There is a photo of the cheque presentation on the surgery notice board.

**NHS 111 and Out of Hours Service:** This service has been taken over by Herts Urgent Care. They are keen to hear from any patient who may have an interest in this service and what they do. If you are interested and wish to be kept in touch then please email [crystal.bishop@hertsurgentcarenhs.uk](mailto:crystal.bishop@hertsurgentcarenhs.uk).

**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 9<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November, 7<sup>th</sup> December. Do join Steve for a walk he would be delighted to see you. Anglesey Abbey walks continue on Thursdays at 10am from the reception area.

**Next Meeting:** Patients' Group will meet on 17<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm at the surgery. Please join us at 7pm to show support for our petition as above.

***Bottisham Patients'  
Group***



# 2016 Autumn Show Report

*Summer breeze makes me feel fine  
Blowin' through the jasmine in my mind*

Seals and Croft, 1972

Sadly, the weather didn't live up to the song lyrics - or the beautiful weather on the Friday or Sunday - and it rained for most of Saturday, discouraging a lot of gardeners (and dog owners) from venturing outside.



Judging was carried out by our crack team of anonymous experts who sliced, measured and deliberated to ensure that the awards were fully deserved: it was generally agreed that the entries, although lacking in number, were of a very high quality this year.

Winners of the different categories were:

Beetroot	Jill Bourne	Onions	Julian Luttrell
Shallots	Jill Bourne	Carrots	Rose Mitchell
Potatoes	Scarlet Fletcher	Tomatoes	Marcia Miller
Cherry tomatoes	Julian Luttrell	Marrow	Jill Bourne
Odd vegetable	Scarlet Fletcher	Mixed herbs	Jill Bourne
Dessert apples	Scarlet Fletcher	Pears	David Umitt
Raspberries	Julian Luttrell	Sunflower	Sandra Gynn
Flower Arrangement	Jill Bourne	Miniature Flower Arrangement	Emma and Evie Mitchell
Jam or Jelly	Scott Nielsen	Marmalade	Marcia Miller
Honey	Bob Bourne	Handmade Bread	Carly Fordham
Victoria Sponge	Ruth Scovil	Other Cake	Marcia Miller
Decorated cupcakes	Evie Mitchell	Miniature Garden	Evie Mitchell
Robot	Leto Fordham		
Under 16 Photography	Lara Spencer	Over 16 Photography	Peter Rand

Electronic entry logging went smoothly, aided by a simplified system, and by the 12 o'clock deadline, there were almost 60 entries arranged on the tables. Sadly this was down by about 50 from last year's entries. Hopefully, this only represents a blip on the trend of increasing numbers of entries seen over the previous few years, and

was simply due to the poor weather on the day. Well done and thanks to everyone who braved the rain to harvest and show their produce. While judges were casting critical eyes over fruit and veg, jam and cake, and photographs, dogs and their owners sought rosetted glory.

The children's classes, as always, contained some wonderful entries, and we would like to particularly commend the beautiful, growing miniature gardens produced by Evie and Rose Mitchell.

The photography section continues to grow, and the new age-ranges seemed to work well. The adult photography section was extremely hard-fought, with Peter Rand coming out on top once again. Can someone prevent a hat-trick of wins next year?

### **Our 2016 Champion:**

Detailed computational and statistical analysis of the results, powered by Google and a cream tea, has resulted in the crowning of Jill Bourne as the 2016 Overall Show Champion: she scored 25 points and narrowly pipped Julian Luttrell (with 21.5 points) for top spot, with Scarlet Fletcher coming in third. Many congratulations to Jill, for an excellent all-round performance! Other individuals who shone included: the Mitchell family, Marcia Miller, and Ruth Scovill. All had scores of over 10. We are looking forward to another exciting and hard-fought contest next year, and hope that we will see many new entrants, and the return of those who have been stalwarts over previous years.

### **Thanks Go To:**

- Our excellent, but anonymous, team of judges who arrived stealthily, did their work fairly, and then quietly slipped out into the gloom.
- Clare and Darcey Freeman and Catherine Wrench, who provided sustenance in the form of cream teas, coffee, juice and other delights.
- Andrew Noyes, who expertly ran the Auction of Produce, thus fulfilling a lifelong ambition to preside over an auction. Thanks to his efforts, the Show made a profit of almost £70 to help with the running of the Hall.
- Jenny Brand for running the raffle, and Everyone Else who helped out on the day.

Many thanks also to everyone who supported the event by coming along, entering produce, buying raffle tickets and cream teas and bidding in the auction.

Helpful comments and suggestions are always welcome to ensure that the Show improves year-on-year. This year we introduced the gardening quiz and finally managed to put names to prize-winning entries. Next year we hope to reintroduce the Trug of Garden Produce, to encourage village gardeners to be adventurous in their vegetable plots.

If you have any suggestions or would like to help out at next year's Autumn Show, please let me know at [mcarrington@me.com](mailto:mcarrington@me.com)



*Mike and Chris Carrington*

## BURWELL SURGERY FLU IMMUNISATION



As winter is now upon us, the Doctors at Burwell Surgery would like to remind you to have your flu vaccination if you are eligible and haven't been able to attend one of our flu clinics that were held in October and November.

The Department of Health recommends annual flu vaccination for all those who have diabetes, are pregnant or are aged 65 and over. You are also recommended to get the vaccine if you have any long term conditions affecting your lungs, heart, kidneys, liver, brain or nervous system, immune system or spleen. Carers are also encouraged to have the flu vaccine.

Flu is not just a bad cold, you are likely to feel much worse and flu can develop into more serious illnesses, such as bronchitis and pneumonia, which could lead to a stay in hospital.

Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself and the doctors and nurses here are more than happy to give you the vaccination during a routine check-up and review as it is very quick and easy to administer. They are also able to offer the shingles and pneumococcal vaccines to eligible patients.

We are still offering the children's flu immunisation, which is administered via a nasal spray. This can be given to children aged 2, 3 and 4 and those who are at risk up to the age of 17. Children who are in years 1, 2 and 3, should have been offered the vaccine at school this year.

If you do not have a planned visit to the surgery scheduled, please contact us and we will make you an appointment.

***Debbie Everitt***  
Practice Manager



---

### The Swaffhams WI News

At our October meeting we welcomed Pauline Miller, Chairman of the Burwell and District Flower Club, who had come to demonstrate some seasonal flower arrangements. The first was an arrangement in a pumpkin which was very striking and not something we would have thought of doing. The other two arrangements were equally stunning. One a horizontal display and the other a more traditional pedestal display. We were all amazed at the ease with which Pauline could produce these works of art while chatting to us at the same time. Four lucky members later took the three arrangements and a bouquet home as raffle prizes.

In November the meeting is on 21<sup>st</sup> in the village hall at 7.30. Our speaker will be Horry Parsons talking about the building of the Cathedral Millennium Tower in Bury St Edmunds. This is an open meeting so all are welcome – non-members £3.50.

We now have our own page on the village website [www.swaffham-prior.org.uk](http://www.swaffham-prior.org.uk) and follow the link. You will also find a link to the village book which you can browse or download parts as you wish. Grateful thanks to Steve Kent-Phillips for organising this for us.

New members and visitors are always welcome at our meetings so do come along and be part of our friendly group.

***Pat Cook - President***

**Tel: 01638 742224**

A festive poster for a Christmas Fayre. The background is a teal color with white snowflakes. At the top, the text 'Christmas Fayre' is written in a large, elegant, dark blue script font. Below it, in a bold, white, sans-serif font, are the details: 'SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER', '10AM TO 4 PM', and 'MANDEVILLE HALL, BURWELL'. To the left of the center, there is a list of activities, each preceded by a white star: '★ Craft Stalls', '★ Santa's Grotto', '★ Fabulous Food', and '★ Local Choirs & Performers'. To the right of the list, there is a cartoon illustration of Santa Claus in a red sleigh, pulled by a brown reindeer. Below the sleigh, there is a small illustration of a snowman. At the bottom of the poster, there is a row of small, colorful houses (green, blue, brown, and red) and several green Christmas trees. The entire scene is set against a white, snow-covered ground.

**Christmas Fayre**

**SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER**  
**10AM TO 4 PM**  
**MANDEVILLE HALL, BURWELL**

- ★ Craft Stalls
- ★ Santa's Grotto
- ★ Fabulous Food
- ★ Local Choirs  
& Performers

Burwell Print is a Social Training Enterprise. We are running this event so that we can continue to provide additional work opportunities for people with learning disabilities. **[www.burwellprint.co.uk](http://www.burwellprint.co.uk)** Registered Charity Number 1053026

For more info contact [sue.anderson@burwellprint.co.uk](mailto:sue.anderson@burwellprint.co.uk) or call on 01638613102

---

## **October 2016**

Full Council met on 18<sup>th</sup> October. A number of motions were debated and agreed. These included: support for keeping Minor Injury Units (including in Ely) open; calls on Government for more equitable funding for health; the need to ensure appropriate archaeological surveys associated with development.

General Purposes Committee met with initial consideration of the Business Plan for 2017-18 high on the agenda. Consideration was also given to a number of invest to save bids surrounding: enhanced intervention services for children with disabilities; Link workers within adult mental health services; and improving commercial governance in procurement. A bid for a Community Led Local Development fund for Wisbech to match fund European Social Funding was also considered.

Children and Young People Committee met to consider emerging savings proposals. With unforeseen pressure on the Looked after Children budget it was agreed to request the General Purposes Committee to consider increasing the base budget. Further work was also requested on the future service delivery model for Children's Centres.

I attended workshops for Children and Young People Committee regarding business planning and the strategic role of the County Council in education. I also attended 2 meetings of political spokespeople for Children and Young People.

***David Brown***



**The Way  
Things Were...**

**View of the  
churchyard in  
1928, before the  
old school was  
demolished.  
(Cambridge  
Collection)**

## CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDENS

### A journey of plant discovery

Cambridge University Botanic Garden Glasshouse Supervisor, Alex Summers, embarks on collaborative, horticultural expedition to northern mountains of Vietnam to identify, survey and collect threatened plant species and bring back plant material for conservation, education and research purposes.



A team made up of expert staff from Cambridge University Botanic Garden (CUBG), Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (RBGK), Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) and Glasgow Botanic Gardens will travel on a three week expedition to the Hoang Lien Mountain Range, northwest Vietnam, on 16 October – 6 November 2016.

Their aim is to target five mountains in the Hoang Lien Mountain Range, northwest Vietnam, to carry out botanical

research and make plant collections from a variety of the country's major vegetation types including semi-evergreen and montane forests.

This is the University Botanic Garden's first collaborative, collecting expedition for over a decade and a first for Alex. He says "I'm incredibly excited to have the opportunity to wander through a subtropical forest and have the chance to maybe find plant species that are new to science. To think there's tonnes of stuff out there people haven't discovered before makes it a really exciting prospect. I'm also looking forward to seeing the most amazingly diverse forests and plants such as tropical gingers, Magnolia and Rhododendron."

One of the main aims of this expedition will be to collect living material mainly in the form of seed. A great number of plant species native to the area are currently severely threatened by deforestation and development and now only exist as very small, fragile populations. Alex plans to bring back between up to 400 seed lots, some familiar plants such as Rhododendron and Magnolia but also some species new to science as well as a range of conifers, ferns and subtropical herbaceous species. His primary interest will be to focus on collecting seed of plants which are under-represented in the University Botanic Garden's collections and which will, he hopes, be used for future research and education purposes.

The team's other key aim is to work together to improve the understanding of the distribution of various plant species, and in particular Magnolia, located in the area. In recent years a number of new species have been found and most are currently severely threatened and not in cultivation.

Alex will be writing weekly blog-style updates for the CUBG website [www.botanic.cam.ac.uk](http://www.botanic.cam.ac.uk) and uploading regular updates on the Garden's Facebook page and via his own twitter and Instagram feeds.



# **Notes from Parish Council September Meeting**

John Covill chaired the meeting with 8 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 a report on the current state of repair work on the village sign, including many of the actual parts. All agreed on and congratulated Peter on the high quality of the work.

## **Reports**

CCC Matters: Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting including, the Boundary Commission's plans and that Swaffham Prior will become part of the area call Burwell. Sandra Gynn asked if the Cambridge University name was the draw for people to the area. Paul Latchford asked what action could be taken regarding the 20mph limit in Queen Edith Way.

ECDC Matters: Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting. Paul Latchford asked about the pool in the new Ely leisure centre and how it is sustainable as no other pool in the country is profitable. Allen Alderson explained the low borrowing cost and profit back from the people running the centre. He had recently looked one fly tipping site in Reach that will soon be cleared up and 5 other were cleared up recently. John Covill pointed out that travellers had moved out of Black Drove and left some rubbish and gas cylinders.

## **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

David Brown reported that James Rigney had not responded to requests for information regarding the bollards in Station Road. A colleague of James Rigney, Neal had called David Brown and said the James Rigney had authorised them and that a written reply would be provided. Open Spaces money: £15K out of £37K had arrived. Regarding traffic survey on Burwell Road, David Brown stated that it was not CCC, Steve Kent-Phillips reported that the company whose name was on the box said that it was a private survey and they could not say who for. Steve Kent-Phillips added that the company who commissioned it was in Central London.

## **Correspondence for Circulation / Consideration**

All correspondence was noted including; David Brown pointed out that Ely has a petition regarding the closure of Minor Injury and Outpatients' services. Mark Lewinski asked where it was, David Brown added that it was on-line.

**Consideration of Planning Applications Received:** None

## **CIL Money Projects**

Steve Kent-Phillips reported the status of all projects. This report is available on the [PC Website](#). Also including; the roundabout has been reported as "great!". The Clerk will chase. Youth Club Hut: Paul Latchford asked if we should still spend £500 for the limited survey. It was decided not to allocate funds to the hut. Paul Latchford reported that 7 street lights were in progress. Steve Kent-Phillips added that the 'phone box had been painted and there had been no more break ins. Michael



Malster asked about the spoil heap removal, Steve Kent-Phillips said there was no date for the top soil yet and Michael Malster offered to spray it for weeds.

Further Projects for consideration:

There were 5 presented and 7 discussed in the meeting.

1. Replacement Swimming Pool Hut:  
This was discussed at length, including the fact that it could be funded from Open Spaces or CIL, that FoSPS would manage it, it must be done in the Easter Holiday – so hard deadline, Sandra Gynn pointed out if there are no changing facilities the pool will close and like the Village Hall, it will belong to FoSPS not the school. It is for all to use. It was decided to proceed on the condition that a project manager is appointed.
2. Stand Pipe for lower allotments:  
Michael Malster made a number of points including that fact that only one allotment was in use and that 2 had given up due to difficulty sourcing water. It was agreed to pursue this as a PC project using PC budget.
3. Traffic Calming in Rogers Road: It was agreed that there was not enough supporting evidence to pursue this.
4. Plant daffodils around the village verges:  
It was proposed to purchase 1 ton of daffodil bulbs for £400 under Open Spaces budget. Lords Ground would receive delivery and Mandy Kingsmill would be in charge of distribution – free to all. PoP, Scouts and WI would be involved.
5. Clear Footpaths:  
It was proposed to clear paths in the village (not roadside). This was discussed; using Open Space money. This was not approved.
6. Play area See-Saw:  
Steve Kent-Phillips pointed out that the play area budget was currently under by £3K and that the school had proposed a see-saw. It was agreed to purchase a see-saw.
7. Table Tennis Table:  
Installing a concrete table tennis table behind the play area was proposed and had been discussed as part of the Youth Club Hut, now an independent project. It was agreed to purchase the table tennis table.

Sandra Gynn asked what happens to the money if we don't spend it. John Covill stated that they take it back.

**Cemetery, Allotments & Grass cutting:**

Steve Kent-Phillips had quotes for the cemetery shed door and fence. It was decided to get Jon Taw to provide the replacement shed doors, whilst Andy Martin Builders would install the concrete pad in front of the door and the repairs to the fence.

Grass Cutting: David Greenfield stated that the contractor was still not cutting all the areas, especially the areas left uncut earlier in the season due to wild flowers. It was decided to request a credit for the March – April invoice and pay for one cut on the current invoice.

**Accounts for payment**

These were all agreed with the exception of (one cut of) the grass cutting contractor's August invoice.

### **Clerk's Report**

The clerk reported that change in management at the grass cutting contractor and agreed to arrange an on-site meeting with the new "Operations Manager East". There had also been a report by a resident complaining about dog fouling "in the park". A reminder will be posted in The Crier.

### **Parish Councillors' Reports**

Steve Kent-Phillips reported having a Sport England code for the play area. Paul Latchford had noticed cyclists had been going the wrong way up the one-way slip into the village from the Cambridge end. Michael Malster suggested they could be discouraged if their club or clubs could be contacted. Andrew Camps reported some ditches where a brush cutter had been used the debris had been left in the ditch. Michael Malster reported that some footpaths had been encroached by overgrown hedges. Steve Kent-Phillips suggested for some paths ECDC was responsible for policing. It was suggested, in the first case, a message should be placed in The Crier reminding residents to maintain their hedges. Steve Kent-Phillips added that he had met the ECDC person and pavements are theirs and that East Cambs. will enforce maintenance but not for paths like Cage Hill to Coopers Green and so on, these are down to the land owners. John Covill commented on Steve on TV, which is great. Alison Hayes has also called from Newmarket News and will publish anything the PC can send.

### **Open Question Time**

Peter Rand gave a closer overview of the village sign pieces he had brought along.

Michael Limb added further information on the grass cutting problem in Cage Hill; agreed with the youth club hut decision as it was 2nd hand when it was put there and was surprised it was effectively privately owned, asked how many actually use it and what the potential was. Steve Kent-Phillips added that the Scouts and Cubs would be interested if it fell down and replaced with a brick built hut but the estimates for that were £240K.

---

## **Notes from Parish Council October Meeting**

John Covill chaired the meeting with 9 Parish Councillors and 5 members of the public in attendance. The meeting started at 7.30pm.

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

**Public Participation:** None

### **Reports**

CCC Matters: Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting including, the requirement for a new chief executive. It seems CCC may share the exec. From Peterborough. Paul Latchford asked how much was saved by sharing. David Brown said that

as it had been agreed there would be no uplift, so 50%.

**ECDC Matters:** Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting including, that the local plan will be in the public domain in 2 weeks. Paul Latchford asked about Milton tip and waste policy as he had been refused a black bag and was Witchford the same. Allen Alderson suggested not, as he takes black bags there. Paul Latchford asked if we could advertise where black bags are accepted. John Covill asked about Black Drove. Allen Alderson said when he checked last it was cleared. John Covill also asked about Great Fen Drove, there was a dumped television and other waste. It was asked if it was possible for reporting to be as accurate as that for pot-holes. Allen Alderson said that he would investigate.

### **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

Paul Latchford reported further feeling in favour of traffic calming in Rogers Road. There were a number of comments suggesting it is not a problem, Andrew Camps stated that early in the morning is a problem. Michael Malster suggested that there are other areas of the village where there are similar problems. Sandra Gynn added that the High Street certainly is. Paul Latchford asked if it is a CIL Money issue and suggested a broader approach. John Covill suggested that CIL money is not a large fund in terms of traffic calming. Sandra Gynn & Steve Kent-Phillips asked for further information, such as specific times. Paul Latchford agreed to ask. The Youth Club Hut was discussed and that the PCC were now involved. Paul Latchford asked about the feedback on the Station Road Bollards. David Brown offered to chase.

David Greenfield proposed closing the meeting for Emma Fletcher's presentation on a community heating scheme. Meeting closed at 20:00. Emma & Mike Barker presented details and asked for the PC to agree to allow a feasibility study, which was agreed.

The meeting was resumed at 20:30.

**Correspondence for Circulation / Consideration:** All correspondence was noted.

### **Consideration of Planning Applications Received:**

16/01266/OUT | Erection of a detached cottage | Station Cottages 9 Station Road

It was agreed that the comment should be to make sure there was off road parking provided.

## **POLITE REMINDER (for dog owners)**

Could everyone walking dogs in the village please remember to pick up after their dogs - bins have been provided!

Unfortunately, there seem to be some unforceful dog walkers as dog fouling has been noted by a number of residents and one complaint was an instance of fouling in the **play area**.

*Parish Council*

16/01198/FUL | Proposed new dwelling | 9 Cage Hill

The objection agreed was poor vehicular access and egress onto a running lane with lack of opportunity for road users to see egress.

16/01245/OUT | Proposed two detached dwellings, garaging, access & associated site works | Land Adj. 42 Lower End

No objections or comments.

16/01254/FUL | Split existing 4 bed semi into 2 x two bed family homes | 16 Mill Hill Swaffham Prior Cambridge CB25 0JZ

No objections or comments.

### **CIL Money Projects**

Steve Kent-Phillips reported the status of all projects.

Play Area: There has been a problem with the recently installed roundabout. A solution was in progress. The see-saw was ordered but had not yet arrived, so hold payment on the invoice for now.

Table Tennis Table: The table has been ordered. Delivery is expected before Christmas.

Refurbish the path from St. Cyriac's to be back gate: Work was started today.

Cemetery fence & shed: The fence has been half completed. The deposit for the shed repairs is in the accounts for payment to Jon Tor who would also check for ivy inside the shed. Andrew Camps offered to make sure the concrete pad outside the shed was rectangular.

Cemetery Mapping: Steve Kent-Phillips presented the proposed survey, analysis and mapping of the cemetery, including the problems caused by the existing and out of date records. The estimates to complete the work are less than £5K and can come from CIL Money. Andrew Camps has been helping Andrew Noyes, who has offered his services to complete the project. It was decided to proceed with the work.

Street Lights: Paul Latchford reported that the estimated date for the work will be mid-November as there is a long lead time on the LED lamps.

Swimming Pool Hut: Steve Kent-Phillips will be assisted by Alex Kirby to purchase the 6.2x3.4m hut. The project manager is Martin Mead and work will have to take place in the first 4 days after Good Friday.

Daffodils: Distribution is going well but there are plenty left. Michael Malster, Scouts & Beavers are planting and PoP will be planting on the top road. Lord's Ground Farm have offered to plant in the roadside in the fens with a tractor if there are any left.

Play Area replacement gates: It was decided to accept the first of 2 options offered by Borley Brothers, which was their own construction rather than the pre-made and more expensive gates option.

### **Village Hall Trees:**

It was decided to accept the quote from ETS for their option to pollard and tidy including removal of all ivy.

### **Accounts for payment**

These were all agreed with the exception of the see-saw.

### **Clerk's Report**

The clerk reported contacting CGM regarding an onsite meeting to discuss the

grass cutting and agreed to put David Greenfield in touch with the manager in charge.

### **Parish Councillors' Reports**

Sandra Gynn reported a tree lying over in the church yard. It is not a PC issue but Paul Latchford agreed to pass on the information. Michael Malster requested an agenda item for the next meeting for the allotments stand pipe. Steve Kent-Phillips stated that when ns&i provided a statement, we would close the account. The Clerk added that the request for a statement had now been signed.

### **Open Question Time**

Michael Limb asked if the cemetery mapping met all the CIL money criteria. PL confirmed that it did.

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

Future meeting dates: November 10th, December 8th. All are welcome to attend.

Clerk to the Parish Council: Paul Catling

Tel: 07040 908743 (Voice Mail only).

Email: [clerk@swaffham-prior.co.uk](mailto:clerk@swaffham-prior.co.uk)

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

---

## **FREECYCLE**

If you have any offers or wants, please contact me by the 14<sup>th</sup> of each month by phone (01223 813362), e-mail

([jun.thompson@tiscali.co.uk](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> of the month to make it a little fairer.



### **Offered**

- Child's supermarket trolley + till (good condition, suitable for 2-4 yr old). Elaine, 01223 665791

### **Wanted**

- Sellotape dispenser for the large rolls (24mm width tape). Jun 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.

## Were you there?



“When I needed a neighbour were you there?  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?  
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?  
I was cold, I was naked, were you there?  
When I needed a shelter were you there?  
When I needed a healer were you there?  
Wherever you travel I'll be there”

*"And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, Were you there?"*

Many of you will be familiar with this song which took an extra depth of meaning for me as I sang it with the children of Swaffham Bulbeck school recently. I started singing along, but part way through had to stop because I was overcome by the challenge and emotion as the words collided with my experience, heart and spirit.

I have heard too much from people who refuse to engage with refugee issues because of their ‘otherness’ to them; they are someone else’s problem, from a different faith, different race, unknown.

The next day I was heading to the Jungle camp in Calais to take over desperately needed aid before the evictions and to see people who have become friends, and in that moment of singing I felt something of their pain together with my own pain, anger and frustration.

The song words clashed with what I hear from many who speak ill of the refugees, even some who share the Christian faith don’t ‘get it’ or they turn a blind eye; the words certainly clash with most of what appears in the press and from our government. Where are we? Where do we stand? With the refugees, or against them?

I am so proud to say that I needed to make a further trip, from which I have just returned (Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>), as I had a number of surprise gifts from villagers enabling me to buy more sleeping bags, rucksacks, torches, stoves, gas, and walking shoes. Thank you! You were ‘there’! Thanks to you, refugees will have warmth, light, shelter, food and shoes on their feet as they journey on. God Bless You! I am available to chat through these things and others, and the doors to RENEW are open for you, every Sunday at 10.30 in Bottisham Primary School.

Rev. Alan Brand

### RENEW Church Services in November 2016.

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

*A crèche is available if required. All are welcome.*

*6<sup>th</sup> November. 10.30am – RENEW The Bigger Picture. With Communion  
(Bottisham Primary School)*



*13<sup>th</sup> November. 10.30am – RENEW Café style (at the School)  
followed by shared lunch.*

*13<sup>th</sup> November. 6.20pm – Evening Worship. (Lode Chapel)*

*20<sup>th</sup> November. 10.30am – RENEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)*

*27<sup>th</sup> November. 10.30am – RENEW The Bigger Picture (at the School)*

*27<sup>th</sup> November. 6.20 pm – Evening Worship. (Lode Chapel)*

*For more information about any of the activities of RENEW Church please contact:*

*Rev. Alan Brand on C.812558. Email: [alanbrand77@icloud.com](mailto:alanbrand77@icloud.com)*

*Or visit our website at [www.renewchurch.org.uk](http://www.renewchurch.org.uk)*

## Church Services in November

at St Mary's, Swaffham Prior  
unless otherwise indicated

### **Sunday 6 November, Third Sunday before Advent**

11am Holy Communion (CW1T)

### **Sunday 13 November, Remembrance Sunday**

10.50am Remembrance Service, with Beavers, Cubs, Scouts Parade

### **Sunday 20 November, Christ the King**

11am Holy Communion (CW1T)

### **Sunday 27 November, Bible Sunday**

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

11am Benefice All Age Service, Quy

4pm Advent by Candlelight, with Cambridge Voices, in the 2 churches

Would you like a lift to a service in Swaffham Prior or elsewhere in the Benefice? It makes sense to share cars and can be reassuring to go into church with someone else.

Please be in touch and we will do our best to arrange a free lift: 07553 151585

## Dates for Your Diary November 2016

Sat	5	Bulbeck Bonfire Party, 6pm, Vicarage Field, Bulbeck [p.14]
Thu	10	PC Meeting, 7.30pm, VH [p.32]
Tue	15	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2.45-3.15pm Chapel 3.20pm-4.00pm
Fri	18	<b>Crier Copy Deadline</b>
Mon	21	WI: Millennium Tower Project, VH, 7.30pm [p.11]
Sun	27	Advent by Candlelight, St Mary's and St Cyriac's, 4pm [p. 9]
Dec	3	Christmas Fair, The Old Rectory, Bulbeck, 10.30am to 2.30pm [p. 15]
	23	Christmas Fayre, 10am—4pm, Mandeville Hall, Burwell [p. 29]

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon of Term	8pm	Village School
Cubs	Tim Doe	743656	Weds (term)	6:00-7:30pm	Village School
Reading Group	Brenda Wilson	743937	1 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> Tues of month	8:00pm	Village Hall
WI	Pat Cook	742224	3 <sup>rd</sup> 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	