



# The Swaffham Crier

Volume XLI Number 10

October 2017



## Editorial

Congratulations Henry Brown, who will be **95** on October 17th this month. Henry's articles on his experiences as a pilot in the second world war have won accolades from all sides, and in this month we publish the last of the war years. See the picture of his crew on page 18, so young! All under 22, bar the navigator of course. It's good to know that age counts for something...

A new contributor to this month's Crier: **Julie Nunn** (as we all know, a brilliant cook, and a real whizz at Greek stuff) is telling us what to do with all those delicious courgettes and pumpkins we've been growing, or in our case, buying up in quantity from the Harvest Show. We were fortunate enough to acquire the most stunning basket of fruit and vegetables from Ivy Farm, and are only just coming to the end of it now.

The Harvest Show was a terrific success this year, as equally the Dog Show (despite the pouring rain), and you can read all about it and see the pictures in this edition. Congratulations to organisers AND competitors, what a turn out! One



comment from one of the organisers was that at least there wasn't any argy-bargy about judge's decisions this year. Certainly not. It's all a bit of fun, and anyway, *muttering* doesn't count.... See

you Quizzing, Harvest Suppering and  
**Caroline Matheson**  
Halloweening.

**Cover Picture: The Owl by Thomas Newbolt**

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## Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

### Have you seen Sid?

You may have seen SID\* around the village, perched up a lamp pole. He is our very own vehicle monitor. He displays the speed of passing vehicles, and logs the time and speed as they pass, but he does not collect number plate information. All the data Sid collects is freely available on the Parish Council website.

To date, he has been checking speeds up and down Rogers Road and counting vehicles on Mill Hill in each directions; both with the children in the school and in their holidays for comparison. When he's not on duty, Sid recharges at Steve's house.

Next, Sid is going to both count cars and monitor average speeds on Lower End both coming into the village from Reach and leaving towards Reach. This is so we can get an idea of how bad the rat run is on school days.

We are in contact with adjoining Parishes with a view to renting Sid out so he can do similar work for them. If anyone would like Sid to pay a visit to their road, please contact Paul the Clerk.



*Steve Kent-Phillips*

Sid's minder

\*SID = Speed Indicator Device

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Dear Editors,

### ECDC Away days

I'm afraid Alastair Everitt had almost entirely misunderstood the situation in the dialogue between Allen Alderson and I in his last Parish Council report, for July.

The controlling Conservative group (Tories, his word, yes that bit was right), award themselves away days to plan future actions of the council by themselves, separately from council members of other parties and **not** with public participation.

My point that this is profoundly undemocratic was **not** in any sense a party political one, as I restated to Allen Alderson several times.

In short: one controlling group goes out to plan, at taxpayer expense for their awayday, what the council is going to do in future. They then convene the next meeting with those plans already decided as a fait accompli. The council meeting is then not really a meeting for discussion and decisions, it's just to just to rubber-stamp the decisions of the controlling group. Councillors of other parties can raise objections, of course; but the debate has been had and the essential decisions have already been taken, and they are powerless to exert any change. This would constitute grossly undemocratic behaviour by any party; and I said this to Mr Alderson more than once.

Allen Alderson did not gently remind me of anything. He tried to justify this

open bypassing of the proper decisionmaking process by saying it had been difficult to get consensus in the past when there was not a controlling group, so now that there is, they take themselves off to decide things by themselves and then tell the next meeting what they have decided. I can only wonder that Mr Alderson was willing to admit this. It is apparent that local democracy is not something he understands.

Controlling conservative groups in Cambridgeshire seem beyond control. The County council has already made both the regional and national press this summer when the controlling group awarded themselves 30% pay rises, against a backdrop of continuing hefty council cuts; astronomically beyond what other public servants are awarded and most outrageously, against the independent recommendation made that they should take considerably more modest rises. ECDC has similarly awarded itself 24% pay rises. No appeal to moral decency, as that controlling group take more money for themselves while they cut services to those who pay them, seems to have any influence on them.

*Mark Lewinski*



*Leo and his Lion — Leo Fletcher and Bark Willmott in the Dog Show Fancy Dress Competition*

## From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

What our PC does for this village!! Two meetings during the August holiday period. The second PC meeting was an emergency one to consider two new planning applications with the need to respond to ECDC within three days. There were three apologies.

The first application was for two new houses in the garden of 10 Lower End. A number of objections had been raised against this. Clare Farrah, also known as Clare Brooks, with son Philip Mead by her side, presented a very clear, authoritative and convincing reply to all the objections. To find out about them all you will need to read the fuller minutes of Paul the Clerk. I shall mention just two of the issues that came up.



One objection maintained that two more homes would contribute to even more blockages in the sewers in Lower End. Clare, supported by other Lower End residents, said there had never been any blockages. One member said the only blockages were in the High Street and began describing the nature of them. Yuk! Happily he stopped before going into too much detail.

Another objection maintained there would be a disruption to the wild life. It seems that an ecological appraisal showed there would be not be any harm, and that it may even make an improvement. I regret not asking how this was possible. One member said that, with the two new large houses in Cage Hill in the same vicinity, the wild life must have been benefiting enormously. I suppose they just put out lots more fat balls, seeds, etc.

But the PC did debate the need to change the route of the footpath. The village footpath overseer, Peter Hart, said there should be no objection to amending the footpath, but that the ECDC Footpath Officer was the only person to decide the matter. A member thought the Ramblers might have a word to say about it. A right hand turn would need to be introduced but one member explained that Ramblers only like to walk in a straight line, and that they find right hand turns difficult. But already there is a precedent for such a change. Some years ago the footpath across the meadow behind the School was changed so that it ran next to the School boundary and then turned sharp right, back towards its original course.

The original access proposal had been rightly rejected and the revised access will be through Orchard Close, the gated community off Mill Hill. It seems, purely by chance, such an access was included in all the deeds of the houses when sold. This may involve taking vehicles over a public footpath but that is outside the remit and knowledge of the PC.

The meeting then considered the reapplication for the proposed development behind 65 High Street. When first submitted the PC had raised 10 objections. To its mind none had been addressed and all objections were still valid.

After both applications had been considered the meeting moved on to PC reports. Steve said that the wording of the Notice Board for the refurbished Pound had been settled. Ruth Stinton has always maintained that the Pound used to be on

the green on the opposite side of the road. She says that at some point a member of the Witt family who lived at Stocks Farm had objected to the sound of caged animals and imprisoned drunks, and had had it moved to its current position. Geoffrey Woollard who happens to be related to the Witt family by a great, great, great aunt, could only find a Witt who had lived at The Hall – too far away to be disturbed. It seems Ruth had got the story from either Eric Day or John Norris when she became PC Clerk in May 1972. She remained as Clerk until 1997 (take note Paul about the expected terms of service). With no firm evidence to support Ruth, and presumably after talking with builders about the possibility of moving such a clunch building, Steve decided to ignore the story.

It is similar to the story that we have our two churches because two sisters had fallen out and refused to be married in the same church. So another had to be built. Interestingly the Reverend Mark Howarth, when he was here, refused to dismiss this as a just a story and told me there might be something in it. It was agreed that the gate to the Pound would be left open because both visitors and several village residents think it is private property. Everyone should be encouraged to enter, to examine and to enjoy, and, as one member suggested, even pick up a few weeds.

*Alastair Everitt*

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## September

John Covill was having a well-earned holiday and at the September meeting Peter Hart took the chair. All went well and the meeting passed along fairly quickly. Mike Malster had been asked by one villager to ask a few questions about “waste collection”, and Mike will send these to Alan Alderson (absent from the meeting) for answers. I can’t help thinking that a couple of the questions are traps.

The CIL and Open Spaces projects are proceeding to their completion with some receiving their final tweaks. Open Spaces money has now been used up but there is about £4500 CIL money left. Following up a previous request from Paul L, Mike asked whether more bulbs will be bought for planting this Autumn as some felt we had “too much yellow” in the village. Paul L and Mike suggested snowdrops and bluebells. Peter pointed out that snowdrops are only planted when green in the Spring. This left the bluebells. And now comes the rub. Will they choose Spanish or English bluebells? The discussion about the pros and cons for the different bluebells will be fascinating. What will they go for? But first Mike will ask Janet Willmott if she is happy to store the bulbs and to arrange the planting as she did last year.

In Members’ Reports Paul L asked whether our PC had been told about the emergency power proposal in Burwell which had been made by IGP Solar Plant Number 6 Ltd. This is not a solar project but one involving 20 gas-powered generators. Each generator is powered by an 89 litre engine, equivalent to 1,000 cars, producing enough power for two cities the size of Cambridge.

But I jump the gun. Burwell PC passed it through on the nod, much to our PC’s surprise, and very much to the dismay of Burwell residents. John Clarke is the lead campaigner heading the protest in Burwell. Paul L was worried whether the noise

# QUIZ NIGHT

Swaffham Prior Village Hall

**7.30 pm Saturday 21 October**

*Tickets £6 each. To book a table, contact*



Jenny Brand  
(01638) 742161

or

Lynne Rand  
(01638) 741960



*Jacket Potato Supper*

*Bring your own drinks and glasses !!*

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

and pollution would upset people using the Dyke, part of which is within our parish boundary. He suggested the PC should write to ECDC to protest. David Greenfield had printed out a number of pages from the 69 page proposal and thought any protest should be left to individuals. Also, using the figures produced for the proposal, he said the noise and pollution level would be low and the generators infrequently used. He didn't think any inconvenience for the few walkers on the Dyke warranted an objection. Steve thought if Burwell PC had made no objection they might be offended if we interfered. Paul eventually persuaded the meeting that if he produced a draft letter satisfying a majority of members that it would be sent off by the 29<sup>th</sup> September.

Meantime just prior to, and on the same day as our PC meeting, there had been action. Two meetings of

"hundreds of villagers" had been held in Burwell and at the Tuesday Burwell PC meeting the Burwell members reconsidered their previous decision, and appeared to be quite apologetic. Subsequently ECDC has asked the applicant for further information about the level of noise and air pollution, and the ECDC planners will delay any discussion until December. Reach PC had held its meeting on the Wednesday and residents said that if the PC does not arrange a public meeting the outraged villagers will do so. So here we have democracy at its best. I am indebted for much of the above to Tina Murray and Alison Hayes and their excellent report in the issue of the *Newmarket Journal*, which appeared on the same day as our own PC meeting.

As there is currently a great interest in the wind direction in our village, some may wish to consult Appendix D, pages 62-69, of the generator application, which contains "comparative 'wind roses'" from 6 weather-monitoring stations.

The meeting ended with information supplied by Alan Durrant and Peter Rand, the Village Hall Action Pair. They had a list detailing actions, hopes, permission requests, plans for the future, availability of money – all too much to detail. The one I like is that the PC suggested they burn all the green waste collected at the end of the car park rather than paying a lot of money having it taken away.

*Alastair Everitt*

**Advent By  
Candlelight**  
**4.00 pm Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**  
**in the Two Churches of Swaffham Prior**  
*with Ian de Massini and Cambridge Voices*

This annual event is part of a year-long series of celebratory concerts marking the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the choir; it follows the recent sell-out event in Ely Cathedral Lady Chapel.

This will be the 25<sup>th</sup> time that *Cambridge Voices* organise and provide the music for this very special event in aid of Emmaus. The theme will be **The Lineage of Christ** with music and words telling the ancestral journey from The First Adam, via Abraham, via David, via St Anne, via Mary, and finally, the Second Adam (Jesus Christ).

Members of the parish will provide the readings and Ian and his choir will perform an exciting and varied programme of music including Ian's choral arrangement of one of the most beautiful pieces of English orchestral music, Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis*, alongside Mexican Baroque music for two choirs, a new Gospel Song, music by a hugely popular contemporary Estonian composer, and also Ian's choral arrangement of Bach's well-known "St Anne" Fugue.

Beginning in St Mary's, it moves to St Cyriac's for the second half, and then returns to the warmth of St Mary's for mulled wine and mince pies.

**£10 Admission (children free)**



**CAMBRIDGE  
V • O • I • C • E • S**



## Swaffham Prior Autumn Show 2017



What an excellent turnout we had this year for the Autumn Show, and how we were blessed with the weather. We're happy to say that we had many more entries this year than last (remember that rain?) and it was great to see new faces as well as familiar ones turning up with armloads of fruit, veg, jam, etc.

Entries arrived steadily throughout the morning, with those who had to queue doing so patiently, or seizing the opportunity to examine the other entries. As always, this resulted in some deciding that the competition, or lack of it, in a particular category meant that a speedy trip back to the allotment or garden to gather more produce could be well worthwhile.

(It's never possible to predict which classes will be brimming with entries, and which will have none at all. For example, there were no fruit cakes, sunflowers or children's models this year; all categories that are normally well represented.)

Then the doors closed and whilst the dog show took place on the lawns, the judges began their deliberations, without fear, favour - or recompense, except for our grateful thanks. Rulers were plied and rules strictly applied. Woe betide those who had overlooked instructions on size of cake or photographic print! Better luck next year!

Cream teas and ice creams were eagerly consumed by old and young alike, and raffle tickets and tombola entries purchased. When the last doggies and owners had claimed their prizes, the annual auction of the produce began, led by the irreplaceable Alastair Everitt, complete with imposing hat.

At the end of a very successful day, the village had raised almost £300 towards the upkeep of the Village Hall, so many thanks to all who helped, entered and/or purchased produce on the day.



### List of 2017 Winners



	VEGETABLES	FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE	THIRD PLACE
A	4 French beans	Scarlett Fletcher		
B	4 Runner beans	Richard Rust	Annelie Houstonius	Colin Thompson
C	3 Beetroot	Richard Rust	Viv Elston	Florence Mold
D	3 Onions	Annelie Houstonius	Scarlett Fletcher	Julian Luttrell
E	4 Shallots	Julian Luttrell	Jill Bourne	
F	3 Carrots	Annelie Houstonius	Sue Giles	Viv Elston



G	3 Potatoes	Leo Fletcher Scarlett Fletcher	Joint first place	
H	6 Cherry tomatoes	Ruth Scovill	Viv Elston	Julian Luttrell
I	4 Tomatoes	Neil Featherstone	Sue Giles	Viv Elston
J	3 Courgettes	Scarlett Fletcher		
K	Squash or marrow	Colin Thompson	Viv Elston	Annelie Houstenius
L	Cucumber	Sue Giles		
M	Any other veg	Viv Elston	Julian Luttrell	John Clarke
N	Odd/rude veg	Scarlett Fletcher	Jill Bourne	Leo Fletcher
O	Mixed Herbs	Jill Bourne	Kate Barker	
P	Trug mixed produce	Jill Bourne	Viv Elston	Annelie Houstenius
	<b>FRUIT</b>	<b>FIRST PLACE</b>	<b>SECOND PLACE</b>	<b>THIRD PLACE</b>
Q	3 Dessert apples	Hattie & Phoebe Clayton	Janet Wilmott	Ruth Scovill
R	3 Cooking apples	Ruth Scovill	Mike Barker	
S	3 Pears	David Unitt	Richard Rust	Viv Elston
T	3 Plums	Ava Brand	Christian Brand	John Brand
U	6 Soft fruit	Julian Luttrell	Viv Elston	Jill Bourne
V	Any other fruit	Mike Barker	Scarlett Fletcher	John Chalmers
	<b>FLOWERS</b>	<b>FIRST PLACE</b>	<b>SECOND PLACE</b>	<b>THIRD PLACE</b>
W	3 Roses	Alastair Everitt	Florence Mold	
Y	4 Mixed flowers	Alastair Everitt		
AA	3 Dahlias	Alastair Everitt	Lynne Rand	
AB	Flower arrangement	Margaret Joyce	Jill Bourne	Scarlett Fletcher
AC	Mini arrangement	Betty Prime		
	<b>ADDITIONAL</b>	<b>FIRST PLACE</b>	<b>SECOND PLACE</b>	<b>THIRD PLACE</b>
AE	Jam or jelly	Shirley Wilkins	Sue Giles	Janet Wilmott
AF	Pickle or chutney	Jill Bourne	Janet Wilmott	
AG	Marmalade	Annelie Houstenius	Ruth Scovill	
AH	Other preserve/honey	Bob Bourne	Betty Prime	Margaret Joyce
AI	Homemade wine	Julian Luttrell		
AJ	4 Eggs	Sue Giles	Janet Wilmott	Annelie Houstenius
AK	Victoria sponge	Ruth Scovill	Lynne Rand	Betty Prime
AM	Decorated/filled cake	Scarlett Fletcher		
AN	Any other cake	Ruth Scovill		
AO	Hand-made bread	Jill Bourne		
	<b>CHILDREN'S</b>	<b>FIRST PLACE</b>	<b>SECOND PLACE</b>	<b>THIRD PLACE</b>
AQ	Miniature garden	Iris Barker		
AR	Veg or fruit animal	Amelia Bird	Max Wade-Gledhill	
AS	3 Decorated cupcakes	Leo Fletcher	Sylvia Featherstone	
	<b>PHOTOGRAPHY</b>	<b>FIRST PLACE</b>	<b>SECOND PLACE</b>	<b>THIRD PLACE</b>
AU	Age up to 16 years	Freya Bird	Freya Bird	Freya Bird
AV	Age 16 years & over	Julian Luttrell	Peter Rand	Linda Kirby
	Honourable mention: Andrew Noyes's photo which was over-sized so couldn't be placed			

**Overall Best Performance in Show**

**Jill Bourne**

# **Glenn Manchett crews the Sanya Serenity coast yacht in the CLIPPER ROUND THE WORLD YACHT RACE**

Manchett's Group director, Glenn Manchett is currently a crew member on the Sanya Serenity Coast yacht, which is a part of the 2017 – 2018 Clipper Round the World Yacht Race.



Glenn is one of 20 on board for the next 11 months, racing against 11 other yachts. It is endurance at its highest level and Glenn has been stationed as the yacht engineer.

All crew members are expected to work sailing shifts of 4 hours on and 4 hours off with them getting as much sleep as possible in between!

Glenn was pushed to his physical limits in the Level 1 selection process to gain a place in the clipper world yacht race. He completed 4 levels of compulsory training including how to live at a 35-degree angle for prolonged periods while racing and learning to race with broken sleep as he sails through the night.

He will face furious storms in the South Atlantic, intense tropical cyclones in the North Pacific and roaring forties of the Southern Ocean and of course the biggest dread of all no wind at all!

On leaving Liverpool Albert docks he waved his family and friends off saying “I won’t lie I’m bricking it, but I’m ready”

You can follow Glenn’s yacht progress online here:

<http://clipperroundtheworld.com/race/standings>

His boat and crew are on the Sanya Serenity Coast yacht and are lime green on the tracking map.



Glenn is one of four directors who manage Manchett's in Burwell, best known for their yellow and green vehicle recovery fleet in Cambridgeshire & Suffolk as well as MAN & Renault trucks commercial workshops in Newmarket Suffolk. Glenn has recently introduced Manchett's a new Isuzu and LDV dealership into Newmarket Suffolk as well.

## **2017: Conversation = chat, discussion, dialogue, discourse.**

“I mean sort of like, you know.”

“Excuse me, but I have to go.”

“You know, sort of like, I mean,^

“Just a moment - is that the whole scene?”

“Like sort of, I mean, you know.”

“As I say, I’ve got to go.”

*Ophir*

### **Storm over the Fen**

Heat’s humid weight blankets the sleeping scarp  
In dreams of dragon prow nosing Danelaw  
Shallows, square-sailed, among the low, black lands  
That once knew kittiwakes’ keening and the  
Salty tang of lost, fen-fathering seas.  
The ridge remembers still the distant days  
Back when the Devil delved the dyke that snakes  
Across the chalk; high prehistoric art  
Mocking the mediaeval masons who  
Set Ely’s long ship silhouette afloat  
On the horizon’s tense and quivering line:  
Delicate gothic rigging tautly trimmed  
To tack against pent, primitive power.  
Over the cathedral, wild, forgotten  
Gods sculpt across the sky in molten lead  
A towering arsenal: hammer, anvil,  
Flickering forge-light, as if long-banished  
Oceans returned in arms to seize their own.

*Wulsin*

## On the Allotment

October can be a really enjoyable month for gardeners, often the weather is warm and dry with a gentle sun and soft autumnal colours. The harvesting of potatoes, beans carrots and beetroot should be completed and produce stored if not required for immediate use. Once the ground has been cleared it can be dug and compost added – fallen leaves can be incorporated as a soil improver or used as a surface mulch – this will help to retain moisture and increase the worm population. It may be worth taking a soil test to ascertain the pH and to understand if it is low in any nutrients and what fertilizers may be needed in the future. Squash and pumpkin can be harvested – do store them for at least ten days before use as this will improve the flavour. The last of the sweetcorn should be harvested before it becomes tough and inedible.



Onion sets can be planted this month – I like both red and standard varieties but am not overly keen on the white as the flavour is not as good and they can be more susceptible to white rot. Two of my favourite varieties are Sturon and Red Baron. Garlic and Elephant Garlic (a variety of leek but used in a similar way to garlic) can also be planted. For both onion and garlic it is a good idea to protect against mice by using fleece or chicken wire until they are well established.

Broad beans can be sown in October to produce in May or early June – once again, it is worth protecting in the same way as onions.

Continue to plant lettuce under cloches

Carefully lift a few roots of parsley and chives and plant in pots. These can be taken indoors for use in winter.

Finally, I like to start thinking about what I will do differently next year, what succeeded and what I will do differently – a time for reflection

**Mike Malster**  
07785 958857

### **BON MOT NUMBER EIGHTY**

“When Mozart was my age  
he’d been dead for five years.”

*Tom Lehrer (1928 - ?)*

# **JULIE NUNN'S AUTUMN RECIPES**

## **COURGETTE FRITTERS**

600grs grated courgettes  
1 large onion grated  
2 garlic cloves crushed  
4 tbsp S.R flour  
1 tbsp dried Oregano  
3 tbsp fresh chopped mint  
1-2 eggs  
Season with salt and pepper  
Olive oil for frying  
Optional crumbled feta cheese



1. Mix all ingredients together and bind in the eggs to make into a batter type mix.
2. Heat Olive oil and add dollops of the mix into patty type sizes
3. fry until golden brown and cooked in the middle.

Makes around 12-15

Lovely served with Tzatziki.....ENJOY!

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And here's a recipe especially for October

## **PUMPKIN, CHICKPEA & SPINACH SOUP**



15gr butter  
1 tbsp olive oil  
1 onion finely chopped  
1 garlic glove finely chopped  
225gr pumpkin, peeled and chopped  
410gr can chickpeas drained  
750ml veg stock  
1 bay leaf  
125gr baby spinach  
salt & pepper to season

1. Melt the butter and olive oil in a large pan and add onion and garlic until softened, then add the pumpkin and cook for 10 mins stirring occasionally.
2. Then add bay leaf, chickpeas and stock, cover and cook for 20mins.
3. Remove the bay leaf and remove from heat, put soup mix into a blender and whizz to what texture you prefer.
4. Return soup to pan and add spinach, give it a stir and cook for 5 mins season well and serve with some nice crusty bread

## August PC Report

OUR REGULAR REPORTER was unable to be at this meeting perhaps fearing that the promised discussion of the proposal to build 10 bungalows across the road from the windmill would be long, full of technical details about wind, and acrimonious. So the editors had to do their own reporting for once. He had little to fear about the meeting itself and nothing at all to fear that we might get a taste for reporting and he'd lose his job. The open discussion had attracted quite a good turn-out with standing room only in the meeting room at the Village Hall. Your stand-in reporter sat on a table at the end – an impromptu press galley.

After some procedural points from the Chair, the open discussion started with a general introduction from Michael Mead explaining that this was a rare opportunity to build bungalows in the village as these would not be economically viable elsewhere. They would provide an opportunity for elderly people to downsize and stay in the village. Some opposing the plans suggested that it was an opportunity to build on a piece of land where planning permission wouldn't be granted for anything else and shouldn't be granted even for bungalows because of the likely detrimental effect on the windmill, and the view from and to the Devil's Dyke. Both sides agreed that preserving the windmill was important to the village but disagreed over the effect that the development would have on it. In the absence of either set of experts this didn't lead anywhere conclusive. Both sides also agreed that bungalows for older people to move to are a good idea in principle but disagreed strongly about where development should be.

Discussion then moved on to the effect on traffic and the potential dangers of having a new side road close to a bend. Doubts were cast on the usefulness of the traffic measurements which had been made, as these had been taken in the middle of the day rather than at rush hour. Surprisingly nothing was said about speed limits, where the village is behind the trend: 40Mph where others have 30, and 30 where 20 elsewhere is becoming the norm. There was then the issue of hedges and trees which might either be added or removed, with consequent advantages and disadvantages variously to the mill, the general appearance of the village and visibility on the road.

At this point, the 30 mins was up and most of the public left, despite there being official discussion of this application later on the PC's agenda. When this came, the PC was generally opposed to the scheme on all the grounds above and noted that independent expert opinion was needed on the effect on the mill's wind supply. ECDC have since agreed to arrange this. There were several other planning applications to be discussed as well, two too many in fact, an additional special meeting having to be arranged for these. It's perhaps not entirely coincidental that the village is currently without a Village Plan following the change in the rules?

The rest of the meeting was much as usual. There was good news on the use of the CIL money and especially the magnificent restoration work at the Pound. This led to discussion about how long the Pound had been in its current location, who had moved it and why. Answers please! Variable news on the ongoing saga of the Youth Club hut: it is in better structural condition than had been thought, the Scouts would like to use it, but the windows are mainly broken. Someone commented on the ad-

vantage of it only being “a stone’s throw from the play-ground” - one of the evening’s better jokes but it didn’t even get a laugh.

*James Matheson*

**Huge Autumn Jumble sale**  
**Saturday 14th October 2017 2-4pm**

St James’ Church. Lode, Cambridge, CB259EH

Entrance £1 adults and children free

Note this is a new venue, and the proceeds will go to the provision of community space in the church.

Please bring jumble to the church in the morning from 10.30-12

Best part, there will be afternoon tea and cake for sale which is much needed by hard pressed jumble goers!

Put the date in your diary and come and get the usual amazing bargains



**Watching the Dog Show**



## Henry Brown's WWII

Henry Brown, Swaffham Prior's oldest living resident, was a wartime pilot. After training in North America then South Africa, returning to England and flying Lancasters in the later stages of the war, he was posted to the East when the war in Europe ended, as war with Japan continued. When this also ended, forces were not automatically returned home. This last military chapter finds him still in Mingladon, now in what is known as Myanmar (Burma).



Outside my tent at Mingladon I rigged up a shower made from a 10 gallon drum, the water in which warmed up quickly in the sun. The tap was from an aircraft and I probably purchased the rose in Calcutta. There was no reason why all the men could not have done likewise, but there was a negative attitude to life, led by the commanding officer.

Alan had trained as a doctor at Leeds University during the war. When he qualified he was called up by the army as a Medical Officer and posted to Meilutla, Burma. This was about 250 miles from Mingladon on the road to Mandalay. On one occasion he borrowed a Jeep and driver and set off to see me. As no advance notice was possible, he arrived out of the blue – what a nice surprise! Alan was very correctly dressed. He explained that his Adjutant was a stickler for uniform. RAF Mingladon attire was often little more than a pair of shorts!

This was winter and I wonder what a summer outfit was like for the army in 1946. Alan had a batman who was a personal servant and looked after his clothes and tent. There were no batmen at Mingladon, but we received extra pay to compensate for looking after ourselves.

Weeks went by and there was no news of our return to the UK, although we had joined up just for the duration of the conflict, now long over. We were now being used as an army of occupation and eventually frustration took over, coming to a head when several squadrons in our group downed tools and said they had had enough. So had I. The Air Marshal came from HQ Delhi –actually getting off his bottom at last! He arrived in Mingladon, dressed in whites. “Where is the mess tent?” he asked, “I wish to address your men”. No mess tent, oh dear, no anything. Two weeks later we had orders to catch a troop ship in Rangoon to take us home!!



*Visit of my brother-in-law, Alan Hyslop, to Mingladon*



Note here, that I was pressed at several stations to sign up and become a regular. It was pointed out that I had gained a great deal of experience at HM expense. I declined, saying that it was a boring life. Privately, I considered that they were incompetent and dangerous. Without the input of wartime volunteers the services would be useless and post-war it would be the pre-war incompetents who became the COs.

I have many photographs recording the above, but they are now fading.

### **Meeting with Retired Air Marshal Donald Bennett, founder of the RAF Pathfinders**

I did not encounter any Pathfinder personnel during my service, but in 1954, when I was making the Rodley car, I had a phone call from Bennett requesting a meeting. Bennett was making the Atom car, which was a two seater with a fibre glass body.

I motored down to his works, which were in a hangar. He complained I was under-cutting the market, and I responded by pointing out we were in different markets. I told him I was an ex-bomber pilot. No interest from him. I asked him how he obtained the BSA engines for his cars. He said he had simply phoned the chairman Sir Bernard Docker, and reminded him how he, Donald, had kept his munitions factories busy. In 2-3 days 50 engines would arrive, without an invoice!

Whilst leaving the works I noticed that all the men were wearing flying boots, although it was summer. I asked why and was told that "the Skipper likes it"; I concluded that Donald Bennett had flipped.

### **My Crew**

When we started our tour of operations we were all sergeants and lived in the same barrack block. This enabled us to get to know each other and form a team. Bombers required a crew to operate and each was entirely dependent for survival and performance on individual members. I think we were all good. We were rated "above average" in our logs by the C/O.

My crew consisted of Jack Wadsworth (20) from Bradford, flight engineer; Stamper Metcalfe (22) from Sheffield, bomb aimer; Stan Grubb (32) from London, navigator; Ron Hall (20) from Lincoln, wireless operator; Bill McGough (19) from Liverpool, mid-upper gunner; Alf Lloyd (19) from Liverpool, rear gunner; and me (22) from Leeds, pilot.

### **Gunnery**

None of the training aircraft were fitted with guns until the Harvard A6 trainer arrived from the USA and was delivered to 22 Air School. The Harvard could be fitted with a single 303 Browning machine gun. The usual target for training fighter pilots was a drogue towed by a slower plane. The Hawker 2 seater biplane would have been ideal, but they did not have access to the usual firing range over the sea. So a target was devised in a pit of about 30 feet across with an annex shelter for the observers. There were two flags, a green one for go and a red one for no-go, when the spent bullets were being counted.

The average pupil dived at the target and opened fire, pulling out when he was near the ground, just a few seconds of firing. I adopted a low level and slow approach, firing when the front and back rims of the pit were just wide enough. My

scores were very high and would produce an “exceptional” award for gunnery. It was for this reason that I was held in Harrogate for 6 months waiting for a possible fighter posting.

### **Miscellany**

Apart from the Wellington with the control gate missing that would not take off, I never damaged an aircraft, though we sometimes returned from an op with flak holes. You could hear these being made, it sounded like hail, but we had no serious damage.

I tried to fail the Transport Command exams but they just laughed. “We know you can do it all”, they said.

During my five years in the RAF I stayed at 62 locations. Averaging one month each, not great for social life. I went weeks without letters and then a bundle would catch up. Dental treatment was rare, and if there was a dentist on the station I had often moved on before the appointment came up.



### **Henry Brown's Crew**

*Jack Wadsworth (20) from Bradford, flight engineer; Stamper Metcalfe (22) from Sheffield, bomb aimer; Stan Grubb (32) from London, navigator; Ron Hall (20) from Lincoln, wireless operator; Bill McGough (19) from Liverpool, mid-upper gunner; Alf Lloyd (19) from Liverpool, rear gunner; and me (22) from Leeds, pilot.*

## Swaffham Prior Dog Show 2017

The 2017 Fun Dog Show was wonderfully supported this year, despite the sudden heavy showers of rain throughout the afternoon. New judge, Janine Elston, did a fantastic job of organising and running the six classes, introducing a couple of new categories, much to the delight of all those who entered - well particularly the dogs who loved the “food alley”!! She was brilliantly assisted by Sue Burge, who rather enjoyed looking after one of the entries, a twelve week old puppy! Thanks also go to April Cook who compered the afternoon and kept everyone informed as to what was going and gave lots of encouragement and praise with her lovely commentary on proceedings. Prizes, as always, were generously sponsored by Alan’s Ark at Soham, for which we are very grateful. An incredible £55 was made for St Mary’s.

### The Results

#### Agility Course

**1st** Molly with Norman in an amazing time of 18 seconds!!!  
**Runner up** Caroline and Harry, close run thing - 21 seconds

#### Waggiest Tail

**1st** Molly with Daisy  
**Runner up** Scarlett with Bach

#### Best Trick

**1st** Emily with Elsa, who won with her amazing posing skills every time there was a camera in sight  
**Runner up** Tom with Tessa, whose recall was fantastic

#### Food Alley

**1st** Molly with Norman in 4.6 seconds, outstanding  
**Runner up** Amelia with Oreos with a very respectable 13 seconds

#### Dog the Judge would most like to take home

**1st** Aaron’s canine friend Lucas  
**Runner up** Amelia’s dog Jessie

#### Fancy Dress

**1st** Mabel with 12 week old puppy Nancy  
**Runner up** Florence and her dog “flamenco” style, but all entries were outstanding, a very difficult decision for the judges to make, well done everyone







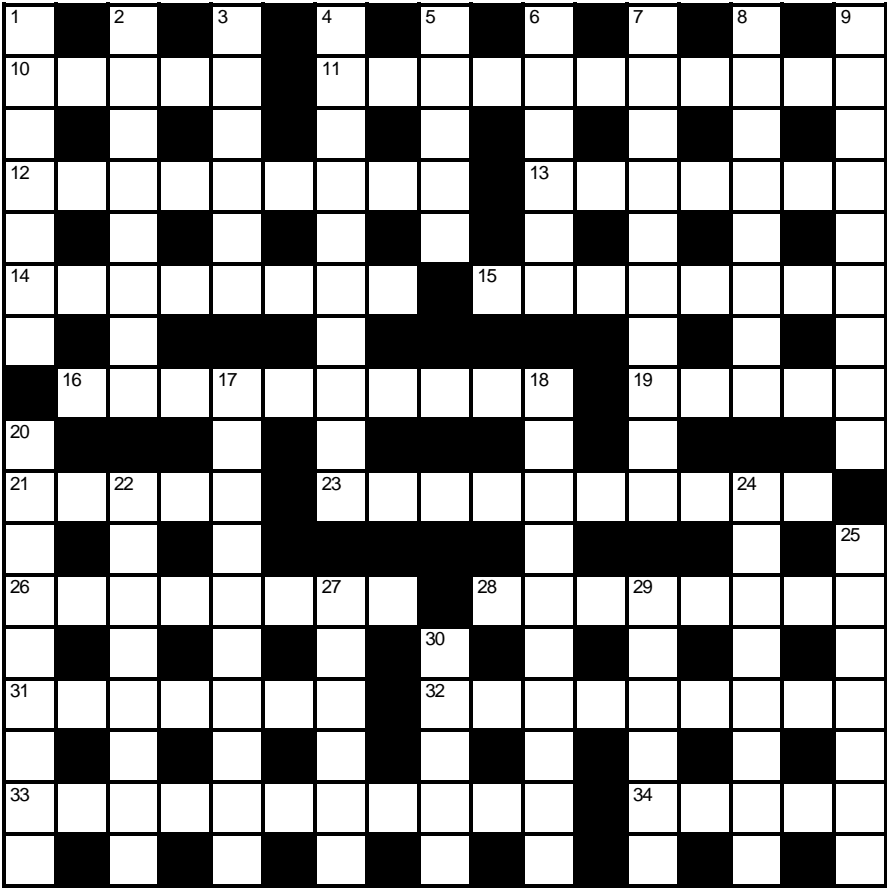
Swaffham Prior  
**DOG  
SHOW**  
2017



# Crossword Number 146

Compiled by OUNCE

This month’s puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18 October 2017. The first correct solution out of the hat will win a £20 meal voucher for the Red Lion—see the pub manager for full details.



Name:.....

Address:.....

.....Tel:.....

## Across

- 10 Grub reported to be molten rock (5)
- 11 Mad cur mauls coat losing small battery (11)
- 12 Company (very loud and English) join wild bear at drinks place (6,3)
- 13 Condone Galileo for hiding Irish county (7)
- 14 I bung lid loosely on structure (8)
- 15 The Spanish badger danced in capital (8)
- 16 Goober's .ppt presentation is sweet (10)
- 19 Bird the French name (5)
- 21 Bird hound loses head (5)
- 23 Valediction organised by Tyrol usury (5,5)
- 26 Upstage poor speculations and pine away (8)
- 28 Distorted bench indeed (8)
- 31 Miserable households without loo kept quiet (7)
- 32 ANC fetch a mangle? Not likely! (3,6)
- 33 Carmen sells troublesome TV (5,6)
- 34 Flower position (5)

## Down

- 1 Trim away problematic compound or dummy control (7)
- 2 King George has a loud fit over round work by Banksy? (8)
- 3 Cigarette butt is in, no, off agenda (3,3)
- 4 Turn round pacy bronco. It's just like the other one (6,4)
- 5 Mark twenty (5)
- 6 Smear in one's mud, gentlemen? (6)

- 7 Grill then a cocktail for party from dusk to dawn (3-7)
- 8 Monarch of the Glen, Northern worker is motionless (8)
- 9 Leery dolt drunk? Yes (9)
- 17 Furtively pinch the Italian in your old form (10)
- 18 Unreliable Prince gets about (10)
- 20 Sheriff's men in Latin thing head South to recover (9)
- 22 Rough agriculturists wrongly ignore crisis (8)
- 24 Plastic overlay for Ma, in teal perhaps? (8)
- 25 Unfavourable. But brief advantage before portion of poem? (7)
- 27 Tempt with cold suede fashion (6)
- 29 Warped handloom ma left suspended (2,4)
- 30 Kill Queen? What a proposition! (5)

## Solution to crossword no. 145

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

We congratulate Dee Noyes, the winner of last month's competition, who will receive her prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Martyn Clark, Robert Nunn, Dainin O'Dowd, Sue Richards and Trish Whitehead

## Spuds in Buckets

The Winner in adult category was Betty Prime, and in the children's class, the Primary School.

Many thanks to Andy Pumfrey for judging ably assisted by Mandy Kingsmill.

*Janet Willmott*





## School News

The school garden club were busy on Friday putting together our entry. Our scarecrow is a replica of "Lyuba" the most complete mammoth ever found. Local Siberian people found her in the ice . They realised that she was an important find as they were used to finding adult Mammoth tusks. Scientists found mud in her trunk and they are sure she fell into a mud hole and died at 32 days 42,000 years ago. She is now in a glass case being displayed in different museums round the world.



*Sue Wade*

**VILLAGE HARVEST SUPPER**  
**SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER** 

**at 6pm**

**Village Hall, Swaffham Prior**  
**Supper with scrumptious puddings**  
**Bar serving wine and soft drinks**  
**Entertainment**  
**Raffle for Fair Trade hampers**

**In aid of St Mary's Church and  
Projects in Mara, Tanzania**

**Please remember your own  
plate, bowl and cutlery**

**Tickets – prices held from last year:**  
**Adult – £8; over 65/under 16 – £7;**  
**under 11 – £5**  
**Please book in advance to aid catering**  
**Newcomers to the village especially welcome**

 **From Janet Willmott – 07833 960678**  
**Dee Noyes – 07585 807413**

**Village Harvest Festival**  
**St Mary's Church**  
**11 am, Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

## WI Notes

There was no meeting in September but we return to our usual slot on October 16<sup>th</sup> when we meet in the village hall at 7.30. We will be welcoming back Horry Parsons who spoke to us last year about the building of the Millennium tower at Bury St Edmunds. He was such a popular speaker that he has been invited back to entertain us with 'more tales from the Tower'

New members and visitors are always welcome at our meetings so do come along and be part of our friendly group. Check us out on the Swaffham Prior Village website

[www.swaffham-prior.org.uk](http://www.swaffham-prior.org.uk) and click on the link women's institute where you will find our programme for the current year and some background information.

**Pat Cook – President**

Tel: 01638 742224

Email: [patcook6@btinternet.com](mailto:patcook6@btinternet.com)



## Mothers' Union

In July a Member of Bottisham Airfield Museum was booked to talk to us but had to cancel. At very short notice Richard Ayres gave a beautifully illustrated talk on the garden at Kirtling Tower. In 1533 Kirtling Tower was acquired by Lord North who was Assistant to Thomas Cromwell to do with the dissolution of the monasteries and their land. Lord North was a lawyer to Henry VIII and Elizabeth I and said to be the wealthiest person in the country.

The Fairhaven family moved from Anglesey Abbey to Kirtling in 1995/1996. Richard worked at Kirtling Tower for 9 years overseeing the creation of the outstanding new garden. Originally, there were a great many old English wild tulips (the only collection in the country) snowdrops and cowslips.

Very sadly the Fairhavens' son, Rupert, died of malaria and 60/ 70,000 new tulip bulbs were planted in his Memory . Everyone who worked there and all family members joined in and 55,000 were planted on the first day.

Richard showed us many lovely slides of this fantastic garden – it would take too long to describe the whole garden in this article. We are most grateful to Richard for giving us such an excellent talk at such short notice.

In August we held our Summer Afternoon Tea at Scotsdales Garden Centre in Horningsea. We were given a delicious cream tea with fresh scones, sandwiches and cakes – our thanks to the staff at Scotsdales, we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Our meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of each month in Lode Chapel at 2.30. Our next meeting will be on September 21<sup>st</sup> when Maureen Haigh, MU Action & Outreach Unit Co-ordinator is coming to talk to us. On October 19<sup>th</sup> everyone is to bring along a favourite possession and we hold our 'Autumn' Bring & Buy Stall. You are most welcome to come along and join us.

**Jill Jenyns**

# Swaffham Prior Community Car Scheme (SPCCS)

A voluntary community car scheme for residents of Swaffham Prior providing door-to-door transport for those who do not have the use of a car and are unable to use conventional public transport to cover essential trips eg medical, dental, chiropody, optician, or visits local Day Centres

If you would like to use this service or **volunteer as a driver** please contact Janet Willmott

**07900 351742**

preferably between 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday  
or email [spccs@adventurersfarm.co.uk](mailto:spccs@adventurersfarm.co.uk)



## News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

**Meningitis and Septicaemia Vaccine for teenagers:** Public Health England is calling for more take up in eligible young people of the MenACWY vaccine, which protects against deadly meningitis and septicaemia. Parents are being reminded this summer to encourage 18 year old children to get vaccinated. Those who have left school this summer, or aged 17 to 18 and are not in school (born between 1 September 1998 and 31 August 1999) are now eligible. The MenACWY jab has been 100% effective in protecting against four strains of meningococcal disease. The disease can be fatal and MenW is one of the most aggressive and life threatening forms. Many survivors are left with life changing disabilities, including brain damage and loss of limbs.

**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. We would welcome help with running the group.

**Walks for Health:** The next walks with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson start at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on 6 and 18 October and 3 and 15 November 2017. 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:** Next meeting will be Thursday 23 November 2017 at 6.30pm at the surgery.

***Bottisham Patients' Group***

## Out on the Wild Side: “The Crier Spider”

As we arrive at October, the colours of autumn beckon, the heating goes on and we wrap ourselves in warmer apparel. As this month’s highlight for me is All Hallows Eve; I thought it appropriate that the creature to feature this time should be the humble spider. Yes, the Spider! A fantastic choice I hear you all saying, ever intriguing as we humans seem to have made them into something more than humble. We’ve weaved them into our folklore and literature for not just centuries but millennia and they appear on an international scale; cropping up in cultures like medieval Ghana with Anansi, their spider spirit of stories and wild yarns.

Spiders scare us, but why is this case? Could it be their canny ability to disappear and reappear at will is sPookyY!!! The dark hues of the arachnid terrorise and beguile us in equal measure. The human brain finds it challenging to relax in a room with many legs and eyes ogling at it, from our time as hunter gatherers, spiders were seen as threatening ‘unknowns’ i.e. dangerous rogues. Our modern reaction of “eek” to their presence as they wander under our coffee tables and across our walls proves our continued aversion to them.

‘We just can’t trust them’ is the basic issue with house spiders, summed up brilliantly with J.K. Rowlings’ ‘The Monster book of monsters’-a beguilingly adorable yet voracious spider. With its gnashing teeth that protect the pages of its literary tome, the fact that the spider is not only the guardian of a book on monsters but the ‘book itself’ tells us something about the nature of this animal. We portray the arachnid as the poster boy/girl for all worldly creatures creepy, crawly and scary.

The key problem spiders pose is ‘Multiplicity’ i.e. the ‘number and variety of legs and eyes they possess’, **in roughly that order of scariness!** But let’s consider turning those Halloween tables and imagine that we humans had four limbs and walked on all fours. Consider we evolved the movement of our spider animal cousins; we’d be by far the more terrifying creatures on earth. Nature doesn’t ‘yet’ care about the aesthetic impact of evolution and that could well be a good thing indeed.

I feel compelled to tell two personal anecdotes about ‘shocking but utterly hilarious’ spider encounters. The first of these is the pillow incident that happened to my grandfather around the year 2000. He awoke from sleep and found a large black house spider on his pillow right beside his face. What a way to start the day and perhaps for one brief moment he thought his wife (my Grandma, had turned into a black widow, mwa ha ha) no really ;). The second involves my own sister also awaking from sleep, reaching out for a drink of water from her bedside table and as the cup rim touches her lips, she screams in horror as a large black house spider virtually drowned in the cup (poor thing) looms up at her. In both cases spiders freak us out



but also make us laugh-later.

The spider we see most often at this time of year is the house spider, specifically the sub species, *Eratigena*. The males go about looking for females to mate with which is why we start seeing them indoors as autumn sets in. House spiders will not usually bite, preferring to escape the looming human hand. We are not their usually their victims, but they are often ours. House spiders have on average a life expectancy of one year- however, I knew one called Sidney who was 7 years old and lived under my grandparents' washing machine! Despite their short and tough lives, around 55% of women and 18% of men still experience arachnophobia.

Keeping spiders i.e. the tarantula species as pets may be one way of better understanding and learning to love spiders, so we loose much of our hysteria towards them in the workplace, classroom and bedroom. However, Spiders continue to feed into our dark fantasies as they receive a press worse than either Crocodiles or Sharks, often accompanied by a shriek from both ladies and dare I say sometimes gents too ;)!.



The ultimate homage to house spiders has to be Halloween as naturally forming house dust and wasp spiders cannot suffice and we must buy fantastically large plastic spiders with faux dust and cobwebs. I wonder what our real spiders must think of their new plastic neighbours. I'd like to think they laugh at them, and so proving Halloween is a hoot for all creatures large and small. And as we celebrate the 101<sup>st</sup> birthday of Roald Dahl in 2017, let us not forget what the BFG told us; spiders is the most tremendous natterboxes, when they is spinning their webs they is singing sweeter than a nightingull'.

The majority of us are unlikely in our lifetimes to encounter a spider as large and monstrously scary as Shelob from Lord of the Rings. In our minds, however, they continue to exist hidden in the cavities of our old homes....somewhere?! In reality, Hollywood simulation is responsible for much of this 'night terror'. But let's face facts, the fossil record shows us that the only time spiders could've predated upon humans-during the carboniferous geological epoch was 360 million years ago!!!

Spiders also invented the World Wide Web, so let's face it they are geniuses and are also able to fly around the world on high altitude winds. Let's be less afraid of them and try and enjoy their incredible web spinning gifts. To achieve this goal, London Zoo still offers the therapeutic 'friendly spider programme' to overcome your fears. <https://www.zsl.org/experiences/friendly-spider-programme> . Perhaps spiders symbolise the darkness that ultimately comes from the light, they teach us not to fear but to be brave, very notable as we get closer to the famous 'night of fright'. Trick or treat ;)

*Jorge Monteiro*



**August 2017**

**The Local Plan**

Because we presently do not have a Local Plan, which means we do not have village envelopes outside of which developments generally cannot take place, I am now having to deal with an increased number of planning applications in our ward. Some of these are unsuitable.

So how is work progressing on the new Local Plan. The current stage is that the final draft is due to be presented to the council for approval on the 5<sup>th</sup> October. The third and final consultation period will then commence. All comments that are received from that consultation will then be presented to the Planning Inspectorate for consideration, who will subsequently determine whether the Local Plan is fit for purpose. It is envisaged that a decision will be made by the summer of 2018.



**Youth Homelessness**

East Cambs District Council's housing team has achieved a Bronze Standard Award for completing a challenge not to place any 16/17 year olds in bed and breakfast accommodation.

The aim of the scheme is to encourage local authorities to deliver comprehensive preventative measures for all clients-not just the families and very vulnerable individuals who would be owed a statutory duty. The Housing Team are now working towards a silver and gold award.

**Delivery of Refuse Sacks**

East Cambs households will soon receive a roll of 52 refuse sacks, which are intended to last until the next distribution in 1 years' time. No further sacks will be issued until then, but additional refuse will be collected if presented for collection in suitable black refuse sacks provided by householders.

**Sack distribution dates are:**

Swaffham Bulbeck, Swaffham Prior Parishes:

Week commencing Monday September 18<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the council if you have not received sacks by Monday September 25<sup>th</sup>.

Reach Parish:

Week commencing Monday September 25<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the council if you have not received sacks by Monday October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*Cllr Allen Alderson*



## CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDENS

### How plants tell the time

As I write in September, the trees are covered in lush green leaves. By October, as you read this it is likely the leaves of the deciduous trees will have changed from green to red, orange or yellow before turning brown and falling. I can make this certain prediction about what will happen in October because the seasonal changes in the life cycles of plants, from seed germination to flowering and the fall of leaves, occur at defined times in the year. This temporal sequencing of life happens because plants can measure time. Plants use an internal clock to count the hours of light, such as the shorter days of Autumn, to establish the season and control biological changes such as leaf fall or flowering in the Spring. Biologists call this a circadian clock, from the Latin “circa diem” meaning around a day.



While the circadian clock ticks deep within the cells of the plant, we can observe the results of its ticking using the naked eye, or time lapse cameras. A good example of how a plant is regulated by circadian clocks can be seen in the daily movements of the petals of plants such as daisies. This old English name of the “day’s eye” refers to the opening of the petals during the light of the day. This is to expose the reproductive organs of the flowers for pollination by day-active insects. At night the petals close to protect the reproductive material from the cold of night. Remarkably the circadian clock can keep ticking even without the changes in light and temperature that occur across the day and night. This can be seen when we put daisy plants in constant light in a laboratory and watch the petals continue to open and close for many days, showing the ticking of the 24 hour circadian clock.

The circadian clock acts as the timing device, allowing plants to measure changes in daylength, regulate the time of year when plants flower, and therefore set seed. If we consider that the three most eaten foodstuffs on the planet are products of the seeds of wheat, rice and maize (sweet corn), we can conclude the correct functioning of the circadian clock is important for agriculture. My laboratory is working with the National Institute of Agricultural Botany on Huntingdon Road in Cambridge and Bayer CropScience to find ways to use our knowledge of the circadian clock to develop improved crop varieties.



The Circadian display beds in the Cambridge University Botanic Garden demonstrate how plants tell the time and are in flower from spring through to late autumn.

*Alex Webb*

## **Notes from Parish Council August Meeting**

John Covill chaired the meeting with 7 Parish Councillors and 12 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:**

Michael Mead presented plans for the proposed development on Mill Hill. He noted that private bungalows were not being provided in the village for people to move to and if single storey is required for health reasons, they must move out of village or into a nursing home. CCC Highways had confirmed that the scheme's access is OK and the pre-application advice was OK. There was some discussion about the validity of further vehicular and pedestrian access from that side of the road. Pulpit Corner and Dencora Field developments were compared. It was pointed out that if the development were not private, ECDC would probably require more density and so 2 storey buildings. This proposal has been kept low to reduce impact on the windmill. The heritage status, a full archaeological dig, views, sensitive visual edge drainage were discussed. The windmill's wind supply was also discussed, including C.F.D. being hard to verify and that 50% of the mill's good wind is from the direction of the proposed development. Other potential sites were brought up, David Greenfield pointed out that there would not be a decision on the Local Plan until October. The other planning proposals that had arrive the day of the meeting to be discussed were moved to a future meeting or an extraordinary meeting.

### **Reports**

ECDC – Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting.

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

Allen Alderson answered the question raised by Mark Lewinski regarding the controlling party committee. The committee presented policy decisions to full council for decision.

### **Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration:**

It was mentioned that the right of way being blocked at the end of Heath Road was precautions in aide to stop hare coursing and had been installed by the farmer, most likely, on instruction from the police.

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

16/01266/OUT - Erection of a detached cottage | Station Cottages 9 Station Road Swaffham Prior Cambridge CB25 0LG – Appealed from 24th July. Was noted.

E/3004/17/CC – Swaffham Prior C Of E Community Primary School, Station Road. Was noted.

17/01208/OUM - Erection of 10 dwellings (under 1000sqm) | Land North East Of Manor Cottage Mill Hill Swaffham Prior:



The main 3 areas discussed were:

1. Vehicular access.
2. Wind loss to the windmill (possible) and the demise of the mill as a consequence.
3. The impact on views for Devil's Dyke and other residents' considerations.

David Greenfield suggested that the May meeting's comments and input were clear. The technical opinions differed and that technical consultants regarding the wind should be used. The council has policies on visual / views, which were also in the May meeting's feedback. He pointed out that with 10 houses there was no requirement for social housing. There was further discussion relating to this and possible impact on the traffic problem. The Burwell developments were mentioned as part of the traffic problem and that a roundabout would be a good idea.

The meeting was suspended at 20:35 to include a question relating to bollards being replaced on Mill Hill. Steve Kent-Phillips suggested records from Highways were available as accident records.

The meeting was reconvened at 20:37.

John Covill noted the road safety issues and David Greenfield pointed out the PC were not against developments and that sites had been identified for the Local Plan. The response agreed included May's comments and further references to regulations contravened and a request for independent wind survey.

### **CIL & Open Space Money Projects**

Steve Kent-Phillips reported that nearly all Open Spaces funded projects were done. Elston Decorators have started on the village hall. Sandra Gynn asked about the edging of the path in the cemetery, Steve Kent-Phillips stated it would be done. He also commented on the superb job done by Jon Taw on the Pound and that a notice would be put up describing the Pound's history and asked for comments on the proposed text. Andy Martin has been commissioned to stabilise the brickwork.

### **Youth Club Hut**

This was now in the hands of the CPCT. Steve Kent-Phillips reported Mead Construction had quoted £4.5K to remove and clear the site. There was some discussion relating to replacing the hut and handing it over for the Scouts to use. John Covill suggested that the PCT would need to get a survey done. Steve Kent-Phillips said that Meads has said scrap it and Tim Doe should be contacted to get the Scout's response. David Greenfield asked about funds and Steve Kent-Phillips suggested that the Scouts had access to grant funding and that his quantity surveyor friend had said a replacement building would be in the region of £240K.

### **Accounts for payment**

These were all agreed.

### **Clerk's Report**

The clerk reported communication with the management responsible for Champing. Also, the Village Hall insurance was in hand and that the VHMC were in contact with the same company used by the PC. Peter Rand (present) confirmed this.

### **Parish Councillors' Reports**

John Covill reported that the travellers had gone from Black Drove but the ponies

were back on the verge. Steve Kent-Phillips asked about the allotment rents. The Clerk confirmed all invoices and new agreements had been sent out.

### **Open Question Time**

Peter Rand commented on the work to tidy around the Village Hall. There were invoices for £288 from Mead Construction and £30 for weed killer so far.

Michael Limb added to the black bin colour debate.

## **Notes from Parish Council August Extraordinary Meeting**

John Covill chaired the meeting with 6 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:**

Clare Farrah presented additional information including subsequent proposed changes since the proposed application for 2 houses and garage. at 10 Lower End. There were photographs taken at 6m above ground showing no adjacent properties significantly overlooked. Philip Mead covered the sewage issues and pointed out that the proposal did not join the troublesome High Street section. There was some discussion about sewage. The Anglian Water requirements had been met. CF also noted the environmental survey results. Clare pointed out that access would be via the Orchard Close development and that right of way and right to purchase access had been in place before Orchard Close properties were purchased and that a contribution to costs would be made. The additional plans included a proposed new re-routing of the public footpath. There was also further discussion of trees protecting overlooked properties, especially in the winter and protecting the private status of gated, Orchard Close with gates either side of the footpath.

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

17/01090/OUT | Proposed new 2 houses and garage. | 10 Lower End: David Greenfield addressed some concerns, including the traffic on the top road, water and sewage are technical issues and covered by relevant bodies, also access through the private road was not a concern for the PC to comment on. The vehicular access over a public ROW – footpath, needs covering but is not a negative comment / objection. Peter Hart stated that blocking a public footpath could not be allowed but redirection or diversion would be acceptable as long as the walk was not spoiled. Steve Kent-Phillips noted that the proposed fence and gates may detract from the path's quality. Phil had spoken to Karen Champion (CCC ROW) about softening the impact with hedges but this added a maintenance problem. Steve Kent-Phillips noted the vehicular access across a public footpath. This was discussed further. It was agreed to make sure this was referred to Karen Champion at CCC. The proposals including the new changes were accepted with no objections.

17/01365/FUL | Proposed 4 bed dwelling - Resubmission (following refusal of 16/00839/FUL). | Site Rear Of 65 High Street: David Greenfield commented that the

comments and objections that apply are mostly the same. The previous comments to 16/00839/FUL were presented. Steve Kent-Phillips stated that all 10 points are still problems. David Greenfield added that Lorraine from Conservation refused this proposal and there were no changes that would affect that. It was agreed to add other refusal and comment notes: Highways recommended refusals 1,2,3 apply, reject reasons 1,3,4 still apply and the proposal contravenes ENV 1,2, 11 & COM 7. David Greenfield added that the proposal goes against National Planning Policy Framework & Listed Buildings and 2 buildings apply in this case.

### **Parish Councillors' Reports**

Steve Kent-Phillips reported that the Pound notice proposal was agreed. There was a discussion about leaving the Pound unlocked. It was agreed to leave it open and review at a later meeting. David Greenfield reported having found the play area gate open and held open with the bolt on more than one occasion. The back gate was also open on one occasion. It was agreed to investigate restraining the bolt as it could not be easily removed as Peter Hart pointed out it may be part of the design and there were reasons for holding the gate open. David Greenfield commented on the hedge at the top of Cage Hill encroaching on the road. Steve Kent-Phillips agreed it was Highways issue and would report it. There was further discussion regarding a general hedge cutting notice for Lower End properties. Peter Hart asked about road works in Lode.

### **Open Question Time**

Alastair Everitt commented on the state of road signs. The direction signs towards Cambridge were dirty. Steve Kent-Phillips agreed to report this to Highways.

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

**Future meeting dates:** October 12<sup>th</sup>, November 9<sup>th</sup>, December 9<sup>th</sup> 2017.

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

**Tel:** 07040 908743 (Voice Mail only).

**Email:** clerk@swaffham-prior.co.uk

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



## Making Peace, Putting Others First ...

There was rich man who lived in the desert. Of all his possessions he was most proud of his 17 camels, signs of his riches. The rich man was coming to the end of his life so he thought he had better make a will. He decided to leave half his wealth to his only child, a third to his grandchild and a ninth to his nephew. This seemed fair, everyone was happy.

When the rich man died, his will was read, and the riches began to get distributed. All was going well, until they got to the camels.

The child came up to the camels and began to claim his share... but then stopped. Eight and a half camels? Not possible! What do we do with the half?

The grandchild gave it a go. Five and two thirds of a camel? Who gets the hump?

The nephew then calculated his ninth. One and eight ninths of camel? The hump is mine!

They stood and faced one another. What would they do? They argued and fought violently for days, on the brink of war, they couldn't come to a solution.

A poor man who lived next door had witnessed what was going on and he tentatively approached the heirs. *"What's the problem? Can I help?"*

The child, grandchild and nephew looked at him in disgust - they were rich, he was poor, what could *he* do?

The poor man said, *"I will give you my one camel, everything I own, add it to my old neighbour's estate, it could help"*. The three heirs shrugged their shoulders & muttered under their breath, but they decided an extra camel couldn't do any harm, so they took it.

And they tried again:

The child, a half of now eighteen camels - 9 CAMELS

The grandchild, a third of now eighteen camels - 6 CAMELS

The nephew, a ninth of now eighteen camels - 2 CAMELS

They looked at each other and began to grin, and then they noticed in the corner a camel, just standing there, waiting to be taken...*the poor man's camel, left over*. They led it next door and tied it up for the poor man to re-claim.

Whats so important about this story?

It reminds us that in the midst of conflict, sometimes it takes a different perspective to bring peace.

It reminds us that sometimes to bring peace we need to give up something of ourselves.

It reminds us that if we pause to reflect, the solution might be easier than we first thought.

The world is full of conflict and instability. This kind of instability doesn't start with someone waking up one day and getting their weapons ready. It starts with a culture of my; a culture of want; a culture of take. For the three heirs the solution was simple, but their feelings of entitlement meant they couldn't see it. May we be like the poor man, prepared to give of ourselves to make peace. He is the truly rich person in this story.

Curious about RENEW Church? We would love to welcome you to one of our services. Come and see!

*Rev'd Alan Brand*

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## **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**

Office chair and a hostess trolley. Arthur, 01223 811280

Dining table - mahogany extending central leaf; classic Heal's 1960's tri-leg design. Top not perfect. 54" long x 30" wide; (centre leaf adds 17" to length). Tim 01223 813815

Girls black ankle boots size 13 (never worn). Amy 07795 975075, [amy@weatherup.org](mailto:amy@weatherup.org)

Tripp Trapp chair, red and turquoise. Amy 07795 975075, [amy@weatherup.org](mailto:amy@weatherup.org)

Tripp Trapp baby attachment (turquoise), harness and striped cushions. Amy 07795 975075, [amy@weatherup.org](mailto:amy@weatherup.org)

2 wooden toddler chairs - sheep and mouse. Amy 07795 975075, [amy@weatherup.org](mailto:amy@weatherup.org)

Adjustable Lightning Hurricane roller skates (pink and blue), size 12-2. Amy 07795 975075 [amy@weatherup.org](mailto:amy@weatherup.org)

Plastic plant pots, various sizes. Bob or Nicky, 01223 813592

### **Wanted**

Wire hanging baskets. Fibre (not plastic!) wall plugs (rawlplugs), sizes no. 8 or no. 10. Bob or Nicky, 01223 813592

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.

At the end of this month we will be celebrating the Christian festival of All Hallows or All Saints' Day. The celebration is based on the belief that there is a powerful spiritual bond between those in heaven and those who are part of the Christian community on earth, the Church Triumphant and the Church Militant. We are joined in our worship of the living God wherever we may be. The festival is celebrated by Christians from many different traditions and in many countries across the world and unlike the commercial celebration of Halloween with its macabre outfits of ghosts, ghouls, witches and wizards, All Saints' Day commemorates all the good things that human beings have done, all the holiness, love and faithfulness that they have brought to the world through their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Some of the saints have done this even though faced with opposition and martyrdom. The saints may be well known and important to many or unknown except to those whose lives they touched. It is not a celebration of their importance or the scale of the legacy they left but of their faithfulness and way in which they have held the light of Christ in the world.



It is a time when many people across the world visit the graves of relatives to tend them and decorate them with flowers. In some places they light the graves with candles and may have special food to celebrate the precious lives remembered. All souls day, the day after All Hallows is the day when people often remember family members and friends who are important in their lives.

This year we are having a celebration of All Souls' Day that everyone is welcome to come and share. It is a time to remember family and friends from whom we have been separated by death. A time to hear their name spoken as we remember the part they have played in our lives. Remembering is an important dimension in the life of communities, the enquiry into the Grenfell Tower disaster began with silent remembering, November 11<sup>th</sup> will be marked by silence too so it is good that there is a time and place to name and remember before God the people who have touched our lives. It is good to give thanks for them and to re-affirm their importance in our lives. This year the service will be held at Lode Parish Church on Sunday October 29<sup>th</sup> at 3pm followed by refreshments. If you would like a name read out as part of the service please can you e-mail it to [suethetic@btinternet.com](mailto:suethetic@btinternet.com).

God bless

*Sue*

## **Church Services in October**

*in St Mary's, Swaffham Prior unless otherwise indicated*

### **Sunday 1 October, Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**

11am Holy Communion (CW1T)

### **Sunday 8 October, Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity**

10am Benefice Service Holy Communion (CW1)

### **Sunday 15 October, Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**

11am Family Service & Baptism

### **Sunday 22 October, Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**

8am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10am All Age Benefice Service – Swaffham Bulbeck

### **Sunday 29 October, Bible Sunday**

6pm Evensong

## **RENEW Church services in October 2017**

*We have activities for children and young people at all our morning services, which are held at **Bottisham Primary School** unless otherwise stated. All are welcome.*

**Croissants, fruit and drinks are available before Morning Worship from 10.10 am.**

*1<sup>st</sup> October. 10.30 am. Morning Worship (at the School)*

*8<sup>th</sup> October. 10.30 am. Morning Worship (at the School) Followed by Shared Lunch.*

*8<sup>th</sup> October. 6.20 pm. Evening Worship at Lode Chapel.*

*15<sup>th</sup> October. 10.30 am. Morning Worship (at the School)*

*22<sup>nd</sup> October. 10.30 am. Morning Worship (at the School)*

*22<sup>nd</sup> October 6.20 pm. Evening Worship at Lode Chapel.*

*29<sup>th</sup> October. 10.30 am. Morning Worship (at the School)*

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

*Rev. Alan Brand on C.812558. Email: [alan.brand@renewchurch.org.uk](mailto:alan.brand@renewchurch.org.uk)*

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

## Dates for Your Diary October 2017

Sat	7	Harvest Supper, 6pm VH [25]
Thu	12	PC Meeting, 8pm, VH
Fri	13	
Sat	14	Lode Jumble Sale, 2-4pm, St James' Church, Lode [p 15]
Sun	15	
Mon	16	WI, 7.30om, VH
Tue	17	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2.45-3.15pm Chapel 3.20pm-4.00pm
Wed	18	
Thu	19	Mothers' Union, 2.30pm, Lode Chapel
Fri	20	<b>Crier Copy Deadline</b>
Sat	21	Quiz Night, VH, 7.30 [p 6]

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	