

# The Swaffham Crier

Volume XLII Number 8/9 August/September 2018



#### **Editorial**

The Crier returns from its Summer Break to offer a big welcome to our new Headmistress, Helen Mulligan. We suspect her to-do list will be lengthy, but we do hope she can assist in correcting a misunderstanding about the School Pool. To wit: the Village, having built the Pool's new changing rooms now finds itself instructed to "correct the perception that it was a public/community pool when the changing rooms were donated" (See Our Reporter). Is this getting to be a Village Tradition? Some excerpts from Criers Passim:

Jan 2008: Headteacher "We have had to make a very sad decision this year to close our Swimming Pool... But it is such a valuable resource for the school and the local community that we are trying to raise the money for a new one.

May 2008 Editorial: (money being raised in record time) Will anyone-else be allowed in?

**Feb 2009: Pool completed. Head:** "We would not have been able to have the pool put in so early without the hard work of the Friends of Swaffham Prior School (villagers) and the generous nature of the local community...".(but no-one-else allowed in).

May 2016: Following previous year's FoSPS request for replacement changing rooms for the School Pool., the PC donates £11,000 and many villagers their own hard labour. Changing rooms completed.



School Pool in action.

Date anyone?

**2018 September Editorial:** Will anyone-else be allowed in? (No).

Many, many congratulations to Ruth Scovil, who on the 18th September will be celebrating her 25th Macmillan Coffee Event. She has done such excellent work over the years and raised an enormous amount of money — we do hope it is Silver Service!

See you Harvest Dog Show!

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Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: Waiting for Ryanair at Stansted by Thomas Newbolt



## Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

### **Golden Wedding**

We recently celebrated our Golden Wedding and would like to express our thanks for the many cards and good wishes we received.

We would like to say a very big "thank-you" to the Reverend Sue Giles and her husband for a wonderful church blessing, service and organ accompaniment.

Many thanks also to the Red Lion for their excellent food and hospitality, all in cosy surroundings. Nothing was too much trouble for Michelle and Steve, who ensured that all went so well.

Keith and Sue Richards

The family of the late Peter Partridge of Greenhead Road, formerly of Mount Pleasant, Lower End would like to thank all those who sent their condolences, attended the funeral and made kind donations to the East Anglian Air Ambulance and Bottisham Surgery.

# Remembrance Day Scouts' Parade Sunday 11 November

The Remembrance Day Scouts' Parade starts at the bottom of Lower End and proceeds along the High Street up to the St Mary's on this day.

We leave the Lower End/Rogers Road junction area at 10-15am & we would like to extend an open invitation to anyone who wishes to parade with us on this occasion.



Dear Editors,

# Macmillan Coffee Morning - Friday, 28th September, 2018

Once again we're coming round to that time of year when many of you come to our house and help to raise lots of money for Macmillan Cancer Relief. Unbelievably this is the 25th year that I have hosted it! There will be a cake stall, so get baking as I would welcome plenty of home made cakes. If you're not a baker then I hope you'll come ready to buy some of the delicious teatime treats. There will also be a Raffle and, no doubt, other ways for you to donate to so that we can raise as much money as possible.

So, please, leave that date free so that you can join us. If you're a regular it will be lovely to see you and we'll also be delighted if you are a newcomer to the village and would like to meet some more people.

Whatever your age, from babies to centenarians, we look forward to seeing you on Friday 28th September, 10.30 - 12 noon at The Oaks, Manor Farm Court, Lower End, Swaffham Prior.

Ruth Scovil



# **Dog Walking Anyone?**

If anyone has time to spare during weekdays and likes dog-walking, Zena (see left) would be very glad to join them. She is a friendly, obedient Staffy-cross who loves socialising and getting about, but her owner works very long hours and for the last few months has unwillingly had to leave her at home alone. For a little while, she rectified the situation (having mysteriously discovered how to open a locked front door) by taking herself for a walk about the village, but this ruse has now been thwarted and she isn't very happy about it!

If anyone were willing to take her out for just a little while during the day, even if it's only occasionally, her owner Dom would be extremely grateful, and Zena would be ecstatic. Please contact them on:

0747 980 3603

Not only can she open locked doors, but the sturdy tethered harness as worn above was then found mysteriously unoccupied ...

# From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting June

Seven of the nine PC members turned up for the June meeting which had been rescheduled until 28th June. Paul L sent his apologies. The Public Gallery did its bit this time with four attendees.

Paul the Clerk read Allen's ECDC report. Then Allen turned up and appeared disappointed that his contribution had been already done and dusted. In 'Matters Arising' David related his findings regarding the removal of hedges in a conservation area and everyone appeared happy.



Alex Kirby had written a letter to the PC to say that for a number of reasons he had decided against taking on his allotment again. He added that because he had not attended a PC meeting for some years that he "had not appreciated the levels of endeavour that the PC spend on village matters on our behalf." But Allotments are still newsworthy as Mark Hewitt, who holds one the allotments on the other side of the bypass, had had his shed broken into, and all his tools stolen including his wheelbarrow which appeared to hurt him most of all.

Under Planning Applications it was disclosed that the 4 Rogers Road application had been refused on appeal. David was not at all happy with the

Sandra then dropped in a whopper. The school will no longer allow any child not at the school to use the school swimming pool.

procedure and the timing of the appeal. Then Allen joined in and expressed the frustration of ECDC at not being able to tie builders down to a definite time limitation resulting in a shortfall in the number of houses ECDC need to build. It was a long discussion and involved a lot of lament. David will write to our MP Lucy Frazer to ask the Government to place some time restrictions on building approvals. Read Paul's minutes for more details. Plans were also submitted for alterations to Old Barn House and the changes for Stocks Farm House had been

approved.

Accounts for payment all went through except for the grass cutting invoice for May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Peter remained annoyed that the grass in the back path between Coopers Green and Cage Hill had not been cut except where some residents had done so outside their back gardens. Peter Rand offered to be the grass-cutting watchdog on behalf of the PC, and this was accepted with thanks

There was an unanimous acceptance of the Annual Audit Return after it was agreed that the healthy "Surplus" should be changed to "Balance". As David said, "this will stop people getting the wrong idea."

Mike, with the help of Steve, has now submitted an application for more parking places in Fairview Grove. Steve reported some minor vandalism in the Play Area and that he will buy some replacement seats for the swings.

Steve also reported on the SID results recording the speed of motorists coming from Reach. The average speed was 23mph, 85% were below or at 31mph, and there was only one car exceeding the speed limit at 45mph. SID will now be turned around to records the details of cars leaving Prior for Reach. Andrew had spoken to the Gravedigger who has now removed the excess chalk in the cemetery, and Sandra is content with the result. John raised his usual concern about potholes and thought the sugar beet lorries did not help. This enabled Steve to reveal the fact that any beet not crushed for sugar is sent to Branston, because beet is the main ingredient of its pickle. He said "Not many people know that." Nor do many people know that the staff at the Park and Ride are not allowed to put blue air fresheners in the urinals in case children think they are sweets, and eat them.

Sandra then dropped in a whopper. The school will no longer allow any child not at the school to use the school swimming pool. Also it will be closed during this summer because there is no headteacher. This was taken up at the July meeting so read all about it in the report of that meeting.

# July

Witnessing three PC meeting in four weeks may be thought to be beyond human endurance but this is preferable to watching the contortions of both Government and Opposition to understand and agree the implications of Brexit. But at least we do have a Plan B which is to stockpile food and medicines.

As it turned out the July meting was very rewarding. 8 Members turned, and there were 4 in the Public Gallery.

Allen's ECDC Report was read by David and it gave more information about nonfulfilled planning applications, and for details of these see Paul's minutes. David confirmed that his letter to Lucy Frazer had been sent.

The PC discussed a planning application received from ECDC only on the previous afternoon. Hence no-one had been able to consider it before the meeting or to discuss with neighbours. This was a two-storey rear extension to 'Alstan' at the bottom of Cage Hill. It had been declared "uninhabitable". Steve said the new owner was a nice young man who played cricket. The PC did consider it carefully, offered no objections, but will write to ECDC protesting and asking for all future applications to be sent earlier.

Paul L questioned the legality of moving the Annual Village Assembly to June which had been agreed at the last AVA meeting. Steve had argued that with two meeting and the Annual Accounts to be finalised that this was too much to handle in one month. Paul asked why it had not been a problem in previous years, and Steve explained that the procedures had changed thereby requiring more time. This makes one sympathise with Brexiteers who think that the sooner we get out of Europe the sooner we can avoid all this horrendous petty time-consuming bureaucracy.

Then on to the Swimming Pool. Since the 30 June meeting, when it had been disclosed that the pool would be closed over the summer because there was no headteacher in place, and also that its use would be restricted to members of the community with a close connection to the school, a lot had happened.

[The CCC Sport Advisor] made clear that the pool remains a LA facility of a school site and that it was not a "public/community pool". How the PC meeting exploded on hearing this news. (the Village has spent over £10,000 on the pool and changing room}

At 12.45 on Thursday 5 July Steve had emailed Ian Roberts, CCC Sports Adviser, raising the concern of the Village which had spent over £10,000 on the pool and changing room. At 13.09 Ian emailed to say that he needed to speak to the school before responding. At 6.25pm Ian replied in full, too full to report in detail. He said the pool was "a LA facility on a school site. The School has confirmed to me that they needed to correct the perception that it was a public/community pool when the changing rooms were donated on a number of occasions." He went on to confirm that "clearly if there is no headteacher in post then clearly the pool should be closed." Linda and

Alex Kirby had also written a long later protesting.

But it did not stop there. Chris Goodchild, Chairman of the Governors, joined the meeting to provide more information. An arrangement had been made with the acting headmaster from St. Albans who had left the post at the end of term, to continue as acting headteacher during the summer period. It seems, if I understood correctly, that only one day's pay was involved. The arrangement has the approval of Ian

So all is well with the pool, up to a point. Ian in his 6.25pm email had made clear that the pool remains a LA facility of a school site and that it was not a "public/community pool". How the PC meeting exploded on hearing this news. David, Paul L. Steve and others, including Linda from the Public Gallery shouting their indignation. It seems the recently departed long established headmistress had tightened up the definition "available to members of the community with a connection to the school." Steve at this point said that negotiating with the now resigned headmistress was "never easy" and here I give a much much softer phrase than that used by Steve.

Next, Steve quoting from a map (not seen by me) said the Trust owns the land on which the pool and changing room sit and that the Trust also owns half of the land on which the school building is. Some of the land may have belonged to the Village Hall or it might have been donated by the Allix family No one knew.

There were quite a few references to the "Trust". At the end of the meeting a question from the Public Gallery asked "What is this Trust?" Steve did not know, Sandra a school governor did not know, and no-one knew until Andrew quietly revealed that "It's the School Foundation Trust." "What's that" they all asked. So, Andrew gave out a little more information. There are eight on the committee, but there could be nine. It started about 1900, he has all the previous minutes. Sandra asked "Does it have any money?" And here Andrew went a deathly white, his face contorted, and it was obviously such a painful question that Sandra hastily said "It's alright, I don't want any money." This was such a relief to Andrew. It seems the "Trust" has nothing to do with the Church. We have yet to know who the other members are.

So, it is quite a mystery and obviously there is a lot to research on the history of the school since it was first founded in 1730.

Alastair Everitt

# VILLAGE HARVEST SUPPER SATURDAY 13th 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 11am, Sunday 7th October



# Your poppies please!

We are now only a matter of weeks away from our remembrance poppy displays. So far over 2500 poppies have been crocheted and knitted and we need a final push to get to our target of 5000. Many of you have yarn already so please get making, return your completed poppies to us and take yarn for more if you possibly can. It's not to late for more of you to join in - the deadline is the end of September so that we have time to assemble the displays.

We had a successful men's workshop with three men completing their first poppy, a few more joining since and one or two becoming quite prolific. In September we will be visiting our three village primary schools, Bottisham Village College, Red2Green and the Scouts and Guides to make crochet or felt poppies with over 150 children and adults.

You can drop off poppies and pick up yarn at our regular Anglesey in Stitches meetings in the Black Horse, Swaffham Bulbeck, 8pm on Tuesday 11th and 25th September. Alternatively, contact Veronica on <a href="mailto:vron.stephenson@gmail.com">vron.stephenson@gmail.com</a>

Local Business Director Glenn Manchett is home after more than 11 months away sailing into first position aboard the Sanya Serenity Coast yacht in the Clipper 2017-18 race.

Glenn Manchett local business director of Manchetts Burwell Ltd arrived to a hero's welcome at the Royal Albert Docks in Liverpool last Saturday with the rest of the crew and skipper Wendy Tuck after more than 11 months, completing their full circumnavigation in the Clipper Round the World Yacht race, achieving first place overall.

Glenn's skipper Wendy Tuck has sailed into the history books by becoming the first woman ever to win a round the world yacht race after leading her Sanya Serenity Coast team to clinch overall victory in the Clipper 2017 -18 Race and Glenn was her chief engineer on board. She named him "Glenn can fix it Manchett" and Glengineer!

Glenn took part in all 13 legs to go around the world stopping in Uruguay, South Africa, Australia, USA and Ireland along with 10 other Clipper yachts.

In total, 712 people representing 41 different nationalities and from all walks of life have taken part in the 40,000-nautical mile Clipper 2017-18 Race, the event's eleventh edition.

To find out more go to  $\underline{\text{https://www.clipperroundtheworld.com/about/about-the-race}}$ 







# **SWAFFHAM PRIOR**

# Saturday 15th September 2018

Village Hall 1.45 pm in conjunction with the

# **Village Harvest Show**

Six Classes: Agility, Food Alley,
Retrieve (can bring own toy to retrieve if this helps!)

Most Appealing Expression
Best Child Handler (under 12 years)

Disney Themed Family Dress Up

(dog as main character)

#### Classes £1 each or £5 for all six classes

Entries on the day, enquires in advance to Janine on 07702 138216

Prize and rosette for first place and a rosette for the runner up in each category

Generously supported by Alan's Ark at Soham



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All proceeds to St Mary's Church

# QUIZ **NIGHT**

Swaffham Prior Village Hall

#### 7.30 pm Saturday 6 October

Tickets £6 each. To book a table, contact



Jenny Brand (01638) 742161

Lynne Rand (01638) 741960

Jacket Potato Supper

Bring your own drinks and glasses !!

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



## **Bottisham Village College Adult Learning**

Are you interested in learning something new? Our full range of courses for the Autumn is now available and you can enrol at any time by visiting our website www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning

Autumn courses include: Art & Artists (morning) Calligraphy (afternoon) Creating Glass Jewellery Creative Painting & Drawing (morning & evening) Floristry: Autumn Arranging Cookery: Italian Fresh Pasta, Sauces & Vegetarian Cookery: Pastries & Yeast; Celebration Breads Design your Own Garden Maths GCSE

Digital Photography: Water & Plants; Buildings & Reflections **Understanding Modern Art** 

(the above are evening courses unless specified)

Saturday Workshops include:

Cook with your Kids **Indian Dinner for Friends** Make-up: Halloween & Special Effects **Mixed Media Portraits** Paediatric First Aid (Sat/Sun) Stained Glass Suncatchers Yoga Workshop

www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning Tel: 01223 811372 email: adultlearning@bottishamvc.org Facebook: BottishamAdultCommunityLearning or Twitter: @CommunityEdBott

# PRIOR FEN CHAPEL

"The Little Chapel in the Fen"

All welcome to our

# Harvest Festival Service Sunday 7th October 3pm

Traditional harvest service and hymns Produce welcome

Find us at CB7 5YJ, between Upware and Swaffham Prior. Be early to guarantee a seat.

For more information contact Trish: 07979 868676

# THE ART OF SPAIN

# at SWAFFHAM PRIOR VILLAGE HALL

FROM SEPTEMBER 18TH/19TH

Tuesdays OR Wednesdays 10.15-12.15 a.m.



**Home of extremes,** Spain possesses a startlingly original culture that has been fostered by conflict with battles for dominion, in politics and religion, over much of its history making the country unlike any of its European neighbours.

This course will trace the roots of the narrative, a fascinating journey and period of gestation, through its art and architecture —mosques, palaces and castles - and through painting, sculpture and applied art. The complex and beguiling decorative schemes of the Moorish occupation are as spiritually charged as art in the service Christianity, its hyperrealism, melodrama and severity, the unique signature of Spanish culture.

The beating heart of this story is centred in Andalucía to where the annual art history trip is planned for late march 2019 for those who attend the course.



For more information. Please email the tutor: <u>deborah.monteiro@btinternet.com</u> Visit my website for all courses from sept 2018- arthistoryincambs.yolasite.com

# Julies Recipes for August/September

Tomato & Courgette Gratin

## **Ingredients:**



2x Bread Rolls (Roughly torn)
4x Rosemary sprigs
2x Garlic cloves
1 tbsp olive oil
3 tbsp grated Parmigiano cheese
300g sliced cherry Tomatoes
4 big Tomatoes sliced
2 Large courgettes
250g Lancashire Cheese

Preheat the over at 200c/ gas mark 6. Place the bread, chopped rosemary and garlic cloves in a food processor and whizz until finely crumbled. Stir in the olive oil and cheese and mix together. Then layer the tomatoes, courgettes, cheese and bread crumb mix into a ovenproof baking dish so you have 3 layers of each and then finish off with a layer of cheese and bread crumbs. Cook for 40- 45 mins (cover with foil halfway through to stop it burning if need be) until the vegetables are tender and the top is golden and crunchy.

#### Plum Batter Dessert

#### **Ingredients:**

55g Plain Flour 25g Caster Sugar 1 Egg

Half tps Ground Cinnamon 125 ml (4floz) semi- skimmed milk 1 half tsp Sunflower Oil

3-4 ripe sweet red dessert plums (about 300g or 10 half oz of unprepared weight)
halved and stoned
Icing Sugar for dusting (Optional)

Preheat the over 220 c/ gas mark 7. Combine the flour, caster sugar and cinnamon in a bowl. Make a well in the centre of the mix, break in the egg and milk, drawing flour in from the sides to make a smooth batter. Then put the oil in a shallow 18cm (7in) non stick cake tin. Heat this in the oven for 2-3 mins until hot. Quickly and carefully place the plum half on the hot oil on the base of the tin and then poor the batter mix over the fruit. Bake for 25mins or until the pudding is cooked nicely and has risen and nicely browned. Dust with icing sugar serve enjoy!!

# The Autumn Show

will take place in Swaffham Prior Village Hall on:

# Saturday 15th September

The school holidays have arrived and there are plenty of categories for the kids, including:

# JUNK MODEL\* and MINIATURE GARDEN.

So get thinking - and making!

(Note: the maximum footprint for these is A4, 20x30cm)

\*Junk models can be whatever takes your imagination. They might be stationary, fly, roll or move in the wind, but they must be made entirely from junk (apart from sellotape, glue or other fasteners).

# NEW THIS YEAR - SCARECROWS!

We saw how much fun people had creating these last year, so have added this brand new category. Scarecrows can be made individually or by groups (families, friends, Scouts, WI ...) and will be displayed on the Hall lawn for the day.

For the gardeners, don't forget that, although you are only allowed one entry per category, there are also the trug of mixed produce (double points this year!) and the odd/rude vegetable categories for those extra items.

Interested in making beer or cider? These can now be entered

in the alcoholic beverages category.

Finally, there is a change to the rules for this year's

#### рнотодгарну competition

Each entrant can only provide **one** photograph. We hope that this will make the scoring for the overall Show Winner fairer.

The themes for this year will be:

ADULTS: POWER CHILDREN: SUMMER

So get your cameras and mobile phones out and start snapping. Photo editing is allowed, so let us see yout PixIr or Snapseed skills.

Entry forms, with a list of all categories and a garden-themed quiz, will be coming through your letterbox, or go to the website to download the form.

www.swaffhampriorvillagehall.co.uk

# St Mary's Saturdays

SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER, 3-5PM



# SUNDAE FUNDAY!

Ice-cream, toppings, sprinkles, sauces and wafers! Come along to create your own special ice-cream sundae!



All welcome- drop in anytime.

No charge – for more information please contact; natalie.green@openreach.co.uk



# Out on the Wild Side Jackdaw — the 'Strutting' Bird



Welcome to the August-September edition of Out on the Wild Side. We hope everyone has had a pleasant and rejuvenating summer and we look forward to the opportunities and challenges ahead in Autumn. This time around, we focus in on the 'Jackdaw', an enigmatic bird of Britain, which can be seen both in the countryside and particularly in our local towns and cities. This is the first time we've featured this bird and it really captured by attention seeing a couple of them in Newmarket earlier this year. They are highly intelligent, sociable yet cautious birds and they seem to have a strong affinity for us, loving eye contact which is usually reciprocated.

The jackdaw we see here in the U.K. is part of the 'western jackdaw', whose species extends across Eurasia from Kazakhstan to Portugal. I'm continuing with my features on species that are thriving rather than rarer ones because we can learn a lot about why they do well and what makes them tick. A good comparison is the previous article I did on wood pigeons, which was fascinating to research, spreading light on the joys of 'commonality'. Widely distributed across Britain, Jackdaws are equally happy being alone or as part of larger familial groups. In towns especially, there are usually a handful that tend to walk or 'strut' -rather than flock together.

Humans appear to have an affinity with Jackdaws because like us, they develop a strong sense of social hierarchy. Individuals within the species have a

higher rank if they're paired, curiously. The jackdaws also can perceive the emotions of a human been through their eyes, so there is evidence of a deep connection and mutual understanding. Just like the parrot, the European jackdaw has been known to possess the ability to imitate human speech. Vocal communication is strong in this bird. They also share traits with humans in terms of breeding where unlike other bird species; Jackdaws can form same sex pairings for non pro-creational pur-

Just like the parrot, the European jackdaw has been known to possess the ability to imitate human speech.

poses. Despite this, there are still 1.4 million breeding pairs in the U.K., scandalous!

Jackdaws are fairly distinguishable with their short bills and a grey napetheir neck plumage. They also have a blue/purple/grey shine to their feathers, which also marks out their unique look. They typically grow up to 39cm in length which is 15 inches, smallest of the crow family. They are part of the bird species 'corvus', which includes crows, jays and rooks. Jackdaws or 'daws', their historical name- enjoy roosting and living around our chimney pots. They just love chimneys, frankly who doesn't. They usually roost in woodlands and though warier of people in the countryside, are tamer in more urban centres. As members of the crow family, some daws can live up to 20 years of age.

The sound a jackdaw makes is 'twack', sounds like jack. When large flocks of jackdaws come together, they can make a 'cackling' noise. Spooky and we're still in summer! Fascinatingly, the male and females have a beguiling vocal relationship, with the male daw barking and the female giving out a longer call in reply which surrounds foraging for food for the chicks in the nest. They are omnivores, feeding on fruits, seeds, insects and even younger birds. Jackdaws usually breed in colonies where each breeding pair can produce between 2 and 9 speckled blue eggs in nests which are of considerable size. Daws usually breed for life if the pairing endures over six months.

Jackdaws are a colourful bird, both in plumage and in character. They can be predated upon by birds of prey like the Sparrow hawk but the outcome isn't always in favour of the later. It's not surprising that given the Jackdaws gregarious and intuitive nature, they are part of folklore on an international scale-historically representing the 'fool' who speaks without thinking in comparison to the Swan. It is said, when the daw becomes silent, the Swans will sing. Other depictions show the daw wearing Peacock feathers illustrating its vanity. On the other hand, as daws are known to make their nests in church steeples, Welsh folk-lore praises the bird as sacred for choosing to live in such holy spaces. One things for sure, the Jackdaw is thriving in a world of climatic change and species migration, attesting to its adaptability, insightfulness and resilience.

Jorge Xico Monteiro

# **Crossword Number 156**

# Compiled by **BYWELL**

\* clues have no definition and answers are worn out. Send your answers to the editors by 18 September 2018. 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.

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24		25								26		
									27			
28							29					
30								31				

Name:	
Address:	
Tel:	

#### Across

- 1 \* What a nasty smell envelops new church (6)
- 4 Coca must be horrible to get used to (8)
- 10 Leave work, heading off to prevent others from working (7)
- 11 Arrogant one at university with firsts to study painting (7)
- 12 \* Belt found on foot (4)
- 13 Popular gal in new fashion with leather (3,3,4)
- 15 \* Author's first translation of Koran(6)
- Silly isles home for Labour leader, and the end of Wilson's cold perhaps(7)
- 20 \* Boots could be almost end of toe (7)
- 21 \* River to start and end in Bristol (6)
- 24 I count lies surprisingly as lacking moral discipline (10)
- 26 Charges for time wasted in garden parties (4)
- 28 Imply vaguely in the middle of road that here is where games began (7)
- 29 Fashionable photo displaying shoerepair station (7)
- 30 Put out partner no longer cared for (8)
- 31 \* Outside for squash and tennis, or inside (6)

#### Down

- 1 Redesigned pale sort of stable skylight (4,4)
- 2 \* Never start tinkering with the clock (9)
- 3 \* Carries bricks round job centre (4)

- 5 How pies might be made in a surly manner (8)
- 6 Without noticing, is genuinely upset about son (10)
- 7 \* Ingredients for raita (5)
- 8 \* Frenchman guillotined young Tom(6)
- 9 \* Lodgers in rooms to let (5)
- 14 May be Crimean antique valuable in the kitchen, but less so in the bedroom (7,3)
- 17 \* Sewers without way out (9)
- 18 Quote: "Setter's in a shooting brake" (8)
- 19 \* Exist before safety first appears in the wharfs (3,5)
- 22 Recess is end of June following vocal arrangement (6)
- 23 \* Fruit left out with supplement (5)
- 25 Fitness exercise follows call for vault (5)
- 27 \* Elite soldiers finish last (4)

#### Solution to crossword no. 155



We congratulate Trish Whitehead, the winner of last month's competition, who will receive her prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Jenny Brand, Martyn & Debbie Clark and Robert Nunn.

# Animals in Art

# James Ward R.A. at Palace House, N.H.C. Sunday September 16<sup>th</sup> 2 - 4 p.m.

This special talk coincides with the late summer food festival in Newmarket, held on palace street outside the Heritage Centre which means that entry charges to the N.H.C. are only £5 for the day, less than double!

A little known artist, an unsung hero nowadays, but greatly renowned in his own times, Ward produced hundreds of animal depictions in what's regarded as the golden age of animal painting between Stubbs and Landseer.

In this year, 2018, as the Royal Academy celebrates its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this is a fitting show to stage as Ward was both an academician and appointed painter and engraver to the Prince of Wales in 1811. It is only evident why he was so honoured when one sees his work in the flesh – anyone who enjoys art that seeks to capture the truth with precision, beauty and imagination will appreciate the legacy of this English artist. Reviews are marking this show as one not to be missed.

This exhibition, consisting of drawings, prints, paintings and sculptures brings together works from the Fitzwilliam, Tate Britain plus fine examples of his draughtsmanship much celebrated in Ward's oeuvre from the British Museum.





Students who have visited the N.H.C. before should use their passes for this – please check validity. Otherwise reduced admission prices apply giving access to the whole art collection –an opportunity to see this if you have not been able to before.

My Fee: £25 please visit **arthistoryincambs.yolasite.com** and register on the contact us page or ring me in the village on 743259



## SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> 2018 MANDEVILLE HALL from 10-4pm

Welcome to our auction follow up day of defibrillator training and health education

With support from Burwell GPs, Nuffield Health, Parish Council and East <u>Anglian</u> Ambulance Service

#### This event is FREE and open to ALL Light refreshments and WI cakes served (of course)







**AND AGAIN -**

This man I know with cardboard knees
Fears that the world is going to freeze.
A fear which I am sad to say
Is not one that I can allay.
Especially since, being cardboard-kneed
He has no use for dried seaweed,
For he can forecast with success
The weather, and he doesn't have to
guess,

As at the slightest hint of cold His knees drop off, (or so I'm told).

**Ophir** 

See flyers around the village for full details of the day

# St Mary's Saturdays

SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER, 3-5PM

# POPPY WORKSHOP

Drop-in session, led by Anglesey in Stitches

Learn to crochet or knit poppies for the installations planned to commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War. We need 1000s of poppies!

All welcome - especially children and gentlemen!

Free tea, coffee and biscuits









# The Swaffhams WI News

At our July meeting the speaker was Veronica Bennett who gave us a very interesting talk on Felbrigg Hall and Estate in Norfolk.

IRING WOMEN We listened to the history of the estate which originated with the

Felbrigg family and then passed to John Wyndham in the fifteenth century and remained in the family for centuries. With lots of photographs we had a virtual tour of the house and gardens and plenty of interesting anecdotes relating to the various owners and the impact they had on the development of the estate. The last owner of the house before it passed into National Trust ownership in 1969 was Robert Wyndham Ketton-Cremer. His brother Richard was killed in action in the Second World War and the woods behind the house were created as a memorial to him. There are so many lovely rooms to enjoy and the gardens to see that we may well organise an outing there next summer so we can enjoy it together.

The next meeting will be in the village hall on August 20<sup>th</sup> when we will enjoy Music Therapy with Elaine McGregor. There is no meeting in September as we are visiting Bury St Edmunds for a conducted tour of the Cathedral before we welcome back Horry Parsons with more tales from the Tower at our meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

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 <a href="www.swaffham-prior.org.uk">www.swaffham-prior.org.uk</a> 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



#### LET'S DANCE

Come and join us dancing on Saturday evenings in the NEW Main Hall at Bottisham Village College.

We will have music for Ballroom, Latin American and popular Sequence dancing.

Dates: October 13<sup>th</sup>, November 10<sup>th</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup> (Black Tie optional)

Please note there is no dance in September due to College refurbishment.

Time: 7.30pm to 10.30pm.

The cost is £12 per couple, which includes interval tea/coffee. You are welcome to bring along your own refreshments. There is ample parking on site.

For further information please contact: Frank and Sue Hancocks, 01638 741159 or check out our website: www.letsdanceclub.org.uk

\*Let's Dance Club is a "not for profit" organisation established to provide dances for the community.

### **COMBERTON RAMBLERS**

### Join our friendly group for wonderful walks

Comberton Ramblers walk alternative Sundays between 5-7 miles. We are a friendly / informative group and enjoy exploring the varied countryside in this area.

New walkers are very welcome to join us with up to 2 free walks, and if you enjoy our walks we request that you become a member. Annual membership fee is £8.50 per person.

Our full walks programme can be viewed + photo's on.

www.combertonramblers.org.uk

For further information please contact Stella the Secretary.

Email. stella.ramblers@hotmail.com

Tel 01954 210049



# **BON MOT NUMBER EIGHTY NINE**

"If you want to know about a man you can find out an awful lot by looking at who he married."

*Kirk Douglas* (**1916** - )

# **Notes from Parish Council June Meeting**

David Greenfield (vice chairman) chaired the meeting with 7 Parish Councillors and 4 members of the public in attendance. The meeting started at 7.30pm.

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

Public Participation: None.

Reports

ECDC Matters: Cllr Allen Alderson's report was read by the Clerk. Steve Kent-Phillips asked about fly tipping sites. John Covill noted that a car had been spotted loaded heading for Headlake Drove and returning empty. Steve Kent-Phillips asked if Mark was still the contact, Allen Alderson said that he was no longer the contact and to call the switchboard. The council was currently sending round a fly tipping team inspecting and reporting. Michael Malster raised the question of why the proposed underpass at Ely rail crossing was going to be one-way. This is due to the footpath added to the underpass.

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

David Greenfield mentioned a question had been asked about planning and tree / hedge removal in a preservation area. A tree has to be 75mm diameter at 1.5m from the ground to be protected and require consultation with the conservation officer. An Article 4 direction would override the otherwise vague regulations but Swaffham Prior does not have any of these, only Burwell (x2), Ely and Soham have these at present. Under current planning legislation, permission is not normally required for changing windows, doors and other minor alterations to frontages within Conservation Areas. However, it is recognised that cumulative such minor alterations can have a marked and detrimental impact on the character and appearance of a Conservation Area, so consultation with the conservation officer is essential.

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

The correspondence was read out. Steve Kent-Phillips mentioned Paul Latchford's email and that the 1949 allotment act strictly means the "garden plots" should not be referred to as Allotments but it should not be an issue. Also, as long as there is an annual village meeting a year, it can be at any time. This should be voted on at the next meeting.

#### Local Submission East Cambridgeshire Plan - Recent Appeal Decision

David Greenfield reminded the meeting of the approval: APP/V0510/17/3186785 (Fordham) and that at an appeal on May 29th the inspector overrode ECDC and approved planning inside the village envelope but outside the Local Plan. Allen Alderson was asked if he could do anything to make Local Plan and Village Envelope limits and restrictions apply so they cannot be overridden. The building requirement of 575 per year not being met and developers putting in applications and subsequently not building houses or "sitting on land" was discussed. Allen Alderson gave some numbers of developments since 2012/13 of 304, 307, 208, 161, 203 and 258 houses per year, so a significant shortfall. Time limiting grants of planning was also discussed. Allen Alderson stated that this would require a change in Government policy. It was concluded that the lack of actual building, made worse by granted plans not being developed, was leaving the situation such that another Witchford (where the inspector overrode the decision and granted planning permission) could happen. Allen Alderson gave an example of a plan in Swaffham Bulbeck that was turned down has now come back. Steve Kent-Phillips noted that it was good that the village had not spent the money on creating a Village Plan. John Covill added that this suggested a Village Plan would now be useless. Allen Alderson also added that ECDC had been up against (as many other LAs) Gladmans who were the company to get the planning refusal in Witchford overturned, vet had not built any houses, thus adding to their argument used in Fordham that not enough houses were being built. Michael Malster asked if planning with large local impact can cause requirements for local infrastructure, such as schools. Allen Alderson said that this was still part of planning requirements. It was agreed to write to MP Lucy Frazer and propose time limiting planning and require developments to be complete within that limit.

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

18/00709/FUL 25 High Street - External and internal alterations to listed building & garage (curtilage building) and 18/00710/LBC Old Barn House 25 High Street - External and internal alterations to listed building & garage (curtilage building) It was agreed there were no objections.

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

Steve Kent-Phillips reported that the village hall lights are the last project, soon to be completed. It had been agreed that any remaining fund would be provided to help with the Youth Club Hut survey. It was agreed to allocate the remaining £ 143.56 to Parochial Charities

#### Village Hall

David Greenfield reminded the meeting of the 2 items agreed at the last meeting for Wellers to proceed. The 3rd item was not agreed at the last meeting, a grant to assist the VHMC with legal fees. The VHMC have moved forward with a new solicitor and there will be 2 entries in Land Registry; one will the PC and the other, the lease. They will need to contact current trustees, so it will be a long process.

Meeting suspended at 20:20.

Alan Durrant covered the process and said that they would return to the PC for approval when done.

The meeting was reconvened at 20:21. The amount of grant was discussed and David Greenfield added that our lawyer had agreed a sum of £750 was reasonable. It was agreed to provide a grant of up to £750 against actual fees.

#### **Decide on and Appoint Deputy Clerk:**

Steve Kent-Phillips pointed out that the deputy clerk would be an unpaid position, able to receive and answer emails but not issue Grant of Rights of Burial documents. It was decided to establish the position of Deputy Clerk. It was agreed that Steve Kent-Phillips would take the position.

#### **Review of financial documents:**

Steve Kent-Phillips presented the changes to reduce the retention period in the Planning Disposal Policy. David Greenfield asked if someone wanted to view planning documents but could not get to the on-line documents themselves. It was agreed to provide this service and add a clause to this effect. The financial regulations were agreed without change. The financial risk assessment document had the review of job specification at the AGM removed from 1.1 RFO clause. All changes were agreed.

#### Clerks' Report

The Clerk addressed the issues caused by the email provided by AirBroadband and that from August, they will no longer provide a free service. The email will be changed to use a free email provider and AirBroadband will forward the current clerk@ email. The Manchester Building Society had provided an annual statement. The interest for the year was £188.29. CCC had been chased for a corrected invoice for street light electricity as the original did not have the correct street light inventory.

#### Parish Councillors' Reports

Sandra Gynn reported the school's current status regarding staff and head. The change to academy, was automatic based on school's recent Ofsted category. Michael Malster reported that grant funding to assist with improving the parking situation in Fairview Grove had been applied for, with the help of Steve Kent-Phillips. Steve Kent-Phillips reported an inspection of the play area had shown up some vandalisation of the spring daisy. There were some names

scratched into the paint. Andy Martin had agreed to repaint. Some bird spikes had also been replaced. 4 of the rubber seats needed replacing at £15.20 each. John Covill asked if they were a safety issue. As they are and the amount is less than £100, it was agreed that he proceed to order the replacements. Steve Kent-Phillips also reported that SID is back up in Lower End, facing Reach. SID had failed out of warranty but the Clerk had located an email with a list of recalls for the device that included SID's serial. SID had to be delivered and collected but was repaired free. The results from Lower End show that there is no problem in that area with an average speed of 24.3mph, 31.1 @ 85 percentile and a single maximum of 45mph. Peak levels are at 8-9 of 38 per hour. SID is now facing the other way. All results are on the web site. Andrew Camps asked about the catch on the play area gate or return spring as the gate was not closing. Steve Kent-Phillips agreed to investigate. Andrew Camps also noticed that the Lower End ditches had been cleared but the property opposite the Birches has a hedge that is encroaching on the path. The Clerk agreed to write to the property owner. Andrew Camps had also spoken to the

The Speed **Indicator Device** (SID) results from Lower End show that there is no problem [coming from Reach] ..... with an average speed of 24mph, most within 31mph, and a single maximum of 45mph. SID is now facing the other way.

gravedigger and Phil from Southgate had met him on-site. Phil said to contact him if any further problems occurred. Sandra Gynn reported that she had noticed a dog loose in the play area and explained to its owner that dogs were not allowed in there. John Covill noted potholes in Whiteway Drove. Sugar beet and various other things transported in the fen in much larger vehicles than originally used in the fen, were discussed as causes for the poor state of the roads.

#### **Open Question Time**

A copy of the grass cutting maps were requested for Peter Rand. A schedule of the cutting was also requested. Mrs Kirby asked about an email she had sent. It was sent from the Web Site form, which it seems no longer works. The form would be fixed or removed from the site. She also asked about the grass cutting and if the company took away the clippings. It was confirmed that they did not and that the recent spoil was due to excessive growth. Linda also asked about the school not allowing swimming in the pool without a headteacher. Sandra Gynn said the Governors were aware and that Tom Wood who was the Governor for Premises was investigating this further to try to try to solve the issue It was the Local Authority that was stopping the sessions. All requirements to be able to open the pool had been complied with including training on chemicals etc. Sandra Gynn agreed to contact Tom for more information. Alastair Everitt asked who was in charge. Sandra Gynn said that during the school holidays it was the Local Authority. An agenda item was agreed for the July meeting.

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

**Future meeting dates:** August 9<sup>th</sup>, September 13<sup>th</sup>, October 11<sup>th</sup> 2018.

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/



#### Village Praise at Lode Chapel

On **Sunday 16th September** we are holding our first **Village Praise** event at Lode Chapel from **5.30-6.30pm**. The hope is that we can develop a service that appeals to a wide range of folk in our villages. Maybe you worship at a different church on a Sunday morning and would like to join together for worship with people from your village occasionally too? The content of Village Praise will be accessible to people who are not regular church goers as well as being an opportunity to worship for those who are. Familiar hymns and Scripture readings, stories of how life and faith connect ... we believe Village Praise could be a great way to connect people together, and (re)introduce people to the Christian faith.

The services will evolve from our starting point in September, but from the outset I would welcome suggestions of hymns / songs / readings; musicians and singers who'd be happy to share their gift; anyone with a brief story to tell about how their faith makes a difference in their day to day lives. I am pleased to be working with Rev'd Sue and others from the Anglesey Benefice on this venture.

Initially we envisage a quarterly service 16th September; 2nd December; March/April; June/July.

We look forward to connecting with you over the Summer, and once again extend an invitation to you to join us for worship every Sunday morning, 10.30am at Bottisham Community Primary School. It would be great to welcome you.

Rev'd Alan Brand.

## RENEW Services for August/September 2018

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

All are welcome.

# Croissants and drinks are available before Morning Worship from 10.10 am.

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August. Morning Worship. 10.30am

With Holy Communion. (Bottisham Primary School)

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August. Morning Worship. 10.30am (at the School)

#### Guest Service. Followed by shared lunch

Sunday 19th August. Morning Worship. 10.30am (at the School)

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August. Morning Worship. 10.30am (at the School)

 $Sunday\ 2^{nd}\ September.\ Morning\ Worship.\ 10.30 am$ 

With Holy Communion. (Bottisham Primary School)

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September. Morning Worship. 10.30am (at the School)

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September. Morning Worship. 10.30am (at the School)

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September. Village Praise. 5.30-6.30pm at Lode Chapel Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Morning Worship. 10.30am (at the School) Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September. Morning Worship. 10.30am (at the School)

For more information the activities of RENEW Church please contact: Rev. Alan Brand on C.812558. Email: <u>alan.brand@renewchurch.org.uk</u> Or visit our website at <u>www.renewchurch.org.uk</u>

# **Church Services in August and September**

at St Mary's, Swaffham Prior, unless otherwise indicated

#### Sunday 2 September, Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

11am Matins

#### Sunday 9 September, Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

10am Benefice Service Holy Communion (CW1) – Bottisham

#### Sunday 16 September, Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

11am Family Service

#### Sunday 23 September, Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30am Children's Church, Lode 10am Morning Worship, Quy

#### Sunday 30 September, Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

6pm Evensong

St Mary's, Swaffham Prior is part of the ANGLESEY GROUP OF PARISHES together with: Holy Trinity, Bottisham; St Mary's, Quy; St James', Lode and St Mary's, Swaffham Bulbeck;

you are welcome to attend services anywhere in the benefice.

Our Vicar is Rev'd Sue Giles; Tel: 01223 812726; suethevic@btinternet.com and our Curate is Rev'd Professor Gina Radford; gina.radford@btinternet.com

Details of services and events can be found on www.angleseygroupparishes.co.uk and www.facebook.com/angleseychurches

For weddings and baptisms please contact: <a href="mailto:admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk">admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk</a>
Would you like a lift to a service in Swaffham Prior or elsewhere in the Benefice?

Please call 07553 151585

#### **Two Stories**

## Story 1

Once upon a time, there lived a young prince. When his father died, he assumed his divinely appointed throne, married a beautiful princess from a neighbouring kingdom, and settled down to govern his people. Soon afterwards, God appeared to him in a dream, and promised to grant the young royal whatever his heart desired.



Being a humble man, the new king refused to ask

for wealth, power, or long life, and instead replied, "I am only a child. Therefore, give your servant an understanding mind to govern your people, and to discern between good and evil." God was so pleased with the king's request, he promised not only to grant it — to make the king the wisest human being in history — but to grant him every other measure of greatness as well. Untold wealth, matchless honour, and long life.

In time, the king's reputation for brilliance spread across the land. Nobles travelled from distant shores to hear his pithy sayings and witness his wise judgments. In accordance with his wisdom and God's blessing, the king's wealth and power grew beyond measure. He made strategic political and economic alliances; maintained fleets of ships; built gorgeous temples and palaces; traded in luxuries such as gold, silver, and ivory; penned the greatest wisdom literature of his time; presided over the Golden Age of his kingdom; and finally handed his throne to his son after a peaceable reign of forty years.

### Story 2

Once upon a time, there lived a young prince. When his father died, he ordered the murder of his older brother — the rightful heir to the throne — and took over the kingdom by stealth and bloodshed. After spending the early days of his reign carrying out the vengeance killings his father had requested, he set out to build the kingdom of his dreams — a kingdom of wealth, prestige, and power.

The king's appetites were great. To support his extravagant lifestyle, he levied taxes his subjects couldn't bear. To police knowledge, he gathered the surrounding world's wisdom traditions to himself. To complete his lavish building projects, he drafted thousands of people into forced labour. To satisfy his lusts, he assembled a harem of seven hundred wives and three hundred concubines. To quell his spiritual restlessness, he constructed pagan shrines and offered worship to gods who demanded child sacrifice.

The results of his choices were dire. By the end of his reign, his people could no longer bear the crushing burdens of taxation and slavery he had placed upon them. The king soon found himself confronted by enemies. After his untimely death, his son tried to force the disgruntled masses back into servitude, but when they resisted, a civil war that would last for decades broke out across the land. The kingdom split in two, and the famed king's once-golden dreams dissolved into chaos.

I wonder what you know about King Solomon, the king in these two stories? Many people know he had a reputation for being very wise and that the Queen of Sheba came

to visit him but much of the rest of his story is unknown. Even for those who may have read some of his writings in scripture and know some of his story the other part of the story is often not discussed. What is the truth? Well, as with most people, the two stories come together in one individual. We are all people of several characters. We have a good, kind and thoughtful side and we have a selfish, unkind and hurtful side. Most of us try to keep the one side buried and to make the other more prominent, presenting it as our public face. We may decry the work of spin doctors but in a more everyday setting we often act as our own spin doctors. One of the wonderful things about being a Christian, (and there are many) is that we have a God who knows us through and through. He knows the best of us and wants to help us develop and grow all that is good in our lives and in our personalities. He also knows the worst of us. God is the one we can never hide from. God knows every thought, every motivation and impulse. We can only be completely open and honest with him even if we try to hide things from ourselves and those around us. In our relationship with God there is no spin, no public face, no hidden corners of our hearts. God's desire is to help us change what needs changing, he forgives the mistakes that we make and the deliberate harm that we do to others and most importantly he loves us exactly as we are. God never says to any of us, change and then I'll love you. Act differently and then I will be with you. He loves us and is with us. He is beside us to help us change, pouring out his healing and grace and giving us a wealth of new beginnings. This is how we should perhaps hear the story of Solomon.

Once upon a time there lived a king. He had big dreams, as most of us do. He had great faults, as most of us do. He yearned at times for the best of things — wisdom, discernment, and a sound mind — and lusted at other times for the worst. He lived a life marked by success and failure, nobility and disgrace. He loved God and he didn't. He pleased God and he didn't. He left a legacy that was neither perfect nor wretched, as most of us will. But he was loved by God throughout — even when his foolish wisdom shattered God's heart. So are we.

Sue Giles

With thanks to Debie Thomas USA for the story outlines.



Organising an event and don't have enough tables and seats? We can solve the problem!

For Hire: Grey hard plastic stacking chairs, black metal legs, can be used indoors and out, hirer collects and returns (deposit required), 50p per chair and a £1 per table per hire. Contact 07833 960678 Proceeds to St. Mary's Church, Swaffham Prior



We have recently taken delivery of a Fen Harvester to help us with our conservation work. It is fair to say that everyone was very excited when this new piece of machinery (now christened the 'Fen Voyager') was delivered! We will now be able to initiate a regular cutting regime that will help the fen's plant communities thrive. Cutting will be taking place during August, so if you are interested in seeing the Fen Voyager in action, keep an eye on our social media feeds.

August is a great time to experience the summer buzz at Wicken fen, when insects are enjoying the abundance of lush fen plants and the rainbow colours of the fen wildflowers. You can take a **boat trip** down the Wicken Lode; soak up some of the peaceful fen atmosphere, and see the flora and fauna by the waterway. Boat trips are available every day until the end of October, and cost £6 for adults, £3.50 for children, and £17.50 for a family (2 adults, 2 children). At busy times it is advisable to book in advance, so please give us a call before you set off to secure your places, tel: 01353 720274. You can also explore the fen on two wheels by hiring a bike from our **Cycle Hire** centre, which is open every day from 10am; last bike hire is at 3pm. We have bikes to suit all ages and abilities, including tag-alongs, buggies and trikes. You can even enjoy both with our great value **Fen Explorer** ticket combining two hours bike hire and a boat trip at a reduced rate.

Our programme of summer activities continues throughout August, starting with Nature Crafts on Wednesday 1 August (age 3-10), Beginners Geocache and Bugs and Beasts Geocache Challenge on Friday 3 August (age 6+), Painting the Fens on Tuesday 7 August (age 6+), Go Wild: All About Fire! on Tuesday 14 August (age 8-13), Storytime: What the Ladybird Heard on Wednesday 15 August (age 3-7), Go Wild: Simple Campfire Cooking on Wednesday 22 August (age 8-13), and Nature Crafts on Friday 24 August (age 3-10). There are always plenty of things for families to do, including our free 50 Things to do Before You're 11¼ activities; ask in the Visitor Centre for more information.

During September we have several opportunities for adults to get involved in some of our art and craft events. Our programme begins on Friday 14 September with a **Rush Weaving Workshop**, followed by an **Introduction to Lino Printing** on Saturday 15 September, **Feltmaking for Beginners** on Saturday 22 September, and **Painting the Fens for Beginners** on Saturday 29 September. Further information about these workshops can be found on our website.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen

# **Dates for Your Diary August/September 2018**

1	3	Popup Tea Shop, 3-5pm, VH			
Sat	8	Sundae Funday, St Mary's 3-5pm [15] Defibrillator Training, 10-4pm, Mandeville Hall [21]			
Tue	11	Poppy Making, 8pm Black Horse, Bulbeck [8]			
Wed	12				
Thu	13	PC Meeting, VH [24]			
Fri	14	Mobile Library, Village School, 3.10 - 3.35.			
Sat	15	Dog Show and Harvest Show, 1.45pm, VH [11, 14]			
Sat	22	Poppy Workshop, St Mary's, 3-5pm			
Sun	23				
Mon	24	Crier Copy Deadline			
Tue	25	Poppy Making, 8pm Black Horse, Bulbeck			
Wed	26				
Thu	27				
Fri	28	MacMillan Coffee Morning, 10.30—12 noon. The Oaks, Manor Farm Court, Lower End [3]			
Octo	ber				
Sat	6	Quiz Night, 7.30pm, VH [11]			
Sun	7	Harvest Festival, Prior Fen Chapel, 3pm [11]			

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date Time		Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon of Term	8pm	Village School
Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Tim Doe	01223 861083			
Reading Group	Brenda Wilson	743937	1 <sup>st</sup> Weds of month	8:00pm	(See Crier)
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