



# The Swaffham Crier

Volume XLII Number 12

December 2018



## Editorial

A Big Welcome to our new Parish Council Clerk to be, Jonathan Giles, who will be taking over from Paul Catling (many thanks to Paul for a sterling job) in January. We look forward to seeing a great deal of him in this magazine as the PC comes to grips with a number of sticky issues in the forthcoming year, of which one, the new Heating Scheme, is proving as controversial as ever (see Our Reporter). The sticking point for us at the moment is simply Data Protection; where will our Data end up?

The Short-eared Owls are back for the winter at Wicken Fen, and dog-walkers have the double entertainment of flocks of them plus flocks of Twitchers to observe—don't miss them! Meanwhile, our Wildlife correspondent is concentrating on foxes this month. Despite what you might think, foxes don't massacre the Hen Coop for fun, but rather to store in their larder. But whatever they do, they surely don't deserve the cruel fate that so often befalls them in Swaffham Prior. The snare! And a long slow painful death.... Come on, gamekeepers, there's plenty of other deterrents these days.

Don't miss the Great Peal (3 hours long—you probably won't), we won't be back until the New Year. January 8th, when our printers re-open. Copy date January 2<sup>nd</sup>, plenty of time for the Christmas Crossword!



One innocent on the prowl...

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**Wishing All Our  
Readers a Very Happy  
Christmas, and New  
Year!**

*The Crier Team*

**Cover Picture:** *Massacre of the Innocents* by Peter Bruegel the Elder



## Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

### **Mini Hedgehog hibernation reminder**

That time of year again is almost upon us, when the hedgehogs begin preparing for hibernation. I know some of the villagers have spoken to me about advising them on how to make their gardens suitable with winter homes for the hogs. To anyone else who is keen to help out our prickly garden residents then my main advice is to keep water and food bowls out right over the winter period between September and February as some hogs will hibernate much later than others depending on their body mass. Also make sure the garden is accessible with holes in the fence ideally so they can freely move from one side to the other and check that any hedgehog boxes or wood piles you have for them to use, are water tight and thick enough to provide warmth under the layers of wood.

But please most importantly, if you wish to help our endangered friends then if you see a hedgehog out and about from October onwards- quickly get a pair of thick gardening gloves, pick up the hedgehog and then weight it on your scales, before putting it back immediately where you found it in the garden. If the hedgehog weighs 250grams or more than its suitable to let go, but if the hedgehog is extremely thin or small and weighs less, than it's not likely to survive the winter hibernation. In this instance you should seek advice from our local wildlife centre's such as shepreth hedgehog hospital about taking the hog to be admitted in order to gain weight over the winter months before being released the following spring. By doing this, many more hogs will make it through winter and you'll be helping their already decreasing population to stabilize. If you want to be more hands on and look after the hedgehog yourself over the winter months then please contact me for more detailed advice on how to care for a hedgehog correctly e.g diet and where to keep them.

*Saffra Monteiro*

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Dear Editors,

### **Burwell Surgery on Facebook**

We have just created a Facebook page for Burwell Surgery. As this is NEW we have decided not to advertise the page widely at the moment. We hope to do this in December - ready for the Christmas holiday period.

Please 'like us' as we'd love to be share your news too.

*Elaine*



Get in the Christmas spirit with the

# Village Carols

Wednesday 12 December

**Swaffham Prior Village Hall**

Carol singers depart from Hall at 6.30pm, heading around the village and returning to Hall at around 7.30pm

All welcome to join in the singing around the village, or just to meet up back at the Hall for some more music, mulled wine and mince pies



Singing ability not required – just bring your enthusiasm!

**Everyone welcome**



*This year's Carol Train (please join in as we pass) will start in the High Street, turn up Cage Hill, along Greenhead Rd and then down to the Pub. There will be a collection at doors in aid of FoSPS.*



## From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

There were nine in the Public Gallery including the new Clerk Jonathan Giles who had come for a look. It is to be hoped he liked and appreciated what he witnessed. Before the meeting began Emma Fletcher and Mike Barker gave an update and presentation on the “Community Heating scheme”. This I will call “District Heating” which is the term more commonly used if you are searching the internet. Further work has been done and on 23<sup>rd</sup> November a more detailed technical report will be available. Emma fluently reiterated and developed many of the points previously made in her account in the November *Crier*.



Wishing to proceed with the application for government funding she was hoping for the support of the PC and had come to discover its views. From the Public Gallery I asked how much data had resulted from DECC (Dept of Environment and Climate Change) which about 2013 had made £7 million available for councils to carry out feasibility studies for District Heating systems. In 2014 more than 50 local authorities had accepted the offer taking up £4 million, thus at that date leaving £3 million still in the pot. Possibly more data is available. Steve again raised some technical concerns. No answer was given except to assure us that all will be taken into account in the technical report.

Emma then passed a letter to the PC which she hoped it would sign thus giving the scheme the PC’s approval. John explained that because it was not on the agenda it could not be signed at that meeting. There was a brief explanation of the legal procedures which need to be followed by all PCs, and this obviously frustrated Emma who said she didn’t find the PC “being at all helpful.” From the Public Gallery Linda shouted “I certainly agree with that!”

The possibility of an emergency meeting to discuss the matter was raised. Steve asked for confirmation of the technical report date, and whether it would serve if the matter was dealt with at the Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December meeting. After a brief discussion, and Mike’s assurance, this was acceptable. I said I hoped the PC would support the proposal even though most members appear to be opposed. David said he had an open mind and thought it should be explored.

The reasons I think the PC, and the Village, should support this is because it gives us a ringside seat on a government scheme. The average person is rarely able to ask questions, and any views and comments just vanish into thin air. Smart Meters is the obvious example. Any criticisms, whether from parliamentary committees or the press, have been met over the last two months with increased expensive press and television advertising. They even have stands in the foyer of the Cambridge Picturehouse, and all other Picturehouses, during the regular *Silver Screen* showings. These are the showings when the vulnerable and elderly are given cheaper seats, a free cup of coffee, and some free biscuits. The Smart Meter people are just asking the elderly to answer a simple questionnaire, to pass over their names and email, and

offer in exchange the chance to win two free cinema tickets in a draw.

If the PC signs the letter we will be able to question the actual people preparing and presenting the proposal. And there is a large amount of knowledge, experience and expertise in this village to ask all the right questions. We may never have such an opportunity again – both young and old. It could also be a learning experience because, if you wish, you can search for your own information, and perhaps discover that any new knowledge is good. It will also enable us to learn a little more about the CCC as our representative Joshua Schumann has been completely negligent on this. At the beginning of November it was reported that Mayor James Palmer, mayor of the Combined Authority, **said that the public is not “even slightly interested”** in the reasons why the Combined Authority’s former chief executive had a sudden ‘mystery’ departure in August and received a £94,500 pay-off. Maybe Joshua thinks that we also are not “even slightly interested”, and therefore never sends in a report.

**Emma said she didn’t find the PC “being at all helpful.” From the Public Gallery Linda shouted “I certainly agree with that!”**

I apologise for having spent so long on this topic but it is very important for the village, and also the scope of the proposed report has become so much wider. It may even turn out that District Heating could make a real contribution towards combatting Climate Change. I therefore hope the PC will sign the letter, and even make a small nominal donation which could cement our interest and ensure we receive all reports. This could result in a very interesting discussion at the next meeting. Do not miss it.

That took up 30 minutes and the actual meeting did not begin until 8.00pm. As it happens there is very little to report until we reach Parish Councillors’ reports at the end. Here goes. Allen Alderson was missing so no news on Paul’s Black Bags concern; ECDC likes the idea of a shower in a music room, James Willmott is being offered the vacant allotment which many people, including possibly James, thought he had been offered two months ago; another allotment has become available and will be advertised; Allan Durrant has been co-opted to fill the vacancy on the PC; David was concerned whether CGM, our grass cutter, had sent in too many invoices, but a very careful analysis of the cuts showed that CGM was correct; the Fire Proof Safe has been safely installed and I gather it was quite a sweat; now begins the long and arduous task of sorting out the records and transferring them to the Village Hall; Tothill has a “weird” house numbering system; and someone is being hired to tidy the cemetery but not on a permanent basis.

Then we moved to Parish Councillors’ Reports. Mike asked whether the PC had ever thought of putting Double Yellow Lines near the School. There was a moment’s astonished silence, a gulp, and a “Yes”. “What did you decide?” asked Mike. It was explained that the matter had been debated at some length and that the conclusion was that they were not advisable. Mike was urged to read the past minutes as they couldn’t go through the whole debate. Undaunted, Mike pressed on with his



questions and Paul L, trying to help, mentioned several aspects. “Ah”, said Mike, “You find Mothers and Children a problem.” At this Paul sat up sharply, gave a nervous giggle and smile, and said “I have never found Mothers and Children a problem.” “I like them.” One does have to be so careful these days. We all know how easy it is to offend, and if Mumsnet had got hold of the story Paul’s computer could be overwhelmed with ill-wishing messages, and maybe even picketing by Mothers and Babies outside his house. Other possible causes of the problem were raised, including Steve of the Red Lion who came under very close scrutiny, but eventually was exonerated. Peter said the matter had been debated so many times by the PC, probably over several decades, and that it was an “intractable problem.” Very much like the Northern Ireland problem upon which we were assured, 18 months ago, that “the finest minds in Britain” were working. Just as the “finest minds” in SP have long been looking at Double Yellow Lines, with the same result. They both appear to be “intractable”. Maybe our PC and the Government should share their experiences. It was quite a long discussion. Mike was urged several times to read the previous minutes.

*Alastair Everitt*

# Boxing Day Hockey Match

**SWAFFHAM PRIOR VS SWAFFHAM BULBECK**

**The Denny, Swaffham Bulbeck**

**Wednesday 10.45 am (10.30 am players)**

**COME AND SUPPORT SWAFFHAM PRIOR!!**

**All proceeds to MAGPAS**



Contact **Mandy Kingsmill** if you would like to play in the winning team!  
New players especially welcome

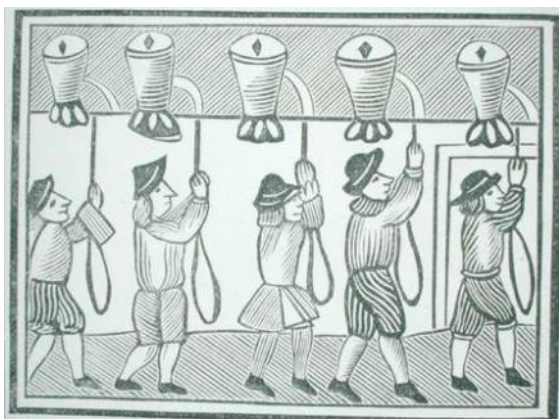
07796 091855 (kingsmills@btconnect.com)





# The St Cyriac's Bells Ring Out On the Ninth of December

Starting about 10.00 o'clock in the morning  
a Three Hour Peal of the Bells will begin.  
This is to celebrate the Peal which was rung  
exactly TWO HUNDRED years to the day.  
Our ringers will include campanologists  
who have rung at St Paul's Cathedral  
and Westminster Abbey.



## **BON MOT NUMBER NINETY TWO**

“Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance  
you must keep moving.”

*Albert Einstein (1879 -1955)*

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>**

**4.00pm** *The two churches of  
SWAFFHAM PRIOR*

## **Cambridge Voices**

and readers from the parish

**Words & Music inspired by the  
First World War**

**Ivor Gurney**

**Rachmaninov**

**Debussy & Ravel**

**Wilfred Owen**

**Ian de Massini**

**Vera Brittain**

**Gibbons & Holst**

**Inez Quilter**

*£10 Admission (children free)*

*Includes Mulled Wine & Mince Pies afterwards*

***In aid of EMMAUS***

**A  
D  
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T**

*by*

***Candlelight***



## Services at St Marys, Swaffham Prior



Sunday 16 December, 11am  
**Christingle & Nativity Family Service**  
Christingles for all children;  
collection in aid of the Children's Society

Sunday 23 December, 4.30pm  
**Village Candlelight Carol Service**  
With school choir



Monday 24 December, 3pm  
**Christmas Eve Crib Service**  
suitable for all the family

Tuesday 25 December, 10am  
**Christmas Morning Family Communion**

**Wishing you a very  
blessed Christmas!**





Support and friendship  
for families

Home-Start  
Cambridgeshire

### Home-Start

**Cambridgeshire's aim  
is for every child to  
have the best possible  
start in life.**

The charity supports families across the county who are going through difficult times.

We are in an exciting period of change and are keen to appoint 2 Trustees who are passionate about supporting families with young children, keen to make a difference, creative and who enjoy being part of a team.

Both will be enthusiastic promoters of the charity and will be able to give time and energy to their role. Ideally one of them would have significant experience in HR.

Contact the office on 01480 700242 or

email [office@homestartcambridgeshire.co.uk](mailto:office@homestartcambridgeshire.co.uk)

[www.homestartcambridgeshire.co.uk](http://www.homestartcambridgeshire.co.uk)

## ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING

*10.30 – 12.00 Noon*



**Friday  
25<sup>th</sup> January  
2018**



*44 High Street*  
**Cake Stall & Raffle**  
**Produce Stall**

*All proceeds to St. Mary's Church*

## The Reading Group Reads...

### A Gentleman in Moscow

by Amor Towles

Of all the books shared by Book Club this year, there is one that delighted us all: A Gentleman In Moscow by Amor Towles.

It tells the story of Count Alexander Ilyich Rostov, a Russian aristocrat living in luxury in a suite at The Metropol Hotel in central Moscow. Saved from a bullet to the head or from exile to Siberia because he was deemed a hero of the pre-revolutionary cause, he is sentenced to live out his days under house arrest in an attic room at the hotel for writing a poem.

Towles's novel follows him over a number of decades, but no Bolshevik, Stalinist or bureaucrat can dampen life at the hotel. A cast of intriguing and fascinating characters pass through and Count Rostov respects and cherishes them, even those he must contend against. Proper manners, he points out, always have their place.

Rostov is a character of intelligence, wit and wisdom, a man of integrity and honour, a gentleman in the truest sense of the world.

The book is wonderfully written in beautiful English. Every sentence is delicious and elegant, perfect material for a winter's night curled in a blanket against the bitter cold outside. At a time when sincerity, tolerance and compassion are in short supply in the world around us, we discover that here these virtues become

the very touchstones which allow a remarkable protagonist to weather the perils of a changing existence. A wonderful, beautiful and heart-warming book.

It is our recommendation for Christmas!

Other books read this year included:

At the Edge of the Orchard – Tracey Chevalier

Swing Time – Zadie Smith

The Essex Serpent – Sarah Perry

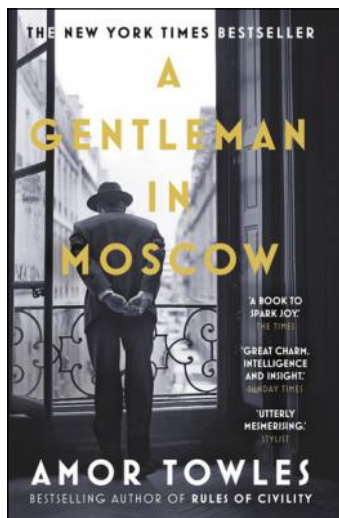
Katherine – Anya Seton

Book Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Come and join us

*Roz Chalmers*



Amor Towles





## Julie's Recipes for Christmas

### **Chestnut and Roasted Vegetable pie**



- 1 large red onion peeled and cut into wedges
- 1 red pepper, seeded and sliced
- 1 yellow pepper, seeded and sliced
- 2 medium sweet potato peeled and cut into chunks
- 1 large cooking apple, peeled, quartered and sliced
- 4 tbsp olive oil
- 2.5cm fresh root ginger peeled and finely chopped
- ½ tsp ground cinnamon
- 200g pack of cooked and peeled whole chestnuts
- 285g jar artichokes in oil, drained
- 2 x 375gr packs of puff pastry
- 2 tbsp tomato puree
- 1 tsp harissa paste
- 1 egg beaten

#### Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 200c. Put the onion, peppers, potatoes and apple slices in a tin. Drizzle over the oil and scatter over the ginger and cinnamon and mix well. Roast in the oven for 25-30 mins until the veg are tender and browned, when cool then stir in the chestnuts and artichokes.
2. Roll out one of the packs of pastry in to large square. Mix tomato puree and harissa pastes together and then spread over the pastry. Fold pastry into a small square and then roll it again so that the paste flavours are rolled into the pastry. Wrap and chill for a while. Do the same with the other pack of pastry but leave out the paste this time and also wrap and chill.
3. Now set the oven too 200c again. Roll out pastries to fit 12 inch pie dish, putting the unflavoured pastry on the bottom, load the roasted vegetables on top and then cover. with the flavoured pastry. Press the edges together and brush with beaten egg. Place in oven and cook for 20-25 mins until risen and golden brown. Serves 6

### **Chestnut Stuffing**

- 25gr butter
- 1 large onion peeled and finely chopped
- 10 juniper berries
- 1kg of gold quality sausage meat
- 200gr cooked chestnuts pack roughly chopped
- 2 eggs
- 1 small bunch sage (4tbsp chopped)
- 100gr fresh white bread crumbs
- ¼ tsp ground allspice



Method:

1. In a saucepan melt the butter and cook the onion and juniper berries for 5 mins until onions are soft.
2. Remove the juniper berries and discard. In a large bowl mix all the other ingredients together and mix in the onions, season with salt, pepper and the allspice.
3. Shape into about 24 balls and bake in the oven with the turkey for 35-40 mins.  
This stuffing mix can be made in advance a day ahead or made and put into the freezer until needed.

**Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

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## **COMBERTON RAMBLERS CLUB**

The Comberton Ramblers Club walk on alternative Sundays. Our Spring 2019 Walk Programme starts on the :

13th January 2019 - Abington Piggots. 6 Miles.

27th January 2019 - Therfield. 5.5 Miles.

All walks start at 10.15 a.m. Walks are from 5 - 7 miles, usually ending near a public house.

We are a friendly / informative group and enjoy exploring the varied countryside in this area. New walkers are welcome to join us with up to 2 free walks, and if you enjoy our walks we request that you become a member. For further details on how to join our sociable rambling group please contact Stella - The Secretary

Email : [stella.ramblers@hotmail.com](mailto:stella.ramblers@hotmail.com)

[www.combertonramblers.org.uk](http://www.combertonramblers.org.uk), Tel : 01954 210049

**St Mary's Concert**

St Mary's Singers  
St Mary's Players



Conductor  
**Jack Bazalgette**

English Folk Songs  
Telemann – Concerto 2 Horns  
Fauré - Requiem

Purcell – Thou Knowest Lord  
Stanford – Beati Quorum Via

St Mary's Church Swaffham Bulbeck  
Entry Free      Collection for Charity  
**26th January 2019 19.30**



# **Bottisham Village College**

## **Adult Learning**

**Are you interested in learning something new in 2019?**

**Our full range of courses is available on our website:**

**[www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning](http://www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning)**

### **Courses include:**

**Art & Artists (morning)**

**Calligraphy (afternoon)**

**Creating Glass Jewellery**

**Cookery: Italian Meat Dishes, Breads & Focaccia; Traditional Home Baking; Chocolate Galore; Curry House Favourites**

**Digital Photography: Night Shots & Winter; People & Motion**

**Floristry: Spring Flowers for the Home**

**Knitting: Learn the Basics**

**Making the Most of Your Garden (Horticulture)**

**Understanding Modern Art**

**(the above are evening courses unless specified)**

### **Saturday Workshops include:**

**Affordable Floral Wedding Tables & Pew Ends**

**Cook with your Kids**

**Creative Writing – Short Stories**

**Dichloric Glass Jewellery**

**Get to Know your Ipad/Tablet**

**Indian Fast Foods (Cookery)**

**Make-Up: Fabulous Over 40s**

**Printing without a Press**

**Tai Chi Workshop**

**[www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning](http://www.bottishamvc.org/adultlearning)**

**Tel: 01223 811372 email: [adultlearning@bottishamvc.org](mailto:adultlearning@bottishamvc.org)**

**Facebook: [BottishamAdultCommunityLearning](#) or Twitter: [@CommunityEdBott](#)**



## News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Group

From the Dispensary New Medication Collection Point: The Practice is working with the shop and Post Office at Stow-cum-Quy so you can pick up your medication there, as we already do at Lode, Swaffham Bulbeck and Wilbraham.

Simply complete a consent form available from the shop or the Practice. Collection will be during opening hours and delivery is on a Friday after lunch.

You can also leave your repeat prescription at the shop and Post Office for collection on a Friday; just place it in an envelope. The first delivery will be Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Any questions please ask at the dispensary.

**Cake Stall:** Held at the flu clinic on 3 November when we raised a further £206.20 thus bringing the Red Bucket total up to £1152.39 to go towards the purchase of a Pod for the surgery. Grateful thanks to all who have contributed to this.

**Patients' Group Explained:** All patients registered at Bottisham Medical Practice are automatically members of the Patients Group (PG) which was originally titled Patient Participation Group (PPG). This is led by a small committee of patients to represent the majority at meetings and NHS consultations. The PG was formed to give all patients a say on general matters (not personal issues) which affect them and the use of Bottisham Medical Practice.

The Group meets every two months on the fourth Thursday evening and would welcome more members joining these meetings to put forward their suggestions and ideas.

If you would like to join us or would like more information, please talk to the receptionist at the surgery.

**Walks for Health:** The next walk with our accredited walk leader Steve Gilson start at 11.00 am from the surgery car park on 12 December 2018. 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 24 January 2019 at 6.30pm at the surgery.

***Bottisham Patients' Group***

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### **Ideal Christmas Present for Gamekeepers!**

The predator deterrent light deters foxes from game bird release pens. Available from:

Rutland Electric Fencing Co. Ltd.  
Electric Shepherd Products  
27 Pillings Road  
Oakham  
Leicestershire  
LE15 6QF, Tel: 01572 722558



Welcome dear readers to the December edition of OOTWS (ooh I do love abbreviations) this time around—we feature the... Red Fox!!

This beautiful mammal whose scientific or Latin name is *Vulpes Vulpes* (double-barrelled, just like the Badger we featured last month in November—*Meles meles*), has a global range that covers the Northern Hemisphere. The Red Fox is technically part of the Eurasian genus of Fox. It’s also been introduced to Australia and although their introduction was thought stupendous by our Victorian ancestors, with the benefit of hindsight in the 21<sup>st</sup> century—we realise a legacy of ecological harm. Across our islands and our family of nations, Red Foxes can be found in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. There are currently estimated to be about 225,000 individuals distributed rurally and 33,000 in urban places. Foxes are widely distributed in Britain and Ireland but are absent from all the Scottish islands, except Skye and Harris, and from the Scilly and Channel isles.

The Red Fox is an iconic species (a cliché but oh so true) which like others includes the Red Squirrel, Red Deer and Barn Owl. We are lucky enough to see and communicate with all and more in our country-parks, towns and gardens across Britain. This is a fortuitous time for me to be featuring the British Red Fox as December marks the start of their breeding season. In recent years, the Red Fox in Britain has shifted its habitat from rural countryside to towns and cities, and I for one have had my exceptional sightings of this animal in Cambridge rather than Swaffham Prior.

As mentioned above, these cheeky but dashing guys get intimate and rather foxy with each other during the transitional Autumn-Winter season. They build their



earths by digging out from soil banks or re-using the setts of badgers or even rabbit burrows. In more urban areas, foxes can utilise spare materials and might typically be located in the back of sheds, under buildings, wild gardens, cemeteries etc.



Being unfussy is great, but it can also lead them into conflict for territory with other creatures, notably fellow mammal—*homo sapiens*. The hope is with enough understanding and compassion for the intelligent but daring Red Fox, these disagreements can be minimised or even stopped for good.

Facts and Figures; the Red Fox gives birth to a ‘litter’ of live young between March and May of around 4-5 cubs. They are born blind and their mothers are very attentive in the first month or so. The father or males and others in the Red Fox group/family help out with gathering and hunting for food while she is at the earth. The cubs are independent by the following Autumn. Like us, the Red Fox is an Omnivore though technically carnivorous—eating a range of prey and food including; rabbits, voles and insects to fruit and veg. All nutritious, the Fox often stores food for later— a mammalian trait shared with Squirrels and humans. Typically, the Red Fox lives 10 or 11 years, though another report states 2-3 years. The animal is up to 75cm in length and 40cm for its busy tail alone.

Predators (mainly for their cubs) include the golden eagle, the badger and dogs, but humans also cause fatalities in traffic collisions. Therefore, I implore you readers to enjoy the festive period and make merry but responsibly and if you’re lucky enough to see one crossing a carriageway, please stop for the Fox—so he/she can enjoy theirs too. Sadly, hunters also poison and shoot the Red Fox too for sport. The debate on legality continues among some people. I personally think and feel it should remain illegal in line with the 2004 law banning Fox hunting—for its high-profile Boxing Day events using Hounds; this practice ought to be used rarely, if at all. In terms of abundance, in keeping with articles on Wood Pigeons among others, the Red Fox is a British species which is native to our shores, common and widespread—it’s doing well, its adaptation skills are good.

I discussed earlier that the Red Fox, which is really a chestnut or orangey-brown colour aren’t the only animals to colonise urban landscapes. Seagulls have also become quite familiar with coastal towns and cities across Britain, so the Fox shares similarities in this regard and of course Rats have lived among urban areas for centuries. This is a trend that is being driven by the changing of the British landscapes through farming and urban expansion, where the easy pickings due to littering and food wastage can make urban areas more desirable than the countryside.

Communication is the good love and life blood of all living beings. It’s sometimes sadly mismanaged but there is always hope. Body language—as Kylie Minogue once said (or rather sang)—accounts for the majority of communication between individuals of all species. Red Foxes have a plethora of different calls, facial expressions and body postures, like humans. They also have barks or rather ‘screams’ in the middle of the night—so if you’re a light sleeper or have a busy festive period at work, don’t be too concerned or superstitious if an Owl Hoot, Deer bark or Fox Scream wakes you up. We live in the country and our animals now live in the city too. Foxes make sounds—so far 28 have been identified by biologists and wildlife

lovers— including eight made by cubs and 12 by adults. I will finally add that female foxes are called Vixens and males are Dogs.

The fox (and the red one especially) are present in many stories and folklores from different human cultures. They are part of the mystique of our earth of varying animals of beauty, ferociousness and intellect—and also great wit! None other than Roald Dahl wrote about the adventures of Fantastic Mr. Fox- and the actor I alluded to earlier. He is daring and brilliant, a good spirit and a good animal being—though with character flaws. These are forgiven though due to his amazing generosity and general awesomeness. The Red Fox is portrayed as a morally ambivalent character, again in Narnia serving the cause of the White witch by C.S. Lewis. Reminding us that black and white exists in life around ethics but there is also grey and the Fox ultimately drew away from Jadis and as punishment got turned to stone, only for Aslan to return Mr. Fox to life!!

I for one have sinned in my life, though not to be too moralistic or religious about it, many of us have. The Red Fox represents to me the spirit of the individual and of the community in which it inhabits. Character is everything, though the teachings of forgiveness are quite wise. Homo sapiens aren't totally unique in unethical behaviour, the Foxes of Britain, East Anglia and East Cambridgeshire display it too. The Red Fox is fantastic certainly- though not all of the time. Just like us, they can fall prey to preying on someone else's prized chickens or cause a chaotic mess around the neighbourhood but as scavengers- eating food that is unwanted or thrown away unnecessarily is a very clever and sustainable approach to being 'green'. While not an animal seen abundantly in Prior or the Swaffhams I believe—it is a creature that is endearing and courageous. If it poorly manages itself or is mistreated by its relatives and peers, aggression emerges with undesirable consequences. It's about creating and sustaining ecologies and environments that are nourishing and protective; not to mention abundant.

So...have a Foxy but frankly humane Christmas everyone and see you in the New Year! We wish Fantastic Mr. Fox and his family a relaxing and enjoyable festive season!! 😊 xxx

**By Jorge Xico Monteiro**

\*A special thanks to Ben Andrews for making available the gorgeous image of la Fox Rouge and also to PTES (Peoples Trust for Endangered Species) for their wealth of information on this iconic and beautiful mammal.

**But the many images of snared foxes to be found on the Web are not so gorgeous and make you want to cry. It seems that foxes are routinely snared around Swaffham Prior. Isn't it about time this barbaric practice stopped? Eds**

## Setting fox snares



**The British Association for Shooting and Conservation**

- **Snares are to hold, not kill:** The purpose of the snare is to hold the fox and avoid causing unnecessary suffering while the fox is held, until it can be killed humanely. Shooting with an appropriate firearm is a recognised method of humanely dispatching foxes.
- You must only use a free-running snare which is defined, for the purpose of this Code, as a wire loop that relaxes when the fox stops pulling.
- Defra considers a self-locking snare to be a wire loop that does not relax when the fox stops pulling. You must never set a self-locking snare as this is illegal.

**By law, snares must be inspected at least once every day, however, this Code recommends that snares are inspected twice daily. As most captures are made at night it is recommended that you inspect your snares as soon after sunrise as is practicable. A further inspection should be carried out later in the day to ensure that your snares are in position for the night, and that any daytime captures are dealt with promptly.**

## Never set snares

1. Under or near fences or other obstructions, like saplings, hedges, walls or gates that could cause entanglement.
2. Where livestock could be caught.
3. In areas regularly and legitimately used for the exercise of domestic animals, near public footpaths or housing.
4. On or near to an active badger sett, or on the runs radiating from it.
5. On footbridges, or on fallen trees or logs spanning watercourses.
6. In such a way that the restrained animal could become fully or partially suspended, entangled, drowned or strangled.
7. If forecasted weather conditions are likely to cause poor welfare or prevent daily inspection. Excess heat as well as cold/wind/rain/snow, etc. must be considered.

You must be competent and equipped to deal humanely with any foxes or other animals that can reasonably be expected to be caught.

Under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 you are responsible for taking reasonable steps to ensure that the welfare needs of all animals under your control (including those caught in a snare) are met, to the extent required by good practice. In this context, that the animal is protected from pain and suffering.

**If you are unsure of your legal obligations do not set a snare**

*(Or just don't do it anyway. Eds)*



## Henry Brown Life and Times 1946-



Henry Brown is Swaffham Prior's oldest living resident (*male—Eds*) . Last year his wartime experiences were serialised. This is the sixth section of his post-war entrepreneurial experiences, having moved from producing an affordable three-wheeler car into making farm silos.

We had taken over a disused cattle shed and piggery to launch Boythorne Cropstore silos. However, things were not as they seemed. Don Ravis, who had taken me on in the first place had photographs taken of the first Cropstore and the production line. He sent these to A.O. Smith with a query, “Would you like to buy this up?” Sales were good and we had a monopoly on price. We had a bottom unloader made by Austin Hoy, a mining machine company, and we also made silos with doors for top unloading. I set up agricultural engineers as agents, with a 20% discount, and eventually we covered all the UK. We attended agricultural shows and advertised in the farming press. Business grew steadily. Some of the agents bought erection equipment from us and put up silos they had sold, but there were still a lot of silos which we had to install. So I recruited Alf Good from Barnsley as erection manager. Alf Good had a lot of experience erecting pit head gear.

I designed our own erection jacks and had these made by an engineering company in Scarborough. After two years we were a large company but running on a shoe-string. I wasn't happy with the facilities on the farm and I had no engineering back-up. We were just using Harvestore technology. I told Ravis we needed to move to Scarborough and recruit a Research and Development team. He promised to consider some premises which I had viewed, and to cut me into the company if he parted with any of the equity. Then Ravis announced he had two partners. One was Bostock, chairman on the Lotus Shoe Company. The other was Dr Simon, chairman of Evode, the company making our sealant. Ravis excused himself by saying no one but he would make any money out of the company! So I wrote to Bostock and Simon giving them the picture of the company as I saw it. All that happened was that Simon sold his shares to Bostock.

Then I found that Ravis had not bought the property in Scarborough. And then there were the winters on the Wolds to contend with. I gave my notice to Ravis. He tried to tempt me to stay, but I knew he was not to be trusted. I had no contract. I was a free man I took off to seek pastures new.

### **Simplex Silos**

My plan was to contact manufacturing agricultural engineering companies. My first call was to Ruston's at St Ives. I knew the MD, Harold Ruston, from attending the same agricultural shows. “Your fame has spread before you”, he said! What he meant was, Ravis had been on the phone advising that I was



“thoroughly unreliable”. Harold explained their position – they were working with a concrete silo manufacturer. They supplied the field machinery and top unloader and were happy where they were in the market. The next stop was Simplex in Sawston, near Cambridge, a subsidiary of General Electric. Bond-Smith, the MD, said he was expecting me. He’d had the same call from Ravis, but this time it backfired. The more Ravis decried me, the better would be my abilities! The MD’s cousin, M. Bond-Smith, who was a non-executive director, had just investigated the silo market and was very enthusiastic about its potential. So I negotiated a salary and commission on sales turnover and a company car. I took a lease on 42 Cambridge Road, Sawston and the family moved down (reluctantly) from High Dale Farm.

Bond-Smith said they had a drawing office, but it only did milking parlours and farmstead layouts. So I had an office, a typist and a drawing board in the drawing office. The first call was to Trico at Keighley, who had been building silos for me before. Yes, they could cope with more work, and with large steel sheet up to 7’ x 3’6”, which would be an advantage. The works had a press brake, so the holes were punched instead of drilled as at Boythorpe, which was more efficient. The roof was metal with the forming done at a GEC plant in London, whereas the Cropstore roof was fibreglass.

I contacted Simplex’s man at Cambridge University Engineering Department. He set up a test of the bolt joint and his post-graduate student wrote up the results. The tests led to us adding more securing bolts in the lower silo rings to cope with the increased loading from wetter UK crops. Simplex had a UK network of agents, and thirty representatives around the country. Some of the reps sold dairy equipment, others grain drying equipment. All were set the task of selling sealed stores. I toured the country working with the reps to start them on an additional and profitable product. I also developed the non-farming applications of the silos, such as dry grain stores. I sold three thousand tons of storage to Morning Foods for their oat store and became friendly with their chairman, Philip Lea, who allowed me to use his installation for sale promotion purposes. I designed some improved erection jacks and had these made by D. McKay in Cambridge - a name still visible today on the hardware store on East Road. I stole Alf Good from Boythorpe and he again looked after the erection teams.

Alf’s largest job at Simplex was erecting silos providing 5000 tons of grain storage at Bremen, which had overhead conveyors coupled up. When I left the idiot who took over from me sacked Alf, saying that his milking machine fitters could do the job! I admired Alf. Simplex also had agents in Europe, so I toured most of Europe helping to sell Sealed Stores. Assentoft Silofabrik of Denmark was the best agent. Carl Nielsen, the MD, would also come to the UK for consultations and social visits. The business settled well.

*Extracts from Henry Brown’s Memoirs by Mark Lewinski*



## VILLAGE GARDENERS

Michael Downes, an arboriculturist, frequently heard on Radio Cambridge, from Garden Works Cambridge, gave us a fascinating talk on ‘Trees—Past, Present and Future’. He said it was a pleasure doing this, as at home, he wasn’t allowed to mention trees!

We have the biggest stock of ancient trees in Europe and a huge mix from all over the world. Those that were here before the Ice Age and survived, those brought by our invaders—the Romans brought Ground Elder—not very friendly and those by the insatiable Victorian collectors, who brought us, amongst others, Giant Redwoods and Maples.

Man’s evolution has relied on trees, for shelter, animal food, weapons and tools, but they haven’t needed us!

Providing the best possible conditions, for tree growth greatly reduces the stress they are under. The right

place, the right soil, well mulched, to give them a healthy root environment and subsequently plenty of water.

He added, that if you have a huge desire to plant Rhododendrons, then the best thing to do is MOVE!

Providing good conditions for plants in the country, is not

difficult, but in towns and cities, can be challenging, where the juxtaposition of trees and buildings can present problems.(See Sidgwick Avenue, with its precipitous pavements and Newnham College, with its drains being slowly choked by tree roots). Plane trees, of course, have been planted in their thousands in cities, because they tolerate anaerobic conditions and current tree planting projects, have shown beyond doubt, that air pollution is reduced and the environment is cooler.

Mixed planting of trees is the ideal- see Anglesey Abbey—so that with the effect of climate change and the increase in plant diseases, mostly brought in on imported material, great swathes of trees, are not all threatened at once. The Chestnut, Ash and Oak, are such trees, Ash Dieback, being the worst, but there are areas where certain species of Ash appear to be immune.

Future planting must take into account the changing climate and extreme temperatures. The Wing Nut, a native of Iran and the Hornbeam, are two that fit the bill.

Michael has been working with Cambridge City Council, for many years,



*Cambridge’s Sidgwick Avenue and its humpy pavements—  
not a lot of room left for pedestrians!*

working on the future planting of trees. His company planted the Mongolian Limes on Queen's Green and is of the opinion that trees in the future, in towns, should be planted with about a twenty year lifespan, then felled and new ones put in their place. Sound economics apparently. He of course supports the certification of imported trees and using home grown ones when ever possible. There is Barchams, down the road, that has trees from a few hundred to £10,000.

Our next meeting is next year—January 15th, when Joe Sharman is coming to talk about Hellebores. All welcome.

Our full programme for 2019, will be in January's Crier.

*Margaret Joyce.*

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### **Garden Team put their skills to the test with new projects**

Did you know we run a commercial Garden Team at The Prospects Trust? Our Co-workers are supported by Garden Team Manager Tom C and horticultural wonder Anna G. The Team do regular Garden Maintenance contracts in an approximate 20 mile radius of Snakehall Farm in both residential and commercial gardens. The aim of the Garden Team is to take our Co-workers (adults with additional needs) off the farm and into the wider community, still focusing on a real work ethos. The skills and experience of the Garden Team reaches beyond grass cutting and light weeding. They have delivered some inspiring landscaping projects and complete transformations, [take a look at their work and even a little video of the Sensory Garden they have created at Highfield Ely Academy](#)



## News from Anglesey Abbey

From 1<sup>st</sup> of December – 6<sup>th</sup> January, join us for the Twelve Trees of Anglesey. Uncover the stories behind Anglesey Abbey and the life lived by its owner, the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Fairhaven. Dis-



cover twelve trees in dotted throughout the House, Gardens and Visitor Centre, each uniquely decorated. In the House, discover trees adorned with decorations to show his love of collecting fine objects from all corners of the world, including books and silver.

Many of the trees around the garden were selected personally by Lord Fairhaven for their beauty, provenance or to commemorate a special occasion. Stumble upon four trees throughout the grounds, decorated to highlight their natural beauty and discover why they were chosen for the gardens of Anglesey Abbey.

Head to the Servants Hall in the House to create your own special decoration, created from natural materials. Hang it proudly on our ‘Celebration Tree’ outside the Visitor Centre to help us create an amazing festive display.

Head into Redwoods restaurant to see a tree decorated to reflect Lord Fairhaven’s love of collecting timepieces and choose from our selection of warming seasonal dishes. Don’t forget to pop into the shop before you leave to pick up a festive gift for a loved one, or take home a decoration to adorn your own tree at home. Our membership team will be offering beautifully packaged gift memberships to purchase for a loved one.

We have now moved to our winter opening times which are as follows:

House: 11.03 – 4.03 (last entry 3.03)

Gardens: 10 – 4.30

Mill: 10.30 – 3.30

Redwoods: 10 – 4.30

Shop and Plant Centre: 10 – 4.30

Over the festive period, the whole property will be closed on the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of December. From January 2019, we’ll be opening the gardens and Redwoods restaurant every day from 9.30am so you can start your day early and make the most of your visit!



## November 2018

At our full council meeting on October 2018 we received a presentation on the police restructuring of the are these are some of the points that came out:-

### **Neighbourhood Policing – April 2018 onward**

Sustainable policing model for the next 3-5 years

- Recognises and responds to changing demands
- Better match of resources to demand
- Deliver a police and crime plan

An example of a month in East Cambs-

- Each month the constabulary on average attend 3102 calls for service
- 98 will relate to domestic abuse
- 111 concern incidents
- 24 will relate to burglary
- 8 sex offences
- 84 missing people

The last month I have been involved in yet more fly tipping incidents. These include such things as vehicle tyres, mattresses, dismantled kitchen units and empty gas bottles. It is a pity that some people are so thoughtless as to spoil our countryside with their disregarded items. They will be prosecuted if caught.

This last month I have attended several council meetings and been involved in various planning matters.

### **New Local Plan**

Should be going to Council in April for adoption. We presently have 3.9 years of housing supply. Should have our quota by April. The new Ely southern by-pass opened on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October. The railway underpass closed on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November. It will be closed for about twelve weeks while it is adapted to take pedestrian and light traffic.

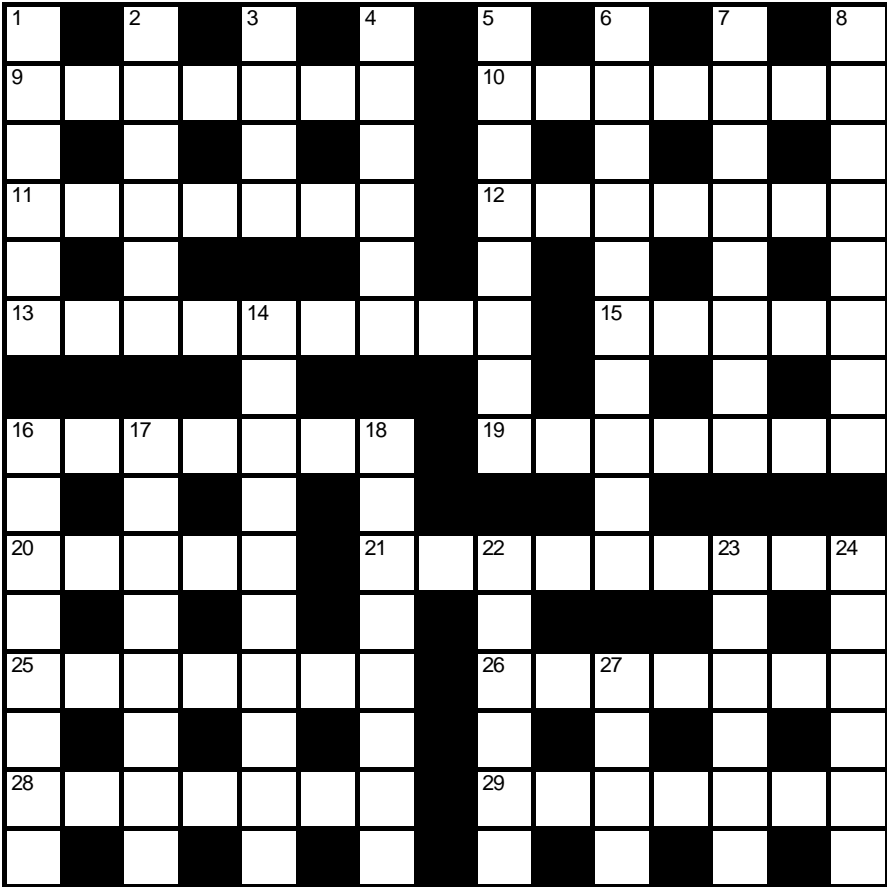


*Allen Alderson*

# Crossword Number 159

Compiled by **BYWELL**

\* clues contain no definition for the time being. Send your answers to the editors by January 1st 2019. 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

- 9 Zombie - not black, strangely - at church in my place (4,3)
- 10 Comes off the line, and redials in a different way (7)
- 11 \* Transmitted beforehand (7)
- 12 \* Managed church absorbed by democratic procedure (7)
- 13 \* Choreographer's final foursome written in simple structures (9)
- 15 Reddish brown epi-centre for South Africa (5)
- 16 Signals the start of summer twice (7)
- 19 Press into jam (7)
- 20 \* Madness, followed by black doll, followed by this in poet's dictionary? (5)
- 21 Adaptation of Bede's 'Troy' for underwater nursery (6,3)
- 25 Take precedence in opposite row (7)
- 26 \* Ladies gathering seed (4,3)
- 28 Dugong swims around, bearing another swimmer (7)
- 29 Admiration applied very evenly in sheltered spot (4,3)

## Down

- 1 He taught Darwin in Tennessee ranges (6)
- 2 Questionable decree to fall back (6)
- 3 Sailors meet without bo'sun (4)
- 4 \* Leading Welshmen to Bury (6)
- 5 I sip soda brewed to make me overweight (8)
- 6 \* Second degree after studies in revolutionary Cuba (5,5)

- 7 \* Starting meal then batting away mushroom, in other words (5,3)
- 8 Stating who we are as we start getting meaner somehow (8)
- 14 Reactor fuel (66% ABV) involved in three-way pile-up (5,5)
- 16 Actor returns mounted after jump start, and game for a night on the tiles? (3-5)
- 17 \* I duel yet, if seen to be in order (8)
- 18 \* Windsock turns out to be in pain (8)
- 22 Waste a lot of time after run up (6)
- 23 Harvest ideal: opening bottle with some potassium permanganate (6)
- 24 \* Active type interrupted by Poles (6)
- 27 \* Retreating in war at sea (4)

## Solution to crossword no. 158

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

We congratulate Martyn & Debbie Clark, the winners of last month's competition, who will receive their prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Andrew Houston, Sue Jackson, Robert Nunn, David Unitt and Trish Whitehead.



## Countdown ...

At the time of writing there are precisely **41** shopping days left 'til Christmas, **22** days 'til we head to South Africa to celebrate Christmas with our family there for the first time, **13** days 'til my wife's birthday and **17** days 'til our 16th Wedding Anniversary.

We do a lot of '*counting down the days*' in life.

Of course it is not wrong to look forward to things, especially spending time with special people, going on holiday & family celebrations; however, if we focus too much on the countdown, we can neglect to appreciate that *every day is a gift (that's why it's called the present!)*.

We are now in the season of Advent, if we are not careful, it is easy to view this season as simply a countdown to Christmas Day (with or without the help of a daily piece of chocolate!), rather than the time of preparation for Jesus' coming that it is. A key belief of Christianity in addition to the belief that Jesus came into the world as a baby, is that Jesus will indeed come again to wrap up things as we know them on earth and usher in a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21).

The life of a Christian is best lived in moment by moment preparation for that time, looking and listening for what God might be doing and saying, and getting involved where possible. Shining light in dark places and situations (Matthew 5.14-16). Being ready to share our hope with others (1 Peter 3.15). Being thankful and focusing on all the right things (Philippians 4.4-9). Striving to be fully present in each moment, living and choosing wisely. The prophet Micah describes God's requirement for His people like this, "*To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with God.*" (Micah 6.8). All these things help us to prepare to be found living right, when Jesus comes again, and we can only be found as such because Jesus came to earth, "*...became flesh and blood and moved into the neighbourhood*", as The Message translation puts it.

My encouragement to you through Advent and Christmastime is, "***Don't just count the days, make the days count.***" Every day is an opportunity to make a positive difference.

You are also, as ever, very welcome to join us at RENEW any time! I pray you'll have a special Advent and a wonderful Christmastime.

***Rev. Alan Brand***

***RENEW Services for Advent and Christmas 2018***

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

services. Everyone is welcome.

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

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Morning Worship. 10.30am With Holy Communion. (Bottisham Primary School)

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. 'Village Praise' 5.30-6.30pm (Lode Chapel)**

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

Followed by shared lunch

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Christmas All-Age Worship. 10.30am (at the School)**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December. 'Carols in the Chapel' 6.30pm (Lode Chapel)**

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. Morning Worship. 10.30am (at the School)

**Christmas Day. 10.30am (at the School)**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December. Morning Worship. 10.30am (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)

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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 813362/07980 423210), email ([junthompson44@gmail.com](mailto:junthompson44@gmail.com)) 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**

Modern men's bicycle (with helmet) requiring a little attention. Ann/David 01223 811620

Small double sofa bed. Good condition. Marilyn/David 01223 811888

Children's cycle helmets: Blue size 53-58cm, Pink size 48-53cm. Amy 07795 975075

Pink and white roller-skates (quads) for child size 8-11. Jun/Andy 01223 813362

### **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. (For an idea of what George is gathering this for – please see <http://georgetrapp.co.uk/georgetraplamps.html>)

## Wicken Fen – Dec 18

We're starting to experience some lovely crisp, frosty mornings here at Wicken Fen, and more of our overwintering birds are starting to return. We've had several reports of **short-eared owls** over on Burwell Fen, so those of you who like to walk in this area may want to take some binoculars with you to see these beautiful birds.

There is a **new West Mere hide** that has recently been installed and is well worth a visit. The hide is in a better position to see more of the mere area, and is elevated to offer a fantastic view. Even if you are not a keen bird watcher, it's a lovely place to stop off on your walk to soak up the peace and tranquillity of the fen.

We've also been fortunate to receive a WREN grant to improve access to our **Woodland Walk**, so work will be taking place during November to install some new boardwalk and special hogging surface to paths. There is a rolling programme of works so there should be very little disruption for visitors.



*The new West Mere Hide  
(photo Julia Hammond)*

By the time you read this article the construction of a **temporary viewing platform** on the edge of the Sedge Fen should be complete. This platform is part of our Resting the Sedge Fen project, and will allow us to rest delicate peat soils in this area, while offering visitors spectacular 360 views. We're hoping to build a permanent structure in due course.

December's festive activity for under 5s is part of our **Father Christmas at the Fen** season: follow a Christmas trail, visit Father Christmas in Fen Cottage and do some festive crafts with our elves. These activities take place on Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 December from 10:30-12:00, and the cost is £10 per child (normal admission applies for accompanying adults, NT members free). Pre-booking is essential for these activities, see <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen-nature-reserve/whats-on>

We're open every day except Christmas Day, so do join us for a festive walk over the Christmas period. You can warm up with a hot drink and a treat in our café afterwards! If you want to get the New Year off to an active start, we're offering our new Wicken Winter Wildlife Safaris on Saturday 12 and Sunday 20 January, from 14:00-15:30. Join one of the rangers on a walk into the reserve, where you will be able to spot winter wildlife, and learn about our grazing herds and how they contribute to the fen landscape. It's the perfect way to explore the wider reserve at Wicken Fen and experience a fen sunset. The walk costs £8 per adult which includes a hot drink.

**Julia Hammond**



*Short-eared owl over Burwell Fen  
(photo Richard Nicoll)*

# Church Services in December

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



## **Sunday 2 December, Advent Sunday**

11am Holy Communion (CW1T)

## **Sunday 9 December, Second Sunday in Advent**

10am Benefice Service Holy Communion – Qu

4pm Advent by Candlelight Concert with Cambridge Voices; £10 in aid of Emmaus

## **Sunday 16 December, Third Sunday in Advent**

11am Christingle and Nativity Family Service

## **Sunday 23 December, Fourth Sunday in Advent**

8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

4.30am Village Carol Service, with school choir

## **Monday 24 December, Christmas Eve**

3pm Crib Service

## **Tuesday 25 December, Christmas Day**

10am Family Holy Communion

## **Sunday 30 December, First Sunday after Christmas - White**

10am Benefice Service - Lode  
Holy Communion

St Mary's, Swaffham Prior is part of the ANGLESEY GROUP OF PARISHES together with: Holy Trinity, Bottisham; St Mary's, Qu; 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; [suethetic@btinternet.com](mailto:suethetic@btinternet.com) and our Curate is Rev'd Professor Gina Radford; [gina.radford@btinternet.com](mailto:gina.radford@btinternet.com)  
[www.angleseygroupparishes.co.uk](http://www.angleseygroupparishes.co.uk) and [www.facebook.com/angleseychurches](http://www.facebook.com/angleseychurches)

For weddings and baptisms please contact: [admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk](mailto:admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk)

Would you like a lift to a service in Swaffham Prior or elsewhere in the Benefice? Please call 07553 151585



# Dates for Your Diary December 2018



Sun	9	3 Hour Bell Peal, St Cyriac's, 10am [7] Advent by Candlelight, 4pm, St Cyriac's [8]
Wed	12	Carol Train, 6.30pm, VH [3]
Sun	16	Christingle, 11am, St Mary's [9]
Sun	23	Village Candlelit Carol Service, 4.30pm, St Mary's [9]
Mon	24	Crib Service, 3pm, St Mary's [9]
Tue	25	CHRISTMAS DAY Family Communion, 10am, St Mary's [9]
Wed	26	Boxing Day Hockey, 10.45am, The Denny, SB [6]
Mon	31	<b>Crier Copy Deadline</b>
Jan	25	Coffee Morning, 10.30am, 44 High St [10]
Sat	26	Faure's Requiem, 7.30, St Mary's Bulbeck

*Numbers in square brackets denote the page number of the article*

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	and 1st Wed of month	8:00pm	Village Hall
				Variable	
Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Tim Doe	01223 861083	Weds (term)	6:00-7:30pm	Village School
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