



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XLVI Number 7

July 2022



Editorial

The Jubilee Picnic was a great success (see Letters and our Centre Spread) and many congratulations are due to Jenny Brand ably assisted by April Cook (we think! we had Covid and couldn't come) for brilliantly organising it in the absence of the huge Committees other villages seem to have drummed up. Everybody enjoyed it so much and this month Dee Noyes (see her letter) is asking for volunteers to help organise many more “getting together” events, crucial to which is the reopening of the Red Lion (where such committees traditionally need to have a great many meetings). We spent a very pleasant evening there this week—it's just great to have it back!

Alas, the Jubilee Bells weekend had to be called off because of Covid, but they did manage a party on the Friday night where the star event of the evening was the re-showing of Ron Prime's movie about the re-hanging of the bells and incidentally also includes a great many villages characters 30 years younger than they are now — of course, they've hardly changed a bit!. With Betty's permission, John would like to organise a village showing.

Meanwhile, the new village hall committee have hit the ground running and preparations are well underway for the September's returning Autumn Show — see their



Organisers April and Jenny at the Jubilee Do

entry form

on p 10. The event also includes a Dog Show, but we're not sure the categories are quite right for our dog since they don't include fastest time to Bulbeck and back plus two laps round the village—which we suspect is what would happen as soon as we let her off her lead!

Don't forget to join up for A Year of Quizzing (see p 24) and next month's Crier is the combined edition Aug-Sep edition (copy date **20th July**) — see you at the the Strawberry Teas!

Caroline Matheson

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Cover Picture: A view towards Reach from Barston Drove,
oil painting by **Karen Fisher**



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors

Open Swaffham Prior 2023

It feels as if the village is rather atomised after two years of Covid restrictions, roadwork upheaval, the pub closing etc... is it time to capitalise on the brilliant Jubilee celebration and other returning events and really revive community spirit with a series of happenings in 2023? We could perhaps look to have something each month under the umbrella of: *Open Swaffham Prior 2023* (or something punchier!)

Brainstorming, and chatting with others, possibilities could include:

Open studios

History walks: (beer-less!) pub crawl of buildings in the village where there used to be pubs; tour of other historic building of interest in the village

Nature walks: wildflowers, butterflies, birds, grasses etc

Heating Scheme site

Windmill tour – or possibly a tour of two windmills?!

Geology walks

Doggy socialisation stroll

Open gardens

Sale trail

History of the churches

Visit to Scout HQ and field

School open day

Bell-ringing open event

Litter picks

Village etc organisations information sessions.....and so on

Of course, many of these could work alongside teashops, existing church, village hall and school events and other regular features of village life; the aim would not be to take away from those events but enhance them by building them into a bigger programme.

This will all take some organising! Would anyone interested in being involved like to meet, in person or online, sometime in early September to talk it through? I am sure we have a range of skills, expertise, time and interests in the village which could coalesce into a brilliant programme of events. Please email me on dee@noyes-noyes.co.uk, or call 01638 743864 if you would like to be involved, or have ideas to share.

Another thought arising in discussion is for local reps to put up posters in their area, rather than individuals from church, village hall, garden club, school etc having to trudge through the whole village – which is time-consuming. Would you like to be your street's rep? Posters could be sent by email for you to print out (or could be delivered) to be pinned up on nearby telegraph poles/noticeboards. Advertising via Facebook alone does not work, so a multi-pronged approach – including the Crier! - is worth a try.

Many thanks,

Dee Noyes

Dear Editors,

Jubilee Weekend

What a super Jubilee Weekend we had, from the History of the Church Bells on Friday to the Picnic on Sunday, to the meeting of old friends to the chatting to new. Many, many thanks to the organisers of both events. After several years of 'Quiet' it really seemed as though Swaffham Prior had come alive again !!

Betty Prime

PS - Many thanks too to my 'Pushers'

Dear Editors,

Hedges on Footpaths

It's that time of year again! The PC politely requests that anyone whose property includes or edges a public footpath, make sure that the path is clear and any vegetation cut back. With thanks in advance

Jude Griffiths - on behalf of Swaffham Prior Parish Council.

Cambridge Open Studios 2022

Four Weekends 2nd -24th July

During the first four weekends of July hundreds of artists throughout Cambridgeshire will be opening their studios to visitors as part of the annual Open Studios event. This is a great opportunity to meet the artist, see their work and perhaps buy or commission an artwork directly. Keeping with tradition, all studios display cheerful yellow flags during opening hours.

What's on in Swaffham Prior?

This year artists from Swaffham Prior will be exhibiting from 10am - 5 pm in the village hall and at 6 Foster Lane during weekends 2 and 3 (16/17 and 23/24 July). Art on display is all original work and will include oil paintings, watercolours, acrylics, drawings, prints, ceramics, mixed media creations and a wide range of textiles. Tea, coffee & homemade cakes will be for sale at the village hall on both weekends.

Everyone welcome at both venues. No need to book, just call in ! No entry charge.

Burwell & Swaffham Prior Art Trail - Explore & Enjoy!

This year, for the first time, local artists have created an Art Trail for Burwell & Swaffham Prior. This has a map to help you locate the studios plus a few details of each artist's work. Why not make a day of it and discover some of our wonderful local artists!

Look out for posters and flyers around the village or visit www.cambridgeopenstudios.co.uk to find out more. There's a helpful app to download.

Celia Tyler

From our Reporter

On May 30th the *Times* published a piece on the Smock Tower Mill being restored. The owner is James Forsyth, a former boat builder, who has taken it on as a retirement project. The sails will be put on by the end of August. He hopes it will be working next year feeding a generator on the top floor providing all his electricity with the excess being sold to Octopus. When complete Swaffham Prior will be “the only British village with two working windmills.” (In four or five years time Swaffham Prior may also be unique in Cambridgeshire for another reason).



It was a colourful newspaper article and such very good news. But then the June *Crier* came out with Jude's Notes from the PC May Meeting. In considering the Mill's planning application it seems that the “normal procedure for planning applications has not been followed for some surrounding work.” There were a number of serious objections. Let's hope it is all happily and successfully resolved.

We must all be grateful to Mark Lewinsky for his lucid and revealing tribute to the Heating Scheme in last month's *Crier*. He reminded us that the bore hole pipes go down 600 feet/200 yards (we are going Imperial). Crikey, that is some great engineering. Mark also made other interesting and very astute observations.

But there is increased confusion about the number of people signed up for the scheme. In May, as reported in the *Crier*, David Greenfield said that “122 dwellings have signed up with 27 more still to be processed.” The 30th May *Times* article mentioned above reported “The County Council has said that 68 out of about 300 houses ... have registered for the scheme.” The Liberal Democrats June *Focus* reports “68 signed agreements are now in place . . . Furthermore the local Housing Associations are fully supporting their tenants who are interested in signing up to the heat network, adding potentially a further fifty homes (46 Sanctuary Homes and 4 Cambridge Housing Society homes) to the total to date.” What is the true figure?

At the moment there are so many government proposed policy changes that it is very difficult to focus on one without another, and another, and yet another, being piled on top. But there is one which would particularly affect Swaffham Prior. This is Johnson's proposal that people renting from housing associations should have the right to buy their homes at 70% discount. This would threaten all the hard work which Emma and her colleagues have put in, as well as Sanctuary Homes and Hereward Housing. It could be a real set back for the village. Also it would not solve the enormous house building shortage. Just another thing to get us all excited, and possibly bewildered and distracted?

In the not too distant past males were lambasted for being aggressive, opinionated, uncompromising, pig headed, especially politicians. If only women ran the country was not an unknown cry. And maybe this is correct. Perhaps an experiment would be to put Pitti Patel, Nadine Dorries and Liz Truss in one room, together with Emily Thornby, Angela Rayner and Yvette Cooper. Then lock them in until they come up with a solution for some of the present disharmony in the country, A video recording of the meeting would not be released for ten years. Dorries's favourite Netflix may possibly pay a fortune for it.

Alastair Everitt

The Friends of St. Cyriac & St. Julitta



**St. Cyriac & St. Julitta Church,
High Street, Swaffham Prior, CB25 0LD**

An Evening

with

Charlie Haylock

Thursday 21st July 2022,

7.30pm

Doors open at 7pm

**New Talk about how Charlie was the dialect coach for
Ralph Fiennes in the Netflix film The Dig.**



Best selling author of **Sloightly on th' Huh!** and **A Rum Owd Dew!**

Tickets £10

Tickets are available on the door or in advance from sharyn.robinson@btinternet.com

Wine and Refreshments for sale from 7pm and during the interval

For more information please call 07740 171917

Julie's Recipes for June Wimbledon specials

Strawberries and cream cake

175g caster sugar
175g margarine
3 eggs
175g self raising flour
1tsp bicarbonate of soda
1tsp of baking powder
1tsp of white vinegar
1 punnet of strawberries
300ml whipping cream
75g icing sugar

1. Cream the sugar and margarine together until smooth, then one at a time add in the eggs. Gradually fold in the flour until blended well.
2. In a small cup combine the baking powder, bicarbonate of soda and white vinegar so that it fizzes and then pour into the mixture,
3. Split the mixture into 2 sandwich tins and bake at 130c for 30 – 35 mins until golden .
4. Allow the cakes to cool and remove from tins, once cooled, whip the cream until it holds its shape.
5. On each cake spread the cream so some is in the middle and the rest on top. Slice the strawberries and layer inside and on the top. Finally dust with icing sugar.

Strawberry lemonade

450g ripe strawberries, plus extra to serve
5 unwaxed lemons
350g caster sugar
1 litre sparkling water
Ice
Sliced lemon
Fresh mint leaves

1. Hull the fruit and thinly slice into a bowl, add the juice of 1 lemon and 100g of the sugar and cover, leave at room temperature overnight to allow the sugar and lemon juice to draw the juice from the berries.
2. The next day, strain the strawberry juice into a bowl through a fine sieve.
3. Tip the remaining sugar into a pan, add 500ml water and pared rind of 4 lemons. Slowly bring to the boil over a medium heat until the sugar has dissolved and it

becomes syrupy. Remove from heat and leave to cool.

4.Squeeze the juice from the pared lemon slices and set aside.

5.Strain the lemon juice syrup into the strawberry juice, and lemon juice and stir.

Pour into a large serving jug, add the sparkling water to taste and serve with ice ,slices of lemon, sliced fresh strawberries and mint leaves.

Serves 6

Newmarket Community Cinema

The Newmarket Community Cinema show a film on two evenings every month at The Stable in the High Street.

The doors open at 6.45pm with the film starting at 7.30pm.

The next three films are

July 17th and 18th

The King and I (U)

The Oscar winning musical film released in 1956

August 21st and 22nd

All Is True (12A)

A look at the final days of playwright William Shakespeare

September 18th and 19th

The Duke (12A)

In 1961 Kempton Bunton steals Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington from the National Gallery

For further information and to reserve seats please call either 01638 666810

BON MOT NUMBER 130

“This was one of those pieces of good luck which ought always to be remembered to set against an equal amount of bad luck when it comes along, as come it must.”

Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)



SWAFFHAM PRIOR **AUTUMN SHOW**

COMPETITIONS

PRODUCE ~ BAKING ~ PHOTOGRAPHY

CHILDREN'S CREATIVE

SCARECROWS

DOG SHOW
CREAM TEAS



SATURDAY
10 SEPTEMBER

SWAFFHAM PRIOR VILLAGE HALL

FREE ENTRY



Strawberry Teas In St Cyriac's

**Sunday 17 July
3-5pm**

Orders and payment in advance please
£5.50 adult/£3 children
Janet: 07833 960078

Dee: Admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk

In aid of St Mary's, Swaffham Prior

At last we can meet again in person for
our popular Strawberry Teas.

Please book - numbers limited!





10th September 2022

NAME:

Vegetables (one entry per class per person)

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|-------------------|------|
| A | 4 French beans | |
| B | 4 Runner beans | |
| C | 3 Beetroot | |
| D | 3 Onions | |
| E | 4 Shallots | |
| F | 3 Carrots | |
| G | 3 Potatoes | |
| H | 6 Cherry tomatoes | |

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|--|------|
| I | 4 Tomatoes | |
| J | 3 Courgettes | |
| K | Squash or Marrow | |
| L | Cucumber | |
| M | Any other vegetable | |
| N | Odd and/or Rude vegetable | |
| O | Display of mixed herbs | |
| P | Trug of mixed fresh produce (vegetables and fruit) | |

Fruit (one entry per class per person)

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|------------------|------|
| Q | 3 Dessert apples | |
| R | 3 Cooking apples | |
| S | 3 Pears | |

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|-----------------------------|------|
| T | 3 Plums | |
| U | 6 Soft fruit (same variety) | |
| V | Any other fruit | |

Flowers (one entry per class per person)

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|--------------------------------|------|
| W | 3 roses | |
| X | 3 Other flowers (same variety) | |
| Y | 4 Mixed flowers | |
| Z | Sunflower | |

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|---------------------------------|------|
| AA | 3 Dahlias (same or mixed) | |
| AB | Flower arrangement (See rule 1) | |
| AC | Mini arrangement (See rule 2) | |
| AD | Pot plant (See rule 3) | |

Additional classes (one entry per class per person)

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|----------------------------------|------|
| AE | Jam or jelly | |
| AF | Pickle or chutney | |
| AG | Marmalade | |
| AH | Any other preserve or honey | |
| AI | Homemade wine or alcoholic drink | |
| AJ | 4 eggs | |

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|-----------------------------------|------|
| AK | Victoria sponge (W.I. See rule 4) | |
| AL | Fruit cake | |
| AM | Decorated and/or filled cake | |
| AN | Any other cake | |
| AO | Hand-made bread | |
| AP | Bread-machine bread | |

Children's classes (one entry per class per person)

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|-------------------------------|------|
| AQ | Miniature garden (See rule 5) | |
| AR | Vegetable or fruit animal | |

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|-------------------------|------|
| AS | 3 Decorated cupcakes | |
| AT | Junk Model (See rule 6) | |

Photography (up to three entries per person)

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|---|------|
| AU | "My family and other animals" (aged up to 16 years) | |

| Class | Entry | Tick |
|-------|---|------|
| AV | "Dusk till Dawn" (aged 16 years & over) | |

Please see all detailed rules overleaf

Swaffham Prior Autumn Show Rules

General Information and Rules

Please read this information carefully to prevent disappointment

All competitions are open to residents of Swaffham Prior and Reach. There is no entry fee.

Only one entry per person per class is allowed, so choose your entries carefully. Extra entry and quiz forms can be downloaded at www.SwaffhamPriorVillagehall.co.uk

All entries (including quizzes) should be brought to the Village hall between **10:00 and 11:50** on the morning of the show. **Doors will be locked at 12:00** to allow judging.

Points will be awarded to decide on the winner of the overall prize as follows:

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| 4 for 1st in Class | 3 for 2nd or 100% in Quiz | 2 for 3rd or 75% in Quiz | 1 for Entry or Quiz entry |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|

Prizes will be awarded by **14:00**. The **Grand Auction** of produce in aid of the Village Hall will be at **15:00**. (If you don't want your entry to be sold, please remove it before the auction starts!)
Presentation of Gurning Trophy.

Produce Competition

All produce must have been home-grown. There are no specific display rules, but, in addition to quality and size, entries will also be judged on regularity and neatness.

1. The flower arrangement theme is **"Enchanted Wood"**. Entries should not exceed **45 cm (18")** tall.
2. The miniature arrangement should not exceed **6 cm (<2½")** in height.
3. The Pot plant should have been owned for at least 12 months.

Baking Competitions

4. Victoria sponge W.I. recipe (<https://www.thewi.org.uk/what-we-do/recipes/baking/victoria-sandwich>). A 20 cm (8") basic Victoria sponge with a raspberry jam filling (no cream), topped with caster sugar.

Bread can be made with any combination of flours and other ingredients. Hand-made bread should not have been mixed in a bread machine.

Children's Competitions

5. The miniature garden should be no larger than an A4 sheet of paper (approx. 20 x 30 cm).
6. The junk model can be any subject, but must be made mainly from waste items (egg boxes, yogurt pots, etc.). The footprint for the model should be no larger than an A4 sheet of paper.

Photography Competition

Theme and age groups as indicated on form. (No 'adult' themed photos will be accepted). Only one entry per person allowed. Photos will not be auctioned and should be removed immediately after the end of the event.

Entries may be colour or black and white and must be **unmounted and unframed**.

Maximum size per entry is A4. Photo entries will be pinned to the noticeboard for display.

If photos are significantly edited, please explain this on your entry form.

It is the entrant's responsibility to ensure that all the necessary permissions are obtained from people featured in photographs.

Copyright remains with the photographer.

Please see overleaf for list of classes.

East Anglian Air Ambulance

News travels fast! A big Thank You to those who have already made contact to enquire the precise whereabouts of the new EAAA Clothes Bank in the car park at Bottisham Community Sports and Social Club and, more importantly, to those who have already ‘made deposits’. If you have a potential site in your village or area, please do let us know

On another front, foreign coins, and even old British currency, have a value to us – please take your coins to a branch of NatWest Bank – special collection boxes exist in Cambridge and Newmarket branches.

We are extremely pleased, and proud, to announce that our former CEO, Patrick Peel, has been made a Member of the British Empire (MBE) in recognition of his services to air ambulance services over the past 21 years – in particular to EAAA which he helped found and grow into a fully-fledged helicopter emergency service. He also helped spearhead the creation of Air Ambulance UK, a charity representing all 21 air ambulance organisations across the country. Congratulations Patrick.

Now well in to 2022, EAAA continues to progress in terms of the scope of services available to the people in the Region but perhaps a moment or two reflecting upon last year would remind us of these services.

2021 was a ‘milestone’ year for the charity. At the forefront of pre-hospital emergency care, EAAA continues its sizeable mission to provide exceptional levels of support for each patient, both pre-hospital and through aftercare. In April, our crews made the move to the new Norwich HQ, Helimed House. Funded through generous gifts in wills, the £7m development allowed the realisation of plans to improve welfare, rest facilities and, importantly, training. In July, following an urgent fundraising appeal, we started carrying blood on board every mission, providing blood transfusions as an important and core part of our life-saving service. On 30th June, we became the first air ambulance in the East of England to fly ‘round-the-clock’ thereby extending our 24/7 cover by rapid response vehicle to 24/7 cover by air and road across the region.

2021 statistics

Patients Treated 1,754, Helicopter Taskings 1,467, Rapid Response Vehicle Taskings 1,122 and, since launch, well over 33,500 life-saving missions with over 100,000 patients and their loved ones benefitting. What a workload!

Looking ahead, EAAA is working on a refreshed five-year strategy looking specifically at how to provide the best possible service for our patients, funded in the most sustainable and cost effective way. Part of this strategy also involves continuing to develop our work around prevention, such as our community CPR training programme. Hopefully, more on future plans later in the year.

To continue this level of service we need to raise £15m each year so we need lots more fundraising support – young and not-so-young ! If you would like to know more about how **you** might help, please go to www.eaaa.org.uk for ideas and information – Volunteering takes many forms. **You** really could make a difference.

And again, to all who support EAAA in any way, a HUGE thank you – please keep it up – its working. **‘Together we save lives’.**

Michael White

The Reading Group Reads... Private Peaceful

By Michael Morpurgo

After the complexities of last month's book, our choice this month- Private Peaceful - is a simple tale, cleverly told but with a very powerful message. Michael Morpurgo wrote it for children, having visited a cemetery and war museum near Ypres, where he'd seen a letter from an officer, to the parents of a soldier, who'd been shot for cowardice. Something quite clearly, he said, that would have destroyed them.

It is the story of the Peaceful family, living in rural Devon, before and during World War One. A clearly loved father, who's just been killed by a falling tree (he'd been a forester) and witnessed by Tommo. Mrs Peaceful, the wonderfully strong and compassionate mother, who keeps the family together against all odds. Big Joe, tragically brain damaged as a baby, lovable, loyal, but quite a liability at times. Charlie, the hero, brave, kind and outspoken, which sometimes puts the family's welfare in jeopardy. Tommo, the youngest, who adores his big brother, often feels inferior to him, is jealous of his love for Molly and sadly through his life has felt terrible guilt about his father's death.

Then dear, sweet Molly, who helps Tommo tie his shoe laces on his first day at school and who becomes part of the family.

Tommo is the narrator and during the night preceding Charlie's death, he tells the family story. 'I want to remember everything.' Life in Devon is hard, bordering on poverty at times, but they are able to keep their tied cottage, they have local employment and are a loving close knit family. They have the wonderful diversion of poaching, but have a mean minded, heartless colonel- the local squire, who employs many on the estate, but who certainly doesn't make life easy. Molly is taken into the family, when she becomes pregnant and marries Charlie- considered by a miserable aunt, to be a 'marriage of shame'.

Soon after the outbreak of war, both brothers sign up- Tommo is underage and their lives and that of all the Peacefuls, changes for ever. The boys lives are engulfed by the horrors of war, whilst those at home don't know, are never told the awful truth.

The boys and their pals, experience the inhumanity, futility and barbarity of war, compounded by 'Horrible Handley', an unbelievably cruel sergeant, who's job, it seems, is to make their already miserable lives, more miserable and is responsible for Charlie's death sentence. He had refused to go over the top, to certain death and leave his wounded brother- Tommo, alone.

The end is stark, but very moving-encompassing the heroism, the grief and the tragic injustice of war.



Margaret Joyce



**All the Fun of
Swaffham Prior's
2022 Platinum
Jubilee Picnic!**





Photos by Peter Rand

The Swaffhams' WI

In June members and some partners met in Hilary's beautiful garden to enjoy a bring and share supper on a jubilee theme and relax on what turned out to be perfect summer evening weather.

In July we are back in the village hall on the 18th at 7.30 when Annie Brown will give a demonstration of needle felting, followed as usual by refreshments and social time.

If you are feeling isolated after the long restrictions of COVID why not come along. Visitors always receive a warm welcome and non members are only charged £3.50.

Pat Cook



Mothers' Union

Wendy Lovell made a very welcome return visit, as our guest speaker, on 19 May. The topic being 'Coping during the Pandemic', which Wendy presented in her usual very entertaining and honymous way.

Just before the first Covid lockdown, the vicar retired at the church which Wendy attends in Northamptonshire. This left Wendy and five other 'elders' to hold the fort. Like everyone else they were completely thrown as to what to do when lockdown came into force. The church is very well supported and has numerous clubs, activities and events held every week. Keeping everyone informed was a priority, and of course not everyone was accustomed to using Zoom or didn't have the facility available to them. The need to

keep everyone informed had to be met and it was decided to split the congregation between each of the five elders. Each one being responsible to telephone around and check that everyone in their group was well and not forgotten. As they have a lot of space in their building it was possible to reinstate the food bank, and coffee mornings making sure everyone was hand sanitised, wearing a mask and kept 2 metres apart.

At Christmas 2020 they managed to cook a complete Christmas dinner and deliver it boxed up as they had done for the luncheon club that usually met once a month.

The thriving Boys and Girls Brigade managed to do lots of activities over Zoom, including giving out bags for them to make Christingles. As they couldn't go to camp the older boys were given a tent to put up at home and did activities over Zoom.

After having to deal with all the risk assessments and other obstacles, Wendy and her colleagues did a wonderful job negotiating their way through the pandemic restrictions.

Our meetings usual take place on the third Thursday of the month, at 2.30pm in Lode Church. Our programme for the second half of the year, begins on 21st July with guest speaker Stuart Field 'From a mining village to Buckingham Palace – a medical journey', and in August we will be holding our Summer Tea. You are always most welcome to come and join us.

Ann Langran

News extra from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group

Hayfever: The practice has been receiving an increasing number of calls regarding hayfever. Symptoms can include sneezing, runny nose, watery eyes and itchy throat. Things you can do to help ease symptoms include:

- Putting Vaseline around our nostrils to trap pollen
- Wear wraparound sunglasses to stop pollen getting into your eyes
- Shower and change your clothes after you have been outside
- Stay indoors whenever possible
- Keep windows and doors shut
- Vacuum regularly and dust with a damp cloth
- Buy a pollen filter for the air vents in your car

If you feel you need treatment please speak with your local pharmacist who can provide advice on managing your symptoms and can recommend treatment such as antihistamine drops, tablets or nasal sprays, all of which can be bought over the counter.

District Council lays out plans for waste improvements

East Cambridgeshire District Council has apologised to residents and is assuring them measures have been put in place to address the issues relating to missed waste collections.

A national shortage of HGV drivers combined with unforeseen staff absences has meant there has been a recent increase in the number of missed collections.

Last week, East Cambs Street Scene (ECSS), which is employed by the Council to provide waste services, was unable to collect a number of rounds despite crews and their management teams working overtime to catch up.

New measures put in place have meant this week has begun more positively with all rounds on the road.

A new driver started work on Monday, an existing driver is now back from long-term sick-leave and following internal training another is expected to be on the road within days after successfully passing his HGV licence.

This is in addition to employing a Cambridge-based recycling company with immediate effect to pick up any missed collections and assist where necessary.

Anna Bailey, leader of East Cambridgeshire District Council, said: “Through our contract with ECSS we have always prided ourselves on providing a first-class service to residents. Recently unforeseen staff absences mean we have dramatically fallen short of this, and I would like to extend my sincere apologies to residents.

“This is not just an issue affecting East Cambridgeshire, other councils are experiencing similar issues.

“Recent bank holidays have also meant we have been playing catch-up because, while our staff have been happy to work, they have been unable to unload the recycling and refuse trucks at waste management sites.

“I would like to assure residents we are putting in place practical measures to not only address the issue of missed bin collections but also provide greater resilience in the future.”

Other measures being put in place include:

- Actively recruiting new drivers and offering HGV training to existing staff members
- Exploring the use of new in-cab technology to assist crews in completing their rounds

Anna added: “We very much appreciate this situation is not ideal and would like to thank residents again for their patience. Your support during this difficult time is extremely valued and appreciated.”

Many residents have contacted us to complain about waste not being collected on the advertised dates. As we write, many of us still have our Blue Bins out awaiting collection from last week, and our black bags were out for several days before being collected. We would like to thank the waste collection crews for working significant overtime in an attempt to catch up. They worked across the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend and last weekend, for example. Residents can get up-to-date information on disruptions at - [Waste Service Disruptions | East Cambridgeshire District Council \(eastcambs.gov.uk\)](http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/waste-service-disruptions).



At the Operational Services Committee on 13 June, John was assured that the problems are over, and that the previous excellent service will be resuming. There will be some catch up over missed collections. It was reported at the meeting that they had brought in additional contracted recycling collection to assist with the catch-up and that they have a new HGV driver. For the longer term, they are recruiting further HGV drivers, looking at in-cab technology to help with the rounds and working with the unions to support staff. This covers many of the measures suggested by us and colleagues, which is welcome. In addition we would like to see additional management support; a staff survey; reviewing HGV driver pay, as it is well below local HGV roles which are being advertised; and a review of the service to build in more resilience. Waste collection is a service which we all rely on and we will continue to press for the changes needed to provide a sustainable and reliable service.

At the Annual Meeting of the Council in May, the representation on the committees was confirmed, and both of us are on the same committees as last year:

Charlotte: Audit Committee, Ethical Guidance

John Trapp: Finance & Assets, Operational Services, Planning

We are also substitutes on other committees.

Alan Sharp continues as the Chair of Council and Anna Bailey continues as Leader of the Council.

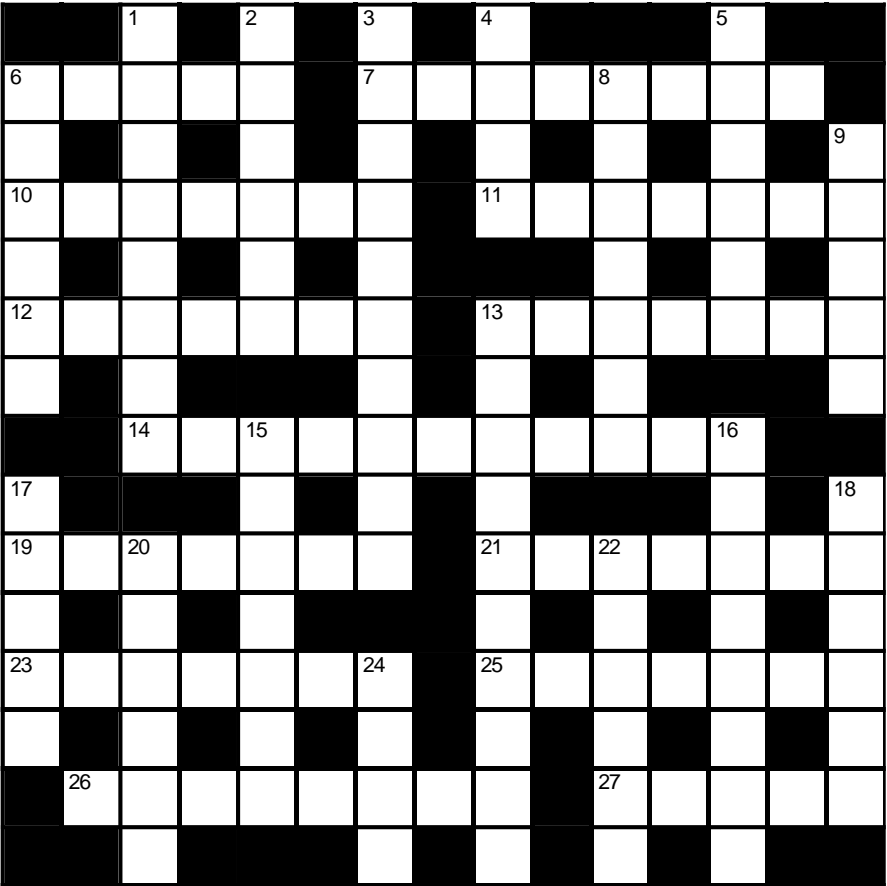
Our next Councillor's surgery is on Thursday 21 July at 6.30pm at the Pavilion on the Denny at Swaffham Bulbeck, and at the Black Horse in Swaffham Bulbeck at 7.30pm. There will not be a surgery in August, but we are always happy to be contacted if you want to raise anything with us.

We hope you have a good summer and that the weather is kind to us all.

Crossword Number 197

Compiled by **BYWELL**

Clues marked * contain no definition, but their solutions are widely recommended. Send your answers to the editors by 18th July 2022. The sender of the first correct solution out of the hat will be awarded a *Winner's Certificate*. Emailed solutions are acceptable but please include "CROSSWORD" and the crossword number in the header.



| |
|----------------|
| Name:..... |
| Address:..... |
|Tel:..... |

Across

- 6 Cat's leap, if not quietly (5)
 7 Prepare eel in egg for a light dressing (8)
 10 * Bravo! CAD offering accommodation (7)
 11 A tinier, peculiar lack of response (7)
 12 The kind of school where middle-age sheep go back-to-back? (7)
 13 Spending a penny in the middle beat (7)
 14 * Mismanage or manage pet? (11)
 19 Worried horse in the river comes to a bad end (7)
 21 For example, Boris possibly ain't one (7)
 23 Stroke maybe, or rider commonly heard (7)
 25 Last month in therapy, raising plants (7)
 26 * Ordinary housing for worker (8)
 27 * Somewhat reshape a chromosome (5)

Down

- 1 Drop cane carelessly into stony part of fruit (8)
 2 Malbec brewed to get rid of wind (6)
 3 Lost temper after restoration of ounce recommended (10)
 4 * Not so attractive before queen leaves (4)
 5 * Intelligence mostly unnatural (6)
 6 * Whence came William (6)
 8 Cooling fluid as a novel idea etc. (4,3)
 9 Rebuilt Clay Cross holds floral display (5)

- 13 Brilliant surgery with the smell of beer (10)
 15 Deliverer's hearty quick march near city centre (7)
 16 German climber in emotional plea for pain-killer (8)
 17 * Beethoven's Ninth under active moon (5)
 18 Involve horsemen in a riot after taking their gold (6)
 20 Distort beginning of roof in end of roof (6)
 22 Lop six variegated primroses (6)
 24 Close to miserly (4)

Solution to crossword no. 196

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

We congratulate Sue Jackson, the winner of last month's competition, who will receive her prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Robert & Julie Nunn and Dainin O'Dowd.

Notes from the Swaffham Prior Parish Council meeting

Cllr Covill chaired the June meeting of the Swaffham Prior Parish Council, attended by 4 Parish Councillors and 6 members of the public.

Public participation for items on the agenda

A member of the public requested that emails listed on the agenda be made available where appropriate. Cllr Kent-Phillips to add a monthly email section to the website.

To hear from the Swaffham Prior and Reach Scouts, Cubs and Beavers groups, requesting PC support for a grant application to fund work on the Scout hut

Mr Neil Winkcup spoke on behalf of the Swaffham Prior and Reach Scouts, Cubs and Beavers leaders and as part of the Executive Committee. He explained that since taking over the Scout Hut on Town Close, the Scouts had put in power, toilets, new windows and doors, making it usable, and were now looking at insulation and cladding to keep it usable for the future. For this, funding will be needed via an application for S106 money from central funds held by East Cambs.

After discussion, the PC agreed unanimously to support the Scout's application through a letter of support.

Reports

Although Cllr Cane of East Cambs District Council, was unable to attend the meeting, she noted by email that bins had not been collected in several parishes due to a shortage of drivers through illness and that refuse should be left out until it is collected.

Matters arising from previous minutes (for information only)

Cllr Greenfield confirmed that the road closure near the church would take place between 1st and 21st August 2022 and that the stretch of pipework on Lower End had been left until last while extensive vibration analysis was carried out to a satisfactory conclusion. Cllr Hart noted that there was a 2m stretch of tarmac still to be replaced and Cllr Greenfield agreed to check that it had not been overlooked.

Correspondence

A letter of invitation for a tour of the Houses of Parliament from Lucy Frazer MP was read out. To be discussed at the July meeting.

Consideration of planning applications received.

22/00658/LBC and 22/00657/FUL Convert current double garage to annex

The Smock Tower Mill, Mill Hill, Swaffham Prior, Cambridge CB25 0JZ

No objections or comments were made.

To agree a response to East Cambs District Council Proposed Submission Single Issue Review Local Plan public consultation.

DG outlined the background of the review and that there were two aspects for the PC to consider; the sustainability appraisal covering many areas and completed in December 2020, and a number of specific changes to the Local Plan. In both cases, responses were given to specific questions on forms provided. The PC supported all of the relevant changes under review.

To hear further feedback regarding replacement of play equipment in the playground

The Clerk had measured the space available, which showed that the equipment under consideration was too big to fit. It was agreed that the Clerk contact several

play equipment companies for quotes and designs for the space available.

Clerk's Report

The condemned play equipment had been dismantled and cleared away from the playground.

A parishioner had suggested that signs reminding people of the fines that can be issued for dog fouling could be displayed in the village. Cllr Kent-Phillips asked who issues such fines? Clerk to check.

Footpaths are becoming overgrown again – it was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Crier asking people to trim back vegetation along public footpaths.

Clerk to undertake 'Eyes and Ears' training – how to respond and where to send people with concerns regarding e.g. domestic violence, homophobia, racism, concerns regarding a vulnerable person etc.

Parish Councillors' Reports

Cllr Kent-Phillips reported that the Jubilee Picnic had had to move into St Cyriac's due to rain. Cllr Greenfield noted that this may increase the cost of the event due to the need to rent the church.

Open Question Time

A member of the public noted that the street light on Cage Hill was still permanently on. It was noted that this light does not belong to the PC.

If anyone would like any further information on any of the above items, please contact the Clerk.

The next monthly Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday, 14th July 2022 starting at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. All are welcome to attend.

*Jude
Griffiths*



**Egg
throwing
at the
Jubilee
Picnic**

FREECYCLE



Everything is free and nothing is expected in return.

If you have any offers or wants, please contact me by the 14th of each month by phone (01223 813362/07980 423210), e-mail (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.

Offers

None!

Wanted:

Card playing table, David 01223 811620 (Jun note: my error – this should have been in the ‘Wanted’ section last month)

A YEAR OF
QUIZZING!
SEPTEMBER 2022-
AUGUST 2023

One pay
Each month
Work out
monthl
An
Will

Please e

News extra from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group

There is little to report this month as we have not been able to meet for various reasons.

The Patient Participation Group: As usual we are looking for new members to join the committee, all patients of this Practice are eligible. Please contact our chairman as below to find out more information and how you can be involved

Regular Meetings: Although the future dates are currently under discussion and maybe will return to 6pm and on Thursdays as we used to do before the pandemic. However we will be continuing on Zoom for the time being. So the next meeting is *due to be on Thursday 28 July 2022 at 6pm*, but this could be subject to change. If you wish to join our Zoom meeting then please email our chairman at s.j.gilson@btinternet.com who will confirm the meeting date and time and send you an invitation..

Bottisham Medical Practice Patients Participation Group

ment of £12 will bring you a year of fiendish quizzes.
h you will receive a quiz by email (or delivered by hand).
t the answers, return your entry by the deadline and a
y winner will be drawn from the correct submissions.
n overall winner will be crowned in August 2023.
you be Swaffham Prior's Champion of Champions?

mail: dee@noyes-noyes.co.uk for sign-up information.

In aid of St Mary's, Swaffham Prior

The Mara Link, Tanzania Bunda Girls Secondary School



Progress Report

Back in 2013 a group of us watched the Bishop marking out the area for the new school in an empty field. Now it has 234 girls and 22 staff - and we in the Anglesey villages have been privileged to share in its growth, especially helping to build and equip the science lab. All 59 pupils who took the last National Form IV exams passed. We are now helping to renovate their water supply and support one of their pupils.

Latest Need: Books!

They have a Library room but very few books. They need 50 copies of each of their textbooks, which will cost about £15,000 - reduced prices through the charity, READTanzania. If we can make a small contribution towards this, it will bring them much encouragement. The end result will be a new generation of young women growing up to bring health and development to young families and to the country.

Donations can be made by cash or cheque to St Mary's Swaffham Prior PCC - and you can increase your donation by 25% through GiftAid. Or you could donate a monthly sum, say, £5 or £10.

Revd Sue Giles²⁶ Peter Goldsmith Brenda Wilson Liz Butler

ANGLESEY GROUP OF PARISHES

**Holy Trinity, Bottisham; St Mary's, Quay; St James', Lode;
St Mary's, Swaffham Bulbeck; St Mary's, Swaffham Prior**

Services in July 2022

Sunday 3 July

9am Online service on Zoom
10.30am Holy Communion, Swaffham Prior
4pm Village Worship, Village Hall, Quay

Wednesday 6 July

8 pm C by C (a short contemplative service), Online service on Zoom

Sunday 10 July

9am Holy Communion, Quay
10.30am Family Worship, Swaffham Prior – also on Zoom

Sunday 17 July

9am Online service on Zoom
Morning Prayer, Quay
10.30am Holy Communion, Swaffham Bulbeck
Morning Prayer, Bottisham

Sunday 24 July

9am [Online service, on Zoom](#)
10.30am Holy Communion (BCP), Swaffham Prior

Sunday 31 July

9am Online service, on Zoom
10.30am Holy Communion, Lode
6pm Evensong, Swaffham Prior

Each Thursday

10.30am Holy Communion, Lode

Vicar: Rev'd Sue Giles, The Vicarage, 86 High Street, Bottisham CB25 9BA Tel: 01223 812726; suethetic@btinternet.com

All are welcome to services in any church in the group. Please be in touch if you would like a lift to a service.

Dates for Your Diary July 2022

| | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Wed | 13 | |
| Thu | 14 | PC Meeting, VH, 7.30pm [25] |
| Fri | 15 | |
| Sat | 16 | Open Studios, VH & 6 Foster Lane, 10am—5pm, [3] |
| Sun | 17 | Open Studios, VH & 6 Foster Lane, 10am—5pm, Strawberry Teas, 3-5pm, St Cyriac's [9] |
| Mon | 18 | WI, 7.30pm, VH [16] |
| Tue | 19 | |
| Wed | 20 | Crier Copy Deadline |
| Thu | 21 | An evening with Charlie Haycock, St Cyriac's, 7.30pm [5] Mothers' Union, 2.30pm, Lode Church [17] Cllrs Surgery, Denny Pavilion (6.30), Black Horse (Bulbeck) 7.30pm [19] |
| Fri | 22 | |
| Sat | 23 | Open Studios, VH & 6 Foster Lane, 10am—5pm, |
| Sun | 24 | Open Studios, VH & 6 Foster Lane, 10am—5pm, |

Numbers in square brackets indicate page number of an accompanying article

| Club | Contact | Tel. | Date | Time | Place |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---------|----------------|
| FOSPS | | | 2 nd Mon of Term | 8pm | Village School |
| Beavers, Cubs and Scouts | Tim Doe | 01223 861083 | Variable | | |
| Reading Group | Brenda Wilson | 743937 | 1 st Weds of month | 8:00pm | Kent House |
| Village Gardeners | Ruth Scovil | 743720 | 3 rd Tues of month | 8:00pm | Village Hall |
| WI | Margaret Joyce | 744390 | 3 rd Mon of month | 7.30 pm | Village Hall |