



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XLVI Number 10

October 2022



Editorial

Don't panic Mr Mainwaring—although alternatively, why not? What a month this has been, from sadness to dismay to panic. First, we lost our lovely Queen. In a mark of respect, the village cancelled all its planned events, Harvest Show, Dog Show, PC Meeting even, but the commemoration cream tea on the afternoon of the funeral was jam-packed (see Letters). We even hear that one resident made the journey down to London and waited 13 hours in the queue for the Queen's lying-in-state. And others were on the Mall? Meanwhile, we were away in the North and lazily watched the whole thing on telly from a convenient settee — what a marvellous spectacle and a fitting tribute.

But then came total dismay—they've cancelled all our buses! How could they do that? What will happen to those of us that can't drive including the school children and practically anybody with a job but without a car—read our District Councillor Charlotte Cane's article on page 6 and if you can do nothing else, at least sign the petition.

Then came the panic—plummeting pound, rocketing mortgages, runaway inflation... It never rains, but it pours.

A Big Welcome to our new Treasurer Sharyn Robinson, who will be stepping into Pat and Peter's well worn shoes and who evidently has the misfortune to be joining at an interesting time! Meanwhile, the usual niggles continue on the home front. The Crier email, which we finally thought we'd fixed, now seems to be boxing clever by innocently delivering most stuff (especially our test messages) and then sneakily pocketing the rest. So this is a rather skinny Crier, with some articles we know have gone missing and others strongly suspected of having suffered the same fate. We intend to have it **FINALLY FIXED** for next month.

Great article from the Scouts this month (page 12) who really have been getting about and another very interesting contribution from our very own Tree Sleuth, giving us much needed info on how to start tracing back our ancestry. Also, more from our unofficial reporter with the lowdown on the Heating Scheme (see page 18) and don't miss our magnificent Crossword Prize (page 20) the new Red Lion landlord has really done us proud—get clueing, all! See you Hallowe'ning, and we do hope we get some Trick and Treaters here this time, otherwise Bookclub will again be fed on a large tub of truly revolting but strangely addictive sweeties. See you Quizzing!

Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: Queen Elizabeth II, 1926—2022

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Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Commemoration Cream Tea

We just wanted to say a very big THANK YOU to all the people on the Village Hall committee who organised the Cream Tea to commemorate and celebrate Queen Elizabeth on the day of her funeral. It was a lovely occasion for so many of us to get together, talk about the past few days and remember the Queen, before we headed home to watch the final public service from Windsor. We have no idea how many people were there eventually but more tables and chairs had to be produced! It was obviously something that many of us needed and enjoyed on that day.

With many thanks from

Ruth and Robin Scovil

QUIZ NIGHT

Swaffham Prior Village Hall

7.30 pm Saturday 15 October

Tickets £6 each. To book a table, contact



Jenny Brand
(01638) 742161

or

Lynne Rand
(01638) 741960



Jacket Potato Supper

Bring your own drinks and glasses !!

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

Swaffham Prior Community Car Scheme (SPCCS)



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

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

07833 960 678

preferably between 9am-6pm, Monday to Friday
or email spccs@adventurersfarm.co.uk

From our Reporter

What a month. One can say this about almost every month now. And what a monarch. The Queen despatched one Prime Minister and installs another in just one day; then the next day, in excellent spirits she checks with the Queen's Trainer the condition of her horses racing that day, as is her wont, then becomes quite ill later; and on the following day peacefully and graciously passes away. What an achievement. Duty, Pleasure, and Departure.



As elsewhere in the country this resulted in many Swaffham Prior meetings and events being cancelled. This included the Parish Council meeting, deferred to the end of the month. So this is not referred to. But from the July minutes we learn that the Prior part of the Cook/Horsfall B1102 plan is to turn Mill Hill into a 30 mph limit. How the wheels turn full circle. This has been a controversy over the last two or three decades. At some time in the past the PC went into this very thoroughly but everywhere they turned they were face with official objections of one kind or another. Eventually a few changes were made but nothing radical. This should be interesting to watch.

I have commented elsewhere in this *Crier* on part of the August PC minutes. You can read the minutes in full online or on the village noticeboard. They have some interesting material.

The last *Crier* gave details of the new members of the Village Hall Committee and it looks as if the Village Hall will continue to have a great future. They have been described as now having “new keen members with super technical skills and new ideas”. There must be many others in the village who may wish to get involved or contribute in some way – such as learning bell ringing.

CPRE (Campaign for the Preservation of Rural England) has recently issued its Annual Report for Cambs/Peterborough. The East Cambridgeshire section is still very concerned about the East Cambs Trading Company Ltd controlling the Community Land Trusts. Perhaps Emma would say if she is concerned, or whether this is needless nitpicking. Meantime the Trading Company had been unable to repay its loan to our District Council without another large loan to pay it off. A good business? Whatever next.

Still we get more news on this than about some of the major changes and misgivings (Shenanigans?) at the CCC. From Josh Schumann we never hear. Lucy Frazer on the other hand is a fairly regular communicant. The CCC even saved him the trouble this year by producing its own 5 page Annual Report. Josh couldn't even be bothered to forward it to the PC – our ECDC representatives did that. It was very interesting reading if you managed to get hold of it.

What is the good news, The Festival of Brexit, which was supposed to fill us with good cheer, appears to be a very expensive damp squib. Whose idea was this? Needs a good journalist to find out. Long live the Free Press. And the other news is the threat of the Blandford Fly arriving. This could be a great irritant, far more so than the Box Tree Moth.

Apart from that the village appears to be in good heart and hopefully people will enjoy a toast or two in The Red Lion. It needs our support if we want to keep it.

Alastair Everitt

Cambridge Police News

Motorcyclist seriously injured in collision

Police are appealing for witnesses following a serious collision in East Cambridgeshire which left a motorcyclist fighting for his life.

It happened at just after 5.30pm yesterday (7 September) in Upware Road, Upware, near Soham, when the man on a black Lexmoto Enigma ZS 125 motorbike was in collision with a Vauxhall Insignia travelling in the opposite direction.

The motorcyclist, a man in his 30s, was taken to hospital where he remains in a critical condition. The driver of the Insignia, a man in his 40s, was uninjured and remained at the scene.

Anyone who witnessed the incident, or who may have dashcam footage of the moments leading up to it, are urged to contact police online via web chat or call 101 quoting reference 358 of 7 September.

Action to Save the Number 11 & 12 Bus Routes



Stagecoach have announced plans to axe 21 bus routes in Cambridgeshire, and reductions to several other services from 30 October. The number 11 between Bury St Edmunds and Cambridge, which stops in Reach, will no longer run, nor will the number 12 between Ely and Cambridge, which stops at Bottisham.

This was announced at very short notice, creating significant uncertainty and worry. The Mayor, and the Combined Authority, are responsible for the transport budget locally. The Mayor has taken emergency action, with the following overarching timetable:

- Services (contracts) put out to tender on 21st September
- Combined Authority in receipt of tenders on 6th October
- Combined Authority to analyse the potential results by 12th October
- Offer contracts subject to 10-day standstill period by 13th October; and
- New contracts commence 30th October

I understand that the Combined Authority is seeking to procure services on a like for like basis as there is insufficient time to review all the services involved, but the final picture will depend on bidders and prices as to whether everything can be replaced.

The Combined Authority has to set out policies and objectives for local transport, and to manage the spending of local government transport budgets. They also have some legal duties:

- around the provision of school transport; and
- to determine local non-statutory concessions policy and administer both statutory and non-statutory travel concessions (via Traffic Concession Authorities).

In addition they are required to “consider”

- funding socially necessary bus services; and
- the needs of elderly and disabled individuals.

The Government’s *Bus Back Better* strategy <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bus-back-better> also sets out (on P38) the structure of today’s bus sector in England. As it says “operators decide where and when to run commercial services, invest in the buses and facilities, and set their own fares, with only a very limited role for Local Transport Authorities”. The Combined Authority was among the seventy per cent of applicants nationwide to receive no funding for its Bus Improvement proposals. And we do not yet have either franchising or an enhanced partnership in place. It appears that there is growing consensus that local moves towards franchising are the way to go, and quickly.

The AtoB1102 group has met to discuss how to save the number 11 bus route, and tasked various people to collect information, prepare a survey and discuss with

Stagecoach prior to meeting again shortly to agree next steps - <https://atob1102.org/save-the-number-11-bus/>.

You can help by signing the petition - <https://www.change.org/p/stop-the-cancellation-of-stagecoach-bus-service-11-12> - and by using the number 11 bus and noting how many other passengers are travelling with you and letting me know (charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk) so I can feed into the AtoB1102 group. Maybe share picture(s) of your journey on social media asking how you will get to College/hospital/work/shops etc if the service is axed.

*Charlotte Cane,
District Councillor*

CONCERTS AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH BOTTISHAM

Following our popular **coffee and cake concert** with Jancis Harvey, due to take place on October 1st, I am delighted to tell you about our second. On **November 5th** a very well-known local duo will be performing a programme of songs and words about England entitled "**England, our England.**" **Rex Freeman** sang his first solo when he was four, entered and won his first competition when he was nine, and has sung as a soloist ever since - he is now 92 and still performs about twenty times a year. His main hobby has been directing over 100 musicals in the ADC and Arts Theatres in Cambridge. He will be



accompanied by **Rosemary Wheeler** who commenced piano lessons at the age of five and has enjoyed a lifetime of making music, entertaining the troops stationed in the area where she lived. When she moved to Cambridge, she became involved with three operatic societies as their rehearsal accompanist. Rosemary (now 94 years old) is still in demand, accompanying various singers and occasionally playing solos as well as duets with another pianist. As the accompanist of the Cambridge Gilbert and Sullivan Society for many years she was also privileged to accompany many of the D'Oyly Carte principal singers when they performed in Cambridge.

There will be a final concert this year on **December 3rd**, when I will give a talk entitled '**The History of our Christmas Carols**', play my violin and will be joined by Sarah Maxwell (soprano) and Jonathan Giles (keyboard). ***Put the dates in your diary now.*** The concerts will start at 10.30am, last just over an hour and entry will be £5 (children free), to include coffee and cake. All are welcome. Money raised will go towards the church building fund.

Julie Bristow is planning two candlelit concerts with her choir in the church on 10th December. Money raised will go to local families who may be struggling at Christmas.

Stuart Field, Churchwarden

JULIES RECIPES FOR OCTOBER

PUMPKIN CHEESE FONDUE

1 small pumpkin
2 tbsp butter, melted
1 pinch nutmeg, for baking the pumpkin
1 pinch cinnamon, for baking the pumpkin
1 ½ tbsps of olive oil
3 scallions, finely sliced
2 garlic cloves, minced
8oz emmenthaler cheese, grated
8oz gruyere cheese, grated
1 cup of dry white wine
1 tbsp corn powder, mixed with a little water to make a smooth paste
grated nutmeg
paprika

1. Cut a slice off the top of the pumpkin and scoop out seeds.
 2. Brush the inside of the pumpkin with melted butter, season with nutmeg and cinnamon, place on a tray with pumpkin top on and bake at 350C for 35 mins.
 3. Meanwhile heat the oil in a pan and saute the scallions and garlic for 2 minutes, add white wine and the cornflour paste, gradually add the cheeses to the simmering wine until all melted in.
 4. Season with salt, pepper, nutmeg and cinnamon, if the mixture a little thick then add a little water to thin.
- Remove the pumpkin from the oven and pour cheese mix into the pumpkin, sprinkle with paprika and serve with apple, pear, celery and cubes of crusty bread.

HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN CAKE

300g SR flour
300g light muscovado sugar
2 tsp mixed spice
2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
175g sultanas
½ tsp salt
4 eggs beaten
200g butter
zest of 1 orange
1 tbsp orange juice

500g peeled weight of pumpkin flesh, grated

200g soft cream cheese

85g butter, softened

100g icing sugar, sifted

zest 1 orange and juice of half.

1. Heat the oven to 180C, butter and line a baking tin. Put sugar, spice, bi-carb, sultanas and salt in a bowl and mix to combine well.

2. Beat the eggs into the melted butter, stir in the orange juice, then mix in all the dry ingredients till combined. Stir in the pumpkin flesh. Pour the mixture into the prepared tin and bake in the oven for 30 mins until golden and springy to touch

3. While cooking, make the frosting by beating together the soft cheese, butter, sugar, orange zest and 1 tsp orange juice. set aside in the fridge.

4. When the cake is cooked prick it all over and drizzle the rest of the orange juice over. Now leave it to cool completely.

5. When cool, remove the icing mix from the fridge and beat to loosen. Spread with a palette knife over the top of the cake, making peaks and swirls. Finally decorate with more orange zest. Ideally best kept in the fridge.

The Heating Scheme Field under blue skies



Genealogy for Free

Have you ever felt like discovering more about your family tree but wanted to first see what you could find out for free? This is a short introduction to what is out there for you.

You don't need to spend any money on special Family Tree software to begin with - just a good notebook and maybe a filing box is enough to get started. Specialist software comes into its own later as and when your tree gets bigger.



Talk to Relatives

Always start by finding out as much as you can from living relatives. Nothing beats an informal chat, with maybe some paper to sketch on, to bring back memories and details of names, dates, and family stories. Just remember to take the stories with a grain of salt. If I had a pound for every family with a tale of a dalliance with a prince, I would be a rich man. More practically, data protection laws mean that there is little information about people from the recent past to be found online, so you need people's memories for this.

Births Marriages and Deaths

When you are investigating earlier than about 1950 there are many places online where you can find out when and where people were born, married, or died, of which my favourites are:

www.freebmd.org.uk, www.freecen.org.uk, and www.freereg.org.uk are three projects which give free access to registrations of Births Marriages and Deaths since 1837, England and Wales censuses 1841-1911, and some Parish Registers. You can search by name, place, and date.

If these don't bring up the person you are looking for, the General Register Office website at www.gro.gov.uk has some more accurate records of registrations of births and deaths from 1837. Should you want to buy a copy certificate (these are nowhere available for free) always order from GRO, the other sites are more expensive.

For the 19th century and earlier an excellent starting point is www.familysearch.org. This website, run by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Utah, has the world's largest collection of photos of the pages of old Parish Registers (Baptisms Marriages and Burials) and other old

genealogical documents. You can search for particular people, or browse through the records for a specific place. You can view many of their images online. Some, for copyright reasons, can only be viewed at a Family History Library (the closest is on Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge). Be prepared for some hard to read old handwriting.

Wills

If you had an ancestor who died after 1858 and may have left a will, go on over to probatesearch.service.gov.uk to check the exact date and place of death and the names of the executors, and maybe order a copy of the will (£1.50).

Google

Don't underestimate the value of more general online sources. Searching by name and place on Google can point you in directions you would never have thought of. The Internet Archive at archive.org has free digital copies of books and journals that are out of copyright and which can give you names and dates of ordinary people as well as the great and good.

Your Local Library

Taking a different approach, you may have heard of the subscription websites www.ancestry.co.uk and www.findmypast.co.uk. In exchange for quite a substantial payment, subscribers to these sites can search and view a vast range of old records. I will let you in on a secret. Your local library almost certainly has a subscription to one or both of these sites - Newmarket has both. If you use one of the library's computers you can view the same records as subscribers, at no cost to you.

Finally

Finally, when you get more experienced there is nothing to beat handling the original manuscripts at your local county archives or even The National Archives in Kew. Just remember that you need to know in advance what document to see.

I hope this has piqued your interest in finding out more about your family history. If you have any queries or want help and advice on your research, please feel free to contact me:

Julian Luttrell
The Tree Sleuths
www.tree-sleuths.co.uk

1st Swaffham Prior & Reach Scouts

It's been a busy year at 1st Swaffham Prior & Reach Scouts! The leader team have put a huge amount of effort into building the group back up (after suffering from a difficult time due to COVID-19 and the theft of our camping and cooking equipment in early 2020).

We run three sections: Beavers (6-8 years), Cubs (8-10½) and Scouts (10½ -14), and also have a number of Young Leaders (14-18). We meet weekly in Swaffham Prior during term time, and our scouts come from Swaffham Prior, Reach, Swaffham Bulbeck, Bottisham and surrounding villages.

This is a summary of what the scout section have been up to for the past year, but all three sections run full programmes, giving the beavers, cubs & scouts all get a chance to learn and do new things that they might not get a chance to do at home or school.

In Autumn, the scouts spent a couple of evenings outside on the scout field, learning about fires and building outdoor shelters in the woods. All sections paraded through Swaffham Prior on Remembrance Day to take part in the church service. Before Christmas we spent time indoors learning about knots, first aid and map reading.

In the Spring, we chose to briefly return to scouting online to avoid having to wear masks in the scout hut, and the scouts spent time doing an online escape room, more badge work, learning about online safety and further first aid. We also managed to meet up in person for a winter walk down the Swaffham Bulbeck lode, to the river Cam.

During the Easter half-term, we ran our traditional overnight Easter camp in Swaffham Prior. The cubs joined us for a campfire with songs and marshmallows, and a small number of scouts (and leaders) woke up the following morning to find their tents covered in frost, having made it through an overnight temperature of minus 4 Celsius!

In May, as we have for several years, we worked with the Reach fair committee to run the village barbecue on the village green, where the scouts and leaders cooked and served a seemingly endless amount of burgers and sausages, raising thousands of pounds for charitable causes.

After Easter, we spent most of our time on the field. The scouts played lots of games, learning outdoor and survival skills, such as cooking on fires and hiking stoves, pioneering (including some impressive bridge building), putting up tents, learning knots, and getting ready for camp.

During the Summer holiday, the group made its furthest trip for a few years, taking most of the Scouts to Swaledale in Yorkshire, for a four-night camp. The scouts made the most of their time in the Yorkshire Dales, hillwalking, splashing about in the river, singing lots of walking and campfire songs, and learning to climb and abseil as a team. We even managed to find time for a gang show evening!

If you think your kids might be interested in joining the group, or if you think you might want to help lead the group, please email Tim Doe, the Group Scout Leader, on gsl@1stswaffhampriorscouts.org.uk.

James Hannah, Katie Winkcup, Neil Winkcup, Steve White
Scout Section Leaders
1st Swaffham Prior Scouts



Scouts' holiday in Swaledale

News from Wicken Fen Nature Reserve



Autumn wildlife

Look out for migrant birds arriving to spend the winter at Wicken Fen next time you are visiting the reserve. By the time you read this article, you should be able to spot wigeon, redwing and fieldfare. The low rays of autumn sun catch the reeds' feathery golden spikes on afternoon walks round the boardwalk and in the reedbeds on the wider reserve. The changing seasons always present something new in the natural world, so if you haven't visited for a while, it's well worth making time for a stroll on the reserve.

Footprints: Community Engagement Project

New Wicken Wellbeing Walk – Fridays 10-11am

Following our pilot series of walks in the fen edge villages, we launched a weekly wellbeing walk at Wicken Fen on Friday 30 September. The feedback we received during the pilot indicated that a regular, easy paced, sociable walk would be welcome. So, if you'd like to join us, please meet in the Visitor Centre at Wicken Fen on Friday morning ready for a 10am start. The walk will be around 2 miles in length at a relaxed pace, taking approximately an hour.

Vision Festival - Saturday 8 and Saturday 15 October

For the first time we are celebrating the Vision with activities at both ends of the Vision area: at Wicken Fen on Saturday 8 October and at Anglesey Abbey on Saturday 15 October.

We'll be showcasing Footprints activities with demonstrations and hands-on activities provided by our brilliant project partners. You'll also be able to discover more about the Wicken Fen Vision by joining us for walks, talks, boat trips and much more.

Check out our Facebook event and the What's On section of our website for more details and to book. There's a good mix of drop-in and bookable events. We hope to see you at either (or both) Festival days.

October half term - family fun at Wicken Fen

Monday 24, Wednesday 26 and Friday 28 October

Storytelling in the Fen Cottage, with spooky Fenland stories for all the family. Free sessions throughout the day between 10:30 and 15:00 – sign up at the Visitor Centre on the day.

Tuesday 25 and Thursday 27 October

Family-friendly guided tours of Fen Cottage. Free sessions throughout the day between 10:30 and 14:00 – sign up at the Visitor Centre on the day.

Saturday 29 October

Toast-making over an open fire in the Fen Cottage. Free sessions 11:00-12:00 and 13:30-14:30 - sign up at the Visitor Centre on the day.

STOP PRESS – Father Christmas at the Fen is now available to book! See our website for details.

For the latest reserve information, please visit our website www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen
Details of our events can be found on our website at <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen-nature-reserve/whats-on>

PROSPECTS TRUST– STAFF WANTED

The Prospects Trust has placement opportunities for new Co-workers across our two sites; Prospects Trust Unwrapped in Ely and Snakehall Farm. With placements for complex needs and 1:1 care provision in our new Orchard area, to work ready skills development on our Garden Team, in our busy shop, in our Enterprise Kitchen and on our 18 acre farm - we have our gates open to support more people with additional needs this autumn. For more information, visit our website: prospectstrust.org.uk.

BON MOT NUMBER 132

“Let us not take ourselves too seriously.

None of us has the monopoly
on wisdom.”

Queen Elizabeth II (Christmas Day 1991)



Mothers' Union

In the warm (not too hot) sunshine on the afternoon of 18th August in the garden of Station Farm, Lode, members and several husbands enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea generously provided by committee member Jill Jenyns and her husband Roger, both celebrating their 80th Birthdays this year. Everyone was served with their own individual afternoon tea box supplied by a local bakery. This contained tasty sandwiches, cheese straw, cream scone, macaroon, mini chocolate éclair and fruit tart. Cups of tea and coffee were served by committee members, and there was lots of chat and enjoyment of each other's company. Jill was presented with a card and



flowers for her imminent birthday. To thank both Jill and Roger for providing the tea, they were presented with a birthday cake to share with their family. Julie Sale was presented with flowers to thank her for hosting the event. A collection during the afternoon raised £77 for the Mothers' Union 'Jubilee Summer' of Hope' Appeal. For further information on the appeal visit <https://www.mothersunion.org/soh2022>.



Our meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of the month, at 2.30pm in Lode Church. On the 20th October we will be holding our Harvest Social with Bring & Buy Stall. You are most welcome to join us.

Ann Langran



VILLAGE GARDENERS

We have had several really enjoyable evening visits to local gardens, but in September, members were invited to join BAGS-Burwell Allotment and Garden Society, on their trip to Wisley. Everyone had hoped it wouldn't be too hot and indeed it was perfect. A nice cool breeze, no rain and very happy gardeners. It was a special nursery weekend, so we had, in addition to the lovely displays of an early autumn Wisley, specialist plants on sale, from all over the country. It was a real bonus, along with delicious ice creams- though the queues were monumental.

We hope to be invited again next year.

Margaret Joyce.

PS. Our AGM is on 18th October. All are very welcome.

The Reading Group Reads...

Mrs Bridge

By Evan S Connell

Our choice in August was Mrs Bridge by Evan S. Connell, described by the New York Times, as 'A perfect novel.....Economical, piquant, beautiful, true.

Written in 1959, it's the story of Mrs Bridge- known as that throughout the book- an upper middle class housewife, in Kansas between the wars, from her marriage till late on in her life as a widow.

She tries to be the perfect housewife, she dutifully meets her social obligations, ministers to her husband and brings up her three children. She judges people solely by the state of their shoes and their manners. She has piles of very expensive hand towels, put out for guests, never to be used- except of course by her son Douglas- much to his mother's outrage. Her friends and members of the country club, must be impressed and it matters greatly what they think.

Mr Bridge, who like his wife, is pretty buttoned up, announces on the first page of the book, before he marries, that he is going to be rich and successful. Indeed he is, but is a workaholic, to provide his family with all the things they want. They rarely see him and would much rather he was at home with them. He rules her life and she never questions a single comment or decision he makes.

He's kind and can be very generous- a very amusing European tour is an Anniversary present. Sadly, later in the book, he has a fatal coronary whilst at his desk.

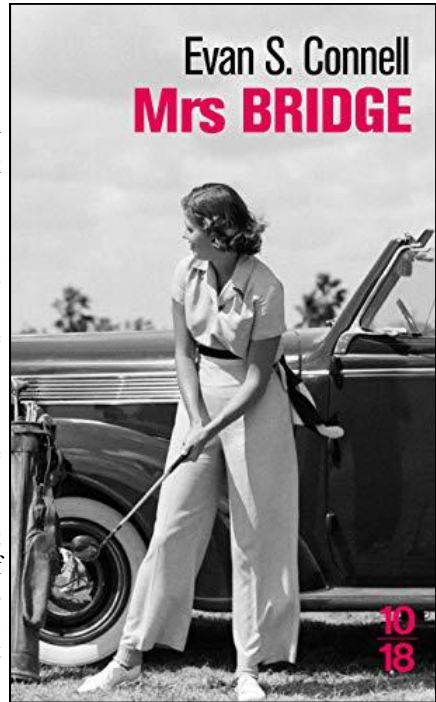
Their children- Caroline, Ruth and Douglas are all challenging, delightfully different and not really understood by their mother, when they fail to tow her line- which of course they frequently do. Some of their antics are very funny.

The whole household depend hugely on their maid, Harriet, who is fiercely loyal and refuses to leave, even when offered a higher salary, as "they couldn't survive too well, if I should depart".

Her social life is the Country Club, where fundraising, doing good and discussing everyone else's lives is fundamentally important. The women there are a very interesting mix of multi- national characters, all with extremely wealthy husbands.

Mrs Bridge is neither happy or unhappy, but knows that life is passing her by. She believes that you stay with your husband for the rest of your life and whilst making a few pretty feeble attempts to do something different in her life- painting and Spanish classes, soon gives up.

Even at the very end, she gets in a situation, which will need the help of others to solve.



Margaret Joyce

HEATING SCHEME UPDATE – *UNOFFICIAL*

I say “unofficial” because we have not had an update from Maggie Pratt for a couple of months or so. Meantime there have been some worrying happenings. In the middle of August an amazing amount of new earthworks appeared at the site. *See the pictures.*

This was a puzzle but it has been explained that the bore holes had not been drilled down far enough so that the heat is 3 degrees less than required. This is the second time the bore holes have been miscalculated. The last time they had to double the actual number of bore holes.

Anyway they now need an additional energy source to achieve the projected working temperature – it seems.

At the August PC meeting Peter Hart said that following his attendance at the Heating Scheme’s July Open Meeting he got the impression that ground source heating would not be used in the first year. Instead it would be air source and solar power. David Greenfield, with his inside track, explained that ground source heating would be used during the winter and air/solar power in the summer.

This has been taken from the August PC minutes: David then went on to say that *“the Heating Scheme does not have statutory rights of the water and the power suppliers and that delays have occurred as problems have arisen and had to be resolved.”* What does this mean?

Come back Maggie Pratt. The village needs your usually clear and comprehensive explanation. Meantime Crier readers do read the PC Minutes as they contain extra information and an interesting question from a member of the public.

What is also very worrying is that the heating scheme over the last 3 years or so has consistently missed all its targets. The programme announced at the beginning of 2021 was “ludicrously ambitious.” And so it has been proved. Here we are in September 2022 still a very long way from completion. What is more worrying is that the first of the five signed up houses in Cage Hill is being connected at the time of writing. With winter approaching will there be a problem?

The PC September meeting was deferred until late September so many of the above problems may have been resolved. We shall all wait with interest.

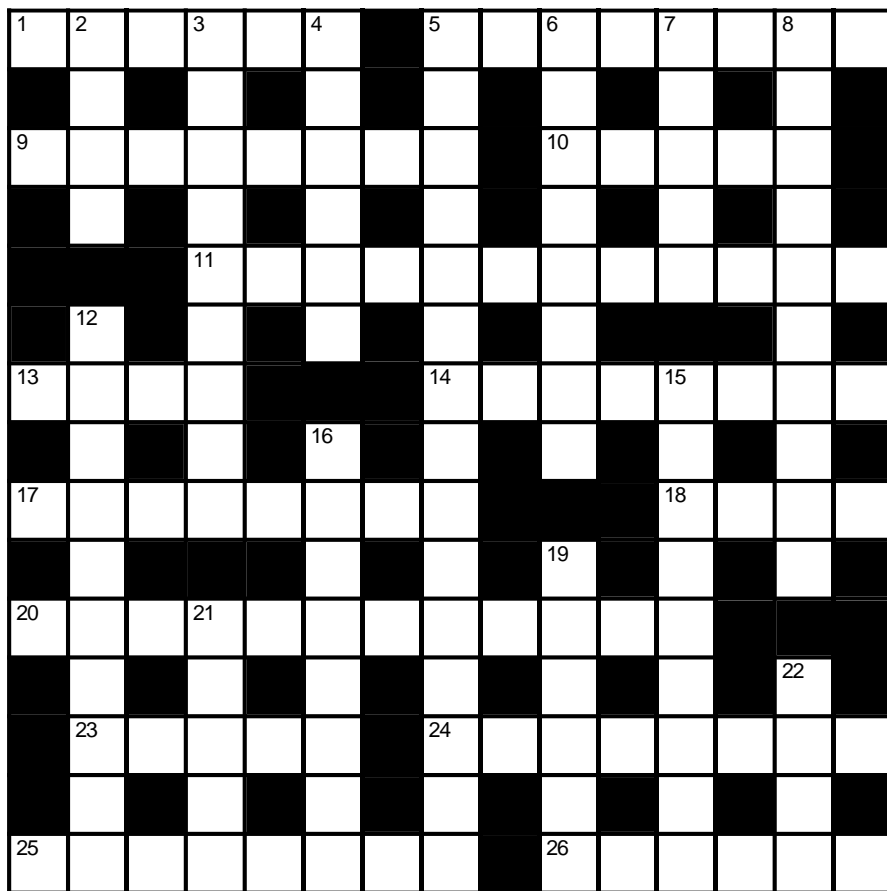
Alastair Everitt



Crossword Number 199

Compiled by **CALVIN**

This month's puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18th October 2022. The first correct solution out of the hat will win a 3 course meal for two, including a drink, at the Red Lion—see the pub manager for full details. Emailed solutions are acceptable but please include "CROSSWORD" and the crossword number in the header.



Name:.....

Address:.....

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

Across

- 1 Purdah can result in having no money (4,2)
- 5 Endearing story, with confusingly bleak content (8)
- 9 Have I got that backwards? AI sheep on island is producing liqueur? (3,5)
- 10 Initially expecting very inefficient loading speed of goods? Quite the opposite! (5)
- 11 Custom pin-ups displaced by water displacers (7,5)
- 13 Once you became M, the beach was out (4)
- 14 Greet Sam, in order to measure fuel (3,5)
- 17 In Morocco, Sir Berners-Lee wants a dollar as well, we heard (8)
- 18 Sailor grabs final emperor (4)
- 20 Disentangle coil in cesspool wave machine? (12)
- 23 In short, ape lacking a bit of colour (5)
- 24 Orders short measure of Glenlivet, to help convince with guile (8)
- 25 Conceived of "backwards Cornetto", Gebreselassie holding it (8)
- 26 Song of frost first, then fire (3, 3)

Down

- 2 Song is invariant (4)
- 3 Politician's French question contains a smidge of disappointment? On the contrary! (4,5)
- 4 Letter from Greece is saucy, describing illicit actions (6)
- 5 Treacherously, denote a Quisling with suggestive interrogation (7,8)
- 6 Ardour is key, and seven subsequent points (8)

- 7 End is gold-plated farewell (5)
- 8 Youngest of seven sisters, missing, result of ladies' plot (4,6)
- 12 Restrains donkey, who proceeds to fume endlessly (5-5)
- 15 Extension when stopwatch wound back by unknown digit, perhaps (9)
- 16 Window in the ceiling might reveal sun or moon? (8)
- 19 Contemporary vocal performance, holding note (6)
- 21 "Passport over there!", as a sailor briefly might state (5)
- 22 Sign on stave is split with one absent (4)

Solution to crossword no. 198

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

We congratulate Julian Luttrell, the winner of last month's competition, who will receive his prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Sue Jackson, Robert Nunn, Dainin O'Dowd and Trish Whitehead.

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 October 2022

Sunday 2 October

9am Online service on Zoom
10.30am Harvest Festival, Bottisham
4pm Village Worship, Village Hall, Quay

Wednesday 5 October

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

Thursday 6 October

10.30am Harvest Festival, Lode

Sunday 9 October

9am Holy Communion, Quay
10.30am Harvest Festival, Swaffham Prior – also on Zoom

Sunday 16 October

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

Sunday 23 October

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

Sunday 30 October

9am Online service, on Zoom
10.30am Holy Communion, Lode
3pm All Souls' Service, Lode
6pm Evensong, Swaffham Prior

Each Thursday

10.30am Holy Communion, Lode (unless otherwise listed)

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

Please check <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7378/benefice> for current information;
or email admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk for address of Zoom service

News from Bottisham Medical Practice Patients' Participation Group

Masks:

We ask that you please continue to wear a mask when visiting the surgery for your protection and the safety of the staff.

Influenza immunisation: Flu jab clinics are starting from the end of September

Patients who are eligible to have a vaccine at the practice will be contacted by text message and if we have no phone number then by letter. You can book an appointment directly online for these clinics also.

Eligible groups for influenza vaccine are:

all children aged 2 - 10 years

those aged 6 months to under 65 years in clinical risk groups

pregnant women

those aged 65 years and over

those in long-stay residential care homes

carers

close contacts of immunocompromised individuals

secondary school-aged children focusing on Years 7, 8 and 9 and any remaining vaccine will be offered to years 10 and 11, subject to vaccine availability

those aged 50 to 64 years old not in clinical risk groups (including those who turn 50 by 31 March 2023)

COVID-19 Vaccination boosters: Bottisham Medical Practice will be administering COVID boosters to the care home population. Eligible patients can book a COVID vaccine via the local vaccination hubs or walk in centres e.g. The Grafton Centre.

Health Pod: We have purchased the screening for the pod, which is now in place.

The Patient Participation Group: 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: Next meeting is Wednesday 23 November at 2pm. If you wish to join our Zoom meeting please email our chairman at s.j.gilson@btinternet.com who will send you a meeting invite.

Bottisham Medical Practice Patients Participation Group

Dates for Your Diary: October 2022

Wed	5	Book Club, 6.30pm, (location tbd) [17]
Sat	15	Quiz Night, 7.30pm, VH [2]
Mon	17	WI, 7.30pm, VH
Tue	18	Village Gardeners AGM, VH, 8pm [16]
Wed	19	
Thu	20	Mothers' Union, 2.30pm Lode Church — Harvest Social [16]
Fri	21	
Sat	22	Crier Copy Deadline
Mon	24	Events at Wicken Fen (all week) [15]
Mon	31	Halloween

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