



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XLIX Number 6

June 2025



Editorial

AFTER ACRES OF WALL-TO-WALL SUNSHINE, what happened on Feast Day? Our worst fears were confirmed when the day dawned bleak — April's face says it all! But No... Just a few drops of rain and after a slowish start, suddenly everything picked up and an excellent time was had by all—see our centre spread and many pictures scattered throughout the issue. Many thanks to Jenny Brand (who will be running the Civil Service in her next job — we wish!) and April, who cheered up!

Janet Hall was there with interviewer Josh Newman filming for Grantchester who are planning a similar heating scheme to ours. But meanwhile, read Keith Carter (p. 14) and why he's not bloomin' part of it — too expensive to 'ensure commercial viability'. What? And how many millions have already been spent? But we're really proud to be part of it, especially today when head-in-sand drill baby ostriches seem to be dominating the global warming debate. "Oh, we'll be all right, and anyway, it's quite impossible to stop." Hmmm, for WE read THEY, and it's a good job we didn't take that attitude with the Nazis.

Village Gardeners had a great visit to Kew Gardens



*|Father and Son, Paul & Tristan Latchford,
this year's egg throwing champions*

and we went too. Magnificent! And they have weeds (yes, even nettles) in their flower beds! Aha, we always knew we were ahead of the game at our house, just wait until fitted carpets come back....



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Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: *Abstract Red Poppies*, watercolour by **Sarah Northrop**



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,


You (and all in the village) have been wonderful supporters of my musical endeavours over the years. As I am putting the finishing touches on the next concert series (see p. 12), I want to thank you and your readers for this support.

For the return of our 'Yearnings for Home' series to St Botolph's Church, Cambridge, I've created the code: 'READTHECRIER' for a 20% discount exclusive to your readers.

Tickets may be found at the QrCode, or by visiting: [https://www.simpletix.com/e/yearnings-for-home-tickets-214931].



Tristan

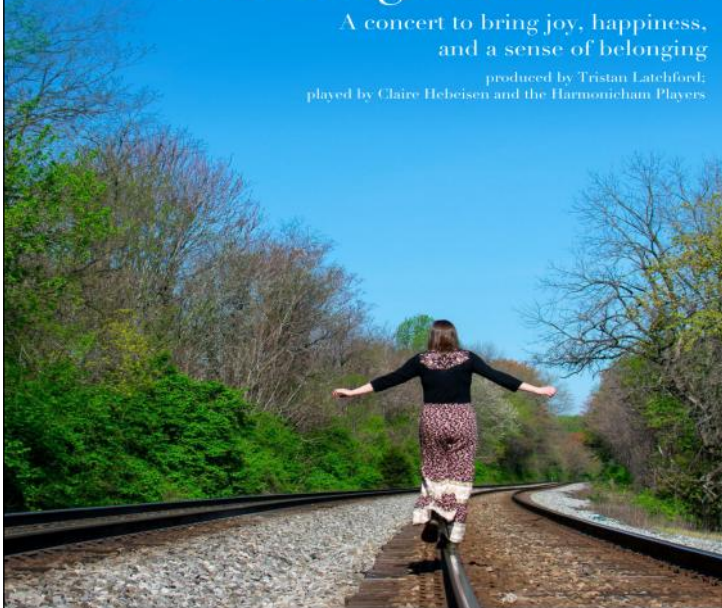


Harmonicham Presents:
From Maryland, U.S.A. Violinist, Claire Hebeisen in...

Yearnings for Home

A concert to bring joy, happiness,
and a sense of belonging

produced by Tristan Latchford;
played by Claire Hebeisen and the Harmonicham Players




St Botolph's Church, Cambridge, Trumpington, CB2 1RG
21st June – Doors open 12:45pm for 1:10pm start – £15.00/£20.00
27th June – Doors open 7:00pm for 7:30pm start – £15.00/£20.00

Under 16s: Free Admission
Tickets available online and on the door

Photo taken on a disused section of the Western Maryland Railway.
Taken with permission. Be safe around Trains.
Do not trespass on Railway Tracks.

A Harmonicham Concert.
To find out more, visit
www.harmonicham.com
or scan the QR Code:



Swaffham Prior Village Assembly 2024

28 May 2025

The Editor and I arrived, notebooks at the ready, at the announced time of 7.30pm to a strangely quiet Village Hall, quiet that is apart from some form of martial arts or yoga in the main hall. Was this a warm-up for the Village Assembly, maybe not we thought? Instead we began to suspect that something had gone wrong and we'd got the wrong date. Omens hadn't been good from the start: normally the Clerk sends publicity about the Annual Village Assembly to the Crier, this year we'd had to ask. On the other hand, we checked and it was still listed on the Village Web site so maybe all was well but ever since the issue over our publishing their minutes, they seem to have become less communicative.

At this point another villager arrived also expecting there to be a meeting so the Editor rang the Clerk who had the answer: the meeting had had to be postponed because the PC had been unable to book the Hall. Do they not have the power to commandeer it? She wasn't at this stage able to give a new date, or indeed to guarantee that it would happen at all this year, but shortly afterwards the new PC website was saying

**PLEASE NOTE THE AVA
HAS BEEN POSTPONED**

AVA: Wednesday xx June 2025 at 7.30pm

and still is, so it's worth watching that space (<http://www.swaffhamprior-pc.gov.uk/>) for further details.

With no further action in prospect at the Village Hall, the intrepid reporters retreated to the pub to drown their sorrows.

James Matheson
See you on the xx'th!



Police joining in at the Feast Egg-Throwing contest. Despite the illicit supplies of fake bouncing eggs in the Lucky Dip, no one got arrested for cheating.

This Month's Cover Picture

Sarah exhibits her paintings locally and her range of greetings cards are available at Burwell post office.

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

Oops – I missed the PC AGM which apparently had happened immediately before the monthly meeting, at a time when I was still finishing my supper. I'm sure that the minutes will be published in due course. Nothing significant seems to have taken place during it because the regular meeting carried on thereafter, providing the usual mix of illuminating and entertaining moments.



Preliminaries having been got out of the way, everyone was more than pleased to welcome the surprise of the evening, Yannifer Malinowski, our new CCC councillor, who undertook to attend in person as many future PC meetings as practicable. This is a major step forward in that we hadn't seen her predecessor once in several years.

Moving on – no-one was unhappy with a planning application for a rear extension on Rogers Road ('just like all the others'..) and then to Approval of The Accounts, which might have been deadly dull but in fact provided lots of enlightenment and entertainment. Did you know that notes on the accounts should be made in pencil, not pen, because the latter can fade after 30 years?? The PC was very pleased that the necessary Internal Audit (which had apparently cost nearly £5) came up with not a single point requiring action – money well spent. They have assets of £44k of which £21k is useable (some is reserved for traffic calming and some for possible Travellers' issues) and a £3k slush fund that they hadn't bargained for. I'm not sure how they can be so confident when there is a long list of invoices from the grass-cutting contractor with which they have found fault. The real entertainment came from David Greenfield querying the term 'Adjusted Budget' for one column in the accounts, which he thought should be either a 'Delta' or a 'Variance'. They settled for the latter. Memorable quotes from this session include 'just pay them' and 'it's all a game of numbers'.

Next up was (again) benches, this time wondering if a newly-purchased one for the cemetery should be bolted down. One opinion was that this was unnecessary because none of the old ones had ever been stolen (this is Swaffham Prior after all), but others thought that a few quid on a bag of cement might be a good idea. Then back to the Scout Hut drains, which could need up to £1500 + VAT. This matter was set aside again pending final approval of the annual accounts to decide how much of this might be afforded. I seem to remember that the Scout Hut once belonged to the Sports and Social club – does that still exist and if so is it involved??

Then Rewilding, with a report from Mike Barker about the four areas (parts of the Churchyard, Cage Hill, the 1102 bypass, and Betty's Bank) which are now managed to encourage wild growth and minimise mowing during the nesting season. It was suggested that for some locations the end of ban on mowing might be brought forward from September to July. One councillor asked if there was any evidence that the project had so far shown any measurable benefit to wildlife... In discussion about possible projects for the community payback team it was agreed not to let them loose on the rewilding areas, but there is a substantial length of verge on the bypass which could do with being cut back.

Lastly, Yellow Lines... road works carried out some time ago by Anglian Water left two car-length sections of road outside Anglesey House without the double yellow lines that were formerly there, and people have been taking advantage of this to the detriment of traffic flow round the corner leading down to Station Road. David G has pursued the matter with the Highways Agency, who hand the responsibility down to Anglian Water who in turn have simply refused to acknowledge any correspondence on the matter. David had suggested a DIY job, but that is apparently a strict No-No. Very frustrating.

John Chalmers



Strawberry Teas
Sunday 27th July
3.00pm – 5.00 pm

Front Lawn of
14 Tothill Road

By kind invitation of Jenny & Terry

Tickets £6.00/£3.50
Must be booked in advance please
(home delivery bags available on request)

Janet Willmott 07833 960678
janetwillmott@icloud.com

All welcome 😊
Will go ahead whatever the
weather! If pouring with rain
will be in St. Mary's Church

In aid of
St. Mary's Church
Swaffham Prior



Swaffham Prior Bell Ringers

June 2025

May has been another busy month of ringing in Swaffham Prior and beyond.

Ely District organised an outing to 6 towers in Norfolk. This is an opportunity to test your bell ringing skills on bells that might behave very differently to the bells rung every week in practice sessions. Swaffham Prior has 6 bells, the towers on the outing ranged from 6 to 8 to 10 bells. Everything happens very quickly on 10 bells!

Another new bell ringing experience was our first striking competition where ringers are judged on how accurate and evenly spaced their ringing is. This year's competition was held in Longstanton, a nerve wracking experience as fellow competitors sit in the church below as you ring. Swaffham Prior did not win the competition, but did not come last either, and more useful experience gained.

“Our first striking competition — Swaffham Prior, did not win, but did not come last either”

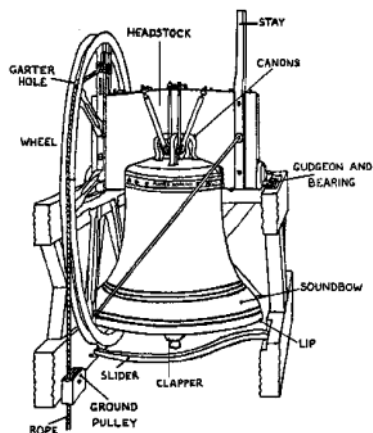
We were very pleased to be able to ring to celebrate a christening in the village. The bells rang out as the newly christened and their family and friends left the church.

On 8th May 1945 bells rang out across Britain to celebrate Victory in Europe Day. On 8th May 2025, bells were rung again for the 80th anniversary celebrations nationwide, including the bells at Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior. This was the first commemorative ring for Lynne and Jim who are making rapid progress.

There is a long history of bell ringing for special events, with meticulous records kept. BellBoard is an online database that has records of every peal and quarter peal around the world since 2012 (who rang them and what method was rung). BellBoard recorded 2383 performances on VE day so we were in good company in the Swaffhams; there were 43 performances in the Ely Diocese.

Also now on BellBoard is Kate's first quarter peal. Congratulations to Kate, although it seems that in order to progress from Level 3 to Level 4 a second quarter peal is required on a different bell; there is always a new challenge!

Do come along on a Tuesday evening (19:30) if you are interested, or contact swaffhampriorbells@gmail.com



Mandy Kingsmill

The View from Lower End

The world still shuffles forward as it tries to adjust to all the many changes proposed, threatened, enacted, reversed. A few very bad baddies have a clear idea what they want and where they aim to go – Putin, Modi, Netanyahu, Trump etc. Who receives the most ‘boos’ these days and why? Whereas the smaller weaker guys ‘um’ and ‘ah’ a bit, and adjust their sails according to the wind, which can be difficult if sailing against wind and tide. And also tricky as sand banks suddenly appear. Take the rise of the WHIMPIs (Women Against State Pension Inequality).

This is a very worthy cause but I hear that the Protest March led principally by the Prior Ladies has been deferred until later in the year. In world terms this is a very trivial matter especially in comparison with the unstoppable emergence of AI. My sympathy is all with the Maidens as their protest has almost been blocked out of the news. Google “Whimpi” and see what you get before you begin to bang the table.



In the AI debate let's see whether we can or are able to trim our sails. There is likely to be a terrific gale which will be controlling our lives from now on. I first became aware of AI in 1971 when I met a specialist in cognitive science and who was one of the few experts at the time. In my ignorance I thought it just wishful thinking, a footnote to science fiction. How wrong I was is illustrated by the rush of all the big guns - Microsoft, IBM, Google etc - to get their controlling hands on AI. However, what has brought it to everyone's attention was the release earlier this year of *DeepSeek*, at a fraction of the US cost, and with a potential to outstrip anything available elsewhere. It is produced by a Chinese company. More worrying is that all the AI companies appear to want free access to all creative work as if the Copyright Act never existed. The Yanks, (in this culture war, I think we can use the term Yanks) have always had an appalling disrespect for copyright and just pirated what they liked. The Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works was agreed and enacted by nearly all countries in 1886. In 1989, a century later, at last President Reagan added his support for the Berne Convention and the Yanks signed. In 2012 Barbara Ringer, who had spent most of her life lobbying on behalf of Copyright, wrote that the US attitude ***“was marked by intellectual short-sightedness, political isolationism and narrow economic self-interest.”*** Are we talking about Trump now or a century ago?

Will Starmer fight to preserve the Berne Convention or will Lisa Nandy of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport dare come up with something different or even Peter Kyle clarify what he has in mind when he admits that the existing “copyright law is not fit for purpose”. Whatever happens I think the creative artist may be in for a rough time.

Alastair Everitt



Swaffham Prior Heat Network – June 25 Update

We are happy to announce that 97 properties in our village are now successfully connected to the Swaffham Prior Heat Network, providing sustainable heating.

In June 2025, we will start the external connections for the next batch of properties. After this, the internal installation works will follow on. If you've shown interest in joining the network, our team will contact you shortly for the required property surveys. Thank you for your patience and continued support.

Referring to last month's crier, there were some questions raised about the temperatures provided from the Energy Centre. To clear up any confusion, below are the temperature ranges on the basis of which network is in operate with the following operational parameters as advised on page 28 of Heat Supply Agreement:

		Winter		Summer*	
		Max	Min	Max	Min
Network Flow Temperature	°C	75	72	75	65
Network Return Temperature	°C	55	53	55	45

Our Energy Centre consistently provides temperatures within these stated ranges, ensuring your comfort.

Average Bills:

Below is the average monthly and yearly spend on variable charges for heating which is based on the data of 64 properties under Band 1 to Band 4 from Feb '24 to Mar '25.

	Band 1 (50-99 sq. m.)	Band 2 (100-149 sq. m.)	Band 3(150- 199 sq. m.)	Band 4 (199+ sq. m.)
Avg. Monthly Consumption (KwH)	743	1,107	1,363	1,740
Avg. Monthly Spent (£)	£ 68.10	£ 101.54	£ 125.03	£ 159.58
Avg. Yearly Consumption (KwH)	8,912	13,288	16,361	20,883
Avg. Yearly Spent (£)	£ 817	£ 1,218	£ 1,500	£ 1,915

In addition, here are the daily standing charges including VAT for 2025:

Floor area of House (Sq. M)	Annual Costs (£)	Daily Costs (£)
Band 1 - 50-99	322	0.88
Band 2 - 100-149	400	1.10
Band 3 - 150-199	484	1.33
Band 4 - 199+	568	1.56

Feedback from a Resident:

“Installation team were excellent when they were supplied with the correct parts. System now working very well. – Resident on Green End Road”

Curious About Swaffham Prior Heat Network? Join an Open House Event!

Would you be Interested in seeing our heating system in action? We are organising Open House events where you can visit a home already connected to the network. It's a great chance to see the system in person and ask questions. Email us to register your interest, and our team will contact you to arrange a visit.

Meet Our Team

Our team is available to discuss how the heat network could benefit your home. Meetings can be held at the Village Hall, your home, or via video conference. To book a meeting with our business or technical team, call or email us.

Get in Touch or Register Your Interest

If you're interested in joining, please contact us or register your interest online through our form at: <https://forms.office.com/e/8mg3xtEpnY>

Our contact details

Email us at heatingswaffhamprior@cambridgeshire.gov.uk,

Call our customer service line at 0345 0455210

24x7 Helpline contact No. 01782 390777

Heating Swaffham Prior Team

BON MOT NUMBER 161

“A Conclave is a rather brilliant system.
You have to find a consensus around a candidate.

If British political parties had elected
a Conclave in the last few years
we would have had better prime ministers.”

Robert Harris (1957 -)

Julie's fruits of the season recipes

Gooseberry Fool

500g gooseberries

150g caster sugar

Splash of elderflower cordial

250g whipping cream

Few drops of green food colouring

1. Put the gooseberries, sugar and elderflower cordial in a pan, cover and cook for 10-15 minutes until cooked down and tender. Let cool.
2. Whip the cream and stir into the fruit mixture with a little food colouring
3. Spoon into individual dishes and chill before serving.
4. Serve with a light shortbread biscuit.

Serves 6.

Strawberry syllabub trifle

100g sponge fingers

75g ginger biscuits

225g fresh strawberries, halved, plus
extra for decorating

150ml fresh orange juice

150ml sherry

50g caster sugar

Zest and juice of 1 orange

300ml whipping cream

2 tbsp toasted chopped hazelnuts

1. Break up the sponge fingers and ginger biscuits and place into a serving dish. Scatter the strawberries over the top and drizzle over the orange juice. Leave to stand for a hour.
2. Bring the sugar and the sherry to the boil, remove from heat and add the orange zest and juice. Leave to cool and then strain out the orange zest.
3. Whip the cream until soft but not too stiff while slowly pouring the sherry mixture to it.
4. Then spoon the cream onto the top of the strawberries. Decorate with the rest of the strawberries and chopped hazelnuts. Chill until ready to serve.

Serves 6

Orange and rhubarb pudding

500g rhubarb

Grated rind and juice of 1 orange

50g soft brown sugar

50g margarine

50g soft brown sugar

1 large egg

75g SR flour

½ tsp baking powder

50g almonds, chopped

1. Cut the rhubarb into 2.5 cm lengths and place in a 900ml ovenproof dish. Pour over the orange juice and sprinkle with the orange zest and 50g of brown

sugar.

2. Cream together the margarine and sugar, add egg and then the flour and baking powder to make the sponge mix.
 3. Spread evenly over the rhubarb and sprinkle chopped almonds on top.
 4. Bake in oven at 180c for 35-40 minutes until brown.
Serve with custard or orange chantilly cream
- Serves 4
-

Meet Councillor Yannifer Malinowski

**(reprinted from Fordham Village
Magazine with thanks)**

Yannifer became our new County Councillor on the first of May this year and this was my first chance to talk with her. And what a lot we had to talk about! We began with Star Wars (she loves it!) then her role as an executive member of the Liberal Democrats' Secularism and Humanism group before getting into the serious business of how she intends to represent us.



So, what are her political priorities? The answer is Roads, Healthcare and a Strong Local Voice. But in talking with her, it became apparent that the Strong Local Voice is the most important of her priorities and she intends to use that to support the other two. She wants to be available to people and for people to feel that they can contact her easily and that she will actually do something about their concerns. As she put it, “people need to feel that there is someone in their corner, holding county officers to account and acting for them”. In her view, the single most-repeated issue on the doorstep while she was campaigning was that people felt that nobody was on their side, listening and acting for them. She asked me to make sure that her phone number and private and public email addresses were included at the end of this article and that people should feel able to contact her easily.

“OK, so what are you going to do about the roads?” I asked. “After all, it’s not as though the other candidates hadn’t noticed the potholes”. She didn’t argue with that, but her emphasis was interesting. “The state of the roads speaks to the state of the country”, she said, “the potholes are a visible sign of a much deeper issue and that’s the state of the infrastructure in the country. People want to know that the roads are going to be fixed and it’s my responsibility, as a councillor, to know about the state of the roads in my division and to be a bridge between the local parishes and the officials in the County to make sure we get the action we need. I’m already attending the meetings of the local parishes to hear their concerns, and this is part of what I mean by a strong local voice.”

Another area where the strong local voice is needed is Healthcare. Healthcare kept coming up during campaigning. And it’s not just the NHS. For example, the Burwell Print Centre provides vital support to vulnerable people in the community,

yet it is threatened by the increase in National Insurance. Organisations like this need the support of their local politicians. Another healthcare-related challenge is community transport, usually run by volunteers. “Vulnerable people need this transport to access basic care and the council must support it” she argued and added, “anything that the council can do to support community care helps keep people out of the NHS and is something that I will be working on hard now that I have been elected”.

I wanted to know about life before being elected. Yannifer studied politics at the University of East Anglia and worked as an intern in Brussels in 2016. In 2017, she joined the Liberal Democrats’ mayoral campaign and has worked for the party in various roles ever since.

I hesitated before asking a question that had been on my mind: “When did you realise that you were trans?”. Yannifer was relaxed and open in talking about this and explained that she had been brought up in a family where trans “just wasn’t a thing”. As she put it, her family felt that “boys wanting to be girls was just silly”. Nevertheless, she knew for a long time that “something was wrong”. It wasn’t that she was miserable, or depressed, but she just wasn’t happy as a boy. She eventually transitioned formally in 2023.

This brought us to the subject of trans role models. There are plenty of gay role models in public life, including entertainers, athletes, business leaders and politicians. But, as yet, there are few trans women (or men) in public positions to provide role models. Indeed, there is actual hostility to the idea of role models which seems to be based on the absurd notion that someone who is not naturally trans is going to decide to transition to be like some well-known person. Yannifer says she doesn’t just want to be seen as ‘the trans councillor’. She wants to be seen as any other councillor would, fighting for the interests of her community, and on top of that she just happens to be trans. “Maybe being elected as a trans councillor will normalise it, a bit”.

I think it will, and I hope it does.

You can contact Yannifer at: ymalinowski1794@gmail.com

Yannifer.Malinowski@cambridgeshire.gov.uk, 07546 216181



Eds note: Yannifer will be doing the regular “From Our Local County Councillor” article in future editions of the *Crier*.

POEM OF THE MONTH

Sonnet 18 William Shakespeare

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate.
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date.
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimmed;
And every fair from fair sometime declines,
By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimmed;
But thy eternal summer shall not fade,
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st,
Nor shall death brag thou wand'rest in his shade,
When in eternal lines to Time thou grow'st.
So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

Many people will recognise at least the first line of this poem, and a high proportion of that many will always have assumed it is a charming love sonnet written to a beautiful young woman.

It isn't.

The addressee is a narcissistic young man, in all probability, Henry Wriothesley, 3rd Earl of Southampton, Shakespeare's patron. But he isn't the true subject of the poem either; it's more subversive than that. This is a meta-poem. It's about itself.

It opens by considering a series of conventional poetic images only to dismiss them as inadequate, because they are ephemeral, and reaches a crescendo of despair at mortality by the end of the second quatrain (a group of four lines). The third quatrain is where the poem pivots to the extraordinarily beautiful defiance of "thy eternal summer shall not fade" and the assertion that Death, who would be proud to brag of possessing such beauty in his dominion, is going to be disappointed.

But how can this be?

closing couplet quietly, but with unshakeable certainty, reveals the true, death-vanquishing hero - the poem itself - and implicitly, in the shadows, wielding the god-like power of immortality, the poet.

Fanciful? You're reading this in 2025; it was written in the 1590s.

Andrew Grant

Heating Swaffham Prior (HSP):

5 reasons why we blooming well won't be part of it

When first we came to Swaffham Prior it ticked all our boxes, some twice: village hall; pub; splendid village publication; church; school. A green communal heating scheme was not on our list but we were delighted to hear of it – not so much out of a strong belief in the importance of making a contribution to the reduction of CO2 emissions, but for what it said about the character of our new neighbours: innovative, communautaires, active, doers. This, at least, proved a sound judgement.

We were enthusiasts, and not just because our oil-fired boiler needed replacing. I looked forward to being for once on the 'right' side of the virtue divide as much as to the quiet, on-demand warmth. So a young man from HSP came and surveyed the site and we agreed locations for the new heat exchanger and the route the hot water pipe would take to approach and enter the house. A contract was signed.

As we refurbished the house we replaced all the radiators with underfloor heating, we replaced windows, injected foam into wall cavities and piled high the insulation in the attic. The pipe's entry point to the house was prepared (and, ironically, still ventilates our shins with icy wind in winter). We were models of community readiness. That was in 2022.

Our house is down a spur road which we share with 4 other houses, two of which were known to be uninterested in the heating scheme; to dig up the road required their consent. There followed a period during which the terms on which this disruption could be rendered acceptable to all were gradually triangulated. The whole process was carried out in full email view of the young lady at HSP with the unenviable task of liaising with us villagers. We were confident we would get there.

I'll abbreviate the next two years as it is too boring to write let alone expect busy people like you to read. There were unsatisfactory communications with the HSP staff, a change of management, a growing feeling that we were being sidelined, that the historic record forever preserved on various email servers was ill-understood, potentially purposely. There were a couple of false dawns – a promising meeting at the village hall with a lady called Sheryl who was deemed influential (insufficiently, it seems) and a cost-saving initiative to share the trench with Gigaclear (too sensible, it seems). Most significantly, new preconditions emerged.

The new person at HSP shouldering the unenviable task of dealing with the villagers finally revealed the truth: our connection to HSP would be too expensive to 'ensure commercial viability' if there were not 2 other houses on the same spur. Of the two possible candidates we know that one is no longer interested, so that's that. But it's only the first reason we will not be participating:

HSP won't connect us up. It has been suggested to me that, according to the

understanding at the time of its initiation, HSP was bound to connect all houses in the village perimeter who wished it. We are pretty much in the centre of this perimeter. Surely, by excluding harder-to-reach houses like ours, the HSP loses validity as a path-finder scheme for other villages. This argument apparently cuts no ice with HSP.

Pricing. I think my oil boiler will be cheaper to run. In a competitive field, one of the most blatant untruths ever told by a politician seeking election in the UK is Mr Miliband's promise of falling electricity prices thanks to his rush to renewables by 2030. This is so evidently not possible that only a



motivated zealot would mouth it and only the uninformed or the wilfully credulous believe it. Consider the duplication required to provide grid balance and cover for the famous dunkelflaute periods, the ever-increasing renewable subsidies (£12+ billion this year) and the need to amortise the (£54 billion to 2030) capital costs of the grid-connection infrastructure; consider the maintenance costs of this additional infrastructure. The unit price of heat from HSP is now linked to that of electricity, and so, as long as Mr Miliband is in charge of that, I'd rather back the hydrocarbon horse - foreign dictators and petrostates and all.

We'd rather avoid the disruption. Despite the hard-won achievements regarding trenching down our communal road, in the end putting our lovely neighbours through that disruption is not attractive. Plus we have an attractive bed of irises on the pipeline's projected path to our house...

Misallocation of public resources. I'll admit I was sort of attracted by the notion that we might, for once, be on the receiving end of a government subsidy – for the HSP scheme is surely not economic. However, the money does not come from nowhere and using it to provide me with winter warmth and an equally cosy feeling of environmental virtue is to misallocate it.

I'm exhausted. It's been nearly 3 years and even if there was a potential of prevailing by bull-headed perseverance and even if reasons 2-4 did not exist, I don't think I'd bother.

In sales training, there's a technique called "Winning by Attrition" where salespeople deliberately extend interactions, gradually to wear down the target customer's resistance. HSP has brilliantly invented 'Losing by Attrition' as a way of un-closing an unwanted contract. The good news? Our iris bed survived as a blooming testament to this economic anti-strategy.

Keith Carter

VIIAGE FEAST 2025

Again this year the weather was kind to us helping contribute to a great day.

The village Hall committee would like to thank all our local heroes that supported the event by:

- donating bottles, plants, books, toys and cakes.
- Giving their time running a stall, selling items, hosting a game, displaying their crafts, capturing the moments in photos
- Providing refreshments
- Displaying incredible motorcycles
- Entertaining us with Morris Dancing and more relaxing Yoga.
- Taking time out from very important roles in the emergency services

Thanks to all who attended the event participating, competing and spectating.

The winner of the cake competition **Sandra Ginn** who guessed within a centimetre.

This years Egg Throwing Champions **Paul and Tristan Latchford**

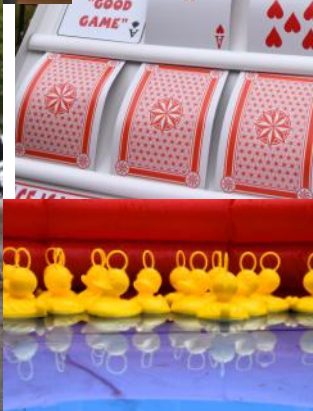
Thanks again, see you next year!

The Village Hall Committee

And particular thanks go to Jenny Brand, Organising Supremo-in-chief, without whom none of this could have happened., and indefatigable assistant and compere April Cook Eds



***Jenny Brand
with Compère
April Cook***





FEAST 2025





2025 FEAST Gurning Competition — your vote is needed!

You have 6 points— award them as you will, eg.

1. 2, (picture 1, 2 points)

2. 1,

10. 3

and send them to editors@swaffham-crier.co.uk, or see Facebook. Winner to be announced next month.



VILLAGE GARDENERS

In early May, the Village Gardeners joined up with Burwell & District Horticultural Society for an enjoyable coach trip to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. It was a perfect spring day for meandering around the woodland trails, taking in the many vistas and exploring inside some of the oldest and largest Victorian

glasshouses in the world. The plant collections inside the Palm House, the Temperate House and the Princess of Wales Conservatory were real highlights, although the intense heat and humidity of the Palm House, especially on the upper balcony, meant we couldn't stay inside for long before escaping outside to fresher air. We put in thousands of steps in our explorations, with plenty of breaks in the sun by the river and lakes. A day was too short to see all that Kew has to offer and there are parts that will blossom in different seasons, so hopefully we'll return another time to see more of its beauty.



In June and July we'll be staying closer to home, visiting Shadworth House in Swaffham Prior to see and learn about Tom's carnivorous plant collection (Tuesday 17th June, 6.30pm), and Snakehall Farm between Swaffham Prior and Reach to hear about the vital work of the Prospects Trust and to see what their co-workers are growing on the organic farm this year (Tuesday 15th July, 6pm). If you are not a regular Village Gardener but would like to join us on either of these visits, please do get in touch using the contact details at the back of the Crier.

Fiona Geraghty



PEACEFUL AND PRAYERFUL ART GROUP FOR ADULTS

Thursdays June 5, 12, 19
10:30am - 12:30pm
Holy Trinity Church, Bottisham

Those of all faiths or none
are WELCOME

No art experience necessary.
Support given to get started if required

A wide range of art materials supplied:
Charcoal / felt tips / pencils / crayons /
watercolour pencils / paints / pastels

The Swaffhams' WI

Over the last two months we have been blessed to have two wonderful speakers.

Due to the late Easter holiday the Swaffham's Women's Institute met a little later than their normal week in April to hear "our very own" Dr Giles Yeo talk about the latest obesity drugs.

He began by unravelling his knitted 'gut' and laying it out across the floor briefly explaining each part and its use for those who had not heard his last talk.

Obesity drugs have been around for some time but knowledge and use of them has exploded during the last two years.

Although the NHS has approved the drugs as safe they are controlling the amount being used for medical purposes as long term effects are still largely unknown.

The drugs mentioned were Ozempic, which can also be used to regulate type 2 diabetes, and Mounjaro which helps to reduce appetite. There seems to be few side effects known, apart from nausea in some cases, but if taking them for some time there may be a possible but rare, effect on the heart.

Others who want only to lose weight for cosmetic reasons are able to obtain the drug privately at approximately £150 monthly which rather limits their use to those who can afford it rather than those who need it. If, for any reason the taking of the drug is stopped weight can return.



Dr Yeo then instigated a general discussion and answered questions but it was generally agreed that to lose weight safely people's mindsets need to be changed away from cheap over-modified food to wholesome food. This could possibly only be achieved through Government legislation compelling a response from big food companies to reduce harmful elements in their products such as sugar and extra fats.

But basically to achieve weight loss safely one needs to eat proper whole foods and exercise to prolong life.

In May members welcomed Kevin Pigney to talk about his wildlife photography.

After many years of enjoying walking in the countryside he decided, about eight years ago, that he would like a digital camera to record

what he saw. Knowing nothing about photography he practised and got to know his camera and joined a club to learn more.

He started by showing us some of his East Anglian seascapes before moving on to landscapes, night pictures, animals and birds.

He found he needed patience for photographing squirrels, mice, owls among others and liked to adopt a low angle by lying on the ground, to obtain the amazing photos he had of hares and foxes. He especially enjoyed watching and recording British wildlife.

It was noted that of all animals he had none of dogs, so when asked to photograph some-one's dog he set up a small studio in his garage with back-drops, lighting and props, and so was able to produce many successful dog portraits. From there he was asked to photograph horses, so he bought more equipment to enable him to do so.

He is now a full-time photographer and enjoys teaching others to improve their photography through zoom (even abroad), one-to-one lessons and group workshops. He seeks to produce images untouched by any of the aids that a modern camera can give, instead relying on the timing and natural light for the finished product.

As well as the many photographs which he showed us, he also brought along some framed images of animals and birds, and cards which proved very popular.

Further meetings:

2025

June 9th Garden Party.

July 21st Alison Giles on Scientific Women at the Whipple Museum in Cambridge

August 18th Kevin Boardman on The Oregon Trail.

September Outing.

Our monthly meetings, if you would like to come along, are held in Swaffham Prior Village Hall at 7.30pm, usually on the third Monday. You will be assured a warm welcome.

The W.I. offers women the opportunity to make new friends, learn new skills and campaign on wide ranging issues. Lifts can be arranged if required.

Further information can be obtained from the secretary Hilary Grant 01638 741433

Gill Rushworth



School News

A warm welcome for toddlers and their grown-ups at Swaffham Bulbeck School

The Swaffham Partnership are excited to announce, we are reforming the band! **Bulbeck Band** is a much-loved toddler music group based at Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School. Come and join us for a sing-along and a cuppa with your very small people.

Babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers with their grown-ups are all welcome. Our reception teacher Mrs Weaver will be leading the singing for our first session **9.15-10.15 Wednesday 4th June 2025**, and the group will then run **every Wednesday during term time**. No need to book, just turn up, and enter school via the main entrance.

The group is free to families, donations are welcome. Please spread the word.

The Swaffham Partnership – Swaffham Prior Primary School and Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School - offer a friendly and inclusive learning environment rooted in our local community. Children attend our schools from a wide range of local villages. Places are still available for school starters in September 2025 and we would love to show you around.

Please contact our school office for more information:

office@swaffhamprior.cambs.sch.uk

[01638 741529](tel:01638741529) (Mon-Fri, 0900-1500)



BURWELL SURGERY PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG) – HAVE YOUR SAY!

The PPG is a group of patients and GP practice staff who meet for 90 minutes, four times a year, to discuss practice issues and patient experience to help improve the service. We also act as a consultative group for any changes at the practice.

Our next meetings will be at 6.30-8pm on Tuesday 15th July and then at the same time on Tuesday 14th October.

Meetings take place at the Burwell Day Centre with an option to join online via Teams.

ALL WELCOME! If you would like to be part of the group please contact the Surgery on 01638 741234 or by email at cpicb.burwellsurgery.admin@nhs.net

For more information, including a wide range of articles about Surgery services such as health checks, social prescribing and health and wellbeing coaching, please visit: <https://www.theburwellsurgery.co.uk/patient-group/about-our-ppg/>

Because of pre-election period restrictions due to the imminent County Council elections, there was no significant activity by the Council since the last report.

The by-election at Stretham ward, caused by the resignation of a Lib Dem Councillor for reasons of ill health, was won by a Lib Dem, so ECDC remains evenly balanced with fourteen each of Conservatives and the Lib Dem & Independent Group.

Members have had a seminar from Sanctuary Housing, and it was reported that many more houses have been renovated, and, now, occupied. If any one is aware of unoccupied Sanctuary Houses, please let us know so that we can check with Sanctuary. Sometimes major renovations must be done after a tenant leaves a house, particularly when they have been in residence for a long time.

Members have also had a seminar with the Police about Community policing, and John is discussing with the Area Police sergeant some of the problems that villages in this ward are facing. Please direct any further concerns or matters about policing to John.

We have also had a seminar about the Mepal Crematorium for which the building costs have escalated. Although it is possible to find the money from existing and expected CIL contributions, it will curtail other community projects.

Ward surgery

From half past six to half past seven at Swaffham Prior Village Hall on Thursday 19 June, followed by socialising at the Red Lion in the same village.



Spring Report to Parishes from Charlotte Cane MP

It's hard to believe, but it's now been over ten months since I was elected as your Member of Parliament—and what an honour it continues to be. I'm delighted to have spent that time fighting as your local champion and standing up for our communities in Parliament. My team and I have now closed over 4,300 cases—each one representing someone who reached out for help, advice or support. Every case matters, and I remain committed to making sure your voice is heard and your concerns are taken seriously.



Healthcare continues to be one of my top priorities. I recently spoke in Parliament about the challenges facing the NHS, including how hard it is for people to see a GP or dentist, and the difficulties local practices face in getting the resources they need. While we don't have a major hospital in Ely and East Cambridgeshire, we rely on others nearby—and it's vital that our own Princess of Wales Hospital is properly maintained. I've spoken with some of our local pharmacists, who are under huge financial pressure, and I've called on the government to give them the support they need and stop the wave of pharmacy closures affecting so many communities.

I'm also pressing the government for greater investment in rural public transport. Too many of our villages have no bus service at all, while others have infrequent services and nothing on Sundays. Our rural communities are fantastic places to live—but they must be accessible for everyone.

With proposals for large-scale battery storage sites across our constituency, I'm concerned that current fire safety regulations don't do enough to protect residents or the environment. These sites are crucial for supporting renewable energy—but safety must come first. I've raised the issue in Parliament and written to the Secretary of State, but so far there has been no satisfactory response. That's why I've launched a public petition calling on the Government to urgently strengthen safety regulations for large-scale battery storage sites, including requiring local fire services to be consulted during planning stages. It is possible to sign the petition here: bit.ly/batterystoragesafety

This spring, I enjoyed visiting Witchford Village College and the Centre School in Cottenham—school visits are always a highlight. I've also attended fantastic local events including Ely's Beer and Eel Festivals, Reach Fair, Soham Repair Café, and the new Policing Hub ceremony in Milton. On the doorstep, I've spoken with residents across the constituency, from Littleport and Haddenham, to Bottisham and Burwell. And I've hosted Community Meetings with residents and councillors in Waterbeach, Sutton, Soham and Ely. The next is in Cheveley on 7th June—get in

touch to book your place.

My team and I are here to help. If you need advice or support, or to book a place on my in-person or online advice surgery, please get in touch by email at charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk or call 0207 362 1601. Appointments can also be booked online: bit.ly/bookasurgery

The Reading Group Reads...

Someone-else's Shoes

By JoJo Moyes

The great value of a Book Club is that they introduce you to a wide variety of authors, to a wide variety of people, usually women, a better understanding of life, an interesting range of opinions. And also a great deal of enjoyment – if you like reading and chewing things over in your mind. JoJo Moyes satisfies on all counts as well as being a “page turner” – though not for everyone much to my surprise.

Having slightly defective hearing I cannot give a full account of the meeting. But by some clever sign language I was kept abreast of what was happening. Fortunately no-one else was able to interpret the sign language being used. It was a goodly crowd who turned up, as varied and opinionated as Chaucer's buoyant group of Canterbury pilgrims. On arrival they were presented with a grand cheese board provided by Anita, delicious biscuits and gallons of wine. Opinion then diverged between those who found the story irritating and unconvincing and those who found it wonderfully revealing. It is called a rom-com' - Romantic Comedy - and I suppose it is. But this is not a pejorative or undermining term. It is also one often used about Jane Austen, usually by men. Covering so much about the toughness and reality of life, as well as life's expectations. I was one of those who thought it a brilliant book, such humour and so much insight into a woman's point of view. I even went so far at one stage to say “not a word was wasted” which caused a few disbelieving mouths to drop. Attached to the book's cover were the usual range of admiring quotes and I shall just quote one from *The Times* which echoes the rest – “A BLAST OF A BOOK. A giddily joyful tale of women pulling together. Wonderfully wicked.” Not everyone agreed, but this is the fun, that opinions vary and we do not all think the same. Why do you think that is?



June Orbital - Samantha Harvey

July Wish you were here - Jodi Picoult

And at a later date: Wifedom by Anna Funder

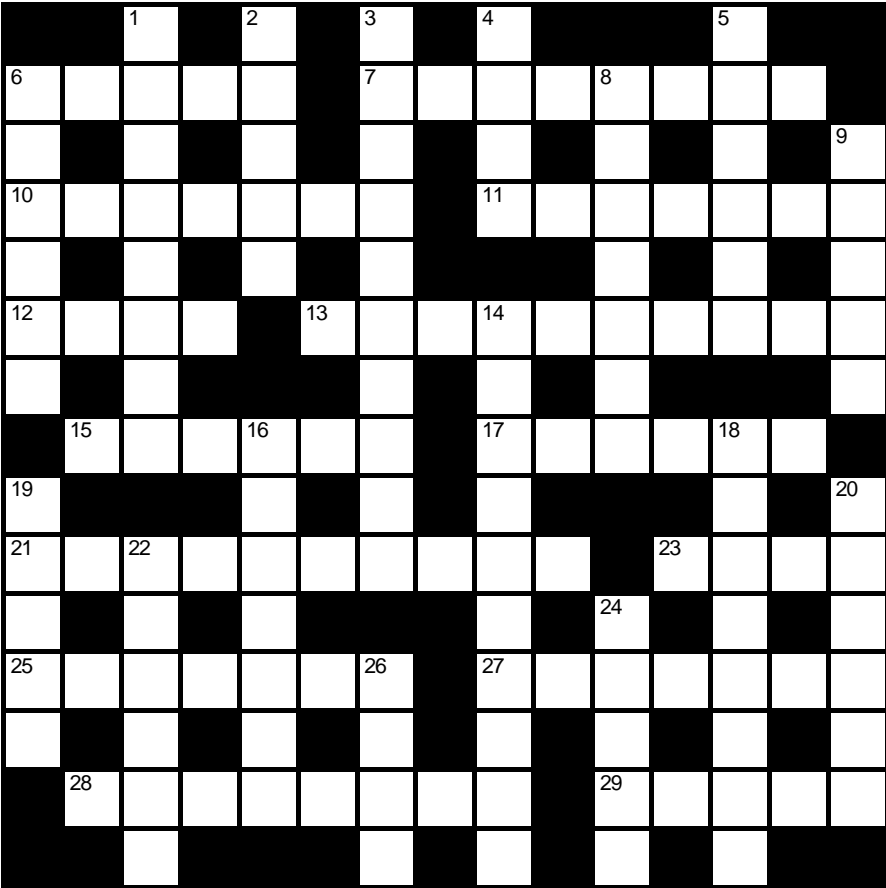
Next Book club, 6pm, 4 June, 5 Lower End. All welcome.

Alastair Everitt

Crossword Number 228

Compiled by OUNCE

Answers to clues marked * are related and have no definitions. Send your answers to the editors by 18th June 2025. The sender of the first correct solution out of the hat will win a free Sunday Lunch 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

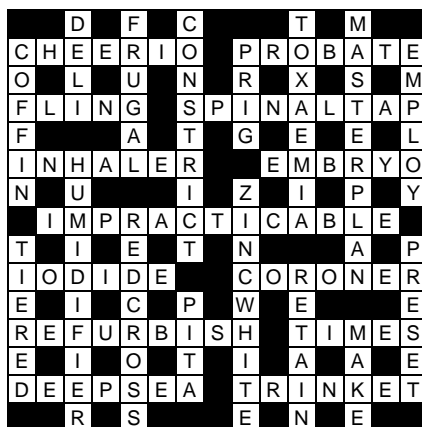
- 6 Dance seen in Sebastopol. Kazakhs do it too (5)
 7 Stew Eastern animal? Bad start for vegetarian protein source (4,4)
 10 Postage awry, state police (7)
 11 * Sedimentary rock metamorphosed (acronyms abstracted) (3,4)
 12 Stone discovered in chalcedony Xander claimed (4)
 13 Specialism of Doctor Sharp, city unknown (10)
 15 * About turn! Hundred? Thousand? Oh, we hear, none! (6)
 17 Rae swallows ovum with Marley's medium (6)
 21 I pop soot in cocktail - objection? (10)
 23 * Finally get the camera call (4)
 25 See 19 Down
 27 * Sad? Idiot! (4,3)
 28 Congratulations not rare (4,4)
 29 * Belonging to that woman round the middle of the month. (5)

Down

- 1 'Gesundheit' sobs Yule jerkily (5,3)
 2 Britain replaces Charlie as head of Panama for instance. Boring! (5)
 3 Robot plods drunkenly, hunting fox perhaps (5,5)
 4 Ruler starts eating mince in Russia (4)
 5 Discovering burglar, I attack with lasso (6)
 6 See 26

- 8 Growing when Abbott, for example, sounds bell (7)
 9 Stone in dreadful Bramley Ma spat out (5)
 14 Renowned chef goes loco - burned cook (6,4)
 16 * King is in Paris, the Spanish follow Russian leader (7)
 18 Small hole in a saucy river (8)
 19/25 * Orpheus rows a wreck (5,7)
 20 Protein's developed from playing lute nightly (6)
 22 Spare tyre set out badly in petition (6)
 24 Greek character: bashful and sentimental (5)
 26/6 * Court silly Enid and Doctor O (4,6)

Solution to crossword no. 227



We congratulate Robert Nunn, the winner of last month's competition, who will receive a prize certificate from the editors. Honourable mentions go to Colin Dailly and Dainin O'Dowd.

Notes from the Parish Council May Meeting

The Annual meeting of the Parish Council took place on the 8th May, starting at 7pm. It was chaired by Cllr John Covill and was attended by 8 parish councillors and one member of the public.

A-B1102 Representative	Cllr Greenfield
Allotments Warden	Cllr Latchford
Cemetery Warden	Cllr Durrant
Churches Liaison	Cllr Durrant
Community Land Trust Representative	Cllr Greenfield
Footpaths Warden	Cllr Lambert
IT Warden	Cllr Kent-Phillips
Lamp posts Warden	Cllr Latchford
Local Plan Warden	Cllr Greenfield
School liaison	Cllr Gynn
Swaffham Prior Parochial Charities Representative	Cllr Kent-Phillips
Swaffham Prior Sports & Recreation Committee Representative	Cllr Kent-Phillips
Village Hall Management Committee Representative	Cllr Muscroft
Village Verges Warden	Cllr Greenfield

Cllr Covill was elected chair for the year and Cllr Greenfield was elected as vice-chair.

The following roles for individual councillors were confirmed:

The Responsible Finance Officer was confirmed as Jude Griffiths

The Treasurer was confirmed as Cllr Kent-Phillips.

All council policies and procedures were reviewed and adopted. The insurance arrangements and asset register were reviewed and accepted and the subscriptions and memberships for the PC for 2025-6 were agreed.

The dates, times and place of the year's meetings were confirmed as below.

Ordinary meetings (7.30pm start):

Thursday 8th May 2025

Thursday 12th June 2025

Thursday 10th July 2025

Thursday 14th August 2025

Annual meeting (7pm start):

Thursday 14th May 2026

Thursday 11th September 2025

Thursday 9th October 2025

Thursday 13th November 2025

Thursday 11th December 2025

Thursday 8th January 2026

Thursday 12th February 2026

Thursday 12th March 2026

Thursday 9th April 2026

All to take place in the meeting room of the Village Hall.

The annual meeting was immediately followed by the May meeting of the Parish Council.

Reports:

Cambridgeshire County Council – Cllr Yannifer Malinowski attended.

The Chair welcomed Cllr Malinowski, the new CCC councillor. She thanked the meeting for inviting her and said she would like to attend as many meetings as she could and would also send regular reports.

East Cambridgeshire District Council – report circulated by email, Cllr John Trapp attended.

Cllr Trapp welcomed Cllr Malinowski. He highlighted the defibrillator training available and said the PC would be consulted in any local government changes.

Planning Applications received.

25/00442/FUL Ground and first floor rear extension. 15 Rogers Road, Swaffham Prior, Cambridge, CB25 0HX

The PC fully supported the application.

Annual Accounts and Year End Audit

Cllr Kent-Phillips presented the Internal Auditor's report and noted that no issues were raised. He then went through the accounts, highlighting a £3000 surplus and the qualification of the PC to declared exempt from external audit, saving £300 in audit fees.

Grant for repairs to the Scout Hut

Cllr Kent-Phillips noted that if the PC paid the full amount, it would be able to recover the VAT, but that this would not be true with a part grant.

To be decided at the June meeting when the budget would be available.

Rewilding project areas

Mike Barker spoke to the PC regarding the current state of the rewilding project and there was subsequent discussion of the issues raised.

The PC agreed to continue the scheme in its present form. Mike undertook to do a butterfly count to get a baseline, to discuss areas of rewilding within the churchyard with the church and to alter the 'no'mow' period in the cemetery to April-July.

Projects for the community payback team

Three projects were suggested:

Clear the bank back 2 feet on the bypass from Cage Hill to the sliproad.

Clear the scrub on the path from the play area to the scout hut

Clear the footpath from Laundry Cottage to the Beeches.

The Clerk will liaise with the community payback scheme.

Heating Scheme

Cllr Greenfield reported that the installation and day-to-day running is smooth. The sound issues are ongoing, as is the landscaping. CCC are not very reactive on these issues.

The Water Authority are dragging their heels on reinstatement of the trench and yellow lines on the High Street. Cllr Malinowski offered to see if she could help and Cllr Greenfield undertook to send her the necessary information.

Parish Councillors' Reports

Cllr Hart reported that the leylandii at the bottom of Cage Hill (Stocks Farm) is overgrown and obstructing the footpath. The Clerk will write formally to the owners requesting that they deal with the issue.

Produced from unapproved minutes and may contain errors; approved minutes can be found at <http://www.swaffhamprior-pc.gov.uk/minutes.html> 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, 12th June 2025 starting at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. All are welcome to attend.

FREECYCLE



As a reminder, everything is offered for 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/text (07980 423210) or 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:

A quantity of empty jam jars. Lorely 07901792623

Modern style chrome kitchen mixer tap - brand new. Steve 07917 697259

Wants:

Laser 1 sailing dinghy, any condition considered, can collect. Willing to pay reasonable amount. Mark 0780 3337240



News from Bottisham Medical Practice

Patients' Participation Group

From the Practice:

Dispensary: 2025 has been a challenge for the dispensary teams in terms of staffing. We are actively recruiting new staff. There are simply not enough qualified dispensers in the area looking for work. We continue to offer home delivery for medication. Patients can request medication online, we encourage you to request medications via this method to avoid errors.

Our Multidisciplinary Team: Did you know that you do not always need to see a GP, we have team members that can diagnose, prescribe and if necessary make hospital referrals for some illnesses / conditions

First Contact Physiotherapists provide patients with expert diagnosis and treatment for musculoskeletal conditions including neck pain, back pain, knee pain, hip pain, wrist pain, ankle pain and general problems with arthritis. Dominic works on Thursday and Charlotte on Tuesdays. You can book an appointment directly with them via reception. They have appointments available as currently are rarely full. Please use them or we will lose them!

Minor illness nurses: can diagnose and treat certain health conditions, order tests and interpret results, prescribe some medications and make hospital referrals. You may be booked into see a nurse practitioner rather than a GP if reception triage that your condition does not need a GP. If you see the nurse and they feel you did in fact need a GP this will be arranged swiftly, usually right there and then. Examples include minor illness such sore throats, chest infections, rashes, ear ache. Practice Nurses can also assess minor injuries, provide support with long term conditions and contraceptive advice.

Use of text messaging: you may receive more text messages than you used to, asking you, for example, to measure your blood pressure or have a blood test that is due. In order to reduce postal charges we will use text messages where we can. We will be asking more of you to measure your blood pressure than before as there are now new government targets to meet for the GP of every patient over the age of 45 years at least every 5 years. We have 3193 patients in this category!

BLS training: the patient participation group is planning a basic life support course in connection with the East Anglia Air Ambulance who are offering free training locally currently. Advertising will be on facebook and in the surgery when a date is finalised so please look out for this.

Next Meeting: In July at the surgery, date to be notified. If you are interested in joining our meetings please contact our chairman Steve Gilson s.j.gilson@btinternet.com. Or contact reception.

Bottisham Medical Practice Patient Participation Group.

Swaffham Prior Village Hall

There are lots of things going on in the village hall every month. Why not try something new from the list of regular events below:-



WI Meeting	3rd Monday of each month 19:30 – 21:30	Contact Kate at kate-muscroft@gmail.com
Village Gardeners	3rd Tuesday of each month 19:45 – 21:30	Contact Fiona on 01638741712
Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Society	Each Tuesday of each month (not 3rd)	Contact Daphne at hanson16@virginmedia.com
SF-Fit Pilates	Each Tuesday 17:30 – 19:00	Contact Sarah on 075999072008
SF-Fit Pilates	Each Wednesday 10:30 – 11:30 & 19:00 – 20:00	Contact Sarah on 075999072008
PhysiOptima Pilates	Each Wednesday 09:00 – 09:50	Contact Kristin on 07799323867
Quilters sewing group	Each Thursday 10:00 – 12:30	Contact Ruth on 01638743720
Slimming World	Each Thursday 17:30 – 19:00 & 19:00 – 20:00	Contact Sharon on 077601925638
Tai Chi Life Academy	Each Friday 10:00 – 12:00	Contact Sharyn on 0774017917
Lok Hup	Each Friday 12:00- 13:00	Contact Sharyn on 0774017917
SF-Fit Yoga	Each Friday 17:00 – 18:00	Contact Sarah on 075999072008

Following our AGM which was held in April the Swaffham Prior Village Hall Committee were again unable to fill the volunteer vacancy with responsibility for "Hall Maintenance".

In order to ensure that this valuable village asset remains in good condition we need help, so If you are able to become part of the committee and take on this role or can offer some of your time in a more occasional hands-on basis please contact Philip Blackburn on 07501230256 or at chairman.spvh@gmail.com

For anything else also contact Philip Blackburn on 07501230256

Services in June 2025

Sunday 1 June – seventh Sunday after Easter

9am Online service on Zoom
10.30am Holy Communion, Bottisham
4pm Village Service, Quy Village Hall

Wednesday 4 June

8pm CbyC, a contemplative service, online on Zoom

Sunday 8 June – Pentecost

9am Online service on Zoom
Holy Communion, Quy
10.30am Pentecost Family Worship, Swaffham Prior

***Saturday 14 June, 4pm – Confirmation Service - in Fulbourn;**
all welcome to support the Anglesey Benefice's confirmation candidates*

Sunday 15 June – Trinity Sunday

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

Sunday 22 June – first Sunday after Trinity

9am Online service on Zoom
Holy Communion (BCP), Swaffham Bulbeck
10.30am Holy Communion, Swaffham Prior

***Saturday 28 June, 4pm – Ordination to Priesthood of Revd Rhona at**
Ely Cathedral; all welcome*

Sunday 29 June – second Sunday after Trinity

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

Each Thursday

10.30am Holy Communion, Lode

Revd Max Osborne: max9@btinternet.com; 01223 481187 (Rest day: Tuesday)
Assistant Curate: Rev'd Rhona McEune: rihm67h@gmail.com
Churchwardens: Bottisham: bottisham@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; 01223 604019
Lode: lode@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; 01223 811222
Quy: quy@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; 01223 812652
Swaffham Bulbeck: bulbeck@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; 01223 812525; 01223 811501
Swaffham Prior: prior@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; 01638 743937
For general enquiries: admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; churchwardens@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/angleseychurches;
A Church Near You: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7380/benefice>

Dates for Your Diary June 2025

Wed	4	Bulbeck Band, Bulbeck Primary School, 9.15-10.15 Weds in term [24] Book Club, 6pm, 5 Lower End [27]
Thu	5	Peaceful and Prayerful Art Group, 10:30, Bottisham Church [21]
Sat	7	MP's Surgery, Cheveley [26]
Sun	8	Refreshments Stand, 36 Lower End [12]
Mon	9	WI Garden Party [23]
Thu	12	PC Meeting, 7.30pm, VH [32]
Tue	17	Village Gardeners' Visit to Shadworth House, 6.30pm [21]
Thu	19	Councillors Surgery, VH, 6.30-7.30pm [25]
Sat	21	Yearnings for Home Concert, St Botolph's, Cambridge [2]
Sun	22	Crier Copy Deadline
Fri	27	Yearnings for Home Concert, St Botolph's, Cambridge [2]
		July
Tue	15	Burwell Surgery Patient Participation Group, 6:30-8pm [24]
Sun	27	Strawberry Teas [5]

Numbers in square brackets indicate page number of an accompanying article

Club	Contact	Tel/Email	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Becky Wilkes	07827 318351	2 nd Mon of Term	8pm	Village School
Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Tim Doe	gsl@1st swaffhamprior scouts.org.uk	Wed (Term) Mon	5:15-6:30pm 6:30-8.00pm 7.00-8.30pm	Scout Hut
Reading Group	Brenda Wilson	743937	1 st Wed of month	6:00pm	Variable
Village Gardeners	Fiona Geraghty	07785 971853	3 rd Tues of month	8:00pm	Village Hall
WI	Kate Muscroft Kaye Lewsinski	07752011308 kayejanelew@ gmail.com	3 rd Mon of month	7.30 pm	Village Hall
Bell Ringers*	Gareth Davies	07886 323686 swaffhamprior bells@gmail.com	Every Tuesday	7.30-9.00pm	St Cyriac's