



The Swaffham Crier

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EDITORIAL

I love Elizabeth Everitt's list of Millenium suggestions (see Letters); further comments and suggestions required post haste - so get writing! Mine would be to replace the 'motorway junction' lighting which blazes out over Swaffham Prior with something a bit more appropriate. There were *no* street lights in village I grew up in, and there still aren't, to this day. Neither is there much in the way of crime, muggings, sex-attacks or nasty falls. None of this, the villagers just carry torches.

I know two little girls who are regularly in tears because it's so hard to cross the by-pass on the way to school. What sort of world do we live in? The Traffic Calming report on page 19 makes depressing reading. Nothing can be done because there's no money, no one's been killed yet, speedsters wouldn't take any notice, and anyway, everything's quite impossible. The root cause could be that there's no real WILL to do anything about it. If the same publicity that was afforded to the recent disappearance of two little girls were given to *all* the children that are regularly killed and maimed in motor accidents, then maybe there would be a will. But there's the News for you - if it's not unusual, it's not News and not blazoned all over the papers and the television. So we live in fear and dread of things that hardly ever happen, and forget the stuff that very likely will.

The buses are now running to a decent hour in the evening! But timetables are Top Secret - perhaps because they are largely ignored by the Bus Companies. But now we can sort them out - by keeping a *BusStop Watch* diary - see Charlotte Cane's article (page 25) for details. I shall be doing this from my kitchen window, so be warned, Stagecoach! Meanwhile, if anyone would like a (free!) lift to or from Cambridge, give me a ring, because I go in frequently and I often have four unoccupied seats.

Congratulations to *The Crier's* very own Pat Cunningham for receiving the WI's Gay Bulleid Award for all the excellent work she does in the village.

Happy Valentine's Day, everybody! I hope everyone gets lots of cards, and no sending-them-to-yourselves!

Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: by Claire Warren