



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXV Number 5

May 2011



Editorial

WELL, THAT WAS THE DO THAT WAS, and for next month's Crier, we invite everybody's articles, comments and photos of the Big Day, not to mention the follow-up celebrations throughout the rest of the weekend.

For the first time in its history, and at *great expense* we may add, the Crier will be taking out some colour pages to commemorate the event. Many congratulations to Emma Fletcher and her amazing Royal Wedding committee for a job so excellently executed and so much enjoyed by all.

Readers eagerly anticipating the usual long rambling editorial this month will be disappointed because our style has been somewhat cramped by yet another *bug* doing the rounds and stopping of at our house as usual. We are

trying very hard to get the magazine out in time for the elections this week — do read the addresses from each of our candidates, we hope not in retrospect!

Last month's crossword was inadvertently added to the wrong edition of the magazine (the previous month's)—no, you don't want to know how that happened—it's back this month, *and* what's this we hear about certain BOYS (we-know-who-they-were) smashing Youth Club windows on Royal Wedding Day? Always good to get your name in print...

Caroline Matheson

EUBIE BLAKE

(born 7th Feb 1883, died 12th Feb 1983)

Jazz pianist/composer, Eubie Blake,

On his 100th birthday, said,

"For Goodness' sake;

If I'd known I was going to last 'till now,

I'd have taken more care of myself,

somehow!"

Regulars

Letters	2
Our Reporter	4
New from Anglesey Abbey +	
Wicken Fen	9
Clr Brown	7
CROSSWORD	10
John Norris Remembers	12
Ophir	15
WI	16
Village Gardeners	16
PC Meeting	18
Simon Goddard	20
Freecycle	21
Church Services	21
Bon Mot	21
Freecycle	21
David Lewis	22
Bottisham Airfield Open Day	23
Bottisham Medical Practice	22

News, Views & Reviews

April 1 continued	2
Election Addresses, Allen	
Alderson + Charlotte Cane	6
Shutting the door on bogus	
prize draws	14
Mark Towris Bursary Fund	15

What's On

Swaffham Prior Feast	3
Midsummer Festival	8
Cambridge Open Studios	16

Wanted

Children for Musical	5
----------------------	---

Ophir

Cover Picture: *The Pasque Flower* (Out now on Devil's Dyke)



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Open Gardens

There are 2 Swaffham Prior gardens opening in aid of the National Gardens Scheme on Sunday 15th May. They are The Paddock, 43 Lower End and Shadworth House, 45 High Street. We are both open from 10-5.

Judi Churcher

Dear Editors,

Spare Paint Needed

I live in Swaffham Prior and work for Cambridgeshire Mencap, a local learning disability charity.

We are currently trying to acquire free tins of unused interior paint that people may have left over from decorating and that are now taking up room in their garage or loft. The paint would be used by volunteers to paint murals in the bedrooms of some of the children with learning disabilities that we support, many of whom have special sensory needs. In many cases it is just not possible for parents to undertake this work themselves, either through lack of time or due to financial circumstances.

I was wondering if readers might be prepared to donate any spare paint they don't need?

Annie Neild
(01223) 883 139

April the First – Continued

It seem that last month's *Crier* contained two April Fool entries. Many may missed them. Flora Lopi is now offering another opportunity to join the fun. Which of the following are true statements?

You are now drying your hands
with cleaner air.

The Airblade hand dryer has a HEPA filter which captures
99.9% of bacteria from air used to dry our hands.
And it saves paper towels from contributing to landfill.

Jim Dyson

Each adult has ten times as many bacteria creatures in their guts as they have cells of their own. Billions more live in the crooks and crannies of the skin, the mouth and elsewhere. We bear a kilogram's worth of these internal aliens.

Steve Jones

Advance Warning!



Swaffham Prior Feast

will be back on

Saturday 4th June

Put the date in your diary

All the usual favourites

+ plus +

new attractions

If you would like to help, either with the planning

or on the day, email: mcarrington@me.com

+ plus +

CAGE HILL SOAP BOX RALLY

(Get those soap-boxes out of wraps...more details, next *Crier*)

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

PC Meetings vary – but this was a cracker. But just as official minutes are selective in that they cannot report everything, so the *Crier* report does its own cherry picking.

The closure of the Newmarket Tip has been the main public concern over the last few weeks. Last week the *Crier* reported that Suffolk CC had approached ECDC for a contribution. **This was wrong.** Other papers reported that Suffolk CC had in fact approached Cambridgeshire CC. David Brown reported that **this was also wrong.** It seems Suffolk CC approached no-one, not even its own district councils. Perhaps it had all been left to those expensive consultants we are told Suffolk employ. Following public protests David reported that there had been a very positive meeting between the two county councils and in the short term there has been a stay of execution until 31 July. Is this the “power of the people” or just a display of commonsense.



During this discussion many members expressed forceful views on the threatened closure. Allen Alderson needed to point out that ECDC only has a budget of £9 million compared to the hundreds of millions handled by Suffolk. He made the point also that he is always trying to make Ely aware that there is a “South of Ely district”. £70,000 has been granted for the Burwell pavilion.

While David Brown was still reporting Peter Hart said he had learned that in the Fire Service one manager is required to look after one fireman, and he wondered about the cost. John Covill commented that it seemed to be very top heavy and David said he will look into the matter. We look forward to the answer. Both CCC and ECDC are cutting their magazines. There will be no savings on the production costs as the advertising covers these but there will be savings on the cost of distribution (and editorial?).

Then came one of those cabaret type interludes. This time it was reported that John Norris had noticed a problem with moles in the cemetery. Geoffrey, always one for the wild life, shot up there but couldn’t find any. “Neither could I” said Steve, and the matter was dropped – two against one.

This was then followed by a wonderful piece of commonsense which was like a flush of fresh air. Several years ago a number of restrictions were placed on parish councils such as that nothing could be discussed unless it was on the agenda, and that all items on the agenda had to be agreed at the previous meeting. At the end of each meeting the PC agonised over what they might wish to discuss at the following meeting. From whence these rules came I know not but they were insisted on by Hazel Williams, when she was our county councillor.

Two new planning applications had arrived too late to be included on the agenda but it was decided that “the Chairman can introduce a new item on the agenda”. “Can I?” asked John, “Yes” he was told, and so they were added, discussed, and settled without need for a separate meeting. Subsequently I noticed that “Items for the next agenda” had been removed from the agenda.

Unless you attend Parish Council meetings or keep your ear very close to the ground you can have no idea what keeps a village going. We have a waste bin in the bus shelter. Some months ago the bin liner went missing and subsequently Veolia refused to empty it. Karen reported this, that it was impossible to buy a separate liner, and a new one would have to be bought.. “Who has been emptying it if Veolia doesn’t” asked someone. “I have” said Karen, “with my own little hands”. The PC was shocked that the Clerk should be doing this and agreed to purchase a new one. It later transpired that it had been Veolia who had thrown the lining away.

Our new road warden is still waiting to discuss Mill Hill with someone from CCC, and this led on to the Lode traffic lights and the views of the Lode Community Harriers. David reported that there are very mixed feelings in Lode about the lights. They are deemed to have made that crossing a safe route to school and so the village has lost its school bus. And those at the crossroads are not at all pleased with the very bright green lights. Also I have been taken to task for comparing the chance of seeing the lights at red with a win on Premium Bonds which can be quite frequent; it was suggested the comparison should have been made with a win on the Lottery.

The young people’s hut in the play area had leant over and Steve, on examination, found that the screws used were rather modest and he fixed the sunken joint with a heavy duty bolt. He admitted that, if money had been available, the structure would have survived better on a hard surface rather than the ground into which it had sunk. So a bit of restoration will be required, and at this very same moment a bit of restoration is being carried out on the Trinity College great gate. Something has gone amiss with bolts and how they line up with the perpendicular and the craftsman from Devon employed to fix it maintains “It were not a very good design.” “But”, remonstrated someone, “it’s been there for 500 years”. “I don’t know about that”, said the Devonian, “but it were not well designed in the first place.” Maybe he should have a word to Steve about his hut.

For about the third or fourth election in a row the PC election was again uncontested and we haven’t needed to vote. By depriving us of the vote the PC has saved the village several thousand pounds over the years and we all remain so happy. I bet Gaddafi, or that bloke masquerading as a dictator at the Street Party, would like to know the secret.

Alastair Everitt

Pollyanna

Sky Blue Theatre new Musical Pollyanna is looking for children aged from 8yrs-12yrs who are under 5ft in height to be in the chorus children of Pollyanna when it is presented at the Cambridge Corn Exchange on the Saturday and Sunday 10th and 11th September. Auditions on 10th June evening. If your child is interested please email francs at frances.wyse@btinternet.com

An Election Address From Charlotte Cane

I have lived in Reach for 16 years with my husband Jon. Our children, David and Kathryn attend Swaffham Prior Primary School, where I am a community governor.

I served as your District Councillor for several years but had to stand down due to looking after young children and to pressures of work. I now have a part-time job and the children are older so I have time to be active locally again.

Swaffham Prior, Reach and Swaffham Bulbeck are all villages with a strong sense of community. I believe the role of your District Councillor is to work with the Parish Councils and people in the villages to help keep them great places to live.

The three main issues which I would fight for as your District Councillor are:

keeping the Newmarket recycling centre open; saving local buses and funding for the dial-a-ride buses; spreading council spending more fairly across the district – not just on expensive projects in Ely.

If elected as your Councillor I would work for you like I did last time - keeping in touch through regular Focus and the village magazines; attending Parish Council meetings; and holding regular 'surgeries' in the village halls.

If you would like to get in touch, my contact details are:

ccane@cix.co.uk

01638 741064

34 Swaffham Road, Reach, CB25 0HZ

Charlotte Cane

An Election Address From Allen Alderson

I have been your District Councillor for the last seven years, representing the Swaffhams Ward. This covers the area between Upware and Newmarket's National Stud. It includes the villages of Reach, Swaffham Bulbeck and Swaffham Prior.

I have lived in Reach for 21 years, being married to Rachael for 48 years. We have 3 grown up children, the youngest of whom went to Swaffham Prior and Bottisham schools. For several years I was a member of Swaffham Prior school PTA, with 3 years as its chairman. My main interests are gardening and walking my two dogs in the surrounding countryside.

As a councillor I have been involved in many local issues. Whilst helping lead the 'Dont Ditch our Lodes' campaign, I managed to obtain the unanimous support of East Cambs Councillors for our successful fight against major alterations to Reach and Burwell lodes proposed by the Environmental Agency, thus preserving them in their present form. Also I helped obtain District Council Funding for the Reach Village Hall improvements..

Sanctuary Hereward Housing finally erected safety handrails for its elderly residents at The Beeches, Swaffham Prior after sustained pressure by the Parish Council and myself.

By working hand in hand with the Parish Council and the local action committee representing concerned local residents I helped to successfully block Council plans

for Brook Farm in Swaffham Prior to become a travellers site.

I have also campaigned for greater use of the swaffham Bulbeck village stores. The shop and its post office perform a very valuable service, particularly for our older residents and those without a car.

But now is not the time to be resting on laurels, there is still much work to be done.

There needs to be more provision of low cost housing, thus creating the opportunity for people to stay within their community.

We need better community and public transport for our rural area.

Also more leisure activities for our younger residents.

The continuation of the weekly refuse collection. With your support on May the 5th I can hopefully work towards achieving these.

Allen Alderson



From our Local County Councillor
David Brown

I represented the County Council at a meeting of the Local Government Association Rural Commission. One of the main topics for discussion was the practicalities of the Government plans to roll-out superfast Broadband nationwide. The Greater Cambridgeshire Local Enterprise Partnership has applied to be one of the first areas to take part in the project.

The East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership, which I sit on, met to receive various updates on crime and disorder matters. The ECCSP has been given a new duty by Government, which is to undertake a review of any homicide in which domestic violence has played a part. We had a lengthy discussion on how to fulfill that duty (which hopefully will not be needed) and agreed to ask the next meeting to appoint 2 Councillors to a County-wide panel from which an independent Chairman for any review will be selected.

I also attended a number of informal cabinet meetings.

As reported previously, Cllr Jill Tuck has announced that she will not be seeking re-election as Leader of the Council at the Annual Meeting on 17 May. At a Conservative Group meeting we elected Cllr Nick Clarke as Leader (designate) of the Conservative Group. Subject to a formal vote on 17 May Cllr Clarke will be confirmed as the new Leader of Cambridgeshire County Council. I feel greatly honoured that, subject to a formal vote at the same meeting Cllr Clarke has asked me to join the County Council Cabinet to take responsibility for the Children and Young People's portfolio. Since that news became public my Email in-box has been filling up with meeting requests! I am currently receiving numerous briefings from Directors and other officers and I am really looking forward to the challenge of my new role.

David Brown

MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL

Swaffham Prior

in aid of St. Cyriac & Julitta's Church

24th – 26th June, 2011

Friday 24th

7.00pm for

7.30pm

MIDSUMMER MADNESS Village Hall

With Hilary Sage and Friends

Tickets £7.50, bar available

Saturday 25th

11am-5.00pm

MIDSUMMER MARKET St. Cyriac's

A range of stalls on the theme "Flowers & Gardens"

Plants, Books, Bric-a-Brac, Paintings and Cards

Free Entry, Coffee Bar

2.00-5.00pm

Strawberry Teas, Anglesey House (in aid of St. Mary's Church)

PIANO RECITAL The Manor, Lower End

Doors open

by kind invitation of Mr. & Mrs. Adrian Dickens

7.30pm

"French Masterpieces" including Debussy, Ravel and Satie

for 8.00pm

an evening with Ian de Massini

Tickets £7.50

(please reserve places in advance on 01638 743693)

Sunday 26th

4.00-4.45pm

CONCERT IN TWO PARTS

Part I: St. Cyriac's "Songs of Love" by Carl Rütli

Cambridge Voices with cellist Veronica Henderson

Tickets £6.00 (no concessions)

4.45-5.15pm

Interval with refreshments, St. Mary's

5.15-6.00pm

Part II: St. Mary's

"Flowers for All" arranged by Ian de Massini

Cambridge Voices, suitable for all ages

Tickets £6.00 (adult) **£4.00** (child)

(Adult tickets for both Parts **£10.00**)

COMPLINE

7.00pm

Rehearsal and talk in St. Mary's

7.45-8.30pm

Service in St. Cyriac's

All enquiries please call 01638 743693 / 742974

News from Anglesey Abbey and Wicken Fen



The recent period of dry sunny weather has allowed work on the Burwell Fen habitat restoration project to re-commence. Ironically the project to construct a low level earth bund to assist the re-creation of floodplain grazing marsh, a priority UK Biodiversity Action Plan habitat, was delayed due to excessive rainfall over the winter period. The habitat restoration work is part of a European Union funded INTERREG project to help climate proof areas of Northern Europe against the adverse effects of global warming.

If you fancy a good workout and a walk in the countryside then why not have a go at Nordic walking. The technique uses lightweight poles to enhance normal walking meaning you can walk longer and further, whilst burning around 46% more calories than normal walking. Swaffham Prior based instructor, Oliver Gynn will be leading one hour walks at Wicken Fen on alternate Thursdays from 28 April. The walks cost £5 which includes equipment hire and instruction. To book a walk please contact Oliver on 07767 324365 or e-mail info@nordicwalking.co.uk

We have a great programme of events at Anglesey Abbey this spring. Why not step back in time to the 1920's for a **Murder Mystery Evening** on Friday 6 May. Tickets cost £50 adults £30 children which includes a three –course meal with introductory cocktail. If you need help designing or choosing plants for your garden why not join Assistant Head Gardener, David Jordon, for an **Herbaceous Border Garden Study Day** on Monday 16 May 1000 -1300, tickets £15, include refreshments and 10% discount on plant sales that day. Cambridge based, Purl Alpaca are holding a **Hand Knitting Workshop** on Saturday 21 May, 10.00 -16.00. Beginners or experienced knitters can make their own unique garment under the expert guidance of award winning designer Kari Helene. Tickets cost £95 (£90 for bookings of 3+ people) which includes a knitting kit and refreshments.

Over at Wicken Fen our summer migrants have returned and wildflowers are showing all over the fen. For early risers we have a **Dawn Chorus Walk** on Sunday 1 May at 4.45am Tickets £10 includes bacon roll and tea/ coffee. If you're not good at getting out of bed in the morning then there's always a **Dusk Chorus Walk** on Friday 27 May at 19.30, tickets £6.50 or £3.25 for children. Local Weaver, Nadine Anderson will be leading a **Frame Basket Making Workshop** on Saturday 14 May 9.45- 17.30, tickets £60, includes all materials. At the time of writing two Konik pony foals have recently been born – a good chance to see them would be on our **Konik Pony Walk** with grazing warden, Carol Laidlaw on Saturday 21 May at 10.30 – tickets £6.50 / £3.25.

Tickets for Anglesey Abbey events are available on 01223 810080 or 01353 720274 for Wicken Fen events.

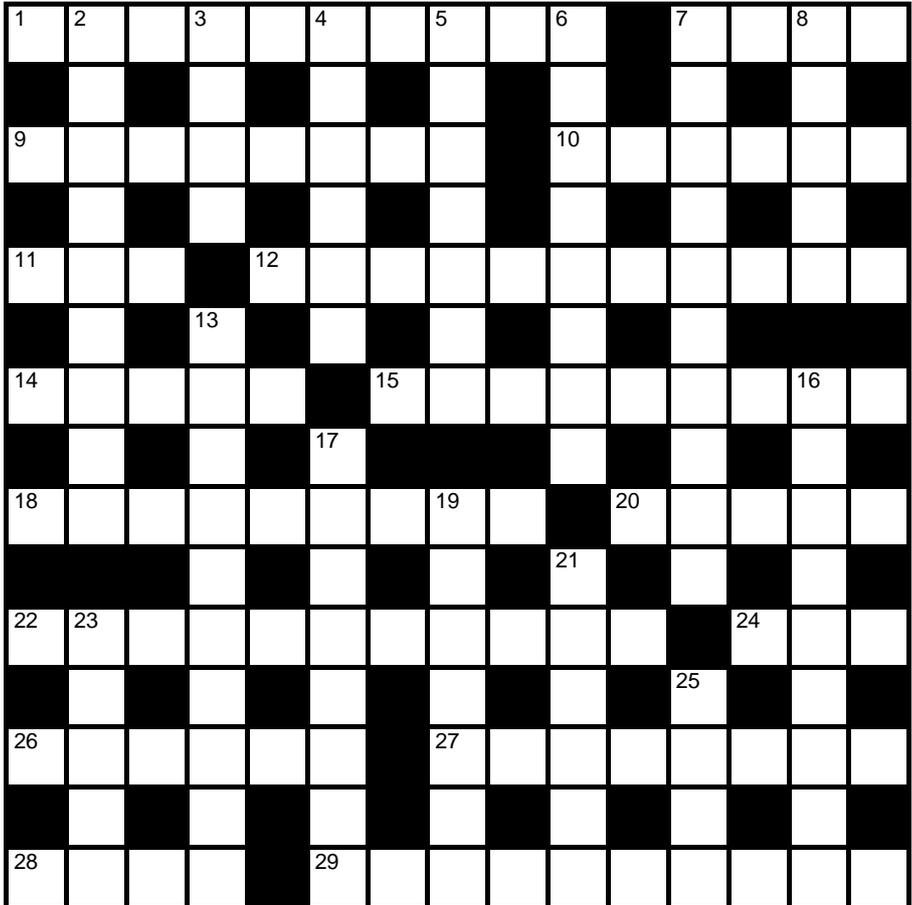
Crossword Number 78

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

OUNCE

This month's puzzle is a simple cryptic crossword. Send your answers to the editors by 18 September 2010. The first correct solution out of the hat will win a free meal for two at the Red Lion—See the Manager at the pub for full details.



Name:.....
Address.....
.....Tel:.....

Across

- 1 Dane's kebab made from mixed canned veg? (5,5)
- 7 Jealousy when drunken seventy set free. (4)
- 9 Half of anti-aircraft gun found in vandalised beach. What a pain! (8)
- 10 Go around quiet abyss in disguise. (6)
- 11 Khan's cooker. (3)
- 12 Nehru's death catastrophic for executive recruiters? (11)
- 14 Up and about encircling forecast Irishman made. (5)
- 15 They forget poor Cassia. Men! (9)
- 18 Hazards of course, belts round as well. (4,5)
- 20 A fee for travelling round coral island? (5)
- 22 Risk takers approach River Ure meandering South. (11)
- 24 Cat's call for seabird. (3)
- 26 Terribly sad: Riga caught out. (6)
- 27 Recite with varied pitch "Etonian catches cat's tail" badly. (8)
- 28 Peepers in Berkeley escapade. (4)
- 29 Hospital park scandal you hear about areas at Woomera and Cape Canaveral for example. (6,4)

- 4 Exotic tuck be found in this container? (6)
- 5 Fans leave fun and games; resolved on meeting item. (7)
- 6 Includes bus returning with problem bridge opponents. (8)
- 7 "One in self-imposed exile to pervert tax", I repeat. (10)
- 8 Guest loses it but finds eyeshade. (5)
- 13 Gaels did me wrong between 400 and 1500. (6,4)
- 16 Prayer journalist assembled. (9)
- 17 Code of conduct for first mountain pass. (8)
- 19 Adjacent to EU after alternative to "knit one". (7)
- 21 Cistercian, not sane, mad for one who judges. (6)
- 23 Cheese hat race. (5)
- 25 Fastens up cut. (4)

Down

- 2 Asian gel, a rotten painkiller. (9)
- 3 Animals initially identified as elands, llamas, kudas (or) springboks? (4)

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

Congratulations to March's winner, Robert Nunn, and commiserations to runner-up Shirley Wilkins.

John Norris remembers

The Church in 1959

My first impressions of St Mary's Church, was that it was dull, cold and poorly lit. I must admit that it would have been in mid October when we first attended as a family. Rev Francis Hicks was the vicar, and did his best to jolly us along, and keep up attendances. In those days it was expected that the "offices" were said every morning and evening, and that there would have been two services every Sunday.

It amazes me that all the church pews were accommodated in the building as St Cyriacs was almost roofless and contained nothing of value. There were certainly two extra rows in front of the present set up, and perhaps another row at the back. The officiant sat inside the rood screen, even as late as the Rev Mark Howarth's incumbency. This made so much more room at the front.

The choir stalls had wooden chairs with rush seats. Most of these were riddled with woodworm, and burned shortly after my arrival, and replaced by two black pews on each side. The Altar Table was placed against the Rood Screen, so that the celebrant had to face east. This made that area more spacious, and in my opinion the best option. We all knew what was going on at the Altar, and the present way of watching it all does take away some of the mystery of the ritual.

Of course the curtains there today were not necessary, and the pokerwork panels, although rather dull, did complement the rest of the building. The candlesticks had been nickel plated as this had been considered to require less cleaning. But no they looked awful after several years, and I had them re-brassed, and even today, fifty years later they still look splendid, as does the Altar Cross.

The lighting in the east of the church was by three twelve inch glass bowls, and a 150 watt lamp in the middle of each. These gave reasonable light but required the Electricity Board Engineers to replace the bulbs, which did not last all that long. How the chancel was lit before the electric came I do not know, and is one of the many things not recorded, but which are interesting.

Under the window opposite the organ was a sword, and nearby the "Sam Brown" from which it hung. Many did not like these items from a recent war, and one day they disappeared. The hooks on which they hung are still there.

The rood screen was refurbished in the nineteen sixties, as it was very dirty and lacking in polish. It took four weeks to complete the work, but made a huge improvement. One reason for the renovation was that the dust from the nave floor sanding went everywhere, even with many dustsheets. On the top of this screen was the place where the electric organ speakers were placed behind a black cloth screen. Colin Wastell had built and given this high technological organ for his fun, and our benefit. The sound and quality was superb, totally different to play and listen to from the simple second-hand pipe organ that was there. As with many things, it lost the interest of many, and the black cloth did not endear it to the ladies, so it went.

The pews received our attention next. The black paint was removed by

soaking with caustic soda, and elbow grease to remove it. One at a time they went to Anglesey house, where the treatment was performed, and any repairs made. The pulpit had to be cleaned in the church, as that too was black. Several years later we had to put a wider base on it, as it fell over with a schoolmaster inside!

Heating such a large space as the church is not easy. The old system had a coke furnace in the cellar under the vestry with hot air pipes under the floor of the nave. This hypocaust was quite clever in that the draft moving the air was regulated by shutters in the outside walls, one on the south side, and one near the boiler-room. The chute for the coke is still there, but everything else has been removed. There was a similar system in St Cyriac's, and I retrieved four of the tunnel bricks when a new floor was put in that church recently.

To make this work again I used an old hot air blower from the farm to push warm air up through the gratings. Very successful, but very underpowered. So three years later a larger new one was put into place. This needed a huge hole to be dug in the path by the vestry door, as it was too big to go down the steps to the cellar; it is going well today. (2011). The new supply of heat replaced the three paraffin heaters, which stood in the aisle. These had glass bottles for the fuel with a valve on the top. The bottle was turned upside-down on the pipe to the burner, over which was a wire dome which glowed red hot when working. This provided radiant heat for those near it, and hot air for the bats in the roof. These bottles used to gurgle when air was sucked in to replace the paraffin.

These heating attempts highlighted another problem; that of cold air coming down from the tower. John Byrom, the vicar, found a very heavy curtain, which we fixed over the tower arch to keep out this cold air. It was awful, but circumstances occurred so that a new glass screen was placed there, and that cured the problem, and served other purposes too. But the heating problem still has one more stage. We need three slow moving silent fans near the roof to blow the hot air back down to surround the congregation. These would complete our comfort zone, and we do have funds to pay for it. Keeping a fat investment account may be prudent, but I think our comfort is equally important.

The lighting in the nave was by these huge glass bowls so high as to be ineffective. So in 1964 John Macdonald and myself put in the present six lamps. We had quite a problem to drill a three-foot hole through the clunch and arrive at the proper place for the fitting. The angles were critical, and an ingenious device was made by John to get all the angles right. By today's standards they do look a little dated, but they have given good service for many years.

Many of these alterations were done by local folk, without the help of experts, and were very cost effective. One final thing. The lighting in the summer was still not good as the stained glass windows look interesting, but do keep out the light. It was the cloudiness of the clerestory windows that was the trouble. The acid rain from the many coal fires had etched the soft glass so as to keep out the light. A good harvest provided the wherewithal to replace these with hard Russian horticultural glass. And they are as bright today as when they were first put in. I kept a panel in my workshop to remind those interested how easily glass can

deteriorate

I think I have covered most things done in my time in the village to the church, and I trust that interest will continue, and that the communal spirit will preserve the building and what goes on inside it- it is much more than weddings and funerals.

John Norris

The Mark Towriss Bursary Fund

Supporting GP training in Kenya



Professor Hibble with Dr Tembu in Kenya

Remarkable progress: £17, 200 already raised!

Remarkably we are closing in on the £20k milestone with a magnificent £17, 200 already committed. Thanks to so many donors over the past year, who include Bottisham Scouts, Queen's Court home for the elderly, guests at a notable Lode Village birthday party, jam makers, generous colleagues and patients of Mark's. Our target of £30k is attainable!

The next major fund-raising event is a **grand raffle** for an amazing quilt made of African fabrics, which has been beautifully designed, stitched and donated by Diana Ridsdill –Smith. (Can be viewed at www.marktowrissbursary.com). You can buy tickets from both Bottisham and Burwell Surgeries and also from Bulbeck Post Office. We'll also have a stall at Reach Fair and maybe at other events when opportunities arise. Tickets will be £1 each and the draw will take place at Bottisham Surgery on 22nd June.

We are hoping to sell 7000 tickets! Please do buy!

(And if you can help sell tickets in your workplace or to friends, call Ute on 01223-811762 for tickets).

What it means

In September 2011 a second Bursary scholar will begin his three-year family medicine (GP) training. Our first sponsored doctor, Dr Tembu, is now in his second year. He is hard-working and enthusiastic, with a special interest in diabetes. Last year he attended a medical conference in Copenhagen, from where he nearly missed his own wedding due to a delayed return home because of the volcanic ash cloud!

In the current challenging financial situation, Kenyan hospitals are now unable to meet the cost of the doctor's salary they send away for GP training. For the next doctor the Bursary Fund will therefore be paying 75% of fees + 25% of annual salary (£12,750 over three years). So together with Dr Tembu's 3-year fees of £5,250, we have pledged all the money raised to date. We hope the raffle will go a long way to supporting the third GP's training we plan for.

In December Dr Tembu met with two Cambridge GP educators, Professor Hibble and his wife Dr Tulinus, who visited the Kenyan district hospitals and faculty members involved in GP training. Both doctors are keen to support the new and tiny faculty of GPs which must now take on the training of others and encourage more doctors to consider taking up Family Medicine. It is a great privilege to have these experienced doctors and teachers involved with the Bursary Fund. In August Professor Hibble and Dr Tulinus plan to return to Kenya and conduct several seminars together with Kenyan GPs.

Addenbrookes Abroad, the Addenbrookes-based charity linking its staff with projects abroad, has agreed to host a page for this project on its website, and to become more closely involved. This is great news for the project

In the same way that recession has induced the UK government to 'streamline' NHS funds, so the Kenyan government has reduced its health spending. It has stopped funding all postgraduate medical training: doctors must fund themselves to become surgeons, physicians and family doctors. This is particularly difficult for Kenyan family medicine as it is still in its infancy and not yet recognised as a mainstream specialty by the medical profession. In the UK we recognise the important role GPs play in our nation's health, particularly in rural environments. The broad skills of GPs are crucial for Kenya's predominantly rural population, facing the many health challenges they have and often finding themselves living a long way from their nearest hospital (approximately 80% of the population is rural; approximately 80% of doctors work in urban areas).

This fund is working to help establish a proper place for family medicine in Kenya. Firstly we are funding doctors to train in Family Medicine and secondly – through the Addenbrookes link – we are working on supporting existing GPs to further their skills and helping them to develop their teaching skills, so they can in turn effectively train more colleagues. There is much still to be achieved, but this project has already made a significant contribution. Mark would be very proud of what has already been achieved.

Please do support us in whatever way you can as we try to reduce the gap between the care you and I receive via our own medical practice and the handful of existing GPs available to serve the Kenyan people.

WI Notes

At our April meeting the speaker was Cheryl Brighty from Artistry in Cocoa in Newmarket who came to tell us about the history of chocolate which began in Mesoamerica. The fermented, roasted and ground beans of the *Theobroma cacao* (cocoa tree) can be traced to the Mokaya and other pre-Olmec peoples with evidence of cacao beverages dating back to 1900BC. The Aztecs are known to have traded with the Mayans using cacao seeds as a form of currency. At this time chocolate was only served as a drink and only high society were allowed to drink it. Its use spread into Mexico, Central and South America by 1400 but was unknown in Europe until the 16th century when it was introduced following the Spanish conquest of the Aztecs. In London the first chocolate house opened in 1657. These became very popular and later developed into gentlemen's clubs. In the 18th century mechanical mills were created that squeezed out the cocoa butter and it is this process that produces the different grades of chocolate that we are familiar with today. Although historically chocolate was only produced in America, today a large amount of the world's cocoa is produced in Western Africa. Following this fascinating glimpse into history, Cheryl then went on to give us a demonstration of chocolate making with hand tempering and dipping. Then the moment we had waited for when we got to sample the chocolates which were wonderful!

There is no speaker at the May meeting as we will be debating the issues addressed in the two NFWI AGM resolutions on local library closures and proposed mega farms. This will be followed by refreshments and glimpses into some members memories.

New members and occasional visitors are always welcome. Come along to a meeting and see if you would like to join our friendly group.

Pat Cook - 01638 742224

VILLAGE GARDENERS



Things aren't what they used to be, and Peter Jackson from Scotsdales, told us that the same applies to gardens. They are getting smaller and so too are lots of the things we plant in them.

His talk was about the trees that the botanists and nurserymen have been trying so hard to produce and perfect for years and how they have almost succeeded. (The technology for dwarfing trees was developed here, but sold by the government-don't know which one, to the Canadians. They, not us, are now reaping the financial rewards.) Dwarf root stocks are developed and more or less any choice of tree can be grafted on-Cherry, Birch and Maple being amongst the favourites. The disadvantage of this process, is that short trees have weak roots and may last only ten years. Long lived root stocks are still being tested. and are improving all the time.

These smaller trees suit gardeners with small gardens who want them easily controlled and all singing all dancing-wonderful autumn colour, flowers, berries,

foliage , winter and summer and either growing straight up or weeping! Apparently, trees like this, result in far fewer disputes between neighbours, so they also produce rows of happy gardeners.

Peter brought along several dwarfed trees and of course he showed us some excellent slides, three of which I especially liked. One was a crabapple- "Guardsman", another a dwarfed buddleia -"Buzz", growing very happily in a pot and one of a stunning row of amelanchiers.

We digressed at the end onto the wonders of mycorrhiza fungi and what they can do for your roots-but that's another story.

Margaret Joyce.

Our next meeting is on the 17th May, when our speaker will be Mark Ekin talking about "Pests and diseases-their identification and control.

Everyone is very welcome to our meetings.

CAMBRIDGE OPEN STUDIOS

This year Swaffham Prior has two local artists exhibiting, these are:

120 Paul Abbott - Oil painter

The Mill House, 11 Mill Hill, Swaffham Prior, Cambridge, cb25 0jz 01638 741537 paul@vividicity.com
www.vividicity.com

Bright, happy paintings from a vivid palette. Beaches, huts and rural views reflecting the local and east coast landscape.

Open Weekends: 1,2 and 3

121 Tina Jost - Pen & ink, mixed media

The White House, 32 Lower End, Swaffham Prior, cb25 0ht 01638 741750
tina.jost@swaffham-prior.co.uk

Working studio filled with rich-textured 'oils', fine 'pen & ink' drawings of botanical illustrations, houses and other works of art...

Open Weekends: 1 and 2

Plus one exhibitor in Reach and one in Swaffham Bullbeck:

119 Emma Mitchell - Jeweller

Greenview Cottage, 31 Fair Green, Reach, cb25 0jd 01638 741063
emma@minnielog.co.uk www.emmamitchelldesigns.co.uk

Nature-inspired designs in hand-worked silver, enamel and gemstones. Blossom, hares, birds and structural plant forms. Beach-hut-style studio.

Open Weekends: 2 and 4

122 Kari Karolia - Jewellery

Eyore's Tail, 99 High Street, Swaffham Bulbeck, Cambridge, cb25 0lx
kari.karolia@gmail.com www.karidesign.co.uk

Unique beaded jewellery, influenced by vintage work, nature, architecture and other cultures. Studio in picturesque surroundings, opposite the Church.



Notes from the Parish Council Meeting - Thursday, 14th April 2011

John Covill chaired the meeting with 7 Parish Councillors in attendance + 4 members of the public present. The following items were discussed:

Public Participation:

It was reported that ECDC's Planning Enforcement Officer was aware of the concerns raised about business premises on Green Head Road. *There followed some discussion but it was felt that nothing further could be done until the outcome of the investigation by ECDC was available.*

Reports:

CCC – Cllr David Brown reported to the meeting.

ECDC – Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting.

The following planning applications were considered:

Swaffham Prior Sewage Treatment Works, Station Road – erection of glass reinforced plastic kiosk (GRP) to house dosing and control equipment. There were no objections or comments.

Kent House, 9 High Street (amendment) – replacement of existing concrete tile roof by slate roof to match the rest of the property, make roof line continuous for this section of the building, repair gable end, roof timbers and other woodwork. There were no objections or comments.

Correspondence for Circulation/Consideration:

CCC – *Street Lighting Maintenance and Energy – 1 July onwards:* Two options were given for the level of maintenance for street lighting in the village. It was agreed to go for Option 1 at £20.05 per lighting unit. This was a slightly higher cost per unit but it was considered the additional cost was warranted to ensure fuller, more detailed inspections.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

Repair Works to the Pound Wall: The Conservation Officer for ECDC confirmed that she had inspected the new wall and found it to be of a good standard and did not consider it necessary for the wall to be white washed.

Housing Needs Survey: The Clerk had received confirmation that funding had now been found and the survey would be sent out to residents in the near future.

Reduced Speed Limits for Village: This was discussed following a result newspaper report which suggested that the parishes take responsibility for setting their own speed limits. It was agreed to wait for formal notification before considering further.

Repairs to Village Hall Driveway: A big thank you to Martin Mead, Mead Construction for submitting a very detailed summary of the work needed and the costs involved to resurface the driveway. To help fund this project the Clerk was to speak with the Village Hall Management Committee to see if they would willing to contribute towards the costs. Also, it was pointed out that ECDC's 'Small Villages Fund' might be an option for some grant funding. The Clerk was to find out more

about this. It was noted that should an application for grant funding be made, further quotations for the work would be needed.

Repairs to Parish Noticeboard: When moving the noticeboard closer to the fence & pavement it became apparent that the legs were rotted through and remedial work was needed. This has now been done with the staining, etc., to be carried out in the near future.

Damage to Play Area Equipment: It was reported to the Parish Council that the ‘shelter’ next to the climbing frame was leaning. Upon inspection the base frame appeared to have rotted through and repair works were needed. The Clerk was asked to check the terms of the warranty for this piece of equipment.

Annual Village Assembly: This was agreed for Tuesday, 24th May 2011 at the Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. *Please see separate notice in Crier.*

Clerk’s Report:

Litter in the Village: The Clerk now has two litter pickers with gloves and rubbish bags supplied by ECDC. All that is needed now is volunteer litter pickers – if you can help, please contact the Clerk.

Moles in Cemetery: This was reported to the Clerk. Inspection carried out by Parish Councillor but no trace was found. This was to be monitored.

Footpath repairs at Fairview Grove/The Beeches: CCC’s Paul Butcher confirmed that repairs would be carried out in the near future by one of their minor works teams.

Footpath repairs at Mill Hill: as above.

Whiteway Drove: Temporary warning signs in place for dip in road surface.

Parish Councillor Reports:

Kissing gates: John Covill told meeting that the gates stored in his yard for several years had now been removed for installation on the footpath from Pulpit Corner to Devils Dyke.

Village sign (Reach end): Andrew Camps reported that the legs to the sign were rusted through. *Clerk to report to CCC Highways.*

Year-End Accounts: Steve Kent-Phillips confirmed that subject to approval at the next PC meeting, the year-end accounts were ready for audit by the External Auditor.

Accounts for Payment: These were agreed.

Open Question Time:

There was discussion about agenda items for the Annual Village Assembly.

Mr Limb thanked the PC for moving the noticeboard nearer to the fence/pavement outside the Village Hall.

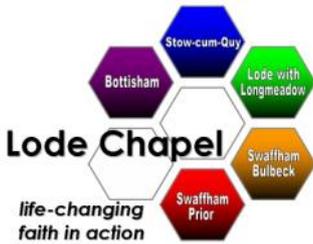
If anyone would like further information on any of the above items, please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday, 12th May 2011, starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

All are welcome to attend.

Karen King – Clerk to the Parish Council

Tel: 742358. Email: karen.king5@btopenworld.com



Happy Birthday King James

2nd May 2011 marks the 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible, also popularly known as the Authorised Version. Over the past couple of months you may have seen a variety of television programmes exploring the historic context of this translation and celebrating its deliberately memorable prose. Indeed, it's amazing that when I have occasionally used the King James Bible in services at Queen's Court, many of the residents, even some of those suffering from dementia, can recall whole passages from this version that is so familiar from their youth.

In the centuries prior to the Reformation the Bible had only been available in Latin, and it was partly out of the desire to make the Bible more widely accessible in the English language that the writing of the King James Version (KJV) was commissioned. The motivation to make the Bible accessible to everyone is what continues to inspire those who translate the Bible today. Indeed, there is still much work to do to ensure that the word of God can be heard in every tongue and dialect used throughout the world.

For 250 years the King James Bible had very few rivals, but as the English language evolved over time, and words like 'Thee', 'Thou' and 'verily' fell out of common usage, new versions became necessary. The scholars involved in a new translation always return to the original Greek and Hebrew manuscripts, and as some of the oldest copies of these biblical documents weren't found until the 1940s (when the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered) we can be increasingly certain about the accuracy of the text that we read.

Whilst those with a church background continue to find the text of the KJV familiar and beautiful, many from a younger generation are encountering the power of the Bible through versions which communicate its ageless truth in a language which is bang up to date. These include one version in 'street language' and another called the 'Manga Bible' which uses a graphical format popular amongst teenagers. You can also purchase the 'Poverty and Justice Bible' and the 'Green Bible' which highlight in a different colour all of the many Bible verses referring to these respective issues. The Bible, of course, is no longer limited to text on a page either, you can also now access the Bible online and via an app on your mobile phone!

The Christian faith is one which the church is called to proclaim afresh in each generation and these new translations are a vital tool in this task. As we celebrate 400 years since the publication of the King James Version I thank God for those who continue to help each new generation realise that the Bible is a living text, and one that continues to change the lives of those who read it.

Simon Goddard

Services in May

Sun 1st, 15th, 22nd & 29th, 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (Bottisham Primary School)

Sun 1st, 5.30pm – ‘Sacred Space’ Contemplative Service (Chapel)

Sun 8th, 10.30am – RE:NEW Kids Club and Café (School)

Sun 15th, 5.30pm – ‘Healing Space’ (Chapel)

For more information please contact: Rev. Simon Goddard.

Tel: (01223) 812881

Email: simon.goddard@re-new.me.uk

Web: www.lodechapel.org.uk and www.re-new.me.uk

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

Masses: Newmarket: Sat 1830; Sun 1030;

Kirtling: Sun 0900;

In Bottisham Parish Church, Sun 0900 (Served from Cambridge).

FREecycle

If you have any offers or wants, please contact me on jun.thompson@tiscali.co.uk, phone on 01223 813362, or drop a note through 23 Longmeadow. Everything is free and nothing is expected in return.

Offers:

19 drawer A3 sized stack of shelves (450 x 650 x 1500mm high). Bob 811770

Spare wheel cover embossed with horse head. Fit Freelanders or vehicle with same size wheels. Judi 07763 769933

Wants:

Small bedroom armchair, small chest of drawers to furnish the cottage of an elderly couple (if you have something suitable, please can you help with transport?). Bel c811070.

Childs bike. To suit age 6 - 9 years. Lesley 812901



BON MOT NUMBER THIRTEEN

“As for clothes, my house rule is that I iron on a need-to-wear basis. If it needs ironing, I don’t need to wear it.”

Ashley Morgan

Dear Friends,

One of the great pleasures of walking my dog Henry at this time of the year is hearing the birds singing. Last Monday (11th April) I heard a Cuckoo for the first time in Hatfield Forest. Is this a record? It is also a great joy to hear the Skylarks singing so joyfully high up in the sky. They seem so exuberant and carefree.



	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior January 2011
Sun 8	11:00am Holy Communion
Sun 15	11:00am Rogation Service
Sun 22	10:00am Benefice Communion (Bottisham)
Sun 29	8:00am Holy Communion 6:00pm Evensong

I once heard the story of a young skylark who discovered one day a man who would give him worms for a feather. He made a deal - one feather for two worms. The next day the lark was flying high in the sky with his father. The older bird said, "You know, son, we skylarks should be the happiest of all birds. See our brave wings! They lift us high in the air, nearer and nearer to God."

But the young bird did not hear, for all he saw was an old man with the worms. Down he flew, plucked two feathers from his wings and had a feast. Day after day this went on. Autumn came and it was time to fly south. But the young skylark couldn't do it. He had exchanged the power of his young wings for worms.

I think the story of that skylark is a moral tale that is very appropriate for today's society. Pick up a tabloid paper and analyse its message. It speaks of our greed, our selfishness, our preoccupation with material possessions; it speaks of the way that we so often worship our bodies, the way that we worship so-called 'personalities', and the way that we worship God's wonderful gift of procreation. We seem to worship everything else other than the God who made us, loves us, sustains us, and wants so much to have a loving relationship with us.

St Paul, speaking of the society he knew 2000 years ago, could just as easily be speaking of our society today when he wrote: *'For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.'* (Romans 1:21)

Perhaps we all ought to rethink our priorities in life, and begin to think about the needs of others rather than ourselves, and, like the older and wiser skylark, rise higher and nearer to God.

My God bless you all.

David

Bottisham Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

Bottisham patients now have a body to represent their interests to the Practice. A well-attended public meeting at Bottisham Surgery on Thursday 31st March 2011 enthusiastically agreed that the Patient Participation Group should be set up, with many of those attending agreeing to join the group's steering committee.

The Committee will hold its first meeting in April to chose its office holders and begin planning the group's activities. Progress will be reported to a future public meeting and to parish magazines, as will information on how to contact Committee members.

This is an important and exciting development for all Bottisham Practice patients, and with the NHS reforms soon to start, it will be essential for patient views to be reflected in decisions on how the reforms are implemented locally. You and your families will be directly affected by these reforms in the months and years to come.

The new Patient Participation Group (PPG) is there to act as your voice and to represent your views to the practice.

BOTTISHAM AIRFIELD MUSEUM GROUP

The Bottisham Airfield Museum Group had a very successful open day on the 10th April. The excellent weather encouraged over 300 paying adults plus their children through the gates to enjoy various Military vehicles, Aircraft parts, Home guard displays, Re-en actors, and the 1st stage of our challenge to build a replica P 51 Mustang which was on display. It was good to see such great interest in the role Bottisham Airfield played during the 2ND world war, this being the main aim of the Museum Group.



Our thanks to Geoff for the use of the site, Bottisham Medical Practise for the parking facility, Lode Post Office for their support and the generous donation from Brian McKay commercial vehicles, also all the volunteers who helped on the day. We now look forward to our 1940's dance on 21st May at Bottisham British Legion, music supplied by Barry with his 20 ft wing span silver bird, (which we hope fits in), tickets available from the Legion 01223 812063, Simon 07786 982880, Mark 01223 813310 or Jason Webb 07791 971799 email jasonwebb361@btinternet.com Please can the Group thank you all for your continued support and look forward to seeing soon.

Dates for Your Diary May 2011

Thu	5	ELECTIONS
Thu	12	PC Meeting, 12 May, 7.30pm
Tue	17	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2.45-3.15pm Chapel 3.20pm-4.00pm Village Gardeners, 8pm, VH
Wed	18	Crier Copy Deadline
Jun	4	VILLAGE FEAST + CAGE HILL SOAP BOX RALLY

Village Clubs & Societies

Club	Contact	Tel.	Date	Time	Place
FOSPS	Clare Freeman	741316	2 nd Mon of Term	8pm	Village School
Baby & Toddlers	Jessica Shakeshaft	744266	Fri	9:30- 11:30am	Village Hall
Jamsing	Jo Pumfrey	741376	Tues (term)	9.20-12	Village Hall
Cubs	Tim Doe	743656	Weds (term)	6:00- 7:30pm	Village School
Reading Group	Brenda Wilson	743937	1 st Weds of month	8:00pm	(See Crier)
Scouts	Tim Doe	743656	Weds (term)	6:15- 7:45pm	Village School
Village Gardeners	Margaret Joyce	744390	3 rd Tues of month	8:00pm	Village Hall
WI	Pat Cook	742224	3 rd Mon of month	7.30 pm	Village Hall
Youth Club	Alan Badcock	742228	Tues	7-8:30pm	Youth Club Hut
			Thurs	7-10:00pm	