



The Swaffham Crier

Volume 22 Number 7

July 1998



Editorial

The Festival is over, the cream teas eaten, the bunting packed away, the performers gone home and the gardens reasonably peaceful again (apart from the pigeons). **IT WAS STUNNING!** Many, many thanks to all those involved. And we do have one thing to remind us of past glories: an impeccably refurbished Village Hall, opened at the same time, but which would doubtless not have been opened at this or any other time were it not for the unstinting labours of all concerned. In particular and most especially, Pat Cunningham!

Outside my office window in Cambridge is a very big crane. So big, in fact, that every time it swings towards me I feel like ducking under the table. It says *DENCORA* on its side. Down Lower End is a very big field, currently the property of the above, and we learnt at the Annual Village Meeting that they, *DENCORA*, are prepared to let the village build a sports centre on part of the field if they are granted planning permission to build a variety of houses on bits of the rest of it. How generously altruistic! Why do I feel like ducking under the table again? Why do the epithets *Swaffham Prior New Town* and *Swaffham Prior - Historic City Centre* spring so readily to mind? Anyway, Charlotte Cane would like our opinions on this (see her article) so please communicate with her, or write to us - all views published.

1-2-3, who are we, Swaffham Prior Beavers, can't you see - alas no more, because *no-one* can be found to take over as leader (*surely* there must be someone?). On behalf of all those 6-8 year olds who have had such fun in the Beaver Colony - our own son included - may we say a big thank-you to Brown Beaver Kandi Lawrence who will shortly be retiring after 5 years running the show. She will be sorely missed.

Is it true that Val's temporary Post Office is such an agreeable place to be that some people are buying one stamp, going home, sticking it on their letter and then *coming back to buy another one*? Well, is it? Can some permanent premises be found? We hope so!

Caroline Matheson

Cover Picture: by Tina Jost

Festival '98

That was the Festival, that was, and no doubt you will let us know what you enjoyed - or otherwise. Either way we thought you would like to know the outcome.

Most events were well attended. Christopher Pemberton sold 24 of his 35 paintings, and ticket sales were excellent for all three concerts in St. Cyriac's. The open gardens and flower displays drew plenty of admirers and the main events in our elegant new Village Hall - Any Questions, Films, Quiz, History Lecture - all did well. This means that, subject to final payments, we anticipate a profit of about £2,000.

We received generous sponsorship and also donations from villagers, visitors and musicians of over £500 towards the purchase of a keyboard. The new instrument will be available for use in both churches and the Village Hall and, unlike a piano, will be mercifully easy to transport.

We hope also to be able to afford a public address system for use at the Feast, Church Fete and other outdoor events. Their harassed organisers would then no longer need to beg or borrow one.

Thank you very much to everyone who contributed towards this success - by moving chairs, buttering sandwiches, stewarding the exhibition, opening gardens, baking scones and, of course, supporting the various events. We hope you enjoyed yourselves.

Francis Reeks and Elisabeth Everitt
on behalf of the Organisers.

Swaffham Prior Parish Council - Vacancies

Swaffham Prior Parish Council has a vacancy for the position of '**Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer**'. There is also a vacant position for **Parish Councillor**. Any person requiring further information about either of the above , or wishing to apply should contact:

Mr A. M. Badcock
Chairman of Swaffham Prior Parish Council
15, Green Head Road
Swaffham Prior

St Mary's Summer Fete

You will find us at the **Village Hall** on **Saturday July 11th** from **2.15pm** and can escape from or prepare for the football world cup with the complete contrast of a traditional **English Fete**.

We feature all the things you would expect. Side-shows and competitions of all sorts to test your skill and judgement. Stalls to tempt you include cakes and produce, plants, white elephant, books and records etc. Naturally you will be able to have a Cream Tea and enjoy an ice cream while listening to the Brass Band.

At the end of the afternoon, we will be drawing the winning tickets in our **Grand Summer Draw**. Do not miss your chance to be a lucky winner, the chances are much better than on the lottery!

All this for just 30p. admission for adults and there is a lucky entrance ticket draw, children come in free.

See you there.

1st Swaffham Prior Cubs Annual Camp - 5th to 7th June, 1998

Congratulations and well done to the 1st Swaffham Prior Cubs for their success at Cub Camp at Icklingham recently and for receiving the Camping Standard Trophy. The boys and their leaders joined numerous other packs from the whole of Newmarket District at Home Farm just outside Icklingham for an action packed weekend.

The honour of coming first and receiving the trophy was accomplished by working together as a team and showing their camping skills in areas such as kit layout, tent pitching, fire lighting and bivouac making. The cup was presented by the Assistant District Commissioner at the closing ceremony on Sunday afternoon watched by parents, and our grateful thanks go to all those who so readily give up their free time to give the cubs such a wonderful, entertaining and educational experience, in particular Claire Brooks and Tony Lewis who accompanied the Swaffham Prior Cubs.

On looking at the records it can be noted with pride that Swaffham Prior Cubs are strong competition - since June 1991, including this year, they have won the Trophy 5 times, been runners up twice and been placed third once. Keep up the good work - well done.

Janet Wilmott



Swaffham Prior

****Summer Playscheme****

WANTED LIST!! (or please may we have....)

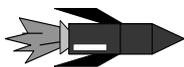
Plans are well under way for this our fifth Summer Playscheme. The schedule is beginning to take shape but we have learnt from experience that you're never quite sure exactly what is going to happen until the day! We have learnt to be flexible.

This year's theme is **Space** and all the wonderful things that that can encompass. We will be making rockets and planets, space helmets and aliens and lots of other things besides. To this end, we would like you to look in that cupboard under the stairs, the attic or the garden shed and turn out anything, and we mean **anything**, that you think we could make use of. In particular, we would be extremely grateful for:

Newspaper (not magazines), loo roll middles, kitchen roll middles, terracotta pots, white sheeting or pillow cases, balloons (left over from a party perhaps), plastic drinks bottles, shoe boxes, yoghurt cartons, seashells or piping etc. to make windchimes, odd saucers or small plates, off-cuts of wood, metal coat hangers, left-over wall tiles (doesn't matter if they are patterned) and interesting shaped glass jars, in particular those that have flattish sides like for instance the Kenco and Cafe Direct coffee jars. Phew..... and anything else you can think of. We would be happy to collect any items you sort out.



Many thanks



**Janet Willmott 743472, Sally Pearson 743966,
Claire Acklam 743862**

World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Your contribution to last year's coffee morning helped to raise nearly one and a half million pounds, which was absolutely marvellous. Thank you very much for all your generosity.

This year's World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan will be held on Friday 2nd October so please do make a note of this date in your diary.

Fosters Mill at Swaffham Prior will be re-opened to the public on **Sunday 26 July 1998 from 1pm until 5pm**. If there is suitable wind, we will be working, grinding organic wheat for sale.

We are trying to locate old pictures of the Mill and documentation to do with it in order to compile a comprehensive history. If you have anything that may be of interest, please do not hesitate to contact Jonathan Cook at the telephone number below. We would also be interested to speak to anyone who can remember visiting the mill before it ceased work in 1946.

Flour will be regularly on sale from the beginning of July; persons interested in purchasing should call 01638 741009 to arrange delivery.

Report on the Annual Village Assembly

All 9 Parish Councillors, around 30 members of the public, Cllr Fitch and Cllr Cane attended the Annual Village Assembly in the Village Hall on 28 May. The Parish Council, Parochial Charities and the Village Hall had provided printed copies of their annual accounts (to the year ending March 98) for those attending the meeting. There was also a copy of Mrs Cane's ECDC Annual Report.

The first hour and a bit of the meeting was taken up with a presentation on local planning by Mr David Archer, ECDC Chief Planning Officer and a very useful and lively discussion session on this. Much of this, not surprisingly, centered on Dencora's plans for the Lower End field, for which the most recent map was circulated. Opinions were expressed in favour of scheme (mainly on the basis of the sports facilities which were shown on the plan) and against it (on the basis of its effect on the character of the village, extending the developable area, increased traffic, etc). Little is now likely to happen until the Public Enquiry into the Local Plan in the autumn.

Cllrs Fitch and Cane then presented their annual reports. These were followed by the annual accounts: Parish Council (a surplus of £147 from a turnover of around £32,000); the Parochial Charities (a turnover of around £8,600 with £1,835 carried forward compared to £2,690 in the previous year); the Village Hall (closing balance of £2,014 after expenditure of £11,171 including a transfer of £8,300 to the Village Hall building fund); and the Sports and Social Club (little financial activity in the year). The agenda items then concluded with reports on the Neighbourhood Watch scheme and the speeding survey (no results yet available).

James Matheson

EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL 1999/2000 REGISTER OF ELECTORS VACANCIES

We need canvassers to help compile the Register of Electors for next year.

There are three parts to the job of canvasser and you can apply to do all three or any single part or combination of parts.

- Part 1.** To deliver registration forms to each household in a given working area within a specified period. (24th Aug. - 4th Sept.)
- Part 2.** To call on properties that have not responded to postal reminders and collect information about occupants and their eligibility to vote. (6th Oct. - 26th Oct.)
- Part 3.** To collate registration forms A and check them against the entries in the Draft Register of Electors. (23rd Nov. - 16th Dec.)

The work is part-time and done from home. You should be:

- able to deal with members of the public
- conscientious
- have clear hand writing
- able to work to deadlines
- available to canvass properties during the day, in the evenings and at weekends as required.

The fees are based on the number of properties within a village area. Full instructions and training will be given.

If you would like further information and an application form, please contact Electoral Services, East Cambridgeshire District Council, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, Cambs. CB7 4PL. Telephone 01353 665555.

50p per dream

BUY
NOW

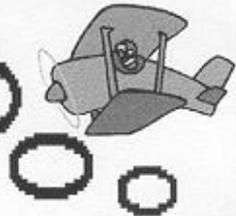
Would you like to
enjoy a flight over Swaffham Prior, or
drive a Jaguar XK8 coupé for a weekend?

Just 50p could buy your lucky raffle ticket
and make your dream come true

Tickets for these and many more super prizes from
Ruth Scovil ☎ 743720

The winning tickets will be drawn at the Church Fête
on Saturday, 11th July 1998

Don't just dream - buy a ticket NOW!



St Mary's Church Fete
Saturday July 11th

We would very much appreciate any gifts of cakes and produce, bottles, plants, books, white elephant items or items for prizes in the competitions and side-shows.

Donations can be given to: Miss K Child, 73 High Street; Mrs. R Wood at The Manor House, Lower End; Mrs J Reeks, 44 High Street; or left at the Vicarage.

Thank you for your support.



Congratulations to Michael and Rebecca Gazeley on the birth of their son **William** on Friday 22nd May 1998

David Urwin Arts Award 10th Anniversary

There will be a celebratory evening on **Wednesday 1st July 1998 at 7.30 pm at St. Cyriac's Church, Swaffham Prior.**

The Awards for this year will be presented and results of the poetry competition (on the theme of Impressionism) will be announced.

The highlight of the evening will be a Concert by **MOBIUS** - a group of seven lively young international, prizewinning musicians, based in London. Music by Mozart, Martinu, Ibert, Takemitsu and Ravel.

Students who have been taking part in an Outreach Day with **MOBIUS** will make a small musical contribution.

Tickets £7. (£5. concessions) from: Roger Bond Tel: 01223 811542
Jenny Urwin Tel: 01223 811525
or at the door.

We have a variety of useful **items for sale** as we're keen to empty our garage, such as:

- Girls' bike, suitable for 8-10 year old.
- Amiga Computer with plenty of software.
- Two electric coal effect fires.
- Two Baby Belling electric cookers.
- Electric carving knife.
- Black & Decker Stripemaster lawnmower.
- Electric slow cooker.
- 4-shelf bookcase.
- Tefal table-top electric cooker.
- Ercol 2 seater settee & chair (needs new covers & cushions)
- plus a selection of toys and jigsaws etc.

No reasonable offer will be refused, so if you're interested, phone 01638 742559.



Recipe of the Month

This is a light but delicious dish which has very little preparation and is quick to produce - very suitable if you have guests. Thanks to Kate Childs for this one.

Chicken in Lemon Sauce - serves 4

Ingredients:

4 Chicken breasts	Salt and pepper
60g Margarine	2 tabsp. Sherry
2 level teasp. grated lemon rind	120 mls single cream
2 tabsp. lemon juice	60g crumbled Lancashire or Cheshire cheese

Method

1. Fry chicken in half of the margarine for about 8 minutes until golden and cooked through. Place in a hot serving dish and keep warm.
2. To the pan, add the sherry, lemon rind and juice and cook for 1 minute, stirring all the time. Season to taste.
3. Slowly add the cream stirring all the time. Heat but do not allow to boil. Pour over the chicken.
4. Dot chicken breasts with remaining margarine. Sprinkle with the cheese and grill until golden brown.
5. Garnish with parsley and serve with new potatoes and your favourite vegetables.

Hilary Mengham

GRASS PADDOCK for two horses available now until October. Please contact: Mrs Wood. Tel No: 01638 742020

Staff Wanted.....

The **Red Lion** are looking for the following lunchtime staff:

Cook
Kitchen assistant/Waitress

For further information, please apply to Maggie or John Berry on **742303**.



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Festival Thanks

May I, through the channel of The Swaffham Crier, convey to the village the gratitude of Cambridge Voices for the opportunity we had to participate in the Swaffham Prior Festival in May. Musically the village feels very much our home: we especially love singing in St. Cyriac's and we are always made to feel so welcome.

As some of you will know we have known Carl Rütli for a number of years and have sung in their church with the Kirchenchor Oberägeri twice. On both occasions they looked after us very generously, so it was with particular gratitude that we saw them so warmly received in Swaffham Prior.

You have a wonderful team of dedicated people who worked so hard to put together the feast of activities which made up the Festival. How fortunate you are to also have St. Cyriac's Church with its marvellous acoustic alongside St. Mary's Parish Church where such a huge throng joined in the Sunday's Festal Mass. Those of us who attended it felt very privileged to hear Carl's world-class piano recital and it was a quiet treat for us on Sunday night to sing some of our favourite music during Ian's lecture.

Thank you for these pleasures we enjoyed and we look forward to the Millennium Festival in two years time.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Tootal,
Manager, Cambridge Voices

Dear Editors,

Noise nuisance from gas operated bird scarers

I thought it would be helpful to those living within the village and thus within easy earshot of the, at times, pervasive nuisance of bird-scarers that the environment office at East Cambs. District Council will act upon a complaint being made. There are guidelines which are designed to limit the irresponsible use of these devices, and firm action can be taken if a notice by the environment office is disregarded. The telephone no. is 01353 665555.

Jeremy Mitchell
67, High Street

Dear Editors

The Village Festival

We are sure we are reflecting the thoughts of a great many villagers and visitors: the Swaffham Prior Festival was yet again quite simply superb. From the live-on-radio (!) egg throwing contest at the Feast culminating in a raw egg perfectly sliced by a cunningly hung telephone cable, to the pleasures of those secret gardens in the village open to the public but once a year. From the hands-on close encounters with the bells of St Cyriacs to our refreshing lack of knowledge on TV adverts at the quiz evening – our team still came a highly credible 11th out of (er, not many more) teams. From the surprising talents of the Karaoke evening to the truly outstanding performances by our very own Cambridge Voices and their Swiss president – where else can one listen to an internationally renowned composer and pianist recite a world premier in acoustically astounding surroundings for the price of a couple of pints of beer?

Our thank you to the organisers and all involved – we are already looking forward to the next one.

Peter and Tina Jost
The Stables
High Street

Dear Editors,

Village Hall

Now that the W.I. has had a meeting in the ‘new’ Village Hall, we should like to congratulate the Committee on the superb alterations and refurbishments. All the hard work and frustrations have been worthwhile.

We hope that the Hall will be well used and cared for by the Community.

Yours faithfully,

Margaret Phillips (W.I.)
50 Lower End.

**** WANTED ****

Garden Shed

Can dismantle and collect

Ring - Lisa or Ian on 743621



Each early summer in May, I take myself off to fish in a beautiful part of the Derbyshire Dales at Bakewell, a small town of sturdy stone houses which sit astride the River Wye. In this river, which runs through the grounds of both Haddon Hall (Duke of Rutland) and



Chatsworth House (Duke of Devonshire), are the only wild rainbow trout in Britain. They breed in the Wye, as the conditions of the floor level suit them, whereas all other rainbows are farm-reared and introduced artificially into Britain's waters i.e. our lakes and rivers. But not so the Wye. The fish are wild, suspicious and strong. To hook them is difficult, to land them even more so.

A week ago, therefore, I walked up the bank looking for rises - that tell-tale dimpling of the water's surface that denotes a feeding fish. I encountered a fisherman on the opposite bank to myself trying to place his floating fly above a feeding fish just ahead of where I was standing. I stopped and watched. Time after time he failed to manage to let his fly float convincingly over the head of the feeding fish. This was no fault of his - the river dragged his line and fly across the current so that the fish was frightened by the commotion above his head. The friendly fisherman (a Scot) suggested I have a go my side where there would be no impediment to my fly floating down over the fish without "drag". A further problem was that the fish was lying just below a small tree and I had to cast my fly fractionally below the tree. In fact I cast too forcibly and the fly landed in the tree itself and hooked itself on a branch. I was lucky. I flicked the fly off the tree and it landed "plop" on the trout's nose. It must have appeared to him as the most natural fly in the world dropping out of the tree above him. He rose, took the fly and I hooked him clean and after a bit of a struggle netted and landed a nice pound fish (big for that river).

My Scottish friend had sat and watched the proceedings and raised a cheer as I landed the fish. I offered to throw it to him across the river since it

Twiglets

Do you hear the guns going off? Farmers on both sides of our village have their gas guns in action as bird scarers. Depending on the direction of the wind one sometimes wonders if the First World War has restarted - or at least a very regular pigeon shoot. A gas gun is loaded with blanks which are fed via a magazine to fire at prescribed intervals. In our case we are subjected to three shots at 10 second intervals every 10 minutes. These 12 bore cartridges frighten the birds off young crops and are pretty effective and

certainly more so than old fashioned scarecrows - but less attractive to those of us who have to put up with the noise. Hares, incidentally, don't seem to mind the gun-scarers - I saw one recently cropping young peas only 6 ft. or so away from a gun.

James Chesterman



Staine Hundred

44 members of the Staine Hundred Local History Society enjoyed their Annual coach outing on Tuesday 5th June when the weather was relatively kind to them. The first stop was at Fotheringhay in Northamptonshire where coffee was partaken at the Falcon Inn. From there, a short walk led to the village church with its magnificent tower, slightly dwarfing the nave which has been reduced from twelve to five bays and has lost its choir. We were greeted by the enthusiastic Mrs. Wilson who told us the history of the church and the village. The castle which once stood nearby was the birthplace of Richard III and the place of execution for Mary Queen of Scots. There is an excellent historical display in the church and the church kneelers were much admired.

We drove through the attractive old town of Oundle and stopped in the village of Geddington to admire the large and ornately carved stone Eleanor Cross - one of three remaining of the thirteen erected by Edward I to mark the overnight resting place of the cortege carrying the body of his Queen Eleanor from Lincolnshire to Westminster Abbey. Five minutes later, we drove through the park and grounds of Boughton Hall where lunch was served in the old stable block. Members had time to visit the Garden Centre before assembling at 2 pm for a tour of the house which has been owned by the Montagu family since 1528 and later, through marriage, to the Duke of Buccleuch. The first Duke of Montagu built a magnificent colonnaded north front in the French style around the original Great Hall and much of the beautiful furniture dates from around this period. As the Buccleuch family have other homes, it has only been lived in intermittently and escaped any Victorian embellishments. Subdued lighting and shutters have maintained the colour of the tapestries and carpets - some of which looked almost new in spite of being 300 years old. Upstairs we were shown through a suite of State rooms. It was a most rewarding two hour tour - though a little hard on the legs and people sank thankfully into their seats for the 1-hour journey back.

Peggy Day



Village Gardeners

By the time you read this, May will seem a long time ago, but I'm sure will not be forgotten.

Firstly, the Feast Day and a big 'thank you' to all who brought plants for our stall, so successfully run by Barbara Jones and Ruth Scovil. Secondly, the lovely afternoon when eight gardens were open to the public. The garden owners have all been thanked but may I thank all the Village Gardeners who acted as stewards. A most successful afternoon. And lastly, I must mention our coach trip to Beth Chatto's on 13th June. The coach broke down, the rain fell down but a good time was had by all and many of Beth Chatto's plants will have found their way to our gardens (paid for, of course!).

Our next meeting will be on 21st July when we shall visit Kate Child's garden. Be there by 7.30pm please.

Betty Prime

Village Hall Report

Extract from Editorial of the May issue of **Village Halls Newsletter** (Cambridgeshire ACRE).....

“Together with many others, four of us representing Cambridgeshire ACRE, attended the **opening of Swaffham Prior's refurbished and extended village hall** on Friday 1st May. Funding for the project included contributions from the 21st Century Halls for England Fund, East Cambridgeshire District Council and others. The finished product is wonderful, spacious, light, warm and inviting and all credit must go to the committee who battled against bureaucracy and other problems but came out smiling and successful in the end. The hall was opened by Michael Marshall, Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, who gave a short address and was attended by representatives from 21st Century Halls for England, East Cambridgeshire District Council, ourselves and many others. We had a delicious buffet, listened to a few words from the chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee and all enjoyed the evening. The project at **Swaffham Prior** was the first one in the County to be supported by the 21st Century Halls for England Fund with Alwalton being successful in the 2nd round. **Swaffham Prior** and Alwalton together with all the other applicants have shown what a tremendous amount of work and commitment committees put into the day to day running of the hall and I often think if all the volunteers in this Country said they'd had enough and downed tools, the Country would grind to a halt.....”



W.I. Notes

Chris Clark visited us in June to give a vivid description of her life as a make-up artist for theatre, films and TV. She demonstrated her craft by making Betty Fox up as a ghoul, and giving Hilary Ranson a most realistic charred hand with burns, blisters and blood.

Our Summer Party is on 20th July at 19 Mill Hill by kind invitation of Betty and Wilson Fox. It will commence at 7pm.

May I remind those who are coming on our trip to Windsor on Saturday 11th July that the coach leaves the Village Hall at 9.30am. No provision has been made for food so you may like to bring your own.

Betty Prime

There are a few seats still available on the W.I. coach trip to

Windsor on Saturday 11th July.

Adults £9.

Children £5.

Phone 741221



Ladies Circle

On Wednesday Evening 27th May 1998, fifteen members of the Ladies Circle enjoyed an evening out looking around Denny Abbey and the Farmland Museum at Waterbeach. Kate Brown explained the history of the Abbey before taking us on a tour around the new Farmland Museum. Many of the artefacts had been donated from the museum at Haddenham when this closed. We were given an interesting insight into the bygones of the past. For some of us, the items on display brought back memories of the time when we used them ourselves, eg washing mangles, milk churns, wash boards. The milk churns were of particular interest to Mary Cook and Ruth Stinton as they used to deliver milk around the village in such utensils as these, which of course brought back memories for them.

We were introduced to Bunty the sheep and her four lambs who were very friendly and a joy to see. Refreshments were served at the end of a very enjoyable meeting.

The next meetings will be: 27th July, Mechanical Musical evening at Landbeach; and 24th August, Blue Cross. Any ladies wishing to join us at the Baptist Chapel at 7.30pm for these meetings would be very welcome.

Sandra Butcher



Neighbourhood Watch

Twenty people attended the Open Evening in the village Hall on Monday 1st June when Fred Laws, the Neighbourhood Watch Administrator for Southern Division, and Julie Buck from the Crime Reduction Unit gave an excellent presentation on crime in our area and practical advice as to how to secure our houses and property.

Fred gave us the crime figures for our village for the first four months of this year - 3 house burglaries, 1 shed burglary, 2 thefts from cars, a car trailer stolen and a gas cylinder taken. He explained that these figures were low compared to other areas but urged us not to be complacent. He then gave us a very interesting talk on the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and how we can develop it into a 'good neighbour' system.

Julie, with the help of slides, took us through the 'do's and don'ts' of protecting our property and gave us some very useful and practical tips - from post-coding individual items including garden shed and garage equipment, to encouraging us to secure our backgardens with locked gates, adding trellis to the top of walls or fencing to deter climbers, even keeping dustbins away from fences to stop intruders using them as ladders and much, much more.

It was an excellent evening. They were both very keen to help us develop the Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the village and both promised to come to further open evenings to provide detailed help on specific areas. So watch this space.

The next co-ordinators meeting will be on Monday 6th July at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall.

Hilary

Notes from the Parish Council June Meeting

With Mr A Badcock in the Chair, there were 5 members present and 2 members of the public.

CCC report. Cllr.Fitch had to leave early so presented his report to the meeting first. He particularly wanted to express CCC concerns at the proposals to close the Magistrates Court in Newmarket with consequent difficulties for local people.

Matters Arising:

Speeding - Mr P Mengham will give his report at the July meeting.

Footpath-Water Tower - An estimate of £12-15,000 has been received. It was agreed the Clerk would write to CCC asking for re-instatement.

Neighbourhood Watch: A. Badcock reported the Open Meeting 1st June

had been a success (21 attended) with 2 useful presentations being given. Extra signs cost £19.50 each. The next meeting will be on 6th July in the Village Hall.

Harrisons Drove - Change of use. The meeting actioned the Clerk to write to Mr Pedley that they supported his efforts for no change.

Shop/Post Office. Mrs Cunningham distributed a written report. If the Council wished, more information could be made available for the July meeting. A new **postbox** has been sited at junction of Cage Hill/Green Head Road.

Playgroup: The Chairman stated he had received verbal complaints and letters from the Playgroup following their first session in the Village Hall. Copies of some correspondence were circulated.

Planning Applications. There had been 1 received since the last meeting for changes for Newmarket racecourse. No objections to this were raised.

Any Other Business:

It was agreed the Council would be represented at the Public Enquiry on the **ECDC Local Plan** to be held in September. A letter to be prepared for the next meeting.

Hereward Housing - Following complaints received on the conduct of some Hereward Housing tenants, the Clerk would prepare a letter expressing the Council's concerns.

Pound & Keep. Mrs Cunningham reported that both the bier and fire engine stored here were in a poor condition. The bier had recently been used but required some refurbishment. The Clerk to ask Southgates whether they would meet these costs once ascertained. To be discussed further at July meeting.

Telegraph Pole - Coopers Green. BT had apologized for installing without permission. They have offered to pay rent of £5./yr. which was accepted.

Burial Fees. New revised fees were approved.

Millennium Celebrations - the Clerk was asked to insert a "suggestions" article in the *Crier*.

Village Sign - the quotation of £275 was accepted and the Clerk would get the painting work in hand.

Open Question Time. There are concerns about poor drainage in three locations. The Clerk to write to CCC Highways and Anglian Water to establish who is responsible. The Clerk also actioned to write to the appropriate authorities about the footpath in Station Road and the ditch at the bottom of Lower End field.

The **next meeting** will be held on Thurs 9th July in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Peter Cunningham



Burglar Alarms

The other night, just short of 2.00 in the morning, the telephone rang and I hurried to answer thinking there might be a crisis to do with my son's family in Jakarta, Indonesia. I was relieved to find that it was an angry person in another village asking me to stop a persistently ringing burglar alarm at a neighbour's house. He explained that he had rung the police without the result he wanted and he was trying me next. I explained that there was nothing I could do other than offer sympathy, as I have no powers. I suggested he identified the house and made his feelings known to the owners on their return.

Persistently ringing alarms are only too frequent these days. On two occasions I have walked down to our surgery in response to an alarm to find no problem visible and the probability that a thunder fly had hit the jackpot! May I suggest to any alarm owners that it would be in theirs and their neighbour's interest to fit the alarm with a cut-off after a period of time and maybe the exchange of keys with a trusted nearby friend so that the alarm can be investigated and then turned off quickly. If the alarm is recording theft, then 999 is the rule as fast as possible. I have often said that I'll answer the 'phone or door at any time, so I have no complaint about this incident. Nevertheless, it is difficult to think how I can be of much use at 2 in the morning. If it is an emergency, we all know what to do. If not, perhaps it could wait a few hours.

This story leads naturally into the subject of the **Crime & Disorder Bill** presently going through Parliament. When passed, it will force the Police, County Council and, in our case, East Cambs. District Council to work closely together in **preventing** crime and disorder. In Cambridgeshire, a well developed partnership already exists but the Bill will give much greater powers and responsibilities, especially where it concerns young people into, or at risk of drifting into, crime. Various orders will be possible against drug users over 16, unruly or criminally inclined youngsters of 10 or over, sex offenders who might be a threat, and even local curfew schemes for children under 10 years. In addition, parents of children subject to such an order will have to agree to attend counselling and comply with certain instructions. The hope is that youngsters will be diverted away from crime or creating disorder and that there will be greater control over sex offenders living in the community. In summary, the Bill concentrates on prevention rather than cure (which in any case is governed by other Acts).

Have a good holiday. We are off to Iceland and Greenland!



The Local Plan is now entering the Public Inquiry Stage. As you probably remember, the District Council rejected Dencora Homes Ltd's objection to Swaffham Prior's designation as an Infill Only Settlement. We also rejected their claim that the field between Fairview Grove and Rogers Road should be included in the Development Envelope. Dencora Homes Ltd have elected to appear at the Public Inquiry to press their argument for increased development in Swaffham Prior. One other objector has elected to appear at the Public Inquiry. Mr SF Day wants a plot of land to the north east of Mill Lane to be allocated for housing (he would like to build a retirement home for himself and his wife). In the current draft this land is outside the Development Envelope. The result of the Public Inquiry should be known next year. When I asked your views on Swaffham Prior's development status in the Local Plan last year, the vast majority of you wanted your village to be an Infill Only Settlement. But I am aware that some people support Dencora Homes Ltd's plans in the hope of achieving sports facilities for the village. I still think that Infill is the right level of development for Swaffham Prior, but I need to know what your views now are on this issue. I shall have copies of these objections together with maps showing the land to which they relate, available at my next Councillor's Surgery. Alternatively, they can be viewed during office hours at the Council's Offices in Ely.

My next Councillor's Surgery is on Saturday 11th July at the Swaffham Prior Village Hall between 10.00am-12.00 noon. Please come if you wish to discuss any matters with me. Or, if you prefer you can contact me at home. My Councillor's Surgery is a chance for you to let me know your views on local issues, to inform me of any problems which you have with District Council Services or to suggest improvements to our services. I also have at the Surgeries a wide range of leaflets about the District Council, including leaflets on how the planning system operates, and household energy saving tips.

Charlotte Cane



For sale. 1990 Renault Espace 2 litre, 7 seats, silver, with fitted bike racks. It's in good condition, and it's only £4950, so if you're interested, phone 742559.



Church Services in July

Sunday 5th

Trinity 4

11.00am Parish Communion (Rite B)

6.30pm Deanery Songs of Praise at Snailwell

Sunday 12th

Trinity 5

11.00am Family Service

& Holy Baptism of Harry Doe

6.00pm Evensong (BCP) and Sermon

Sunday 19th

Trinity 6

11.00am Parish Communion (Rite B)

6.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP) and Sermon

Sunday 26th

Trinity 7

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.00am Matins (BCP) and Sermon

+ **Holy Communion** is celebrated every Wednesday in Burwell Church and every Thursday at 10am in Swaffham Bulbeck Church; also at Reach Church at 8am on July 12th and 19th.

+ **Evening Prayer** is said on Wednesdays at 5pm in Reach Church

+ **Bellringing**: Tuesday practice in St Cyriac's every fortnight at 8pm, Sundays from 10.30am and before 6pm Evensong. Contact Dr. Margaret Stainer on 741328

The Vicar would be pleased to know of anyone needing a home or hospital visit or who would like to receive Holy Communion at home.

Church Diary Dates in July (see also main Diary)

Wed	1	Licensing of Revd Robert Torrens as Priest-in-Charge of Chippenham and Snailwell, St Margaret's, C'ham, 7.30pm
Fri	3	Deanery Choir Practice at Snailwell, 7.30pm
Sat	4	Churchyard Working Party, 9.30am (All help gratefully received, contact James Wilmott for further details)
Tue	7	Deanery Standing Committee, Vicarage, 7.30pm
Sat	11	Church Fete, Village Hall, 2.30pm
Thu	16	Parochial Charities Trustees Meeting, Vicarage, 7.30pm
Tue	23	Deanery Mothers Union Service, Burwell, 7.30pm

Parish Register - May 1998

Holy Baptism: Isaac Peter Howard Pockney
Henry Philip Kingsmill

In Memoriam: Geoffrey Gordon Lewis (74)
Steven Mark Folkes (19)
William Michael Joseph Bulleid (74)

Dear Friends

Ordination



As I write this month, men and women from both residential and non-residential theological colleges are preparing for their ordination to the diaconate (deacons); most, though not all, who have served in parishes for the year as deacons, come now to be priested. The Church has usually conferred ordination at Petertide (St Peter's Day being June 29th), simply to re-affirm the appointed succession, whether or not you think Henry VIII broke it! Those not ordained at this time, which fits rather neatly with the end of the academic year, are usually ordained at Christmas.

Some of you will have fairly clear opinions as to what rôle the clergy should have in public life; happily, the one-day-a-week-job joke falls pretty flat these days. The real need is for clergy to ensure their sanity by preserving some boundaries. Like everyone-else (and yes, we are human, and have the same needs and desires), we need time not at 'work'; some take a strict 'day-off' which accords with a Biblical Sabbath, other find spaces in their week for themselves and their families.

On thing is clear, the work is literally endless, the joys are great, the sorrows and difficulties bearable, in Faith. Above all, the need is to remember the high calling of Clerks in Holy Orders (as we are designated, not least when counter-signing passports); there are deep spiritual issues which give the mountains of paper and committee-work a foundation. The words used by the Bishop at the ordination of priests, not often heard by folk in the parishes, unless you go to support an ordinand at the Cathedral, run like this.....*A priest is called by God to work with the Bishop and with his fellow priests as servant and shepherd among the people to whom he is sent. He is to proclaim the Word of the Lord, to call his hearers to repentance, and in Christ's name to absolve, to declare the forgiveness of sins.*

He is to baptise, and prepare the baptised for Confirmation. He is to preside at the celebration of the Holy Communion. He is to lead his people in prayer and worship, to intercede for them, to bless them in the name of the Lord, and to teach and encourage by word and example. He is to minister to the sick, and prepare the dying for their death. He must set the Good Shepherd always before him as the pattern of his calling, caring for the people committed to his charge, and joining with them in a common witness to the world.

The Bishop's declaration continues most meaningfully.... *In the name of Our Lord, we bid you remember the greatness of the trust now to be committed to your charge.....* This is only discharged in day-to-day ministry, and with the help of the whole people of God, collaboratively, so that together, the Good News finds its way into people's hearts, and our common life is enhanced and, indeed, sanctified.

Every blessing, especially for those travelling on holiday this month; may you return safe and refreshed.

The Revd Mark Howarth



Zion Baptist Chapel

Services for July 1998:

Sunday 5th	10.30 am	Family Service - Paul Jelleyman
	6.30 pm	Cecil Nash
Sunday 12th	6.30pm	Steve Ayres
Sunday 19th	6.30pm	Rev George Clarke
Sunday 26th	6.30pm	David Payne - Missionary in Nepal

Thugs ruin England's perfect day.

So ran a recent headline in my daily newspaper. No prizes for guessing that it refers to the disgraceful behaviour of a few so-called football fans at the time of England's first match in the current World Cup. England won that match 2-0 - a dream start - and yet the thugs got as much, if not more, media attention for their antics. It's amazing how often a relatively small amount of something bad can overshadow a whole lot of good. An unpleasant flight can spoil a whole holiday. Unpolished shoes can make an otherwise smart outfit appear decidedly scruffy. A selfish player can hinder the performance of a team. 'One bad apple spoils the whole barrel'. This same principle also affects our relationships: a good friendship can be ended by a few unkind or spiteful words, one act of betrayal can end a lifetime of trust. I once heard it said that the emotional damage caused by one negative comment can only be healed by about a further 20 positive comments. How these precise figures are arrived at I don't know, but I have no doubt that the principle is correct. All of us have probably experienced the effects of this at some time and it crossed my mind that even our Lord Jesus Christ was not immune. After all the good and lovely things he did, he was put to death because he put some noses out of joint and dented some egos. I am so glad that in the end he had the victory, proving that Good can come out on top over Evil. It is Jesus who can also enable us to fight back against the sadness and badness that sometimes seem to be so powerful. The Bible tells about a peace that stays with us when others assume we should be worried sick. It tells us about joy that stays strong even in situations of great difficulty. Especially it tells us about a love that is utterly unselfish and continues loving even when 'selfish' love has decided that it will be better rewarded elsewhere. I guess most of us would like to come out winners against the evil in this world. The first step is to get to know the person who did it first - Jesus Christ! As we get to know him better we will find that not only is there a way for us to win through, but that we can share the secret with those around us. Want to know more? Please get in touch.

Steve and Sylvia Ayres

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

Masses: Newmarket: Sat 1830; Sun 0900,1030,1700;
Kirtling: Sun 0945; Soham 1700
In Bottisham Parish Church, Sun 0900 (Served from Cambridge).

From John Morrill, Deacon to the Roman Catholic Community

A few weeks ago, Frances and I went off for a weekend in Cumbria. We explored one of England's best-kept secrets, the Trough of Bowland, a remote region which is a part of the Lake District without a lake, if you see what I mean. For that reason, it is as unspoilt and empty as the Lakes themselves are over-visited and crowded. Development is also limited by the fact that the area is owned by the Dukes of Westminster who prohibit all new building. Fortunately there were pubs before there were Dukes of Westminster, so we were able to quench the thirst that exploring the Trough brought on!

We also discovered, close to Sedbergh, a most beautiful and *vulnerable* old Quaker meeting house, which is almost as old as the Quaker movement itself, having been there since 1675. It is a dignified, welcoming building in a tiny hamlet, and it is suffused with peace. Inside are lots of hand-crafted, steal-able, destroy-able objects; and a kettle, cups, jars of tea and coffee, powdered milk and sugar with an open dish for any donations. It has a Christ-like vulnerability. It invites the respect of the visitor but it is powerless to prevent abuse. I gather that from time to time it is vandalised and plundered, and the small flock that worship there uncomplainingly restore it and once more leave it open and vulnerable to be a place of prayer, a place of peace for the many and a place for the greed and anger of the few to vent itself. It speaks volumes for the great and good tradition of Quaker belief in challenging the violence of the world with the challenge of meekness, the willingness to turn the other cheek. Our church, like most other churches these days, takes prudent steps to limit the extent of vandalism and theft; and to that extent compromises with the world *as it is* rather than challenges people to consider the world *as it could be*.

The extent to which we are, as men and women, willing to lay out ourselves for others, offer ourselves in all our vulnerability to the needs of others, accepting the possibility that we will be mocked, ripped off, misunderstood, abused, is the extent to which we are imitators of Christ. The extent to which we protect ourselves from hurt by not exposing ourselves to the needs of others, is the extent to which we fail to be as fully Christian as it is possible to be. Perhaps over time we should strive to achieve something of

Dates for Your Diary - July 1998

Wed	1	Mobius Ensemble, Concert in St Cyriac's, 7:30pm
Thu	2	School AGM, 8:00pm
Fri	3	
Sat	4	
Sun	5	
Mon	6	Mothers Union, Free Church, Commercial End, 2.15pm Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Tue	7	
Wed	8	
Thu	9	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Fri	10	
Sat	11	Charlotte Cane's Surgery, Village Hall, 10am-12noon Church Fete, Village Hall, 2:30pm WI coach trip to Windsor, from Village Hall at 9:30am
Sun	12	
Mon	13	PCC, Village Hall, 2.30pm
Tue	14	<i>Crier</i> Copy deadline Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:30-4:10, Chapel 4:15-4:30pm
Wed	15	
Thu	16	
Fri	17	
Sat	18	
Sun	19	School Sports Day and Summer Fair, 1:00pm
Mon	20	WI Summer Party, 19 Mill Hill, 7pm
Tue	21	Village Gardeners, Kate Child's Garden, 7:30pm
Wed	22	
Thu	23	
Fri	24	
Sat	25	
Sun	26	Fosters Mill, open 1pm to 5pm
Mon	27	Ladies Circle - Mechanical Musical Evening at Landbeach
Tue	28	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:30-4:10, Chapel 4:15-4:30pm
Wed	29	
Thu	30	<i>Crier</i> Collating, Village Hall
Fri	31	