



# The Swaffham Crier

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## Editorial

A quietish month by recent *Crier* standards, only 24 pages and four of those accounted for by the Parish Council and the Village Meeting. The latter too seems to have been quieter than of late with no particularly controversial issues on the agenda; though a theme of past years, new housing, appears instead on the letters page. Our long-running series on “Our Man of the Millennium” has now ended but this also lives on in the letters page and its ending means that Alastair Everitt returns to his accustomed role as Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting but not at the Village Meeting - we’re meant to go to that ourselves to find out what’s going on!

Another of our regular contributors, Charlotte Cane, makes the news herself this month with the birth on 13<sup>th</sup> May of her baby son David. Many congratulations to her and many thanks for, despite this additional responsibility, also managing to produce her report for the *Crier*.

There’s more going on in the surrounding villages though. Of particular local note, Swaffham Bulbeck have Millennium Celebrations from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> of June and I’m told that we should particularly Mark the Gilbert and Sullivan production in our diaries.

Since Pat Cunningham left the Editorial Team shortly before her death, postal distribution has been rather erratic - how easy it was to take her quiet efficiency for granted. But all is about to be in order again as Ruth Stinton has kindly (and rather bravely) agreed to become the *Crier*’s Distribution Manager, much of which role she has already been doing unsung for years. She asks us to note departures among some of the *Crier*’s long-standing helpers and some new arrivals. Carol & Peter Taylor have had to give up delivering the *Crier* - they have delivered in Greenhead Road since the *Crier* started. And Anna Bradford, who has delivered to the west side of the High St for a number of years and before that helped to collate, has moved to Burwell. All three will be much missed. Gwen Verlander, Lynn Rand and Jean Lewis will replace them on the team of deliverers. Welcome and many thanks!

*James Matheson*

**Cover Picture: by Claire Warren**



## Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

### Shakespeare

As teacher and examiner of A level, I hope I can reassure Alastair Everitt that marks are not awarded for a candidate's views on the authorship of Shakespeare's plays. Since it is the understanding of the dramatic and literary qualities of the plays which is tested, the precise identity of the Elizabethan/Jacobean individual who wrote them is irrelevant.

Candidates sidetracked into this discussion would be losing marks by default, since they would not be clocking up the points they could by writing something more relevant.

I would acknowledge that a teacher is unwise who nails his or her convictions to a minority viewpoint against accepted wisdom, especially where there is no demonstrable difference - ie the plays remain the same. Students are a conservative lot by nature and tend to think such views are a bit batty.

Yours sincerely,

*Mark Lewinski*  
32 Fairview Grove

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Dear Editors,

### Footpaths and New Houses

I noticed two items in the April issue of the Crier which you may allow me to comment upon.

I am pleased to see that the footpath extension at the water tower is to go ahead at last. I suppose it will be about three years since I first brought it to the attention of the Parish Council. It is always uphill work to get the PC motivated and so it was on this occasion but two further letters to other destinations may have kept the pot simmering.

The second item was that concerning Mr Cutting's application to become a tenant in the new houses at Heath Road—Cage Hill junction. Mr Cutting, we understand, was wrongly told that the houses were to be let to applicants from South Cambs. Going back to the beginning might explain the position of Mr Cutting and others like him.

A presentation was made at the Annual Parish Meeting by the Cambridge Housing Association. "Who will the tenants be", "Will they be local people" were the first questions asked. The meeting was told that local people would be considered. It was clear that locals would not be given total preference. I

suggested that the PC should enquire how many local people living in, or wishing to return to, the Village would be interested in a tenancy. I thought this might give the PC some bargaining power at the time of the planning applications. This was thought to be an excellent idea. It was then promptly forgotten about. When I discovered this some time later I wrote to other housing associations. I found that, of the eight or so in the region, only one was concerned with providing housing for local people. As it was not the Cambridge Association, I wrote to them and asked how tenants were selected. I was told that as the houses would be handed over to Hereward Housing for management purposes, they, Hereward, may well insist on nominating the majority of the tenants. This was just what the people at the Parish Meeting did not want.

At this point it seemed sensible for the PC to contact the Housing Association dealing with local needs to see if they could do business with them and not the Cambridge Association. I tried to bring all this to the attention of the PC but without success. At this point, I threw in the towel and started to think about taking down the pictures and packing tea chests.

Will it all end in smiley faces or will the Parish Council, yet again, have to retreat to a darkened room? I suspect the latter.

*David Carrington,*  
Swavesey

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Dear Editors,

### **About our verges**

As part of the Fenland Bridleways Association, I am as concerned about the dumping of rubbish! refuse on our lovely green verges as many other horse riders. We recently cleared the verges at Swaffham Prior/Reach/Upware crossroads, taking a small group of us a considerable amount of time and effort. Last week (beginning 17<sup>th</sup> April), it was noticed that these same verges have had more rubbish dumped on them! What a cheek!

We found it unsafe to ride on these verges and with traffic using those fen roads as a short cut, it was unsafe to ride on the road itself. What are we to do?! Do people realise how unthoughtful they are?

Please have some consideration for us riders, the verges are a safe refuge for us on many occasions and it would be a shame to lose them. I'm sure many villagers use them to walk on also, so it's in everyone's best interest.

*Kari Karolia,*  
133 High Street, Swaffham Bulbeck,  
Marketing Officer, Fenland Bridleways Association.

## From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

In their wisdom the Police Authorities do not allow police officers to be Chairmen of Parish Councils. Thus endeth Andrew Badcock's reign. It was brief but triumphant. When he took over we were pretty well at the bottom of the league of precept charges. Under Andrew we have risen to nearly the top of the table and were the third most expensive in 1999/2000. Our neighbours in Bulbeck have been pathetic in comparison. In the current year they are second from bottom! With this resounding success it would be a great shame if the Police ruling precluded Andrew from assuming any other position of responsibility in Swaffham Prior. For instance the chairmanship of VHMC would offer Andrew some future excitement. Even better would be the position of churchwarden - his policing experience could be invaluable for getting people into the right pews.



Trevor Jones was unanimously voted in as the new Chairman, and Eric continued for the umpteenth year as vice-Chairman. Trevor modestly gave his thanks, said he would do his best, and muttered something like a plea for guidance from the great Jehovah. With Eric at his side I thought this totally unnecessary. While all the early business was taking place, Elaine, Henry and Eric formed a little group on one side of the table, chattering, giggling, with all, especially Henry, being a little skittish. The new Chairman wisely let it go, but I felt he was planning to split up the group next time.

I had forgotten how easy it is for our PC to get into hot water without realising it. At the April meeting Mr Henry Brown had written about the parking problem in Greenhead Road and had pinpointed No 2 as the cause. The PC in its wisdom, without asking too many questions, passed the complaint on to Hereward, who asked No 2 to improve. No 2 has written to the PC asking why they were not approached directly [indeed, why not?], said they try to park whenever possible in the car park, would like to park in front of No 4 which is further from the corner, but No 4 doesn't want any cars in front of the house and so parks its own car in front of No 6. The PC now began to wonder how it had got into this.

Some think the real problem is that many residents drive too fast through Greenhead Road; drivers of Fords and Rovers have an especially bad reputation. But that's another matter, and perhaps the best solution to Mr Brown's problem is that No 4 parks outside No 4, No 2 parks outside No 6 together with the car from No 6. This happy community solution would scotch the suggested double yellow lines in Greenhead Road. Meanwhile Tothill, Adams and Greenhead Roads have already been scheduled for road surface dressing from late June through to August.

There has been some mild surprise at the unimaginative numbering/naming of the new houses opposite the top of Cage Hill. The good news is that Karen had just been told by the housing trust that the original name of the site is Pulpit Corner. “What?” asked Henry, “Bullpit Corner?” She spelt it out, Henry looked very suspicious, reckoned the Vicar was behind it, and asked who had suggested it. “The Church Charities” said Karen. “But we’ve had a recent Charities meeting and it didn’t come up, did it Eric?” “Nope”, said Eric. There’s a mystery for you.

Two PC members attended the May ECDC meeting about the retrospective planning application by John Mundin. As this had been rejected at the April ECDC meeting it is difficult to understand the need for a second one. Trevor reported that the applicant refused to remove the building or to reduce the height as this would “negate the use of the building.” ECDC refused the application.

More is now known about the school rats and their traps after Sandra Wilson discussed them with Brenda Wilson. It seems that when the School last had rats they were told by ECDC that because the School is classed as a commercial building, ECDC is not responsible. Hence the £240 charge by Rentokil. The traps appear to be complicated structures, designed to allow the rats in and with luck to keep the children out. That must be a relief for parents! The PC tried to establish the exact position of the traps and of the rats. Eric, who always has his finger on the pulse, said they usually stand near one of the sheds on the village hall boundary. “What, the rats stand there?” said the astonished Henry. “No, the traps” said Eric. “Were they full?” “No”. “Has anyone else seen the traps?” “No”. “Or the rats?” “No”. It was then proposed that the PC should adopt the ECDC policy for commercial property and leave the School to finance its own solution. All voted for this apart from one objection and one abstention.

*Alastair Everitt*

## **NEW LAMPS FOR OLD**

Well, not exactly. But the Village Hall does have two fire extinguishers at a very low price. We have recently bought two new ones for over £600. This leaves us with two recently checked and serviced extinguishers which have just fallen out of the Nu-Swift 10 year guarantee. While not legal for public buildings they are very suitable for private use. Any offers? Everything considered. Phone 742974 or 741197.

## **BOOKING THE VILLAGE HALL??**

From June 6<sup>th</sup> the Booking Clerk will be Mrs Joanne Pumphrey.  
Please telephone her on 741376 for all enquiries about booking the hall.  
Up to that date please phone 742974.

## **PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE  
CONTACT KAREN KING ON 742358

## **Will the Clock Stop at Ten to Three?**

Or at noon, or at ten past four? Who knows, but stop it certainly will when it's removed for restoration on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

It is the end of an era. For more than fifty years the clock has kept accurate time with the help of Phil Sheldrick's engineering skills. A little bit of meccano here, a short length of binder twine there - such have been some of Phil's inventive solutions over the years. They are an engineer's delight. Alas, all are to be swept away during the restoration.

No schedule has been given for the completion of the work. All we know at present is that the original clock bell will not be used and that the striking will be on one of the ringing bells. This is quite common practice in church towers.

*Alastair Everitt*

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## **Events in the Region in June**

As well as the events advertised elsewhere in the Crier this month, there are a number of things happening in local villages, some of which are listed in the Diary. These include:

- Swaffham Bulbeck's Millennium 2000 Celebrations (4-18 June);
- a three day local arts festival at St Peter and St Mary Magdalene, Fordham (23-25 June);
- Quay's Fete (17 June); and
- Millennium celebration of Cambridgeshire's Ancients Monuments (phone the Millennium Festival Heritage Officer on 01223 717013 or see [netwn1.camcnty.gov.uk/arts/millennium.htm](http://netwn1.camcnty.gov.uk/arts/millennium.htm) for details).

## VILLAGE FEAST

What a lovely day we had and wasn't the weather glorious.

On behalf of the Village Hall Committee thank you very sincerely all those who gave up their time and energy so willingly to make the afternoon a success. I won't mention you all by name, you know who you are.

Over £1000 was raised, which when expenses are paid will boost the Village Hall funds by between £800 and £900, for which the Treasurer is very grateful. However the important thing is that it was a real fun afternoon and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Thank you again one and all. You are a great crew.

*Betty Prime*

# PLAYSCHEME 2000!!

## Update - May 2000

We are now at the getting-it-all-down-on-paper stage as the registration forms go into production.

Just a reminder of the basic details:

Playscheme will take place from 31 July to 4 August, daily 9.30 - 12 noon.

All primary school aged children in Swaffham Prior and Reach, or who have attended Swaffham Prior School, are welcome to attend. The cost will be £2.50 per day, or £6.00 for a family ticket, with some subsidised places available.

Application forms will be issued through school in the summer term; **please get in touch on the number below if you will not be included in this circulation.**

*Dee Noyes - 743864*

## STOP PRESS!!

Very many thanks to all at the Red Lion in Swaffham Prior for their fantastic donation of £155 — raised from a collection of change in a bottle on the bar, a beat the goalie competition and other activities! We are very grateful to the staff and to all who contributed, and really appreciate your wonderful support for this year's Playscheme.

## Turning the Red Lights Green ...



... a new and exciting charity in Cambridgeshire is hosting a Celebration Event in Cambridgeshire this July.

The charity promotes opportunities in education, training, work and leisure for people with disabilities and special needs and their carers and raises awareness, nationally, of the potential of people with disabilities and special needs to make a positive and valuable contribution in society.

The Celebration of Achievements Festival will be a weeklong event. A series of workshops, sporting events and lectures will be held throughout the week at Bottisham, Burwell and Linton Village Colleges and will culminate in a concert at Linton Village College on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July, where the audience will enjoy comedy sketches, musical and theatrical entertainment and a fashion show.

We are looking for local sponsors for this event. If you would like further information on the week or you are interested and would like to know more about sponsorship please contact Karen Bevan, tel 01223 811372.

Fax: 01223 813015, Web: [www.red2green.gov.uk](http://www.red2green.gov.uk)

*THE FRIENDS OF BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE*

# CAR BOOT SALE

AT

**BOTTISHAM VILLAGE  
COLLEGE**

ON

***SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JUNE***

***9.00a.m. —1.00pm.***

**£5 booked in advance**

**£6 on the day**

***Refreshments***

**To Book Tel: 01223 882556**

# OPEN GARDENS

**SUNDAY, 18th JUNE**

**2.00 - 6.00 pm**

**Lower End, Swaffham Prior  
and Reach**

**Tickets: £1.50 available at gardens  
or phone 01638 741221**

Children free but must be accompanied by an adult

**Thanks!**

In the past year there have been many happy occasions and some sad occasions but Ade & Paula, our hosts at the Red Lion, have met every occasion with thought and consideration (and of course great food, wine and beer!). From two of your many regulars, we would like to congratulate you on your first year in the Red Lion.

## ***MARDI GRAS BALL***

***Saturday 1st July***

***Bottisham Village College***

***7.00 for 7.30pm***



*Reception drinks on the Warden's Lawn  
Sit down buffet supper, Bar*

**£20**

*Dance the night away to 'VOLANTE'*  
Black tie or Lounge suits, Posh frocks  
FOR TICKETS TEL: 01223 812194



## STAINE HUNDRED

Dr Desmond Hawkins took members of the Staine Hundred on a Walkabout at the Wilbrahams on a fine evening on 10<sup>th</sup> May. Meeting at Little Wilbraham Church, he pointed out some of the unusual features, including a Saxon window in the South aisle wall which is a metre thick, and a cross on the outside of the North aisle which is a sign of the Knights Templar or Hospitallers. The Old Rectory is an imposing three storey building, put up around the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century at about the same time as the Enclosure, though it seems difficult to justify such a large rectory for a village the size of Little Wilbraham. We walked through the extensive grounds to the river which supplied Hawk Mill but at weekends it was dammed up to divert water into a channel which ran through Little Wilbraham High Street to supply water for the villagers for their Monday washday. The man responsible for damming and releasing the water was the father in law of the miller and as they did not get on, he used to take all the boards out and let a surge of water down to the mill instead of taking it out a board at a time.

We then went to Wilbraham Temple which gets its name from the Knights Templar who were replaced by the Knights Hospitallers. The chapel used by the Knights still stands, though the timber-framed building is now plastered over; and the carp pool from which they got their fish can be seen in the gardens. At the Dissolution, the property was given to the Huddlestons of Sawston for a rent of one sparrowhawk a year, which accounts for the name of Hawk Mill. It passed from the Huddlestons to the Hicks family who owned it until the middle of the 20th century. The house was built in 1600 with an entrance on to the Six Mile Bottom Road but was later enlarged in Georgian times and the Drive through the Park now goes to Great Wilbraham. The evening ended at Lufters, the lovely old house which stands next to the Recreation Ground. It had been lovingly restored from a dilapidated state by Dr and Mrs Bolgar about 40 years ago. Mrs Bolgar told us about the restoration before inviting us in to coffee.



## LADIES CIRCLE FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

26<sup>th</sup> June - Elizabeth Everitt - Work of a Blue Badge Guide  
31<sup>st</sup> July - Ghost Walk around Ely - details later

If you are anxious about attending a meeting for the first time I would be more than pleased to collect you - we would welcome any new members. My telephone number is 742585. *Sandra Butcher*



## VILLAGE GARDENERS

Susan Stancombe came to the Village Gardeners' meeting in May to teach us how to make willow wigwams for our gardens.

Sue began as a basket maker and took the City & Guilds course. She is fascinated by the use of natural materials and described to us different types of willow and how it can be obtained. We were then shown how to make wigwams for our plants to climb and encouraged to try various materials found in our gardens.

Several of us had a go at making a wigwam with material that Sue kindly provided. Some turned out more successful than others, but we all had a most enjoyable evening.

Next month we shall be visiting gardens in Fenditton.

We hope to see you all at our 'Open Gardens' on June 18th (see advert). The gardens to be open are at Manor Farm, Sheldrick's Cottage, Dyke End and No.27 Lower End, Swaffham Prior. In Reach they will be at No.20 Fair Green and No.24 and Miller's Farm in Great Lane.

Plants will be on sale at Sheldrick's Cottage and Miller's Farm and tea and cake at Dyke End.

*Betty Prime.*



## WI Notes

'The History of Toilets' - quite a fascinating subject as told to the W.I. by Ros Wright on 15<sup>th</sup> May.

We began with the Romans with their trough of running water through the centre of their communal loo in which to dip their ball of cotton wool attached to a stick for the purpose of - well we won't go into that! We proceeded through the Middle Ages when waste matter was thrown out of the windows into the street below. Then on to Henry VIII who had a closed stool with a seat of red velvet and a Groom of the Stool to attend to him.

It was not until Victorian times that water closets with flushing facilities were installed. In 1861 Thomas Crapper opened a shop in Chelsea selling sanitary equipment and some of his cisterns are still used today.

Next month, on 19<sup>th</sup> June, we shall be visiting Bury St. Edmunds for a walking tour. Members are reminded that we meet at Swaffham Prior Village Hall at 6.15pm.

*Betty Prime.*

# Notes from the Parish Council May Meeting

Mr E Day opened the meeting with 6 members and 2 members of the Public.

## **Election of Chairman & Vice-Chairman.**

Mr T Jones was nominated and this was unanimously agreed. Mr Jones accepted the position of Chairman and after completing the “Declaration of Acceptance of Office” took the chair. Mr E Day was elected as Vice-Chairman.

## **P.C. Accounts 1999/2000**

Copies were circulated for consideration and after discussion were agreed subject to audit.

## **Matters Arising.**

**Parish Council Vacancy:** ECDC wrote informing the P.C. that the statutory 14 working days had elapsed without any applications being received. The P.C. can now fill the vacancy by co-option. The Clerk was asked to further advertise this vacancy in the Crier.

**Parish Council Representatives:** It was agreed that Mr H Hardiment would represent the P.C. on the Sports & Recreation Committee and Mrs E Malster would represent the P.C. on the Village Hall Management Committee.

**Cemetery matters:** Price increases were agreed.

Further estimates were invited for the works needed to cut back vegetation and trees and included the shaping of the trees over the entrance gate. After discussion, it was agreed to instruct Haydens to carry out this work. The Clerk is to confirm and check on timescale.

## **Reports**

Councillor Fitch reported to the meeting.

## **Correspondence Received**

**CCC:** Local Bus Service Changes. These changes start from 28th May 2000 and will be posted on the bus stop noticeboard.

“Surface dressing proposals 2000/2001”. Surface dressing works will be carried out to Adams Road, Greenhead Road and Tothill Road sometime between mid-June & August.

**ECDC:** “East Cambridgeshire District Local Plan” (The Council’s Response to Representations made to Modifications published in Jan 2000). A notice of where this document can be viewed has been displayed on the Village Hall noticeboard. A copy is also held by the Clerk.

**Accounts for Payment:** These were agreed

## **Planning Applications Received**

- Conversation of existing roof space to bedroom and bathroom and modification of existing dormer windows to rear elevation: Bakehouse Cottage, 8 High Street.
- Exterior works to include replacement and provision of additional window, 2 new drip boards and retrospective consent for further works to windows and doors :

Knights Manor, 31 High Street.

- (*Amendments*) Alterations & extensions to form extended kitchen, new study library and cloakroom and new master bedroom and dressing room. Part demolition : Swaffham Prior House, High Street.
- (*Amendment*) One house and garage land adjacent to 34 Lower End.

There were no objections to the above applications.

### **Any Other Business**

Mrs Malster reported to the meeting her concerns about the speed of the buses travelling through the village especially at night. This is to be reported to the bus company.

### **Open Question Time**

The question of who was responsible for cutting the grass verges at the top of Rogers Road was raised. This is the responsibility of CCC and the Clerk was asked to contact CCC Highways to ask when this work would be carried out.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2000 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

*Karen King, Clerk of the Parish Council*

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## **Swaffham Prior Annual Village Assembly**

The Annual Assembly was held on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2000. The meeting was chaired by the P.C. Chairman, Mr T Jones.

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed subject to a correction under Traffic Issues requested by Mr A Everitt.

Councillor Fitch reported to the meeting.

Councillor Cane sent through to the Clerk copies of the ECDC annual report and this was read to the meeting.

### **Parish Council Accounts/Report**

The Chairman started by thanking his predecessor Mr A Badcock for his hard work during his period of chairmanship.

The accounts were approved subject to audit.

There have been three resignations during the past year and two new members. There is still a vacancy! A Badcock continues to act as Responsible Financial Officer until someone can be found to take over this post.

**Repairs & maintenance:** The driveway to the Village Hall had been resurfaced and the fencing retained as have the noticeboards and village seats.

Some repairs to the footpath at the Beeches have been carried out by CCC. The footpath behind the lay-by on Mill Hill had been completed. The Chairman thanked everyone concerned for their efforts in lobbying to get this work completed.

Repairs pending include the extension of the footpath in the cemetery as well as the tidying up of the vegetation/trees and also the repair works necessary in the playground.

**Village Shop:** Unfortunately it was not found possible to find a solution which

would have allowed the P.O. & shop to continue. A small shop facility continues on Thursday afternoons thanks to the support of a group of volunteers.

**Millennium:** The sundial has been completed and mounted on the School wall. The Millennium Committee raised funds through a Jumble Sale & Moveable Feast, both of which were a great success. The funds raised are held by the P.C. who will be the owners of the map and ensure its maintenance. Congratulations were expressed to all concerned.

**Neighbourhood Watch:** Due to Mrs Mengham leaving the village and A Badcock stepping down due to commitments with his new career, the Neighbourhood Watch scheme needs new members to take on an organising role!

### **Parochial Charities**

The accounts/report were presented by E Day. These were agreed.

### **Village Hall Management Committee**

A Everitt reported to the meeting. The accounts were agreed.

The Village Hall has seen hirings rise. The Autumn Show was a great success and enjoyed a very good turnout. Likewise the Village Feast.

### **Sports & Social Club**

A letter/report was received by Mr M Hall and this was read to the meeting. Those present requested that their congratulations be extended to the SPSRC Committee for their contribution to the Youth Club and it was unanimously agreed that the full document should be included in the *Crier*. The meeting also expressed their thanks to Mr Hall for all his hard work and efforts during his time as Chairman of this committee.

### **Open Question Time**

The question of footpaths in the village was raised. It was agreed to make this an Agenda item at the next P.C. meeting.

Concerns were raised about the position of the post box on Greenhead Road. This will also be an Agenda item for the next P.C. meeting.

***Karen King, Clerk of the Parish Council***

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## **Sports and Social Club**

Dear All,

Due to my imminent departure from Swaffham Prior I have resigned as Chairman of the above committee with immediate effect, a meeting was held on Tuesday 16th May 2000 with existing members of the Sports & Social Club and new interested would be members. It was decided to carry on with the Sports & Social club and a new committee was formed.

The new committee is as follows:

Chairman:	Mr Ted Hurst
Secretary:	Mr John Berry
Treasurer:	Mr Mike Aves

Members: Mr Simon King  
Mr Ian Dalton  
Mr Ken Sumner  
Mr Greg Cotner  
Mr Henry Hardiment

It is my belief that the new Sports and Social Club Committee will channel the monies in the Sports & Social club accounts to deserved and well warranted sports and recreational activities and facilities in the village, and to try and maintain and increase the value of those accounts for future uses. A statement of the accounts are as follows:

**S.P.S.R.C. Comm. Account** (cheque account)

Balance	£10-04	
Interest	£ 0-04	
Total	<u>£10-08</u>	Balance as at 31st March 2000

**S.P.S.R.C. Business Prm. Account**

Balance	£7-40	
Interest	£0-09	
Total	<u>£7-49</u>	Balance as at 31st March 2000

**S.P.R.S.C. High Int. Account**

Balance	£17,421-21	
Interest	£ 530-06	
Total	<u>£17,951-27</u>	Balance as at 31st March 2000

There is also £278-54 in an account and an extra £16-59 in cash in control of the Fenland Bowls Committee, this money has not been passed onto the Sports & Social Club and remains the responsibility of the Fenland Bowls Committee.

It has always been my intention to support as much as possible needy causes for the young people of the village and the Youth Club falls into that category, so as an out going Chairman I have proposed to give £500-00 immediately to the Youth Club with a further 1 pound for 1 pound match to the value of £2000-00 to be raised by the Youth Club within 12 months of notice to the Youth Club Committee. This potentially is a donation of £2500-00 but a minimum of £500-00 to what I believe is what the Sports and Social Club is all about. This proposal was accepted by the new committee unanimously and the Youth Club Committee will hear of this benefit shortly.

Other beneficiaries have been discussed and the decisions made will be given in due course.

*Mr Malcolm Hall*



At our Annual Council Meeting we re-elected Cllr Sheila Friend-Smith, from Ely, as our Chairman and Cllr Valerie Leake, from Bottisham, as our Vice-Chairman. I was confirmed as Council Leader and Cllr Donald Adey, from Ely, was confirmed as Deputy Leader.

The second edition of the District newspaper, now named *ConneXions*, has just been published. We are using a more reliable delivery system and you should all now have received your copy. It is also available on tape for people who have difficulty reading (telephone 01353 668833 ext 281 to request a copy on tape). As well as giving Council news it also seeks to inform people about community events across East Cambs. Please let me know if there is anything that you would like to see included in future editions.

The computer technology at the Council has been improved, so that all Councillors and staff can now be contacted by e-mail at a standard address: [firstname.surname@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@eastcambs.gov.uk), eg [charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk). We hope also to have a web page by this summer. I hope that this will make it easier to contact Councillors and staff.

Farmers' markets will be introduced with 3 pilot markets this year. The first will be held on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July with the next two on the first Saturday of the following months. The markets will be held in Ely, with consideration being given to other locations once the pilots have been evaluated. If you want more details, please contact Suzie Osborn on 01353 668833 ext 312.

The Government has given us powers to introduce 20 mph speed limits in selected streets. We have joined with the County Council to introduce a pilot 20 mph zone in Silver Street in Ely and are looking for a location for the second pilot. Please let me know if you have any suggestions for a local road that could benefit from a 20 mph speed limit. Cars travelling at this speed are less likely to be involved in an accident and even where they are, they are very unlikely to kill a pedestrian.

Thank you for bearing with me in May while I got to know my new baby. I am now happy to receive 'phone calls (01638 742509), e-mails ([charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk)) or letters (34 Swaffham Road, Reach, CB5 0HZ) with any problems, ideas or queries.

*Charlotte Cane*



At this time of the year we are surrounded by **elections** of various sorts. As there were no parliamentary or local elections for us in our villages this year, the only ones affecting us were the two elections of Chairmen to the County and District Councils respectively.

John Eddy of Somersham (Con) was re-elected for the standard second term as Chairman of Cambridgeshire County Council with Wendy Silby (Con) as Vice Chairman. And at East Cambs District Council, Sheila Friend-Smith (LD) and Valerie Leake (LD) were also re-elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Next year we shall certainly have a full County Council election on the first Thursday in May and maybe at about that time a Parliamentary contest as happened last time in 1997 when they were on the same day. The Parliamentary election could be at any time from, say, the beginning of next year for up to a year depending on the Prime Minister's decision.

Further down the chain of responsibilities I shall serve on the Resources, Human Resources, Travellers panels and the Fire Authority. As usual I confirm that you can telephone me at any time (01223 811425) or call at 15 Tunbridge Close, Bottisham (I'll visit you if necessary) or via e-mail to James.Fitch@Council.Camcnty.gov.uk. I am not particularly keen on "surgeries" as few people wish to hold their problems to the next one.

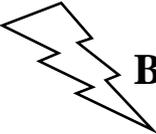
At the recent **Police Local Consultation Group**, Inspector Howell, in charge of our sector, confirmed that last year there had been a decrease in the number of *recorded* house burglaries and theft from vehicles. This will be small comfort to those recently burgled locally, but the Police are trying to reduce the number of attacks all the time. We now have a C.I.D. officer in this area. He and two other colleagues have had a considerable effect on crime in Waterbeach and Willingham.

At the next meeting of the Group at Bottisham Village College (7.30pm Wed. 28 June) you will have the chance to ask for an increased presence nearer our villages. I will be there asking for just that. A speed camera has been installed at Willingham. Should we be clamouring for one in our villages - say Swaffham & Newmarket Roads in Burwell; Mill Hill, Swaffham Prior; High Street & Bell Road, Bottisham; for example?

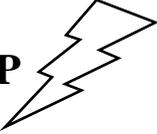
**Countryside Watch** is rapidly growing as a defence against theft of all kinds in the remoter rural areas. The scheme involves farmers, horse & caravan owners and landowners. There is a small joining fee and an annual subscription. Rural crime has reduced by nearly a quarter in those parts of the county where it operates.

The **Save the Country's Post Offices** petition was duly presented to East Cambs. District Council by John Curtis of Swaffham Bulbeck and a former postman. We shall now send it off to the Government backed by a motion through Council explaining what we want in greater detail. There is massive support of the sub-Post Office chain within the UK and I know of no politicians who have a different view

*James Fitch*



## **SWAFFHAM BULBECK BRIGHT SPARKS PLAYGROUP**



Bright Sparks Playgroup is now accepting reservations for the Autumn Term. If you are looking for a small, friendly group for your child then our playgroup is for you. We offer sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:15 - 11:45 am. We are located in the village hall next to the Primary School. Children are able to attend playgroup from the term in which they are 3 years old. Fees are £3.50 per session.

The maximum number of children for our playgroup is 12, so make your reservations early! If you would like more information about joining our playgroup please call Sarah Gibb at 01223-811624.

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AS TRAINING WILL BE GIVEN.



FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT  
OUR HOMECARE MANAGER

**Bartrams**

**01353 778756 to 8pm**

## From the Parish Registers for April

### **Holy Baptism:**

Lucca Alice Sarah Clark {SB}  
Lucy Charlotte & Gemma Louise Menzies-Kitchen  
Danny Edward & Jason (adult) Withall {R}  
Alexander Joel Collingwood Coles {R}

### **Holy Matrimony:**

Marcel Andreas Fougere & Rachelle Jayne Summers  
Richard Bentley Martinson & Sarah Louise Ackroyd

### **In Memoriam:**

Marjorie Mynott (79) {B & R}  
Geraldine Lorna Bounden (76)

### **Confirmed on 13<sup>th</sup> May at St Mary's Swaffham Bulbeck:**

Victoria Shields Davies {B} (also baptised), Judith Elizabeth Hodgson Brown {B}, Hazel Anne Kelly {B}, Laura Serenella Macmillan {B}, Rebecca Jane Owen {SB}, Jonas Edward Roebuck {SB}, Louise Anne Welton {SB}.

The Vicar notes: In the last 7 years I have prepared 22 candidates for confirmation from Swaffham Bulbeck, and 12 from Swaffham Prior, total thus 34, with only 1999 as a 'blank' year; these have all been teenagers apart from 3 adults. **Please encourage the next generation!**



## Church Services

### June 2000

#### ST MARY'S Swaffham Bulbeck

#### ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior

#### ST ETHELREDA & THE HOLY TRINITY

*EASTER*  
7

**Sun**  
**4**

**9:30am**  
Family Service  
**4:00pm**  
Choral Evensong  
(and dedication of bells)

**11:00am**  
Parish Communion<sup>B</sup>

**8:00am**  
Holy Communion<sup>†</sup>

*PENTEC*  
*OST*

**Sun**  
**11**

**9:30am**  
Parish Communion<sup>A</sup>

**11:00am**  
Village Communion  
**6:00pm**  
Evensong<sup>†</sup> and Sermon

**8:00am**  
Holy Communion<sup>†</sup>

*TRINITY*

**Sun**  
**18**

**9:30am**  
Village Communion  
**6:00pm**  
Millennium Service  
(on The Denny)

**8:00am**  
Holy Communion<sup>†</sup>

**11:00am**  
Family Service

*TRINITY*  
1

**Sun**  
**25**

**9:30am**  
Parish Communion<sup>A</sup>

**11:00am**  
Mattins<sup>†</sup> and Sermon  
**6:00pm**  
Evensong<sup>†</sup> and Sermon  
(St Cyriac's)

**8:00am**  
Holy Communion<sup>†</sup>

**Holy Communion** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays 10am, Swaffham Bulbeck Church (followed by Home Communion)  
**Evening Prayer** Tuesdays, 5:30pm, Swaffham Bulbeck  
 Wednesdays, 5:30pm, Reach  
 Thursdays, 5:30pm, Swaffham Prior

**Bellringing** Tuesdays, fortnightly 8pm. St. Cyriacs. Contact: Dr Margaret Stanier on 741328.  
**Housegroup** Tuesdays, 8pm, fortnightly in Reach.  
 Contact Olivia Cole 743434 or Juliet Vickery 742676

**Mothers Union** 1<sup>st</sup> Mondays, 2:15pm, c/o Free Church, Commercial End.  
 Contact Win Norton on 01223 811509

**Toddlers Service** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays @ 11:30am for 15 minutes in Reach Church or Centre

The vicar is never too busy to **visit** anyone on urgent pastoral or spiritual matters.

Dear Friends,

### THE CALL

Writing this in Eastertide, holding before us continually the fact of Jesus' resurrection, we should recall, that trusting his Father, Jesus became the instrument of God's peace for us.

**But we all have our part to play in the coming Kingdom of God** Here are some words of the famous churchman John Henry Newman:

*"I am created to do something, or to be something for which no-one else is created: I have a place in God's world, which no-one else has; whether I be rich or poor, despised or esteemed by man, God knows me and calls me by my name.*

*God has created me to do him some definite service; he has committed some work to me which is not committed to another. I have my mission - I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. Somehow I am necessary for His purposes, as necessary in my place as an arch-angel in his - if, indeed, I fail, He can raise another. Yet I have a part in this great work; I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.*

*He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work; I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I do but keep His commandments, and serve Him in my calling.*

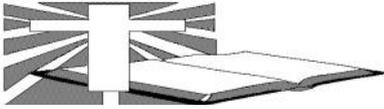
*Therefore I will trust Him. Whatever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness serves Him; in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him; if I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve him, My sickness, or perplexity, or sorrow may be necessary causes of some great end which is beyond us. He does nothing in vain; He may prolong life; He may shorten it; He knows what He is about."*

Newman concluded this meditation with a prayer of self-offering: *"I Give myself to You. I trust to You wholly. You are wiser than I - more loving to me than I myself. Fulfil Your high purposes in me whatever they be - work in and through me. I am born to serve You, to be Yours, to be Your instrument. I ask not to know - I ask simply to be used."*

As you reflect on the Easter story, in a month when we celebrate Jesus' Ascension into heaven (40 days after Easter), and Pentecost or WhitSunday (50 days after Easter), may you be helped to find your sure place in God's world by the grace of His love, and in the power of His Holy Spirit.

Your parish priest,

**Mark**



## Zion Baptist Chapel

### Services for June:

Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Family Service - Paul Jelleyman
		6.30pm	Rev Jonathon Daniel (Willingham) with Communion
Sunday	11 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Pentecost - Rev David Bousfield
Sunday	18 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	(joint service at Swaffham Bulbeck Free Church)
Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Evening Worship - David Brown

### *Birthdays...*

I recently took my daughter for a walk around the common where I remember enjoying several birthday cricket matches when I was young. It hadn't changed very much except for the trees which were decimated in the Great Storm of 1987. There was still the patch of green to play on; a few trees left that you could climb and many paths going into the woodland to be explored.

It got me thinking that you can look at birthdays in two ways, either forwards or backwards. You can either say I'm 45 years old which is true; or 45 years young. A birthday has been likened to a tree in the glorious colours of the Autumn or to a plant edging through the soil of Spring pushing up in faith and hope towards a mysterious tomorrow.

There are two ways of looking at the birthday of God. Backwards towards a crib and a cross, two thousand years old. Or forwards with our hands held by a risen Christ before us, within us, and around us.

There are two ways at looking at the birthday of the church which will be celebrated on Pentecost Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June this year. The first is through the strange happenings noted by the gospel writer Luke in his breath taking book of the Acts of the Apostles. It recalls unlikely events from long ago that are hard to believe. Could they possibly be an example from another age of sensational reporting? Maybe. Maybe not.

If you read behind the headlines one thing is sure. Here is a mysterious power at work in people's lives. It provided them with superhuman courage, convinced them of their vital role in God's plan to remake creation. It energised them to do and accomplish more than they could dream or imagine. It fired them with an ever present power that was awesome and intense, yet comforting and bewildering.

This Millennium year the Christian Church will again celebrate its birthday at Pentecost. We will celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit - that mysterious power which revitalises people. Everybody is welcome to join this special occasion when we will celebrate this special birthday. Do come and join us.

*David Bousfield*

# Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

**Masses:** Newmarket: Sat 1830; Sun 0900,1030,1700;

Kirtling: Sun 0945;

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

## From John Morrill, Deacon to the Roman Catholic Community

I have been (honestly!) very touched by the number of non-Catholics who have thanked me for these columns and said that they (sometimes at least) enjoy them. Thank you. But I fear this month I am going to do nothing more than a Catholic housekeeping column, so my non-Catholic fans can pass on to the next page (unless they are nosey parkers). Right: that will have you all hooked.

But it really is just housekeeping. It is to make sure everyone understands why Fr Paul's greybeard has been replaced for a while by Fr Michael Griffin's brown beard. Bishop Peter has made a wise decision. Faced by the ferocious demands on the clergy and the evident high burn-out rate, he is holding Fr Michael on the substitute's bench, so to speak, to come into a parish for a few months to allow a long-serving priest to have a sabbatical. This might be, in some cases, to head off a case of burn out. In our case, it is simpler than that. After thirty years as a priest, Fr Paul began to write an MPhil thesis. He had been developing at a practical level for many years a notion of *collaborative ministry*, challenging all the baptised to see that they were called not only to salvation but to service; that everyone had gifts (*charisms*) and talents that needed to be harnessed together so that the church can transcend itself - reach out to reveal the love of God to the whole world, and especially to touch the lives of the poor and the wounded. He had developed a *practice* of collaborative ministry; he now wanted to stand back and find the antecedents of what he had developed within the history and experience of the Church. While he has been at Newmarket he has continued to read about and meditate on these things. But with his myriad duties he has no prospect of the *time* and *leisure* to write it up. So Bishop Peter has given him six months away in a cottage in the Yorkshire dales to complete his work and - hopefully - to disseminate it. So he moves from one kind of pressure to another. And we welcome Fr Michael, for many years PP of St Lawrence's in Cambridge, as our priest-in-charge until the beginning of November.

The truly eagle-eyed amongst you will have noticed a change in the Mass times with this article. Soham is no longer part of Newmarket parish; it is part of Ely parish. I think I am right in saying (it was certainly true up to the nineteenth century) that it takes an Act of Parliament to shift the boundary of an Anglican parish. In the Catholic Church, it takes the stroke of an episcopal pen. (I resist further comment!) Soham *was* part of Ely from the creation of the Catholic parish system in the late nineteenth century until about 1985. At that time a new parish was created at Mildenhall and Brandon, and Mildenhall was removed from Newmarket. Since there was an elderly priest at Ely and two strapping lads in the presbytery at Newmarket, Soham was transferred to us in lieu of Mildenhall. But Soham "looks to" Ely; as a community it uses Ely as its shopping and cultural base. There is now an energetic priest at Ely with a semi-retired assistant priest and a deacon, and so it makes sense for Soham to revert to Ely. So there will still be a Mass in the Anglican parish church in Soham (as long as the kind permission of the Parish Council there is maintained) but at times fixed by Ely.

On that kind of thing, can I just let you all know that Bill Franklin and I are planning to arrange a regular get-together for Catholics in Burwell and the Swaffhams, with occasional Masses and other liturgies and social events. Watch this space!

## ***Dates for Your Diary - June 2000***

Thu	1	
Fri	2	
Sat	3	
Sun	4	
Mon	5	Mothers Union, S Bulbeck Free Church, 2:15pm
Tue	6	
Wed	7	
Thu	8	Summer Theatre Production, "Iolanthe", Mitchell Hall Barn, S. Bulbeck, 8:00pm (also Fri, Sat 8:00pm and Sat 2:00pm)
Fri	9	
Sat	10	
Sun	11	Priory Youth Club Trip to Thorpe Park Car Boot Sale, Bottisham Village College, 9:00am-1:00pm
Mon	12	
Tue	13	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm
Wed	14	<b><i>Crier Copy Deadline</i></b>
Thu	15	
Fri	16	
Sat	17	Swaffham Bulbeck Gala, Recreation Ground 2:00pm Quy Fete, Bill Watts's Orchard, 2:30pm
Sun	18	Village Gardeners - 'Open Gardens' (see p9 for details) Exhibition of Photographs, S Bulbeck Church
Mon	19	WI, Tour of Bury St Edmunds. Meet at Village Hall, 6:15pm
Tue	20	
Wed	21	School Governors Meeting, 7:30pm
Thu	22	
Fri	23	Arts Exhibition, St Peter's Fordham, 11:00-4:00pm (also Sat/Sun)
Sat	24	Church Garden Party, Village Hall, 2:15pm PatriciaN Jazz, "Cross-Roads", 2:30pm and Soham Comrades Band, "Fordham and Staploe March 2000", 7:30pm, St Peter's Fordham
Sun	25	Poems by James Withers (1812-92), St Peter's Fordham, 3:30pm
Mon	26	Ladies Circle, Elizabeth Everitt - Work of a Blue Badge Guide
Tue	27	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm
Wed	28	
Thu	29	<b><i>Crier</i></b> Collating, Village Hall, 2:30pm
Fri	30	