



The Swaffham Crier

Volume XXXIV Number 6

June 2010



Editorial

Who can be responsible for that *gate*??! That's the one right on top of the highest most scenic point of the Devil's Dyke, you can't miss it —possibly even from the next *county*. Too *big*, too *metal* and *crooked*, yes, that's just the thing we want adorning this ancient historical monument. The editors have complained (although not necessarily to the right people) but watch this space.

Like last month, this is a very tiny *Crier* by our usual standards, and this time it's not even early. But, for that, blame late-breaking news of the Village Feast which (unlike the *Crier*) is bigger than ever. The Feast details were still being finalised as we went to press so there may be a few last minute changes but nothing to spoil the overall fun!

Meanwhile, a very big welcome back to Simon Andrews, our Web Master! It's one of those jobs where you don't hear anything until something goes wrong, like you miss a few editions, and then you hear from all those far

and wide who've been relying on it. And a great many of you have missed our web coverage so you will be very glad to know that Simon is back in that seat of power again, and with brilliant efficiency, has quickly mounted all the missing *Criers* (see the inside cover for the address if you've not yet found the *Crier* on-line).

As we write, Reach and Swaffham Prior Community Broadband are at last getting their long awaited five-fold bandwidth increase - good news for all their members and for the *Crier* as they provide our web site.

Caroline and James

Cover Picture: *Magpie and the Moon* by Lorraine Izon

Regulars	
Letters	2
Our Reporter	4
Crossword	10
Simon Goddard	20
Freecycle	21
David Lewis	22
Diary & Clubs	24
News, Views & Articles	
Voluntary Funding	6
Sustainable Community	18
Trading Standards	19
Reports	
School	12
Mothers' Union	13
Village Gardeners	14
WI	15
Book Club	15
News from the Fen	16
District Council	17
County Council	18
What's On	
Village Feast	6
Strawberry Teas	4
Coup de Grass	6
Art Exhibition	8
Cantilena Singers	9
Supper Club (advert)	9
Bulbeck Summer Theatre	23



Letters to the Editors



Dear Editors,

Village Feast?

So what happened to Feast Day this year? Where was the Maypole Dancing, where were the stalls -- plants, books, cakes, bric-a-brac, what happened to the bottle stall, the bowls, the knocking down tins etc. etc. And what about the refreshments, the cream teas, ice cream, barbeque, beer tent?

At one time we had a tour of the village in an open-topped bus, pony rides for the children, children's fancy dress parade, even a Miss Swaffham Prior.

Surely the health and safety regulations have not put a stop to all the fun?

Betty Prime

All is revealed in this issue - see p6! Eds

Dear Editors,

Polish Immigrants

The History department at Bottisham Village College is researching the story of Polish immigrants to Bottisham during and after WW2 for lessons with our Year 9s. We are particularly interested in the Polish school that was set up in 1948. If anyone has recollections of the school, or other information about Poles in this area during the 1940s and 1950s, we'd love to hear them. Please get in contact Miss Kate Hammond, Head of History on 01223 811250 or enquiries@bottishamvc.org.

Kate Hammond

Dear Editors,

Channel Swim

The rollercoaster ride of physical and mental emotions is still going strong! I have started my open water training in earnest now. Having had my first visit and swims in Dover Harbour, which went well until I came down with a harsh stomach bug putting me back a fortnight. I have recovered and drove to the lake district to swim in Lake Ullswater for 35 minutes in very cold 8-9 degree water. Then the following day on to Lake Coniston where we managed to swim for 2 hours in 9-10 degree water. I have had a couple of river swims at the River Nene, and have now started my training partnership with my cousin Olly who is my safety crew in a canoe. We had a test run for 45 minutes in the River Cam at the bottom of Lode. I will be looking to increase this to at least 4 hours by the time I get to my 6 hour qualifying swim in Lake Windemere in early June...its all coming around very quickly!!

Fund raising is coming along as well so if you have given thank you very much, and if you attended the quiz night in the Lode Social club thank you and I hope you enjoyed it.

If you would like to donate please do so as its for a very worthy cause, Magpas,

who save lives in our region.

You can donate online at www.justgiving.com/Lloydswimmingchannel or through my website at www.lloydsgardens.me.uk

Lloyd Clarke

London marathon - Congratulations

Congratulations to Craig Turner of Cage Hill who successfully completed his first London marathon in a respectable 5 hrs and 5 minutes, raising over £2000 for the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign in memory of his Father. His family would like to thank their friends and neighbours for their sponsorship and Julia and Molly would like to him to know how very proud they are of him. Seconded, Eds!

STRAWBERRY TEAS and light music on the Fen

Sunday 27th June 2010



Venture down to Commissioner's Farm on the Fen for some sumptuous Strawberry Teas

Mellow Sunday afternoon entertainment will be provided by
Cocky Fruit Tale and **Bad, Bad Shepherds**

Garden games will keep all amused

Tickets £5/£2.50 From Kate Child 743983 or Linda Evans 741437

Gazebos will provide shelter from the sun or the rain
The event will take place no matter what comes the weather !!

From Swaffham Prior, starting from Station Road, follow the signs

From our Reporter at the Parish Council Meeting

How fortunate it is I have no civic duties because I failed to attend both the April and May Parish Council meetings. But this does not mean I do not think about the PC. For example I remember a phone call last September when Geoffrey Woollard asked to be met in the Churchyard. As it was not to be at dawn I felt fairly safe. There we stood in front of the Coppice Lime (a matter now done and dusted) and Geoffrey confided in me that he did not like to prune trees. In fact he's a "let `em grow man". I confided in Geoffrey that I did support some management of trees and that I was particularly upset by the amount of Ivy being allowed to grow on some trees in the wider area.



Geoffrey appeared to understand and to be sympathetic but in the following months he failed to raise it at a meeting. I waited in vain. Some on the PC will say that Ivy is not its problem, but others, who have previously shown a concern for the environment, may take it up. Perhaps our tree authority member, together with our P3 (or anyone else for that matter), could look around and prepare a short report. I know that some will say that Ivy can offer a home for many insects and nesting birds. It is equally true that if left uncontrolled Ivy can kill a tree as well as creating other problems. So, you tree lovers, help to save some trees.

I was interested to read in last month's "official" PC report the location of the four dog poo bins following a meeting with the Dog Warden. I wonder how these locations match up with David Almond's hot spots. It seems to me that these have been positioned for maximum ease of collection by the ECDC Dog Poo Collection Wagon. There are some who object to money being spent on cleaning up after other people's dogs, and one in particular was so irate he told me he was going to write a "very strong letter" to the *Crier*. How many times have I heard this threat without anything being sent. It is a fairly safe bet that the letter will never be written.

But he does have a point. In the current financial situation is ECDC dog poo collection something we should be spending our rates on? Sandra Ginn raised the same question a few months ago about the cost of hiring consultants by the Cambridgeshire County Council to find out which services we would agree to cut. Why employ consultants?

Perhaps the most profligate example of this is illustrated by the chief executive of Suffolk County Council. She receives £220,000 per annum, plus perks. Hard times are ahead so she is spending £130,000 for three separate consultancies to propose ways of saving (by mistake I initially typed `spending') money. She is also advertising for a new press officer on a salary up to £81,000 because she almost certainly will need one. Is this just sour grapes on my part, or should tax payers be concerned? And, nearer at home, how many wonder at the wasted expenditure by our very own Cambridgeshire County Council every time they drive through Quy. Does anyone know how much that traffic control abomination cost?

Alastair Everitt

Goodbye Jonathan & Emma

The Rev'd Jonathan Dowman will be leaving his job of Curate in the Anglesey Group of Parishes at the end of June to take up a new post as Priest in Charge of a Church called 'B1' in the centre of Birmingham. He will also be advising the Bishop of Birmingham on fresh expressions of Church in that Diocese.

Jonathan and Emma have brought a great deal of energy, originality and creativity to our five Churches, and we shall be sorry to have to say farewell to them and to their little daughter Amber.

We are organising a farewell service at Holy Trinity Church Bottisham on Sunday 27th June at 10.30am to which all are welcome.

Rev'd David Lewis

ST MARY'S CHURCH, SWAFFHAM PRIOR

Saturday 19 June, 7.30pm

Returning by popular demand.....



KEITH PEARSON'S COUP de GRASS

4-piece bluegrass band
featuring World Champion Harmonica player

Swaffham Prior Village Hall
with support from local performers

Tickets £7.50/children £5 from Andrew Noyes
01638 743864; noyeshome@tiscali.co.uk

www.keithpearson.co.uk

The Village Feast 2010

Saturday 12 June

Incorporating Soap Box Challenge 2010

on Cage Hill

at 11.30am

and prizes at 12.30am

(contact Tim Doe on 743656 to enter)

Followed by

Village Barbecue

at the Village Hall

at 1.00 pm

And then ...

the usual Feast afternoon of fun and games including

Maypole Dancing* *Bouncy Castle* *Can Shy

Bowls* *Children's Play Area* *Lucky Dip

Egg Throwing* *Raffle

Teas & Home-made Cakes* *Ice Creams

Beer Tent

****Stalls Galore****

Bottle Stall, Cakes and Preserves, Books, Plants

Gifts and Collectibles and more.....

Admission 30p. Children Free

FUNDING FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS NOW AVAILABLE...

East Cambs Community Fund makes grants to not-for-profit voluntary or community organisations in East Cambridgeshire. Groups can apply for 70% of their projects costs (revenue only) up to a maximum grant of £1,500, your group must find the remaining amount from other sources. Projects must be working in one or more of the council's priority areas, which are:

- * Young People
- * Older People
- * Rural Communities
- * People with Disabilities

Who can apply? Applicants must:

- * Be a non-profit group or organisation based in East Cambridgeshire
- * Have a written constitution and mission statement
- * Have an elected committee
- * Have their own bank account with a requirement for 2 signatures for any cheques written/payments made.
- * Be able to provide an up to date copy of their accounts and any relevant protection policies.
- * Be a member of Voluntary and Community Action East Cambridgeshire.

To apply or for more information please contact Daniel Schumann (Active Communities Officer) at East Cambridgeshire District Council on 01353 616 377 or email daniel.schumann@eastcambs.gov.uk

BON MOT NUMBER FOUR

HOPI EAR CANDLES

With the candles lit and gently inserted into the ear, the heat from the flame creates a stimulating, soothing and warming effect. The mechanics of the process are energetic in nature. Adding heat to the system, especially in such a subtle way, results in the stimulation of lymphatic drainage (swelling goes down); in burning off excess mucus in the middle and inner ear, sinuses and nose (breathing improves); in increasing mobility and effectiveness of the white blood cells (improved immune system); in stimulating the pituitary gland (controls glandular system). Ear candling strengthens the bodies systems.

(Nicki Nunn Therapy Handout)

The Fountain Group Art Exhibition

Weekends of 10th, 11th, 17th, 18th July 2010 at
St. Cyriac Church, Swaffham Prior, Cambridgeshire.

11am – 6pm. Free entry.

Our Man at Bexhill-on-Sea

(He has been spending two weeks in Brixton)

Gosh, isn't London an amazing place? They have more wild life in their back gardens than you would find on the whole of the South Downs ... thanks in no small part to bi-weekly refuse collections, perhaps. Foxes; squirrels and I think I caught a glimpse of a giraffe.

Whilst up in the mighty metrollops I made full use of my shiny new bus pass . . . what a wonderful country this is when elderly persons are allowed to wander around the country free of charge instead of being a nuisance to their relatives.

I tootled across to Dulwich. They have a much vaunted PICTURE Gallery (nothing as common as an art gallery) and I was mightily impressed. The bus trip (No 12 from the Elephant for your info) was an education in itself. I sat at the back and was sure I was the only passenger with a ticket ... and I hadn't paid for that! Young folk hopped on and off without an Oyster Card amongst them.

From the Elephant and all through Peckham is one long Souk. The shops no longer trust to the very tempting plate glass windows but are open to the street with shutters as security. All manner of exotic fruit and veg., amazing fish shops and more national costumes than you'll find in my Waverley's Childrens' Encyclopaedia.

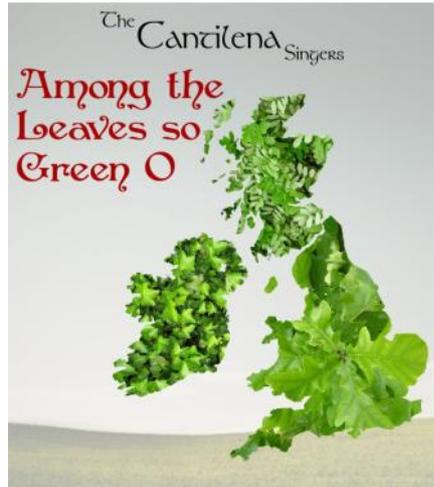
The PICTURE Gallery was a different Kettle of Turbot altogether. Leafy suburb; posh tea room (Cappuccino and carrot cake nearly seven quid!!), groups of well-heeled ladies – the more mature having come out quite well on their businessmen husbands' Life Policies, and a younger set who take coffee while foreign nationals sweep, wipe and keep an eye on the kids. I'll tell you how posh Dulwich is. They have a 'Samson and Delilah' by Sir Anthony v. Dyke and Delilah isn't cutting the hair herself – she has a bloke to do it for her . . . that's how posh Dulwich is.

CH

**Sat 24th July 2010, St Mary's
Church, Stow-cum-Quy,
7:30pm**

- The Cantilena Singers - director Daniel Spreadbury
- Out of the Attic
 - o Helen-Louise Baker - Flute
 - o Jane Ward- Accordion
 - o Sarah Petts - Bodhran

A choral concert featuring a wide range of folk songs from all corners of the British Isles. An evening featuring tales of love, loss and laughter - with the occasional drinking song thrown in for good measure!



Tickets for this concert are £7.00. Available on the door or from the shop in Quy.



Supper club

Join us at Swaffham Prior village Hall for a cookery demonstration & 3 course meal. You will learn new culinary skills & useful tips from experienced, local chefs. Recipe packs included.

Date: Friday July 2nd, 7.30pm - 10.30pm.

£30 per person, please bring your own wine. Please book early as spaces are limited.

For bookings and info, email supperclub@loobyloofood.co.uk
or call 07971 528063

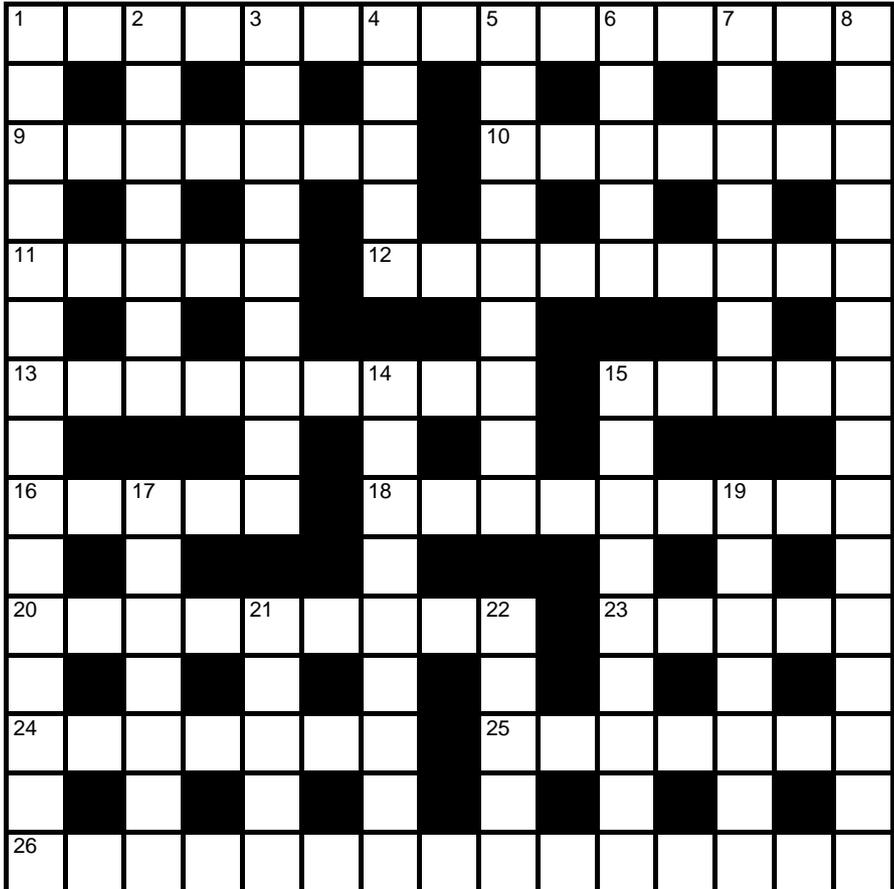
Crossword Number 69

Compiled by

Sponsored by **The Red Lion**

NIBOR

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



Name:.....

Address.....

..... Tel:.....

School News



I just can not believe that we are approaching the end of my first year as Headteacher of Swaffham Prior school. Whoever said to me that village life would be more “laid-back” and “a slower pace” than the centre of town where I was before, was just so misguided! Mind you I would have it no other way and will continue to keep as many activities and adventures going on in school as possible!

The school grounds looked lovely before the Easter break with a mass of yellow daffodils that seemed to brighten every corner. Our whole-school planting session back in the Autumn really did pay off. We will have to plan another session for next Autumn to fill the remaining gaps and to “branch out” with other bulbs!

At the end of the Spring term the School said “goodbye” formally to Mrs Cheales – the former deputy-head – who decided not to return to her job after her maternity leave as she has re-located to Australia due to her husband’s work. We wish them well. We recruited Mrs Julia Baker at the end of last term and now have our full teaching team which means we can really push forward confidently with our school development plans. The School Development plan has been completed for the next year and continues to reflect the few points for development that OFSTED raised back in November during our inspection. We feel we have already begun addressing these successfully, basing them on the “outstanding” judgements that we received in many areas such as “Care, guidance and support of children”, “Safeguarding children”, “The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles” and “The school’s engagement with parents and carers” – the areas which we consider to be the most important for us to get right first!

We have continued to hold our acts of special collective worship at St Mary’s Church. Both our Christmas and Easter services, in particular, were lovely events shared by many friends and family. Reverend Lewis also continues to make frequent visits into school to take our collective worship for which we are very grateful.

FoSPS – our parent group – have worked solidly all year to hold both social and fundraising events: The Easter bingo was certainly an experience with chocolate eggs everywhere! Having the Easter Bunny calling the numbers was of course a necessity and added to the fun atmosphere. They continue to run regular “Café” sessions on one Friday afternoon per half term. These are very popular with friends and family who come along for a chat over a slice of home-made cake and a cup of tea. There was also our recent “Barrow Of Booze” at The Reach Fair which raised a tremendous £762. As school budgets get tighter, we rely more and more on the goodwill and support of our parents to fund equipment for the classrooms.

Over the Easter holidays we had a brand new cycle shelter installed in the grounds. It also has storage boxes for helmets to save bringing them into school. We like to encourage the children to use their bikes where possible to come to school to foster healthy lifestyles and to show them how they can help the environment.

We have experienced a few problems in the school grounds with dog excrement. It seems that dogs are being brought into the school grounds during the weekends and allowed to foul and then owners not clearing it up. Obviously this is a health hazard for the children and so we would ask people to be a little bit more thoughtful please and to find somewhere else to exercise their dogs.

At the time of writing we still have some spaces for our Reception year starting in September 2010. If you have not been allocated an appropriate place for your child then why not come along for an informal chat and visit to find out more about us here at Swaffham Prior?

We try to involve the children in as many events outside of school, in our local community as we can and so Reach Fair provided an excellent opportunity for our children to produce the cover for the programme and for our maypole dancers to perform for the crowd; they did very well and were a credit to the school. Our school choir is off to Ely Cathedral on Tuesday 25th May for the big Sing-Up concert which involves many of our local schools. It should prove to be a fantastic experience for all involved.

At present we hire out our school hall to local Scouts and Cubs as well as various other community groups. If you are interested in making use of this facility then please contact our school office on 01638 741529

Diane Hawkes – Head Teacher

Anglesey Group Mothers' Union

Cambridgeshire Bobby Scheme was the topic for our April meeting. This charitable Scheme provides a service to older people aged 65+ and intends to reduce burglary by improving home security. Security Advisor, Steve Price explained how the scheme is run by Cambridgeshire Police Shrievalty Trust, and covers the whole of Cambridgeshire, consisting of four personnel , an administrative co-ordinator and three Security Advisors (two full-time and one part-time). The service is provided free for the victims of burglary. It costs the charity £120 to work at each home therefore a nominal donation of £20 toward the cost applies for pro-active visits. Steve went on to show us a variety of locks, bolts, door chains, peep holes and personal alarms the Bobby Scheme supply and fit. Needless to say upon demonstration some of these gave off an alarm sound, which Steve humorously stated “were built in to keep us awake” Napping was definitely not the order of the afternoon as Steve’s most enthusiastic and enlightening presentation captivated our interest. His case scenarios of opportunist and distraction burglaries gave each one of us a lot to think about, and made us realise how easy it is to be ‘caught out’, and how vigilance is of the utmost importance in keeping our homes secure.



The Anglesey Group were hosts for the Fordham and Quy Deanery Mothers' Union service held at Holy Trinity Church, Bottisham on 6th May. Over 40 Mothers' Union members from the deanery attended and we were very pleased to have the

Rural Dean Rev. Tim Alban Jones join us. Rev David Lewis conducted the service and Richard Ayres played the organ. After the service tea and cakes were served.

You are welcome to join us on the third Thursday of the month, 2.30pm in Lode Chapel. At our next meeting on 17th June David Stevens, Christian Blind Mission will speak about 'Disability in the Developing World'.

Ann Langran
812797



VILLAGE GARDENERS

Do you know the difference between a gnome and a dwarf? Neither did our April speaker but, undaunted, Dr Twigs Way, garden historian and author, gave us a fascinating insight into the 'History of the Garden Gnome'

Following on from Classical statues and the 'Grotesques' popular in seventeenth century England, garden gnomes were first introduced into this country by Sir Charles Isham in the 1860s. He imported 'hundreds of small garden dwarfs' from Germany to populate his newly-built rockery at Lamport Hall in Northamptonshire. These were highly painted, ceramic figures. Sir Charles considered it entirely correct to put gnomes in his garden since he believed that they existed in real life!



We learnt that the late nineteenth and early twentieth century saw a height of gnome popularity in England. Usually imported from Germany these hand-moulded and painted gnomes were therefore expensive and found only in the gardens of the gentry. However, during the First World War when the gnome became a German military mascot, they naturally became unpopular here, never again to grace the smartest gardens.

At last, with the popularity of the 1950s Disney film Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, came the revival of the garden gnome, but this time as a feature of mainly suburban gardens. These were inexpensive, mass-produced, concrete figures, always with red-painted hats and often with wheelbarrow or rake in hand! These gnomes became so ubiquitous as to be considered utterly 'naff' by the 1980s! Currently, however, the garden gnome seems to have something of a popular 'kitsch' status and a spate of gnome-knapping has recently occurred – so it may be prudent to watch over your garden gnomes with great care!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 18 May when Mr Richard Ayers, retired Head Gardener of Anglesey Abbey, will talk to us on the Gibberd Garden, Harlow. This will be at 8pm in the Village Hall and all are most welcome. The next date for your diaries will be Tuesday, 15 June when we have an evening outing to the garden of The Old House, Fulbourn, home of Kate and Charles Comins.

Peter & Mary Hart



WI Notes

There was no monthly meeting in May as the date coincided with our annual group meeting, which a good number of our members were able to attend. Our next meeting will be on June 21st when our speaker will be Janet Hearn from Médecins Sans Frontières who will be telling us about the important work they do. New members are always welcome to our friendly group.

Pat Cook

SP Book Club, May

We had rather a different format this month (decided while I was disarmed). Instead of all reading the same book and discussing what we felt about it, it was decided to take a subject and then read around it. The subject chosen was Samuel Pepys. I have to admit I wasn't very enthusiastic about the decision: for me the pleasure of the club is sharing views of books that have or have not given enjoyment and thus extending one's knowledge of different authors. However, having said that, I found this subject fascinating.

Biographers varied in the quality of their writing, (you can't always believe the blurb on the cover) but what came shining through was what a giant of a man Pepys was. Only knowing him as a diarist present at the Great Fire of London in 1666 is to know only a fraction of the man. He was a civil servant *par excellence*; a founder of the modern navy; a cultured, intelligent man who mixed with the intelligentsia of his time, including royalty; an MP who had to fight his corner repeatedly; and also a man of wide physical appetites. In addition, he was an extremely hard worker, risking his sight, his reputation and his life on occasion, for his beliefs. At one point he underwent surgery (without anaesthetic) for kidney stones.

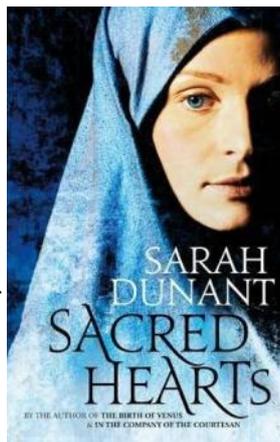
This format has certainly extended the knowledge of at least one member of the group, with wide discussion around the subject, often sparking more personal contributions, which makes for a stronger group.

We are reverting to the original format for next month, (2nd June venue to be decided later) the choice being

***Sacred Hearts* by Sarah Dunant**

Can I also ask if you still have any book from the library, please return it, either to me or the library, asap)

Brenda Wilson



News from the Fen

Hopefully the recent warm weather marks the start of a long hot summer. The cold winter has certainly seemed to have put a brake on nature with many species of spring flower only just beginning to appear, around three to four weeks later than normal.



The Wicken Fen Visitor Centre has recently undergone a major refurbishment to improve visitor facilities and access to the fen. Following feedback from visitors we have installed a number of benches and seats around the fen to enable visitors to sit down and rest whilst soaking up the sights and sounds of the fen. We have also obtained an alcohol licence so visitors can now relax and enjoy a range of local beers and ciders in addition to our normal catering fare.

Construction of the Reach Lode crossing, part of the Lodes Way is progressing with the central span due to be lifted into place at the end of May. Work is now set to begin on the construction of the cycleway across Burwell Fen. We hope that the bridge and cycleway will be opening at the beginning of September. Consultants have recently been appointed to design a new crossing over Burwell Lode, the final element of the Lodes Way which we hope to complete by 2013.

Local bird watchers have been delighted with recent sightings of avocet, temminck's stint and whimbrel on Tubney Fen, near Reach. Three pairs of avocet bred on Tubney Fen last year, the first ever recorded breeding of the species at Wicken Fen or the Vision lands. We are hopeful that the avocets will successfully breed again this year. A new bird viewing facility overlooking the mere enabling visitors to view the birds without disturbing them was constructed over the winter months. A turf roof and planting of additional screening cover will be undertaken in the autumn so as not to disturb the birds whilst they are breeding.

We were delighted to welcome our Patron, Chris Packham and the Springwatch camera's to Wicken Fen during May. Chris and the team spent a day filming dragonflies for this year Springwatch series. The **Dragonfly Safaris** organised by the Dragonfly Project are a great way to see and learn about the 21 species of dragon and damselflies that can be seen on the fen. Safaris are being held on Sat /Sun 12-13 June at 1100 and 1430. The Dragonfly Centre is also open at weekends throughout the summer.

Stand-up paddle boarding proved a great hit when we introduced it last year. There's still time to sign up for a **Paddleboard Safari** being held from Tues 1 – Friday 4 June. The three hour exploration of the local waterways around Wicken are a great to enjoy the magical wildlife and landscapes of the fen whilst getting some healthy exercise. For the half term holidays we also have **Pond Dipping** on Tues 1 and Thurs 3 June from 1200. Wicken Fen Grazing Warden, Carol Laidlaw will be leading a **Konik Pony Walk**, including the opportunity to see our new foals on Sat 5 June at 1030 whilst leading wetland researcher, Pete Stroh will introduce you to the fenland speciality plants on a **Wildflower Walk** on Sun 20 June at 1400. Why not

relax after a hard week at week with a **Midsummer Boat Trip and BBQ** on Fri 18 June or enjoy a **Midsummer Safari and Supper** on Sat 26 June. Information and tickets for all events are available from the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274.

Hope to see you at the fen soon.

Howard Cooper
National Trust - Wicken Fen



EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

From our District
Councillor

District Council Budget 2010/2011

This is probably the toughest budget that this Council has ever had to set due to the impact of the recession and the smaller than expected government grant settlements.

We have had to make across the board savings to cover a deficit of £1.65 million pounds over the next year.

The savings we have made means the council tax increase was able to set at 2.95%, which is less than 8 pence per week for a band D property.

Plastic Bottle Collections

Unfortunately one of the cost saving measures in the budget is the ending of the plastic bottle collections at a saving of £119,000.

Violia will be emptying the plastic bottle banks more frequently; also the council are looking to provide more plastic bottle banks in the district in areas of greatly increased use.

Citizens Advice Bureau's

The council provides funding for Ely and Newmarket C.A.B's. We have maintained the funding in total in recognition of their importance during this recessionary period.

Tourism

Oliver Cromwell's House (owned by ECDC) is holding its own during the recession without a drop in its attendance or the income it generates. The local tourist board is situated within Oliver Cromwell's House.

ECDC updated its website on May the 11th. There is now more information available to the public on things such as places to stay and visit.

Council Grant Funding

Because of the present financial climate there will be very little grant funding available over the next two years.



Councillor Allan Alderson

May started on County Council duty with a real pleasure - being invited to be part of the Mayor of Cambridge's party to proclaim Reach Fair and help distribute coins. I was also invited to lunch, where I discovered another tradition - the new boys and girls are expected to give a speech (without warning!).

I attended a meeting of the Children and Young People's Policy Development Group where provision of secondary schooling and post-16 education in East Cambs were the main topics of discussion.

I also participated in 2 service appeal hearings relating to home to school transport provision. As I have reported before these cases can be quite difficult and the 2 held in May were certainly that.

Full Council met on 18 May. Owing to family commitments I had to send my apologies. Cllrs Linda Oliver and John Powley were due to be re-confirmed as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively, with Cllr Jill Tuck remaining as Leader of the Council. I was re-appointed to the Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee, Service Appeals Committee and the Adult and Communities Policy Development Group. I was also appointed to the newly-formed Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee. I remain as a substitute member on a number of other Committees and Groups. I also remain the County Council representative on: the Littleport Masterplan Working Party; the LGA Rural Commission; and Cambridgeshire Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs. Progress with Guided Busway was a major agenda item, as has been widely reported.

I have attended a number of meetings considering the future direction of Highways Policy in the County - more details next month.

David Brown

Sustainable Community Strategy

Following the first consultation phase, the East Cambridgeshire Strategic Partnership (ECSP) is now developing the new Sustainable Community Strategy, for launch in April 2011.

The feedback received during phase one of the consultation (1st March – 20th May 2010) provided the Partnership with information which organisations and members of the local communities felt to be of importance in East Cambs. As a result, the Partnership has now produced a draft new Strategy which will replace the existing Sustainable Community Strategy for 2008-2011 and will run for 20 years, from 2011-2031. This new Strategy sets out how services can be improved and delivered to increase the environmental, social and economic well-being of the district and will act as an overarching partnership plan for East Cambridgeshire.

For further details, or to view the draft document, email your request to ls2@eastcambs.gov.uk or look out for details in the local press.



WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM YOUR LOCAL TRADING STANDARDS SERVICE?

A Trading Standards consultation opened on 10 May 2010 seeking people's views on what they would like the Service to make a priority in their area.

Trading Standards has a broad remit – from tackling the sale of alcohol to underage youngsters and confronting rogue traders, to checking petrol pumps are giving the right measure and ensuring that food is labelled correctly - and they want to know which things are most important to Cambridgeshire communities.

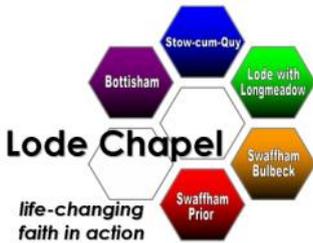
The survey which is due to run until the end of June, will gather views from across Cambridgeshire on what kinds of things local residents want Trading Standards to tackle or provide in their local areas. It will also be asking what particular trading issues give rise to concern amongst Cambridgeshire residents.

Everyone who responds will be given the opportunity to enter a prize draw subject to terms and conditions*, with the winner being awarded £100 worth of Marks and Spencer vouchers.

County Council Cabinet Member for Economy and the Environment, Councillor Tony Orgee, said: "I would urge everyone to take part in this consultation. It is an excellent example of the County Council seeking the views of local residents to help shape the services they deliver. I would encourage all residents to voice their views in order that we can deliver the very best service to Cambridgeshire communities."

Leon Livermore, Head of Cambridgeshire County Council's Trading Standards Service said: 'We look to deliver services in a way that is responsive to local needs. Never before have we undertaken such an extensive survey at Trading Standards, and I believe that by doing so, we will gain a clear picture of exactly what communities want from our Service.'

The survey can be found by going to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/consumer . Paper copies of the survey are also available from the hub libraries in the County or can be sent to you by contacting the County Council on (01223) 715667



Serving the Community

On one of the occasions that I have attended Catholic mass I noticed that the priest ended with the words “mass is over, but the service begins”. Too often in the church’s history we’ve forgotten that we exist not to serve ourselves, but to show God’s love to the world, and in particular to the communities in which he places us. For that reason I am happy to tell you about the following activities coming up during June:

ENGLAND’S WORLD CUP MATCHES ON A BIG SCREEN

For the World Cup in 2006 Lode Chapel created a family-friendly space for people to get together and watch the England matches on a big screen. This year we’re doing the same in Bottisham. We’ll follow England all the way through to the final (if they make it), but here are the details for the matches that we’re certain they’re playing:

ENGLAND v USA, Saturday 12th June.

Venue: Bottisham Primary School. Doors open 7.00pm.

ENGLAND v ALGERIA, Friday 18th June.

Venue: Bottisham Primary School. Doors open 7.00pm.

SLOVENIA v ENGLAND, Wednesday 23rd June.

Venue: Queen’s Court. Doors open 2.30pm.

Children will need to be accompanied by an adult, but as it’s always better to watch these big sporting occasions in a crowd why not join us. Entry will be free, there’ll be cheap soft drinks and snacks, and we’ll have face-paint and some special tournament guides available. See you there!

QUEEN’S COURT SUNDAY

In December of last year I began work as chaplain at Queen’s Court and I’m happy this year, on Sunday 13th June, to be leading a special service to celebrate the life of older people in our community. Many of the residents at Queen’s Court, which is managed by Methodist Homes, have lived locally and I’ve seen firsthand the high standard of care that is given by the staff, many of whom are also local. A variety of groups benefit through use of the Day Centre facilities at Queen’s Court, and I’m hoping that a good number of people will turn up to show their appreciation of the home’s contribution to the life of the local community. After the service there will also be an opportunity to find out more about volunteering at Queen’s Court. Some residents don’t have any relatives to visit them, and even half an hour once every week or two to sit and chat with a resident would make a tremendous difference. There are also practical ways you could help – perhaps editing the Queen’s Court newsletter or teaching residents how to access the internet on the recently purchased computer. If you think you can help contact me directly, come along to the service on Sunday 13th June, or pop in to the volunteer fair afterwards.

Celebration Service in Queen's Court Day Centre at 3.00pm, followed by refreshments and a Volunteer Fair at 4.00pm.

Simon Goddard

Sundays in June

Sun 6th, 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (at Bottisham Primary School with crèche and groups for children and young people)

Sun 6th, 5.30pm – 'Sacred Space' Contemplative Service (Chapel)

Sun 13th, 10.30am – RE:NEW Kids Club and Café (School)

Sun 20th, 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (School)

Sun 27th, 10.30am – RE:NEW The Bigger Picture (School)

For more information please contact: Rev. Simon Goddard.

Tel: (01223) 812881

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

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

Roman Catholic Church, Newmarket Parish

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

FREecycle



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

Offers

10 green filing cabinet folders. 1 potty. Jun, c813362

Wanted

Your old light fittings, brown bakelite switches, iron conduit and switches, bulb holders and holders. Sheets and bits of bakelite. Still looking for a postcard rack. Carousel if possible. Greenhouse up to 8ft long. Will dismantle and take away; George 07895064727.

Wooden playhouse, any condition. Ray, c813117

Dear Friends,

I have found myself thinking a great deal about St. Francis of Assisi this last week. I think it was because I briefly met a Franciscan monk recently, and it was just after I had sung St. Francis' lovely hymn 'All Creatures of our God and King', and I was deeply touched by the coincidence.



It has been said that St. Francis loved all of God's creatures and had a special relationship with them all. St Francis discovered the simpler way of life. For him, being at one with the world about him and with his fellow men and women was the most important thing of all. In the words of his hymn:-

*Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia.
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in On.*

His father was very wealthy, and St. Francis wanted for nothing as he grew up, but then he angered his father by starting to give away all his money and possessions to the poor. For St. Francis material possessions and money were of no importance at all. All he cared about was the plight of the poor, and so he gave to them all that he had.

But St. Francis did more than that. He loved people from the depth of his heart. It is said that on one journey on horseback he noticed a beggar standing at the side of the road, who was obviously suffering from leprosy. St Francis got down from his horse, gave the beggar what he had, and then hugged him. It was a huge act of love, and, as he hugged him, it is said that he saw the face of Christ in the face of the beggar.

St Francis teaches us so much about the meaning of the words of Jesus Christ. Jesus said:-

Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable are you than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. But seek his kingdom, and all these things will be given to you as well. (Luke 12:24-31)

We have finally got a government after a protracted period of uncertainty after the general election, and I hope that the new approach to politics promised by the

new prime minister will ultimately cause the country to reassess the values by which we live. I hope and pray that we might turn our backs on the mighty god of materialism, and concentrate instead on being a more caring nation, whose priorities are being at one with each other, with our God and with the world about us. As St Francis says in his lovely hymn:-

*And all who are of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O praise him, alleluia!*

*All who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and cast on him your care*

May God bless you all,

David

	ST MARY'S Swaffham Prior June 2010
Sun 6	11:00am Family Communion
Sun 13	11:00am Holy Communion
Sun 20	8:00am Holy Communion 11:00am Family Service
Sun 27	10:30am Benefice Communion (at Bottisham)



SWAFFHAM BULBECK SUMMER THEATRE

proudly presents

‘Trial by Jury’ by Gilbert and Sullivan

and

‘The Zoo’ by Rowe and Sullivan

Wednesday 9th – Saturday 12th June 2010

Evening performances at 7.30pm and a Saturday matinée at 2.30pm

Downing Farm, Station Road, Swaffham Bulbeck, Cambridge CB25 0NB

Ticket prices Wednesday and Thursday £8, Friday and Saturday £10, matinee £5,
from Kari Karolia 01638 745490 or kari.karolia@gmail.com

For further information see www.sbstgands.co.uk or contact info@sbstgands.co.uk

Dates for Your Diary June 2010

Tue	1	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:15-3:50pm Chapel 3:55-4:15
Wed	2	Book Club, 8:00pm
Wed	9	Swaffham Bulbeck Summer Theatre (7:30pm daily until Saturday 12 th)
Sat	12	Village Feast
Sun	12	Crier Copy Deadline
Sat	19	SP School half-term starts
Tue	15	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 3:15-3:50pm Chapel 3:55-4:15 Village Gardeners, outing to The Old House, Fulbourn
Thu	17	Mothers Union
Sat	19	Coup de Grass, St Mary's, 7:30pm
Mon	21	WI
Tue	28	Mobile Library, Cage Hill 2:40-3:30, Chapel 3:35-4:00pm Re-cycling 7am

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