Within Reach



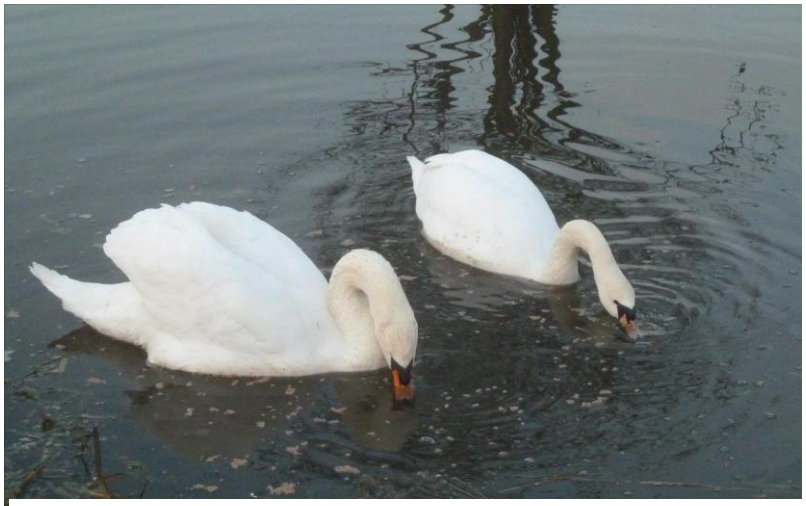
COMMUNITY MAGAZINE AWARDS 2010
Low Frequency Magazine
GOLD

April/May 2012





Green shield bug (they turn brown over winter)







Hythe Bridge (Photo: Jo Redfarn)

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THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE PARTY

Monday 4th June
2.00pm - 7.00pm

The village will be celebrating the Jubilee on Monday 4th June 2012 on the Fair Green

Food, drink and entertainment!

Further details on **page 3** or from **Jo Mules** on 743476



From the Editor



Wow! This is the twelfth issue of the magazine `under the new management'. That's two years of regular contributions from the Editorial Team listed below.

We wholeheartedly thank the team for their amusing, informative and interesting reads. We also thank our photographers Alison Lewis and Hugh de Lacy. I also am pleased to thank Rosanna Price for her technical assistance. Thanks go to everyone who has contributed one-off articles and our distribution team. My especial thanks go to David Parr for his support in the production of the magazine, all liaison with the advertisers and his care of the finances.

We are now enjoying warm spring weather but we did have a bout of snow in early February and we include a variety of photographs taken by several villagers. Talking of snow, we have a wonderful article by Dafila Scott which describes her month on board HMS Scott sailing down the Antarctic Peninsula in her role as artist in residence. Our planting and wildlife sections are very strong in this issue with articles on ladybirds, short-eared owls, Village Gardeners, Snakehall Farm and Wicken Fen. We are all becoming increasingly knowledgeable about our local flora and fauna. Juliet Vickery is counting down to the Olympics and is looking for ideas as to how the village can celebrate them.

Do cough up your 100 Club membership – poor Joyce Harrison is struggling to chase payments. The Reach Rainbow Crafts Circle has attracted a good membership and its next meeting is on Tuesday 3rd April, 1.30pm–3pm in the Village Centre.

Reach Fair is on Monday 7th May. Do volunteer your assistance - Andrew Towers (07946 893437), Grahame Radford (07842 126270) or Jan Tabecki (01638 742552) will take your call. The organisation of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Party is well underway so do keep Monday 4th June free and check out page 3.

Read this magazine carefully and learn what village eyesore is potentially going to be decommissioned. Wow!

Claire Halpin-McDonald
01638 743330 claire.halpin@ascontracts.co.uk

Front Cover Photo: Hugh de Lacy
Photos: Julie Aspin, Hugh de Lacy, Toni Dennis, Joss Goodchild, Claire Halpin-McDonald, Alison Lewis, Emma Mitchell, Jo Mules and Jo Redfarn

Editor's Notes

The purpose of *Within Reach* is to serve the whole village by circulating information and interesting articles free to every household. Additional copies are available at a charge of £2.50. Issues are published bi-monthly which cover the dates of Dec/Jan, Feb/Mar, Apr/May, June/July, Aug/Sept and Oct/Nov.

Copies of the Minutes of Parish Council meetings and of *Out of Reach* and *Within Reach* magazines can be found on the village website **www.reach-village.co.uk**.

The next copy date is 15th May 2012. This magazine is approved and printed by Reach Parish Council.

Editorial Team

Editor	Claire Halpin-McDonald
Production	Claire Halpin-McDonald
	David Parr
Advertising/Treasurer	David Parr
Distribution	Freda Lloyd, Grahame Radford, Rita Dunnett, Joyce Harrison
Roving Reporter	Jo Riches
Roving Photographer	Hugh de Lacy
Allotments/24Acres	David Thomas
Bellringing	Lesley Boyle
Cookery	Rita Dunnett
Cricket	Ross Clark
Crossword	Zenida McDonald
Days Gone By	David Parr
Fen Chitchat	Lesley Boyle
Kids' Page	Susie Tucker
Little Windmills	Susan Bluck
Mothers' Union	Zenida McDonald
Parish Council	David Parr
Plants	Janet Hall
Snakehall Farm	Maz Baker
Sport	Juliet Vickery
Swaffham Prior School	Hannah Curtis
Wicken Fen	Howard Cooper
Wildlife	Joss Goodchild
	Alison Lewis
Women's Institute	Zenida McDonald

REACH FAIR 2012

Quiz

This will take place on Sunday 6th May starting at 7.30pm in the beer tent. Teams should consist of a maximum of six players and the entrance fee is £1 per person. All proceeds will go to a charity of the winners' choice.

Car Parking

We will again be using the car park on Burwell Road with a controlled one-way system for safety. Would all residents in Burwell Road please note that entry and exit from all dwellings will need extreme caution. There will also be no traffic permitted beyond the car park exit towards Fair Green between 11.30am and 5.00pm unless by prior arrangement.

Road Closures

In addition to the above, Swaffham Road, Fair Green and Great Lane will also be closed to traffic during the duration of the Fair. **There will be no access through the village between 10.30am and 5.00pm.**

Car Passes

There will be no car passes this year but we remind residents to be aware of the above and advise visiting friends and relatives that they need to be in position before the Fair commences unless there is an emergency. In this case, please contact Andrew Towers on **07946 893437** or Grahame Radford on **07842 126270.**

Volunteers

As in previous years the success of the Fair very much depends on the help given by residents in addition to the Committee. This year will be no exception. If you can spare some time either setting up on the Sunday and/or on the day itself (to run stalls, car park admission or road closures) the Committee would be extremely grateful. Please contact a member of the Committee as soon as possible to indicate your preference.

Fancy Dress

Due to the lack of interest over the last couple of years there will be no fancy dress competition this year, but activities are planned that will hopefully involve all sections of the community.

Grand Draw

The Grand Draw will again be incorporated within the programme using a tear-off strip. We are expecting to have at least 12 prizes with the top three being £100, £60 and £40 in cash. Programmes will be available to purchase at various locations on the day.

Diamond Jubilee Party

This will take place on Bank Holiday Monday 4th June, starting at 2.00pm and finishing at 7.00pm.

The afternoon will start with entertainment from **Kate Garner** who is a pianist and singer noted for her unique piano-based songs and quintessentially English lyrics.



Kate Garner

Food will be served from 3.00pm to be followed by the **Mindset Ceilidh Band** – be prepared to join in!

And during the afternoon **Lizzy B** will be keeping the children amused with her face-painting.



All of this is free for Reach residents with a charge for any guests of £5 per person.

A Month On Board HMS Scott



It is 100 years since my grandfather's last expedition. He died in March 1912 along with four companions who went with him to the South Pole. The story of their courage in the face of enormous hardship is inspiring.

The scientific work that they began was the most extensive of any expedition of that time and much of what they started continues to this day. Now, Antarctica is dedicated to peaceful purposes and the pursuit of science and provides a good example of a Treaty where nations operate collaboratively. After this length of time, it is possible not only to dwell on the tragedy of the polar party's deaths but to celebrate the achievements and legacy of the expedition.



To help celebrate the centenary of the expedition, the Friends of the Scott Polar Research Institute sponsored two artists in residence - Rowan Huntley in 2010 and myself in 2011. This was a joint sponsorship with the Royal Navy and we each spent a month on board the navy's Ice Patrol Vessel (then HMS Scott) sailing down the Antarctic Peninsula. HMS Scott is one of the navy's largest survey ships and is constantly mapping the underwater landscape. In the Antarctic she was contributing to the work of British Antarctic Survey scientists who are studying the flow of ancient glaciers.

I flew to the Falkland Islands and joined the ship there at the beginning of February 2011. For me this was an amazing experience and the time passed quickly as there was so much to see. It was fascinating to be on a naval ship and see how it worked and the captain and crew were all friendly and helpful and good about getting me ashore when possible. We were lucky with the weather as the furious fifties and screaming sixties didn't live up to their names at all and I was able to get my sea legs gradually.

We saw many seabirds on the way south including cape petrels, which followed the ship and were a constant source of delight, as well as some albatrosses but perhaps not as many as I had expected. We saw wandering albatrosses (which have a three metre wingspan) as well as some grey-headed and a few black-browed albatrosses. We also had good sightings of whales throughout the trip though it was usually a blow and then just a glimpse of the dorsal fin and if we were lucky, a tail fluke before they dived.



HMS Scott

On the third day south of the Falklands we saw the first iceberg on the horizon and the next day there was land, which was the South Shetlands. From then on we saw wonderful landscapes with huge snowy mountains and sharp peaks, as well as many more icebergs with an infinite variety of shape, size and colour. I spent a great deal of my time on the bridge drawing as much as I could and trying to take it all in.

I went ashore on seven occasions. My first visit was to three neighbouring research stations on King George Island, South Shetlands: the Russian 'Bellingshausen', the Chilean 'Presidente Frei' and the Chinese 'Great Wall', which were interesting in their differences. They were all very hospitable and I was introduced as the artist in residence on the ship so I could sit in a corner and draw.

While I was away I filled three notebooks with drawings as well as writing a diary and taking many photos.

The second place I went ashore, on the southern end of the South Shetland Islands, was on Deception Island, a dormant volcano (last active in 1969), where earth movements have damaged buildings and containers previously used by researchers and whalers. I found it a strange place – interesting but desolate except for the wildlife – terns, gulls, cape petrels, Wilson's petrels, fur seals and the odd penguin and Weddell seal. Unfortunately the cloud hung low when we were there so you couldn't see much of the caldera and the volcanic red, purple and brown colours were rather muted. In fact we were not lucky with the sun throughout the month and a lot of the mountains we saw had their heads in the clouds. Further south, I also visited Port Lockroy, one of the first British bases in the Antarctic, which is situated on a tiny island south of Anvers Island. Here the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust now runs a small museum and there is also a gentoo penguin colony. Over 10,000 tourists visit this base during an Antarctic summer. When we were there it was snowing so hard I had to take shelter in their new accommodation block and look at the birds through the windows as my paper was getting too wet otherwise.



Dafila on Signy Island with chinstrap penguins

The furthest south we landed was at Rothera, a large base near the southern end of Adelaide Island (67 degrees south), where the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) have 100 people in the summer and around 22 in winter. I much enjoyed the aquarium where they showed us living cushion starfish, isopods, sea lemons (related to limpets) and sea spiders. Then I managed to have a walk over the top of the island to the other side with some aerial engineers and from there we had a fabulous view out over the bay towards the continent itself. There were a few Adelie penguins here which I didn't see anywhere else. After this we headed back north. Some of the most spectacular landscapes are in the vicinity of the Gerlache Strait, between Anvers Island and the mainland and especially the famous Neumayer and Lemaire Channels. Because HMS Scott is ice-strengthened but not an ice-breaker we were able to pass through the Gerlache Strait and Neumayer Channel, which were relatively free of ice, but sadly not the Lemaire Channel which was blocked by ice. On the way back north we stopped at the Korean base, King Sejong and I went ashore there, but it was a brief visit as the weather had closed in and the ship had to come very close inshore to be able to see the base. My final visit ashore was probably my favourite, which was to the British base on Signy Island in the South Orkneys. As we approached we were greeted by fur seals playing around the boat. Then on the decking beside the base were the enormous bodies of snoozing elephant seals. I was taken by one of the BAS scientists across the island to see chinstrap penguins on the Gourlay Peninsula, so I spent more happy hours drawing there before it was time to go back.

While I was on the ship I made a number of paintings in pastel and in oil when there was not much to see outside. Since coming back I have worked from my sketches and memories to produce more paintings and some of these will be on show at the Scott Polar Research Institute from 15th May until 30th June 2012 or more can be seen at www.dafilascott.co.uk

Dafila Scott



Sun and cloud on the mountains, Gerlache Strait



The Edge of Beyond: Dafila Scott's Antarctic Paintings

The Friends of Scott Polar Research Institute Artist in Residence on board HMS Scott in 2011, Dafila's work conveys her response to the landscape and wildlife of the Antarctic

15 May – 30 June 2012
Polar Museum, Lensfield Road, Cambridge

Open 10am – 4pm. Tuesday – Saturday
Except Bank Holiday weekends and public holidays
Admission is free

7.30pm Friday 20th April 2012
St Mary's Church, Burwell

Collegium Regale

£15, £13 OAPs, £7 children/students

We are delighted to host another concert as part of Cambridge Summer Music Festival's 'Music in Quiet Places' series

The world famous Collegium Regale, the close harmony group made up of the Choral Scholars of the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, will sing from their extensive repertoire, which ranges from ancient choral music, through spirituals to contemporary items, including songs made famous by Michael Jackson

"A sparkling display of virtuosic singing"
BBC Music Magazine

Tickets are available from the ADC Theatre Box Office on 01223 300085 or www.adctheatre.com and from CentrePeace
They are also available on the door

Two Cantilena Concerts

8pm Friday 20th April 2012, Bassingbourn Parish Church, North End, Bassingbourn, SG8 5NW

7.30pm Saturday 21st April 2012
Emmanuel United Reformed Church
Trumpington St, Cambridge, CB2 1RR

Rich Braun - 01223 812115

St Etheldreda's Church, Reach



Eve of Reach Fair

Songs of Praise

Sunday 6th May 2012

beginning with

Baptism of Edward Aspin at 5.45pm

following on

with Songs of Praise

6.00 - 6.45pm

A short service of hymns & readings
Suggestions welcome - add to list in church

All welcome to join us for this very special service
Come at 5.45pm for the baptism
or arrive at 6.00pm in time for the Songs of Praise

With activities for younger children during the service

FINAL TOTAL

The Curry Night on January 21st 2012 raised £500.26 for Amnesty International



Spring Alphabet



S is for spring. The birds and the bees, the flowers that bloom and the new leaves on the trees. The early morning chorus with blue sky up above and waking each morning to the sound of the dove. The sun rises each morning, its face glowing red, inviting us to arise and get out of bed.

P is for the pleasure each morning can bring. The sound of our blackbird as he welcomes in the spring. Now is the time for him to find the bush he thinks best, so he and his mate can build a straw and mud nest. Deep in a bush that's safe warm and dry, away from the magpie's keen searching eyes.

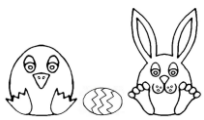
R is for the return of the swallows and martins that turn up every day, our summer visitors from lands far away. Twisting and turning in the sky each sunny morn, back to the nest they were born. The cuckoo comes in April and will sing his song in May. In June it changes its tune and then in July fly away.

I is for all the insects that are hatching outside. Food for our birds that Mother Nature provides. Birds fly backwards and forwards. No time to rest and play. Until they are big enough to leave the nest and fly away. With all the moths and butterflies with their bright coloured wings and the buzz of the wasp with its terrible sting. The honey bees flying from flower to flower. The smell of fresh air after a shower.

N is for Mother Nature and the many miracles she performs. The many eggs that hatch and the lambs that are born. She paints all the flowers as they lift their heads to the sun rejoicing now winter is done. With warm sunny days and a gentle wind blow. Warm spring showers that make the seeds grow. The calls of lambs, the smell of fresh hay and the call of the pheasant in a field far away.

G is for good times that lie ahead. The sight of the pansy and primroses flowering in their beds. The song of the thrush from his perch up high and the sight of a hawk as he hovers in the sky. So with each day getting longer and each night getting warmer, we must forget the winter and remember that summer is around the corner.

Bill Estall





Bottisham Village College Adult and Community Learning

Win a free 10-week course of your choice, worth up to £90!

We are always looking for new and exciting courses to offer and would like to hear your views.

Why not take a look at our website www.bottishamvc.org/commed to see what we already offer and if the course you are looking for is not there, please let us have your suggestions by 27th April 2012. You will then be entered into our free prize draw.

Would you like more arts and crafts, languages, health and fitness, ICT, or anything else? *Please give as much detail as possible so that we can help*. Do you like evening classes or Saturday day schools? Do you like 5-week or 10-week courses?

You can email us on commed@bottishamvc.org or telephone 01223 811372.

We'd love to hear from you and we'll do our best to put on the best suggestions in our September programme.



SHROVE TUESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2012



Hazel Lingley (left) and Alice Trump



Benjamin Shackleton

Pancakes were made by Sarah Keutgen, Pam King, Ailsa Miller and Emma Mitchell. Everyone helped out on the night but especially Sue Bailey and Jo Mules. Thank you



Harry Oliver-Towers (left) and Dylan Steed



Daisy Bailey



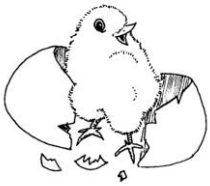
From left Violet Keutgen, Harry Oliver-Towers, Kathryn Cane and Archie Fordham



Alice Trump



Violet Keutgen (left) to Kathryn Cane





Lily Steed





Daniel, a grandson of Rita's

Reach Rainbow Crafts Circle

The first Reach Rainbow Crafts Meeting took place at Reach Village Centre on the afternoon of 7th February. Despite the snow-covered ground and icy conditions, five of us braved the weather and came along for the knitting session. We exchanged ideas, patterns, books, magazines etc. and gave out news of other events and exhibitions of interest locally. We also talked about local suppliers and useful internet sites. Attention was drawn to the many charities that have a huge need for people to knit for them. Blankets are required for the homeless (here and overseas), for children on charitable camping holidays and for premature babies in hospitals. Unfortunately Joyce Harrison was unable to attend and talk about how she knits for premature babies, but there is much useful advice on the internet about the kind of wool to use and how to avoid lacy patterns for blankets and outfits for premature babies to avoid entangling their tiny fingers in the holes. One person took up the challenge to learn how to knit and the others were provided with wool and needles to knit squares for a blanket. We had tea, coffee and biscuits and time to chat while knitting.



The second Reach Rainbow Crafts Meeting which was sketching and painting took place on 6th March. We were delighted that Joyce Harrison was able to attend. This time there were six of us present with two apologies for absence. A talk was given about sketching and perspective and we did some 'Thinking outside the box' brain games. As before, useful information was exchanged about events, courses, suppliers etc. We brought along books, patterns and magazines to show each other and were pleased to look at treasured art books that Joan brought along. Art materials were provided and one member took up the challenge to paint, while the rest of us knitted or did crochet. We had tea, coffee and Debbie kindly shared delicious home-made cakes with us. Many thanks to all who have helped so far, especially to Pam for making the tea and coffee and providing lifts.

The third Reach Rainbow Crafts meeting will be about calligraphy and card-making. Materials will be provided for the card-making, but if you have calligraphy pens please bring them, plus a pencil, eraser and a ruler if you want to try calligraphy.

If you don't there will be plenty of other materials available for the card-making, but you can bring your own embellishments, pictures, etc. if you wish. We hope to make these meetings interesting, friendly and social occasions where everyone is welcome and where you can share your ideas. However for the April meeting please contact Zenida a.s.a.p. on telephone number 01638 742029 if you are not already a member and wish to attend, so we know how many people to prepare for. Also, we regret that this particular session will not be suitable for children under eight and older children must be accompanied by a parent or suitable carer.



The calligraphy and card-making (plus knitting) meeting will be at Reach Village Centre on Tuesday 3rd April from 1.30pm to 3pm. The meeting on Tuesday 8th May (1.30pm to 3pm) at Reach Village Centre will be Embroidery (plus knitting). Because of the holidays the June Crafts meeting will be on Tuesday 12th June from 1.30pm to 3pm and it will also be on embroidery and knitting.

Entry to the above three meetings will be free of charge.

Zenida McDonald
01638 742029

Fencing off the Lode Banks

One of the horse rides we now enjoy is to travel from the Reach New Bridge across the Lode over to Burwell Lode via the new Lodes Way and then down the Burwell Lode bank into the back of Burwell. However a chance meeting with a local farmer by one of our Fenland Bridleways Association members from Burwell led to all us horsy types going into a bit of a panic over the thought that we might lose this.



The ensuing conversation leads us to believe that the Environment Agency is planning to fence off all the Lode banks - Burwell Lode and Reach Lode - in order to stop cars driving along the top of the banks. Of course this would stop horse riders and mountain bikers as well and seems like a bit of a sledgehammer to crack a nut - I would have thought a simple bollard would do the job.

Our FBA Chairman, John Covill (also chairman of Swaffham Prior Parish Council) is attempting to meet up with the Environment Agency in order to clarify and negotiate our needs but this has been extraordinarily difficult so far. If you hear anything about this, or have a chance to put in a good word on all users' behalf, please let me know.

Lesley Boyle



News from the Allotments

The soil has been dug over, potatoes are chitting in the shed and seeds have been bought and are lined up ready for the soil to warm up and the risk of frost to pass. But for me at least, that is almost the limit of activity on the allotment. The only planting that has taken place is to sink 100 or so onion sets an inch into the ground.

Onion sets are small, immature onions, which (hopefully!) increase in size, each one forming one full-sized bulb when ready to harvest. Onions like sunny, well-drained sites, so the Reach allotments, should, in theory, be perfect. But last year my attempts at growing onions were a dismal failure. The bulbs remained small or bolted and I could only look enviously at my two neighbours, Nick on one side, Graham on the other, both of whom produced a crop large enough to last them through the year.

So where did I go wrong?! These are Nick Acklam's top tips for growing onions:

1. <u>Good soil preparation</u>. *Creation of a fine crumbly tilth before planting speeds establishment of the plants and reduces the amount of weeding during the season.*
2. <u>Early planting</u>. *This is important especially for garlic although there is still time for onions. A long growing season appears to produce bigger and sweeter crops. I have not attempted to grow onion from seed as I don't have the time. It might be slightly cheaper to do so but I can't see any other benefit. Sets are easy and reliable.*
3. <u>Investment of time and effort whilst the plants are young and establishing themselves</u>. *At the moment this involves checking to see if the sets, bulbs or cloves remain properly embedded in the soil - all are planted very close to the soil surface and easily become detached following heavy rain (anyone remember what that is?), soil settlement or the activities of mice, rabbits or deer. Thankfully none seem to be attractive to animal or insect pests. So far I have had no fungal or bacterial problems either. Watering is definitely beneficial especially whilst the plants are establishing a root system and when the soil is dry but this doesn't have to be too onerous - we have had two years of good crops in dry conditions based on twice weekly applications of water drawn by watering can from the catchwater. During the growing season little maintenance is needed beyond occasional watering and a bit of hoeing between rows to keep on top of annual weeds. I plant at 4 inch spacings and with rows 12 inches apart which seems to work well for weeding and watering*
4. *Heavy feeding hasn't seemed necessary so far. I scatter a small amount of organic chicken manure before planting and that's it.*



Let's hope that with that advice I'll do better this year. After all, where would we be without onions for our stews? (According to Jonathon Swift "*For this is every cook's opinion, no savoury dish without an onion; But lest your kissing should be spoiled, your onions should be thoroughly boiled*"). However, I'm not expecting to challenge Mr Throup of Silsden who grew the largest ever onion at a massive 10 pounds 14 ounces.

But even an onion that size won't last for ever. And because their tissues are so soft, they leave little or no trace and so no one knows for certain where they originated, though central Asia, Iran and West Pakistan are strong candidates. There is some evidence that the onion has been grown for over 5,000 years, making them one of the earliest cultivated crops. In Egypt, where onions can be traced back to 3500 BC, onions were considered to be an object of worship. The onion symbolized eternity and onions were buried along with their Pharaohs - the Egyptians saw eternal life in the onion's anatomy, because of its circle-within-a-circle structure.

Closer to home, the three main vegetables of European cooking in the Middle Ages were beans, cabbages and onions. In addition to serving as a food for both the poor and the wealthy, onions were prescribed to alleviate headaches, snakebites and hair loss. And in case you're trying to think up an original idea for a present, they were also given as wedding gifts.

And finally, does anyone know why the Queen-of-Hearts wants to behead the Seven-of-Spades in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll? "It was for bringing the cook tulip-roots instead of onions".

David Thomas

Good Ladybird or Bad Blackbird?



In the glorious spring weather last Sunday hundreds of ladybirds came out to sunbathe around the garden. They were warming up after hibernation and advertising themselves to potential mates. Every single one I saw that day was a 7-Spot ladybird, our most common native species and a 'good' one!

At least several times a year I am asked if a ladybird is a 'good' one or a 'bad' one. Most people have heard of the new 'bad' ladybirds but know little about them. Native to Asia, the species is called Harlequin due to its variety of colours (yellow/orange/red/black) and patterns (0-20 spots). It was introduced to the USA in 1988 as a form of natural pest control and is now the most widespread species there. Following a similar introduction to Europe it has invaded much of the continent and arrived in southeast Britain in the summer of 2004. It has since spread right across the country at an astonishing rate of 60 miles a year!



Harlequin Ladybird

Prior to its arrival there were 46 species of ladybird in Britain and it is very likely that some have been pushed to the edge of extinction by the ferocity of this Harlequin invasion. Indeed a recent study has shown a decline in the number of native 2-Spots by almost 50%.

Although they come in many guises, here are some of the most common features of the Harlequins:

- Harlequins have brown legs whereas native ones *have black legs;
- Harlequins have more white on the back of their heads making the black patch form an 'M' or 'W' shape; and
- Harlequins are 6-8mm long, which is usually bigger than natives.



Native Ladybirds

Why are they so bad? Although they have been introduced to places on purpose because they eat more pests than other ladybirds, they unfortunately also eat non-pests and beneficial insects, including the larvae of other ladybirds and the eggs and caterpillars of butterflies and moths. Unlike natives they don't need a cold winter to reach maturity. They are also more aggressive and breed more frequently. They're basically the "grey squirrel" of the insect world, but I can still never bring myself to squash one!

Alison Lewis



The Short-Eared Owl



Staff and visitors to Wicken Fen have been rewarded recently by almost daily sightings of short-eared owls; on 13th November 2011 eleven were recorded on Burwell Fen. As the days lengthen, keen birdwatchers from Reach can be seen walking the Lode bank towards Tubney Fen in the hope of spying one.

On 9th March I was fortunate enough to view an adult bird on the stretch between Tubney's main entrance and Hilary's stables at 4.15pm. It flew close to and low over the road landing only metres away. It remained undisturbed and unperturbed by my frantic exit from the car and we watched each other steadily for some minutes. In time, it sedately flew off and recommenced quartering the nearby land.

This was a thrilling experience and I thought perhaps readers may be interested in a few short-eared owl details for the occasion when they too spot one locally.



Photo: John Foreman

The short-eared owl is large (37–39cm) and has bright yellow eyes and short ear tufts which are usually held close to the head and rarely visible. It has well-marked streaked and spotted plumage, the background colour of which is a warm yellowish-buff, heavily-lined with black on the upperparts, less on the underside. The facial disk is striking with a pale border, buff cheeks and white crescents in the centre.

Short-eared owls generally appear in the winter months and hunt open land in daylight (unusual for owls) to search for small mammals (mice and voles) and at times, birds.

They often perch on fence posts, occasionally in a horizontal posture but can also adopt an odd elongated stance when alarmed.

They favour rough grassland and feed in a highly characteristic manner. Using long, rounded wings (pale undersides) they fly low and leisurely, quartering the terrain and doubling back when something is detected. If a small mammal should rustle or move whilst the owl is overhead it will drop to the ground and grasp it with its talons.



Photo: John Foreman

Short-eared owls tend to nest on the ground in upland areas of Britain choosing thick heather moorland and young conifer plantations. It is a scarce breeding bird in Eastern England and usually migrates south in winter where it is often found on the south coast. Their nest is a shallow dip in the ground with some lining and overhanging vegetation. During April to May they lay four to eight white rounded eggs.

It is a rather silent bird occasionally emitting hoo hoo hoo calls. Young short-eared owls utter calls like a rusty gate hinge.

Joss Goodchild



The VILLAGE CENTRE 100 CLUB

Tickets are just £10 for a full year.

We have eight draws of £20 on the third Wednesday of the month and two draws of £50 in July and December.

Please contact Joyce Harrison (742405) to be part of this year's draw

Reach's Community Orchard - What Should We Grow?



We are planning a two acre orchard as part of the "24Acre" project. There will be space for up to 160 trees. The general idea is to produce a mixture of fruit types and varieties, but with a focus on those that are traditional to Cambridgeshire and the East of England.

But ultimately the choice is yours:

- What would you like to see grown – eating apples, pears, plums, greengages, cherries?
- And what varieties? The names alone are enough to tempt you – who wouldn't be interested to find out what Lord Peckover, Barnack Beauty, Jolly Miller, Cockett's Red, Thoday's Quarrenden or Wallis's Wonder taste like?!



If you have some favourites of your own, know of varieties you have heard about from friends or relatives, or have memories of varieties grown when you were a child, please let us know.



We'll be planning the orchard and putting in orders for trees over the next couple of months (by the end of June), in order to have trees ready for planting at the end of the year.

Interested in becoming involved?

Are you interested in becoming more involved in creating the Reach Community Orchard?

If you would like to help plan and execute this exciting village project please let me know – we'll be having a meeting sometime in the next couple of months to start selecting varieties and planning the orchard layout.

David Thomas

01638 742676
david.thomas2000@yahoo.co.uk



Village Gardeners



Village Gardeners was set up some 15 years ago. It got its name from the fact that it didn't have an ownership and indeed there were members from Swaffham Bulbeck, Commercial End, Swaffham Prior, Reach, Burwell and even Exning!

Meetings alternated between Reach and Swaffham Prior. However the Reach membership dropped, so meetings are now only held in Swaffham Prior. They are once a month on the third Tuesday at 8pm in Swaffham Prior Village Hall. Visitors are made very welcome and pay £3 for the evening. During the summer months (May–July) the club goes out and about to visit gardens.



On April 17th Joe Sharman from Monksilver nursery is talking on Primroses (he is the man who sold one snowdrop bulb, Grumpy, for £700ish on Ebay).

On May 15th Roy Nunn, Vice President of The International Clematis Society is speaking, "Clematis Throughout the Year". He has raised a good many varieties and is a national speaker.

So perhaps a Tuesday outing to Swaffham Prior may be in order. The talks usually last about an hour and then there is an opportunity to ask questions and have a coffee.

Janet Hall

What's "Growing On" at Snakehall Farm?

What's in the Snakehall Farm Shop?

We have acres of iron-rich greens to adorn your Easter family feasts - fresh in our farm shop: kale, spinach, spring greens, winter mixed salads - all organically wholesome in every bite. Also in stock are our regular offering of free range organic eggs, onions, garlic and new season herb planters.

What's new to the shop?

Handmade walking sticks, made by our very talented Farmer Mark and our Co-workers (people with learning difficulties, disabilities and those with varying health needs) can be found in the Snakehall Farm Shop, perhaps a perfectly unique Easter gift?

We have expanded our farm shop shelves with a "Recycle your Reading" bookshelf. Our loyal customers can now pick up a book while collecting their veg. A small initiative from our Book Worm Co-managers - for the suggested donation of a £1 you can take away some weekend reading material or perhaps donate some of your past reads.

What's new to the Farm?

We have been very, very, very busy over the winter at Snakehall Farm: creating a new nature trail, opening up our woodland area, developing accessible permaculture beds and establishing a grass and clover four-year ley on our 7.5 acre field. With the growing season upon us we would be happy to open up our gates (for a small donation) for Twilight Tours to interested groups and individuals who wish to find out more about our organic growing and therapeutic horticulture. Contact Mark on 01638 741551 for more information.

With the great support of kind donations and grants our Garden Team are really gearing up for a busy 2012 in a new Garden Team vehicle. Sporting a double cab and tail lift we hope to offer more gardening opportunities to our Co-workers this season. We offer a garden maintenance service within a 25 mile radius of Snakehall Farm to a mix of business and residential properties and a number of very satisfied customers living locally. We are able to offer a few more contracts this year so if your garden is need of a regular green team service give Will or Sarah a call on 01638 741551 to discuss our highly competitive rates.



Fun and Fundraising on the Farm

This year our fundraising focus is our polytunnels! With 18 acres of organic growing, we are proud of our nine produce-packed polytunnels giving us the opportunity to grow all year round and creating a fair weather haven for our Co-workers during inclement weather. With the winter winds and snowfall a number of tunnels are in urgent need of re-skinning and repair. We have launched our "Prospects Trust Polytunnel Partners Appeal 2012" creating a unique opportunity to support our growing this year. We have created a novel sponsorship package to hopefully suit all donors from our Gold Sponsorship of a whole polytunnel to a "co-operative" tunnel for smaller donations. If you are interested in sponsoring a whole, half, quarter or part share of one of our polytunnels give Maz a call or email maz.baker@prospectstrust.org.uk for sponsorship forms. For your donation you will be formally acknowledged on professionally produced signs, receive a Co-worker letter of thanks including a signed photograph of your chosen polytunnel and get regular updates from the farm. We will also be hosting a farm event later in the year to thank our Polytunnel Partners.

Our Co-workers are rising to the polytunnel challenge too with a Sponsored Spring Walk with all proceeds going to the repair of our tunnels. On Wednesday 11th April our Co-workers will be swapping their wellies for walking boots and rambling around Reach and up and over the Devil's Dyke. We will have a sponsorship form in the shop for anyone wishing to support our sporting Co-workers or you can support our cause via the Local Giving website: http://localgiving.com/charity/prospectstrustatsnakehallfarm.

Prospects Placements

We currently have a vacancy for new Co-worker placements at Snakehall Farm. Offering one to three days per week, 50 weeks of the year, we can provide a supportive growing environment for adults with learning difficulties, disabilities and those with varying health needs. For more details about our placements on the farm and garden team contact Rhian Elis on 741551 or email rhian.elis@prospectstrust.org.uk.

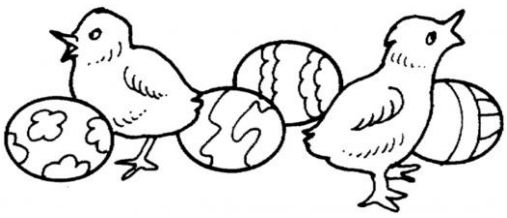
To find out about more opportunities for Cambridgeshire-based people with disabilities, mental or long term illnesses and frail older people, many of whom now have their own personal budgets (Self Directed Support) visit www.way2go.org.uk. **way2go** is a brand new website that has been designed with easy accessibility as the key. Simple to use it will take the strain out of finding the right care home, day care, leisure activities and learning opportunities for individuals, their families and carers.



And finally our last plea (well this month anyway) - we still need your 2ltr washed drinks bottles to roof our very green "greenhouse", so drink the pop and pop in the bottle to the shop this spring.

Marianne (Maz) Baker

01638 741551
Email: enquiries@prospectstrust.org.uk or
maz.baker@prospectstrust.org.uk



News from Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey



As spring approaches it's all systems go as we prepare for a new season.

The snow and ice in February seriously delayed construction of our new wild camping site at a secret location out on the wider reserve.

Now the weather has improved construction of the camping site is nearing completion and we are set for an Easter launch. The campsite consists of four basic rustic shelters which will protect you from the elements and sleep eight children or five adults, a fire pit and eco-toilet. Access to the site is on foot or bicycle and you will need to be self-sufficient carrying your own food, water and fuel (and taking your rubbish away of course). It's £25 per night to hire the site, so if you fancy a night under the stars please phone the Visitor Centre or e-mail wickenwildcamping@nationaltrust.org.uk.

We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our new passenger boat which successfully passed its sea trials at the beginning of March. We're running a small competition to help us choose a name for the boat. To enter please e-mail your suggested name to wickenfen@nationaltrust.org.uk by Monday 9th April. The prize is a private three-hour cruise for you and up to 10 of your family and friends. A draw will be held in the event that more than one entry suggests the winning name.



Construction of our authentic Fenman's Workshop is due to commence in the next couple of weeks. The workshop will house two traditional gun punts, tools, artefacts and will stage demonstrations of traditional crafts practised by generations of fenlanders. Following previous appeals we have plenty of building materials so now we would like to appeal for the donation or loan of any pre 1940's wildfowling, eel catching or fishing equipment, hands tools and general bric-a-brac.

We are also on the lookout for volunteers to help bring this exciting project to life - could you help restore the punts? – or demonstrate crafts such as willow weaving, green woodworking, net making or would you like to learn these skills to demonstrate to our visitors? If you would like to donate/loan any items or volunteer please contact Assistant Warden, Tim Fisher, at the Visitor Centre or email tim.fisher@nationaltrust.org.uk



This year we are looking to increase the range and scope of volunteering opportunities for families at both Wicken Fen and Anglesey Abbey. The first 'Family Muck in Day' as we are calling them is on Saturday 19th May, where we will be working in the Fen Cottage garden at Wicken from 10am – 1pm. All ages are welcome: parents, grandparents, teenagers and toddlers! For more information on family volunteering with the National Trust please visit http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer/ways-to-volunteer/family-volunteering. To help us plan our first 'Muck in' it would appreciated if you could let Lois Baker, our Community Officer, know if you plan to come – please drop Lois a quick e-mail at lois.baker@nationaltrust.org.uk or phone the Visitor Centre on 01353 720274.

We're planning a celebration down at Reach Lode Bridge to unveil the Lodes Way 'portrait bench' on Sunday 20th May at 1pm. Each of the 79 new lottery-funded Sustrans Connect2 cycle routes are to have a simple bench with three life-sized effigies chosen by local people to represent the history and culture of the local area. Following a poll held last year, the three figures chosen for the Lodes Way bench are an Ice Skater, Victorian Entomologist and Eel Catcher. So please pack a picnic and join us for the unveiling celebrations.

Down at Anglesey Abbey the house has re-opened to visitors following its winter closure. This year the house will be open seven days a week with guided tours operating on Mondays and Tuesdays.

The tours will focus on a 'Day in the Life of Lord Fairhaven' and will provide a unique insight into the man who renovated the house and created the gardens from scratch. Tours depart at noon, 1pm and 2pm and are free to National Trust members or £3 for non-members plus standard garden admission.



We have a fantastic range of activities for the Easter Holidays – our famous **Easter Egg Trail** runs from Friday 6th to Monday 9th April; follow the trail and solve the clues to earn yourself a yummy Cadbury's chocolate Egghead. The Easter Trail costs £1.50 at Wicken Fen or £2 at Anglesey Abbey plus normal admission. The **Anglesey Abbey Lode Raft Race** takes place on Easter Sunday and Monday – build a raft, decorate an egg and try your hand at sailing down the Lode - £2.50 per child. Back at Wicken we have **Pond Dipping and Bug Hunt** on Tuesdays 3rd and 10th April £1.75 plus 50p for optional bug hunt; discover the mystical tales of the fen on **Myths and Magic** on Wednesday 4th April, **Springtime Arts and Crafts -** Thursday 5th April, **Wild Boutique** on Wednesday 11th April and **Wicken Warriors** on Thursday 12th April. Each activity costs £4.50 and offers two sessions, 10.30 -12.30pm or 2 - 4pm.

Forthcoming wildlife events include: **Spring Walk with the Warden** on Sunday 22nd April or Sunday 13th May at 2pm £6.75 includes tea and cake; **Dawn Chorus Walk** on Saturday 5th and 12th May, 4.45am £10 includes bacon roll and hot drink; **Grazing Animals Walk** on Saturday 19th May, 10.30am £6.50 adults £3.25 children; **Dusk Chorus Walk** on Friday 25th May, 7.30pm £6.50 adults £3.25 children.

For those feeling creative there's **Willow Basket Making** on Saturday 28th April, 9.45am - 5.30pm £60 or **Rush Weaving** on Saturday 26th May, 10.30 - 4.30pm £55.

Advance booking is essential for all events except Easter Egg Trail and Anglesey Abbey Lode Raft Race. Tickets/further information available from the Wicken Fen Visitor Centre on 01353 720274.

And finally it's hard to believe that another year's gone and the Reach Fair is upon us again – Monday 7th May - don't forget to pop over to our stand and say hello.

Howard Cooper
National Trust – Anglesey Abbey and Wicken Fen

Burwell Women's Institute

At the Burwell Women's Institute meeting on 26th January 2012 Mrs Bev Briggs gave a talk about 'My Job as a Personal Shopper'.

After much experience of being employed as a Personal Shopper, Mrs Briggs set up her own business as a Personal Shopper about six years ago. She offers services such as helping people to choose outfits for weddings and interviews. She can help people make the best of items already in their wardrobe, help to sort their wardrobes out, advise how to dress for body shape, how to choose accessories and much more. She will advise groups of up to six ladies in their own homes, give sessions in her own home and also offers personal individual assistance if required. Mrs Briggs gives many talks to W.I groups, companies and charities as well as doing confidence building with young people and helping those with learning disabilities. Mrs Briggs was thanked for providing such an interesting talk.

The W.I. Group Meeting will be at Quy on 16th May. Burwell 'over eighties' sent letters of thanks to the W.I. for their Christmas parcels. It was agreed that instead of a Christmas dinner the Burwell W.I. would hold a party next December. There will also be a Christmas shopping trip to Norwich. It was suggested that a coach could be booked for the East of England Show on Friday 6th July if sufficient interest was expressed by Members.



At the February 23rd Meeting Mr Geoffrey Evans gave an illustrated talk entitled 'The Life of a Racehorse - from Birth to Racecourse'. Mr Evans also offers talks on Scotland, Alaska and other subjects. He said he was donating most of his fee to a group that provides riding for disabled children. He was thanked for his informative talk. Members were invited to help at the W.I. table at Burwell at Large on 3rd and 4th March. The Jumble Sale on 11th February had to be postponed because of icy conditions and was re-arranged for Saturday 17th March at 2pm in The Gardiner Memorial Hall.

The Burwell W.I. Annual Meeting was on March 29th when the speaker was Mrs Rachel Conn, a solicitor practising in Burwell. The competition was for the most words of two or more letters that can be made from the letters in the word PRESIDENT.

The next meeting will be on April 26th when the speaker will be Vic Botteril. The competition will be for the most unusual ring. 'Can I help you? I'm a Paramedic' will be the subject of the May 31st meeting.

Meetings are held in the Gardiner Memorial Hall, Burwell, at 7.15 for 7.30pm. Please contact Jenny on 01638 741205 for further information.

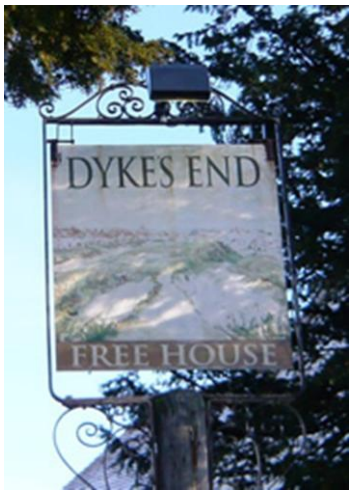
Zenida McDonald

New Owners at the Dyke's End

I am sure all of you would like to welcome the new owners of the Dyke's End, Catherine and George Gibson with their children Eleanor and Hannah.



Upon their arrival, they pledged to carefully build on Frank and Simon's success. One change so far has been the introduction of an exciting new wine list - so why not go along and check it out?



Burwell Mothers' Union

At the Burwell Mothers' Union Meeting on 25th January, Pat Chalmers gave a most interesting talk about 'The Life of a Church Warden'. Under present rules two Church Wardens are appointed to each parish. To be eligible to be chosen, a person has to be over 21, on the Electoral Roll, a Communicant, but not a clergy or married to a clergy. A Church Warden now serves for six years but after a break can be re-elected. Church Wardens have many duties including making sure the Church Records are kept, assisting the Vicar and the congregation, training the Vergers, dealing with planning permission, building work, repairs, health and safety, insurance, donations and arranging cover during interregnums etc. In the past some Church Wardens have even acted as grave-diggers and cleaned the church gutters. I think some of us were amazed at how much the Wardens have to be responsible for and are very grateful for those who carry out such onerous tasks so well and so cheerfully. We thanked Pat profusely for her excellent talk.

Cambridge Women's Aid Refuge sent a letter saying they are no longer able to collect donated toiletries etc. from Wynn, so another way of taking items to them will have to be found. Also Hazel Williams is requiring suitable toys, toiletries and books for a refuge in Ely for mothers and children affected by domestic violence. Hazel also mentioned a new charity shop (now opened) in Burwell to raise funds for the Burwell Day Centre.

On 11th February the Burwell Mothers' Union held a Bring and Buy and Coffee Morning and the Ely Diocesan Mothers' Union Book of Inspirations was brought in style in a Bentley from the Three Rivers and photographs were taken of the handover. Despite the icy weather over £80 was raised for Mothers' Union Charities: AFIA (Away from it all Holidays). We sent a get well card to our leader, Susan, who was unable to attend because of a broken leg. We all hope she will make a speedy recovery. Hazel Williams has taken over in the meantime. Thanks go to Hazel and all the helpers.

On 18th February the Book of Inspirations was carried (on foot) from Burwell to Lode by Stephen Baker. Well done, Stephen!

On 22nd February there was a Craft Meeting where Mothers' Union Members were shown (by Hazel), how to preserve family photographs in acetate using a home laminator. We enjoyed this activity very much and thanked Hazel for all her work.

Helen Banyard also unfortunately suffered from an accident so was unable to come to the 7th March meeting but will come at a later date. Susan took the meeting at her home instead and did preparation for the Mothers' Day Service.

For more information please contact Susan Baker on 01638 741791.

Zenida McDonald

Amenity Fund

The Amenity Fund stands at the sum of £3,424.51. Let us have your ideas as to how it should be spent.

A £500 contribution has been made to Snakehall Farm towards a farm vehicle and up to £1,000 has been agreed for the Diamond Jubilee Garden Party. Thanks also go to the Sports Club which has transferred in its funds of £108.44.

Ross Clark
Chair
743725
rossjclark@aol.com



CROSSWORD WINNER

Congratulations to J. Griffiths of Derby, the winner of Zenida's Crossword No.11. Thanks to all who entered. The clue that stumped everyone else was 'a two-year old sheep'. The correct answer is 'Teg'.

SOLUTION TO ZENIDA'S CROSSWORD No. 11

ACROSS: 1. SURREPTITIOUSLY. 7. PEN. 9. LOVE. 11. ORIGAMI. 13. AUSTRALIAN. 15. ELEMENTARY. 17. GUN. 18. HONEY. 19. FANTASY. 21. SWING. 25. ANT. 27. PLOUGHING. 28. MUSTANG. 31. ODIN. 32. NIB. 34. ASIA. 36. TEG. 37. WOOD. 38. AJAR. 39. ARTISAN. 40. DAFFODILS. 41. CRICKET.

DOWN: 1. SHROVE. 2. PALM. 3. THEATRE. 4. OURS. 5. SURROGATE. 6. YELL. 7. PEGASUS. 8. NAB. 10. OINTMENT. 12. GYMKHANA. 14. THOROUGHBRED. 16. LUKEWARM. 20. SLUGGISH. 22. GNAT. 23. SPIDER. 24. CINNAMON. 26. MAGNET. 29. SHERRIF. 30. ADMIRED. 33. WIZARD. 33. ALTAR. 37. WALK.

Ross's Reflections



I am not sure exactly what Lord Leveson will make of the use of the heavily photo-shopped image on the front cover of the last edition of *Within Reach*, apparently showing a dastardly foul in progress on the football pitch.

But from what I have heard of his Lordship's voicemails he is planning to give the editor a very hard time when she is called before his inquiry.

The photograph was, of course, spliced - with one section taken from the New Year's Day football match and the other from the tug of war at last year's sports day. Actually make that sports day from the year before, because last year the rope went missing. If anyone knows its whereabouts, or has another length of rope kicking around it would be much appreciated so that this fine village tradition may be restored.

One day soon it may even be possible to restore the tug of war to its original location on the Hythe – with the losing team suffering an inevitable dunking. The tug of war has not been held there since the construction of the sewage works in the 1960s, but the works will soon itself be given the heave-ho. This spring Anglian Water will start burrowing a new pipe across the fen so that our sewage can be exported to Burwell. The intention is then for Reach sewage treatment works to close – in spite of having undergone reconstruction only recently, in 2005/06. New regulations on water purity, however, would require the works to be upgraded again and Anglian Water has decided it would be more cost-effective to upgrade just Burwell works.

Hopefully the site of the sewage works may then be restored as an open site, reconnecting the village to the Point. Another happy consequence may be that with fewer hot showers discharging into it the lode will freeze over more readily for skating.

I missed the opportunity to skate the lode on the morning of 11 February – the coldest night here for many years - because I was driving to Scotland that morning. Drive 400 miles north and climb nearly 4000 feet and you can usually guarantee that it will be colder than in Reach. But not that day. This is the progression of temperatures we recorded on the way:

Reach -12°C	Lode -13°C	Huntingdon -10°C	Stamford -11°C
Grantham -6°C	Newark -3°C	Wetherby -2°C	Newcastle 0°C
Jedburgh +2°C	Edinburgh +6°C	Central Perthshire +6°C	

The following day we had to climb to within 800 feet of the top of Ben More to find any snow or ice. It was all a bit disorientating.

Ross Clark
01638 743725
07967 121654





Know Your Parish Council

Your councillors are:

Michael Aves	Vice-Chairman	742800
Malcolm Brearley	Councillor	
	mjbrearley@btinternet.com	
Ross Clark	Chairman	743725
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	742943
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	741853
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	742405
David Thomas	Councillor	742676

Your Clerk is **David Parr**:

20 Fair Green Reach CB25 0JD
Tel: 01638 744081
Email: reachparishcouncil@live.co.uk

Meetings take place in the Village Centre on the first Wednesday of each month. They start at 7.30pm and all Reach villagers are welcome to attend.

In addition to their councillor duties **Rita Dunnett** is Play Spaces Officer and **Hilary Fielding** is Rights of Way Officer.



The Redfarn and Knight families



Cliff Parr and his handmade sledge



Lance Miller and daughter Daisy



Jamie Shackleton



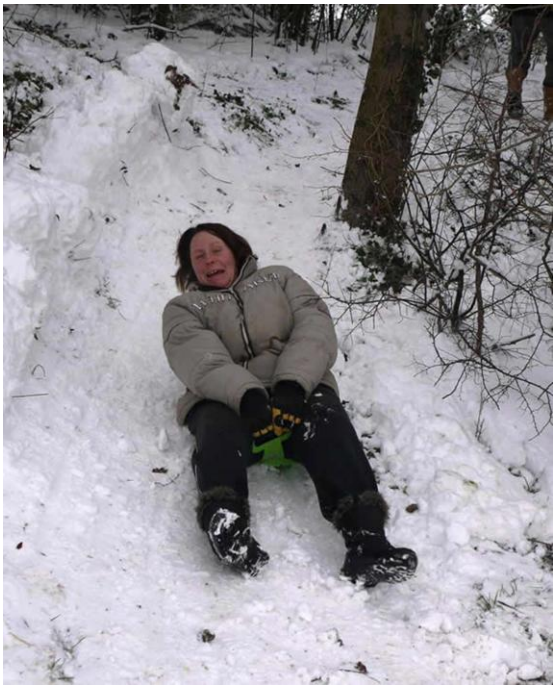
Andy Mitchell and daughter Evie



Jon Cane



Alice Lingley (back), Kathryn Cane (middle) and Jodie Halpin-McDonald



Sue Cameron



Freya Thomas and Emma Lankfer



Toni Dennis



Sarah and Stella Bluck



Denise Melville and Rosa

Advertisers List

To place an advertisement contact David Parr on **01638 744081** or **davidmparr@btinternet.com**
Rates: Half page £45/year; quarter page £24/year (we have six issues per year)

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The Five Miles No Hurry Inn at Upware

Lorraine and Dave look forward to welcoming you to their delightful riverside restaurant and pub

- **Monday Night Special** – Main and Sweet only £7.50
- **Tuesday Night Special** – Bangers and Mash only £4.50
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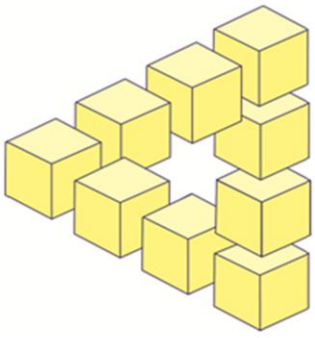
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If your vehicle is fitted with a tachograph but you only use it as a speedometer, you must make sure that all the seals are intact and that the tachograph has been initially calibrated (Manchetts can calibrate tachographs) and is fitted with both the calibration and K factor plaques. Also if you do not use tachograph charts you will need to fill out a tachograph exemption form and present it at the time of the test.

Five common reasons for failure which you can check yourself before test are:

1. Headlights and lamps. Check they are working and look for faded or broken lenses;
2. Reflectors. Check for obvious missing reflectors at the rear or sides of your vehicle;
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5. Speedometer. Make sure it illuminates.

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13th, 27th June
11th July

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Meeting Sarah Keutgen



Sarah with Hector and Violet

Q. What's your full name?
A. Sarah Elizabeth Keutgen (nee Tombs)

Q. Where were you born and where did you grow up?
A. I grew up in Newmarket (another local girl). I went to school with Ailsa and Lance Miller of Fair Green.

Q. At school were you a bit of a teacher's pet or a teacher's nightmare and what were your career ambitions?
A. I went to Newmarket Upper School, now Newmarket College and I was absolutely not teacher's pet. I was sporty and interested in art. I had a very good friend when I was eleven, Glen and he had a serious road traffic accident. I used to visit him in Addenbrooke's and this led me to be interested in speech therapy and occupational therapy. My mother was a nurse and so are my sisters, so I was steered more towards nursing and if not nursing maybe the police force.

Q. After school what happened next?
A. After school I went to college in Bury St Edmunds and did a pre-nursing course. I got the bus and the train and I went there for two years. When I was 22 years old I was an auxiliary nurse (a health care assistant) at Newmarket District Hospital. It gives one an insight into nursing and allows you to think if you are willing to commit to a full time career in nursing. I did my Register Nurse training at Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire and when I qualified I worked there for a year in coronary care and then accepted a job in Addenbrooke's in oncology (cancer). I wanted to do cancer nursing and to return to Cambridgeshire as my parents were still in Newmarket. Addenbrooke's had and still has, an excellent reputation.

Q. Were you a bit of a wild child or goody?
A. I was a wild child and not a goody two shoes. I shared accommodation with a bunch of Irish girls, a Geordie and a Scot and we liked to party. I was living in a nurses' home and it was a nice time of life. We had a very good time and it was FUN. The group was predominantly girls with few boys. We lazed in the park, picnicked and played sports. We worked shifts and so were off during the day sometimes. It was hard training in those days – often working a week of nights or a 10-day stretch.

Q. What jobs have you done?
A. I've worked in oncology (cancer, solid tumours) at Addenbrookes for four years, and haematology (leukaemia, bone marrow transplants) treating young adults for three years. That work has such intensity for me I could only do such a job for a short while. I have worked in palliative care (end of life) for fourteen years. I've been very lucky to have always loved the work and jobs I've done. It really is a privilege to be part of someone's life and their families when they are facing the end of life. People are just so interesting.

When Robert's mother died after an extremely short illness I chose to take time out from this speciality. I went to work with predominantly stroke patients and do a horticultural therapy course in my own time, at Otley College. The latter was with the hope that I would be able to use it with my nursing. It was good for me and I know it will help others. The constraints of the NHS are such that I knew that it wouldn't happen within the state system, but I enjoyed the course and I knew it was something I would wish to use one day.



Sarah with Glen

Horticulture lends itself to being split into tasks that are manageable by anyone. The therapeutic benefits of gardening have been understood since ancient times: work, learn, relax, socialise, rehabilitation, strengthen and grow. Improve self-worth and self-esteem. All of which could work so well with the 24Acre site with a variety of client groups.

I now work in two different units at Arthur Rank House. The day unit is where people come for a twelve-week placement. It's a therapeutic unit, assessing symptoms, art therapy, message and planning future care for living with cancer. The second unit is an inpatient unit where I work shifts, nursing patients and families with sometimes the preparation to get patients home, symptom management and crisis management for the end of life. There's lots of laughter too and nothing is too much trouble. We've been known to organise a wonderful wedding ceremony within hours.

Q. What work do you do at Snakehall Farm?
A. Snakehall Farm has a 21 year history and I first worked there nine years ago. I had time off when I had Hector and we were living in Exning and when I returned to work I approached them and asked them if they had any openings. I got a contract working one day a week and that was four years ago. I am working with adults with learning disabilities aged late teens to any age. Snakehall is a very happy positive place. It's very rewarding working there and fun. The Co-workers sometimes come for a short time and hopefully they go into mainstream employment. We see people make huge adjustments to their lives. The new farm manager, Mark, has been so positive. He has made lots of good changes and transformed the farm over the last six months. He likes to involve local people, for example, Little Windmills and he has offered to help the 24Acre project so watch out for much more.

Q. How did you meet your husband? How did he propose?
A. I met Robert whilst working in Newmarket Hospital through a mutual friend. I thought I had found a friend when he came round to play chess but it led on to romance and that was 14 years ago. When Robert proposed he went down on bended knee on Holkham beach and used a sea shell for a ring. We were married at the Landwade Estate, Exning (George Gibson's family church) and we honeymooned at Holkham Estate, Norfolk.



Sarah and Robert on their wedding day and Hector's christening

Q. Your house and garden both have a wonderful flair? Who's the interior/garden designer?
A. We are both 'make do and mend people'. We like to do things up and wallpaper features a lot in our house. I love anything that's old and has had a previous life. We're very happy to rummage in a skip!

Q. You dress quite distinctly. Nice that is. What designers do you like?
A. I'm not into designers. I love anything vintage and practical - although I confess to being a Cath Kidston fan. She lost her father when she was quite young, later she had breast cancer and was advised not to have a family. I admire her and all that she has achieved.

Q. You have two beautiful and lively children, Hector and Violet. How did you choose their distinctive names?
A. Robert chose the name Hector just because he liked it. His middle name is Wilfred after my late grandfather. We both have the name Violet in our families and her second name is Honour after Robert's late mother. The children have a fantastic childhood. They are SO lucky. On some estates 50% of children can't leave the house because of the fear of violence. Our children play and share and resolve any differences very quickly.



Q. How did you come to live in Reach?
A. I had an offer on virtually free copies of the Cambridge Evening News close to the time when Violet was due to be born. I saw the house and had seen it advertised before and I just said to Robert let's go and have a look at it. We chose it there and then. We loved Reach and had looked at a house here some years previously. We were so excited. We moved in two weeks following a caesarean and using a rent-a-van. Heaving sofas and the like, I very nearly overdid it. We moved from Exning where I had been for 17 years so I was very sad to leave and in tears on the way over. Hector who was very young reassured me: it will be OK mummy. Lesley Boyle shopped for me early on which was lovely. Everyone was very friendly and have been ever since. I knew straightaway that we had chosen the right place.

Q. What's your favourite film?
A. I'm not really a filmy person.

Q. Favourite music?
A. Paul Weller, Van Morrison, Gary Moore, Elvis and Nat King Cole. Anything old.

Q. Can you cook?
A. Ish. Robert is the cook. I like cooking with the children making cakes and biscuits. Robert is very good at cooking and enjoys it.

Q. Are you good at DIY?
A. I like to be practical. My father was always so practical and doing. He made me very practical for which I am most grateful. I could change a plug at a very early age. Being practical is good it makes one independent. I say let children have a go, chopping wood etc. Let them do.



Q. What is your philosophy on life?
A. Well this has very much been formed since the sudden loss of my father in my early twenties and the work that I do. I am interested in Buddhism and I like to be spontaneous and live in the moment. My philosophy is appreciate what you have and be content and don't put off until tomorrow.

Claire Halpin-McDonald



and not forgetting me, Percy Keutgen



Sarah aged 5 (No. 104) as Miss Omlette (thanks mum!). Butlins holiday

Days Gone By



In football, Arsenal won the FA Cup in May 1979. They ended an eight-year trophy drought by defeating Manchester United 3-2 with a last-gasp goal by Alan Sunderland which cancelled out two late goals from Man Utd.

Art Garfunkel dominated the charts in April and May 1979 with “Bright Eyes” - only to be overtaken at the end of May by Blondie with “Sunday Girl”.

The big news in the UK was Margaret Thatcher’s election victory on the 4th of May. She took over from James Callaghan, the Labour Party leader, after her Conservative party won an overall majority of 43 seats.

On the steps of Number 10, she quoted from St Francis of Assisi: "Where there is discord, may we bring harmony. Where there is error, may we bring truth. Where there is doubt, may we bring faith. And where there is despair, may we bring hope."



During the election campaign, Mrs Thatcher said the Conservatives would cut income tax, reduce public expenditure, make it easier for people to buy their own homes and curb the power of the unions – all of which she achieved.

Friend and foe agree that Margaret Thatcher was one of the dominant political figures of the century. Over the following 11 years, she changed the nature not only of her own party but of others too.

Thanks in part to the relationships she developed with her ideological soul-mate US President Ronald Reagan and with the Soviet Union's President Gorbachev, the "Iron Lady" as a Moscow newspaper once called her, became a world figure.

In Reach, we had the conclusions of the “Reach Survey” which according to the “Out of Reach” magazine editor were as follows;

For Immediate Action:

1. Arrange a programme of frequent grass cutting on the Green and rubbish clearance with the District Council.
2. Arrange for the fitting of traffic mirrors and one-way traffic signal at Bull Cottage Corner [also known as “Swan Corner”].
3. Arrange the restricted access of lorries into the village except for delivery or collection.
4. By the summer, plant more trees, especially along the roads into the village.
5. By the summer, have a senior citizens seat and shade tree on the Green.

What the villagers do not want:

6. The projected new road across the Green and closure of the current road bisecting the Green.
7. So many unnecessary signs in the village.
8. Sunday markets.

1. Happened. 2. and 3. - we still have a problem with large lorries and the Parish Council is seeking funding to put the necessary restrictions in place. 4. More trees were planted and over the next 12 months we plan to plant a further 2,700! 5. We have a bench in place.

As regards 6. the concept was that the Burwell Road, as it approached Reach, would carry straight onto the Swaffham Road and the current road across the centre of the Green would be removed. Although fully supported by the Parish Council, it didn’t happen.

7. The Parish Council continues to resist unnecessary signage. 8. There are no regular Sunday Markets, the Parish Council looks at each proposal on a case by case basis.

So there you go – the pen was (and still is) mightier than the sword!

David Parr

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744081



Little Windmills Pre-school

In this Spring term we have welcomed both new children and new staff. We hope they will all enjoy their time with us

World Book Day on 1st March saw the children receive their book tokens to put towards a new book. Some of the children brought in their favourite book and a picture which they were encouraged to talk about and show to the group. We made a montage of these so that everyone could see.

We celebrated Easter by holding an Easter egg hunt in the church grounds and by holding a service in the church led by the Reverend Eleanor Williams and supported by Olivia Coles. Our craft activities included a lot of junk modelling, playing with gloop and shaving foam and for Mother's Day we made tissue paper flowers and chocolate truffles.

Some better weather recently has meant that we have been able to play outside for longer periods and have especially enjoyed our sand pit and making our own bubbles!

This term we completed our school visits for those going to Swaffham Prior School in September. These have proved once again to be invaluable to help our children make a smooth transition. The children enjoy these visits and get to know the teachers and school environment well.



If anyone has any Nestle book tokens from cereal packets, Sainsbury's or Tesco vouchers they don't know what to do with please would you consider bringing them to us or if you ring we will collect. Collecting vouchers like these enable us to buy more toys and resources for the children. Thank you.

If you would like to know more about our friendly welcoming school, please visit our website at www.littlewindmills.co.uk or ring 07803 671200 during our session times to check availability. Places are filling up fast for September 2012 so reserve your place now.

Susan Bluck and the Little Windmills team

Swaffham Prior Primary School

We have had a very busy term and the children and staff have been engaged in a range of activities.

In February Saturn Class went to Burwell House. Throughout the three days, they participated in team building activities and were challenged in design and making tasks. One of the favourite activities was to design and make packaging for an egg so that it could withstand a fall from the top of a fire escape. A couple of groups managed this, including the adult group!



Relaxing at Burwell House

With the approach of spring, there has been work carried out in the Nature Area to reline the pond and start some planting, in partnership with Wicken Fen. As a school we have participated in the Woodland Trust scheme called 'Jubilee Wood'. The school has been given free hedging plants, which includes a Royal Oak sapling from one of the Royal estates. We are deciding as a school where to plant the oak sapling.

Our school was represented at the Circle Geography Quiz. Although they were not one of the top winning teams, they participated with confidence and demonstrated a wide range of geographical knowledge. They were fabulous ambassadors for the school!

The Circle Choir Festival was held on 23rd February and Swaffham Prior sang 'Let's Twist Again' and a selection of other songs from the 1960s and 1970s. The children were fantastic! Comments made by the Bottisham Village School music teachers included, 'lots of enthusiasm' and 'a nice rhythmic and energetic performance'.

We have enjoyed three class assemblies this term. Neptune performed dances inspired by Indian music and poems based on Shakespeare and rap. Saturn Class presented extracts from stories of Robin Hood and gave speeches on the importance of reading. The speeches were passionate and the children read them with great feeling. They also presented memories of their trip to Burwell House. Mercury class shared with us information about their houses and where they lived, showed us models of houses made from different materials e.g. bricks and sticks and sang a song about the Big Bad Wolf from 'The Three Little Pigs'. They spoke with confidence and we enjoyed being entertained by their singing. It was lovely to share the children's learning.



Mercury Class Assembly

On Friday 2nd March, we all wore something yellow to mark the fact that it was the Children's Liver Disease Foundation Day. There was a mask competition. The school raised £103 which will go towards research and supporting families of children with liver disease. Later in the month we will be raising money for Sport Relief. We have also been collecting stationary for a school in Sri Lanka which was affected by the tsunami. Lily and Dylan used a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate what life was like for the people following the tsunami.

The Year 4 children took part in a Football festival. They all played incredibly well and demonstrated great team spirit. By the end of the tournament they had won three of the games, with scores of 3-1. Well done to all!

'Kick Ash' took place in Saturn Class on Wednesday 7th March. Some former pupils returned with their teacher to talk with Years 5 and 6 about the dangers of smoking. It was a very informative day and thought provoking.

Science week in March began with terrible news that two school trophies had been stolen. The children were sworn in as detectives by PCSO Ian Hawkins and used forensic science all week to solve the crime. Mercury Class studied careless footprints left outside, Mars Class analysed finger prints, Neptune Class investigated fibres left at the scene of the crime and Saturn Class tested pens and compared handwriting samples to try and work out who it was. It seems to have been an inside job - all to be revealed!

History off the Page for Foundation/KS1 took place on Thursday 15th March. It was a wonderful day and the children experienced what it was like to live in a big house during the Victorian times. Not only did the children dress up but they participated in role play and made a range of items to take home. They learnt how to write with ink pens, stitch, shave a person with a 'cut throat razor', wash up and make tea fit for the Queen!

It will soon be the end of term and then we will be thinking about the Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics!

We would like to wish you a Happy Easter.

Hannah Curtis, Head teacher
Website: www.swaffhamprior.cambs.sch.uk



The Storm Turtle



The weather was so treacherous, angry lightening boomed across the awful sky. The waves smashed and crashed in the dangerous night, pressed against the giant grey rocks. The turtles were cuddling. By morning the storm had gone. Along the sand an old man was walking with his horse, amongst the seaweed lay a turtle. The old man wrapped it up in his jumper. The old man was called George and was well known for rescuing hurt animals. George carried him home. He made a place in the kitchen for the baby turtle and offered him fish soup in a bottle. The turtle took a spluttery drink and as the days passed the turtle got stronger and stronger. The turtle often followed George round and when the days got longer he played in the garden with the other animals. George knew that the baby turtle was much better and could be returned to the wild.



Early each morning George rowed out to sea and took the baby turtle with him. He taught the baby turtle how to dive for food among the silver flashes of fish. One morning just as the sun was rising, George saw something moving on the rocks, it was huge! A colony of turtles… one broke away from the rest and swam right up to the boat. George's turtle stared at the stranger… 'don't worry' said George 'he's a friend'.

The turtle touched George with his nose and then leapt into the water with a splash! The other turtles swam with him nudging and nuzzling. George's turtle swam back to the boat, it's time to go.

George's turtle dived after his new friend and the games began. The two turtles rumbled and tumbled, raced and chased in the deep water under the boat. George rowed back to the shore through the morning sunshine.

He has a friend already smiled George to himself… it looks like they are very happy. He watched the turtles slip away into the distance and George was happy too…

Miranda Fordham



REACH FAIR 2012

The year's fair will be on
Monday 7th May

If you would like to help with the planning or give an hour or two on the day:

Contact **Jan Tabecki** 742552

KIDS PAGE



This page is fruit tree themed, because of the new community orchard that is being planned!

Jokes

Which season will you see a trampoline? Spring-time!

What do you get if your pour hot water down a rabbit hole? A hot, cross bunny!

Find the following:

F	R	U	I	T	T	R	E	E	A
B	C	A	P	P	L	P	E	A	P
R	A	H	E	A	H	L	O	U	P
A	Q	U	E	R	U	U	H	U	L
M	U	U	M	R	A	M	O	P	E
L	A	G	I	E	R	A	E	E	P
E	P	E	A	N	R	Y	N	A	R
Y	P	L	U	N	C	P	E	C	A
Q	U	I	M	G	E	E	O	H	J
P	E	A	R	K	F	Y	U	G	C

Fruit Tree
Apple
Bramley
Cherry
Pear
Quince
Plum
Peach

If you have any puzzles you would like to see on this page, please tell me! (Susie Tucker)

Anagrams!!!

Turif Eret = ...

Plape = ...

Rabemly = ...

Rechyr = ...

Cepha = ...

Nequic = ...

Lmup = ...

Now you can make up your own anagrams!

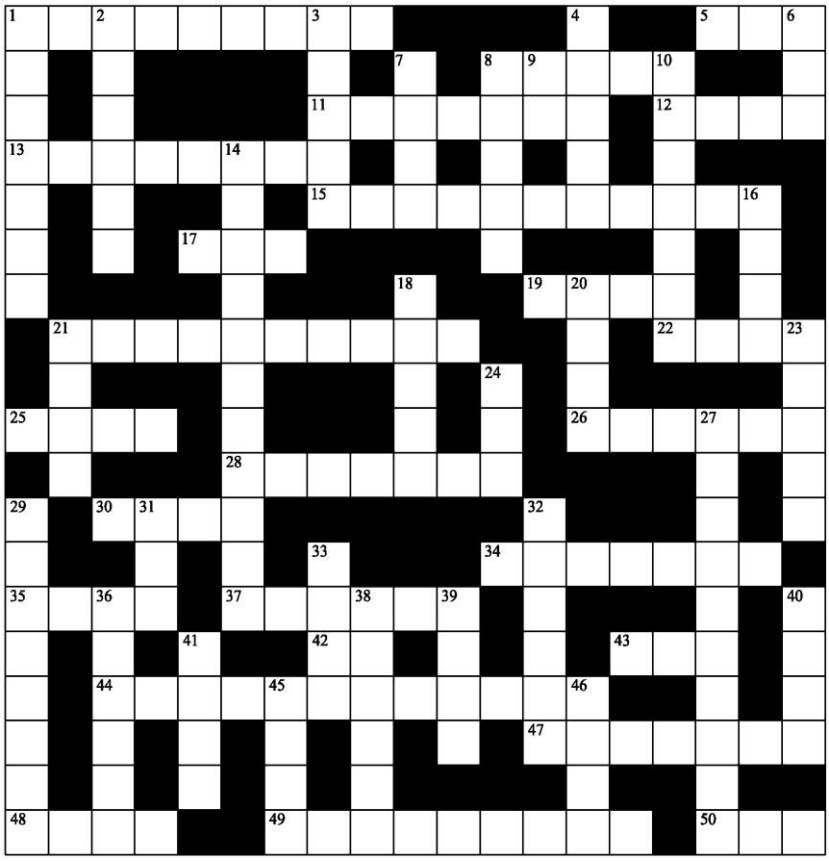
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Zenida's Crossword No. 12



The winner and answers to the previous crossword can be found on Page 19

A £5 Book Token will be awarded for the first correct entry opened after the closing date. Please send your entry by Friday 4th May 2012 to:

Zenida's Crossword No. 12
North View House, 16 Chapel Lane,
Reach CB25 OJJ giving your:

Name: _____

Address:
_____

_____

Tel: _____



ACROSS

1. Game played with rackets (9)
5. Triumph (3)
8. Fire, hit (5)
11. You need lots of balls for this game (7)
12. Rave (4)
13. You need a long stick to play this game (8)
15. Drunken disc? (11)
17. Clue with No-el? (3)
19. Someone on a 24a needs one of these! (4)
21. Onlookers (10)
22. Anger (4)
25. Ended (4)
26. Second prize medal(6)
28. Don't be caught out in this game! (7).
30. A dice is needed for this game (4)
34. The referee blows it (7)
35. Sprint (4)
37. He might have jousted? (7)
42. Not a yes, then (2)
43. Secret agent maybe (3)
44. Muscular person? (12)
47. Plays again (7)
48. Team (4)
49. You need skill to balance on one of these! (9)
50. Linger (3)

DOWN

1. It might be full of hot air? (7).
2. It's thrown in competitions. (6).
3. Start. (5).
4. Contrite. (5).
6. Mesh. (3).
7. Can't see it for trees? (4).
8. Talent.(5).
9. She, beheaded? (2).
10. Coach (7)
14. Can use it in 1 across (11)
16. Ruler (4)
18. Run round this (6)
20. Has ill-health (4)
21. Keep (4)
23. Mistake (5)
24. Healthy (3)
27. A team game (10)
29. Motor-racing tracks (8)
31. Employ (3)
32. Light rainfall (6)
33. Suggestion (4)
36. Not a hero, then (6)
38 Person who knows his clubs? (6)
39. A disagreement (4)
40. Outdo (4)



DOWN

41. Skating venue? (4)
45. Knocks (4)
46. Posterior (4)

Rita's Recipe

Treat your family this Easter with a Truly Luxurious *Fish Pie*



Ingredients:

500gms Cod Loin	Juice of a Lemon
500gms Salmon	100gms Mushrooms
500gms King Prawns	1 pint Milk
Salt and Pepper	1 kilo Potatoes
50gms Butter	1-2 tblsp Cornflour
Tblsp Double Cream	A little White Wine

100gms Grated Cheddar Cheese (optional)



Method

1. Poach the cod and salmon in the milk for 5 minutes, remove the fish and place in a large ovenproof dish
2. Slice the mushrooms and add to the dish with the fish
3. Add the prawns
4. Drizzle the lemon juice over the fish
5. *Make a white sauce* - mix the cornflour with a little water, stir into the milk from the poached fish add a knob of butter, salt, pepper and wine to taste and slowly bring to the boil (it should resemble thick cream). Add a tablespoon of double cream and pour over the fish.
6. Boil the potatoes in a large pan, when cooked add the butter, double cream, salt and pepper to taste. Pipe or spoon the mixture over the fish and sprinkle with the cheese.
7. Bake in a moderately hot oven for approx 30 minutes until the top is golden brown.

Serve with a selection of green vegetables and carrots.



Cricket



For the cricket column the April issue of *Within Reach* is the equivalent of the 'hungry gap' which used to be suffered by peasants, when there were crops to be harvested and little to be foraged. There is nothing to write about except winter nets and to list the fixtures for the coming season.

The highlight this summer will be our clash in the regional semi-finals of the National Village Cup (best not to ask how we got there) on Sunday 3 June against either Kimbolton or Foxton. This match will be at Burwell and all are warmly invited to watch Reach's cricketers offer themselves meekly for slaughter - sorry I mean keenly compete for a place in the finals. This is the full fixture list:

Sunday 22 April	**Thriplow**	Away
Saturday 19 May	**Unemployables**	Away (Northiam, East Sussex)
Saturday 2 June	**Castle Hedingham**	Away
Sunday 3 June	**Regional semi-finals, National Village Cup vs either Kimbolton or Foxton**	Burwell
Sunday 24 June	**David Silk's XI**	The Leys School, Cambridge
Sunday 15 July	**Unemployables**	Burwell
Sunday 22 July	**Swaffham Irregulars**	Burwell
Sunday 29 July	**Grantchester**	Away
Sunday 2 September	**The Spectator**	Burwell
Sunday 9 September	**Petersfield**	Burwell
Sunday 16 September	**The Reach/Burwell Derby**	

Ross Clark
01638 743725
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Olympic Count down



If you are a sport enthusiast you may feel, as I do, that at last the nation has woken up to 'our world'. The 2012 Olympic logo is everywhere. Drive along our roads and its emblazoned on the sides of UPS vans, travel further afield and it's on British Airways planes. Grab a (slightly unhealthy) snack of MacDonald's, Coca Cola or a Cadbury's chocolate bar and it's there. Turn on the TV and Usain Bolt is advertising Visa. Go onto the websites of BMW or BP and see the latest news about their 'London 2012 Performance Teams'. If on the other hand you feel that 'getting the Olympics to London' is a misguided endeavour and will ultimately be ill-spent time and money - perhaps this is driving you nuts! If you fall into the latter category – you probably don't usually read this section of *Within Reach* anyway but if you are, stop now 'cos this is all about the 2012 Olympics.

The countdown is well under way. The 'London Prepares' events, in which venues are tested by athletes and spectators alike, are almost complete. By the time you read this it will be just over 100 days to the start of the games. So here are few dates not to be missed:

18 May	Olympic Torch arrives in UK
7 July	Torch arrives in Newmarket and Cambridge (party on Parkers Piece)
8 July	***Torch Relay and Reach Olympics – (to be confirmed)***
21 May	100 days to the Paralympic Games
27 July and 12 August	Olympic Games Opening and Closing Ceremonies
5 August	Women's 100m final (can Florence Griffith Joyners' record of 10.49 (1988) be broken?)
5 August	Men's 100m final (can Bolt break his own record of 9.58 seconds?)
5 August	***Reach 100m 'event' – (to be confirmed)***
29 August and 9 September	Paralympic Games Opening and Closing Ceremonies



Torch Relay

The Torch will take 70 days to cross the UK and will come within 10 miles of 95% of people in the UK. It arrives in Cambridge on 7th July (coming from Chelmsford via Newport, Haverhill, Bury and Newmarket). It leaves the next day for Luton (via St Ives, Huntingdon and Bedford). It's due to arrive on Parkers Piece around 4pm. I for one will be there lining the street and joining the evening celebration. If you want to know more please go to http://www.london2012.com/games/olympic-torch-relay/where-is-the-olympic-flame-going/cambridge.php



The torch itself is 800mm high and made of special aluminium alloy so weighs only 800g to allow it to be carried easily by younger torch bearers. It has 8,000 small cut-out circles, representing the 8,000 torch bearers who will carry it on its journey around the UK. Its triangular-shape was inspired by a series of 'threes' from Olympic Games history and vision: the three Olympic values of respect, excellence and friendship; the three words that make the Olympic motto – faster, higher, stronger; the fact that the UK has hosted the Olympic Games in 1908, 1948 – so 2012 is the third time.

The Medals

The Olympics are nothing without medals and making 4,700 of them is the job of the Royal Mint in South Wales. They will weigh 375-400g, but only *c*.6g (1.34%) of this is gold in the gold medals, the rest being silver (92.5%) and copper. The silver is, indeed, mainly silver (92.5% silver), plus some copper and the bronze is 97% copper, the rest being zinc and tin. The ore for the medals comes from mines in America, Mongolia and Australia – only the tin originates in the UK - from a mine in Cornwall. The front of the medal always depicts the same imagery – the Greek Goddess of Victory, Nike, stepping out of the Parthenon into the Host City.

The other side of the 2012 medals is full of symbolism: the emblem, the River Thames and a series of radiating lines representing the athletes' efforts and energy.

Olympic Events in Reach – Ideas Welcome

These will be listed on www.livingsport.co.uk or you can contact LIVING SPORT on 01487 841559. Events will also be added to the www.cambridgeshire.net website as they are announced. If you have an event planned that you would like to publicise, it can be added to this website. If you have a disability, you can find out what activities you can get involved in locally at www.abilityplusgroup.co.uk, by calling the Ability PLUS Group on 01487 849929 or by contacting your local District Council.



What would you and your family like to do to mark the Olympic games in Reach? Of course we will have our own Sports Day with an Olympic flavour - perhaps Sunday 8th July to coincide with the weekend the Olympic Torch passes close by? We could start with our own torch relay - any ideas of routes let me know. Then there is the day of the event that everyone wanted tickets for - the men's 100m final. How about our own '100m event' on the weekend of the men's and women's 100m final (4th/5th August)? Maybe just a chance to cover 100m en masse in the most unusual, challenging or just plain weird way before heading home that evening to marvel and the world's fastest men do the same in sub 10 seconds!

I would welcome ideas and help.



Juliet Vickery

Juliet.vickery@yahoo.co.uk

Answers to Susie's Quiz Page 31

Turif Eret = Fruit Tree, Plape = Apple

Rabemly = Bramley, Rechyr = Cherry

Cepha = Peach, Nequic = Quince, Lmup = Plum

REACH
PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of Reach Parish Council meeting held on: Wednesday 7th March 2012

Attendance

Michael Aves	Vice Chairman	Present
Malcolm Brearley	Councillor	Not Present
Ross Clark	Chairman	Present
Rita Dunnett	Councillor	Present
Hilary Fielding	Councillor	Present
Joyce Harrison	Councillor	Present
David Thomas	Councillor	Present
David Parr	Clerk	Present
Allen Alderson	District Councillor	Part-time
David Brown	County Councillor	Part-time

1. Forum for Members of the Public

No members of the public attended.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting were reviewed and signed.

4 (1) Amenity Fund Committee

No payments were made during the previous month however a £500 contribution to a farm vehicle for Snakehall Farm and an up to £1,000 grant for the Diamond Jubilee Garden Party have been agreed.

4 (2) County Councillor's Report

The Integrated Plan for the next four years was the main item discussed at Full Council in February. Following a five-hour debate the proposed plan was passed by a majority vote. The plan, including the programme for capital investment will come into effect from April 2012.

For the villages in Burwell Ward this means our council tax for 2012/13 for a Band D property will be:

Burwell	£1,498.35
Reach	£1,501.23
Swaffham Bulbeck	£1,496.28
Swaffham Prior	£1,493.67

The Burwell Masterplan Working Party agreed the latest document for public consultation. After much discussion with public and members five options were put forward for comments in this stage of the project.

4 (3) District Councillor's Report

In Cambridgeshire in 2009 there were around 95,500 people aged 65 and over (almost 16% of residents) and this is forecast to rise steadily. Cambridgeshire County Council together with District and City Councils are committed to work together to address issues faced by an ageing society.

East Cambs Local Plan will set out the strategy for the development of the District up to 2031. There will be two key parts - firstly the strategic vision and policies and secondly village and town visions which will set out how each settlement will change/improve over the next 20 years, including the identification of sites for housing, employment and infrastructure.

No agreement was reached on the pay for car parking scheme for Ely. An amendment was carried to further analyse the details and bring the proposal to a future meeting.

4 (4) Financial Report

The Parish Council is in a financially sound situation and it is estimated that it will break-even this financial year. This will leave the Parish Council with non-tennis court reserves of approximately £4,600.

4 (5) Neighbourhood Panels Report

No members attended any such meetings during the last month.

4 (6) Parish Council Members Meetings

No members attended any such meetings during the last month.

4 (7) Play Spaces Officer Report

New springs for the repaired gate have been fitted by Neville Dunnett. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's insurance cover for the Rocking Rooster was insufficient to cover the cost of total replacement. Instead, it was agreed that the item will be repaired – such repair to be organised by **the Clerk**. It was also agreed that **the Clerk** would conduct a review of the level of total insurance per item to check that our cover is optimised.

4 (8) Rights of Way Report

It was reported that local droves continue to be rutted. The Parish Council decided to take no action over this at this stage.

4 (9) Speedwatch

There was no activity in the previous month. One further volunteer has come forward making a total of four active members (two of who need training) plus one other member (trained) who would be available infrequently. **The Clerk** will organise training and it is hoped to conduct Speedwatch activity later this month.

4 (10) Village Centre Committee Report

The committee is very much focused on Reach Fair 2012.

4 (11) 24Acres Committee Report

A draft lease has been received by the Parish Council and following negotiations a further draft will be provided by the National Trust. All is looking very positive at this time and the acquisition of funding is now underway.

5. Hythe Flooding Issue

Two residents on the Hythe had been having problems related to the Anglian Water Sewage Works. Over recent times work has been taking place to repair the fault and it is expected that this will be completed by the weekend of the 10th/11th March 2012.

6. Hythe Mooring Policy

The Parish Council had agreed that there should be a charge to moor non-GOBA boats and the Clerk had constructed a draft agreement based on a British Waterways template. This was discussed and councillors will continue to consider its contents with a final decision being made at a subsequent meeting.

7. Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012

The dates for the countrywide celebrations are from Saturday 2nd June to Tuesday 5th June 2012. The Parish Council decided that the occasion should be celebrated in Reach and a committee has been put in place. The planned event will take place on Monday 4th June starting at 2pm and finishing at around 7pm. Food, drink and entertainment will be provided with the aim being to fund the event by various grants – including one from the Amenity fund.

As part of this celebration, the Parish Council will take the opportunity to plant a new tree on the Fair Green which would take over from the current horse chestnut upon its demise. It was decided to position it on the top green between the current tree and the road that divides the greens. At January's Parish Council meeting it had been decided to plant a Red Chestnut in October 2012 - however, due to concerns regarding the potential for disease and following advice from Barcham this decision was changed to a Sweet Chestnut (Castanea Sativa). The Clerk was also able to report that *Within Reach* magazine will be prepared to cover the costs of procuring and planting the new tree.

In addition, an avenue of 60 lime trees will be planted on the Swaffham Prior road on its approach to Reach. Nick Acklam, who suggested this project and **the Clerk** are working together to make it happen. Planting will take place in October 2012.

8. Street Lighting Upgrade Review

The street lighting PFI between the County Council and Balfour Beatty has been in place now for six months. However, whilst entering into the contract to upgrade the old County Council owned street lighting columns, the street lighting budget was reduced resulting in the decision being made that three columns in Reach will not be replaced.

Since the plan states that Reach will not be affected until 2015 it was felt appropriate to wait until closer to the time before making decisions regarding the number and style of our street lights. The Clerk has communicated the Parish Council's concerns to the Head of Transport Asset Management.

9. Vandalism on the Playing Field

As noted in 4 (7) it was agreed that the Rocking Rooster will be repaired rather than replaced.

10. Planning Applications

There were none for consideration.

11. Information Items

The Parish Council had submitted two Local Minor Highway Improvements but due to the large number received, the County Council decided that only one would be considered. The Parish Council decided that the Great Lane – Fair Green bend proposal should take priority.

The Clerk was asked to contact Anglian Water to get further information on the plans for the Reach Sewage Works.

The mowing contract for the village was discussed and CR Contracting was selected from the four tenders responses received.

12. Payments

There were none.

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 4th April 2012 at 7.30pm. The Agenda for the meeting will be issued by the previous Wednesday – and will also be posted in the Parish Council area of the Reach website (www.reach-village.co.uk).

A Message from your District Councillor



We are proposing to increase the Council Tax by 2.95% in 2012/13 (£3.99 per year on a Band D property, 7.67 pence per week). Accepting the government's Council Tax Freeze Grant would result in a budget gap of £273,000 by 2014/15 equivalent to an estimated 6.7% increase in Band D Council Tax.

We are presently in the process of setting a balanced budget for the next three years but we do not know if the Council Tax Freeze Grant will be given again next year. Also we are expecting a further cut in next year's Government Revenue Support Grant to the district council. Despite this council having made many efficiency savings we still have to absorb many significant increases in our costs, for example, our homelessness budget has had to be increased substantially due to the recession. Also we will have to renew our waste contract in 2015 for the following five years and we are expecting a significant increase in the new contract.

On a lighter note last year key statistics showed that East Cambs was continuing to grow despite the tough economic outlook:

- a 44% increase in the total number of homes completed compared to the 2009/10 monitoring period;.
- a total gain of 2,137 square metres of employment space developed showing that business is continuing to invest in the area; and
- retail vacancy fell in the three main towns in the district to 3.3% in Ely, 3.7% in Littleport and 3% in Soham. These figures are much better than the national average.

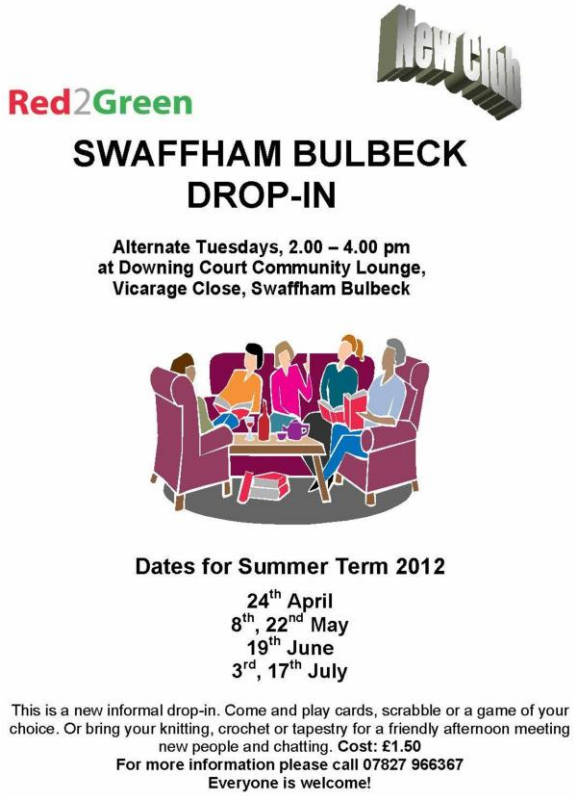
A new community website designed to give local people the power to improve their neighbourhood is set to launch in East Cambs this spring. 'Shape Your Place' which began in Fenland in 2010, is designed to be a one stop site for everything to do with the place you live. So from suggesting ideas to improve your street to voting in polls on local issues or finding out what happened at the last neighbourhood panel – the new website will be the place to go.

I have recently been involved in sorting out problems of the tenants of Sanctuary Herewood housing associating.

If any tenants have unresolved issues with the association please contact me and I will do my utmost to help.

Allen Alderson







From the Vicarage – Hope, an Invitation and a Tribute

Hope



Easter is about hope. Hope that even when everything seems hopeless and all is lost, new life can come. This hope is not just wishful thinking or a vague sense of optimism, but a sure and certain hope.

I have spent time in the last few weeks with two groups preparing for confirmation and it has been good to go back to basics again and remember what we believe and why we believe it. We have thought about that question that Jesus asked of his disciples: 'Who do you say that I am?'. And we have considered the options that C S Lewis famously postulated: that Jesus was a deluded madman; that he was a liar, deceiving those who followed him; or he is the Lord of all. We have considered the evidence of his life, his words and works, as recorded by those who were eye witnesses. We have thought about the evidence of countless people who have reported their lives changed by an encounter with the Risen Christ. And we have considered above all the evidence of the empty tomb.

And we come back to that question for ourselves: 'Who do you say I am?' As we come to Easter and once again recall the last days of Jesus' life, his suffering and death and then his glorious resurrection, may we find ourselves along with Thomas saying: 'My Lord and my God!'

Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son,
Endless is the vict'ry, thou o'er death hast won!

Join us for our Easter services:

Palm Sunday April 1	Communion services at 8am and 10am at St Mary's
Monday 2 – Wednesday 4 April	Short Service of Compline 7pm each day at CentrePeace
Maundy Thursday April 5	Communion Service at St Mary's at 7.30pm with footwashing followed by the Watch
Good Friday April 6	Messy Church 10.30am – 12.30pm in the Guildhall with crafts, story, songs, hot cross buns
Good Friday April 6	Walk of Witness 1pm beginning at Co-op in Burwell
Good Friday April 6	Meditation 2pm at Reach led by Frances Leadon
Easter Sunday April 8	Churches Together Sunrise Service 6am on Castle Mound
April 8	Holy Communion 8am at Reach
April 8	All age communion 10am at St Mary's when we will be welcoming 4 children to Holy Communion

An Invitation to Renew your Marriage Vows

I have received a request for a service of renewal of marriage vows in Reach church. We will be arranging this in the next few months and would be delighted to welcome any other couples who would like to renew their marriage vows. Details of date and time to be arranged. Contact me if you are interested.

A Tribute to David Bush

Many of you will already know that David has decided that, having served faithfully as Honorary Assistant Priest in Burwell and Reach for almost 13 years, the time has come for him to take a well-earned rest as he begins his (third) retirement. I am sure that all of us have come to appreciate David's gentleness, his godly wisdom and his faithful service over so many years and are very grateful to the Lord that David has been able to exercise his priestly ministry here among us. As he and Anita move to their new property at Ash Grove, Burwell, we will be praying for a smooth transition and that God would bless and use them amongst their new neighbours.

Concert

We are delighted to host another concert as part of Cambridge Summer Music Festival's 'Music in Quiet Places' series. The world famous Collegium Regale, the close harmony group made up of the Choral Scholars of the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, will sing from their extensive repertoire, which ranges from ancient choral music, through spirituals to contemporary items, including songs made famous by Michael Jackson. Not to be missed! See Page 6 (above) for details.

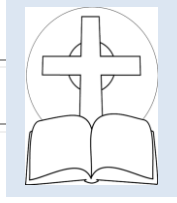
Bishop David came to Reach with others on a mini-pilgrimage on 21st March, and gave a short service on the theme of `Listening in Lent' in the church, and then went on to Burwell.

Eleanor Williams

Vicar St Mary's Burwell and
St Etheldreda's Reach
vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk
01638 741262



Church Services at Burwell and Reach

	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda's Reach
APRIL		
Sunday 1 April Palm Sunday	8.00 am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Communion	
Monday 2, Tuesday 3, Wednesday 4	7.00pm Compline at CentrePeace	
Wednesday 4	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Holy Communion at Ash Grove	
Thursday 5	7.30pm Holy Communion with foot washing followed by The Watch	
Friday 6	10.30am Messy Church in the Guildhall	2.00pm Hour of Meditation at the Cross
Sunday 8 April Easter Day	6.00am Sunrise Service Castle Mound 10.00am All Age Communion	8.00am Holy Communion
Wednesday 11	9.00am Prayer Meeting at Burwell 10.00am Holy Communion at Burwell	2.00 – 4.00pm CentrePeace
Sunday 15 April 2nd Sunday of Easter	8.00 am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Service	
Wednesday 18	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court	
Friday 20	7.30pm Concert Collegium Regale	
Sunday 22 April 3rd Sunday of Easter	8.00am Holy Communion 9.55am Junior Church and Pathfinders 10.00am Traditional Communion 12.30pm Bring and Share Lunch 1.30pm APCM	
Wednesday 25	9.00am Prayer Meeting at Burwell 10.00am Holy Communion	
Saturday 28	Day of Prayer for Building to Serve	
Sunday 29 April 4th Sunday of Easter		9.55am Junior Church and Pathfinders 10.00am Traditional Communion
MAY		
Wednesday 2 May	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.00am Holy Communion 11.00 Holy Communion at Ash Grove	
Sunday 6 May 5th Sunday of Easter	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Service	The Baptism of Edward Aspin at 5.45pm followed by Songs of Praise for Eve of Reach Fair at 6.00pm (**see page 6 for details**)
Wednesday 9	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.00am Holy Communion	2.00 – 4.00pm CentrePeace
Sunday 13 May 6th Sunday of Easter	8.00 Holy Communion 9.55 Junior Church 10.00 Traditional Communion	8.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Sunday@ 7 Communion Service
Wednesday 16	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court	
Sunday 20 May Sunday after Ascension Day	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Contemporary Communion	
Wednesday 23	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.00am Holy Communion	
Sunday 27 May Pentecost	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Traditional Communion 4.00 – 6.00pm Messy Church in Guildhall	
Wednesday 30	9.00am Prayer Meeting 10.00am Holy Communion	

Bus Timetable

Reach is served by the 10/10A bus service, provided by Stagecoach.

The difference between the 10 and 10A services is that the 10 travels via Valley Way in Newmarket whilst the 10A uses Noel Murless Drive.

A summary of all buses serving Reach and/or Swaffham Prior Monday to Saturday is shown below.



Please note that there is no bus service at all on Sundays.

Newmarket - Burwell - Reach - Bottisham - Cambridge																
Service No:	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10		10	10	10	10
	M-F	**M-F**	**Sat**	**M-F**	**Sat**							**Sat**	**M-F**			
Newmarket (Guineas Station)				0704	0719	0814	0914	1014	1114	1214	1314	1414	1424	1514	1614	1714
Burwell (Manchetts Ness Road)	0628	0658	0713	0728	0743	0838	0938	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1448	1538	1638	1738
Reach	0638	0708	0723			0848		1048		1248		1448	1458	1548	1648	1748
Swaffham Prior	0644	0714	0729	0741	0756	0854	0951	1054	1151	1254	1351	1454	1504	1554	1654	1754
Cambridge (Drummer Street)	0727	0807	0812	0837	0842	0937	1037	1137	1237	1337	1437	1537	1547	1637	1737	1837

Cambridge - Bottisham - Reach - Burwell - Newmarket																
Service No:	10	10A	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10		10	10	10	10
				M-F										*	*	
Cambridge (Drummer Street)				0655	0755	0825	0925	1025	1125	1225	1325	1425	1525	1635	1735	1845
Swaffham Prior				0959	1102	1159	1302	1102	1159	1302	1359	1502	1559	1712	1809	1919
Reach				1002		1202			1202		1402		1602		1812	1922
Burwell (Hawthorn Way)				1012	1112	1212	1312	1112	1212	1312	1412	1512	1612	1722	1822	1932
Newmarket (Guineas Station)				1040	1140	1240	1340	1140	1240	1340	1440	1540	1640	1800		

A full timetable can be downloaded from **www.reach-village.co.uk/bus_service.html**



Please note that the bus stops at a number of stops in Burwell – those listed are just timing points

Diary Dates

April	Event	Location	Time
Tues 3	Reach Rainbow Crafts Circle	Village Centre	1.30pm – 3pm
Tues 3	Author: Frances Spalding	Toppings Bookshop, Ely CB7 4LJ	7.15pm for 7.30pm
Wed 4	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Wed 11	CentrePeace	St Etheldreda's	2.00pm to 4.00pm
Thurs 12	Recycling Day		
Fri 13	Film: The Italian Job with Michael Caine	Community Church, Exning	7pm for 7.30pm
Sat 14	Solar Energy and Sustainability	Village Centre	10am to midday
Tues 17	Mobile Library	Village Green	2.15pm
Tues 17	Talk on Primroses. Village Gardeners	Swaffham Prior Village Hall	8pm
Wed 18	Village Centre Committee	Village Centre	8.00pm
Fri 20	Collegium Regale	St Mary's Church, Burwell	7.30pm
Fri 20	Cantilena Concert	Bassingbourn Parish Church	7.30pm
Sat 21	Nearly New Sale. Clothing 0 – 5 years	Gardiner Memorial Hall, Burwell	10.30am – 12noon
Sat 21	Cantilena Concert	Emmanuel United Reformed Church, Trumpington Street, Cambridge	7.30pm
Tues 24	Author: Ben MacIntyre	St Peters Church, Ely CB7 4AH	7pm for 7.30pm
Thurs 26	Recycling Day		
Mon 30	Author: Tom Holland	St Peters Church, Ely CB7 4AH	7pm for 7.30pm
May			
Wed 3	Parish Council Meeting	Village Centre	7.30pm
Mon 7	Reach Fair	Everywhere	12noon- 5pm
Tues 8	Reach Rainbow Crafts Circle	Village Centre	1.30pm – 3pm
Wed 9	CentrePeace	St Etheldreda's	2.00pm to 4.00pm
Thurs 10	Recycling Day		
Tues 15	Mobile Library	Village Green	2.15pm
Tues 15	Talk on Clematis. Village Gardeners	Swaffham Prior Village Hall	8pm
Wed 16	Village Centre Committee Meeting	Village Centre	8.00pm
Thurs 24	Recycling Day		
Tues 29	Author: James Runcie	St Peters Church, Ely CB7 4AH	7pm for 7.30pm
Thurs 31	Author: Simon Mawer	St Peters Church, Ely CB7 4AH	7pm for 7.30pm

Wednesdays 7.30pm onwards **Bellringing at Swaffham Bulbeck** - new recruits are welcome

The **Mobile Library** will now visit Reach on the third Tuesday of the month only

CentrePeace visits Reach the second Wednesday of the month

Pilates – Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5.45pm

Village Gardeners meet at 8pm Swaffham Prior Village Hall on the third Tuesday of the month.

Exning Village Cinema shows films in the Community Church, Exning.
The charges are £4 Adult, £3 Child and £12 Family (2 adults and 2 children).
Refreshments are available and tickets are sold on the door.

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Contact Information

Parish Council			
	Chairman	Ross Clark	743725
	Vice Chairman	Michael Aves	742800
	Councillor	Malcolm Brearley	mjbrearley@btinternet.com
	Councillor	Rita Dunnett	742943
	Councillor	Hilary Fielding	741853
	Councillor	Joyce Harrison	742405
	Councillor	David Thomas	742676
	Clerk	David Parr	744081
	Play Spaces Officer	Rita Dunnett	742943
	Rights of Way Officer	Hilary Fielding	741853
	County Councillor	David Brown	743283
	District Councillor	Allen Alderson	741744
Village Centre			
	Chairman	Jan Tabecki	742552
	Finance	Grahame Radford	742814
	Bookings	Joyce Harrison	742405
	Marquee Bookings	Andrew Hall	743737
Amenity Fund Committee			
	Chairman	Ross Clark	743725
	Committee Member	Rita Dunnett	742943
	Committee Member	John Holmwood	742969
	Committee Member	Claire Halpin-McDonald	743330
	Committee Member	Andrew Towers	742484
Church			
	Vicar	Eleanor Williams	741262
	Hon Assistant Priest	Reverend David Bush	741839
	Reader in Training	Frances Leadon	741770
	Priest in Retirement	Reverend David King	742924
	Parochial Church Council Member	Pam King	742924
	Churchwarden at Burwell/Reach	Pat Chalmers	742006
Emergencies			
	Electricity (Eastern Electric)		0800 783 8838
	Police (Emergency)		999
	Police (Non-emergency)		0345 456 4564
	Water (Anglian Water)		08457 145145
Doctors, Burwell			
	Appointments and Emergencies		741234
	Community Nurses		742382
	Doctors	Dr Anne Schneerson, Dr Andrew Wills, Dr Alex Manning, Dr Anthony Parry, Dr Maureen Birch	
	Surgery Hours	Mon 8.30am to 8.00pm, Tues to Fri 8.30am to 6.00pm	





Henry and Tobias Aspin



Jem and Jesse Dennis



David Knight (above)
Jodie Halpin-McDonald (right)





Emilia Knight



Hannah Perkins and Olivia Mules





Shrove Tuesday 21st February 2012

